THESIS REFLECTION

Complex Projects - Hotel New York Migration of Atmosphere



HOME AWAY FROM HOME

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Figure 0: Concept Collage (Yoo, 2021)

HOME AWAY FROM HOME

A new South Korean Embassy with its own atmosphere in Rotterdam

Chaewon Yoo

INTRODUCTION

The project started from Research Question:

'HOW CAN SUCH ELEMENTS THAT DETERMINE THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE SPACE BE APPLIED TO THE REAL SPACE TO DERIVE THE NATURAL ATMOSPHERE OF THE SPACE?'.

The main goal of the project is whether a space with the atmosphere that people who live away from home can recall the feeling of their hometown can be designed, and the specific target is the new South Korean Embassy in Rotterdam (Figure 1). The architectural ambition of this new embassy is to go further from a public-friendly space with a Korean atmosphere to study what influence it can have in Rotterdam (Figure 2) and also to experiment to see if this atmosphere can spread (Figure 3).

 Figure 1: A New Korean Embassy in Rotterdam (Yoo, 2021)



Figure 2: Embassy with Public (Taiwannews, 2019)



Figure 3: Diffusion of Atmosphere (Yoo, 2021)

DESIGN BRIEF

In this project, the elements of HANOK are one of the most important design elements and will be fully utilized: Flexible Structure, Distinguished In and Out, Outbuildings, Sever Courtyards, CHA GYEONG, Harmony with Nature (Figure 4). In addition, considering the height of Delfshaven's buildings, the new embassy will be between 15 and 20 meters high. For a more public-friendly embassy. the percentage of public space and private space will be almost 50 percent of each. and the role of courtyards(buffer zones) between programs of the embassy can be one of key elements of design (Figure 5). In the case of overall ambitions, there are urban and architectural perspectives. For urban, diffusion of atmosphere, embassy with public and events should be considered. For architecture, sustainable, flexible, and harmony with nature will be considered.

PROGRAM CONCEPT

The big frame of the embassy's program is very simple. They are the embassy functions(Ambassador Rooms, Office, etc.) represented by private spaces, and libraries and archives represented by public spaces. How to separate and connect these two opposing functions simultaneously is one of the most important considerations for this project. Thus, three concepts were proposed, taking into account the elements of HANOK, which are the key concepts of this project and the program concept: HANOK in the Box, Tip of the lceberg, Contrast.

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Figure 4: Elements of HANOK (Hahoe, 2020)



Embassy Program Breakdown



Figure 5: Project Requirements (Yoo, 2020)

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ARTICLE



HANOK in the Box (Figure 6)

This idea starts with a program breakdown diagram. Basically, in this design, many outbuildings are arranged like HANOK. And several courtyards connect these outbuildings. So they are separate but look like one building. In addition, these courtyards have a flexible structure so that free to open and close.



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Flexible(Buffer) Zone

Indirect Connectivity

Different Entrance

(Cha Gyeong)



Figure 6: Concept 1 (Yoo, 2021)



Tip of the Iceberg (Figure 7)

This design follows the structure of HANOK. So, there are many outbuildings and each of them have a yard. The main concept of this building is to maximize open space by utilizing underground space. Therefore, libraries and archives are mainly located underground and have separate entrances above the ground. And this building clearly distinguishes between private and public areas.





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Figure 7: Concept 2 (Yoo, 2021)

Utilize Underground Maximize Public yard



Contrast (Figure 8)

The key point of this concept is that it is a building with two layers. The outer layer is a public space, representing Dutch atmosphere. The inner layer is a private space, which represents Korean atmosphere. And there are some connections between the two, such as doors or windows. And in this part, CHA GYEONG system can be used. For example, some parts are physically disconnected,



but they are visually connected and indirect connectivity can be expected like people can see the courtyard from the outer layer.

In conclusion, the direction of the project is decided by taking 'Contrast' as the main concept and adding the key elements of the other two concepts (Figure 9).





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CHA GYEONG



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Figure 9: Final Concept (Yoo, 2021)

SITE CONCEPT

The Korean Embassy is located at the west end of WA's business strip. This building is also near the border between private and public, and there is a waterfront space right in front of it. The western area was further expanded to provide space for the site. Since the goal of this project is to be a publicfriendly embassy, a lot of considerations are needed on how to arrange the private and public areas. It is necessary to think about ways in which different users can move freely without infringing on their space (Figure 10). In addition, one of the goals of this project is to utilize the surrounding waterfront and open spaces as event spaces.



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OVERALL CONCEPT

Final massing was implemented by considering all factors such as design brief, program, site, etc. In this building, the private space is completely separated, while the public space is open toward the surrounding area (Figure 11). However, there is also an intervening space between the two, so it has a flexible structure that is connected and disconnected when necessary (Figure 12). Outside the building, various events using waterfront spaces and open spaces can be hosted by the embassy or used for other purposes such as parks (Figure 13).











Figure 12: Overall Concept (Yoo, 2021)



Figure 13: Embassy with Events (Yoo, 2021)



Figure 14: Massing Process (Yoo, 2021)

PLANS

The group strategy shows how each project affects each other (Figure 16). In the site plan, it is already possible to distinguish the two areas by the difference in the shape of the roof (Figure 17). The 1:500 plan shows how the building connects with the waterfront space and the surrounding open space, and how people use these spaces (Figure 18). In each of the 1:200 plans, the outer layer, which is a public space representing the Dutch atmosphere: the library part, and the inner layer, which is a private space representing the Korean atmosphere: the embassy parts are clearly revealed. Elements such as different floor patterns, furniture shapes, doors, columns, etc. show a sharp difference on the drawings (Figure 19-22). In section drawings, this part can be clearly identified as well. Furthermore, especially in the cross section, it clearly shows that the library part looks like floating on the water. And another section drawing showing the library part shows the points that realize 'Cha Gyeong' and the book shelves with various levels (Figure 23-25). In the collage image, the contrast between the surrounding landscape of the Netherlands with the windmill and this building reveals the feeling of the concept well.



CONCEPT ELABORATION

The model implemented in this way is settled on the target site. Expand part of land and position the model according to the level difference. At this time, some part of the public spaces representing the Netherlands show the effect of floating on the water. Also, as shown in the image, the public and private spaces are completely separated. There are also different entrances for the staffs and public (Figure 14). And there is courtyard in the middle, which is main circulation of private space (Figure 15).





Figure 15: Zoning Program (Yoo, 2021)



Figure 17: Site Plan 1:1000 (Yoo, 2021)



Figure 18: Urban Implementation 1:500 (Yoo, 2021)

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Figure 25: Perspective Section (Yoo, 2021)





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Figure 27: Facade View (Yoo, 2021)



Figure 29: Embassy Courtyard View (Yoo, 2021)



Figure 30: Library Entrance View (Yoo, 2021)



Figure 28: Embassy View (Yoo, 2021)



Figure 33: CHA GYEONG From Library Side View 2 (Yoo, 2021)



Figure 31: Library View 1 (Yoo, 2021)



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Figure 34: CHA GYEONG From Embassy Side View (Yoo, 2021)



Figure 37: Exterior View 2 (Yoo, 2021)



Figure 35: Library View 2 (Yoo, 2021)



Figure 36: Exterior View 1 (Yoo, 2021)



Figure 38: Exterior View 3 (Yoo, 2021)

FROM INTRO TO CONCLUSION



'Companion(1999)' by KAWS



South Korean Embassy

REALIZATION OF THE CONCEPT





Private Embassy

From Embassy Part



'Companion(1999)' in 'The Simpsons(1989)'



Delfshaven



'The Kimpsons(2004)'



Embassy in Delfshaven





CHA GYEONG







Public Library

From Library Part

REFLECTION

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Every space has its own atmosphere. My graduation project begins with studying what elements constitute the atmosphere of space. When people sensing a space for the first time, they may grasp the atmosphere of a particular place or city directly through the eves. And then, the auditory and olfactory parts could give an indirect feeling of atmosphere. Like this, there are various elements that make up the atmosphere of the place: visual, colors, materials, smell, sound, noise, mood, feeling, memories, climate, temperature, culture, etc. Take "The Therme Vals (1996)" by Peter Zumthor as an example. This building is a very good example of stimulating the five senses and giving a feeling of the atmosphere of the building. The material of this building is made of Quartzite, which has a strong locality of Switzerland, and the surrounding scenery is also impressively showed how Switzerland is. And the sound of water everywhere, and the smell of stones and water make the atmosphere stronger.

Then, what would happen if "The Therme Vals" moved into the middle of a crowded city? Is it still "The Therme Vals" or just a public bath in the city? Is it still the atmosphere of Switzerland, or will another new atmosphere be born? What are the elements that keep "The Therme Vals" atmosphere if it is maintained and how are such elements contributing to certain space? Through like these questions I started my research related to the meaning of "migration of atmosphere".

'HOW CAN SUCH ELEMENTS THAT DETERMINE THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE SPACE BE APPLIED TO THE REAL SPACE TO DERIVE THE NATURAL ATMOSPHERE OF THE SPACE?'.

The above problem and research question began by thinking about the definition of migration. When I think of migration, I think of human movement first. The movement of people is not just the movement of people, but the movement of their overall background. environment, that is, atmosphere. Then one of the most powerful factors that determined their atmosphere might be the background and environment, in other words, the country. And this idea led to the program being decided as the embassy. Furthermore, the South Korean Embassy was finally decided due to the strong link between the Netherlands and South Korea, including the Dutchman Hamel's first visit to Korea in 1653 and the ongoing active exchange between Rotterdam and Busan.

There are many immigrants in the world. For various reasons, such as work, study, or family, they leave their hometown and flow into a new country to start adapting. Also, there are many travelers in the world. To have new experiences, meet new people, and feel new feelings, they leave for a new country. For people like them, what if the space like an embassy, which is a "small country" that they will visit at least once in their lives, feels like a real hometown to them, wouldn't that be a successful "migration of atmosphere"? Therefore, my project focuses on whether the building gives off a genuine Korean atmosphere, so that people in the country can feel home when they enter the building, then studies how this building affects the surrounding environment. And the final goal is that make this result of new experiment to play an important role in relations with other countries as well as our group's site.

ASPECT 1

The relationship between research and design

In architecture, research and design are inextricably linked. Design can act as a means to solve certain problems, and research is inevitable in the process. In order to do any design, related knowledge must be accompanied and research must be conducted for this. For this reason, the graduation studio puts the weight of research and design on the same level. First, a problem or topic is set, and all information and data related to it are collected and analyzed. This can be seen as a basic research stage. Then, after determining the initial settings for a fullfledged design, design begins. In the process of designing, research is also necessary. The reason why this design was made and why this design suits this place should be proved through research. Research may continue after design is complete, such as collecting information related to design, case studies, and research for building's skin or structural design. As such, I think research and design are a mutually cooperative relationship. I think the more diverse and in-depth research proceeds, the more meaningful and reasonable designs will be born.

ASPECT 2

The relationship between your graduation topic and studio topic

Complex Projects studio is conducting research on various scales, from buildings to cities. The overall master plan of the city and the individual design are studied simultaneously. This approach is essential for understanding and designing a better urban environment for the future. So, the studio's topic this year was also on a large scale, starting with the relationship between New York and Rotterdam. Then the "migration" topic was conceived at Hotel New York, the physical link between Rotterdam and New York. Also, the site was decided in Rotterdam, which had a close connection with the topic. And the students had to suggest what kind of migration they were interested in. When I think of migration, I mainly thought of the movement of people, and I thought that the

person's own background such as thoughts, knowledge, culture, lifestyle, and habits also moved with it. In other words, I thought the person move with his or her own atmosphere. So the graduation topic became a migration of atmosphere, and this is of course inevitably closely related to the topic of the studio. Because the studio's topic, "migration", was a very important source of inspiration and a starting point for my graduation project.

ASPECT 3

Research method and approach chosen by the student in relation to the graduation studio

The graduation project is carried out with a proper balance between group research and individual research. Collaborative group studies find problems and new potential by collecting and analysis of a wide range of information from a given site. The results of the analysis solve problems, establish new appropriate plans, and give a new identity to the site. At the same time, personal research sets a theme and sets up research questions by collecting and analyzing a wide range of data related to the topic. It also continues to lay the groundwork for design, such as setting up a site and programs suitable for the topic. Design interventions that occur at this time should not only be well aligned with the strategies of group research, but also should be carried out in anticipation of some degree of synergy with the studies of other individuals around them. In this way, each person's strategy and the group's overall plan are combined to create a beautiful master plan.

Complex Projects studio gives students the same subject and leads them to find their own detailed subject within that subject. The studio's research process is largely divided into two stages. In the first step, students study in detail with their own theme. And when enough research is done, the second stage begins. It is to connect to the design based on the first stage of research. While the study in the first phase focused on quantitative collection of information for the overall research, the second phase requires more in-depth study of the specified target. More research is needed not only on buildingrelated research like program analysis, layout of space and research on materials, but also on how to combine topics and designs well. In addition, various methods, including sketching and 3D modeling, are used as the main methods while conducting design research.

The topic of this studio was migration. The students had to find out what they were going to migrate, and I was interested in "migration of atmosphere". So in order to proceed with the first step, sufficient research and analysis on "atmosphere" had to be done. From the definition of the atmosphere to the atmosphere of the building, the city, etc., the elements constituting the atmosphere and examples that corresponded to it were investigated. Next, it was necessary to select specific objects and programs that had the atmosphere to be expressed, and to examine whether these and the research topic were naturally connected. At the stage of the group, a step-by-step analysis of the overall site was conducted, and the process of finding a site suitable for each individual topic was in progress. This was also required not only to be connected with the subject of his/her research, but also to connect with the group members. By the end of this work, second phase began, and I started designing in earnest based on the previous research data.

The program of my project was the embassy, and the main topic was "migration of Korean atmosphere". So designing the Korean embassy was the goal of this project. Therefore, in the second stage, the number of employees and the size of the building according to the embassy's main business or scale were re-studied, and based on this, the volume and exact location of the building was determined. Then, the main concept was conceived and linked to the existing research topics. In addition, the building was designed according to the concept, and the structural material, etc., was also designed in consideration of being connected to the concept and existing research topics. In addition, consideration of the building and its surrounding context was important,

so I thought about what kind of organic relationship the surrounding neighborhood and building would have. All this brought together, and finally a new type of public embassy building was born in Rotterdam.

ASPECT 4

Relationship between the graduation project and the wider social, professional and scientific relevance

Architecture has an organic relationship with social, professional, scientific and other various elements. So students studying architecture should be prepared to understand and tackle all these aspects. Only then can it provide a solution suitable for various practical problems in the modern society in the future. And this graduation project takes full account of this connection.

As globalization progresses worldwide, the emergence of people of various nationalities in various countries is increasing. Those people might be immigrants or travelers. This is evidence that the pace of exchanges between countries is increasing. This situation is not only true for individuals, but also for businesses and organizations. For instance, it has become more difficult to find countries that are hard to see Apple or Samsung. This can be seen as an increasing importance of exchanges with other countries. In other words, the proper response from the embassy is more required.

I aimed to design embassies required by the present society through my graduation project. I focused on not only designing a building suitable for the globalized market, but also giving some public function to it and studying further how it can build relationships with the surrounding community.

Thus, a unique combination between an embassy, and libraries, archives was created. And the experiment began in Delfshaven, Rotterdam. The key element of this project is how to put these two contradictory programs into one building. So, the most important consideration was how the domain of a very professional personality and the domain of a social personality are combined, and how the combination of the two affects the surrounding society. In addition, in terms of technology, this building was designed in consideration of the sustainability of the building, such as solving the building's energy consumption by itself.

ASPECT 5

Ethical issues and dilemmas you may have encountered during graduation

My graduation project is a rather special building where the embassy, which is a private space, and a library and archive, which are public spaces coexist. One of the key parts of the project was to strike a balance between an embassy where privacy is very important and a library open to everyone. It was also the biggest dilemma. So, first of all, I admitted that the characteristics of the two spaces were completely different, and took the concept as a contrast to completely separate the areas of the two spaces. So, there is a boundary wall between the two spaces. In addition, staff and visitor circulation were completely separated to prevent confusion. However, since the two coexist in one building, communication is possible in a limited connection if necessary. This concept was well connected to the subject of the existing project and became a link that allowed the two conflicting programs to coexist. Through this project, I imagined an interesting situation in which any element that divides boundaries could also be a connecting part of communication.

CONCLUSION

Looking back over the past year ahead of the P4. I think I've grown in so many ways. Thanks to my tutors who have guided me well so as not to lose direction and my group members who always had a positive influence on me with a vast amount of assignments. I was able to study the year happily and yerv meaningfully. I remember myself in the early davs when I first took the subject. I wondered at that moment how this project would be completed later. Now I am verv satisfied with the result of my project and I think it has become an interesting project. One year in Complex Projects studio was a really rewarding time for me and I can say it was the best choice. Everything was good, including the energetic atmosphere of the studio and the well-organized curriculum. Once again, I will conclude with aratitude to my tutors who gave various helpful feedback and my group members who have always been passionate about the project to successfully finalize it.

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