# A New Landscape of Interchangeability

Ρ4

**Eric Bezemer** 

# P4

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Theoretical Framework

## Introduction

Morgenstond, The Hague, is a typical postwar modernistic scene dominated with mono-functionality and repetitive urban structures. Simultaneously, these neighbourhoods portray an unilateral image of social housing, poverty, immigration, poor social cohesion, non-opportunism and above average health issues amongst citizens. Hence, municipal ambition and regulation plead for urban renewal to alter and improve the physical and social domain of this district. Consequently, processes as densification, diversification and gentrification will be exposed to Morgenstond. Most often, gentrification is characterized as a process of the displacement of (poor) people in which the potential of renewal in never fully used or exploited<sup>1</sup>. This already occurred in the district and new economical borders are emerging. Therefore, new regulations of the municipality aim to prevent the repression of current groups with diversification as posed goal.

This paper discusses the notion of interchangeability as the main prominent feature in architecture and a contemporary public building in the above mentioned conditions. A new public condenser could be considered as a device of interchangeability. One that address the wide range cultural activity and contrasts in society in terms of age, social class, high and low culture, empowering social cohesion. Furthermore, the building should contradict the current modern condition of functional divisions and plead for a building that merges with borders of the existing urban lay-out and the landscape.

With this paper I introduce the concepts of affordance and stratification in order to establish a theoretical foundation in exploring the above mentioned ambition. The transformation of the stratifications 'system' should generate a new type of affordance, which is currently not existing or rigidly divided in the urban scheme and should be integrated. The building can function as the centre point of intertwinement of layers and should attain 'affordable' properties, considered as places of exchange. The emergence of landscape, building, park at the intersection of borders can add a new quality of the environment. It may offer new sets of threats and promises (positive affordances) that characterizes items in the environment, relative to perceivers<sup>2</sup>. This can be translated in new performative properties of the building.

The process of adjusting the stratification of the existing condition can introduce a new permeable/porous layer. One which supersedes the boundaries of the detached lavers and merges with several existing urban layers. The building itself can in its turn act as the centre point of this intertwinement. Within this conceptual framework of stratification and affordance several distant realities and layering meet on a 'plane' foreign for them both and encounter a resonance of elements<sup>3</sup>. Whereas the modernistic condition is translated, in fact, as a juxtaposition of detached layers distributed in a large open space. The alteration and adding of new layers should generate a new dynamic whole, in which the building becomes ambiguous in communicating and segregates itself within the current condition.

# Affordance & Public Domain

A good public domain is a complex and elusive phenomenon which has no universal condition that may serve for the design of the proper and well-functioning public domain<sup>4</sup>. Subsequently, every neighbourhood, demands different qualities and/or developments that vary per city and region. Recent developments as Brexit and US elections are widespread reflections of the contemporary segregations and lack of social cohesion in society which puts pressure on the public domain. The phenomena reduces the ability to enter one's other semi sphere and, therefore, remain isolated in their own sociocultural bubble, while westerns societies will increase in diversity and co-existence of disparities<sup>5</sup>. These current development also occur in the site-specific conditions of The Hague, specifically in Morgenstond. Morgenstond is dealing with unilateral demographic figures such as low score of social coherence, high rate of immigrants, low income, high risk of anxiety, depression and risk of obesity<sup>6</sup>. Simultaneously, the neighbourhood is faced with the process of gentrification, which is mostly an act of displacing 'poor' people and communities in order to make space for the gentrified<sup>7</sup>. In order to position the concept of Affordances and the proposition of Interchangeability within the framework of the design site, the public realm and building, the theory of affordances is briefly laid out. The theory of affordance describes the phycological perception towards an environment. This theory describes the psychological relationship between the offerings of the environment relative to forms of life in what it can provide or furnish for the animal <sup>8</sup>. The provisions can be both positive and negative as such as promises or threats that can 'damage' the form of life<sup>9</sup>. The offering that is provided by the environment is considered as an offered resource which the animal/perceiver is able to interpret the potential capabilities. Subsequently, the 'afforded' offerings prove to be meaningful and is able to evoke specific kinds of behaviour according the affordances or possibilities for action<sup>10</sup>. Action is only to be taken when a specific affordance is relevant to our concern. Since the environment offers

many affordances, only affordances that

prove relevant with the perceiver will be engaged with. Most often, it will be the type of affordances that improves the individual's grip on a particular situation<sup>11</sup>.

Although the theory of Affordances encompasses generic properties of how one may perceive it's direct environment, its highly relevant for field of architecture<sup>12</sup>. Affordances can directly be used as a conceptual framework to comprehend the relationship between occupants (or animals in gibsonian's terms) and the built environment. Maier and Fadal (2009) identify three basic categories as essential to any kind of architectural affordance. Firstly, the structure of the artefact, the behaviour and thirdly the intend. These three fundamental features result in a system that affords behaviour via their structure for a purpose. Furthermore, each affordance indicates multiple degrees of potential, but not form the occurrence of the behaviour itself<sup>13</sup>.

Within the modern urbanistic ideology (from the industrial revolution until the production of the post-war neighbourhoods) the emphasize of design the human habitat shifted towards idealized forms that should reflect contemporary society and economy. However, this resulted in a detached relation between urban life and the spatial form that enforce the subject-object relation between human and environment<sup>14</sup>. Rephrased from the perspective of affordance, this means that the constructed artefact evoked different behaviour than originally intended and did undergo negative affordances. Consequently, in the case of Morgenstond, transformed gradually into the earlier mentioned negative demographic situation. An example of architectural intents and positive/negative affordances are brightly visible in the highrise housing project Pruitt-Igoe in St. Louis. The modernistic scheme of repetitive highrise building blocks provided a significant amount new inexpensive housing units and met the demands of the densification program. However, the scheme brought along numerous unintended negative affordances. As such, within the scheme long hallways and corridors proved to be opportune environments for violent crime and the new density resulted in a demographic shift<sup>15</sup>. The end result of this development is the demolishment of the whole neighbourhood.

# Social affordance in a new landscape of Interchangeability

Moving on to social affordances that occur in the social realm. Rietveld (2012) describes affordances as unreflective actions (actions performed without mediation of explicit deliberation) and distinguish affordances in object and social affordances. Social affordances entails the possibility of social interaction provided by an environment, whereas object affordance encompass interaction of an object (i.e. a cup that affords grasping)<sup>16</sup>. A simple example is a person who is waiting at a coffee machine which affords a conservation or an extended hand that evokes shaking. Generally, a context provides the affordance of both an object and social affordance and mostly in socio-cultural practises.

Considering the low social cohesion and poor affordances striking the site specific condition of The Hague, the design effort should encompass an endeavour to establish new opportunities of interchangeability. Interchangeability embodied in an artificial landscape of affordances as part of the building and public domain. In this sense this landscape of affordance is an extension of the public interior to the public domain and supersedes the now detached urban layers. Somewhere on top of this landscape the building is positioned and intents to intertwine with the proposed landscape. Since the example of Pruitt-Igoe demonstrated that there is a difference between the intent and the actual behaviour derived from the affordance, a couple of theoretical arguments are laid out for the design of new affordances.

Firstly, the new landscape should facilitate new forms of exchanging behaviour, improving the social cohesion and empowering social affordances. Like the human brain, socio-cultural practices are plastic; as a result of engagement with social affordances they change. Social affordances evoke social interaction that gradually, over time, may result into the transformation of behaviour patterns, when engaged with sufficient amount of occupant<sup>17 18</sup> . Although it is unlikely that specifically one public building could alter entire existing socio-cultural systems, it is more likely to impact the amount of public familiarity, or the lack of it. According the VROM-Council, poor social cohesion is a lack of public familiarity, in which there is barely any trust in strangers dwelling the neighbourhood which are crucial for the quality of public space<sup>19</sup>. Jane Jacobs describes that the lack of public familiarity is the lack of engaging with familiar strangers<sup>20</sup>. In this case, the word 'stranger' encompass the notion of everyday exposure of individuals in ordinary places such as in a bar, a street, a bus stop or in a store. The minimum amount of physical contact in the public realm builds up a particular form of familiarity<sup>21</sup>. It is not required that everybody knows each other on a personal level in order to generate a sense of trust and security.

Secondly, the landscape of affordance should encompass the notion of activity centred design rather than human centred. Malafouris states that the social universe is not human-centred, but activity-centred, and activity is a hybrid state of affairs<sup>22</sup>. The statement of Malafouris was the direct cause for the architectural office RAAAF to use this as a primary design input in the design of a temporary floating park in Amsterdam. The scheme contains an area where a campfire barge is designed as a central meeting place used and offers a large heating fire. The object affordance of a large fire offers a generic provision of 'heating-up' that applies for every individual regardless of their socio-cultural milieu. The activity becomes basically attractive to everyone due to the similarities that the affordance offers. From the perspective of interchangeability, object affordances (structural/architectural) must primarily emphasise the activity in which the socio-cultural affordances are not immediately relevant for engaging with the affordance. It is at this point where shared engagement, with a common enactive sign ( in the example the fire that affords warmth), that social connections are established and exchanged<sup>23</sup>. Consequently, the public building and domain can extent to the stimulation of these informal manifestations of diversity and unforced interaction<sup>24</sup>.

Lastly, the landscape of affordances should attain the property of permeability. Permeability, considered as a porous layer that is intertwined with the actual landscape, at the intersection of the economical border where the design site is located. Richard Sennet emphasizes, in Building and Dwelling: ethics for the city, the creation of porous membranes at the edge of communities. Subsequently, the edge of communities should be address rather than the centre. When community-buildings are set in the physical centre point of the community, the communal life tends to turn inwards, instead of, desirable, outwards. Alternatively, community stimulating activities (in the form of buildings) ought to be located at the edge between communities (in our case the economical border in Morgenstond)<sup>25</sup>. This intervention evokes causal physical mixing that complements civilities and prevents forcing explicit articulation of differences on people. Furthermore, this strategy empowers engagements in everyday common tasks. Consequently, this sort of edge experience, in the perspective of social differences in cities, is considered as inclusive rather than integrative<sup>26</sup>.

## Conclusion

This paper explored a perspective of architecture through the lens of affordances and laid out some theoretical prerequisites for an act of interchangeability between social groups. The strategy of applying affordance and interchangeability in the field of public building proved to be highly relevant, especially in the post-war urban settings. On one hand is affordance capable of accommodating interchangeability of different, ostensible, contrasting groups in society. On the other hand has social affordance the capacity to increase social cohesion and social interaction. The question remains if strategical architectural intervention are able to offer enough alteration to recover the detached relation of urban life and object form, which is predominantly existing in these neighbourhoods. Or is the effectiveness of one architectural object to limited to suffice. Thereafter, it is important to note that the design of affordances shouldn't done in a way that the behavioural affordances are to fixed and predicable. The design of affordances should still attain a degree of freedom and unpredictability. In addition, affordances must be open to a multiplicity of interpretants and fit within scheme of different functional programming. Hence, a deliberately design interventions needs not to be inconsistent with the pursuit of spontaneity of use<sup>27</sup>.

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# Multi-modal object











# Site Location Morgenstond The Hague











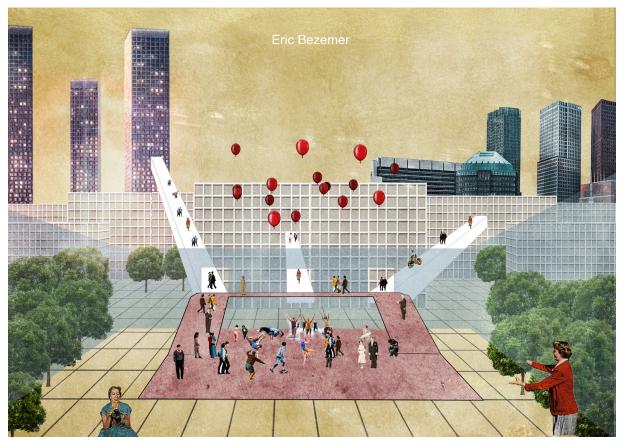








# Manifesto



The field of architecture is extensively faced with densification and gentrification. In prewar neighbourhoods there is a dilemma between adding housing stock and simultaneously improving the existing stock in terms of sustainability. In the contemporary society these neighbourhoods are distinguished as troubled areas with unilateral demographical social class, poverty, below-average health issues and poor quality of public space. Gentrification aims on one hand to introduce a new diversity in these neighbourhoods and on the other improve the quality of the public space. Without municipal interference, repression and displacement of current inhabitants becomes inevitable and the opposite of diversification occurs. Consequently, municipalities recognizes the phenomena and introduce new regulation to cope with the issue and prevent the displacement of inhabitants. By replacing the old stock of building they set the condition that social housing can't be reduced and by densifying

the already existing social housing should be rebuild.

These visions result in a new social cohesion wherein different contradictory groups co-exist in the neighbourhood with more contrasts in society. Public buildings have to deal with tensions and contrasts of the site-specific condition in order to guide the process of gentrification and should offer an act of interchangeability in which groups can benefit from each other socially, culturally and personally. The negative connotation of gentrification can turned around with public building to function as precursor that emphasizes a new rich layer of exchange between all present groups. An interchangeability that is able, within the converging multiple purposes of the building, to lift contrast between the 'gentrified' and the 'gentrifier' and emphasise the notion of generic properties of human behaviour and stressing the interaction of cultural activities of exchange and equality.

# **Design brief**

# Design Brief

	<u>sqm</u> <sup>2</sup>	<u>height</u>
The Expressive		
Theatre	220 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 8 m
Exhibition space	300 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 6 m
Dancerooms practise	100 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 3 m
Music production/practise	100 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 3 m
Artistic workshops	100 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 3 m
Neighbourhood platforms	100 m <sup>2</sup>	min. m
(integrated with public interior)		
Toilets (combined with	75 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 8 m
other zones)		
Foyer (integrated with public interior)	75 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 8 m
Subtotal	1070 m <sup>2</sup>	
The Sportive		
Free playzone (integrated with public interior)	250 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 4 m
Multifunctional sporthall/field	650 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 8 m
Gym	250 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 3 m
Climbing hall	150 m <sup>2</sup>	min.12m
Judo/martial sport room	100 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 3 m
Dressing rooms	t.b.d. m <sup>2</sup>	min. 3 m
(shared with other zones)		
Storagerooms for sportmaterial	75 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 3 m
Subtotal	1475 m <sup>2</sup>	

The Healthy Community Restaurant 150 m<sup>2</sup> min. 4 m Community Gardens (outside) 150 m<sup>2</sup> n.r. Kitchen for restaurant and workshops 100 m<sup>2</sup> min. 3 m Workspaces/classroom 100 m<sup>2</sup> min. 3 m Physiotherapy 100 m<sup>2</sup> min. 3 m

Subtotal

600 m<sup>2</sup>

	<u>sqm</u> <sup>2</sup>	<u>height</u>
The Recovery		
Swimming Pool	450 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 6 m
Sauna/sunbath	150 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 3 m
Therapy/recovery pool	125 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 4 m
Yoga room	100 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 4 m
Pilates/message room	100 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 4 m
Wet dressing rooms	75 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 3 m

## Subtotal

1000 m<sup>2</sup>

The Learning		
Library	200 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 4 m
Open and closed workspaces	150 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 4 m
Classrooms	125 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 3 m
Offices/meetings rooms	100 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 3 m
Coffee corner	25 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 3 m

## Subtotal

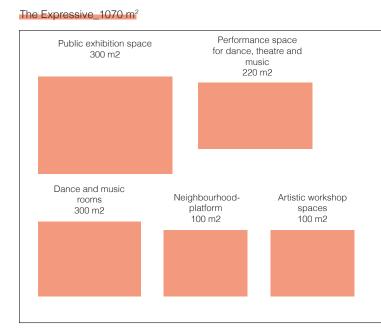
600 m<sup>2</sup>

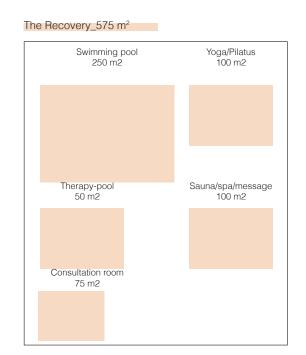
# The Admin

Offices	100 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 3 m
Toilets (shared with other zones)	150 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 3 m
Storage	125 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 3 m
Technical space	75 m <sup>2</sup>	min. 3 m
Subtotal	450 m <sup>2</sup>	

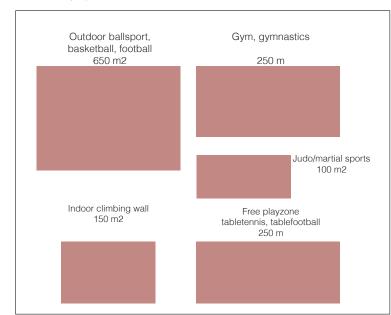
Total program	4295 m2

# Program divided in zones

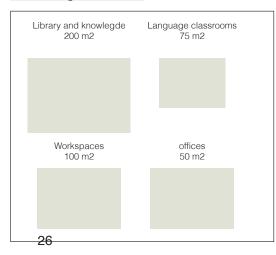




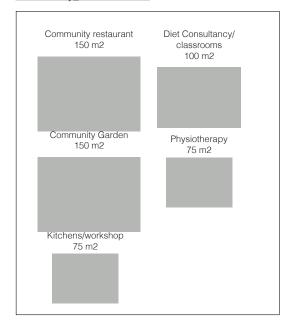
#### The Everday Sportive\_1150 m<sup>2</sup>



The Learning\_425 m<sup>2</sup>

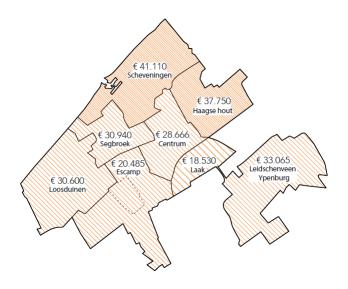


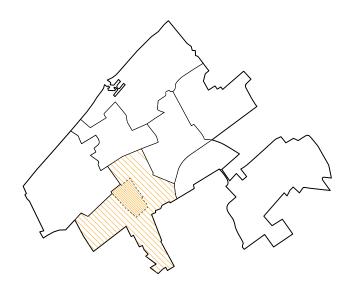
### The Healthy\_550 m<sup>2</sup>



# Research

# People





## Income

In Escamp the average income is 20485 that is low compared to the average income of The Hague: 23300. The proportion of residents of non-Western descent is high: 55.6%; in The Hague that is 34.7%. 40% of the population is low trained without basic qualifications.

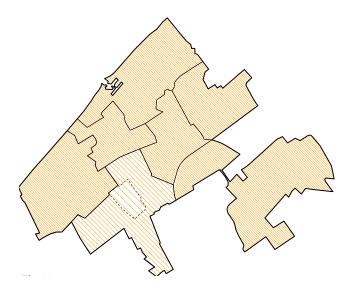
Approximately 70% of the total number of homes in Escamp is social housing. In some neighborhoods, such as the Councils and the Visions, new construction has come. There are many vulnerable families in Escamp where children grow up in poverty. This can lead to criminal or radical behavior in later youth. The population of Escamp is stable: 21.3% of the residents live there before 2000; in The Hague, that is on average 9.2%. Around 27% of residents have moved in the last three years.

# Unemployment

There is a lot of unemployment in Escamp, both among adults and among young people. The percentage of unemployed job seekers who have been looking for work for more than a year is 7.6%; in The Hague, that is on average 4.6%. Among young people between 15 and 25 years of age, the percentage of unemployed job seekers is 8.2% (in The Hague 5.3%). The absence of daily spending due to unemployment has a major impact on households and families. Unemployment not only means that there are money problems, but also entails isolation and lack of perspective. That leads to other problems. The majority of the residents in Escamp has (supplementary) benefits. This is evidenced by the fact that there are more and more applications for remissions, individual income support, collective health insurance, and special assistance.

The total number of employees in Escamp in 2018 was 22,739 people. Compared to 2010, this number has remained the same.

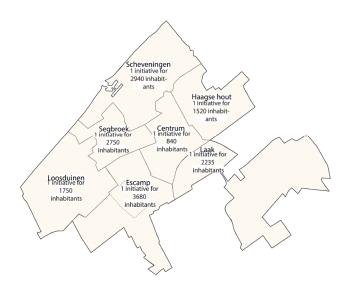
The majority of employees in Escamp were employed in the health and welfare sector in 2018 (8,225). Other sectors that offered a lot of employment in this neighborhood were wholesale and retail trade; repair of cars, construction and education.



# Immigration

In the past 10 years, an average of 166,000 immigrants came to the Netherlands every year, the average for the past 5 years was 188,000, while in the last 3 years this average has risen to almost 206,000. The increased immigration is due to the increase in labor migration and increased asylum migration. In 2016, an estimated 227,000 immigrants came to the Netherlands, 39,000 more than forecast by CBS in the 2014 forecast. The number of asylum migrants was 26,000 higher than anticipated and there were 10,000 additional labor migrants from the EU member states

Until 2022, the number of people from The Hague with a Dutch background will decrease. The same applies to the population groups with an Indonesian and Surinamese migration background. The population groups with an Antillean, Moroccan and Turkish background remain almost the same or grow less strongly, while all other groups with an immigrant background have a strong increase in numbers.



# Neighbourhood involvement

Considering the amount of inhabitants of the neighbourhood of Escamp and the amount of citizeninitiatives, this number is remarkable low compared to other neighbourhoods. The map below illustrates the number of citizens and the total of citizen-initiatives ratio. The neighbourhood of Escamp shows the lowest ratio of initiatives per citizen, whereby the center of the city is able to 'produce' more initiatives per citizens while both districts have roughly the same amount of citizens.

According to Berendsen, bottom-up initiatives are more likely to arise in the most economical zones of a city (Berendsen, 2013). These districts are characterized as mixed zones, containing several functions such as dwelling, commercial and governmental organisations. Subsequently, the socio-economical conditions of the specific local residents influence the creation of initiatives. The enquiry of Berendsen distinguish four types of neighbourhoods: active 'well-off' residents, passive 'well-off', active poor and passive poor (Berendsen, 2013). The poorest neighbourhoods residents are least likely to commit themselves to the improvement of their own environment. They lack knowledge of local regulations and a network which can communicate with the municipality, in order to collect start-up costs. If, initiators do have closer contacts with the municipality, the chance of success rise significantly.

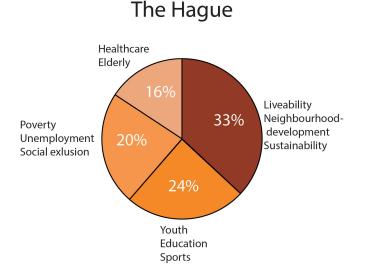
# Poor social cohesion

The data also distinguish all the initiatives in several categories such as; job market, poverty and social exclusion, culture, sustainability and energy, education, emancipation, greenery and public space, integration and refugees, youth, city shrinkage, liveability, mobility, elderly, social cohesion, sports, neighbourhood safety, neighbourhood development, healthcare and dwelling. In order to obtain a clear view of the themes and make use of the database, several themes are combined in the pie chart, since the database combines several 'themetags' in multiple projects. The separation of themes is shown in the pie chart of The Hague. The largest part of initiates is dedicated to the subject of liveability, neighbourhood development and sustainability with 33%. Secondly, the themes of youth, education and sports activities are initiated with 24%, followed with the subjects of poverty, social exclusion and unemployment with 20%. Lastly, the projects that focusses on local healthcare and elderly with 16%.

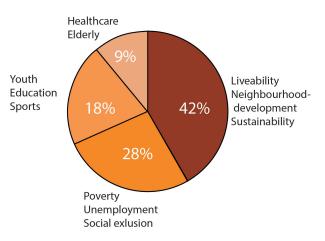
# Escamp

When the district of Escamp, the neighbourhood where the design plot is situated, is compared with the rest of The Hague, a different result is rendered. The pie chart shows an increase of citizen initiatives related to poverty, unemployment and social exclusion, a decrease of healthcare, elderly, youth and sport activities. If the district Escamp is compared with Haagse Hout, north of the city centre, Haagse Hout only has 4 initiatives that deal with poverty and social exlusion, while Escamp has 11 initiatives. In Escamp 42% of the initiatives deal with sustainability, liveability and neighbourhood development, followed by poverty, migration, unemployment and social exclusion with 28%. Youth, education and sport activities took up 18% of the initiatives and only 9% for elderly and healthcare initiatives.

The map shows the location of all the initiatives of Escamp, ranked and categorized according their theme. Most of the initiatives are shattered south and western of the site and are located within the urban blocks itself.



Escamp



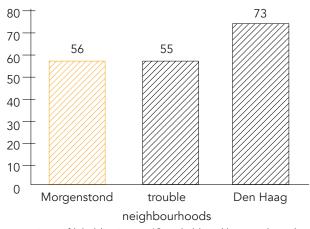
Pie chart of division of themes in The Hague

Source: https://maex.nl/denhaag/#/themes, consulted 8th of oct, edited by E. Bezemer

Pie chart of division of themes in Escamp https://maex.nl/denhaag/#/themes, consulted 8th of oct, edited by E. Bezemer

# Health

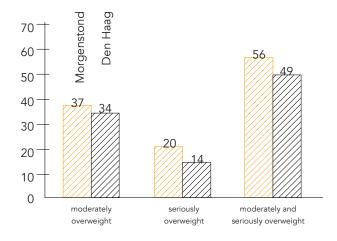
In general the healthiness in Morgenstond is lower than in Den Haag. An index for that is the percieved healthiness of the inhabitants.



percentage of inhabitants age 19 and older with a good percieved health

(Gezondheid van volwassenen en ouderen; een gebiedsgerichte analyse, 2014)

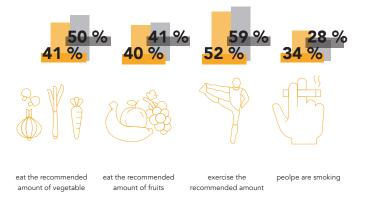
Another indicator for an unhealthy lifestyle is the percentage of people with diabetes. In Morgenstond (12%) it is higher than in Den Haag (8%) and in the Netherlands (7%). It can be connected to overweight, unhealthy diet and too less exercise.



percentage of inhabitants age 19 and older that are moderately to seriously overweight

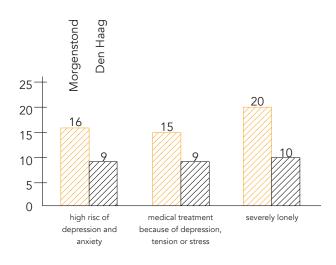
(Gezondheid van volwassenen en ouderen; een gebiedsgerichte analyse, 2014)

social cohesion Morgenstond, 2017 (Denhaag.incijfers.nl, 2019)



percentage of inhabitants age 19 and older (Gezondheid van volwassenen en ouderen; een gebiedsgerichte analyse, 2014)

Not only the physical health in Morgenstond is worse but also the psychological health. People living there have a higher chance of depression, anxiety disorder and tend to feel lonelier.



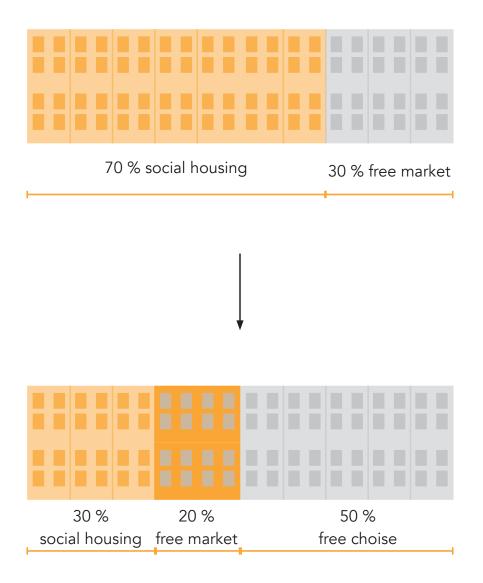
percentage of risc of psychological issues (Gezondheid van volwassenen en ouderen; een gebiedsgerichte analyse, 2014)

	Morgenstond	Den
I have many contacts with other	25.8	30.1
I am happy with the composition of population in the neighbourhood,	45.5	56.3
social cohesion	4.9	5.6
I live in a pleasant neighbourhood with a lot of harmony, in %		33.0
I feel at home with the people who live in this neighbourhood, in %	38.9	50.6
Pz	1 Report	31

÷

# A new agenda: Diversity

the new vision 'bestemming In Zuidwest gebiedverkenning', the municipality pleads for an intense densification of the neighbourhood. The main intention of their policy is to build new dwelling and to diversify Zuidwest to restore the right balance between social housing and regular housing. Currently, 70% of all housing units in Zuidwest consists out of social housing, which is considered as undesirable by the municipality (Bestemming Zuidwest gebiedverkenning, 2019). The process of diversification and densification means a shift in several groups of Escamp. If the vision of the municipality is implemented several new target groups will come to the neighbourhood, especially the middle class of the society that have an annual income of minimum 38.000 euros ( the maximum income to qualify for social housing in The Hague), since 70 % of the new dwelling will address these groups. A new mixture of social class, middle class, working class, family households, starters and couples will probably emerge from this envisioning. This will also mean the additional effect of the emergence of different public functions that suits better to these target groups, because their financial situation is quite different from the social class and where more appropriate and higher cultural functions are desirable.



woman living in Morgenstond already around 20 years age: 48

#### How do you experience Vesterbro / the site?

It is a nice neighbourhood to live here. I feel like it is a place where you can feel safe and welcome. It is only a matter of your own mindset. I am part of the Buurtinterventieteam and feel likes it helps the people in the sense of giving them psychological security. Which improvements do you wish for?

I wish for a place for the youth. Now they don't really have a place to go and the last youth center got shut down. Also there are not a lot of nice shops in the



Mother living in Morgenstond since 2,5 years visiting Melis Stokepark with her little daughter age: 38 and 42

#### How do you experience Vesterbro / the site?

I don't really like the upper part of Morgenstond and don't feel well there but where I live in the lower part it is really nice. The park here is nice as well for the kid to play. Here they can play outside and in the Zuiderpark there is an indoor playground when the weather is bad.

#### Which improvments do you wish for?

People here need motivation to get up and motivated. That is my main hope for the future.

man living in Morgenstond for 8 years working in Keu's genoeg age: 56

#### How do you experience Vesterbro / the site?

I am working at Keu's genoeg for help that i get from the state cause I would be unemployed otherwise. Right now we are very busy with offering and organizing integration courses for migrants.

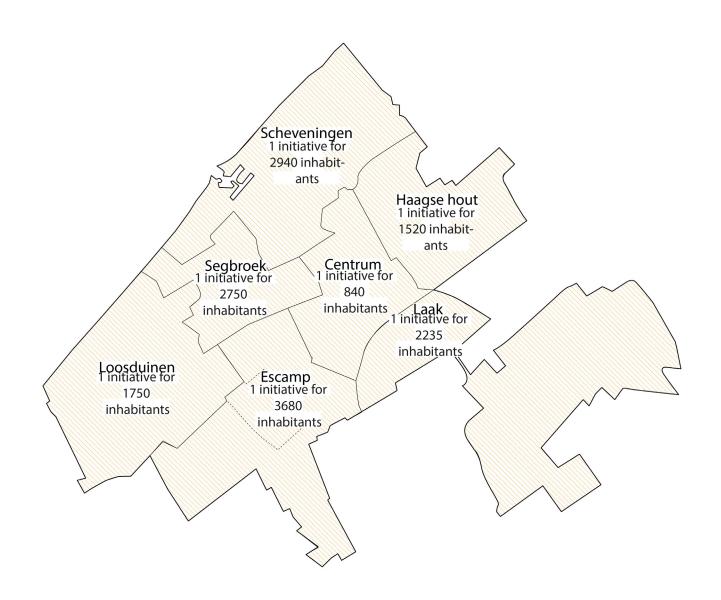
### What do you wish for in the future?

The new plans of the municipality of bringing diversity to the area is a bit ironic to me. We already have a lot of diversity in the neighbourhood and it feels more like



## MOTIVATION

Considering the amount of inhabitants of the neighbourhood of Escamp and the amount of citizeninitiatives, this number is remarkable low compared to other neighbourhoods. The map below illustrates the number of citizens and the total of citizen-initiatives ratio. The neighbourhood of Escamp shows the lowest ratio of initiatives per citizen, whereby the center of the city is able to 'produce' more initiatives per citizens while both districts have roughly the same amount of citizens. According to Berendsen, bottom-up initiatives are more likely to arise in the most economical zones of a city (Berendsen, 2013). These districts are characterized as mixed zones, containing several functions such as dwelling, commercial and governmental organisations. Subsequently, the socio-economical conditions of the specific local residents influence the creation of initiatives. The enquiry of Berendsen distinguish four types of neighbourhoods: active 'well-off' residents, passive 'well-off', active poor and passive poor (Berendsen, 2013). The poorest neighbourhoods residents are least likely to commit themselves to the improvement of their own environment. They lack knowledge of local regulations and a network which can communicate with the



municipality, in order to collect start-up costs. If, initiators do have closer contacts with the municipality, the chance of success rise significantly.

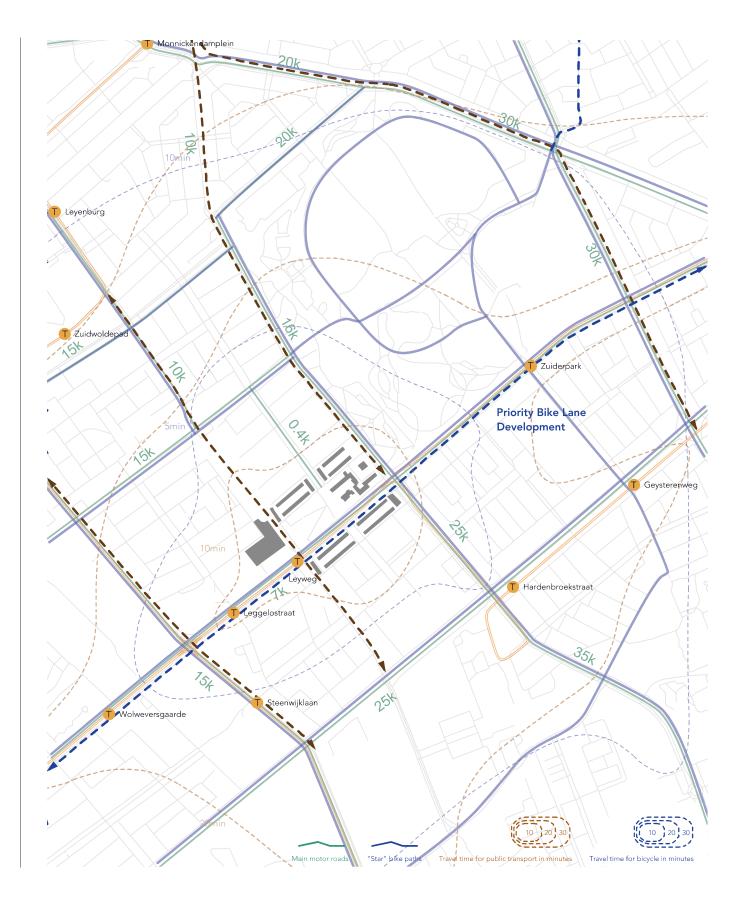
Another component of the success of citizen-initiatives is presence of small-scale local entrepreneurs. It turns out that these small business take a leading position regarding these projects. According Berendsen, these entrepreneurs are mostly active in a mixed economical zones in the city, rather than unilateral dwelling areas in the city, like Escamp (Berendsen, 2013). In neighbourhoods, where there is a mix of entrepreneurs and active-'well-off' citizens, the interaction

of both groups is stimulated in a way that enhances the quality and acceleration of the initiatives.

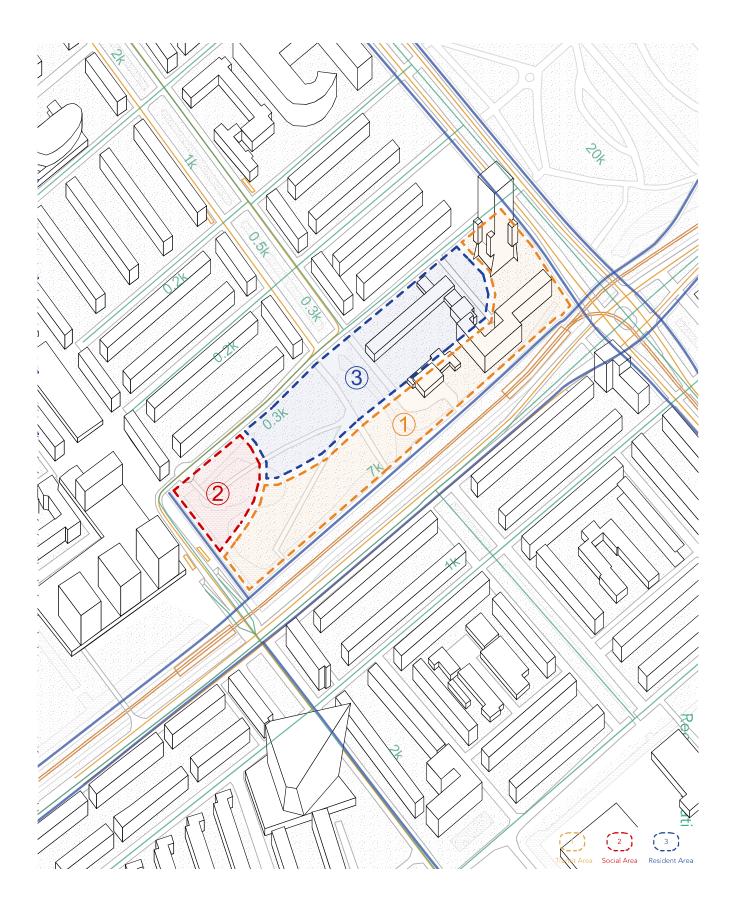
Since bottom-up initiatives are the manifestations of relevant subject, which inhabitants of a community are addressing, it is important to include them in the discussion of spatialquality. According van den Berg, it is necessary to have a representative of local municipality that can indicate the possibility of the local laws, rather then supervisor of the law (van den Berg, 2013). Initiators seems to have the urge to have a seat at the table when it comes to negotiating with the municipality about their needs and more facilitation:

"Institutional parties should not create themselves, but should offer space in which other stakeholders are able to claim their own responsibilities...that demands room for new ideas and different kinds of manifestations." M. van den Berg, 2013

# Connection



Source: Booklet Connection group (O. von Claer, M. Minghetti, R. Jonkhart 4, p. 76



Source: Booklet Connection group (O. von Claer, M. Minghetti, R. Jonkhart 4, p. 94

## Power

After the 1960's some minor buildings were demolished or new buildings were added to the Morgenstond neighbourhood. However these developments have little to do with large scale policy. This changed since the year 2000. In 2002 the municipality of The hague formulated a restructuring plan for the area Middle-Morgenstond, the area in which the Melis Stokepark is situated. The plan included demolishing a certain amount of housing blocks and replacing them with new housing blocks. Roughly the restructuring plan could be summarised as follows:

- Demolishing 2353 dwellings and 37 business spaces.
- Building 1650 dwellings divided in 70% free market and 30% social housing.

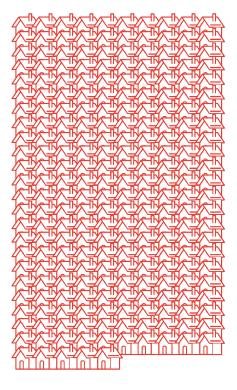
- 60% of dwellings are appartments and 40% groundbound dwellings.

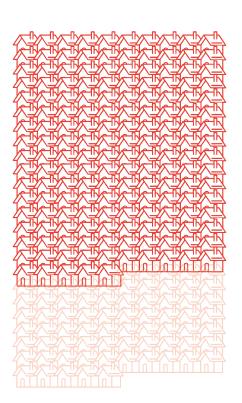
- Renewal of ca. 79.000 m2 public space and ca. 29.500 m2 semi-public space.

- Development of (partly) underground parking facilities with a capacity of 1242 parking spaces.

- Green- and recreational area of ca. 5.000 m2. (DSO, 2002).

As a result Middle-Morgenstond has a relatively high amount of new houses compared to the rest of Morgenstond. Also the plans resulted in a smaller housing stock than before with more dwellings being demolished than being rebuilt.

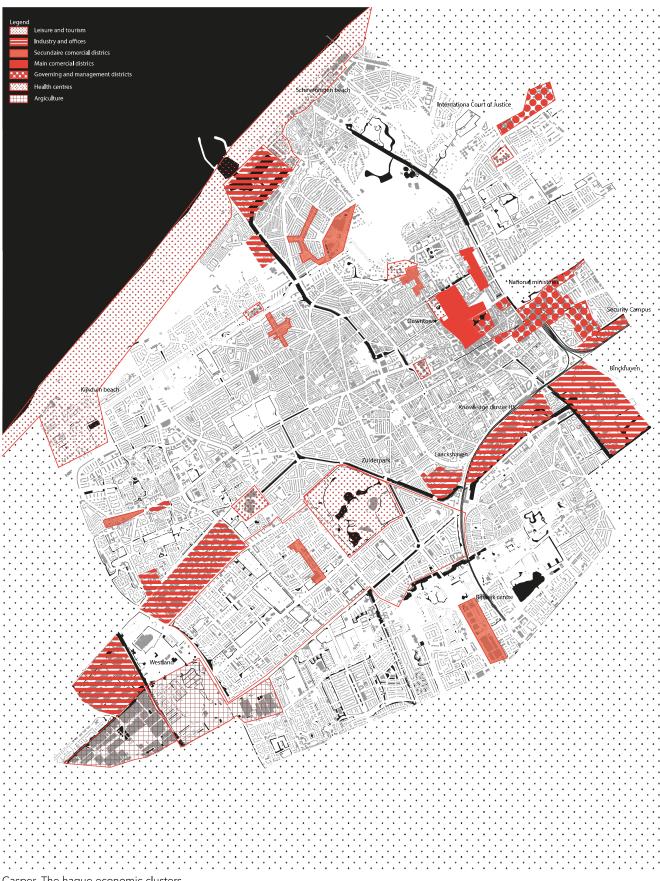








1650 Houses built



Casper, The hague economic clusters mrdh.nl, www.denhaag.nl



#### ECONOMY IN THE NEIBORHOODS

The core areas of the city are clusters of employment opportunities. But also plays out there economy and employment, especially for the residents of the affected neighborhoods and the immediate vicinity. Neighborhoods like Transvaal, Schilderswijk, Stationsbuurt and Zuidwest see promising economic dynamics in the policy focused on the neighborhoods is on employment and entrepreneurship. Magnification of the supply of smallscale business space necessary to craft entrepreneurship to offer space. Retailers, the hotel and catering industry also play services play a major role. Community centers fulfill an important function as a focal point of the economy and connecting link between neighborhoods.

Self-employed entrepreneurship is among the population groups in the above neighborhoods are popular and enjoy status. It offers the chance to get into the to build their own living environment. The presence of small businesses in the neighborhood at the same time good opportunities for employment, also for young people and people who are still without it be work.

#### LEYWEG SHOPPING CENTER

The Leyweg district center is the largest shopping area outside the core economic areas and is part of the Leyweg zone. The ambition is for this part of it the city, around the Leyweg, an attractive one create a central area. For that it is necessary that the range of facilities, the quality of the shopping mall and public space improved.

Cooperation with property owners and entrepreneurs is essential here. A package of measures (functional, spatial and policy-wise), the Leywegzone must reach the Heart of Make southwest. A central 'living room' where activities take place and where the most important facilities can be found. To the center function is given a boost with targeted measures in the public space, including by sharing make the area (more) car-free. On widening of the functions and broadening of the support base started with the recent development of the district office with library, the collection building Zuid57 and the intended realization of a Center for Youth and Family with accompanying care facilities next to the City Office and one Talent Center in the Melis Stokepark.

# **Precedent Sesc Pompeia**

By Robert Kupzik, Rebwar Obeid and Eric Bezemer

## Sesc Pompeia

Architect: Lina Bo Bardi Location: Rua Clélia, 93 - Lapa, São Paulo, Brasil Area: 23.571 m<sup>2</sup> Realization: 1977 - 1986

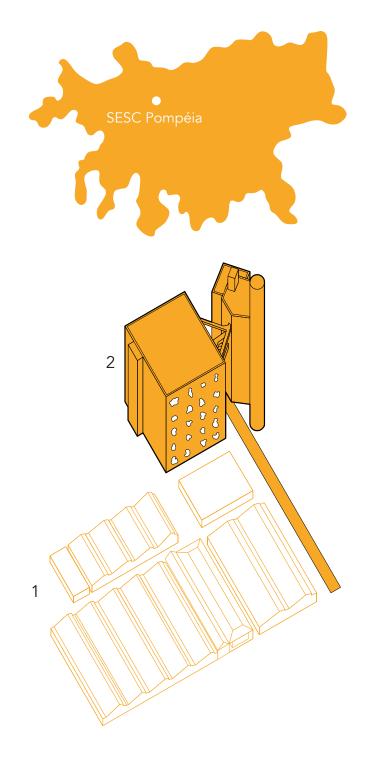
As one of her later works, the SESC Pompéia is one of the most known projects of the brasilian architect Lina Bo Bardi. It is located in Vila Pompéia, a middle class district in Sao Paulo. Vila Pompéia used to be an industrial area with factories and quickly developed into a popular residential area. The SESC Pompéia inhabits one of these former factory building. The Serviço Social do Comércio (SESC), a non-profit institution which promotes health and culture among workers and their families throughout Brazil, offered the buildings as a site for demolition to the architect. Bo Bardi saw a chance in the existing structure and based the project on the rehabilitation of the old oil barrel factory. By maintaining the structure, she subverted the meaning of the building into a leisure / cultural center.

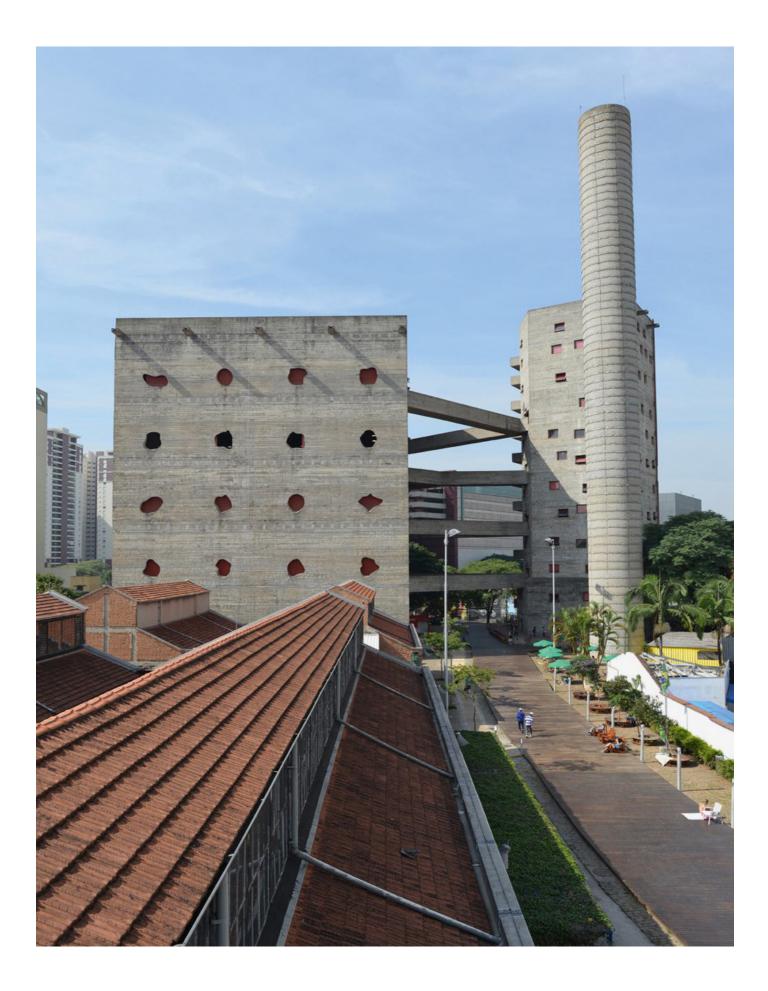
This hybridity of programme generates a local meeting point where the community is understood as the most important component.

The project can be understood as a way to appropriate and inhabit the city. To be more precise: how to live in the neighborhood and use its public and communal spaces. It could be understood as a powerful exercise in urban planning at the local, neighborhood level.

The new project respects its past and identity and proposes a powerful set for a social, economic and cultural configuration.

The complex is realised in two steps. The first one (1) was opened in 1982 and deals with the reuse of the existing industrial structures. The second realization phase (2) includes the new buildings that were finished 1986.





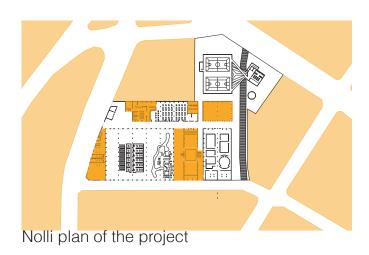


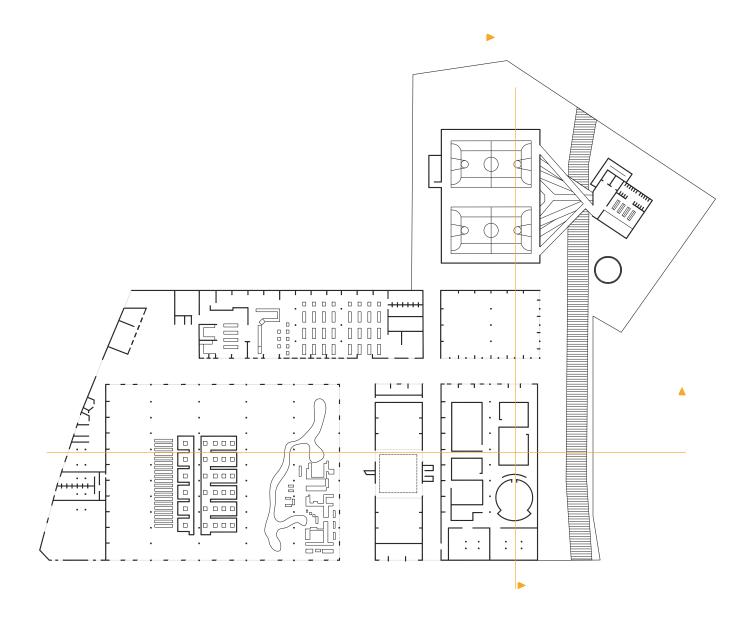
location in the neighbourhood



Nolli plan before the project

Nolli plan before and after the opening of the SESC Pompéia. The main goal was to provide the community with public space.





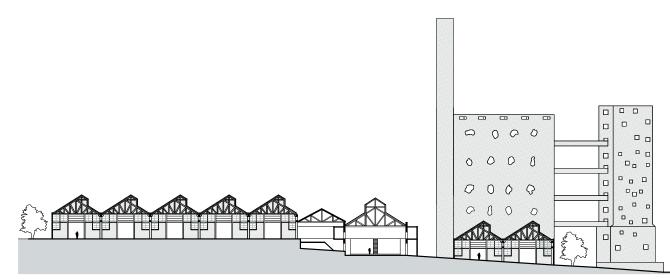
groundfloorplan



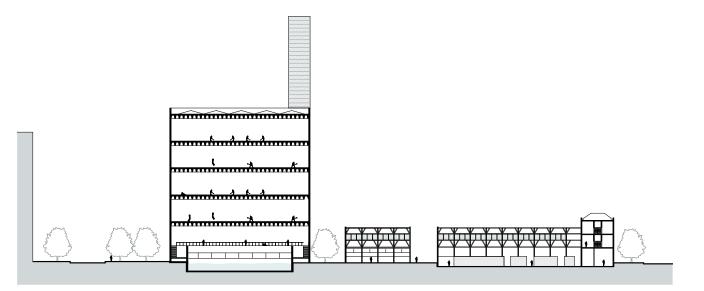
interior pedestrianstreet (https://universes.art/en/sesc-videobrasil/2011)



interior view (http://olharquitectura-4.blogspot.com/2015/01/sesc-pompeia.html)

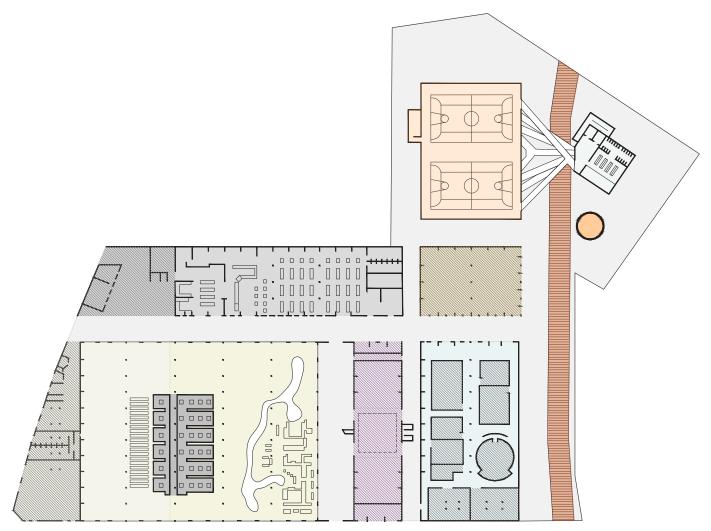


longitudinal section



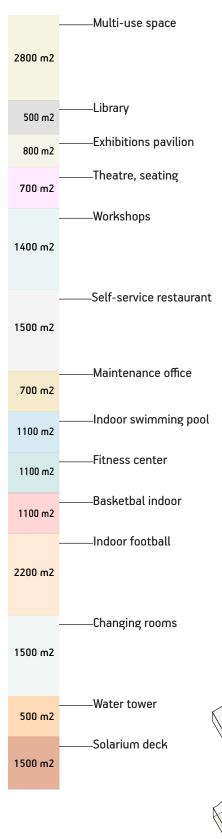
cross section

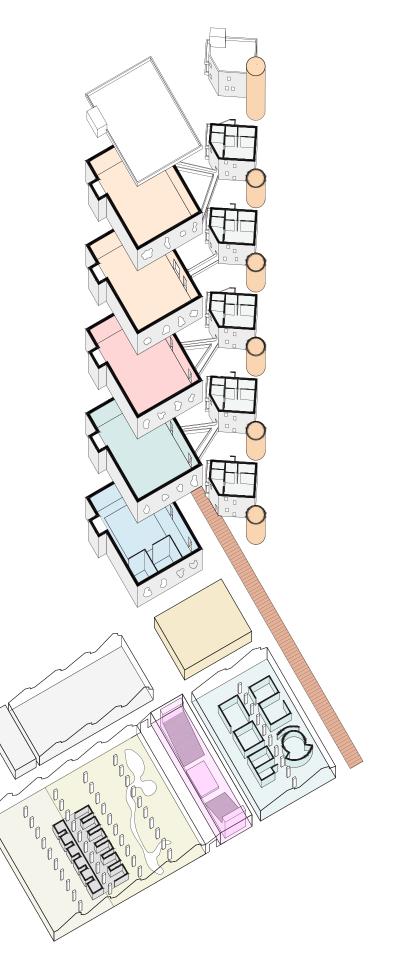
The factory buildings (the heavy prescribed world of work) can be used again as a lake loosely programmed place of relaxation. The facilities house art and craft workshops, a theater, a bar / restaurant, a library, exhibition space and public, multifunctional space. Two new vertical blocks house sport activities as a swimming pool, a gym, dance halls, wrestling- and sports fields. The varied program for the project came from the informal activities that were taking place in the factory, that was no longer in use since the SESC had become the owner.



program

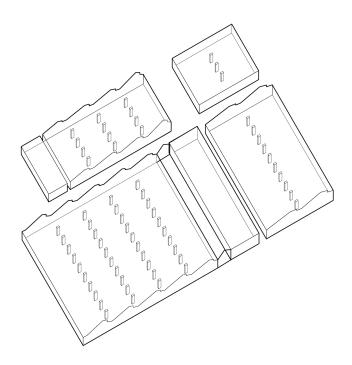
# 23571 m2



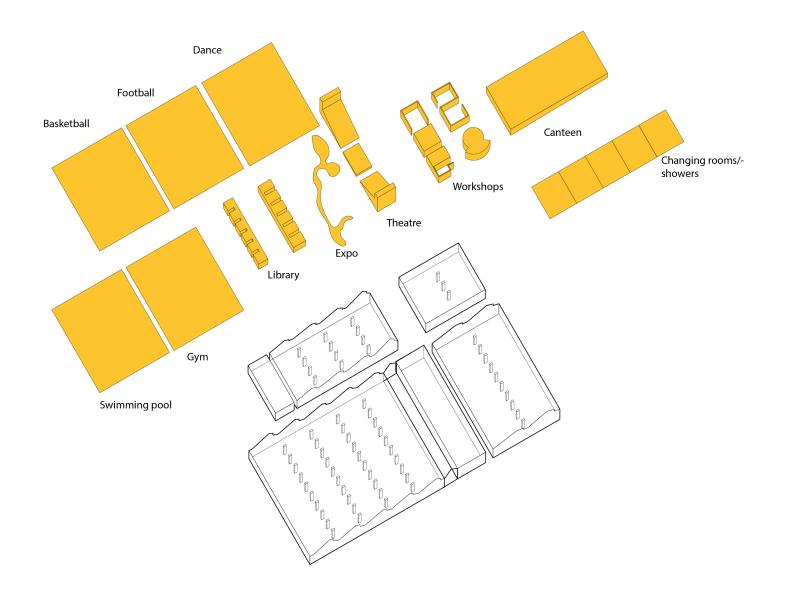


**TOTAL AREA** 

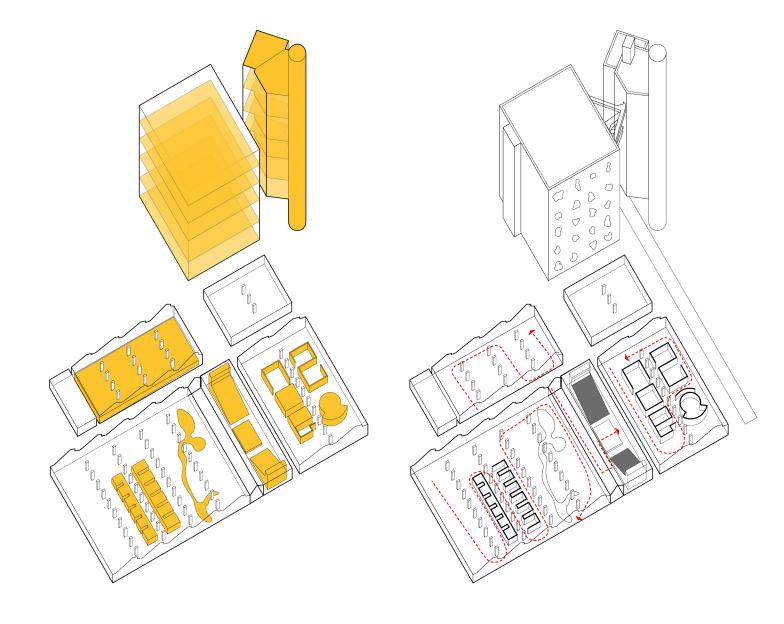
1. Retaining the old factory was an act of advocating for the past not in a nostalgic way but as encapsulating integral values of the population of Sao Paulo, which stood loose in the face of progress for the sake of progress. The old factory used to be a place of intense labor and a witnessing of the suffering of men within the walls of the oil barrels production machine'. According Bo Bardi, It was crucial to transform the old factory to a joyful and playful place, without demolishing the history of its own past. It was a subversion of the negative connotations of labour into an area of recreation.



2. New function such as a theatre, exhibition halls, workshop spaces, a library, canteen and sport fields are added in the existing structure. The new volumes, including an organic water basin, should co-exist with the existing concrete raw construction

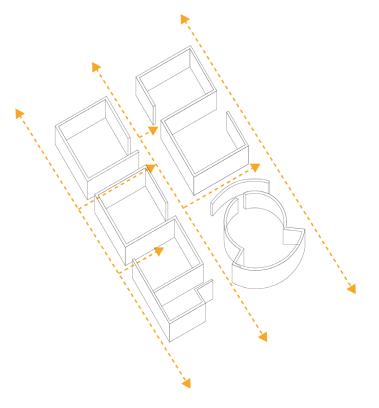


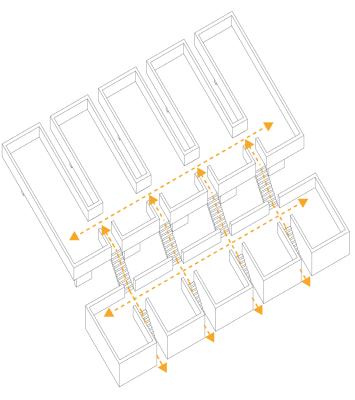
3. The newly added volumes within the structure are shaped as permeable entities that allow for an duality of both individualism and collectiveness. It emphasizes the notions of the possibility to isolate yourself from the collective realm within the building itself without being visual and spatial be separated.



4. In the two schemes examples for the new structures within the old are shown. For instance in the workshop building rough brick walls divide the space for specific crafts. Bo Bardi designed them above head hight to create a labyrinth of discovery. Visitors that enter the building are directly facing a low wall, that blocks the possibility of an overview. In addition, almost half of the entrances to the workshops spaces are not located on the central axis, and even with signs, finding the correct location requires searching. With this Sesc Pompéia embraces the experience of plurailty.

This diversity of experience is embodied in balustrade design of the library element in the main multifunctional space. At the base, users are guided towards the steps by the concrete balustrades of the level above. At the bottom of the steps a single red handrail leads up to the first level. A next staircase guide the visitor further to the upper level. This sequence of funnelling, guiding, exposing, and enclosing is showing the diversity of spatial situations in Sesc Pompéia.



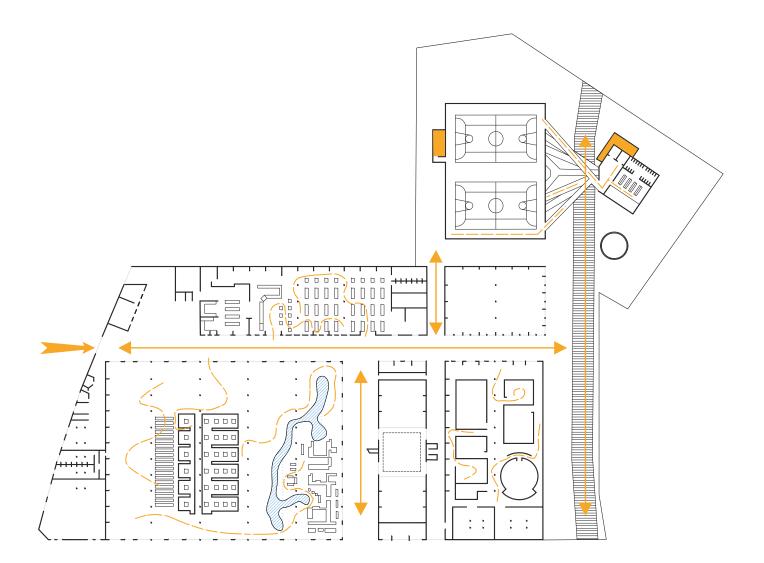


library element

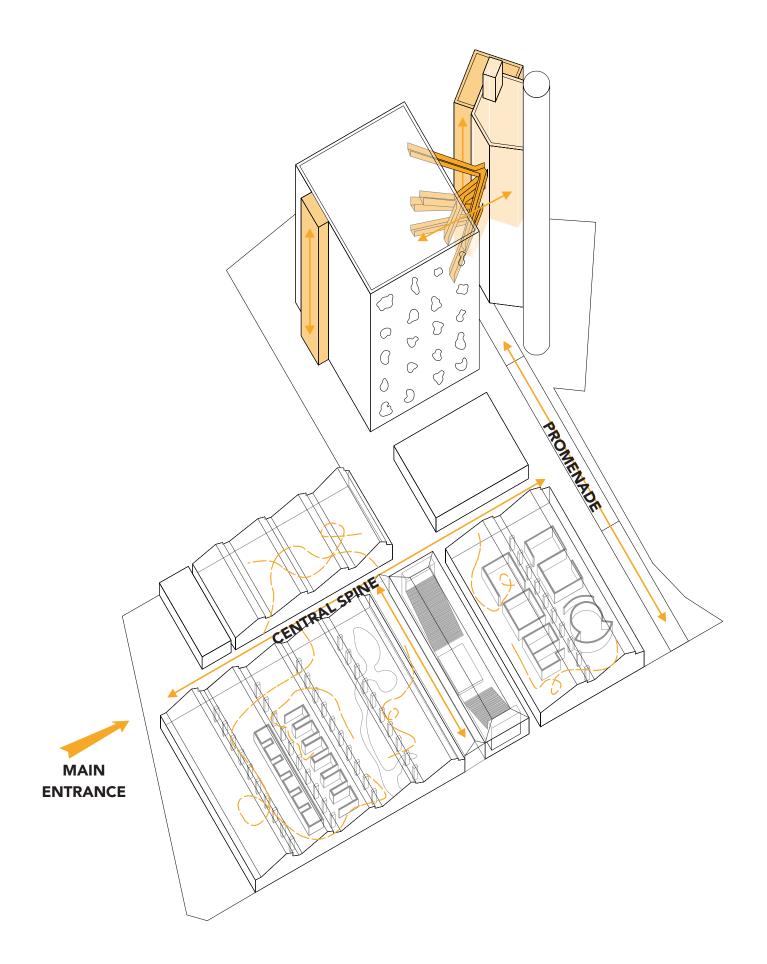
workshop elements

The circulation is divided into two different ideas; the exterior and interior circulation. The main circulation of the two pedestrian corridors in the exterior space reencounter former streams. The central spine is quoting the old factory transport road and the promenade is a representation of a waterstream that used to flow there. The dimensions of the exterior circulation show the hierarchy and allows to understand the co-existance of the buildings as coherant system. They bring the urban atmosphere from outside the SESC POMPEIA into the complex.

In contrast to that the interior circulation of the reused factory buildings is based on an intuitive concept. The public rooms are composed as open spaces where the individual can freely move through the space. They should create participation of the user in the space.



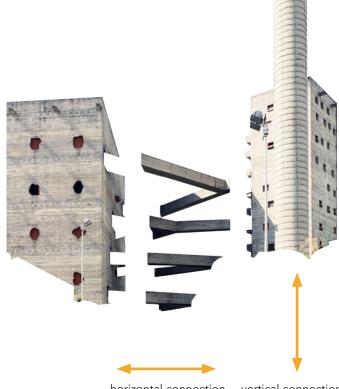
circulation in the space (exterior and interior circulation)





urban atmosphere through encounter of pedestrian "streets":

The exterior central spine with a classical street layout, created by the old factory buildings with facades and floor level entrances to the interior brings in an urban atmosphere into the complex.



horizontal connection vertical connection



participatory concept through interior circulation: The open space enables a free and intuitive movement. The water element calms down people and their movement. They take breakes in the chairs next to it. The interior circulation of the additionally planed buildings provides a vertical circulation via elevators and an external staircase in the smaller volume. The floors of the bigger volume are horizontally connected through gangways with the smaller volume. Each of these gangways has an individual design following two rules: departing from the same opening in the smaller prism branch leading to two symmetrical openings in the larger prism. The whole project shows an expressive austerity in material and formal condition, with a strong artistic expression. The project is mainly held in industrial materials with a rough look, avoinding slick detailing, giving SESC Pompéia the impression of "for the people by the people" and a humanistic character. Lina Bo Bardi paid attention on the features, textures and sensations that materials provide, this can be seen in the wiede range of finishes (raw, polished or natural with artisanal finish).

The play of contrasts is enabled to experience with the choices of materials. The brick architecture of the existing structures the new concrete buildings and the staged infrastructural elements. The building reveals its structure and constructive elements. Water pipes and electrical wires are laid bare and walk along the buildings facade. By applying color they are even accenturated. Water drainage systems of the new buildings are visible. These elements represent the idea of honesty and democratization of architecture.

The new SESC Pompeia buildings were built with reinforced concrete with a rough texturing, resulting from timber shuttering used during construction. The reinforced concrete is left visible on the inside and outside since climate conditions allow the absence of thermal insulation. Location of the interior beams of the ceilings are visibly expressed. For the watertower another concrete shuttering method was used. Lina Bo Bardi intended an appearance where the concrete flows become visible.

She refuses the simple traditional window to lighten the rooms in the main sports tower. The architect designs amoeba shaped holes as windows, to which the architect refers to as "Spanish civil war holes". (Ecured. cu, 2019) The openings do not have glazing to favour natural circulation and at the same time enabling the perception of the thickness of the concrete wall. Coming back to the element of contrasts, the raw materiality of concrete is opposed by red shutters that can close of the openings on the interior facade of the sports center. They response to too much lighting without interrupting the natural ventilation and protect balloons from flying outside. This postmodern remix of colonial-style elements as "muxarabi" in the shutters and walls of the redesigned old factory and the windows as "Spanish civil war holes" forground references to Brazilian pop culture. (Architectuul.com, 2019)





infrastructural elements https://www.pinterest.de/pin/458733912043035283/



watertower texture https://brazilianconcrete.wordpress.com/2016/10/28/visit-sescpompeia/#jp-carousel-1302



openings in the sports tower https://www.pinterest.de/pin/325174035568549128/



interior material of the factory https://www.flickr.com/photos/sescsp/15742369416

### Conclusion

In sum, The SESC Pompeía, by Lina Bo Bardi, is a dialogue between the history of the intense labour and the wish for expression of culture as an everyday activity in Sao Paulo. Rather than a domain solely reserved for the elites of the society expressed at occasions. Without affecting and clashing with the historical notion of the old oil-barrel factory, Lina Bo Bardi carefully added new cultural functions, that empower the quality of the life workers on a daily basis. The openness of the structure offers an freedom of movement trough the factory, which became an import feature that Bo Bardi intended to maintain. The new function, a theatre, exhibition halls, workshop spaces, a library, canteen and sport fields, are designed as permeable elements that do not spatially close off, but divide with small high differences and positions result in a duality of collectiveness and individualism, a space with 'no doors and walls'. But, also, the equity of the people's community that occupies the spaces. The freedom of the floorplan also occurs on the urban level of the building, where is reveals its porosity, whereby the site consists out of streets and corridors from where they can enter the buildings. The addition of the new program required more space than the site was offering, or the old structure should be demolished. Instead, Bo Bardi design a new volume for the new sport facilities, materialized with brutal concrete, that coincide with the old notion of the factory and the context of Sao Paulo. SESC Pompeía, is an excellent example that the expression of culture is an everyday experience of life, a celebrations of the ordinary, achieved by the hybridity of multiple functions. The multiplicity of program is perceptible and can be experienced in various ways.

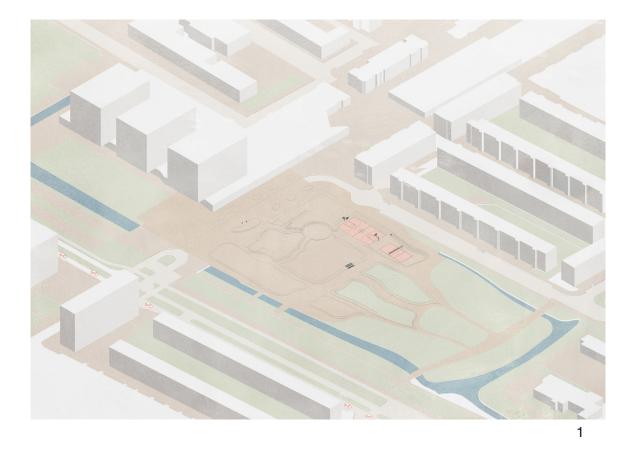
# **Final Design**

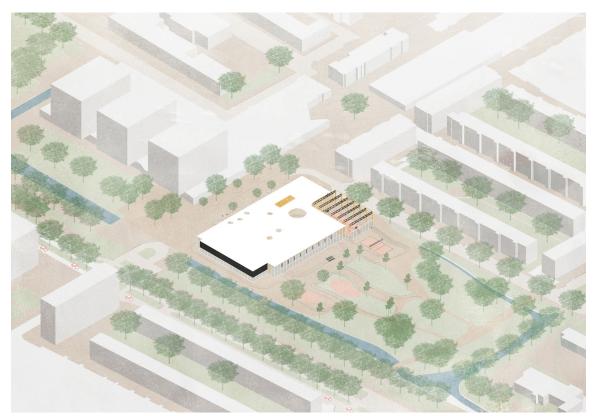


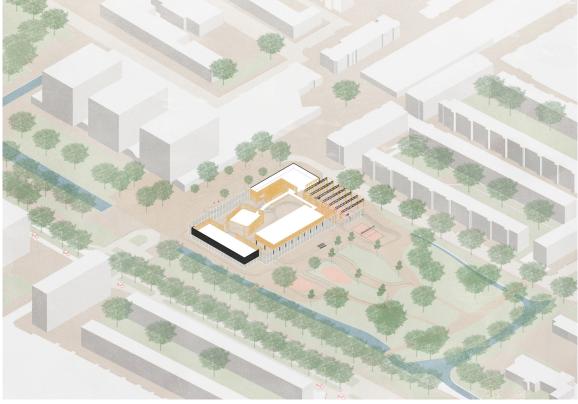


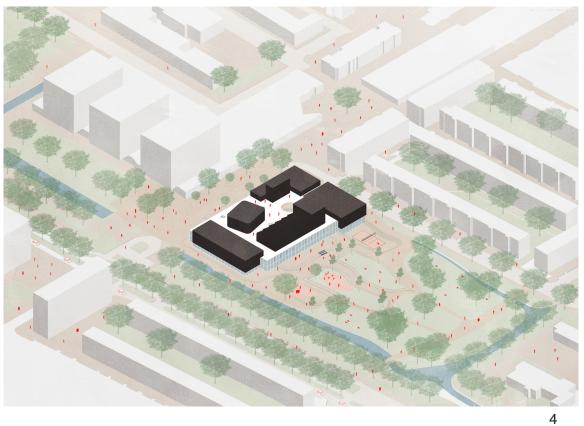


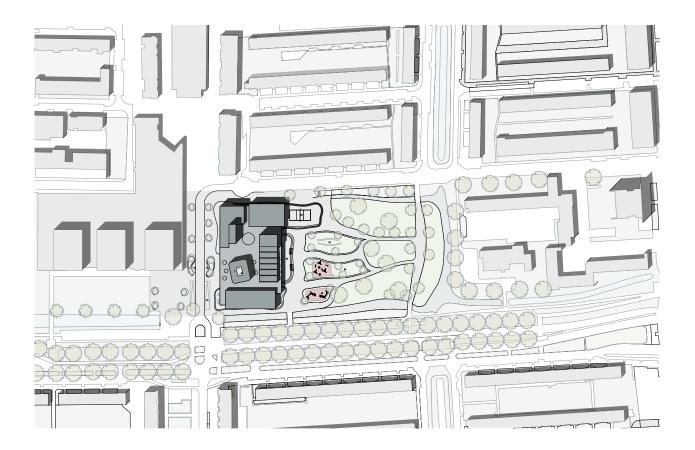


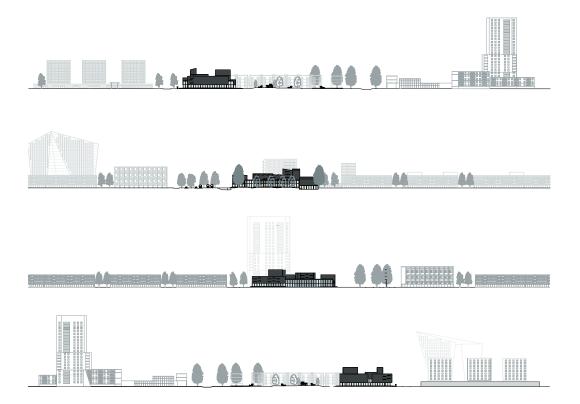


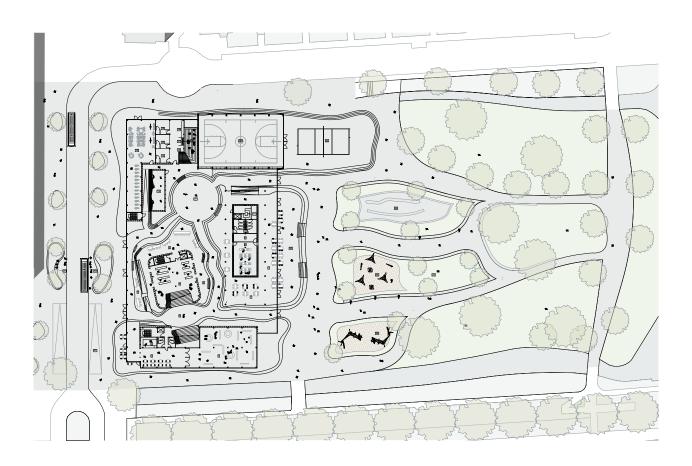


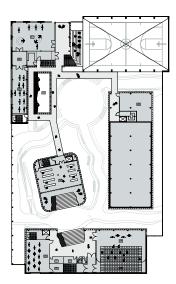


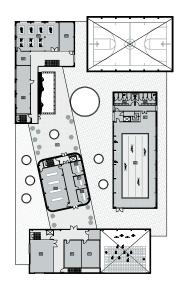


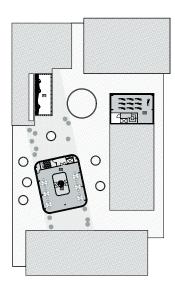


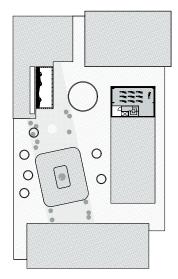


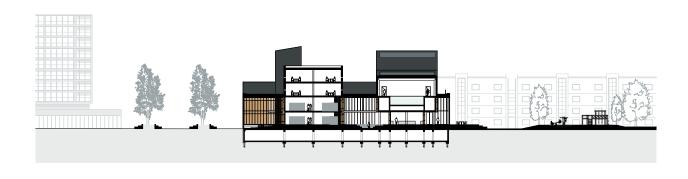


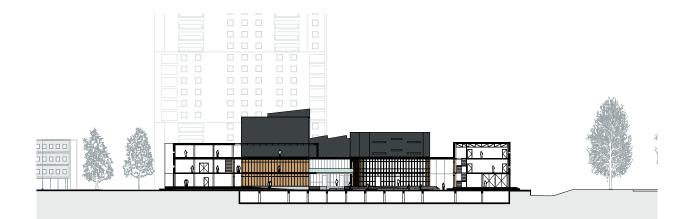


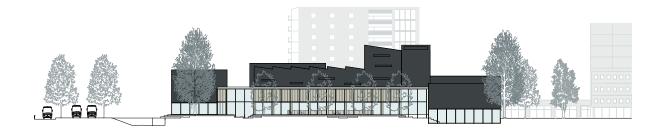


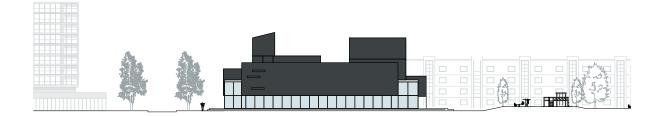


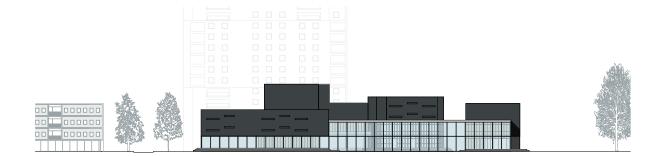




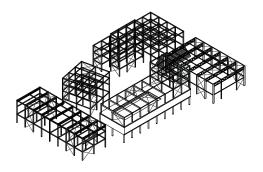




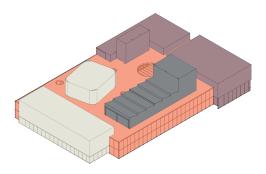




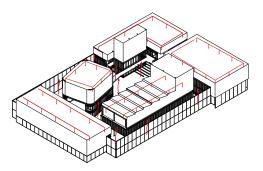




1. All volumes consist out of steel columns and beam construction, the structure stability is facilitates with cross-beams

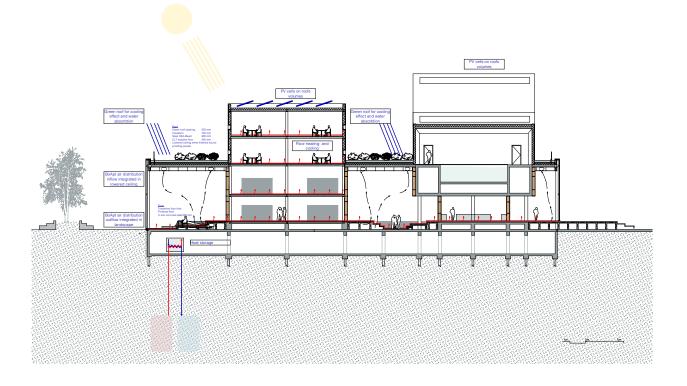


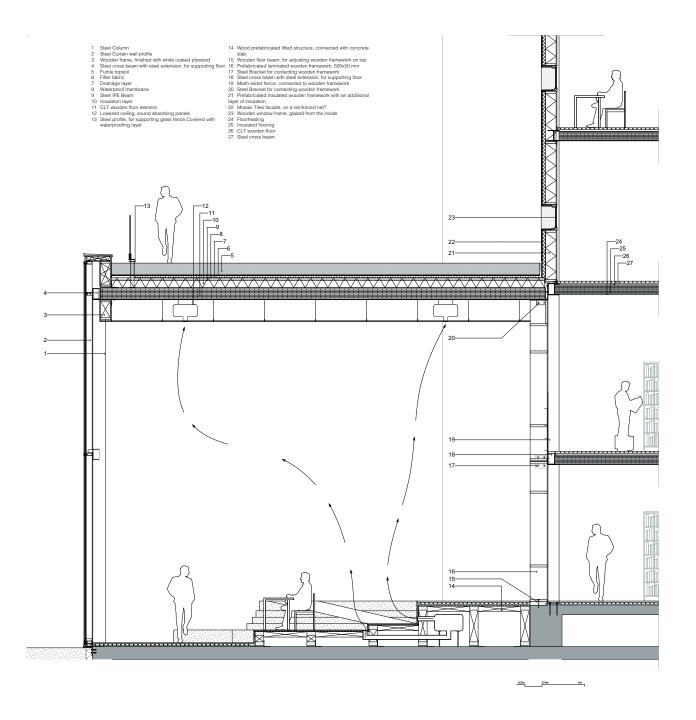
2. In between the volumes, the roof structure is places and connected to the volumes themselfs.

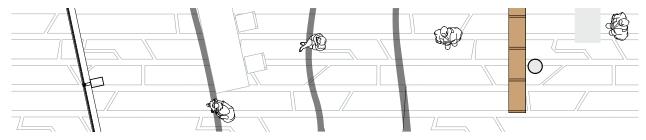


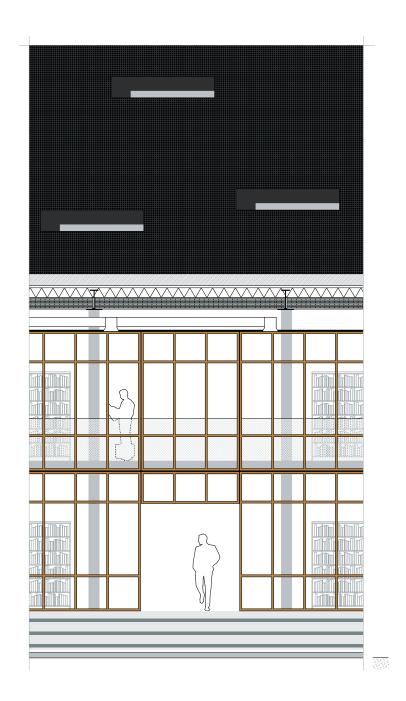
3. According the activity in the volumes, several climate zones are organised, based on the air humidity, the air flow capacity, and the function

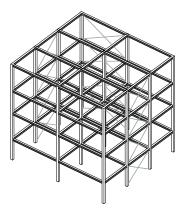
4. Within the volumes regular ventilation systems are used to ventilate the spaces. In the landscape a distinct system is used.







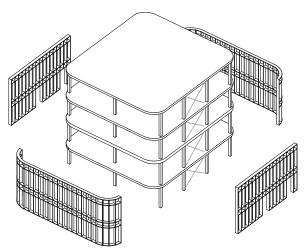




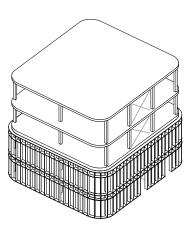
1. The load-bearing construction consist out of steel columns and beams, the structure stability is facilitates with cross-beams



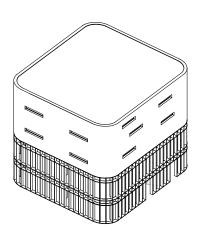
2. CLT-floors are used as infills



3. A prefabricated wooden structure is connected to the floors

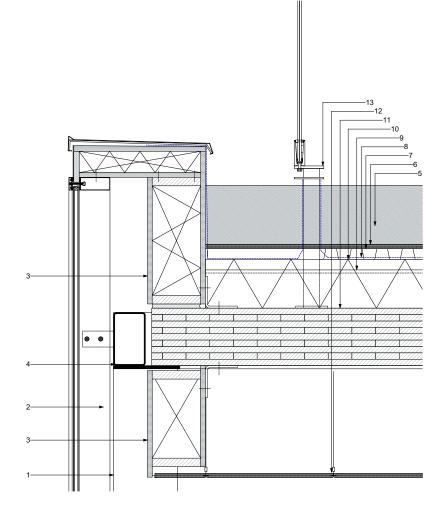


4. The structure is demountable to allow th structure to be circular

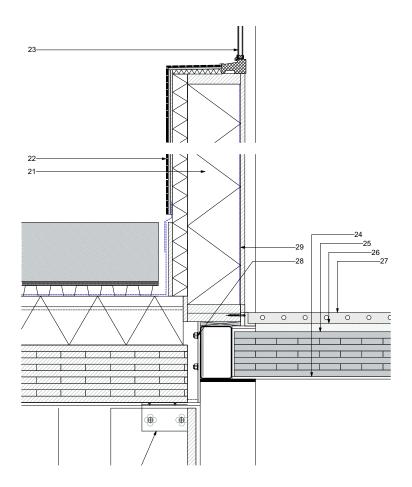


5. As exterior material are mosaic tiles used on a prefabricated insulated wooden structure

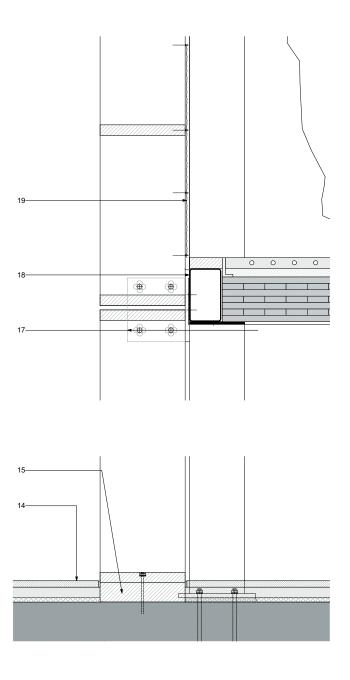
75



- Steel Column
  Steel Curtain wall profile
  Wooden frame, finished with white coated plywood
  Steel cross beam with steel extension, for supporting floor
  Furtile topsoil
  Filter fabric
  Drainage layer
  Waterproof membrane
  Steel IPE Beam
  Insulation layer
  CLT wooden floor element
  Lowered ceiling, sound absorbing panels
  Steel profile, for supporting glass fence.Covered with waterproofing layer



- Steel Bracket for connecting wooden framework
  Prefabricated insulated wooden framework with an additional layer of insulation
  Mosaic Tiles facade, on a reinforced net?
  Wooden window frame, glazed from the inside
  Floorheating
  Insulated flooring
  CLT wooden floor element
  7 Steel cross beam
  Connection steel beam to column
  Gypsum wall finish



In situ cast concrete floor, integrated with covering floor and floor heating
 Wooden floor beam, for adjusting wooden framework on top
 Prefabricated laminated wooden framework, 500x50 mm
 Steel Bracket for contecting wooden framework
 Steel cross beam with steel extension, for supporting floor
 Mesh-wired fence, connected to wooden framework

# Reflection

### 1 Relationship of the Studio and the students graduation topic

The chair of Public Building is addressing a new type of building that serves new communal purposes and emphasizes the notion of 'Multiplicity' as primary property of such new phenomena. The notion of 'multiplicity' acts as the umbrella theme throughout the graduation studio and proposes a shift from single-use buildings to a profound transformation resilient and multifunction buildings, or so to call public condensers. Consequently, these condensers are already emerging in the European cities, in which these buildings contain multiple leisure functions, community services, libraries and informal spacing with the walls of one building. Furthermore, multiplicity is not only referring to hybrid aspect of functions but is also addressing the multiple cultural communities, aged groups and social classes.

The organization of the chair provides a theoretical framework in which all participants of the studio where divided and were appointed to a specific research topic. The themes consisted out of City, Connection, People and Power, which got distributed to subgroups of three persons and eventually subdivided in themes related to the general topic. Subsequently, our group was responsible for the theme People, whereas, every individual was responsible for a subtheme, which, in my case, was the topic of bottom-up. The studio focused its attention on two site specific conditions in Copenhagen and The Hague and students where enabled to choose between the cities after the completion of the research part based on the research findings and personal interest. This part shifted towards the social-economic status in the neighborhood of Morgenstond. Investigating the actual people who live in the neighbourhood is of essential importance. In this graduation studio, the public building is more conceived as a community building which serves communities rather than a public building that represents high cultural value on a city scale. Consequently, the research concluded gentrification already made its way on site.

### 2 Relationship of the Studio and the students graduation topic

After the first research phase, I've made the choise to design a building for the city of The Haque. The site-specific conditions such as post-war rigid urban scheme, combined with unilateral poor social cohesion, and the future agenda of gentrification, offered for me an interesting framework. Due the emerging process of gentrification subjected to the neighbourhood of Morgenstond (the main site), this new public building will have to deal with a new co-existence of several new population's groups, contrasts in society and differences in social classes. New tensions in contemporary society demands for a type of public building that deals with these issues and enables the empowerment of interchangeability between different groups and leisure classes. Within this framework of conditions the new public building is considered as a device of interchangeability of a wide range cultural activity and between contrasts in society in terms of age, social class, high and low culture. And which can offer a new layer of cultural richness in the society and the building. Furthermore, the building should contradict the current modern condition of function divisions and should plead for a building that merges with borders of the existing urban lay-out and landscape. How should a public building act in the process of gentrification and densification? How can architecture facilitate interchangeability between different groups in society? How should the site in The Hague fit in the future developments of gentrification?







# 3. Elaboration on research method and approach chosen by the student in relation to the graduation studio methodical line of inquiry, reflecting thereby upon the scientific relevance of the work.

The approach of inquiry regarding the research topic of 'People' moved the group into the direction of the social, economical and cultural status of the citizens of the city. By investigating this subject on multiple territorial and scale levels, the site-specific conditions of the actual future use and users of the public building could be identified. Derived from the research phase, the ambition of interchangeability of the new future model becomes relevant. The question formed the prominent design and research topic to answer the question of which architectural composition is able to facilitate this ambition of the exchange and empowering of different cultural and economic milieu's in one building.

The guestion of how these architectural elements needs to be shaped is supported by the theoretical research conducted in the seminar's courses. The research results pointed out some prerequisites that proved to be highly valuable for the design of the spaces of exchange. So, the landscape of interchangeability must contain the property of activity centered approach of social spaces rather than human-centered. For the building this means that the spaces of exchange must contain the property that different activities become attractive for each visitor. Consequently, theses spaces ought to be design so several activities of different zones can take place in these 'common grounds' of interchangeability. From the perspective of interchangeability, the architectural objects (structural/architectural) must primarily emphasize the activity in which the socio-cultural milieus are not immediately relevant for engaging with the space. It is at this point where shared engagement, with a common enactive sign, that social connections are established and exchanged. Therefore, it is important to note that the design of these elements shouldn't done in a way that behavior is to fixed and predicable but should attain a degree of freedom and flexibility. This notion was translated in a study of architectural elements that on hand encourage and invite informal activities, but simultaneously does not fix the function to much by its shape. Still a degree of flexibility should be provided by the architectural form. With some theoretical conditions laid out to the design process of these spaces began. The first method of accomplishing these properties was to filter each type of program of each zone in order to arrange to potential of flexible activity centered spaces. Sketching, 3D-modeling and modelmaking were the first instrument that were used to test the potentials of exchange.

The lockdown caused by the Corona-virus limited the amount of design method usually available for student. Hence, modelmaking and testing scale to scale becomes highly difficult. Therefore, the technique of collage became a new valuable method in determining the atmospheres, scales and typologies of the in between spaces of the landscape. Via this technique you must carefully compose spaces that exist of material and light, and after composing generates a model for reflection. Each image proposes solution and new problems or subjects for debate.































# 4/5 The relationship between the graduation project and the wider social, professional and scientific framework, touching upon the transferability of the project results.

The rapid shifting demographic condition within cities and neighbourhoods, caused by the process of gentrification, is not only bound by the borders of The Hague. Neighborhood-improvement occurs on a nation-wide scale, in which post-war neighbourhoods, predominantly designed with the modernistic ideology, undergo the process of gentrification. The graduation inquiry identifies on one hand the poor social cohesion and the unilateral demographic situation and on the other poorly performing public spaces and now quality of sustainability. Reasons enough for municipalities and regulators to improve the conditions. However, several precedents illustrate that gentrification resulted in the displacement of current inhabitants as a result of increasing house prices. The paradoxical effect of gentrification causes better quality of public space, sustainable housing and more densification, but is also responsible for the loss of diversity, cultural mixture and communities. The recognition of governments that with the current policy they are displacing the current communities and inhabitants and affordable housing for these groups. This policy now results, in the case of The Hague, in strict economical borders of new and old inhabitants, rather then a new mix. For future gentrifications processes the notion of interchangeability of public buildings possess opportunities to help and facilitate this process and create a common ground for the exchange of culture, sport and knowledge.

The research phase experienced one fundamental ethical feature worth discussing. The proposed public building, and within the philosophy of the graduation studio, is to contain as many function and multiplicity to a degree that remains qualitative. Research in a social-economic tends to rank certain people, communities, target groups and other layers of society in categories and groups. Since, quite a lot of information is about the financial situation and new housing development are based upon certain target groups. Therefor it remains crucial to design the public building as an activity-based place, rather that a people-based building, since activity is not based on socio-economical status.



Pamphlets of the notion of gentrifications experienced by the neighbourhood

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Booklet Connection group (O. von Claer, M. Minghetti, R. Jonkhart 4, p. 76, 94

Booklet Power group 7 & 8, p.107, 138, 140

# **Graduation plan**

### Personal information

Name Student number Telephone number Private e-mail address

<u>Studio</u> Name / Theme:

Teachers / tutors: Argumentation of choice of the studio: Eric Bezemer 4784146 +31649136825 eric.bezemer@hotmail.com

Chair of Public Building and Multiplicity/Pub lic Condenser Henk Bultstra (Arch), Jelke Fokkinga (BT)

### **Graduation project**

Title of the graduation project:

Spaces of Exchange /Spaces of Inter changeability

### <u>Goal</u>

Location: The posed problem: Morgenstond, Den Haag

The legacy of the modernistic ideology is predominantly manifested in the site-specific condition of The Hague and Morgenstond and experienced barely any transformation throughout its existence. The sheer repetition of rigid and monotonous urban schemes, combined with the vertical stratification of functionality, acts in the contemporary society as a troubled neighbourhood with an unilateral social class, poverty, immigrations and health-issues amongst citizens. Combined with the depressing quality of public space and the poor motivation to actually improve this, results in a poor social cohesion and a brank mark of non-opportunism. Furthermore, Morgenstond is on the verge of being confronted with the emerging process of gentrification, in which public building have to deal with a new co-existence of several new population's groups, contrasts in society and differences in social classes. These new tensions in contemporary society demands for a type of public building that is able to deal with these tensions and empower interchangeability between different groups and leisure classes.

However, the effect of gentrification means also the improvement of public space and the introduction of new target groups in the neighbourhood. Together with agenda of municipality, where regulations will prevent the repression of current groups, will result in a new diversity. Diversification offers a new potential to public building, since different target groups seek different needs from public space and facilities, which can offer a new layer of cultural richness in the society and the building. **Research questions:** 

How should a public building act in the process of gentrification and densification?

How can architecture facilitate interchangeability between different groups in society?

How can the public building stimulate interaction between

Design assignment which should result in:

The proposed project should generate a model that allows a coherence of duality in the contemporary society and that lift contrast between the 'gentrified' and the 'gentrifier'. The building should be a device of interchangeability of a wide range cultural activity and between contrasts in society in terms of age, social class, high and low culture. Furthermore, the building should contradict the current modern condition of function divisions and should plead for a building that merges with borders of the existing urban lay-out and the landscape.

### **Process**

Method description:

#### **Theoretical framework**

In the first stage a theoretical framework is established, based on praxeological case-studies, demography, mapping and precedents, which should result in clear position of the public condenser towards the socio-economic, spatial and political conditions of The Hague.

### **Conceptual strategy**

Consequently, the program is based upon these conclusions and the theoretical concept is further developed on morphological model studies on the site. Furthermore, extended research, collages, case-studies and the production of a multimodal should empower the generation of architectural form coinciding with the concept. A manifest should embody the concept in one image and communicate the intent of the designer and is translated in design objectives.

#### **Design strategy**

The design strategy is characterized with design experiments

regarding the proposed concept derived from the conceptual strategy. The design is developed with model making, drawing and sketches on smaller scales. And tested with the conceptual outcome.

### Literature and general practice references

#### Precedents

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## **Reflection**

### Relevance

Pre-war neighbourhoods, built upon the ideology of modernism, face the process of renewal. On a nation-wide scale the sustainable goals and the necessity of densification in cities will in the future put a lot of pressure of these neighbourhoods. This development demands for a new strategy in dealing with diversity, interchangeability of social groups and coexistence in the public realm. **Planning** 

### (The given time planning is based on time schedule provided by the study guide)

### P0 until P1- Research phase in groups and individuals

Introduction and programmatic research Site research and site visits Research of topics (City, Connections, People, Power) Analysis case-studies and references related to multiplicity

### P1 until P2 Concept Design

Developing position based on research results and theme of multiplicity Personal manifesto and Design brief Formulations preliminary design concept Concept on level of massing, typological, functional and programming 1:1000/1:500 Conceptual design related to circulation, zoning and structure

### P2 until P3 Concept to Definitive design

Translation concept design to developed definitive design solution Integrations design and site 1:500/200 Programmatic placement, routing and interior 1:100/50/20/5 Interior concept and programmatic elements 1:100/50/20/5 Concepts for structure, material and sustainability 1:100/50/20/5 Model studies

### P3 until P4 Design Development

Further development design 1:100/50/20/5 Translation design manifesto1:100/50/20/5 Description storyline and concept clarification with diagrams Floorplans, sections, elevations 1:100/50/20/5

#### P4 until P5 Finalization

Presentation on panels, sections, floorplans, 3D presentations 1:100/50/20/5 Physical Model 1:100/50/20/5 Details 1:100/50/20/5

Apendix I: process documentation

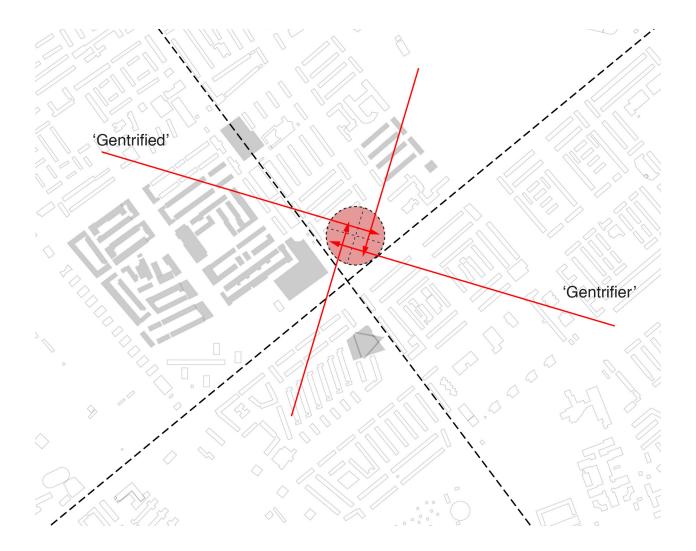
## Current process of gentrification in The Hague Normal map Map



## Current process of gentrification in The Hague House prices



New agenda aims for diversification



Commerical axis

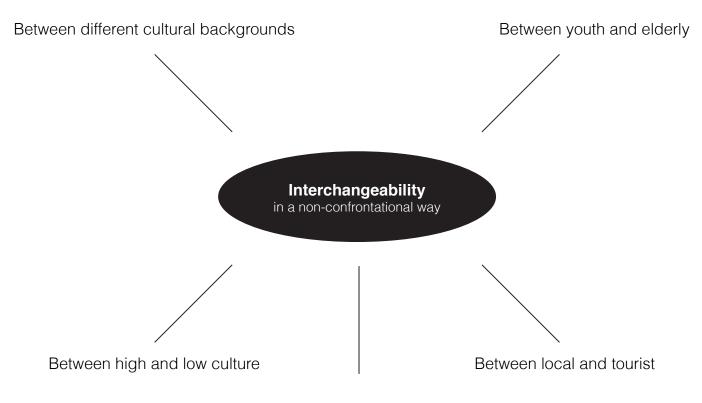


# Position

Based on the conclusions, the building should be a device of interchangeability in The Hague. One which allows exchange and the celebration of a wide range of cultural activity and between contrasts in society in terms of age, social class, high and low culture.

The building should act as permeable new layer that lifts anonymity of different classes and forget differences. Permeable with different groups, with the landscape and the urban tissue.

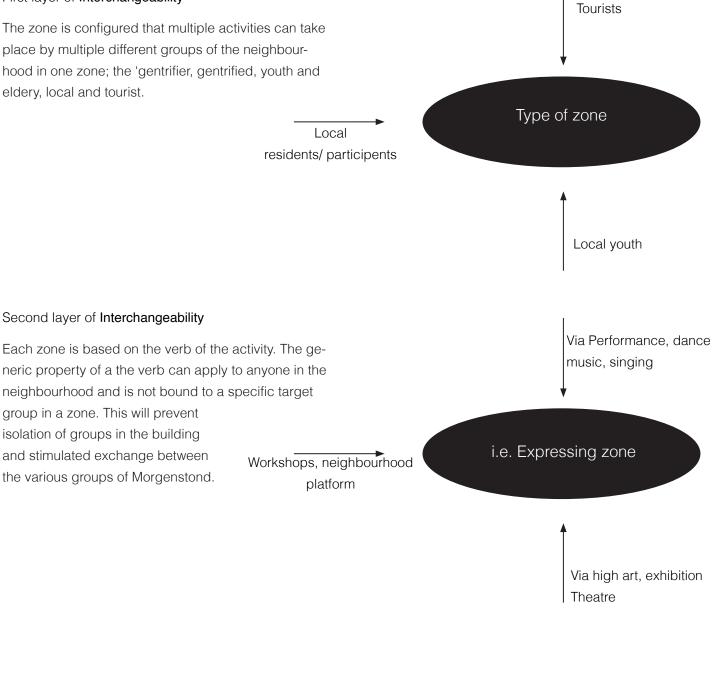
Design the program and functions so that every target audience is represented in each



Social class and middle class

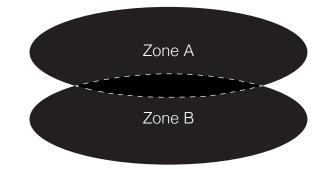
#### First layer of Interchangeability

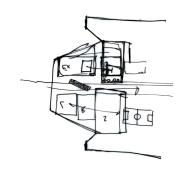
The zone is configured that multiple activities can take place by multiple different groups of the neighbourhood in one zone; the 'gentrifier, gentrified, youth and eldery, local and tourist.

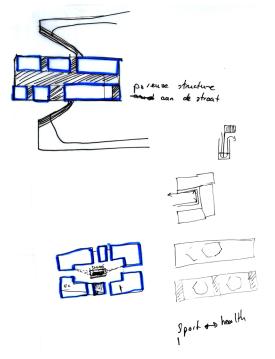


#### Third layer of Interchangeability

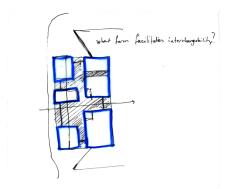
Interchangeability as an extra layer of usage and interaction between the proposed zones.

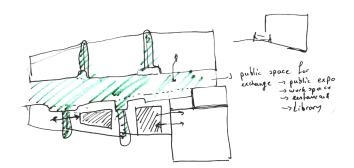


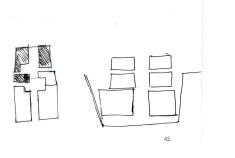


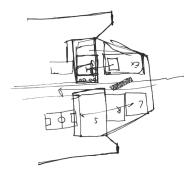


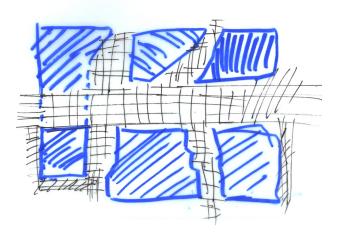


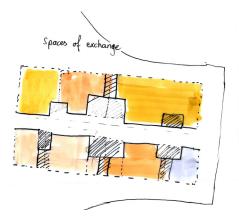


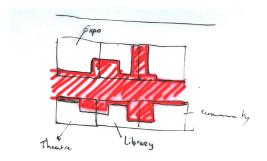


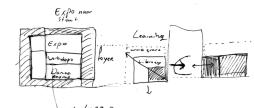


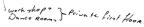


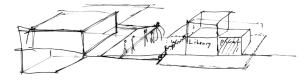


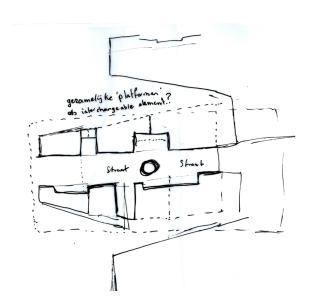


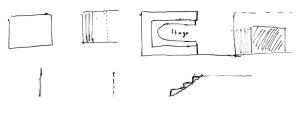


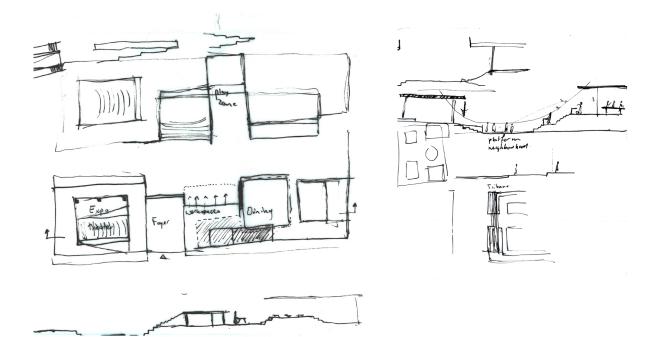


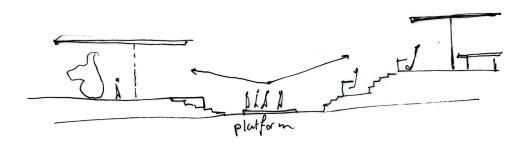








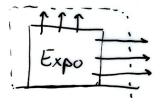




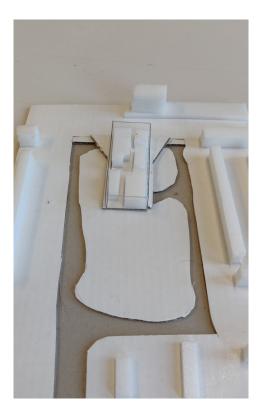
Configerations







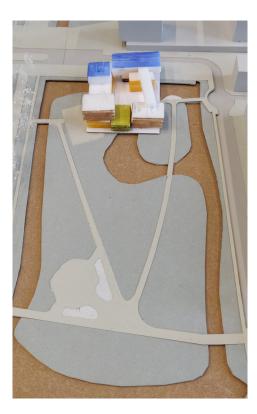




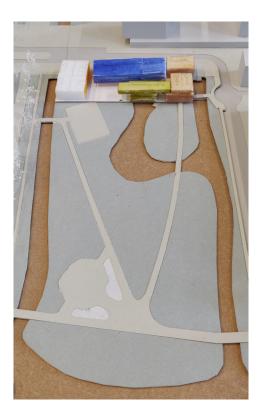


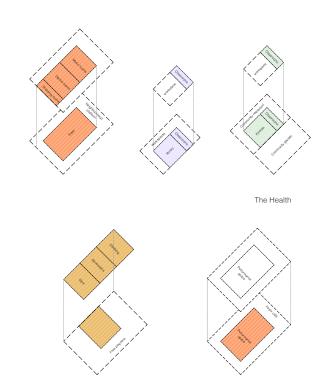


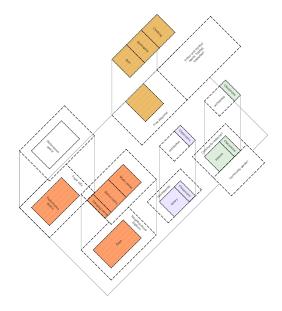






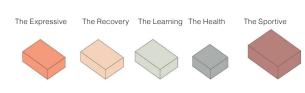








1. The programs as zones in volumes



2. Gradation of program of private to public: permeable functions are oriented to public interior private functions to upper floors

The Sportive

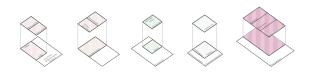
The Recovery The Learning The Health

The Expressive

3. Divided program in within zones



4. permeable zone overlaps with public interior intended as an additional functional layer





1. Situating along the economic and traffic axis



2. Continuing the commercial axis with the public condenser and establish connection park and building



3. The building provides a new relationship and connections to the park



4. Functions that are enhanced by the park



5. Functions which empower the commercial axis



6. Under one roof

PRIVATE

SEMI PRIVATE

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC INTERIOR

Musicproduction	Yoga Pilates	Admin	Fysio	Martial arts	
Theatre	Swimming	Classrooms	Classrooms	gym	
 Gallery Coffeecorner Public stage	Restaurant Cooking workshops Gardens	Workspaces Library	Workshops	Sportfield Climbing hall	