

# Revitalising Heritage

## MSc 3+4 Zero Waste Church



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### Tutors

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Code	AR3AH115
Credits	55 ECTS
Location	various locations
Excursion	Yes
Costs	-

Our world is changing quickly. We need new societal models if we want to have a chance in facing climate change. You're (almost) an architect. The building sector is responsible for up to half of all global carbon emissions: you have in your hands the opportunity to make a difference! When talking about sustainability, we often think of energy and new high-tech buildings and solutions. The truth is that one third of all waste comes directly from the building industry. Some say waste is every object plus time. The time for a function to lose its importance. But time is also the secret ingredient of heritage, those objects that define our culture, identity, and sense of place, that bring beauty and meaning to our lives, and that we select to keep and cherish.

In the Netherlands, churches are some of these built objects that seem to have lost their place. Hundreds lost their religious function, many were repurposed, others remain vacant and are threatened by demolition. Meanwhile, we face a housing

shortage, and 1 million homes need to be built by 2030.

In this studio we challenge you to take a position: is it heritage or is it waste? Together we will explore creative design thinking to transform vacant churches into housing, learn from experts in religious heritage, climate action and building deconstruction, and develop new methodologies for a zero-waste future.

Are you curious about the hidden values of material attributes? Do you want to explore how building elements can be disassembled without losing their cultural significance? If you dare experimenting with a zero-waste redesign, join us in this Heritage studio!