

ADVANCED ARCHITECTURE DESIGN STUDIO SPRING 2014
Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
A4006/A4106 Sect.019 Advanced Architectural Design Studio VI Konyk

CORPUS SEPARATUM: JERUSALEM & THE OCCUPATION OF MEMORY.
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But what does remain is the ground, and the ground is never neutral. The narrative of the ground will become the site of our investigations this semester. Lifta is a small Palestinian village that is divided by Western Jerusalem's Green Line. Forcibly abandoned in the 1948-49 war, it has remained forcibly unoccupied for the last 66 years. Ironically, it is this unique condition of Lifta that has actually preserved it to this day. Jerusalem will serve as a laboratory for the investigation of the occupation of a memory landscape and Lifta will be our point of focus.

What is the effect of the memory of a place when it conflicts and collides with the reality of that very same place? How does one memorialize or commemorate past events and contextualize them within the present? What role do architecture and its preservation play in this discussion?

The Studio will travel to Jerusalem via Amman Jordan in the beginning of March to visit the site and tour other sites of intense significance. We will view similar Ottoman-era villages in the occupied West Bank/Palestine as case studies of re-occupation strategies. Students will propose architectural intervention strategies for the re-occupation of Lifta as a continuity of Jerusalem and its ongoing evolution as an intensive urban field of memory.