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Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences



<p>design assignment in which these results.</p>	<p>The design assignments focus on how such year-round facilities can take shape. The facilities must be authentic to our current time in how their program reflects the needs of the tourists as well as the needs and wishes of the locals. These facilities are designed taking in mind the characteristics of the coastal landscape, architecture, and spaces.</p>
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<p>Process</p>
<p>Method description</p>
<p>This research is executed as a combination of literature research, case study research and map analysis. The theoretical framework in which this research is placed is that of place-identity, authenticity, and the genius loci.</p>
<p>In the contemporary context of place-identity, the term genius loci often refers to a location's distinctive atmosphere. These atmospheres are enticing and have developed over time and therefore can convey a rightness and unity. They are the result of a process of centuries and therefore cannot easily be reproduced. (Vogler & Vittori, 2006) According to this, place-identity is the result of the narrative of change of a certain place over time. Within this narrative, place-identity is the sameness over time and space. (Gilles, 1994) While society has changed immensely over the past centuries, some elements in buildings remain prevalent. The resulting atmosphere is expressed in the phenomenology of the place; the experiences, and all that can be sensed, heard, touched, tasted, felt, as well as all that can be perceived, known, understood and so on from the site.</p>
<p>This research is split up in three categories: the landscape, the buildings, and the space. First, the history of the landscape is explored. This is divided into the natural landscape, shaped by forces of nature and the cultural landscape, shaped by human interventions. Then the historical exploration is continued into the domain of the built. Within distinguishing periods in the development of the seaside, iconic buildings are studied to discover coast-specific design features. For this research, buildings that are assigned cultural property, well-pictured, or often mentioned are presumed iconic. Finally, the spatial characteristics that follow from the previous two themes are looked at in a different light. Along an overview of high rated tourist pictures, shows the spaces that are valued. Atmospheric associations are touched upon, these assist in creating the perceived coastal atmosphere.</p>
<p>In the conclusion, the landscape, and spatial characteristics are summarized. Building characteristics are presented as design tools. These tools are used as a starting point for the design.</p>
<p>The design process continued with the findings and translated them into a design that fulfilled the design assignment. As education was moved online my design method changed from handmade modelling based to more computer based as this proved necessary for online tutoring.</p>
<p>Literature and general practical preference</p>

Neefjes, J., Bleumink, H., Prins, L., & Strootman, B. (2010). *De ruimtelijke identiteit van de Nederlandse kust*. Overland.

Norberg-Schulz, C. (1979). *Genius Loci: Towards a Phenomenology of Architecture* (1979).

Abel, C. (1982). Architecture as identity, I: The essence of architecture. In *Semiotics 1980* (pp. 1-11). Springer, Boston, MA.

Garba, S., Mahgoub, Y., Bonis, D., Nour, L., Attia, Z., Cavalagli, S., ... & Bougdah, D. (2019). *Cities' Identity Through Architecture and Arts*.

Czumalo, V. (2012). Architecture and identity. Autoportret, 1(36), 46-52.

Provincie Noord Holland. (2010). *Iconen van ooit en nooit*

Provincie Noord Holland. (2016). *Keuze aan de Kust*

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)?

The relation between my graduation project and the master track architecture withing the programme of architecture urbanism and building sciences is as follows: for my first Msc1 project I designed a bathhouse for elderly in a shrinking coastal city in Belgium. I was fascinated by what this building could mean for the local residents in a no longer popular tourist destination. The research with this project focussed on the coastal town of Blackpool and how it caters to its target audience in the design of its coastal promenade.

My Msc2 was also related to the water. A hotel for an industrial area to be redeveloped in Gothenburg. In this design I focussed on systems that would allow the hotel to be moved to new areas to be redeveloped when the initial development was successful.

My second Msc1 project focussed on a riverside museum to be built at an old industrial site. A main characteristic of this design was materialisation that fit the location. Focussing on materials that were used when building industrial sites 100 years ago. Bricks, wood, and steel.

All these projects in some way express my fascination for buildings to be meaning full in their surroundings. Meaning full for the local residents or meaningful in the redevelopment process of an area or meaningful in expressing the heritage of the location. My final design project will focus on these same themes. Exploring how a building can be designed for a place with a stark seasonal difference in the number of people. How this building can fit in in the historic context of the Dutch seaside narrative and be meaningful for residents as well as tourists.

In 2019 I graduated my master's degree of Landscape Architecture where I explored how deathscapes could be integrated in our contemporary city. I am fascinated by how we continue to change the way we shape our surroundings regarding societal changes. My current project borders the field of architecture and landscape architecture as it seeks to translate the experience of the Dutch coastal landscape

part of which has been unchanged for centuries into a building that fits in the timeless landscape but suits contemporary tastes, standards and functional needs.

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

The question of identity of the places we design has always been big the field of architecture. Since the modernist disregard for place-specific architecture backfired by creating undesired buildings rather than timeless ones we have gotten more and more aware of the importance of this issue. There has a lot of theory been written about the application of the genius loci in architecture, most famously the books by Christian Norberg-Schulz. From a professional viewpoint the research presented can be seen as an application of these theories.

From a social viewpoint this research aids in protecting the valuable aspects of the coast while exploring what developments could be permitted within the formulated identity. People feel a need to belong and our build environment is essential herein. Within the narrative of tourism this is especially important. Travelers want to experience authentic places and the coast risks losing authenticity on one hand by large scale interventions that do not respect the scale but on the other hand preserving and rebuilding as we used to build in the heyday of these places would be inauthentic to our society. My design aims to find a balance between these sides that respects the place as well as the people there.