

Strategies for Reciprocity

Practice-Invested Approaches to Design Historical Enquiry

AMPS Heritage(s)
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Design practice orientation

Expectation: history informs contemporary practice

> *How can history serve contemporary design?*

Design history orientation

Risk: distortion when subordinated to present needs>

How can history remain faithful to its conditions?

THE REDUNDANCY OF DESIGN HISTORY

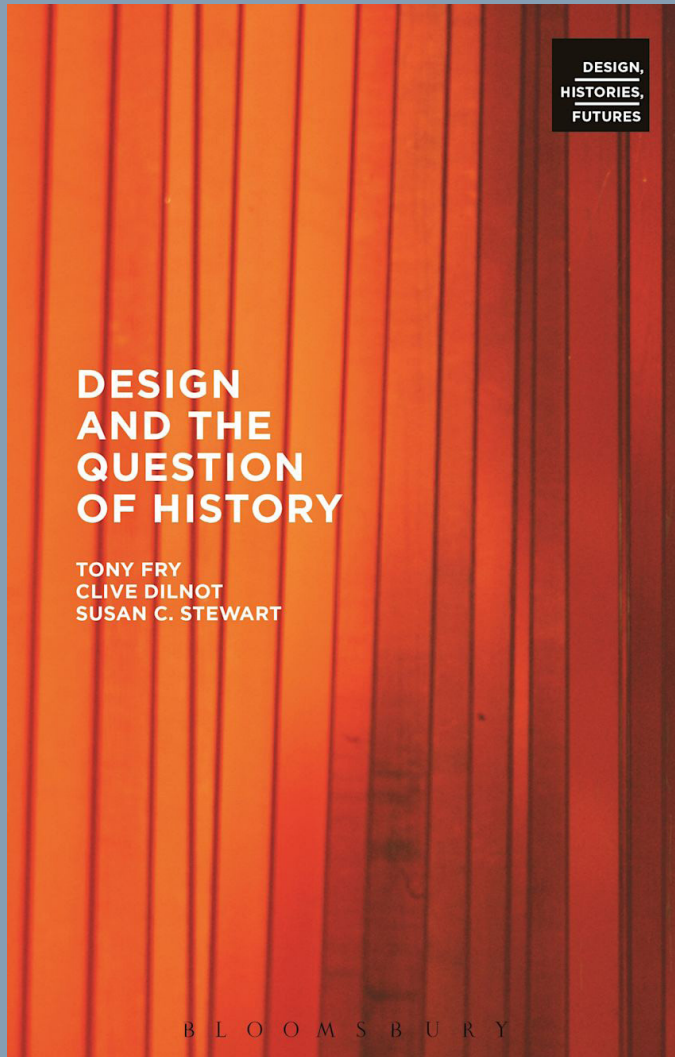
‘increasingly divorced from
design practice’

‘dangerously out of touch with the
activity they seek to analyze’

‘redundant as a contributor to
paradigms of practice’

Julier and Narotzky (1998: 1)

A TRIVIAL MODALITY OF HISTORY



‘design history
dominantly fails to
recognize the historical
significance of design’

Fry, Dilnot and Stewart (2015: viii)

Design Practice Historian

A practice-invested orientation within design history

- Takes the historical formation of design practice as a legitimate object of historical inquiry.
- Examines how methods, assumptions, forms of expertise and organising logics emerge and change over time.
- Expands the objects of design historical inquiry.