

# COORDINATING CHANGE



## **COORDINATING CHANGE**

in assessment to improve student engagement and attainment  
in a theoretical subject (History and Theory of Architecture)

**CONTEXT:** architectural education (theory)

**PROBLEM:** student engagement / 'mono-literacy'  
of assessment / quality of submissions / feedback  
effectiveness / incommensurate amount of marking

**PROBLEM FOR WHOM?** students and academics



## **WHY 'PROBLEM', suddenly?**

Traditionally theory assessed through essays, but

- academic reading and writing skills not as developed in a rapidly growing student population (Pickford and Brown 2006)
- high proportion of dyslexic students (James 2003)
- increasingly varied educational and cultural backgrounds of 1<sup>st</sup> year cohorts (RIBA 2012)

## **SOLUTION: Pluralism in assessment –**

**4 essays** replaced by

- one hand drawn assignment
- one historic interior-design physical model
- one essay

## **BENEFITS:**

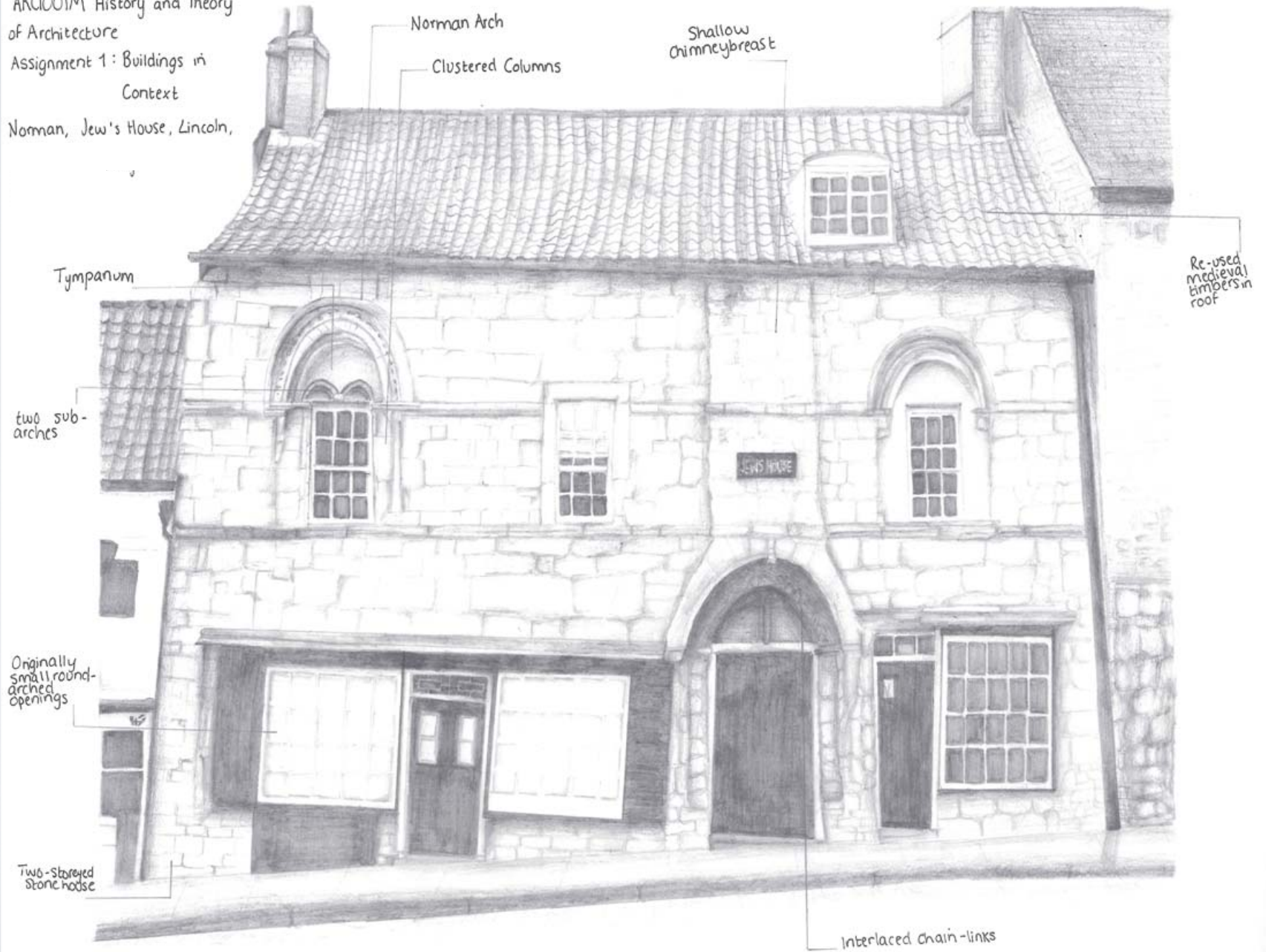


Learning: student and tutor engagement = 'atelier' buzz



# Learning: re-contextualisation of knowledge and employment of diverse skills

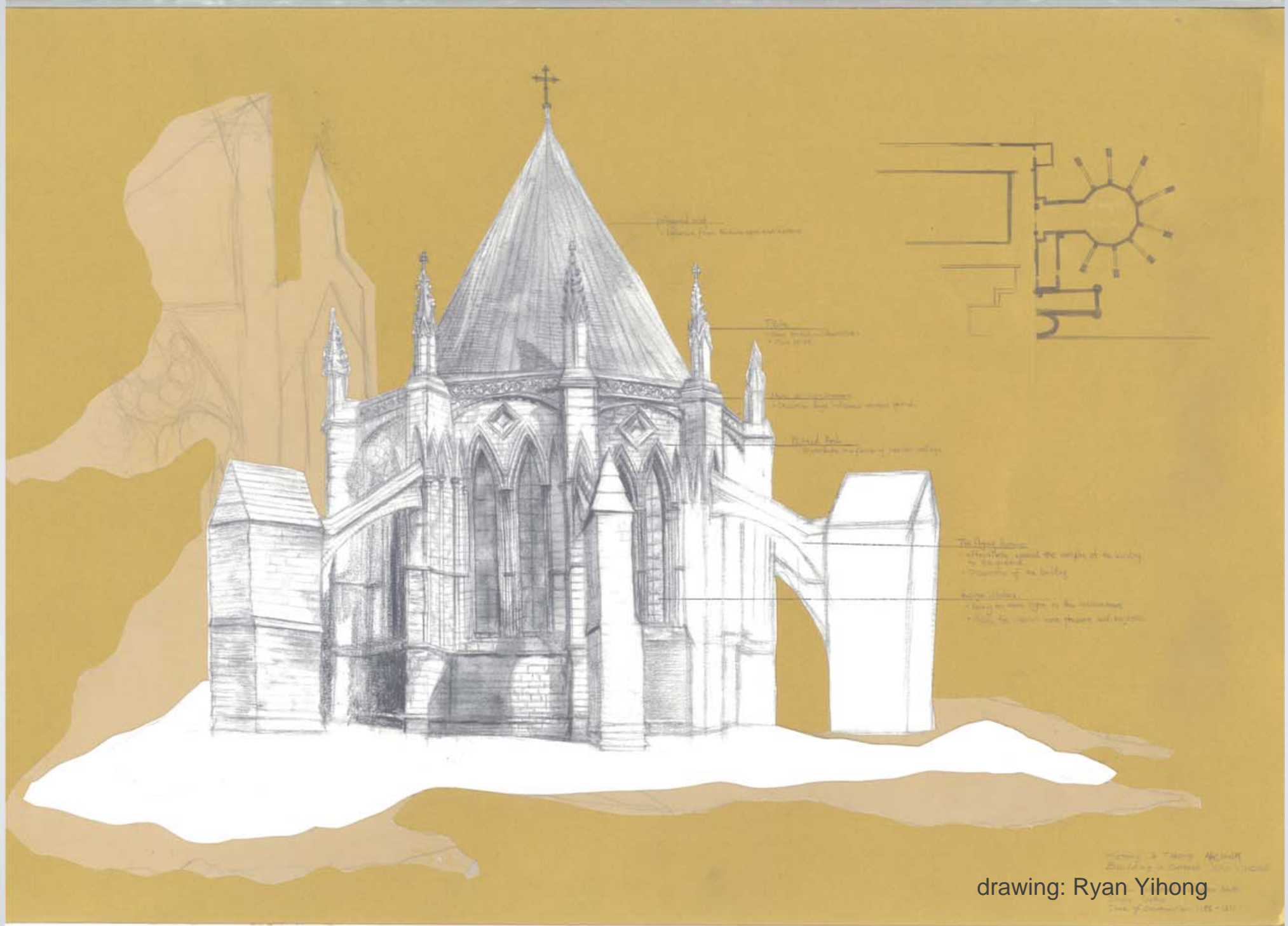
ARC1001M History and Theory of Architecture  
Assignment 1: Buildings in Context  
Norman, Jew's House, Lincoln,



drawing: Billie Chell



'Multi-literacy paradigm' in assessment = independence from 'identity markers'



drawing: Ryan Yihong

# Quality of submissions: explicit and implicit learning



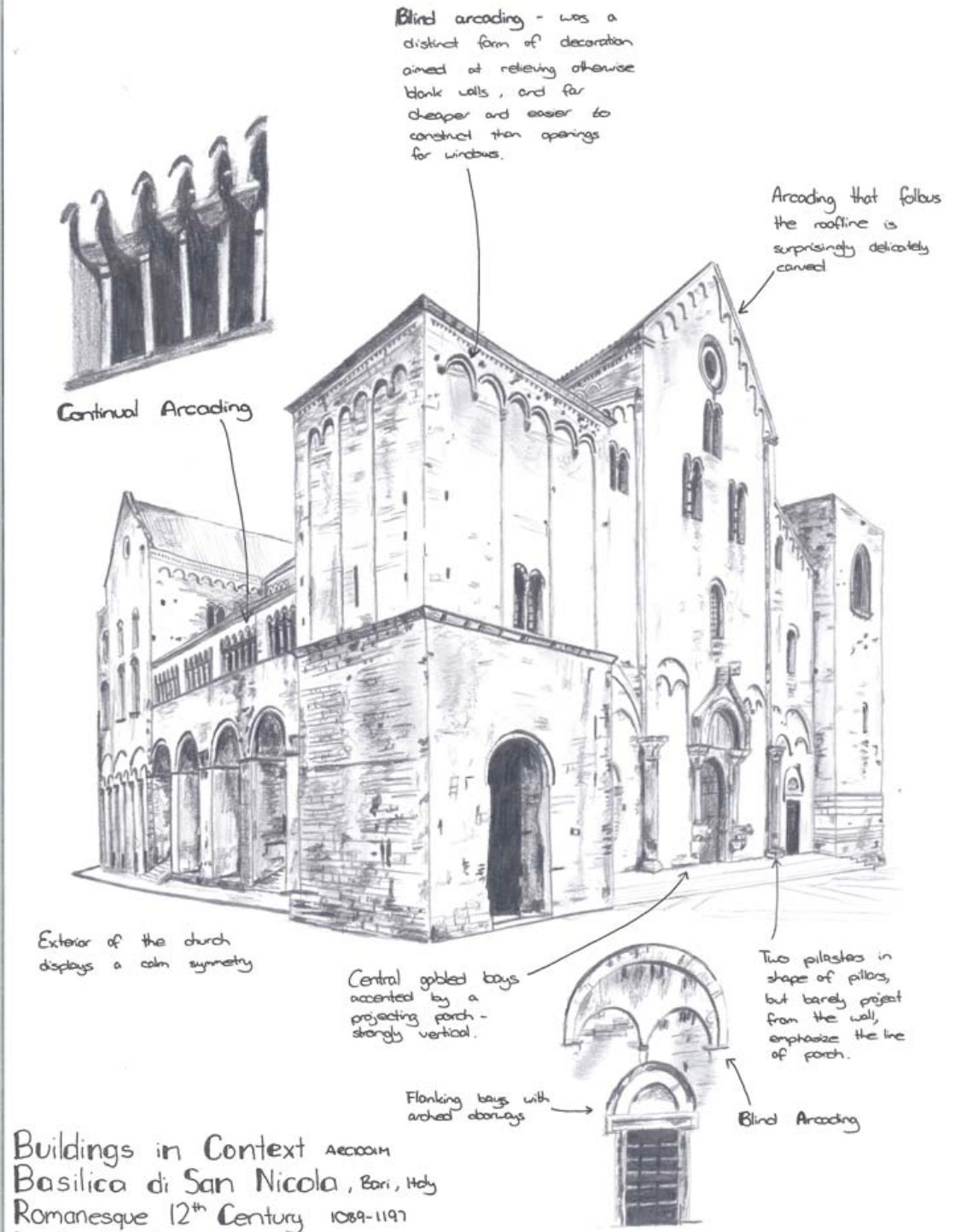


## Student engagement:

- immersive, participatory learning
- sociable and collaborative learning
- professional relevance
- skills support studio teaching
- peer reference, review and feedback

## Affects:

- = quality of work / attainment
- = quality of student experience



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photo: Adam Verity



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Inter-disciplinary collaboration – Architecture and CLM students [light/box project]



photo: Adam Verity



lightbox project 2013





photo: Doina Carter





light/box - student group images





light/box - student group images

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Hand drawings - 1<sup>st</sup> year students *BA(Hons) Architecture, Lincoln*:

**Billie Chell**

**Lyndsy Hutchinson**

**Ryan Yihong (including title page)**

Photographs of the CLM/Architecture collaboration:

**Adam Verity** (programme leader *BA(Hons) Contemporary Lens Media, Lincoln*)

Photographs of the historic interior-design models:

**Doina Carter**

Group of 1<sup>st</sup> year students *BA(Hons) Contemporary Lens Media, Lincoln*