

NEW ON OLD: TO WHAT EXTENT SHOULD INTERVENTIONS BE DONE ON SURFACES? MAINTENANCE WORKS AND RESTORATION ON AN EXISTING PROJECT.

LUCIA SERAFINI¹, STEFANO CECAMORE²

¹ Dipartimento di Architettura – Università “G. d’Annunzio” Chieti-Pescara, serafinilu@gmail.com; lserafini@unich.it

² Dipartimento di Architettura – Università “G. d’Annunzio” Chieti-Pescara, stefanocecamore@gmail.com; stefano.cecamore@unich.it

ABSTRACT

The question regarding surfaces and the destiny of the existing one has been for some time now a central debate in architecture. One of the most challenging points concerns the semantic period of the term ‘surface’ and the possibility of establishing an interface compared to what a surface is not, although it actively participates in its exhibition.

If a surface, as the etymology of the word specifies, is indeed the outer layer, the final layer intended to cover, to act like a skin, and for such reason to have the role of protection and the aesthetic ambitions that underlie its finish, it is true that it widens its perception to time in which it sediments and to the material it supports.

In architecture, the spectrum of reference is wide making it difficult to establish categories, unless there are at stake, to differentiate, topics referring to the values of the heritage and to the necessity to safeguard it. If there is a patrimony involved it is clear indeed that the intervention on the surfaces is part of the operations involving maintenance, redevelopment, settlement; this affects the historical architecture as a whole, even with the specificities connected to their consistency, be it related to technical and material order, or to imaginative and formal one.

The aim of the paper is to take stock of the situation on the most recent debate, attempting to give responses to questions still until today unanswered.

The review of the interventions that have marked the restoration on an international level in recent years will be, herewith, the red thread to give pause for thought on the theme ‘surfaces’ and suggest the way to their conservation.

Key-words: Surfaces, Maintenance, Restoration