

Ratios

The force contributed by each element in a given relationship defines that relationship and the strength of its bonds. Poor or lopsided contributions can create a weak bond, but a bond no less. Equal caring and honest contributions give way to unconditional love and respect.

This ratio analysis can be applied to the conflict found in most architecture between the force of new influences and the force of existing influences. The following are five general topologies and the ratio of new to old creating them.

Preservation: devoid of any new contribution and containing almost entirely old.

Restoration: use of new forces to precisely recreate the old in style and function.

Renovation: an equal combination of both new and old forces.

Addition: attaching new forces and their effects with minimal influence from old forces.

New Fabrication: dominance of new forces to the exclusion of the old.

It is important to note that the previous ratios are meant as a starting point. Single architectural projects may fall within several of the ratios listed and it is in the character and skill of the Architect's manipulation of the contributing forces that architectural integrity is practiced.

