Arch 464 ECS Spring 2020

Name\_

Quiz #3

## "Is the Green House Green?"

Read and look at everything before you write!



The northwest corner view (above) of the Green House. The west façade of the old building has the double-glazed wall and the north façade of the addition has deep-set punched windows.

The southwest corner view (right) shows the adjacent buildings to the south.

The East-West section (below) shows the new double wall structure to the west and the neighboring building to the east



West - East section



# The Green House

Waugh Thistleton Architects has added CLT extensions to an existing concrete frame structure to create a new building for the Ethical Property Company and halved the CO<sub>2</sub> emmisions of the building.

The practice has completed work on the Green House, an environmentally friendly office building in Bethnal Green, East London. The sustainable six-storey commercial property is a retrofit of a derelict 1960s office block and is now a flexible workspace for up to 50 social-change organisations.

The concrete frame was retained in order to minimise waste, pollution and reduce carbon emissions that usually occur through demolition. Waugh Thistleton added a new six-storey rear extension and atrium to provide 7,050m<sup>2</sup> of useable office space, with further workspace located in a single-storey rooftop extension. All additions have been built from prefabricated CLT and glulam, reducing the building's carbon footprint.



The west façade, which faces onto Cambridge Heath

Road, is predominantly glazed, providing passive regulation of noise, heat, sunlight, and ventilation. The windows are set back from the external skin of the façade to provide solar shading and acoustic protection; this also gives a layered effect to the front of the building.

Photovoltaics on the roof offset energy consumption, while wildflower green roofs at second and sixth-floor levels *[third and seventh in US lingo]* encourage biodiversity.

A large south-facing communal terrace on the fourth floor provides outdoor breakout space for informal meetings, while there are also over 80 bicycle parking spaces along the ground floor north wall to encourage commuting by bike.

At the centre of the building is a full-height atrium which opens up the lobby space at ground floor, brings in natural light and provides sky views from every level in the stair core. The central exposed CLT cantilevered staircase is the key connection between the existing concrete building and the timber extension. The cantilever has been engineered using resin-bonded steel rods inserted into the treads, with the half-landings suspended from a steel tension system.

On every floor, open-plan kitchens encourage active collaboration. Recycled carpet tiles, low-energy lighting, and watersaving technologies all contribute to reduce volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and electricity and water consumption.



The structure and floor plates of the existing building is represented in gray and the addition in yellow.

The building halves  $CO_2$  emissions in use from the notional benchmark of 91.7 tonnes per year to 45.8 tonnes per year.

-FRAN WILLIAMS, 30 JULY 2019 AJ

3 points

Site Energy 1. The architect opted for on-site energy generation via photovoltaics. *Make a case* for or against supplementing the PV array with a building-mounted array of wind turbines. Discuss the merits, placement, and drawbacks of a wind turbine array. Use diagrams to *illustrate* your ideas.



The old building (not poched) and the addition (yellow poche) occupy the entire site, with a street to the west, an alley to the north, and neighboring buildings to the south and east.

### Project: degeneration sustainability regeneration For one point rate the 50 sometimes 50 sometimes building for each of the 100 always always -75 usually 0 balances 75 usually checklist items and give a a bit 25 a bit total score. 8 25 pollutes air cleans air cleans water pollutes water wastes rainwater stores rainwater consumes food produces food destroys rich soil creates rich soil dumps wastes unused consumes wastes destroys wildlife habitat provides wildlife habitat imports energy exports energy the site requires fuel-powered transportation requires human-powered transportation intensifies local weather moderates local weather excludes daylight uses daylight uses mechanical heating uses passive heating uses mechanical cooling uses passive cooling needs cleaning and repair maintains itself produces human discomfort provides human comfort uses fuel-powered circulation uses human-powered circulation pollutes indoor air creates pure indoor air is built of virgin materials is built of recycled materials building cannot be recycled can be recycled serves as an icon for the apocalypse serves as an icon for regeneration is a bad neighbor is a good neighbor the is ugly is beautiful negative score positive score 2200 possible 2200 possible final score: Third floor plan showing atrium (middle) and roof deck,

### **Regeneration-Based Checklist for Design and Construction**

Third floor plan showing atrium (middle) and roof deck, which features five skylights to the second floor, (south) of the mass timber addition.

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## **Building Regeneration**

2. The building is on level ground in a borough of London, which has a mild humid climate similar to Seattle. Given the building plans and orientation *point out and discuss three* features of the *building design* to which you awarded regeneration points on the SBSE checklist (facing page) and *one* feature of the *building design* that to which you awarded degeneration points on the SBSE checklist.



2+

3+

1-

Embodied Carbon 3. Fully discuss two strategies implemented that significantly reduce embodied energy in the adaptive reuse and addition.





Atrium view of the CLT cantilevered stair with LED lighting fixture in the foreground.