

Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences



Graduation Plan: All tracks

Submit your Graduation Plan to the Board of Examiners (Examencommissie-BK@tudelft.nl), Mentors and Delegate of the Board of Examiners one week before P2 at the latest.

The graduation plan consists of at least the following data/segments:

Personal information	
Name	Floor Mulder
Student number	4481313

Studio		
Name / Theme	Design of the Urban Fabric	
Main mentor	Gerdy Verschuure-Stuip	Landscape Architecture
Second mentor	Maurice Hartevelde	Urban Design
Argumentation of choice of the studio	<p>The urban landscape grows and adapts to our ever changing society. Through the years, the city gains layer after layer of meaning and this shapes the city as we know it today. By analyzing the different layers, we can learn a lot about past use, changing values and beliefs and gain knowledge for future use. In an individualizing society, it is important to restrengthen the connection of human to nature and to each other. The livability will then improve again, while also creating a more ecologically sustainable environment.</p> <p>I chose for Design of the Urban Fabric, because I'm very much interested in researching methods to strengthen these connections, and stimulating new, sustainable ways of living in cities. This is one of the most important tasks for the upcoming years as a landscape/urban designer.</p>	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Re-Osdorp: A Design Research to Reinforce Heritage and Create Sustainable Living in a Post-war Neighborhood in Amsterdam
Goal	
Location:	Osdorp, Amsterdam
The posed problem,	<p>The post-war neighborhood is known to be a problematic neighborhood in many cities; they are prone to high criminality and loss of place. Osdorp, a neighborhood in the Western Garden Cities of Amsterdam, faces these same problems as well as the more general climate issues the world is facing.</p> <p>Despite its very new, progressive and utopian urban design in the 1950s made for a new and better way of living, certain aspects did not work out and the post-war neighborhood has had a bad reputation since then. Despite this, the post-war neighborhood has a clever design with a lot of potential. It was designed to bring nature back into the dense urban life (Bos,</p>

	<p>1946). The green structure has ingenious links between the successive scales, making a clearly organized urban structure that is welcoming to living and meeting outside. However strong this idea, society has changed a lot since then and the design of public space is outdated. Different cultures and households, living in a car and internet driven society, have difficulties living in the monotonous ideals of the post-war neighborhood.</p> <p>In other parts, the links between the scales have been disrupted by new developments that don't respect heritage. The housing crisis asks for desperate measures in terms of densifying the city, and the choice for the post-war neighborhood is, because of the low density and bad reputation, a logical choice. In Osdorp many parts of the neighborhood have been demolished and rebuilt, not keeping in mind the history of the site.</p> <p>Strengthening heritage in Osdorp helps to show history and give a sense of place back to the neighborhood. It is not about repeating history, but appreciating the language of the past and translating it to today's society. This is a fine line, and therefore an interesting thing to research this year.</p>
research questions and	<p>Main research question:</p> <p>How can redevelopments of public space reinforce heritage of the post-war neighborhood and simultaneously adjust to contemporary society, in the case of Osdorp, Amsterdam?</p> <p>Sub-questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the post-war neighborhood and the ideals it was based on? 2. What are problems in the post-war neighborhood Osdorp? 3. What is the difference between society now, then and future? 4. How can the neighborhood be adjusted spatially to future times?
design assignment in which these result.	<p>The design assignment is to re-envision the green structure of Osdorp. On the scale of the entire district, main lines will be designed. Afterwards, two or three interventions will be elaborated more. These interventions will be over different scale levels. The goal of these interventions are to create a neighborhood fit for the future, while simultaneously strengthening the neighborhoods heritage.</p> <p>The spacious layout offers opportunities to improve the neighborhood, whilst preserving heritage and upgrading the entire place.</p>

Process

Method description

The methods that I will use are the biography approach, the four lenses, ethnographic mapping and case studies.

I divided the methods per sub-question, and the connection can be seen in the scheme underneath. I will start with a literature study to research what exactly is the post-war neighborhood and the ideals that formed the base for the designs. After that, I will make an extensive site analysis, using ethnographic mapping, the four lenses and the place attachment theory.

The analyzed site will be combined with the ideals found in the literature and then the two will be combined with the district of today. This will make sure I have an in-depth understanding of how society has changed, together with heritage this will form a value system, seen in the red box below. This value system will be the base of translating the old ideals into the new ideals. The newly formed ideals will be put into spatial interventions, this will be done by research by design.

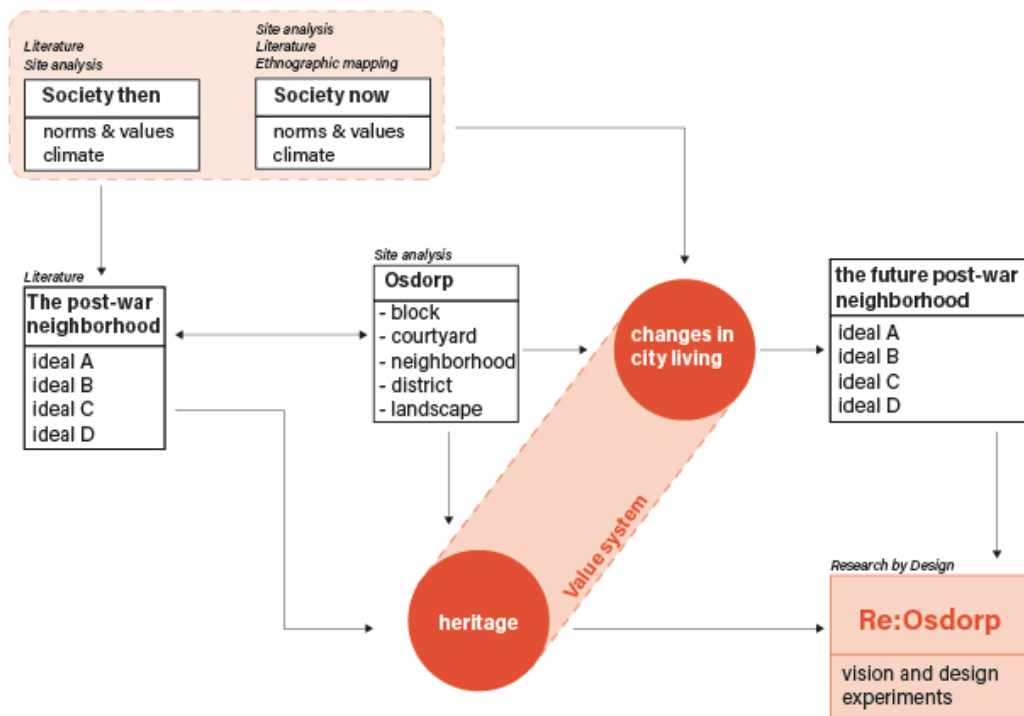


Figure 1: methodology in research project. Own Image.

Literature and general practical reference

There is a lot of existing literature about the post-war neighborhood and the ideas behind it. Underneath is a categorization of the books and projects I plan to use during my graduation.

Design of the post-war neighborhood

- Blom, A., Jansen, B., Van Der Heide, M. (2004). *De typologie van de vroeg-naoorlogse woonwijken*. Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg, Zeist.
- Bos, A. (1946). *De Stad Der Toekomst, De Toekomst Der Stad*. A. Voorhoeve, Rotterdam.
- De Hoop, A., Van Aalderen, R., Haitjema, K., Khandekar, S. (2009). *Naoorlogse Stadswijken, Tussen Park en Stad – Handboek voor ruimtelijke ontwikkeling*. Blauwdruk, Wageningen.
- Louwerse, D.C. (1982) *Wim Boer: Beschrijving en documentatie van zijn beroepspraktijk*. Landbouwhogeschool Wageningen, Wageningen

About Osdorp

- Feddes, Y. (2011). *De Groene Kracht: de Transformatie van de Westelijke Tuinsteden Amsterdam*. SUN, Nijmegen.
- Nio, I. (2008). *Atlas Westelijke Tuinsteden*. SUN-trancity, Nijmegen.
- Nio, I. (2016). *Nieuw-West: Parkstad of stadswijk*. Trancityxvaliz, Amsterdam.

Helpful urban analysis

- Gehl, J. (1971). *Life Between Buildings: Using Public Space*. ISLP, unknown.
- Gehl, J. (2010). *Cities for People*. Island Press, Chicago.
- Prominski, M., Von Seggern, H. (2017). *Design Research for Urban Landscapes: theories and methods*. Routledge, Abingdon.

Reference projects

- H+N+S Landshapsarchitecten, SteenhuisMeurs. (2016). *Apeldoorn Woonwijk Kerschoten*.
- KAW Architecten. (2020). *Ruimte Zat in de Stad*.

Case studies:

- Buitenveldert, designed by Van Eesteren
- Nieuwendam-Noord, unknown designer

Reflection

1. What is the relation between your graduation (project) topic, the studio topic (if applicable), your master track (A,U,BT,LA,MBE), and your master programme (MSc AUBS)?

This graduation project will approach the post-war neighborhood from the landscape perspective and therefore fits within my master track landscape architecture. This green structure includes topics like ecology and culture. Both these subjects result in a sustainability within the city, and could form the base for new ways of living in the future.

Next to that, the green structure also plays an important role of the heritage value of Osdorp. Since the entire hierarchy revolves around public, green, space it is important to add this to the design. The multiple layers, together with the larger urban and societal context, both past, present and future, make up a complex task to analyze and redesign, making use of every scale I have learned in my Bachelor and Master degree.

2. What is the relevance of your graduation work in the larger social, professional and scientific framework.

This project is scientifically relevant, because it combines information from many different sources. A lot of existing knowledge is based purely on architecture, or the urban layout, or the social aspects. In this research a more typological understanding, as seen in De Groene Kracht (Feddes, 2011) will be combined with social aspects, as seen in Atlas Westelijke Tuinsteden (Nio, 2016).

Therefore, this graduation project will increase knowledge on how to deal with heritage and how to translate ideals of the 1950s to that fitting a contemporary neighborhood. Even though this project is solely focused on the situation in Osdorp, this research could be used as a base for redesigning other post-war neighborhoods as well, in a way that is respectful to the past and fitting for the future.

The social relevance of this graduation project is to think of new ways of living together in the city of the future. The utopian vision that formed the post-war neighborhood is an interesting way of looking at today's problems. A translation of ideals and ideas from that era to today can form an interesting base for a new way of living, shaping neighborhoods that support each other, the place itself and simultaneously form a sustainable future.

Next to that, the graduation project will bring attention to the positive sides of these neighborhoods and will rehabilitate the freshness and influence these utopian neighborhoods had at that time.