BA [HONS] ARCHITECTURE LEVEL 4

2019-2020

BIRMINGHAM
School of Architecture
and Design

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Completion Date: Monday 16th September 2019

PRE-ARRIVAL ACTIVITY: THRESHOLD

INTRODUCTION

threshold (noun)
1. *A strip of wood or stone forming the bottom of a doorway and crossed in entering a house or room.*
2. *The magnitude or intensity that must be exceeded for a certain reaction, phenomenon, result, or condition to occur or be manifested.*

Origin: Old English therscold, threscold; related to German dialect Drischaufel; the first element is related to thresh (in a Germanic sense 'tread'), but the origin of the second element is unknown.

TASK
Think about the place where you live, the character of the spaces that make up your environment. Some of these might be rooms, others might be streets and urban spaces. How does one space end and the next begin?

The separation and connection of adjacent spaces is often performed by a wall and a door, but there are more nuanced ways to create a threshold that defines limits of space. We do not always need a door, perhaps just the thickness of a wall is enough. Then again, we do not always even need a wall, a row of columns or just the overhang of a canopy can do that job. Sometimes, the threshold itself is an intermediate space we can inhabit. Your task is to identify and describe a minimum of three different thresholds that you frequently move through. These could be between two spaces, two different uses, public and private designations, light and darkness, between two surfaces... You decide.

APPARATUS
You can use any/all of the following methods to complete this task: Sketching / Drawing / Photography / Videography / Modelling / Collage. You may combine several different methods if you wish.

OUTCOME
At least three elements depicting three different thresholds.
The minimum size of each element is A4
You will need to bring your work to the first session on Monday 16th September, 11am