



HOPTILLE, FROM STIGMA TO CHARISMA

RESEARCH PLAN & REFLECIION PAPER

*Image enhancing transformation of
post-modern architecture while retaining its identity*

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S2C.1: Research Plan & Reflection paper
AR3AH105 - New Heritage
Graduation studio Adapting to 20th Century Heritage
Master Architecture, Urbanism and Building Sciences

**Dyslexia*

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RESEARCH PLAN

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Figure 2. Hoptille
New Heritage, collective



Figure 3. Hoptille negative in the media, history
from Reformatoorsch dagblad (1989)

Justitie: 'Shaquille Goedhart (24) naar Zuidoost gelokt voor liquidatie'

Justitie gaat ervan uit dat Shaquille Goedhart (24) op 2 mei door Rivelino V. (27) naar de flats aan Hoptille in Amsterdam-Zuidoost is gelokt, waarna Badr K. (29) en nog een schutter hem doodschoten.

Paul Vugts 14 augustus 2019, 15:05

4. Hoptille negative in the media, present
from www.ad.nl

Introduction

"Almere, even when you are dead you don't want to be found there"
or
"Are you sure you want to visit the Bijlmer, it is one of the most unsafe places of the Netherlands"

These are two of the many comments made about post-war city expansions built in the 1970s and 1980 in the Netherlands. The reasons why these new towns are not appreciated are very different: Almere Haven is described as boring and narrow (Berg & Stassen, 2001) (New Heritage, 2020) where the Bijlmer, including the H-Buurt, has an unsafe image (Pinkster, Ferier, & Hoekstra, 2019) (New Heritage, 2020). The stigma's of Almere and the Bijlmer are especially surprising since both residential areas were designed and built by the ideological approaches on the future city only 40-50 years ago.

The operation exploitation of a rental home is 50 years (BouwhulpGroep, 2008), therefore housing corporations have to answer the topical question how to renew these post-modern neighbourhoods. On top of this, there is an urgent demand for new housing, since more people will live in cities in the future (Scientias, 2020). The municipality faces the questions how to densify and how to persuade potential new residential to live there. Because, if the stigmas continue to prevail densification of the postmodern neighbourhoods will fail. Combining both issues offer opportunities to both improvement of the area and densification. Resulting in the research question: What kind of architectural intervention is needed to transform postmodern neighbourhoods in such a way that both insiders and outsiders would enjoy living therein? The objective is to balance the interests of stakeholders; the intervention should preserve the current identity but at the same time enhance the image of the neighbourhood.

Research will be done on 2 locations, Almere Haven and the H-Buurt part of the extension the Bijlmer located in the southeast of Amsterdam. The design intervention focuses on Hoptille (1982) a neighbourhood in the H-Buurt (1976). Hoptille was designed by Kees Rijnboutt and Sjoerd Soeters. The site of 6 hectares consists of a midrise apartment block of 300 meters long and single-family housing. The building is known for many technical and social omissions (New Heritage, 2020).

To determine how this renewal should be applied by preserving the current identity, it is necessary to know whether the existing buildings carry values and if so, what kind of values. The process of identification of attributes and values towards a design intervention is divided into 3 phases: the research phase defined the current values and attributes, the research by design phase offered a toolkit which can be applied during the 3rd phase: design. In this third phase the design intervention will be further elaborated and assessed for its impact. A case study will be executed in Almere Haven to evaluate whether the strategy and methods can be applied generically.

This project is executed by Cornee Louwerens, regarding the graduation project for the master Architecture, Urbanism and Building science at the TU Delft. Housing corporation Ymere is involved as a stakeholder in the project and has interest to the topic because a large part of their portfolio are postmodern buildings, including Hoptille.

This research plan will answer the structure of the research and design project; research question, methodology and planning for the whole graduation course.

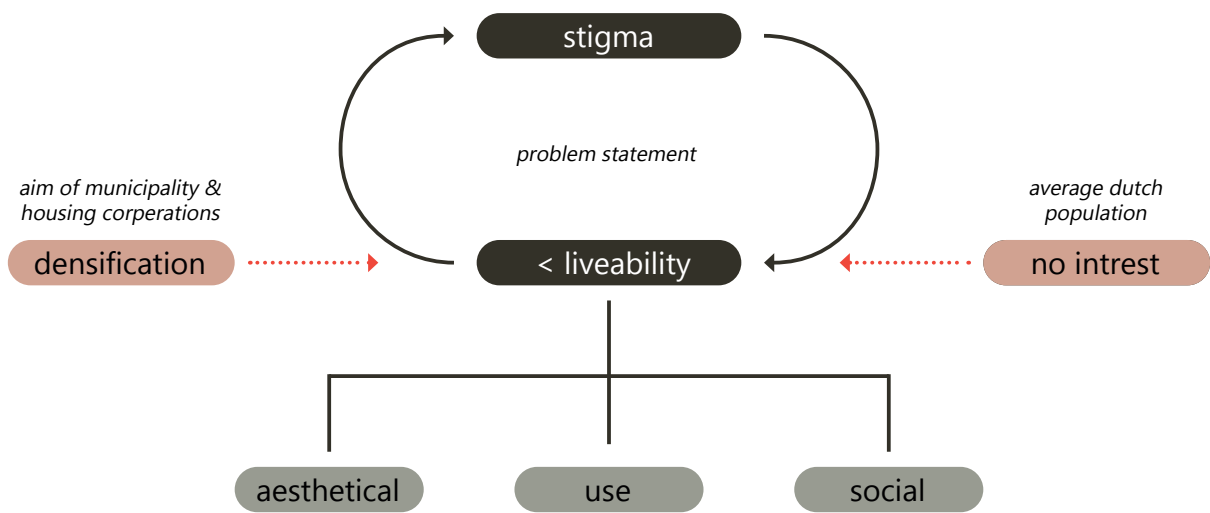


Figure 5. Problem statement
from author

Problem statement

Hoptille is facing several problems related to the two themes social and use.

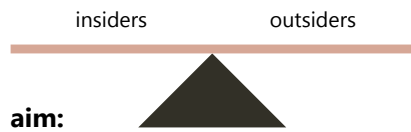
The social problems relate to the current residents living in Hoptille. The midrise building contains only social housing. The residents are a select group of people, who differ in many ways from the average Dutch population. Their average income is very low and poverty is common. Relatively many people have a criminal record. Secondly the ethnic background and level of education lead to an insufficient connection with Dutch society (AlleCijfers, 2020) (New Heritage, 2020). The second theme are issues relates to use. The mid-rise building has poor building physics. The houses are 40 to 50 years old and do not meet contemporary living requirements. In addition, the apartments do not match the current habitants; they are often too large for the small households. The third, there is an unsafe feeling in the public space due to 'too few eyes on the street' and crimes in the neighbourhood are above national average. Because of the current flaws and the historical events in Hoptille, the location has a bad image, although this stigma is not well endorsed by residents. The bad reputation causes an unpleasant feeling by outsiders and causes stagnation of influx of the average Dutch population.

The municipality and the housing corporation Ymere intend to densify, because of the urgent need for housing. The risk of failure is high since the choice of living in Hoptille is negative due to its image.

Research question

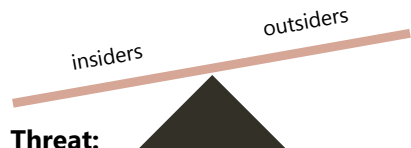
The problem statement results to the research question: What architectural intervention is needed to transform the current neighbourhood in such a way that both insiders and outsiders would enjoy living in Hoptille?

The design intervention focuses on two target groups; current residents and future residents. A balance must be found to satisfy both parties. Too small interventions won't change the image of the neighbourhood, too large interventions could cause the loss of identity and social disconnection of current residents to their neighbourhood. Segregation must be avoided because it will displace or create additional problems.



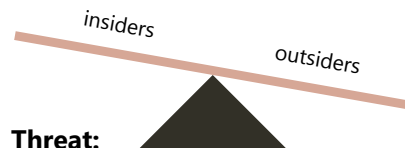
aim:

balancing the interests of stakeholders:
*preservation of identity &
 image enhancement*



Threat:

Too small interventions won't change
 the image of the neighborhood



Threat:

too large interventions causes the loss
 of identity and social disconnection of
 residents to their neighborhood

Figure 5. Balance of interests
 from author

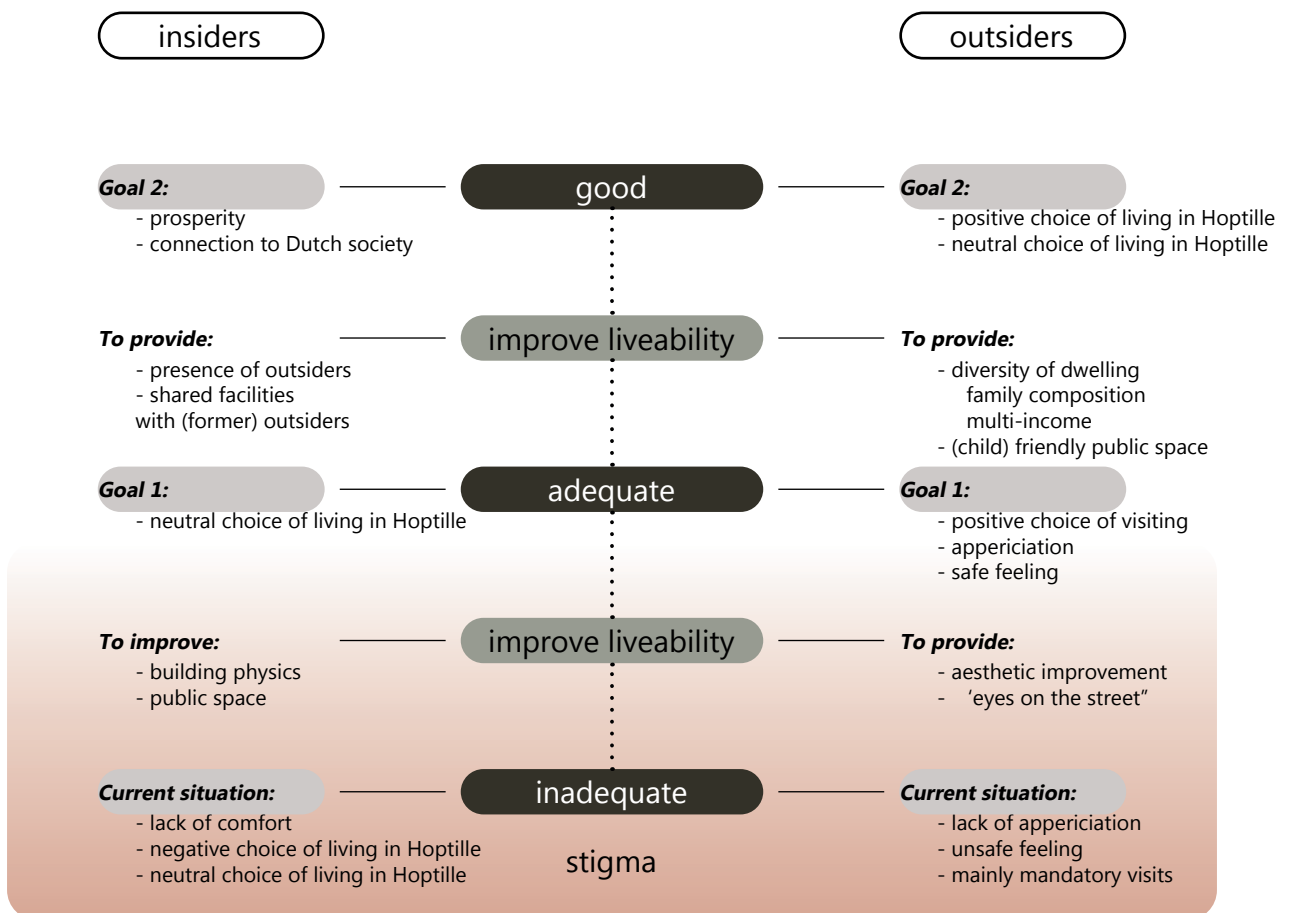


Figure 6. Objective
 from author

Objective

The assignment concerns 2 goals for the stakeholders current and new residents. The overall goal is eliminating the stigma, renewal of houses followed up by densification.

The goal for current residents is appreciation of their living environment with the ultimate goal of more prosperity and a better connection to the Dutch society. The goal for outsiders is to appreciate- and feel comfortable in Hoptille. The ultimate goal is such appreciation that living in Hoptille is a neutral to positive choice. This will lead to a more inclusive environment; more multi-cultural and multi-income.

The tool which will be used to achieve balance between preservation and image enhancement is to preserve, innovate and accentuate the architectural characteristics of Hoptille. This should result in recognition of current residents and appreciation of future residents. (see 'Research by design').

The large mid-rise building will be preserved because of its historical value – building type is a reaction to CIAM and an early design by Sjoerd Soeters -, environmental value; embodied energy and economic value, high costs. The single-family housing will be demolished to create space for densification. The characteristics of Hoptille will be incorporated in both the renovated mid-rise building and the buildings to be built. The new buildings will be approximately 5 floors high, in line with the philosophy of the mid-rise building.

Potential solutions to reach a charismatic inclusive environment:

Housing types:

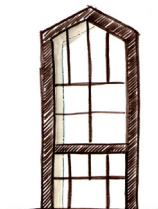
- Houses, which meet contemporary housing requirements.
- Availability of studios and starter-housing to use space more efficient, to broaden the range of homes which are more suited for current residents.
- Availability of luxurious houses to stimulate the inclusive environment, which will contribute to a better image as well. Multi-income: usually realised by building affordable housing, but in the H-Buurt the opposite – a higher segment of housing - is needed.

Urban:

- Hoptille will form a passage between Bijlmerplein and Heesterveld which will create liveliness.
- Implementation of a canal or pond to create a pleasant and image enhancing living environment.
- Perimeter blocks - with private green spaces - providing families a pleasant and safe living environment for their child(ren) .
- Private initiatives with own aesthetic identification to bond with location, done under supervision to preserve the identity of Hoptille at the same time.

Building:

- Modernize current iconic porches resulting in image enhancement, but also preservation of identity.
- Communal green spaces in mid-rise building to prevent a front or back . Secondly it provides semi-private greenery to each resident with opportunities for social cohesion.



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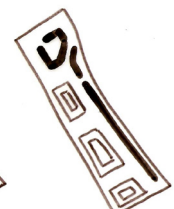
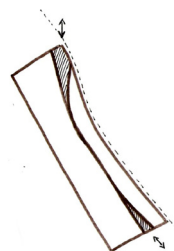


Figure 7. Potential solutions
from author

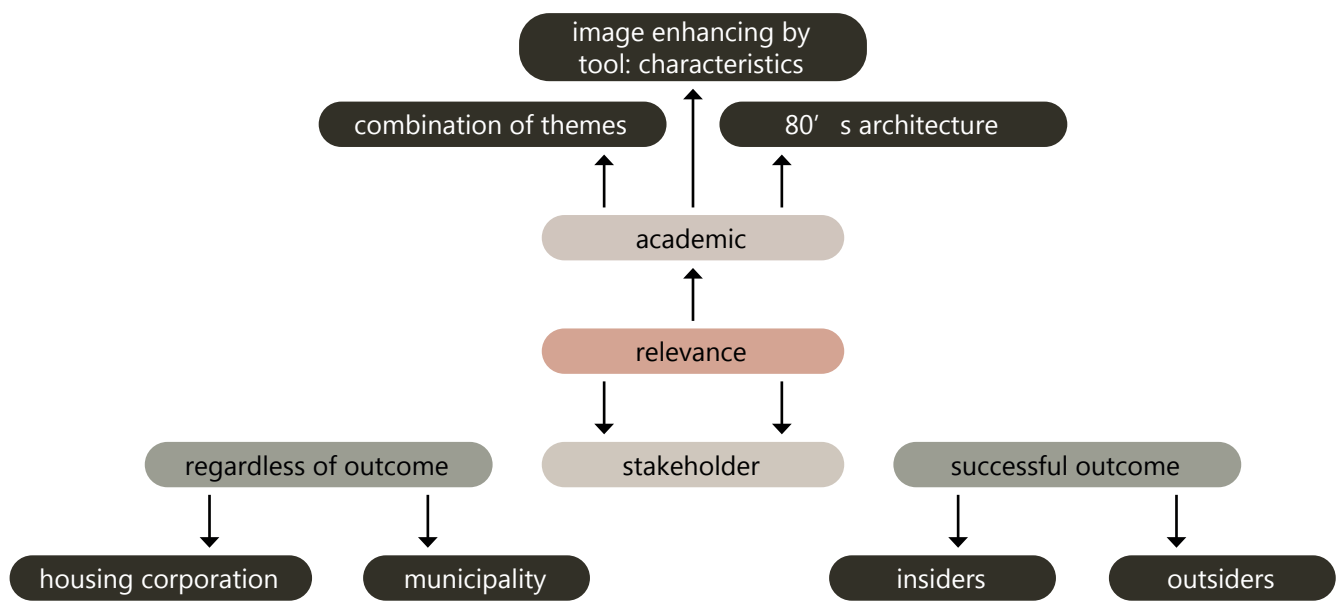


Figure 8. Relevance
from author

Relevance

Academic relevance

Current written literature addresses topics related to my project; e.g. preservation of architectural identity, liveability in public space and on building level, and densification. However, the combination of these topics has never been researched. Secondly the preservation of (architectural) identity has yet not been applied on post-modern architecture. This project focuses on the combination of these topical issues of 1980' s architecture making this project a contribution to the existing literature.

In addition to the academic relevance, this project has societal relevance because of the real and topical issues in the built environment. When demonstrated that the developed strategy and methods can be successful applied for improvement and avoid demolition of similar neighbourhoods its can be applied everywhere and its relevance will be nation-wide.

Relevance insiders

The project has relevance for the insiders because the liveability of their homes and public space will be improved. For this reason, the conclusions of their opinions, collected during the research phase will be taken into account extensively. After all, it concerns the area where they live and / or work; for many the H-Buurt is their home. They are the ones who predominantly determine the identity of the area and can tell best what is appreciated and what not. It is important to prevent detachment and /or gentrification while upgrading the neighbourhood for them.

Relevance outsiders

The second target group that has interest in the project are outsiders. It is inevitable that outsiders will visit the H-Buurt, therefore the challenge is to make it a pleasant and safe experience by the appreciation of the environment. The higher goal is such a form of appreciation that they visit the H-Buurt more often because of these qualities, which in the ultimate case can result in buying a house and becoming an insider. The appreciation of outsiders can reflect on the interests of insiders, this offers an increase in status in their living environment, which is currently stigmatized.

Relevance housing corporations

Housing corporation Ymere has the following interests: if successful, this project offers options for the renewal of Hoptille, which is just one of the locations in their portfolio. Probably more important, when the strategy and methods developed for this project can be successfully enrolled on similar locations. It offers Ymere (and other housing corporations) a tool to renew outdated neighbourhoods. Secondly, densification will expand their portfolio with more houses.

Relevance municipality

The relevance for the municipality (of Amsterdam) is based on the urgent need of housing and her limited space to build, this project responds to the challenge of densification. If it succeeds, it offers a broader perspective how to achieve this goal.

Frame of reference

Research towards the relevant themes – identity, liveability and image enhancement- of the locations Bijlmer / H-Buurt will be performed by 4 types of literature: Books, reports, articles and case studies. The acquired knowledge is and will be interpreted and applied to the project location, resulting in a literary and thus scientifically substantiated project. Frame of reference provides insight into the most important sources.

Lessons learned Bijlmermeer

F. Wassenaar, 2013,

Large housing estates: ideas, rise, fall and recovery - Bijlmermeer and beyond

Frank Wassenaar's thesis focuses on problems in large-scale residential areas, especially the Bijlmermeer. It describes the Bijlmermeer, how the ideal city has failed and how the area is improving over the last 20 years. This thesis offers 5 insights, based on case studies of other major problem areas that can be improved. These 5 points are: small scale interventions, make as much variety as possible, focus on residents with a positive attitude – "the believers" - , continue successful measures, provide outsiders a reason to come to the area.

This thesis serves as a guide for potential design strategies when designing an intervention for Hoptille. Secondly, this thesis has extra relevance because Hoptille is part of the Bijlmermeer and was studied as well; this information will be used as background information for this project. Thirdly, it focuses on both insiders and outsiders; which are the main stakeholders of this project.

Liveability & image enhancement

Two of the four phases in the 'design phase' are about the urban design of Hoptille.

J. Gehl, 2011,

Life between buildings (Chapter 1 & 3)

K. Lynch, 1960,

The Image of the City (page 46-59)

Both books focus on the urban scale, how to perceive the public space and its build environment. The books discuss the same subjects but different interpretation. The books offers tools how to design a pleasant and liveable public environment. The book should inform how architectural interventions produce the desired effect. It should be directly apply able on potential outcomes, for example; how to make Hoptille act as a passage between Bijlmerplein and Heesterveld and how to create a safe public space.

Frame of reference

Architectural identity

J. Tran, 2011,

Architectural Identity, meaning and history

The author is critical about the traditional thought that architecture has a static identity "... architectural identity as an immutable and historically stable entity" . It states that "identity is culturally, historically malleable and transformative in nature" . The article helps to formulate my own position on architectural identity. Its determination provides guidance on how interventions can be performed.

M.N. Rifaioğlu, N.S. Güçhan, 2007,

The concept of identity and its identification process in urban conservation projects

The concept of identity and its identification process in urban conservation projects
According to this source, authenticity, character and identity are essential in the conservation of cultural heritage. It offers a different approach on the definition of architecture which widens my own scope by not using only one source. Additionally, the document focuses on globalization, an irrelevant theme for my research.

N. U. Ademovic & E. Turkušić, 2013,

The role of Architectural discourse in preservation of cultural identity

The role of Architectural discourse in preservation of cultural identity

In this document the author explains which attempts were made to retain or reshape inherited modernization processes and to distinguish between Utopia and Pragmatism. Several examples are used, that show cause and effect which can provide insight during the 'research by design' and 'design' phase about the consequences of the design interventions.

Articles

Finally, the following articles have been used to serve as background information for the project location Hoptille.

F. Pinkster, M. Ferier, M. Hoekstra, 2019,

Sociale vraagstukken – Het hardnekkige stigma van de Bijlmer

E. Koster, 2020,

Hoptille Amsterdam en Gerdesiaweg Rotterdam door Kees Rijnboutt

H. van Dijk, 2020

Moet de wederopbouwarchitectuur tegen de vlakte? Niet doen, zegt deze architect

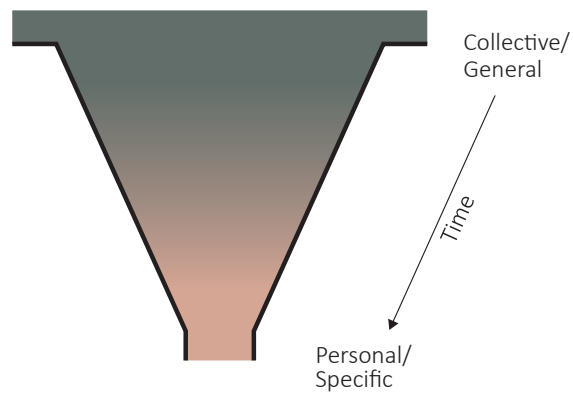


Figure 9. Collective vs. personal
from author - collective

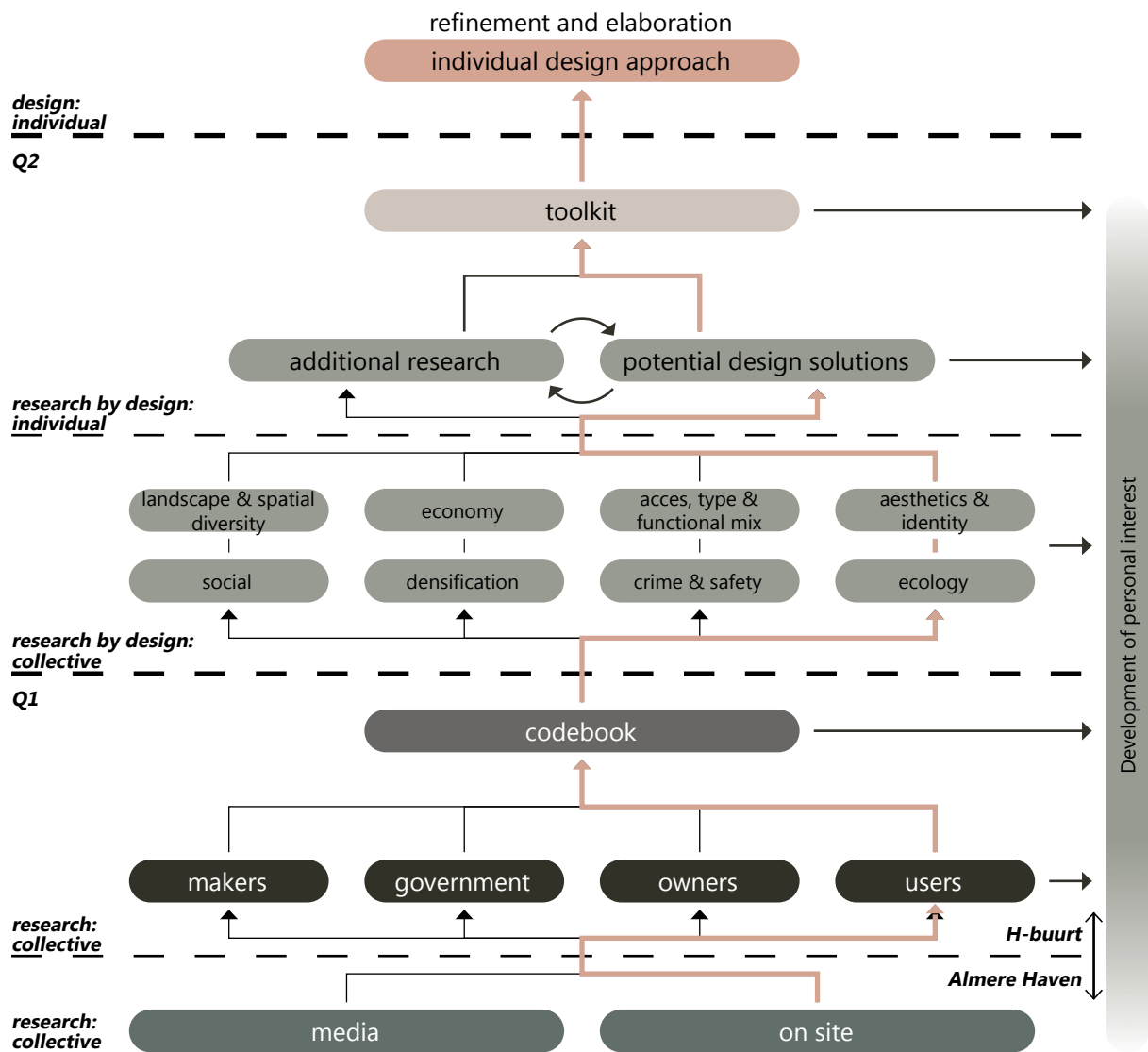


Figure 10. Method overview
from author - collective

Structure

The graduation project is divided into 3 different stages. At the moment the research plan will be finalized, the phases 'research' and the collective part of 'research by design' are completed, the second half of 'research by design' phase will be started followed by 'Design'.

Research phase

The first stage is a collective research on both Almere Haven and the H-Buurt; Almere Haven served as a pilot case to develop the right research methods, which was applied in the H-Buurt. The group of students was divided twice, with in both cases the personal focus on the perspectives of the users by the method of on-site interviews.

Research by design phase

The research on both locations resulted into my interest towards 'the stigma', which outsiders have. This was further explored and identified in a collective and individual phase both related to the theme 'Identity'. The used method were scenarios tested by impact assessment. The end product is a toolkit to be used during the design phase.

Design phase

During this phase the intervention will be elaborated on four scales:

- The urban scale, surroundings ($\approx 10\%$ of the work),
- The urban scale project site ($\approx 20\%$)
- A building ($\approx 30\%$)
- A fragment of the building ($\approx 20\%$)

Thereafter, a design intervention will be made on a different location – Almere Haven – by using the same design strategy ($\approx 20\%$). This shows whether the strategy is location specific or not.

Reporting phase

This last phase of the graduation studio can only be achieved when previous three phases are completed with a pass. Substantive design issues have to be answered in the previous phases. The last 6 weeks will be used for reflection, impressions will be made, and a presentation will be made which will be used during the defence of the graduation project.

End products

The result of the graduation project is a design project which solves the question: What architectural intervention is needed to transform the current neighbourhood in such a way that both insiders and outsiders would enjoy living in Hoptille?

It will include 4 final documents:

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| • Research plan: | Structure and methodology of the graduation project |
| • Research booklet: | Collective and individual research on the H-Buurt |
| • Design booklet: | Design intervention H-Buurt including the design strategies |
| • Presentation: | Defence of graduation project |

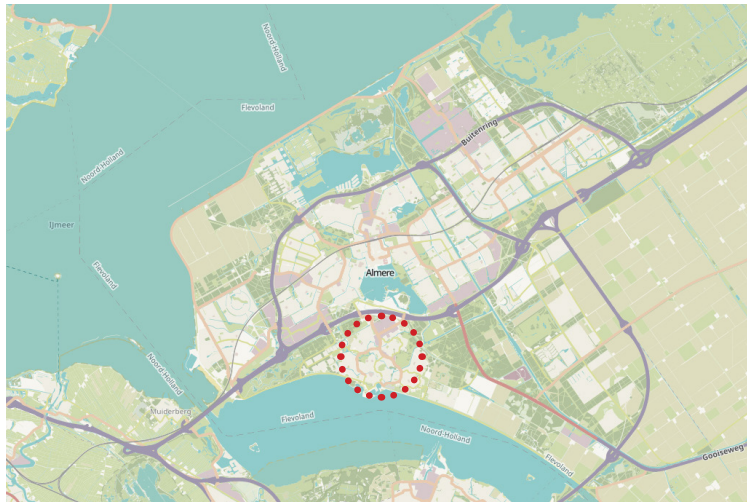


Figure 11. Map Almere: Almere-Haven
from www.openstreetmap.org

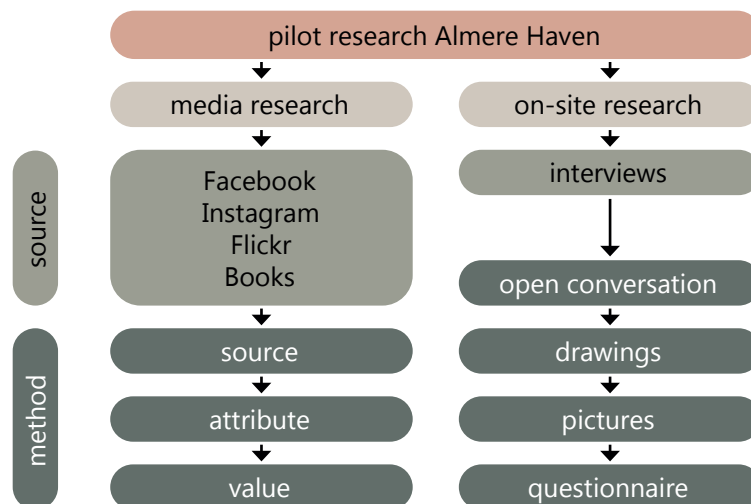


Figure 12. Method overview Almere-Haven
from author - collective



Figure 13. On-site interviews
from author

Methodology: research

Pilot case: Almere Haven, Almere

The research in Almere Haven is used as a pilot case before starting the research in the H Buurt. The goal was to test and adapt methods to collect experiences, memories, opinions and perceptions of residents to extract attributes and values of their neighbourhood. Variants of two approaches – i.e. media research and on-site interviews – were tested and compared. The structure for both approaches were similar; collecting raw data, analysis and interpretation of attributes and values, translation to graphs, maps and diagrams. After the pilot study, the applied methods were evaluated and the best methods were used in the research of the H Buurt.

The on-site group used four types of street interviews in the city centre of Almere Haven; open conversation, making drawings, response to a set of pictures and answering a questionnaire. The pilot phase in Almere Haven yielded 4 topics: First, becoming familiar with approaching strangers and conducting interviews; creating an own style. Secondly, practical matters such as documentation and collaboration during the interviews and post processing and analysing of data. Third, try out variations within the method to finetune them. Finally, evaluation of the applied methods to select best.

An overview of the specifics of the methods is shown below

	Textual	Visual
Open	Open conversation	Drawings
Specific	Questionnaire	Pictures

Executing all methods made it possible to formulate a clear opinion on the methods resulting in preferences to be apply in the H-Buurt. The personal preference are the picture method and the open conversation. The picture method because of the direct outcomes of attributes that exclude own interpretation. Open conversation because the dialogues resulted in a richness of unexpected information that may be relevant. This method also produces a lot of irrelevant data, for this reason this method was not applied in the H-Buurt.

Instead of the open conversation, the questionnaire was chosen resulting in the following complementary methods which both enables the comparison of data:

- Questionnaire, with an open approach
- Photo method - with a specific approach.

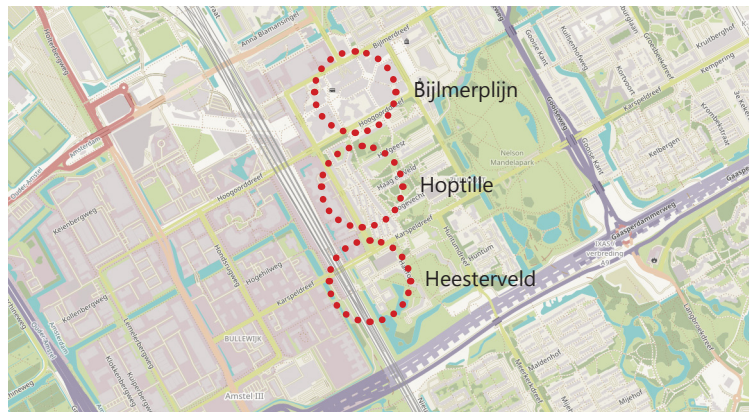
To match personal preferences the questions in the questionnaire were memorized and verbally presented.

The selected research methods tested in Almere created a frame of reference for the H-Buurt. Though, differences between the 2 sites may influenced the results of the selected methods:

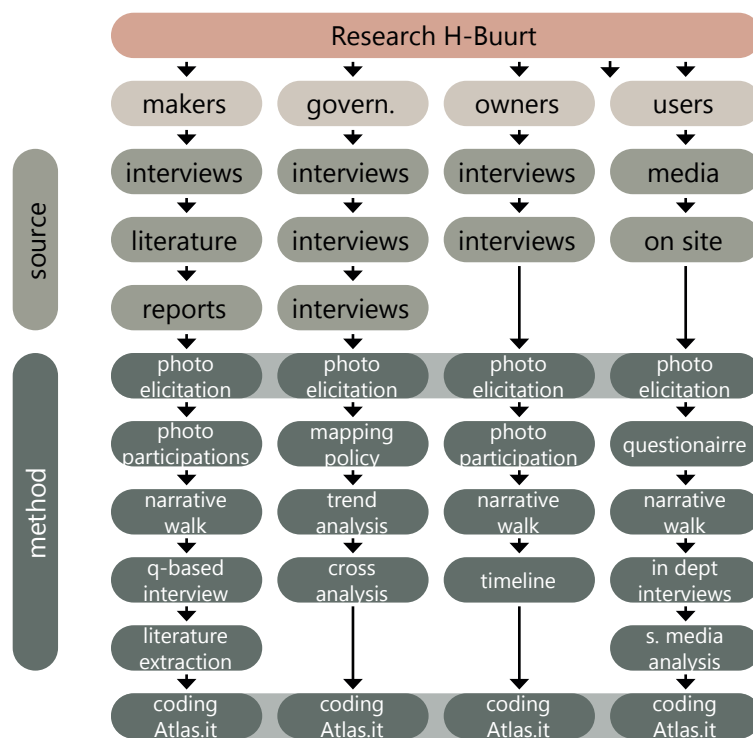
- There were more stakeholders involved, but also more time available.
- The users of H-Buurt may responded differently compared to the users of Almere-Haven.



Afbeelding 11. Map Amsterdam: H-buurt
image from www.openstreetmap.org



Afbeelding 12. Map H-buurt: Bijlmerplein, Hoptille, Heesterveld
image from www.openstreetmap.org



Afbeelding 13. Method overview H-buurt
image from author - collective

Methodology: research

Project site: H-Buurt, Amsterdam

The students were divided in four groups over the stakeholders - Insiders/Outsiders, Owners, Academics/Makers, and Government - to identify and understand attributes and values of each stakeholder, so these can be taken into consideration for future designs (Howard, 2003).

A collective strategy was developed to generate comparable results across all groups. The strategy followed a weekly schedule in which collective and individual methods were used suiting best to the specific stakeholder. In five weeks, the following topics were enrolled; exploration, photo elicitation (Harper, 2002), data analysis, in-depth knowledge gathering and finally comparison of the data sets of the stakeholders. The two collective methods are photo elicitation, a set of 7 photo shown to all interviewees along with a collective formulated question. Secondly data processing was standardized by the 4 groups using the program Atlas.ti. The specific methods per group are visualised in image ...

After the research of the four groups, the results of the stakeholders were compared by their differences and similarities. The elicitation of the collective set of photos resulted into 7 matrixes which included the opinions of all stakeholders. This enabled the comparison of their values and attributes. Secondly, a code book of the 14 most important topics in the H-Buurt was made, which summarized and concluded the opinions of each stakeholder.

During the interviews of users in Almere Haven, a remarkable contradiction in appreciation of the neighbourhood was demonstrated by the insiders versus the outsiders. This fascinating contrast got my interest and was something I wanted to investigate in the H-Buurt as well. For this reason further research was done on the stakeholder 'user'; people who live work or visit the H-Buurt, insiders and outsiders. The study in the H-Buurt concluded a similar contradiction; the insiders appreciated the neighbourhood, but the outsiders did not, although differently motivated. During the 'research by design' phase, this conclusion has been translated and specified into the topic: stigma of post-modern neighbourhoods.

2 of the 14 themes collected in the code book have direct relevance to the topic of the occurring stigma; cultural diversity and three distinctive identities. Both focus on the authenticity of the area, the first on social – intangible identity – the second on the built environment -tangible identity-. The choice for the theme in the next phase is based on these two identity related topics.



Figure 14. Codebook, 14 topics
from author - collective



Figure 15. Scenario: characteristics Amsterdam, identical copy
from author



Figure 16. Scenario: characteristics Amsterdam, hybrid
from author

Methodology: *research by design*

The research by design phase is the transition from research to design. The knowledge attained during the research phase was applied; scenarios – i.e. potential design interventions - were evaluated by means of an impact assessment (research). The research by design phase is divided into a collective and an individual sub-phase:

Collective

The 14 topics conducted during the research phase are covered by 8 themes:

- 1) Social,
- 2) Economy,
- 3) Ecology,
- 4) Aesthetics & identity,
- 5) Landscape (green) and special diversity,
- 6) Access, type & functional mix,
- 7) Densification,
- 8) Crime & safety.

The students were divided in four groups according to their personal interest.

The chosen topics were 'aesthetics & identity' and 'ecology' with a preference towards 'aesthetics & identity' as explained in the final paragraph of the previous chapter.

Several scenarios were designed relating to the 2 themes 'aesthetics & identity' and ecology or a combination of both and reduced to 1 scenario per person. The remaining scenarios were further elaborated by the following aspects: research (literature/case studies), a defined scenario, goal of the scenario and the scale of the scenario. This information was used to identify potential likelihood and consequences of interventions using the impact assessment (source), which can also be used to identify the best ways to go forward and to diminish the risks.

The elaborated scenario was 'extend the characteristics of Amsterdam'. This scenario was chosen to investigate whether copying a valued identity has a positive impact on a less appreciated neighbourhood and what are these consequences?

The study was, in line with the individual design assignment, carried out on the Hoptille location. The general expectation to make an identical copy of another identity would not work was confirmed by case studies and impact assessments. Main reasons were the loss of the current architectural identity, the irreversibility of it and the disproportionately high costs. A hybrid system in which some characteristics are adopted from the outside, in combination with the improvement and possibly enlargement of its own characteristics, on the other hand, worked well. This is because of the preservation of the current identity, lower costs and more reversible.

The goal of this phase was to get grip on themes and to explore options. The 3rd goal is to learn the principles behind an impact assessment as a group to apply the same method individually. This phase has resulted in the specification of the personal interest towards identity, with an accompanying design intervention by using the characteristics as a tool that is further explored in the individual part.

The individual part has the same structure and content, but more specific towards the formulated research question : designing an intervention for a more liveable and environment (for insiders) and more appreciation (by outsiders), while preserving the identity. The tool to improve, multiply and / or enlarge the characteristics of Hoptille is further investigated.

The goal of the individual research by design phase is to know what to achieve, what to design and how to design the intervention by setting a 0-point, a design approach and a toolkit. These 3 items are the end product and form a draft for the design intervention which will be presented during the P2 presentation.

The used method can be divided into 4 phases:

- 0 point- measurement of Hoptille: which can be used to demonstrate the impact of improvements retrospectively. This information is obtained from the research report.
- In-depth research to gain knowledge: This implies further research on the building scale: structure, circulation, housing typologies and materials, literature studies and case studies focusing on liveability and the preservation of architectural identity (see 'Frame of reference')
- Design interventions: designing several approaches to achieve the predetermined goals (see 'Objective')
- Impact assessment: identify challenges and evaluate scenarios quantitatively, this will objectify and therefore improve the selection of best options. The results of the impact assessment will be verified by the stakeholders.

Despite the fact that the design should benefit insiders, are there several ethical issues that can be detrimental to residents. The most important point is the demolition of the low-rise buildings, eliminating this housing type can lead residents to move. The alternative offers no / to a limited extent a private garden. Second, phasing is essential. Residents of the midrise building want to experience as little inconvenience as possible. Densifying can provide the solution for this. Finally, this densification can also questions: to what limit - number and type - can outsiders live in the area in which the current residents still feel comfortable, despite the preservation of the architectural identity.

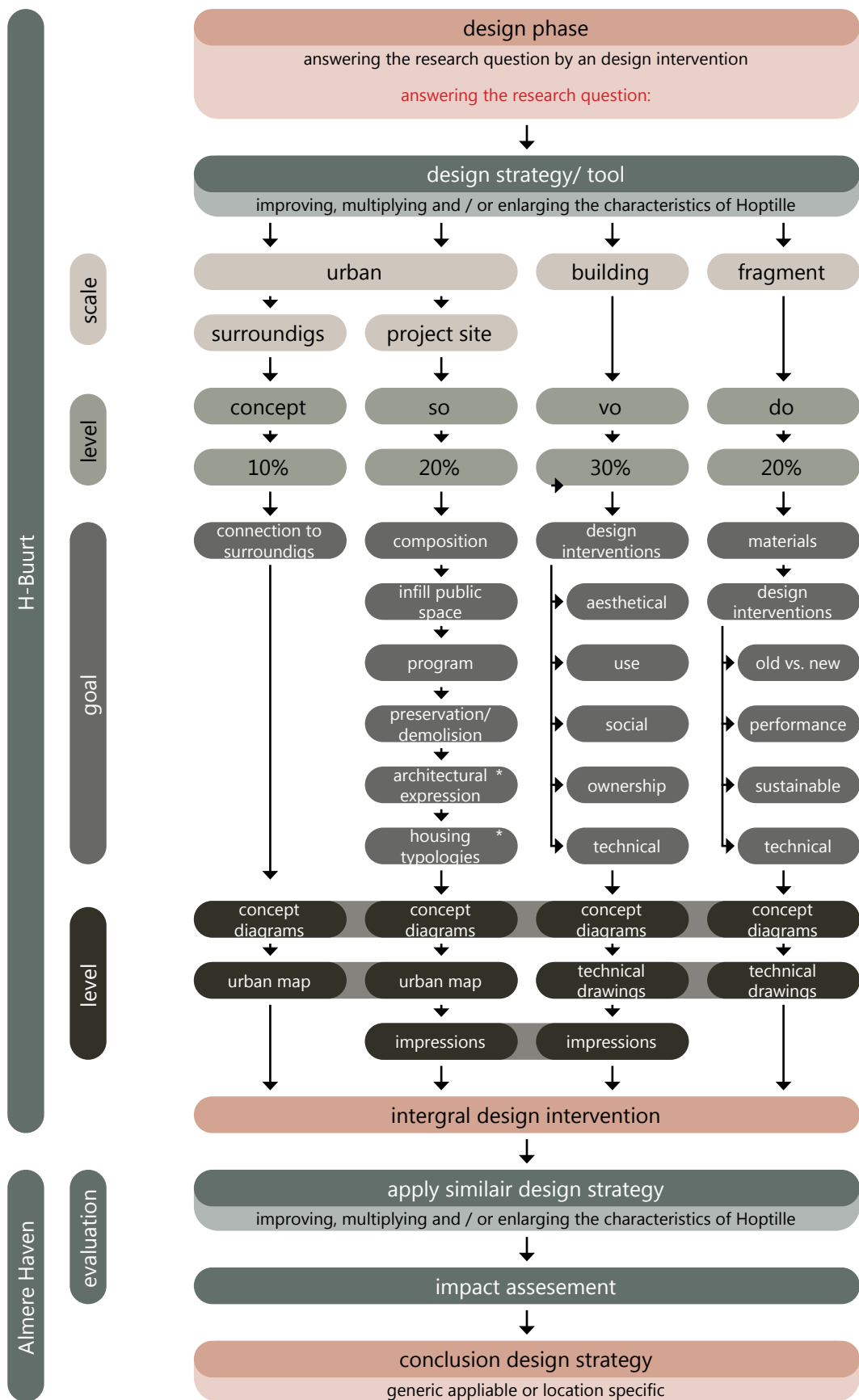


Figure 17. Structure design phase
from author

Methodology: *design*

The well divided end product of the research by design phase - consisting of a 0-point measurement, a design approach and a toolkit - form the structure of the design phase. This phase involves further elaboration meaning: combine the best results from the toolkit into a design, make these concepts fine-meshed and translate it into technical drawings. The design phase is divided into 4 sub-phases; each addressing a specific scale and will be concluded with an evaluation of the applied strategy and methods:
All sub-phases have their own end products, but are also interwoven resulting in an integral design. An estimation of the required effort is presented within brackets

1) Urban, surroundings ($\pm 10\%$ of the work)

The first two sub-phases will start simultaneously. They both focus on an urban approach where the surroundings focus on the larger scale and the project site on the smaller scale. The objective for the bigger scale is the relation between the project site and surrounding neighbourhoods; how do they relate to each other and how does the new intervention connect to them. The level of elaboration will be the most abstract of all sub-phases; principles. The end products of this stage are an urban map and concept diagrams.

2) Urban, project site ($\pm 20\%$)

The project site focuses on the smaller scale within the urban design. The objective is a determination whether all buildings will be preserved or whether buildings will be demolished and if so, which buildings? Potentially resulting in a (new) composition and interpretation of the public space and the program. This sub-phase should also yield an estimation towards the architectural expression and the housing typologies. This will be further developed in the sub-phase 'building'. The end products are an urban map, concept diagrams and impressions on a concept level.

3) Building ($\pm 30\%$)

In this sub-phase the focus will shift to the building level. A design will be made for one specific building or if the scale of the building is large and exists out of repetition a part of the building; e.g. "biker wall". The design will focus on preserve versus remove on several scales, distribution of functions, circulation, housing typologies, façade, structure and a sustainability concept. All topics will be visualised in diagrams and translated into the technical drawings: floorplans, elevations sections and structure, this will be done on a VO level.

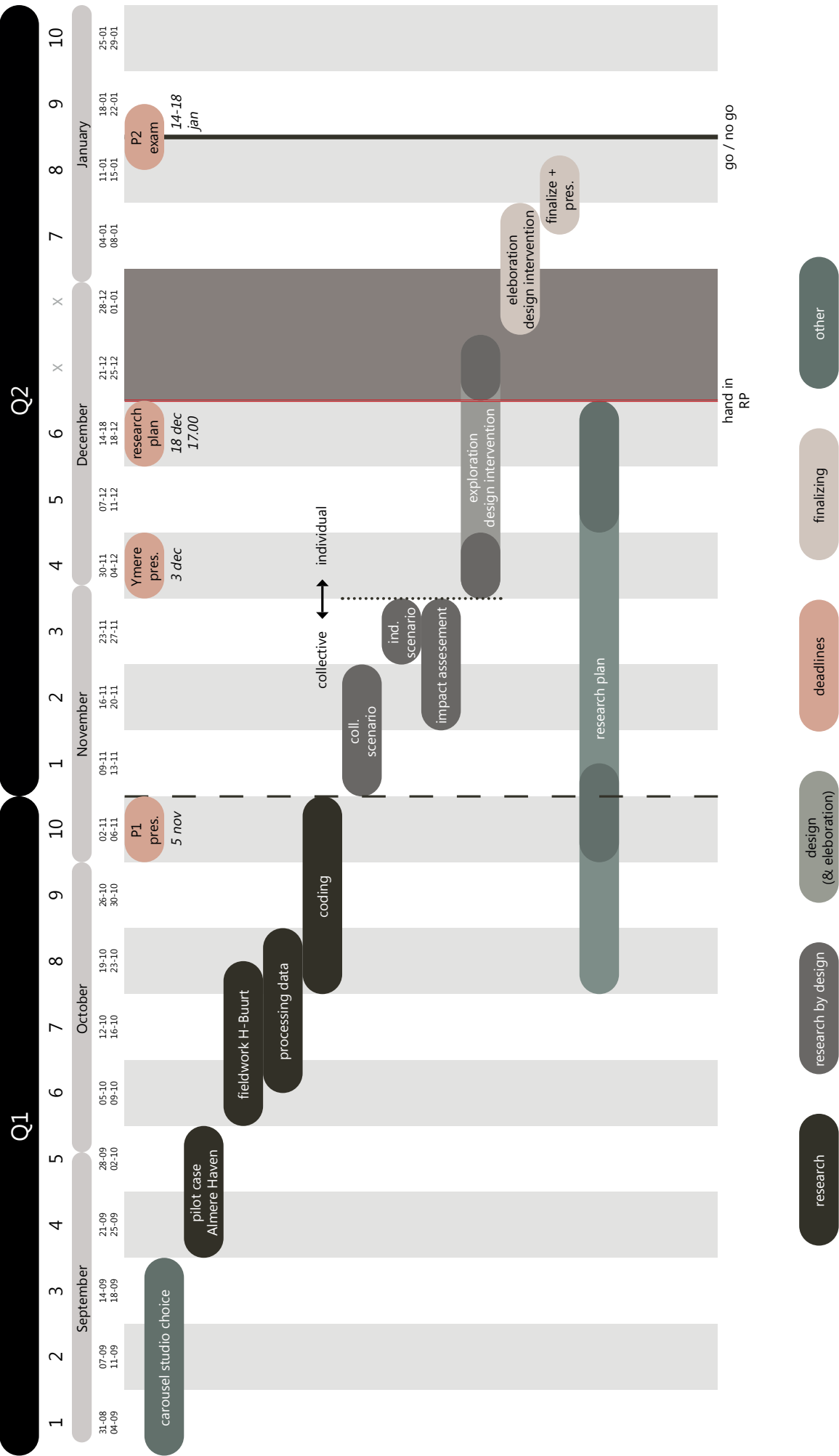
4) Fragment ($\pm 20\%$)

This part of design zooms in on a fragment of a building and deals with old versus new, sustainability, performance and technology the focus is therefore on the smallest scales: component, material and detail. This phase is the most technical and will be elaborated up to DO level by technical drawings.

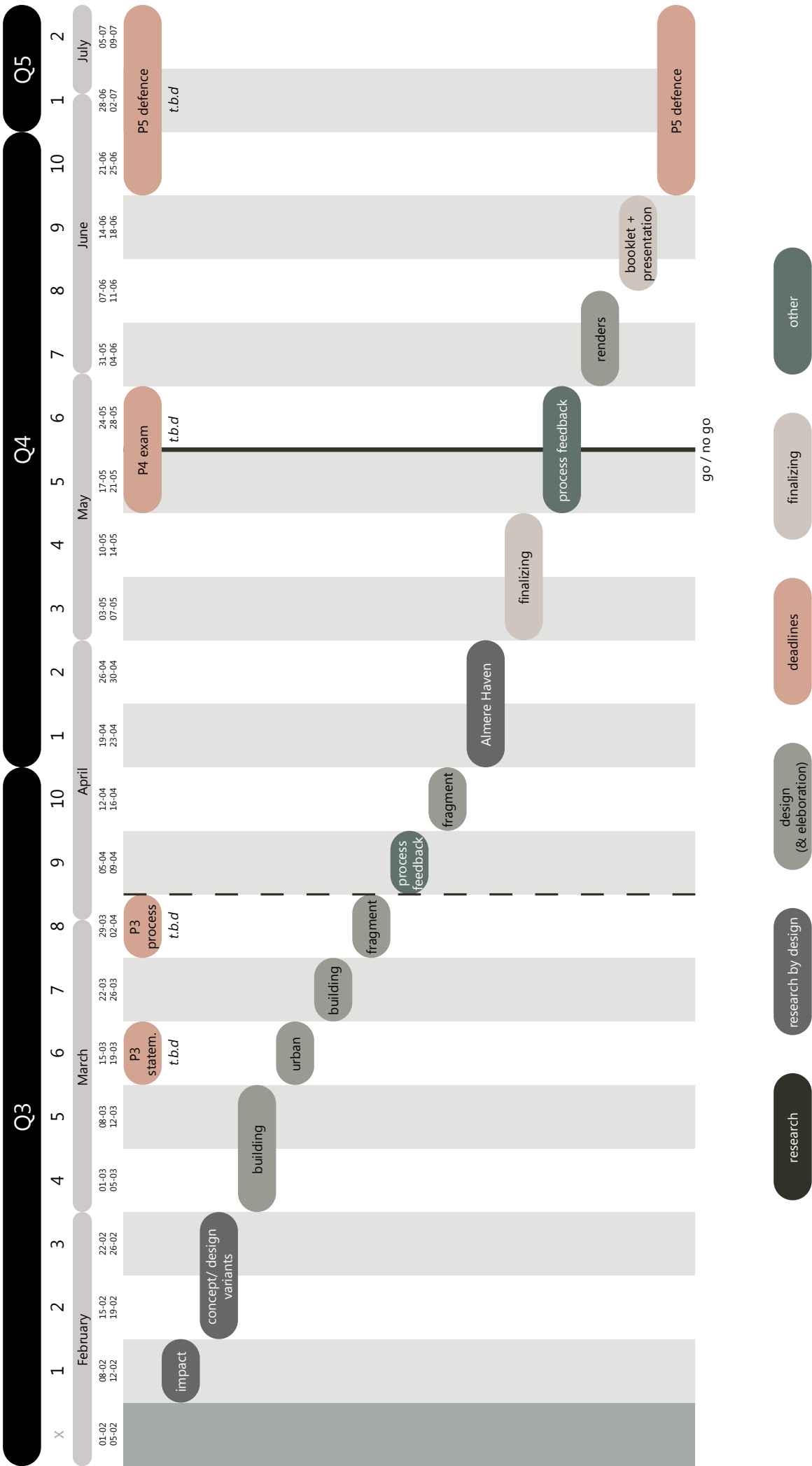
Evaluation ($\pm 20\%$)

To evaluate whether the approach of the design phase for Hoptille can be applied at other locations, a limited design will be executed by using the same methodology for Almere Haven. A 0 point will be set. A scenario will be developed and tested by an impact assessment verified by stakeholders. This will show whether the strategy is location-specific, and that rehearsal is not possible or whether the method offers a solution for other redevelopment projects. The case study Almere Haven is chosen because it concerns architecture from the same construction period - making it relevant for the stakeholder Ymere. Secondly, there is a lot of background information available, generated during the pilot at the start of this studio and by formal students of TU Delft, so that the design assignment can be carried out faster.

Planning: semester 1



Planning: semester 2



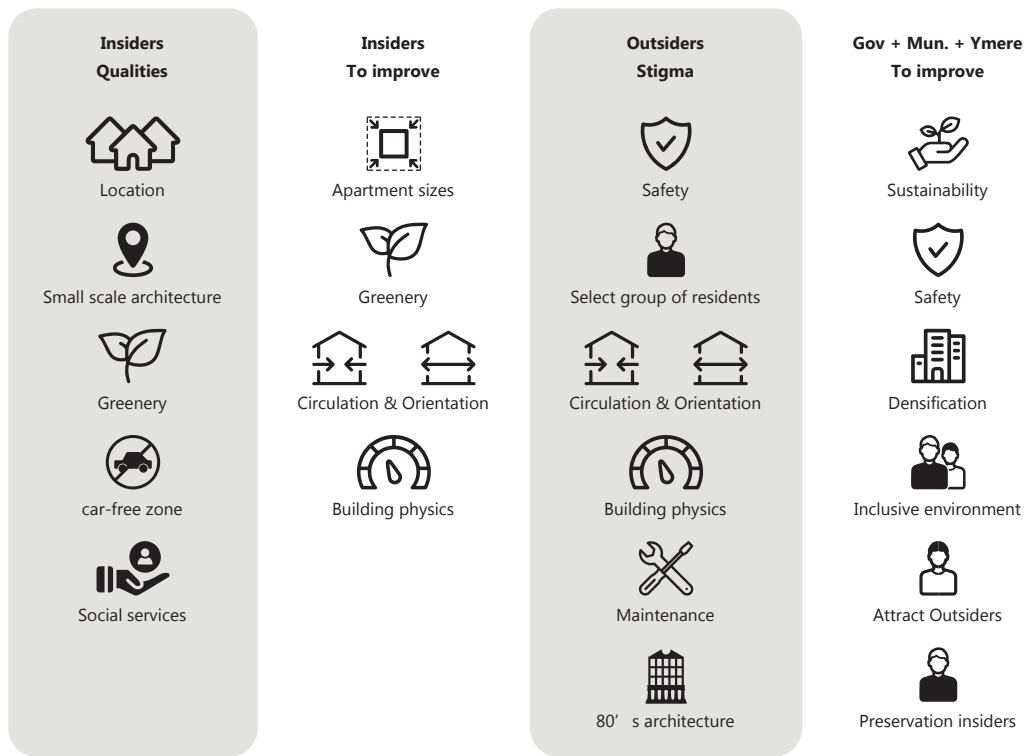
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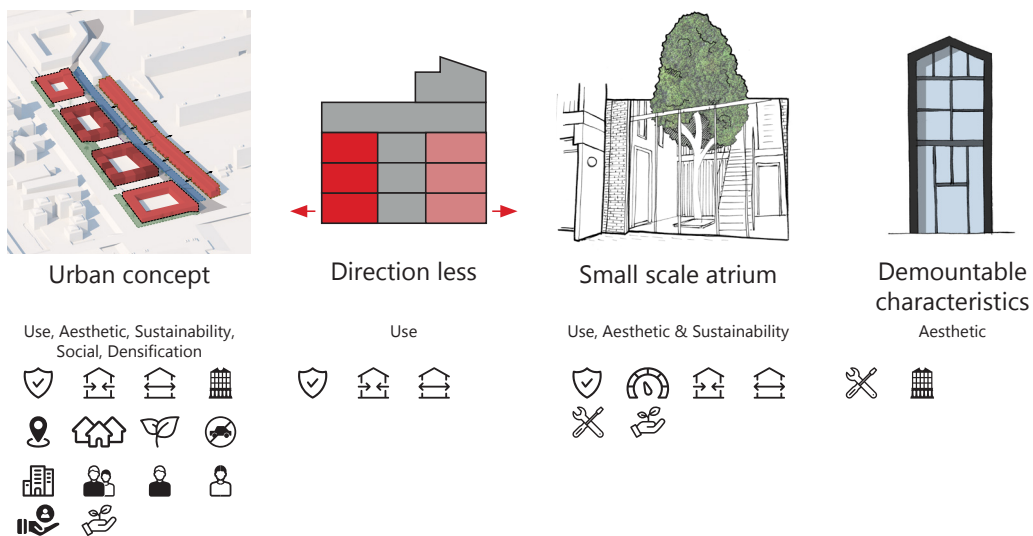
REFLECTION PAPER

Index Reflection paper

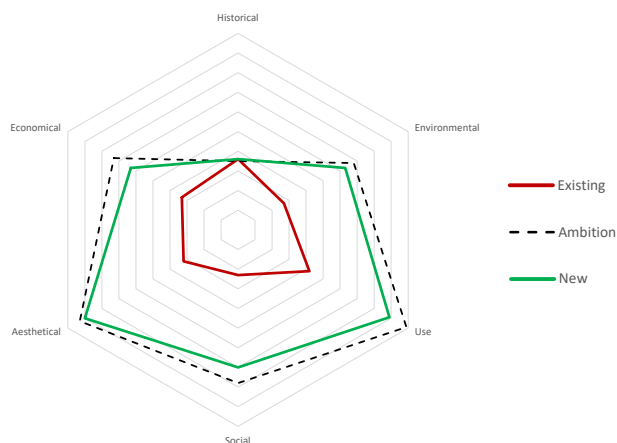
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stage 1: Conclusions



stage 2: Relation conclusions vs interventions



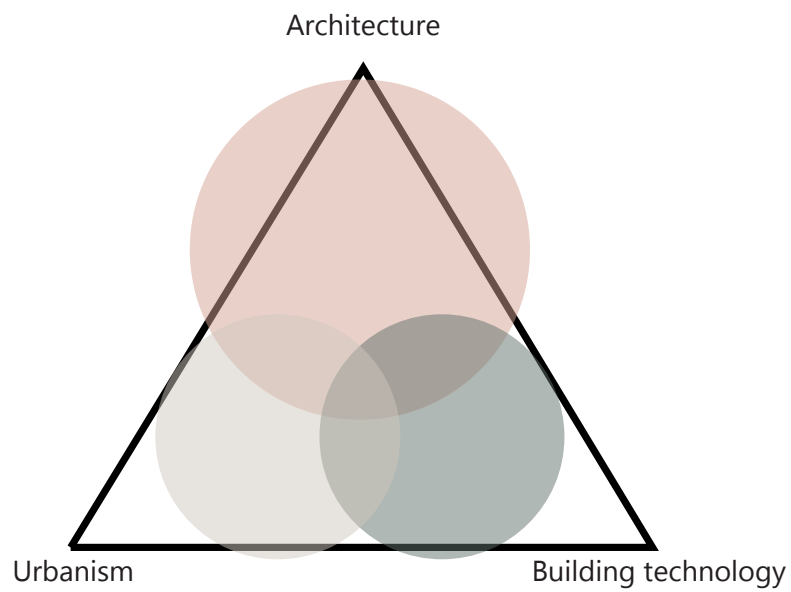
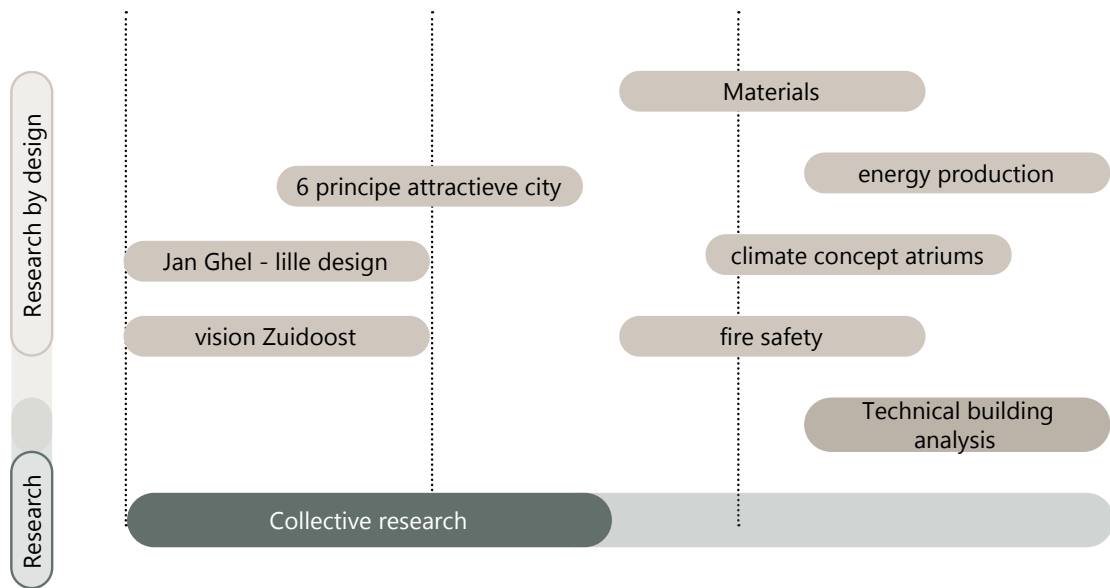
stage 3: Interventions vs values

1. Relationship research and design

The collective researched showed that Hoptille is facing a negative image. People tend to have a stigmatic image about the Bijlmer and residents from Amsterdam South-east who are known with Hoptille generally have a bad image of the area which was intended to be perceived as pleasant by responding on the CIAM principles. This topic got my attention because I recognize this stigma on the city where I was born and raised – Almere – also post-modern.

Conclusions were made during the exploration phase from research towards design - related to the themes use, social and historic – in combination with the ambition of 1 million homes, led to the problem statement; the ambition to densify while the location has neutral or negative choice of living. The research question formulated was specific and effective, and for this reason has remained relevant throughout the project. In a later stage towards the end of the second semester a retrospective was made to verify whether the conclusions of the research phase were complete and sufficiently refined. In combination with extra gained knowledge throughout the course; for example, 'masterplan Zuid Oost 2021-2040). This resulted into some small changes while the key-principles have not changed. For example, I took a more specific look what causes the stigma, instead of the general problem statement I had before.

The retrospective is threefold and was used to test whether the design matches the research question. First, an evaluation whether the conclusions and problem statement were still accurate, as described in the previous paragraph. Secondly the key-interventions were dissected – urban concept, directionless, small scale atriums, and demountable characteristics – and were compared with the qualities and improvements from the first step. I concluded that 13 of the 15 aspects were addressed in at least one of the 4 interventions. 2 Topics were not reduction of apartment sizes to make them fit the user better and the stigma caused by current residents. The first topic has been addressed in the design but cannot be dedicated specifically to one of the 4 key interventions. The second topic is more complex. The stigma is caused by 6 topics, 5 of them has been answered within the design: 3 direct -safety, circulation & orientation and building physics-, 2 indirect -maintenance and 80' s architecture -. Segregation must be prevented even though the current residents cause a stigma, otherwise the problem will move. To test whether the living environment has improved, an impact assessment has been done during the 3rd stage. The method of spider diagrams has been used in which the current valuation, the ambition and the predicted result of the design are integrated. These were tested by the 6 values; historical, environmental, use, social, aesthetical, and economical. The method was developed as a collective of 3 students and has been randomly peer reviewed by both colleague students. The conclusion from this impact assessment is that the project will not reduce in historic value, while the other 5 values improve significantly. Answering the challenges resulting in a more pleasant neighbourhood, in combination with providing more housing results in answering the research question. Towards the P5, my college students will peer review the design again & more in depth to test whether the predicted impact has been estimated correctly.



2. Relationship graduation project and Studio / Master track / Master programme

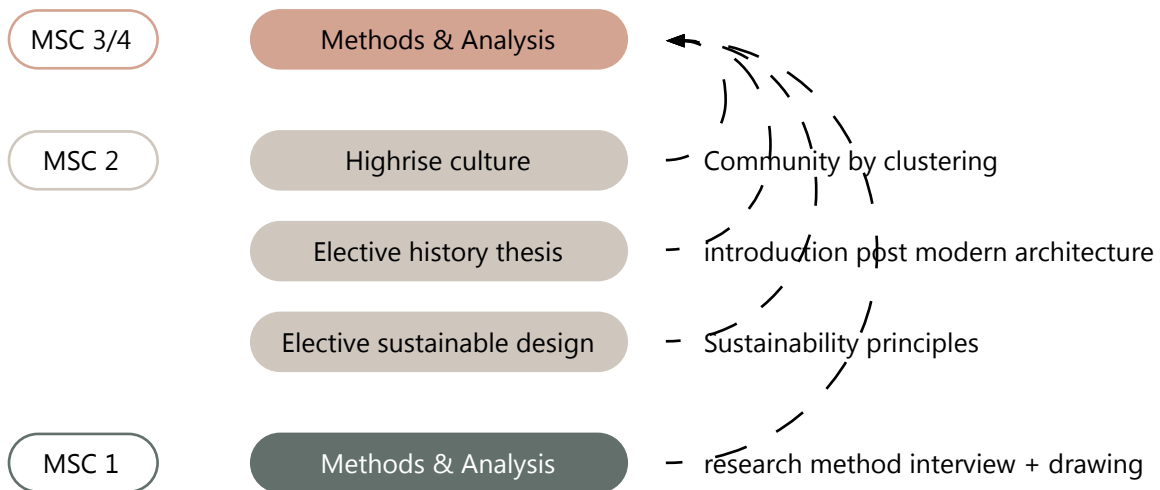
The formulated research question matches well with the studio topic. This because the stigma of Hoptille is partly caused by its post-modern architecture. The aim of the studio is to value architecture from this time period and propose how to deal with it. I must position myself on 'New Heritage' within my research question. In my opinion I was able to formulate a clear position which I fully support, instead of bias that it should be valued as Heritage because we participate in the 'New Heritage' studio. My position can be found in chapter 4

Stakeholder Ymere has been sceptical during the P1 whether the applied research method and its conclusions related well enough to our architectural challenges and thereby the study of Architecture. Nevertheless, the project has been developed into an architectural exercise.

The aim of this collective research, by interviewing different stakeholders, was to gather knowledge about the H-Buurt in relation to its build environment. In which the stakeholders would address both small practical- to large societal problems, but also the qualities of their neighbourhood. It resulted in mostly conclusions on a social and urban level. To fulfil a decent design proposal, additional research had to be done on a building level. As a smaller collective of 7 students a technical analysis was made about the building. Also, additional research has been on different scales, for example the vision for Amsterdam Zuid Oost, but also into climate design in atriums, fire safety, energy production and materials. This has resulted into a comprehensive analysis in both social and architectural fields and on urban, building and detail level.

Although the focus is on architecture, this functions within the triangle of urbanism and building technology. For example, the question on densification is answered on an urban scale, instead of the elaborated building level. Also, the Building technology consults which started during the P3 have helped to improve the project throughout the scales. For instance, on an urban level the 3 different routes and courtyards related to biodiversity. Change of circulation to atriums provided with a climate system, energy producing facades and the required technical performance of the building, thermal bridges, insulation, and acoustics.

By integrating both aspects, the assignment results in a building and context that not only undergoes an aesthetic and user improvement, but also has a construction-technical and environmental added value.



2. Relationship graduation project and Studio / Master track / Master programme

Lastly the studio matches well to the overall master track. The chosen studios are complementary to each other, a requirement which I was seeking for. The 'Methods and Analysis' studio did not have its focus on designing a building but was more about design and research strategies. The project 'Highrise Culture' concerned large-scale new construction, the 'Heritage' studio looks at the value of the existing environment for its integration of the future.

What is missing during this master track is that none of the projects had the design focus on a public building, each project focused on housing. This aspect is covered with my premaster, the design of a sport university/

Competences and principles learned in the previous studios can be found in the graduation project in different ways: In the research phase I introduced the research method of interviewing by drawing, used during the studio methods and analysis. The Highrise studio taught me the importance of compartmentalization in large buildings to increase social interaction. The history thesis during MSC2 introduced me to Post Modern architecture, in which my research focused on the original and current vision of Almere. And lastly the elective on sustainable design introduced new theories and principles.

3. Research method scientific framework

The applied method is the result of the conclusions from the research. The building volume, the façade, and its circulation type; corridor are the elements with most historic value. Since the circulation type has proven not to work in the past, and which has already changed by an earlier transformation, preservation of this principle would not be sufficient. Therefore the interior circulation & design will be changed drastically. On the other hand, the aim is to keep as much of the original volume and facade intact as possible. However, both elements require revision to resolve its challenges; volume better suited to its context and making the facade more sustainable. This method is known within heritage and has for example been used at the Justus van Effen Block.

Secondly an own developed strategy has been applied, which has been described in my research plan, preservation, accentuation, and innovation. This principle has been further developed throughout the design phase. The principle seems to work, however there are 2 side notes. First, I can conclude that a design needs more than only this method. It answers the historical, environmental, and esthetical values, but not social and use values. Realising a good-looking exterior is not the answer to the complex question of Hoptille. The theme circulation is not answered by this research question, which is a crucial intervention to make the project succeed.

Secondly it would be an addition to further investigate this method in the elaboration phase by testing different options. As well as in different projects, to validate that the conclusion formulated so far does indeed work.

4. Relationship graduation project and social / professional / scientific framework

The project 'Stigma to Charisma' responds on 3 topical discussions.

1. *How to deal with post-modern architecture*

As explained in chapter 2, this is the research theme of the studio 'New Heritage'. My project focussed on Hoptille answers this question after conducting a collective analysis answering the values and needs and research by design more specific to design interventions.

My position is that post-modern architecture has not had the change to be valued for its historic values by a wide audience. While a part of these buildings has the potential to be valued as heritage since they stand for a certain time period with their own ideologies and aesthetics. For this reason, preservation should be required. I am not arguing that every building should be preserved, because it also depends on other values and current needs. To be more specific, in my design the Hoptille the midrise building will be preserved while the lowrise will be demolished while they were both designed by Sjoerd Soeters in the same time period. The difference can be found in 2 aspects, first the midrise is more unique, makes a significant difference and is more illustrative for the time period. Secondly the current ambition of densification matches less well with the lowrise building.

2. *1 million homes:*

The Netherlands is facing a major housing shortage, the ambition is to have 1.000.000 additional homes built by 2030. The ambition of the municipality of Amsterdam is to build 30,000 to 39,000 homes in Amsterdam Southeast by 2030. To date, the district has 90,000 inhabitants, this will increase to 150,000, an increase of 167%. The goal I want to achieve with my project is densification in which I have set is to meet the densification in line with the ambitions of the municipality: 167%. With my project, however, I achieved a percentage of 175%, slightly above the stated ambition. Critically reflecting on the process, the number of 167% was formulated at a later stage when I deepened the ambitions of the Amsterdam municipality.

3. *Carbon neutral in 2050*

In the Paris agreement it has been established that the 191 participating countries want to be carbon neutral by 2050. The ambition is to design towards this goal. However, it is difficult to calculate whether I achieve this goal. Firstly, it depends on many variables, secondly, a large part of these variables cannot be calculated within my ability.

Information which is known is as follows: according to nibud.nl, an average household uses approximately 2,730 kWh of energy. This number depends on housing type, number of residents and the energy performance. The energy label of the Hoptille Midrise building is label C, which is the average label of the homes in the Netherlands, meaning 2,730 stays accurate, although it might be lower since it is an apartment which is 2 times more energy efficient than a detached house (cbs.nl).

The size of a few interventions cannot be calculated, but it - integration of atriums, cold heat storage, aquathermia and insulation to the current standard - RC value from 1.2 1.4 and 2.0 to 3.7 4.7 and 6.3 - will reduce the building's energy requirement and improve the energy label.

4. Relationship graduation project and social / professional / scientific framework

Some interventions can be calculated. With the integration of solar panels on both the roof and the facade and by using phase-changing materials in the facade, an estimated 60% of the building's energy needs will be produced. The combination of these factors will result in a very low energy requirement, but possibly not energy neutral.

The answer to this can be found in the combination of lifespan and innovations. The lifespan of solar panels is 25 years. Replacing these systems for more efficient products in the future at the end of their life cycle offers perspective in a 0-carbon building, or even energy producing building.

5. Ethical issues & Dilemmas

During the research phase I encountered several ethical issues.

The first is to get an objective picture of the location. Outsiders tend to give a lot of information, which includes partly falsehoods. Insiders, on the other hand, will not share everything. This results in a disproportionate and sometimes incorrect picture of the location.

Secondly, not all questions can be asked. In some cases, it is possible to discuss sensitive topics, but rarely in dept. This might result in missing answers and underlaying bigger issues which are not noticed. As a result, the conclusions from the research could be incorrect.

Even though it is not direct information from the residents, the 'Buurtwerkkamer' and 'Hoptillehuis' where a useful addition better understand the area, as well as the other 3 stakeholders.

Ethical questions have also arisen during the design phase. For example, how to deal with the current residents. As the research concluded, the current residents are one of the reasons causing the current stigma. Relocating the problem is not the solution since the problem will be moved and not solved. How can this be interpreted in a neighbourhood without stigma? How do I attract new residents but keep the current residents? Will it be a division within the neighbourhood or is mixing possible?

By demolishing the low-rise building and completely redesigning the midrise, current residents will be assigned a temporary or new home. Sometimes not with the conveniences they had before, like the single-family housing. Nevertheless, the new design offers some qualities that these well-appreciated homes had, such as private gardens will still be available in the courtyards. For the other homes, the combination of densification and phasing offers the solution to allow residents to experience as few problems as possible during this major transformation of the area.

6. Improvements & given feedback

Looking back on the entire course of the design process, I am, as described, content with the connection between research and design, my position regarding to new heritage, the applied strategy and the retrospective which shows the design answers the research question.

However, I do not want to give the impression that everything went perfectly. During the second semester I had difficulties with concentrating and staying motivated. I do not recognize myself in this, because I am always aiming for the best result in which I am prepared to make the necessary effort. This has led to for example less explorations and less refinement which I used to have in other projects. Or at least the feeling that I did not come to the 'perfect' design. The reason for this is the corona pandemic. I recognise that the situation has had a lot of impact over the past year. Little variation in the days, few positive distractions, while experiencing pressure in succeeding my graduation project had an oppressive effect of increasing stress decreasing my performance

Subsequently I would also like to address that I am very pleased with the guidance during the graduation process, both in terms of professional and personal level. The supervisors who did their utmost to make graduating as pleasant as possible.

During both semesters I got support when I had issues related to for example the corona pandemic, The referral from Lidwine Spoormans to the study supervisor during the first semester, as well as the weekly motivational words from Nicholas Clarke during the second semester.

Study related, I experienced pleasant guidance from Lidwine Spoormans, Nicholas Clarke and Ger Warries, each in their own field of expertise. The weekly constructive feedback concerned the correct critical note needed to evaluate the strategy / interventions.

The feedback has been used in various ways. Sometimes affirmative, for example the demolition of the lowrise buildings. Regularly the feedback gave a good reason to take a critical look at one's own work and sometimes took time to take a clear position according to the given feedback, for example the concept of demountable characteristics in combination with low carbon materials.

There has been a large variety of feedback given; reference projects – transformation Jobsveem -, thoughts, principles, methods and even a lecture. The Lecture by Andy van den Dobbelsteen on 'The sustainable transition of heritage cities' where a welcome addition, which emerged from the feedback. A good example which had a confirmatory- and inspiring effect, but at the same time it helped me to formulate my own position within heritage.

Feedback was applied by both documenting, for example the valuation of the characteristics of Hoptille. Or inspiration without further documentation. It was not always possible to apply the feedback because it did not match the prioritization within the project.

GRADUATION PLAN

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	Marchinus Cornelis Louwerens	
Student number	4754816	
Studio		
Name / Theme	AR3AH105 Adapting 20 th Century Heritage New Heritage	
Main mentor	Mr. N.J. Clarke MPhil	Heritage & Design
Second mentor	Ir. L.G.K. Spoormans	Heritage & Design
Argumentation of choice of the studio	<p>To Broaden my current knowledge on architecture related to existing buildings. During my studies I have executed projects regarding different scales, contexts and functions, however most projects focused on designing new buildings.</p> <p>This graduation project offers the opportunity to add heritage as another perspective on Architecture to make me a more fledged architect. The different perspectives are valuable in the work field as it increases an open mind resulting in many possible design solutions.</p>	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project Subtitle	Hoptille: From stigma to charisma Image enhancing transformation of postmodern architecture while retaining its identity
Goal	
Location	<p>The design intervention focuses on Hoptille (1982) a neighborhood in the H-Buurt (1976). The H-Buurt is part of the extension of the Bijlmer located in the southeast of Amsterdam.</p> <p>Hoptille is designed by Kees Rijnboutt and Sjoerd Soeters. The site of 6 hectares consists of a midrise apartment block of 300 meters long, back to back single-family housing and 2 parking garages.</p>
The posed problem	<p>Hoptille is facing several problems related to three themes: social, use and history.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The houses are 40 to 50 years old and do not meet contemporary living requirements. In addition, the apartments do not match the current habitants; they are often too large for the small households. - The social problems relate to the current residents living in Hoptille. The residents are a select group of people, who differ in many ways from the average Dutch population – poverty, criminal records, supervision and ethnic background-. There is an insufficient connection with Dutch society caused by the ethnic background, according to a social worker of the 'Buurtwerkkamer'. The above points result in the perception of an unsafe neighborhood by outsiders - Historic events; the Hopi boys, a criminal youth group who lived in Hoptille. <p>The municipality and housing corporation Ymere intend to densify, because of the urgent need for housing. The risk of failure is high since the</p>

	choice of living in Hoptille is negative and neutral due to its image.
<p>Main research question</p> <p>Sub-research questions</p>	<p>Based on the research ambition that it is important to understand the old to make the new is essential to make a successful new design</p> <p>What architectural intervention is needed to transform the current neighborhood in such a way that both residents, future insiders and outsiders would enjoy living in Hoptille?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the values and attributes of Hoptille? - What are the tangible and intangible characteristics of Hoptille? - How can improvement of appearance to attract future residents be achieved while preserving its identity? - How can densification be achieved while preserving the identity? - How to design housing matching to different target groups creating an inclusive environment? - How to renovate the existing buildings to the current standards? - How can the current renovation form a sustainable basis for renovations in the future?
Design assignment in which this result.	<p>The assignment concerns 2 goals for the current insiders, future insiders and outsiders. The overall goal is renewal of houses and densification by construction of new typologies of houses to attract new residents what will help to eliminate current stigma.</p> <p>The goal for current residents is appreciation of their living environment with the ultimate goal of more prosperity and a better connection to the Dutch society. The goal for outsiders is to appreciate- and feel comfortable in Hoptille. The ultimate goal is such appreciation that living in Hoptille is a neutral to positive choice, meaning</p>

	<p>outsiders becoming insiders. This will lead to a more inclusive environment; multi-cultural, multi-income and multi-household</p> <p>The tool which will be used to achieve balance between preservation and image enhancement is to preserve, innovate and accentuate the architectural characteristics of Hoptille. This should result in recognition of current residents and appreciation of future residents.</p> <p>The large mid-rise building will be preserved because of its historical value – building type is a reaction to CIAM and an early design by Sjoerd Soeters -, environmental value; embodied energy and economic value, high costs. The parking garages will be partly reused, also for the environmental and economic values. The single-family housing will be demolished to create space for densification. The characteristics of Hoptille will be incorporated in both the renovated mid-rise building and the buildings to be built. The new buildings will be approximately 4 floors high, in line with the philosophy of small-scale architecture.</p>
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Process

Method description

The graduation project is divided into 3 phases, each with their specific goal(s). The research phase was used to develop a methodology, perform an analysis and specify the problem statement. Research by design to formulate an objective and a concept. The design phase results in an elaborated design intervention.

Research phase, stage 1: collective research Almere Haven

Almere Haven served as a pilot case to develop the right research methods, which was applied in the H-Buurt. The researched methods I have been studying relate to the on-site interviews; open conversation, questionnaire, drawing and pictures. The second group focused on media research; Facebook, Instagram, Flickr and books.

Research phase, stage 2: collective research H-Buurt

Analysis was done on 4 stakeholders - Insiders/Outsiders, Owners, Academics/Makers, and Government - to identify and understand attributes and values of each stakeholder, so these can be taken into consideration for future designs. A collective strategy was developed to generate comparable results across all groups - exploration, photo elicitation (Harper, 2002), data analysis with the software Atlas.it, in-depth knowledge gathering and finally comparison of the data sets of the stakeholders. The personal focus was the stakeholder 'user'.

Research by design phase, stage 1: collective, theme Identity

The research on both locations resulted into my interest towards 'the stigma', for this reason the theme Identity was further explored. The used method were potential scenarios tested by impact assessment. The developed scenario was: 'extend the characteristics of Amsterdam'.

Research by design phase, stage 2: individual, stigma & densification

With the acquired knowledge, a start has been made with a concept for the design intervention. During the design, additional research was done at building level and the designs were tested for use, safety, light sun etc.

Design phase:

During this phase the intervention will be elaborated on four scales: Urban scale, surroundings ($\approx 10\%$ of the work), urban scale project site ($\approx 20\%$) building scale ($\approx 30\%$) and a fragment of the building ($\approx 20\%$)

Thereafter, a design intervention will be made on a different location – Almere Haven – by using the same design strategy ($\approx 20\%$). This shows whether the strategy is location specific or not.

Literature and general practical preference

Lessons learned Bijlmermeer

F. Wassenaar, 2013,

Large housing estates: ideas, rise, fall and recovery - Bijlmermeer and beyond

Frank Wassenaar's thesis focuses on problems in large-scale residential areas, especially the Bijlmermeer. It describes the Bijlmermeer, how the ideal city has failed and how the area is improving over the last 20 years. This thesis offers 5 insights, based on case studies of other major problem areas that can be improved. These 5 points are: small scale interventions, make as much variety as possible, focus on residents with a positive attitude – "the believers" -, continue successful measures, provide outsiders a reason to come to the area.

This thesis serves as a guide for potential design strategies when designing an intervention for Hoptille. Secondly, this thesis has extra relevance because Hoptille is part of the Bijlmermeer and was studied as well; this information will be used as background information for this project. Thirdly, it focuses on both insiders and outsiders; which are the main stakeholders of this project.

Liveability & image enhancement

Two of the four phases in the 'design phase' are about the urban design of Hoptille.

J. Gehl, 2011,

Life between buildings (Chapter 1 & 3)

K. Lynch, 1960,

The Image of the City (page 46-59)

Both books focus on the urban scale, how to perceive the public space and its build environment. The books discuss the same subjects but different interpretation.

The books offer tools how to design a pleasant and liveable public environment. The book should inform how architectural interventions produce the desired effect. It could be directly applied on potential outcomes, for example; how to make Hoptille act as a passage between Bijlmerplein and Heesterveld and how to create a safe public space.

Architectural identity

*J. Tran, 2011,
Architectural Identity, meaning and history*

The author is critical about the traditional thought that architecture has a static identity "... architectural identity as an immutable and historically stable entity". It states that "identity is culturally, historically malleable and transformative in nature". The article helps to formulate my own position on architectural identity. Its determination provides guidance on how interventions can be performed.

*M.N. Rifaioğlu, N.S. Güçhan, 2007,
The concept of identity and its identification process in urban conservation projects*

According to this source; authenticity, character and identity are essential in the conservation of cultural heritage. It offers a different approach on the definition of architecture which widens my own scope by not using only one source. Additionally, the document focuses on globalization, an irrelevant theme for my research.

*N. U. Ademovic & E. Turkušić, 2013,
The role of Architectural discourse in preservation of cultural identity*

The author explains which attempts were made to retain or reshape inherited modernization processes and distinguish between Utopia and Pragmatism. Examples are used showing cause and effect which can provide insight during the 'research by design' and 'design' phase about the consequences of the design interventions.

Articles + case studies

Articles serving as background information

*F. Pinkster, M. Ferier, M. Hoekstra, 2019,
Sociale vraagstukken – Het hardnekkige stigma van de Bijlmer*

*E. Koster, 2020,
Hoptille Amsterdam en Gerdesiaweg Rotterdam door Kees Rijnboutt*

*H. van Dijk, 2020
Moet de wederopbouwarchitectuur tegen de vlakte? Niet doen, zegt deze architect*

Case studies used during the research by design phase on the scenario 'extend the characteristics of Amsterdam'

*Almere Haven (1976), Rijksdienst van IJsselmeerpolders (RIJP)
Zaandam, city centre (2010), a.o. Wilfried van Winden
1 City, 9 towns; Holland village – Shanghai China (2001), -*

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 of graduation project with the master program is clearly present, because the design focuses on the 3 scales -urban/context, building and fragment - cited within the master program. This should result into an integral design approach.

The project matches with the master track 'Architecture' because the emphasis is on the elaboration of the design principles at the building level. Improving the liveability of housing is insufficient to enhancement of the image of Hoptille. Intervention at a larger scale e.g. in the public space are also required to attract outsiders to realise a successful densification.

The graduation project relates well to the studio topic because it assesses the value of the existing (1980's) buildings by their attributes. Secondly the research method commissioned by the studio - interviewing users - has been applied. The conclusions of this research phase form the basis for the concept of my graduation project.

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

Scientific relevance

Current literature addresses topics related to my project; e.g. preservation of architectural identity, livability in public space and on building level, and densification. Secondly, hardly any research has been done on postmodern architecture in the Netherlands.

The ambition of this graduation project is to balance improvement – appreciation, densification and sustainability – on postmodern architecture while retaining its identity. This will be done by the tool of preservation, accentuation of the architectural characteristics and innovation. The combination of this goal and means have not previously been researched. Secondly this project discusses the values on postmodern architecture in the Netherlands.

Professional relevance

Housing corporation Ymere has the following interests: if successful, this project offers options for the renewal of Hoptille, which is just one of the locations in their portfolio. Probably more important, when the strategy and methods developed for this project can be successfully enrolled on similar locations. It offers Ymere (and other housing corporations) a tool to renew and densify outdated neighbourhoods.

Thirdly, densification will expand their portfolio with more houses.

The relevance for the municipality (of Amsterdam) is based on the urgent need of housing and her limited space to build, this project responds to the challenge of densification. If it succeeds, it offers a broader perspective how to achieve this goal.

Social relevance

The relevance for insiders is an improvement of the liveability, both an improvement of their homes as of the public space.

The second target group that has interest in the project are outsiders. This project should offer appreciation - pleasant and safe experience - leading to densification. The appreciation of outsiders can reflect on the interests of insiders, this offers an increase in status in their living environment, which is currently stigmatized.

All 4 target groups of both who have professional or social interest in this graduation project – insiders, outsiders, housing corporation & municipality - act as stakeholders in the research phase of this graduation project.

