



OLD WOODEN WINDOW

Simple glazing, good general condition but chipped paint



Maintain

POSSIBLE : This frame is still functional. Painting as well as improving thermal and acoustic performances are perfectly conceivable.

The placement of a molded joint on the spot site allows to strengthen the airtightness.

The existing single glazing can be replaced by double glazing, by milling the carpentry (beware : the division of glazing bars will be lost).

Wood grafts are possible for damaged parts of the wood.

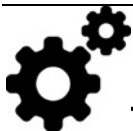
① The old frames were sometimes painted with lead. So be careful and protect yourself with an appropriate mask when you uncoat the carpentry before repainting it, when it is still provided with an old paint.



Reuse

POSSIBLE : It is quite possible to disassemble a wooden frame for reuse elsewhere in the building, resell it (second-hand sites or specialized resellers) or give it away (acquaintances, donations)

① The frames are generally placed on sills and fixed to the wall by screws or fastening pastes, which can be dismantled. (Attention : Before reuse, the frame will have to be renovated of course)



Transform

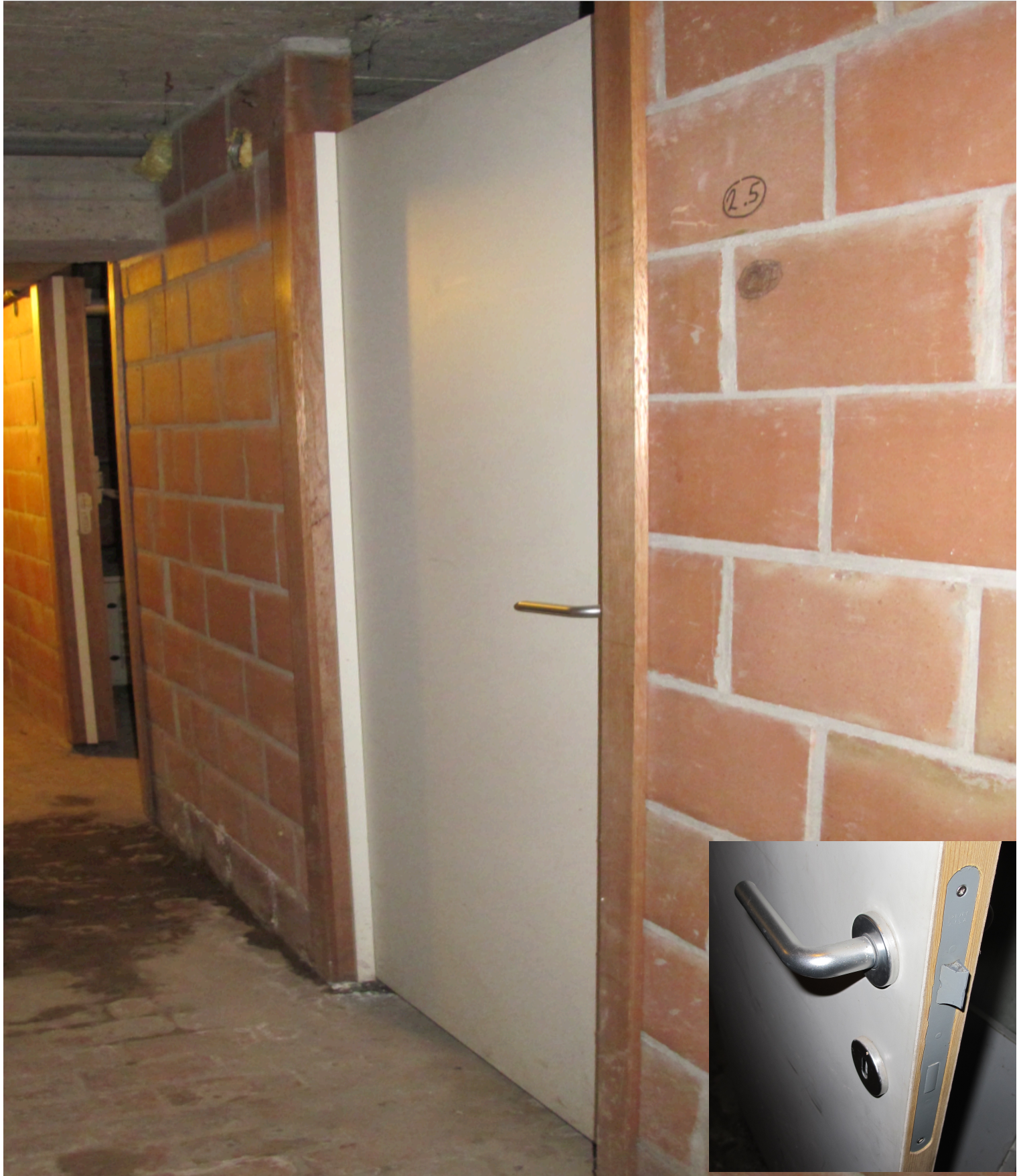
POSSIBLE : With imagination, it is possible to find a new use for this frame, but the action is more energy-intensive because it demands time, manpower and the addition of other materials.

① Some ideas : indoor glass partition, greenhouse, garden shed, furniture door. Methods are tested to cut up the profiles and use the wood as an end-grain floor.



Sorting centre

DIFFICULT RECYCLING: This frame is painted. At the sorting centre, the wood will therefore be considered as a type B wood waste. In 85% of cases it will be incinerated, and more rarely recycled (15% of cases).



ALVEOLAR PLANE DOOR

Mobile part consisting of a wooden frame filled with cardboard cells and covered with a HDF plate



@ Maintain

POSSIBLE : this door is in good condition. It can be repainted and hence undergo a transformation.

- ① If the handle is no longer to your taste, it can always be replaced with another model, new or used.



Reuse

POSSIBLE : the dimensions of this type of door generally follow the standards, so there is a way to find buyers, but this door has no heritage or aesthetic value, so its commercial value will be low (unlike an old door in oak for example).

- ① Consider disassembling and recovering a complete door with its door jamb, hardware and, if possible, its splay, even if it will require more dismantling .



Transform

POSSIBLE : From the moment the door is removed, the panel of the mobile part can be recovered for a new use, just remove the hardware and plug the holes.

Examples : work surface to be put on trestles or low cupboards.



Sorting centre

DIFFICULT RECYCLING: At the sorting centre, this door will be 'decomposed' to separate the wooden elements from the metallic elements. The door leaf is painted and consists of solid wood and chipboard. It will be incinerated in 85% of cases and more rarely recycled (15% of cases).



OLD PORCELAIN WASHBASIN

Good condition, dimensions +/- 60cm x 48cm, cold water taps, exposed pipes.



Maintain

POSSIBLE : The washbasin and its tap are in good condition, a routine maintenance (cleaning with water and /or cleaning product) is probably sufficient, otherwise it is possible to clean this washbasin more deeply to remove the lime or coloring spots.
Warning : avoid using too abrasive products.

In case of splinters, it is possible to carry out punctual repairs using a repair product and porcelain paint (there are porcelain repair kits available).

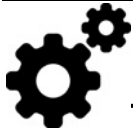
① For greater comfort, it is of course possible to replace the taps and add hot water pipes



Reuse

POSSIBLE : It is entirely possible to reuse the washbasin elsewhere in the building, to resell it (second-hand sites or resellers). It is relatively simple to dismantle this type of washbasin, which is attached.

① Don't forget to recover the tap and the evacuations accessories, which are also reusable.



Transform

NOT POSSIBLE : Quite difficult, if not impossible, because you cannot really adapt or modify this element, unless you make a Duchamp-style sculpture of it.



Sorting centre

POSSIBLE RECYCLING : It's a pity, because this element still has value !
In this case it's really about « downcycling » : at the sorting centre, the metallic elements will be placed in the metal container, but the washbasin will end with the « inert waste » and will be crushed and used as an aggregate for the making of concretes.



CEMENT TILES

Placed on a bed of sand



Maintain

POSSIBLE : The tiles are in good condition, they just need cleaning by using a moist cloth with some hot water, possibly with a mild soap.

Warning: avoid acid products and bleach. More stubborn dirt or drips can be removed with a slightly cutting tool to avoid scratching the surface. Check whether all joints are still in good condition. Avoid adding an oil-based protective layer which absorbs the dirt, but if necessary a caustic wax can be used.

- ① If a tile is missing or cracked, get information from second-hand resellers



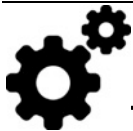
Reuse

POSSIBLE : They are placed on a bed of sand, filled with lime mortar (hardly hard) and are thick enough to be removed without too much breakage, even though this still requires some dexterity.

First, two lines of joints are cleared by a grinding disc, then the tiles are removed with a chisel.

These tiles can be reused elsewhere or easily resold (the first date from 1870 and have a heritage value!).

- ① When reassembling, consider reusing the original technique with a lime mortar: if the tiles are placed on a cement screed and filled with hard adhesive mortar, it becomes very difficult to disassemble them without breakage.



Transform

NOT POSSIBLE : If it's possible to place them on the wall, to use them for work surfaces, or even in a decorative way as the finish of a low table, or as a coaster ...it's not really about transformation.



Sorting centre

POSSIBLE RECYCLING: It's a pity, because this element still has value !

At the sorting centre, the tiles and the mortar will end with the « inert waste ». They will then be crushed into aggregates which can be reused as a roadbed for road foundations or in concrete production.



CAST IRON RADIATOR

Chipped paint



Maintain

POSSIBLE : This radiator is in good condition. A lick of paint is enough to refresh it. The radiator already has a thermostatic valve ; for those who don't have them, kits are available to fit one.

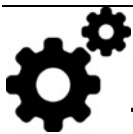
① Cast iron radiators were often oversized, so their dimensions in relation to the room are generally sufficient for them to operate at low temperatures produced by a condensing boiler.



Reuse

POSSIBLE : It is entirely possible to dismantle a cast iron radiator and replace it elsewhere or resell it (its aesthetic and heritage value are interesting !).

① Some companies offer full maintenance : removal, cleaning and stripping, internal bleeding and leak testing, rustproof paint and exterior powder coating.



Transform

NOT POSSIBLE : It's difficult to transform this type of device. Any ideas ?



Sorting centre

POSSIBLE RECYCLING : It's a pity, because this element still has value.

At the sorting centre, this radiator will go into the metal container. It will then be recast and upgraded in the production of new cast iron, or in the industry that needs coke.



WINDOWSILL IN BLUE STONE

Partially damaged with surface cracks and breaks



Maintain

POSSIBLE :

Clean the stone with a brush and water.

Plugging the cracks with mineral mortar will avoid water stagnation, which can cause the stone to burst when it freezes.

When there's a large crack in an angle or an edge, a stone graft can be done, although the operation is expensive and requires the work of a specialist.



Reuse

POSSIBLE :

This windowsill in blue stone is removable. Given its length and weight, one has to be careful not to break the element. This work is usually done by a demolition contractor. The great advantage of the stone is that it can be recut and adapted to serve elsewhere.



Transform

POSSIBLE :

This windowsill can be transformed. It can be used for the first step of a stair, for an external bench,...

Recut, it can serve as a basis for another façade element or a sculpture.



Sorting centre

POSSIBLE RECYCLING :

It's a pity, because this element still has value and the extraction of blue stone blocks of this dimension from quarries also becomes increasingly scarce and expensive.

In this case, it's really « downcycling » : at the sorting centre, chances are slim of the stone being recovered as such and to arrive at a reseller. The windowsill is more likely to end with the « inert waste » and to be crushed into aggregates, which can be reused as a roadbed for road foundations or in concrete production .



NAILED FLOOR
In solid wood (fir)



Maintain

POSSIBLE : This floor, once it is sanded, will look beautiful. It is made of boards in solid fir, so it can support many sandings.

If you want to treat it, use a hard oil or wax to preserve the recycling option.

① The missing parts can be completed with boards recovered elsewhere (second-hand sites or resellers for instance), or with new boards (of the same wood if it should remain visible).



Reuse

POSSIBLE : Due to the fact that the boards are nailed to the joists, they can be dismantled by a hammer and a crowbar, and be reused.

The floor can be re-installed as an apparent floor or as a support for another cover. Fir has a low market value (unlike the old floors in oak or chestnut ,...), so it will be difficult to resell it. It's better to reuse it elsewhere or to give it away.



Transform

POSSIBLE : These boards can have many uses : furniture, inside sheeting... Otherwise, before getting rid of it, why not use them for a wall formwork or a concrete slab intended to remain visible ?



Sorting centre

POSSIBLE RECYCLING : This floor has the advantage of being untreated, so it is considered recyclable (wood waste category : A). In 75% of cases it will be recycled and converted, after grinding, into chipboard or MDF. If not, in 25% of cases, it will be incinerated with recovery of the energy released during incineration.



CEMENT FIXED WALL TILES

Tiles of the 80s in an old kitchen.

The kitchen will be removed and the room will become a living room



Maintain

NOT APPLICABLE :

The room is destined to become a living room, where the wall tiles no longer have their place. They must be removed.

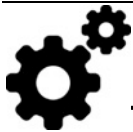


Reuse

NOT POSSIBLE : This wall tile is glued with a hyper resistant adhesive mortar. It is therefore difficult, if not impossible, to disconnect it from the wall without breaking it into pieces.

It doesn't have any great commercial value anyway.

① Older tiles, fixed with less hard lime mortar, are much more easily recoverable.



Transform

NOT POSSIBLE : This wall tile is glued with a hyper resistant adhesive mortar. It is thin and tiled, and therefore fragile.

It is therefore difficult, if not impossible, to disconnect it from the wall without breaking it into pieces.

The resulting pieces will themselves be too thin to be integrated into a mosaic (plates are more useful for this)



Sorting centre

POSSIBLE RECYCLING : At the sorting centre, this type of material composed of tiles and cement, becomes an « inert rubble » type waste.

The two elements, even though connected, are nonetheless recyclable : they will be crushed into aggregates (different size depending on the future use), which can be reused in small quantities as a roadbed for road foundations and for concrete production because they make up poor quality aggregates .



MACHINERY BRICKS FIXED WITH CEMENT MORTAR

They form the walls of an annex building
urbanistically non compliant, it is bound to be demolished.



NOT APPLICABLE : The premises are destined to be demolished



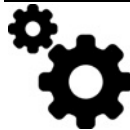
Reuse

NOT POSSIBLE : These are mechanized bricks, dating after 1940/50, a time when the brick industry turned to mechanical manufacture and abandoned the lime mortar, to replace it with a more hard cement mortar.

The dismantling of this type of brick is not feasible : the cement bonding mortar is very hard, harder than the brick itself, and doesn't allow disassembly without breakage.

❶ If it was brick masonry with lime mortar (usually lighter in color, off-white or clay), the bricks could have been separated by a pneumatic hammer or chisel.

❶ There are also new techniques for the installation of mortar-free facing bricks. They avoid sticking the elements together, and therefore make it more easily to recover them at the end of use.



Transform

NOT POSSIBLE : see info REUSE.

Since they cannot be disassembled without breakage and remain interdependent with each other by the mortar, it is difficult to imagine them a new use.



Sorting centre

POSSIBLE RECYCLING : At the sorting centre, this masonry becomes an inert rubble-like waste. The cement being very hard, it makes the brick indissociable from the mortar.

The two elements, even interconnected, are nonetheless recyclable. They will be crushed into aggregates (different size depending on the futur use) which can be reused in small quantities as a roadbed for road foundations and for concrete production.