

TECH AND ENV 1 BUILDING ANALYSIS

There are over 40 historic buildings at St Fagans.
Today we are going to look in details at some of them.

AIM

In your groups of 3 choose 2 buildings to study. You will gather information on the two buildings through the visit today. Next week in studio you will make a brief presentation to the other members of the year about what you have discovered. The sorts of questions you should consider are highlighted below. It is not an exhaustive list and you should discuss as a group your strategy for putting the information together.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

When and where was the building originally built? By whom? For whom?

What was its original function?

When was it transferred to St Fagans? Can you find out anything about the technical difficulties involved in its relocation to St Fagans? How many people originally used the building?

FUNCTION AND FORM

Please record what you see by sketch or photograph?

What are its distinguishing features?

Why did the group choose this particular property?

Can you sketch the plan form? Sketch the elevation or key internal feature? Is it single or two storey? Does it have a stair? Does it have any windows? What do you notice about the scale and space within the building?

MATERIALS

What is the building made from? What is the structural form?

Is it load bearing masonry or framed construction? What are the walls made from? What is the roof made from? How are the materials internally revealed?

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SERVICES

How is the building serviced? Does it have electric lighting? or how is it lit?

How do the windows impact on the spaces in the building? What is the building's orientation - which part faces north? which part faces south?

How does this impact on the use of the interior space?

What is the main form of heating for the building? What implication does this have for the occupants? Does the building have running water? Is there a bathroom? Is there a toilet?

NOTE

COMPARE AND CONTRAST THE TWO BUILDINGS FOR YOUR PRESENTATION

WHEREVER POSSIBLY MAKE NOTES AND SKETCHES AND TAKE PHOTOS TO REINFORCE THE POINTS YOU MAKE IN THE PRESENTATION.