

Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences



Graduation Plan: All tracks

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

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

Personal information	
Name	Imkeliene Boersma
Student number	5114721

Studio		
Name / Theme	Urban Architecture – Exploring Nijmegen	
Main mentor	M.E. Stuhlmacher	Architecture
Second mentor	Leeke Reinders	Research
Argumentation of choice of the studio	A studio that focusses on an architectural design that is inextricably linked to its (dense) urban environment shows me interesting questions and possibilities when it comes to the experience of living and being in our contemporary urban environment. Combined with a personal fascination around the experience of space within an unfamiliar or uncommon context; the exploring, the astonishment and amazement of the wondering led me to the concept of heterotopia, where you can be wondering through a world within a world, you are not part of, but are growing within nonetheless. This experience of space has the possibility to change your perspective and value of space. Within busy city structures and patterns, could this be an inspiration to the way we use, perceive and engage with space?	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	The Green Balcony – urban agriculture as city engaging housing in Nijmegen city center.

Goal	
Location:	Groene Balkon, Nijmegen
The posed problem	With more of us wanting more individual space while urbanization is increasing, our available urban space is decreasing. Meanwhile the real estate market is tearing apart at the seams, and showing a growing shortage of the standard availability, barring the non-standard desires. During this time of increasing possibilities in all aspects, but a decreasing

	availability of space, how do we value our urban space? If we want to continue living in our urban environment, we should revalue the use and experience of space within this area. Seeing living not as the individual common, but searching for the uncommon we can see space not merely as private or public, but create possibilities in-between.
research questions and	How can the concept of heterotopia influence the balance, borders and experience of urban living in the city center of Nijmegen?
design assignment in which these result.	Creating an urban project with an inextricable connection of different typologies as urban living solution, where we not just use space for living in an urban area and have to commute to our work location, but where we use space for living as part of the engagement with that space. So, not an independent city supermarket or shopping mall complex with separated apartments at the higher floors, but a connection between living and public functions. The program within this project contains urban agriculture combined with living space for those who work at this project. Functions will be shops, workshop space, offices, meeting space, collective living facilities, gardens, vertical farming and a greenhouse. It is not the goal to create a heterotopia, nor is it the goal to create an urban farming project to solve a food chain problem. It is the goal to create a project where heterotopia inspires the program, borders, experience and balance. It is the goal to create an urban agricultural program to connect people, neighborhood, living and using urban space in a (socially) sustainable way.

Process

Method description

A research on the concept of heterotopia and the qualities and remarks within this concept. Additionally, a case study of five existing concepts where different everyday spaces are combined with heterotopian ones, where the use of private and public space is (un) balanced and where different typologies form a whole: agritourism, the strangers' room, the traveling circus, the monastery and the contemporary collective living project. Subsequently, a study on urban agriculture: what it is exactly and what it isn't and how much space, what technology and what qualities it requires. Also, visiting urban agricultural projects in the Netherlands, like Urban Farming 035 in Hilversum. Finally, a study on the urban location Het Groene Balkon in Nijmegen with all its urban qualities and remarks.

Literature and general practical preference

Boudet, D. (2018). New Housing in Zurich: Typologies for a Changing Society. Park Books.

Dehaene, M., & Cauter, L. . (2008). Heterotopia and the city: Public space in a postcivil society.

Sennett, R. (2003). The Fall of Public Man. Penguin.

Rossi, A., & Eisenman, P. (1992). *The Architecture of the City*. Amsterdam University Press.

Loganes, E. (2014). *Comparative housing taxonomy. The typological evolution of "Gemeinnütziger Wohnungsbau" in Zurich*.

Madanipour, A. & Ali, University of Newcastle, UK Madanipour. (2003). *Public and Private Spaces of the City* (illustrated edition). Taylor & Francis.

Phillip, S., Hunter, C., Blackstock, K.. (2010). A typology for defining agritourism, *Tourism Management*, Volume 31, Issue 6, 2010, Pages 754-758, ISSN 0261-5177, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tourman.2009.08.001>.

Veen, E.J. (2015). *Community gardens in urban areas: A critical reflection on the extent to which they strengthen social cohesion and provide alternative food*. PhD thesis, Wageningen University, Wageningen, NL, www.publicspaceinfo.nl/media/uploads/files/VEEN_2015_0001.pdf

Reflection

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

My topic focusses on an inextricable connection of different typologies as an urban living combination to see if this can influence the way we use our urban context and space, like the studio Urban Architecture focusses on the connection between individual/collective buildings within the urban tissue. The design of this project focusses on the draw up of the renovation of existing social housing in combination with new construction in detail, something that answers to the master program AUBS. In this the sustainability in use and materiality is as important as the social sustainability.

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

My project uses urbanization, individualism and space scarcity in urban areas as starting point. It tries to look at how we could live in an urban context where we not just use space for living and have to commute to our work location, but where we use space for living as part of the engagement with that space.