

## Abstract

This bachelor's thesis is focused on ruins as specific aesthetic objects. The thesis will first remind us about the beginning and rise of aesthetic interest in ruins in the eighteenth and nineteenth century, which mainly stems from the category of picturesque, which was prominent in this period of time. The first part of the thesis mainly focuses on the theory of Sir Uvedale Price, who discussed ruins in terms of picturesque. This part also looks at historical changeability of ruins and the approach to them. Next the thesis discusses ruin as an object. This entails analysis of the defining trend of the term ruin in dictionaries as well as in texts written by authors interested in the aesthetics of ruins. The aim of this part is to create a unique definition of the term ruin. After creating this definition, the text continues by discussing ruin as an aesthetic object. A ruin is in terms of its value a complexly structured object and outlining this value structure is the aim of this thesis. This part therefore focused on discussing elements, which the ruins consist of and which together play a major role in constituting an aesthetic object. What is absolutely essential for ruin is unity. This part also talks about senses, the relationship of a ruin and nature and ruin's temporal dimension. The last part focuses on a new type of a ruin, which could also be called an industrial ruin. The aim of this part is to compare and contrast classical ruins and modern ruin based on what was already established about elements of the ruin. Many authors claim that a modern ruin cannot be a ruin, because it is simply not old enough. The last part of the thesis therefore tries to show that even modern ruins are ruins. It also about testing whether the definition of a ruin that the author created is valid or not. The thesis also talks about aesthetic activities that are tied to modern ruins, namely about urbex and ruin porn.

## Key words

Aesthetic experience, aesthetics of nature, environmental aesthetics, ruin, industrial ruin, urbex, urban exploration