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**Staging Transformation in Architecture**

The intention of this project is to study the processes of conservation and renewal that are currently taking place at national museums throughout Europe. The museum as a public place was established during the 19th century, when Europe’s oldest and most established museum buildings were erected. These buildings have been altered and adjusted during the 19th and 20th centuries to support changing ideas of art, culture and nation. In present day conservation processes, however, historical alterations and additions are treated and valued differently. During the 21st century, many of the largest European museums have initiated large-scale reconstruction projects, with the Nationalmuseum in Stockholm being one of them. Which historic layers that have been considered worth saving differ considerably, and by comparing five large-scale Museum projects, I aim to discuss how ideas of historic traces are present in these buildings and how historic transformation processes are staged.