



**the production
of authenticity.....'**

how can the

**'House of Architecture'
strengthen the RIBA's
conservation skills agenda?**

authenticity

Greek 'authentikos' – 'to master'

of undisputed origin and not a copy; genuine..... AND
made or done in the traditional or original way, or in a
way that faithfully resembles an original.

.....so authenticity is both a material, historic reality, and
a convincing contemporary facsimile?

.....are we skilled in keeping – or copying?

actually it is both.....

authenticity

sympathetic repair is at one end of the authenticity spectrum,
designing new fire stations with pediments at the other.....

understanding how and where to deploy our conservation skills
is as important as the skills themselves.....

.....so-called practical decisions are never neutral, innocent or
value-free.....the act of 'conservation' creates an ethical
benchmark that defines how we engage with people, source or
specify material and communicate significance so that others
understand a history and their role in its production.