

LECTURE SERIES

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY

SUSAN GALAVAN

From pickaxes to steam saws: the construction of the row house in Britain and Ireland

Susan will discuss the construction of the row house from the eighteenth century until the industrial revolution in Ireland and Britain. The lecture will provide an overview of the changing nature of domestic construction practices, exploring the impact of technical innovation on this architecture.

Susan Galavan is an Irish architect and architectural historian with over fourteen years experience working on historic buildings in Ireland, Italy and Germany. She wrote the first in-depth analysis of Dublin's Victorian houses, entitled *Dublin's Bourgeois Homes: building the Victorian suburbs 1850-1901* (Routledge, 2017). She is currently a [Pegasus] Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellow at the Departments of Architecture, KU Leuven and UAntwerp. Her projects builds on research on the British and Irish context to examine the row house typology in Belgium

Time **Thursday March 4 2021, 11-12 AM (CET)**
Register The lecture will take place online, via MS Teams. Please [register here](#) before March 2.
Course You will receive the link to join the day before
Architectural and Construction History (before 1850)

This lecture is organised in the framework of the course 'Architectural and Construction History (before 1850)' by prof. Stephanie Van de Voorde. The course is part of the educational program Bachelor in Architectural Engineering and Master in Urban Studies. The invited lectures by (international) experts in the field are also open for a wider audience. For more information, contact stephanie.van.de.voorde@vub.be or see vub.be/arch



House building in Beaumont Street, Oxford in 1825
(D. Cruickshank, *A guide to the Georgian buildings of Britain and Ireland*)

LECTURE SERIES

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY

DAVID YEOMANS

17th & 18th Century roofs in England: a carpentry revolution

In the seventeenth century England began to use roof forms that were totally different from traditional types used in the medieval and Tudor periods. This revolution in carpentry methods did not occur elsewhere in Northern Europe. Therefore, there are some clear questions: How and why did this change take place? And why did it not occur elsewhere? This lecture will answer those questions and consider the way in which this new form of carpentry was taken up and developed during the eighteenth century.

David Yeomans has taught structural design and building conservation in schools of architecture as well as practicing as an engineer specializing in timber structures. He has published on the history of building technology, in both carpentry and reinforced concrete, as well as on the conservation of structures. He has served on ICOMOS and EU committees drafting standards for conservation. He is currently vice-chairman of the Construction History Society.

Time **Thursday March 11 2021, 11-12 AM (CET)**
Register The lecture will take place online, via MS Teams.
Please [register here](#) before March 9.
Course You will receive the link to join the day before
Architectural and Construction History (before 1850)

This lecture is organised in the framework of the course 'Architectural and Construction History (before 1850)' by prof. Stephanie Van de Voorde. The course is part of the educational program Bachelor in Architectural Engineering and Master in Urban Studies. The invited lectures by (international) experts in the field are also open for a wider audience. For more information, contact stephanie.van.de.voorde@vub.be or see vub.be/arch



LECTURE SERIES

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY

PAULA FUENTES

Masonry vaults

Masonry vaults have been used for centuries in most representative buildings, being almost completely abandoned in the 20th-century architecture. Although they form a very important part of our architectural heritage, technical aspects are barely discussed in architectural and engineering courses. This lecture will thus focus on the different construction techniques and processes.

Paula Fuentes is post-doc researcher fellow at the VUB, where she is developing the project Brick vaults and beyond: the transformation of a historical structural system (1830-1930).*** Her research interests focus on history of construction, masonry structures and surveying and drawing of architectural heritage.

Time **Thursday March 18 2021, 11-12 AM (CET)**
Register The lecture will take place online, via MS Teams. Please [register here](#) before March 16.
You will receive the link to join the day before
Course Architectural and Construction History (before 1850)

This lecture is organised in the framework of the course 'Architectural and Construction History (before 1850)' by prof. Stephanie Van de Voorde. The course is part of the educational program Bachelor in Architectural Engineering and Master in Urban Studies. The invited lectures by (international) experts in the field are also open for a wider audience. For more information, contact stephanie.van.de.voorde@vub.be or see vub.be/arch



Santa María del Mar, Barcelona (Photo: P. Fuentes 2017)

*** This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 833030



LECTURE SERIES

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY

HEIDI DENEWETH

New building materials and urban change

Heidi will explain how the introduction of new building materials (stone, brick and tiles instead of wood, loam and straw) enabled different modes of construction and how this impacted on urban landscapes in general and neighbourly relations in particular. Case study: Bruges during the late middle ages and early modern period.

Heidi is member of VUB-research team HOST (Historical Research into Urban Transformation Processes) and investigates the interaction between economic, social and urban change in cities in the Low Countries in a longitudinal perspective (Late Middle Ages until 1914). Her main research topics are urban development, housing, labour and entrepreneurship, and inequality.

Time **Thursday April 22 2021, 11-12 AM (CET)**
Register The lecture will take place online, via MS Teams. Please [register here](#) before April 20.
Course You will receive the link to join the day before
Architectural and Construction History (before 1850)

This lecture is organised in the framework of the course 'Architectural and Construction History (before 1850)' by prof. Stephanie Van de Voorde. The course is part of the educational program Bachelor in Architectural Engineering and Master in Urban Studies. The invited lectures by (international) experts in the field are also open for a wider audience. For more information, contact stephanie.van.de.voorde@vub.be or see vub.be/arch



De Oude Steen (© Dienst Monumentenzorg Brugge)

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY

BILL ADDIS

The emergence of iron as construction material

Iron began to replace traditional materials for structural elements in buildings frequently from the 1770s. Its main benefits were its high strength and resistance to fire. The methods of manufacture led to entirely new types of structure which soon had an impact on building design and architecture. Furthermore, its very high cost demanded great economy and, for the first time, engineering science was employed to optimise the design of structures with regard to resource efficiency. This 'iron revolution' was largely complete by the 1850s.

Bill's main interest is the history of all branches of building engineering and the development of engineering design procedures since mediaeval times. He was editor of the journal Construction History for about 6 years and Chair of the editorial panel for Engineering History and Heritage for 6 years. He worked for over 15 years at the University of Reading followed by 15 years at Buro Happold Consulting Engineers in London. Since retiring in 2015 he has been a visiting Professor at Universities in Rome, Innsbruck, San Sebastian, Zurich, Brussels and Munich.

Time	Thursday April 29 2021, 11-12 AM (CET)
Register	The lecture will take place online, via MS Teams. Please register here before April 27.
Course	You will receive the link to join the day before Architectural and Construction History (before 1850)

This lecture is organised in the framework of the course 'Architectural and Construction History (before 1850)' by prof. Stephanie Van de Voorde. The course is part of the educational program Bachelor in Architectural Engineering and Master in Urban Studies. The invited lectures by (international) experts in the field are also open for a wider audience. For more information, contact stephanie.van.de.voorde@vub.be or see vub.be/arch



Boathouse No 6, Portsmouth dockyard, 1844. Cast-iron floor girder with wrought-iron trussing rods (photo Bill Addis).

LECTURE SERIES

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY

PHILIPPE SOSNOWSKA

The contribution of archaeology to the history of construction: the case of Brussels

Through the case of Brussels, the aim of this lecture is to present the contribution of archaeology to the study of building materials and their use and their implementation from the Middle Ages to the beginning of the 19th century in the city and its periphery. The presentation will be based on the major research projects implemented over the last ten years.

Philippe Sosnowska is lecturer at the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Liège and postdoctoral researcher at the Centre de Recherches en Archéologie et Patrimoine of the Université libre de Bruxelles. His research projects are situated at the crossroads of archaeology, history, history of architecture, and history of construction and aim to study habitations of the Ancien Régime, the constructive principles and the way of living.

Time Thursday May 6 2021, 11-12 AM (CET)
Register The lecture will take place online, via MS Teams. Please [register here](#) before May 4.
You will receive the link to join the day before
Course Architectural and Construction History (before 1850)

This lecture is organised in the framework of the course 'Architectural and Construction History (before 1850)' by prof. Stephanie Van de Voorde. The course is part of the educational program Bachelor in Architectural Engineering and Master in Urban Studies. The invited lectures by (international) experts in the field are also open for a wider audience. For more information, contact stephanie.van.de.voorde@vub.be or see vub.be/arch



Triptych of the *Quatre Couronnés*, detail, 15th c. (© Musée de la Ville de Bruxelles)