## Dortmund-Ems <br> Landscape Canal

adjusting the post-navigable canal to the landscape system of Münster

Xinyi Zhang
first mentor: Steffen Nijhuis second mentor: Daan Zandbelt examiner: Egbert Stolk


The traditional infrastructure in modern city: highway $\$ 5$ Los Angeles, Califomia, USA, 2009 / Courtesy of Edward Burtynsky.
A conver ting experiment of infrastructure: highline of New York.

## WHAT ispefiexverinrRastructure!

\# "The reflexive infrastructure"
\# Possibilities: what could it be?

## WHY convertrefiexve infRastructure?

\# Site selection: a case study
\# Site introduction: the reflexive canal in Münster
\# Problem \& possibilities of the post-navigable canal
\# Research goal \& question
\# City port introduction
\# Design overview
\# Deconstructing thematic layers
\# Summary of principles
\# Master plan
\# Thematic strategies
\# Development schedule

## WHAT sserienvenmastructure:

\# "The reflexive infrastructure"
\# Possibilities: what could it be?

## WHY convert refiexve nerrastructure?

\# Site selection: a case study
\# Site introduction: the reflexive canal in Münster
\# Problem \& possibilities of the post-navigable canal
\# Research goal \& question

HOW To cONVERT REFLEXIVE INFRASTRUCTURE?
\# City port introduction
\# Design overview
\# Deconstructing thematic layers
\# Summary of principles
\# Master plan
\# Thematic strategies
\# Development schedule

Why-How


## "the reflexive infrastructure"

According to Regine Keller (Infrastructural Urbanism: addressing the in-between), the current discourse on infrastructure is its "reflexivity".
One presentation of reflexivity is the relevant spaces that are on longer useable, or become harmful, and consequently shut down over time.

Urban infrastructure influenced, dominated and even defined these spaces as its context.
Thus the reflexivity is reflected in the infrastructure and its relevant domains.

These spaces are significantly marginal in big cities. Infrastructures such as railways, highways and drainage canals have this situation more or less.


Hauck T, Keller R. \& Kleinekort V, Infrastructural urbanism: addressing the in-between (2011). Berlin: DOM publishers.

Highline in New York,
a connector of people's life and emotion, providing programs for people from different ages and diffrent social groups, in different seasons.



## \# New possibilities of the reflexive infrastructure

## Baana in Helsinki,

a lowspeed traffic route for daily commute and leisure.


Baana is an old railway corridor in Helsinki, which was used for freight trains. This is the situation before conver ted. Photo via HBL.fi by Tor Wennstöm.


This Helsinki's new "Low Line" (as opposed to NYC's High Line) opened on June 12, 2012. It runs through the city centre, providing a safe bicycle and pedestrian route to many points in the city. Photo via HBL.fiby Tor Wennström.

Bishan Park in Singapore,
a naturalized drainage stream, also acts as an ecological corridor in urban context.


The old Kallang River is an artificial channel to collect and drain the rainwater from nearby urban surface Photo via wikipedia.


Now it is a naturalized drainage canal. The new canal has the functions of purification, ecology and recreation. Photo via wikipedia.

## WHAT

is reflexive infrastructure?
\#"The reflexive infrastructure"
\# Possibilities: what could it be?

## WHY convertrefiexve infRastructure?

\# Site selection: a case study
\# Site introduction: the reflexive canal in Münster
\# Problem \& possibilities of the post-navigable canal
\# Research goal \& question

HOW To cONVERT REFLEXIVE INFRASTRUCTURE?
\# City port introduction
\# Design overview
\# Deconstructing thematic layers
\# Summary of principles
\# Master plan
\# Thematic strategies
\# Development schedule



# The city's development was once tightly related to the canal. 

However, the canal has not kept the pace with the city's.
\# Münster: "the international awards for liveable communities 2004"

## - a brief portrait

The regional capital. Mônster assumes important functions for region with more than 1.5 million people as the service, trade and adminiseiven the regeion - Münsterland - its name. Regional cooperation takes on an ever higher status due to the varied links with the surrounding areas.

A city in Burope with links to the outside world. As a result of its open Buropean stance Mënster engages in close cross-border cooperation with its Dutch parthers, e.g. in the city triangle of "MainsterSnabrick - Netwerkstad Twente". At the same time the city is a member


Id The citv has entered into eight ively global city partnerships since 195 ?

## Awards and prizes

uture sustainability is a tradition in wiunster. Urban development has been promoted with the objectives of sparing resources. and environmental compatibility for a number of decades. The evolved city structure - a compact city centre with a lively Alstadt, attractive district centres and a virtually ideal green ssstem - ultimately provides the ideal preconditions to this end and simultaneously constitutes an obligation towards the future. In this process the most important area of potential are the active citizens as a lot of the successes of the sustained urban development would have
wiunster is a balanced city. This demand requires that economi all ecological social and eultural objectives are observed simultaneouslv and Cal, ecological, social and cultural objectives are obselved simultaneously and
with equal emphasis. The integrated approach of the urban development of With equal emphasis. The integrated approach of the urban developmenty of proved by the many awards and prizes won in national city competitions.

2004 The most children-friendy city in Germany

- 2004 (and 1991) Bicycle capital city

2004 Amongst the top ten "cities willing to make reforms in German"

- 2004 and 2003 came second in the Solar federal state league of North Rhine Westphalia for cities
- 2003 Local Agenda Best Practice Project: Renovation of old buildings' subsidies programme
- 2003 Local Agenda Best Practice Project: Saving energy and waste at schools and day nurseries' project

2003 Local Agenda Best Practice Project: Energy and climate protection inventory

- 2002 Gold medal in the national competition "Gardens in urban development": Allotment Am Lammerbach

2001 National champion with the "münster.mobi"" concept at the 13th ADAC cities competition with respect to
the issue of the "Accessibility of city centres" in the field of "New approaches, visions, concepts"

- 2001 Gold badge in the state competition "Small gardens in North Rhine Westphalia": Allotment Am Lammerbach; Silver badges: Allotments Hansa and Lebensfreude Post

2000 Award for the best advertising concept with respect to the climate protection 2000

- 2000 and 1999 several awards for the implementation of urban development projects
- 1999 International award for the "Local Agenda 21" process

1999 1st Prize in the "Customer information" assessment category within the framework of the VCD National competition "Royal conditions in trains and buses"

- 1998 Online capital
- 1998 Gold medal in the national competition "Gardens in urban development": Allotment Münster Ost
- 1997 "Climate capital of Münster" National champion in the area of climate protection (198 applicants)
- 1997 1st prize as the most bicycle-friendly city


Front page:

## Wvey centre of the Menster

 and idat the Perimipipalmarit. Gluests between the gatbed dousses sand the```
Minster made a colurful bigscle
into its ubtiee loge to celebrate it
```

l.200 year ann

```
```

```
l.200 year ann
```

```


\section*{Data and facts}

\section*{- Germany}
- The federal state of
- Higher administrative centre and
university city
\(302 \mathrm{~km}^{2}\) - of which approx. \(26 \%\) is made up of developed areas
\(74 \%\) countryside
More than \(1 / 30\)
nature esesve
- 51 ¹57 \(76.66^{4}\) degrees North
-703743.3" \({ }^{\text {" }}\) longitude East
- 61.3 metres above sea level
- 750 mm precipitation per year - 1959 hours of sunshine a year - Maritime influenced climate - Ppproxualation density: - Population density:
926 inhabitants/km² 926 inhabitants \(/ \mathrm{km}^{2}\)
151,300 employees - 66,000 commuters - Approx. 50,000 students - Mpproxal splitit trafficic routtes: : \(13 \%\) Moda split traftic routes): \(13 \%\)
by foot, \(35 \%\) by bike, \(41 \%\) by car \(11 \%\) local public transport, that represents \(60 \%\) environmentally sound means of transport Approx. 270 km of cycle paths and cycle paths on farm paths
(As at 200320004)

Minster's history spanning more than 1200 years is reflected by the medieval ground plan of the Altstadt (old part of the e eity) and numerous historical buildings. The Alstadt is an exceptional example of the European city
tradition with its varied functions in an enclosed space and high urbal deveiopment qualities. The Prinzipalmarkt with the Lambertikirche (churct) cathedral squis ies Wesmaischen Priedens as well as the cathedral and constructions of the Altstadt spanning a period of eight centuries. Historical buildings, modern architecture, contemporary sculptures - this composition ensures the Alstadt is a lively central point of the city. In addition the with the Promende of Muinster include the fact that the city is very grec embedded within the charming park landseape of Mïnsterland.

The modern city of winster. Now the Westphalian metropolis presents issef as the city of the universities with outstanding internation
reputations, which accommodates approx. 50,000 students, and as the headquarters of immovative centres in the field of research and technology transer: This acaiemic potential forms an important basis for the futureoriented development of the economy. Alot of young people, numerous instutions attached to the university, a varied and exciting cultural life as well as the bicycle as the omnipresent form of transport characterise the
 attention have helped Münster to gain a high profile as a cultural city.

\section*{\(W_{\text {wit }} W_{\text {H }}\)}



LAST CENTURY



Navigable waterway network


Road network


Airports and flight destinations

Munster's transportation Rhine-Westphalia


Nour \(/ 2 \times 2.4\)

\(W_{\text {Hut }} W_{\text {HI }}\) \(\qquad\)


\section*{\(W_{\text {HuT }} W_{\text {HI }}\)}



_the canal is a new urban space
_the canal is a new habitat

\section*{\# RESEARCH GOAL}

The project will explore a comprehensive landscape approach with Dortmund-Ems-Canal in Münster. By integrating the canal into the context of Münster, I want to gain a capacity strategy to convert the post-navigable canal into a crucial component of the landscape structure in the modern city.

\section*{\# RESEARCH QUESTIONS}

Main research question:
As the navigable function is declining, how could we find Dortmund-Ems-Kanal's new effective and possitive role in Münster, as a component of the city's landscape system?

Sub research questions:
- What are the landscape opportunities between the canal and city?
- What principles could be used?

How to apply the principles at local scale ...
and at city scale?

\section*{WHAT}

IS REFLEXIVE INFRASTRUCTURE ?
\#"The reflexive infrastructure"
\# Possibilities: what could it be?

WHY convert reflexive infrastructure?
\# Site selection: a case study
\# Site introduction: the reflexive canal in Münster
\# Problem \& possibilities of the post-navigable canal
\# Research goal \& question

\section*{H0W}

TO CONVERT REFLEXIVE INFRASTRUCTURE?
\# City port introduction
\# Design overview
\# Deconstructing thematic layers
\# Summary of principles
\# Master plan
\# Thematic strategies
\# Development schedule

\section*{\(W_{\text {нит }}^{\text {witHow }}\)}

\section*{\# A design test at a crucial sport}

\section*{the city port}

From the view of external, there are types of landuses bordering here: industrial land, neighborhood, woods, suburban gardens, agricultural land, etc. On the other side of the central railway station is the old town of Münster. The port is also the conjunction point of infrastructural lines, canal, railway and high way, which cut the place into segments.



\section*{}






\section*{\(W_{\text {wit }}\) WeHow Ho}




\section*{Werwor How}


\section*{\# Oppotunity}
_ The culvert beneath the canal is connecting the urban drainage system with the natural streams. It is the opportunity to discharge urban water to natural river system.


HYDROLOGY
'...................................................


\section*{.}


\section*{.}


\section*{\(\mathrm{W}_{\text {fat }} \mathrm{W}_{\text {y }}^{\mathrm{How}}\)}






\section*{\(W_{\text {wit }}^{-W}\) How} City port Introduction__Design overview__

579
Ems flood plain, 2722.8 ha
Spedes: amphibian- 2 , birds- 35 , invertebrate- 10 , mammal-6
Habitats:
\(32.7 \%\) natural eutrophic lakles with Magnopotamion or Hy drocharition-type vegetation abunda
\(24.5 \%\) old acid ophilous oak weods with Quer cus robur on sandy plains
\(6.5 \%\) Alluvial fo-Fagetum beech forests
\(6.2 \%\) bog woodand
\(\qquad\)
\(5.7 \%\) tr ansition mires and qualing bogs
\(4.3 \%\) Riparian mixed forests of \(Q u e r g\) \(\square\)
2.9\% Juniperus communis formations on heaths or cal careous grasslands
\(2.4 \%\) lowland hay meadows (alopecur uspratensis, Samgui sorba officinalis)
\(0.9 \%\) water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ramunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation
Rieselfelder Münster, 436.7 ha
Specess amphibian-2, birds-35, invertebrate-10, mammal-6 Habitat:
shallow lake zone
deep lake zone
meadows and fruit or chards
Tenatur ali sing and broaden the Aa-Ableiter stream
Davert, 2227.6 ha
Species, amphibrian-1, birds-8, invertebrate-7, mammal-8, plants-14, reptile-2
Habitats:
48.9\% sub-Atlanticand medio-European oak or oak-hornbeam for ests of the Carpinion betuli \(42.6 \%\) old acidophilous oakwoods with Quer cus robur on sandy plains \(6 \%\) Luzulo-Fagetum beech forests \(2.4 \%\) bog woodland

Scale above 1:100,000
\(\Delta\) Habitats Directive Sites (SCI)
Bird Directive Sites (5PA)
Scale above \(1: 100,000\)
Birds Directive Sites (SPA)

Nationally designated areas (CDDA) CDDA - IUCN categories - large scale viewing and queringStrict Nature Reserve (I)
[ 1 National Park (II)
\(\square\) Natural Monument (III, SIO3)
(1: Habitat/Species Management
Protected Landscape/Seascape
(V)
(1) Managed Resource Protected

5 Other (UA, NA, <Null>)
Map of habitats in Münster. Source: Aregis- European protected s
Wir- Whr How
\(x=3\)
\(y=0\)
\(\qquad\)


Pe HABITAT
\# Context: three habitats \(2-2 \cdot \cos\)




C4. Stepping stone connectivity
A row of stepping stones (small patches) is
intermediate in connectivity between a cont
dor and no corridor, and hence intermediate
in providing for movement of interior species
between patches.


Stepping stone connectivity. Source: Landscape ecology principles in landscape architecture and land-use planning.
\# Design: the habitat stepping stones



A view of potential area near port

\section*{.}

fay mary git slope
faumanexit slope

〈IIIIIII〉 habitat stepping stone IIIIIIII) DEKGecorridor \# N․NN . habitat

C4. Stepping stone connectivity
A row of stepping stones (small patches) is
intermediate in connectivity between a corri-
dor and no corridor, and hence intermediate
in providing for movement of interior species
between patches.


Stepping stone connectivity. Source: Landscape ecology principles in landscape architecture and land-use planning.
\# Design: the habitat tepping stones


A perspective collage of future habitat steppingstone

\section*{.}

(411" 1 ․․)

(IIIIIII) habitat stepping stome

habitat



Different fauna pas-
sages. Source: Wildlife and traffic.


\section*{\(W_{\text {нит }}^{\text {wit }}\) How}
1. rainwater (eutrophic) lake 2. oligotrophic
3. culvert passage
4. mammal exit
5. tunnel for aquatic and territorial animals





\section*{Wнит-W н-How}

DEFINE / CONNECT - removing

remove dense trees

remove bushes

DEFINE / CONNECT - exit

stairs

ground floor semi-open


DEFINE / CONNECT - canal space



\section*{\(W_{\text {wr- W }}^{\text {w- How }}\)}




PROGRAMME


PROGRAMME


\section*{The old town}
_ It is now a heritage with many catheduals, houses and fortresses, attracting tourists during the year.
_ It is also the center of citizen's daily shopping and living life.
_ So there is a conflict of people's daily life and tourism. The old town is too crowded.




\section*{The city port}
_ The cultural activities take place in some discard industry buildings, mixed with some industrial activities.
_ Other program in this area is mainly neighborhood retail shops.
_ This area also lacks of outdoor activities.

\section*{\(W_{\text {wit }}\) wiv How}


\section*{_Principles}

The port's objective is becoming the future center of citizens' modern life. There are principles need to follow:

Cultural potential is promoted.
Commercial program is also developed at the port, to distract the load of old town.
Recreation programs are also necessary to increase the area's competitiveness in the whole city's development.
Business \& industry programs are constricted in particular place.

\section*{Application}

The program corridors integrate the port into the citizen's social life.


\section*{\(\mathbf{W}_{\text {нт }-W}^{\text {н-How }}\)}

\author{
City port Introduction Design overview_ Deconstructing thematic layers
}




LAST CENTURY


TRAFFIC

\section*{\# Oppotunity}
- The port is next to the central railway station.

Münster is developing its "bicycle capital" designation. So there are bicycle pathes, the most famous one called "promenade" around the old town. There are also bike renting and parking stations around (biggest at the railway station).
- There is a short waterbus routing on the lake of Aasee for tourism and recreation. It could be applied on the canal.


\section*{\(W_{\text {нит }}^{\text {wit }}\) How}


\section*{\(W_{\text {wit }}\) wiv-How}


\section*{What-Why How}


Wer Wiv Hov
\# Design: a crucial junction of passenger traffic network

_ HYDROLOGY Principles
To collect, to infiltrate, to store, to retention, to discharge, to get rainwater go to landscape.

_ HABITAT Principles
To diversify habitat;
to connect the seperated habitat.

_ SPACE Principles
To extend the urban\& rural spaces to canal;
to define and connect the urban \& canal space.


\section*{_PROGRAM Principles}

To promote cultural potential;
to develop commercial \& recreation program; to constrict business \& industry.

_ TRAFFIC Principles
To decrease the freight transport;
to complete the bicycle path;
to add waterbus as a means of public traffic.


\section*{\(W_{\text {wut }}^{\text {w }}\) How}


\section*{\(\mathrm{W}_{\text {fat }-} \mathrm{W}_{\text {r }}\) How}
\# Four steps of "landscape base -- green space -- traffic -- new urban development"


Regional development schedule (the city of Münster)
```

