## Substantiate Structuralism

Sketch Booklet - North Cluster Michelle Bettman



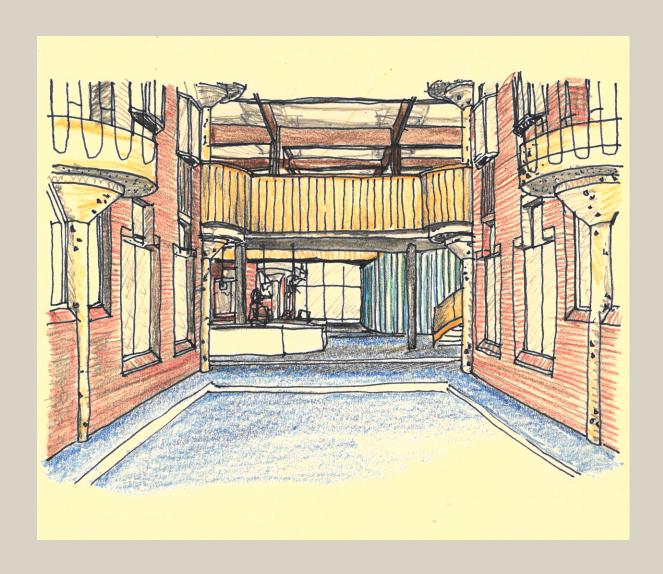


Approach view to the new main entrance along Wittesingel street.

New rain cover pergola and new skin to the building structure. Skin is composed of open glazed curtain wall and closed natural stone cladded, timber frame sandwich panel wall.



Approach view to the faculty from the bridge over the Wittesingel canal



Approach view to the covered courtyard by moving through covered alleyway. Old brick skin and concrete structure composition are preserved. New floor is concrete screed with old floor pattern reflected in new screed.



Front door from courtyard removed to make a more spatious entrance and to express concrete mushroom column



Original timber staircase preserved within each faculty house. New concrete floor screed to reflect old brick pattern.



The covered collaborative courtyard now is an atrium which may be used throughout the whole year for group work, casual studying and chatting to fellow peers, colleges and visitors between classes and meetings.



New foyer connecting new Wiitesingel street entrance to the covered courtyard.

Original timber ceiling represents the human scale with a grid of 1.8m by 1.8m.

Concrete blocks are exposed rough exterior finish, experienced in the walkways, of the offices and lecture rooms walls.

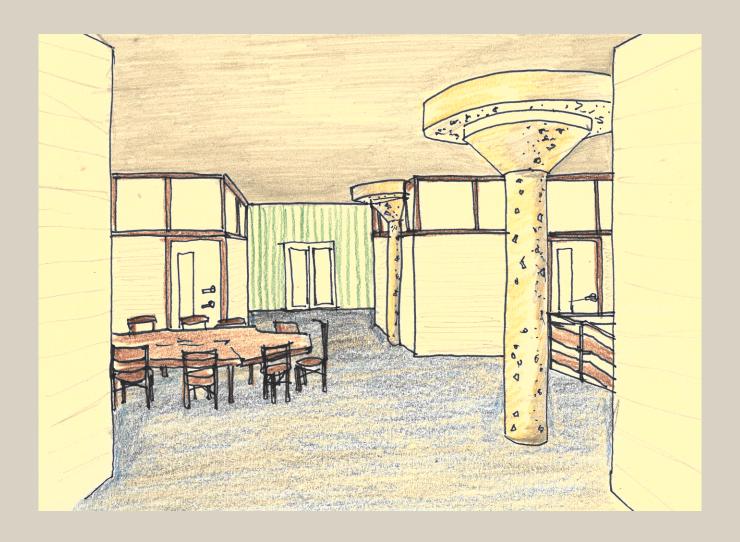
Original glazed sections on top of walls allows light to pass between rooms.



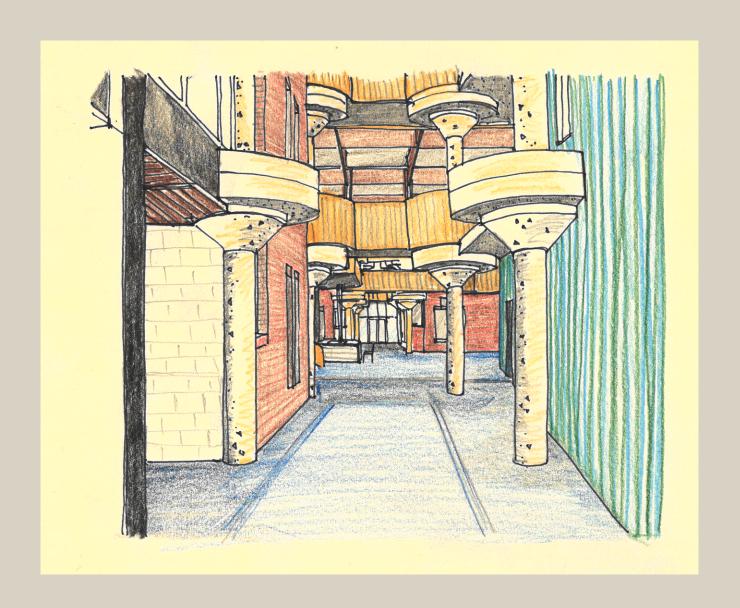
The second covered courtyard now is an atrium as well and acts as a living room in which the canteen activity can spill out into this space. A double door in the glazed facade connects the covered courtyard to the original tree garden outside.



The original canteen is reorganised to include a fully functioning kitchen and salad bar. The paymment counter is moved to seperate the kitchen entrance to the seating area. A view onwards to the digital culture faculty and seminar centre behind.



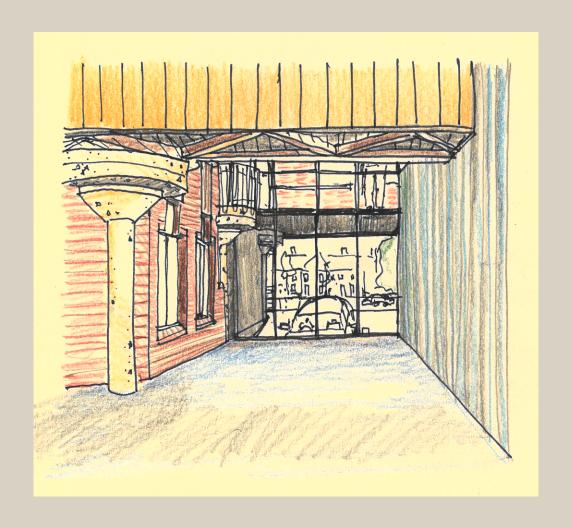
Within the seminar centre building unit, the original furniture set by architect Joop van Stigt can still be found. Finally in the background is the new entrance from the Trekvliet street. This entrance connects the Wittesingel and Trekvliet directly through the building.



Between the canteen and seminar centre is an alleyway towards the collaborative courtyard and then onwards toward the Leiden University main library.



First floor of the seminar centre building has a market space in front of the new auditorium. Here companies may place stands to do networking events between industry world and the academic world.



The cars still need to have access to the existing basement parking lot. Here a glass facade separates the outdoor ramp to the indoor courtyard while keeping a visual connection to the city of Leiden beyond.



The second floor has a completely new space planning as a result of the added building level. This new level is made of redwood laminated timber beams to create unity between the experience of the original timber roof construction and added level construction Here a quite reading corner is found with books for the relevant building faculty. A self service check out system allows for freedom to spread books across the building. Only the very special archive collection items are kept in the original library.

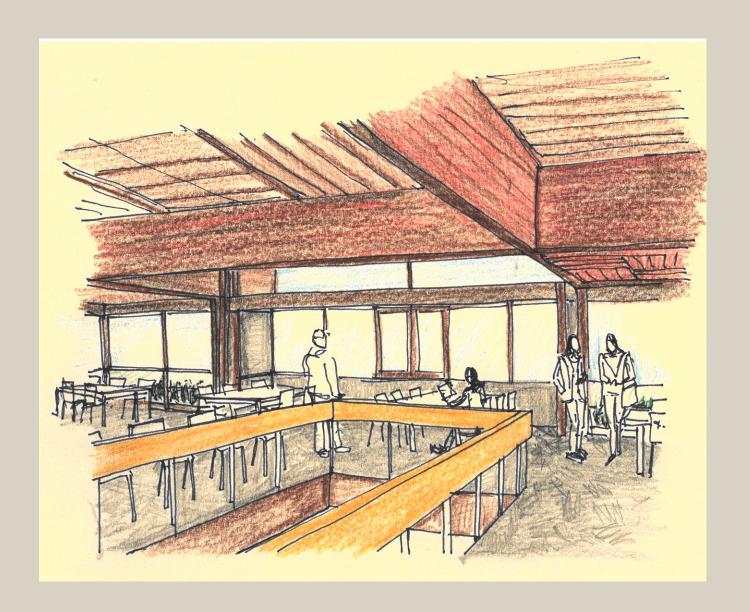


Inside the lecturers office the full circumference of the column is tangible. Two people share an office together with a sliding door leading to the extended floor and building skin.

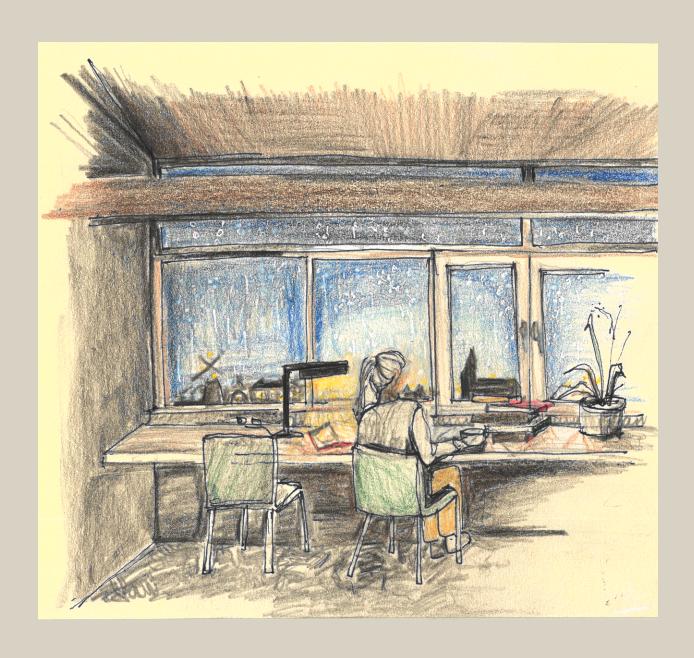


On the extension of the floor, three types of learning spaces are enabled. Firstly small discussion tables, secondly seating benches with incorporated book storage as well as bookshelves for widening the users knowledge on a specific theme relevant to the department.

Thirdly there are work benches where a person can work on their laptop with close up eye range with the possibility to look outside and strengthen your eye sight by taking a moment to occasionally look into the distance.



Floor level three is mainly focused on providing space for students to comfortably sit and work throughout the day. This kind of space was desperately needed as it is not as all found in the current setup. Here eighty students may study with peers in between classes. Studying on campus is far more stimulating and motivating to work than studying in isolation in a private room in my opinion. Well this kind of work space should at least be available to students

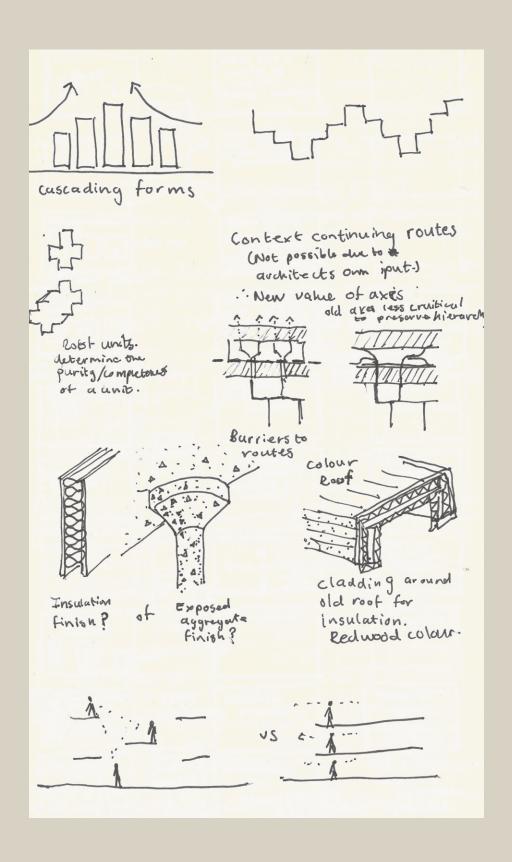


The reused roof structure one floor level higher is covered on the exterior to prevent thermal bridges. Students are free to study on the level of the building and great views over the surrounding city can be experienced from here.

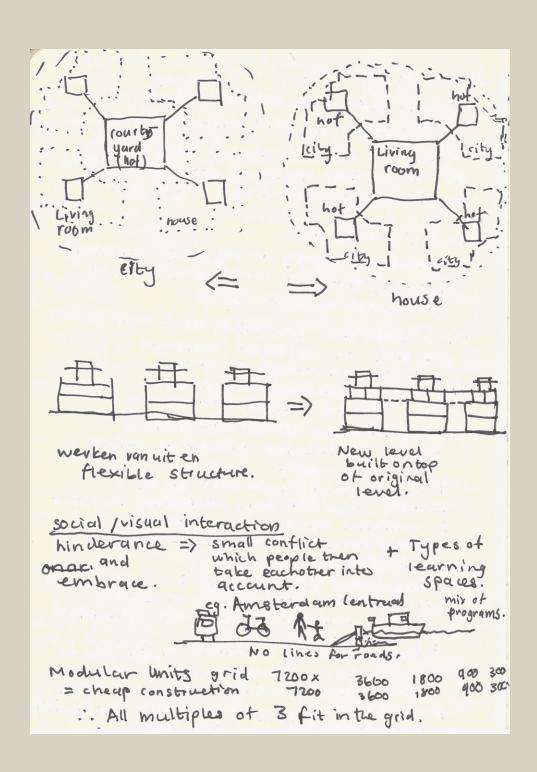


The new building installations in the building are:

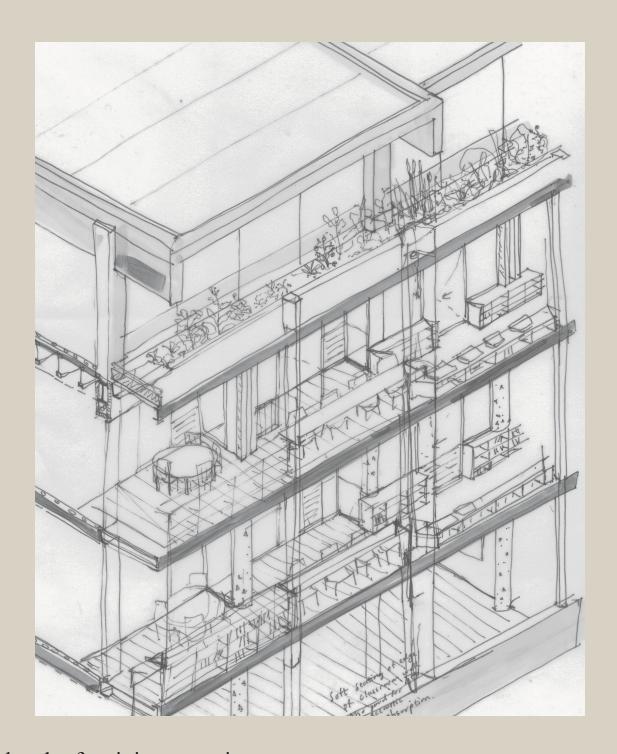
- 1. Heating and cooling using a WKO system in the floor.
- 2. Mechanical ventilation with a heat exchange system between inlet and outlet air. Accousticly sound ventilation grills re required in the doors.
- 3. An added fire escape stairwell is needed per department unit. Fire safetly sprinklers will be needed since the cluster of units now becomes one building in the design. Extraction fans are needed on the roof of the atrium.
- 4. New lighting is hung above rapid feedback booths



Summary of items highly valued in the analysis of the design



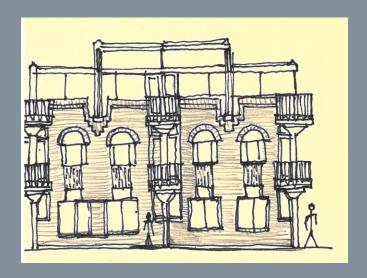
Summary of items highly valued in the analysis of the design



Axo sketch of activity occurring behind the new skin. The sketch shows an example of how to extend the original structure. Hereby expressing the spirit of structuralism

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Approach view to the faculty from the park end side of the north cluster



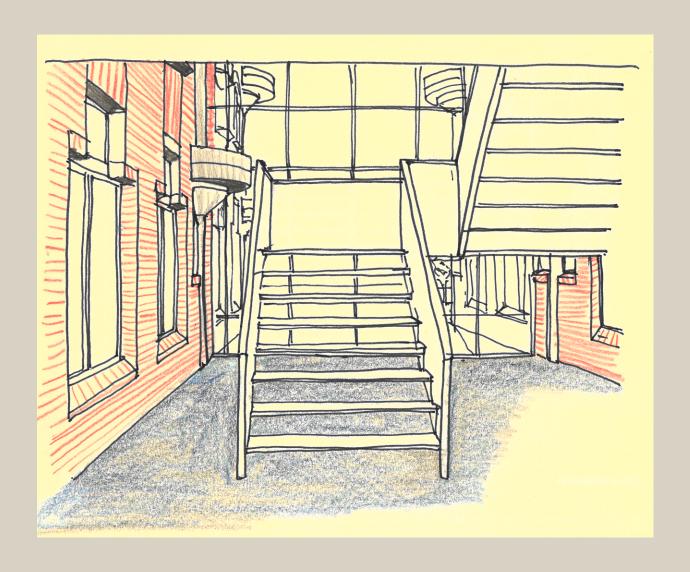
Approach view to the covered courtyard by moving under a new platform in the existing alleyway. Old brick skin and concrete structure composition are preserved. New floor is concrete screed is added to the interior floor.



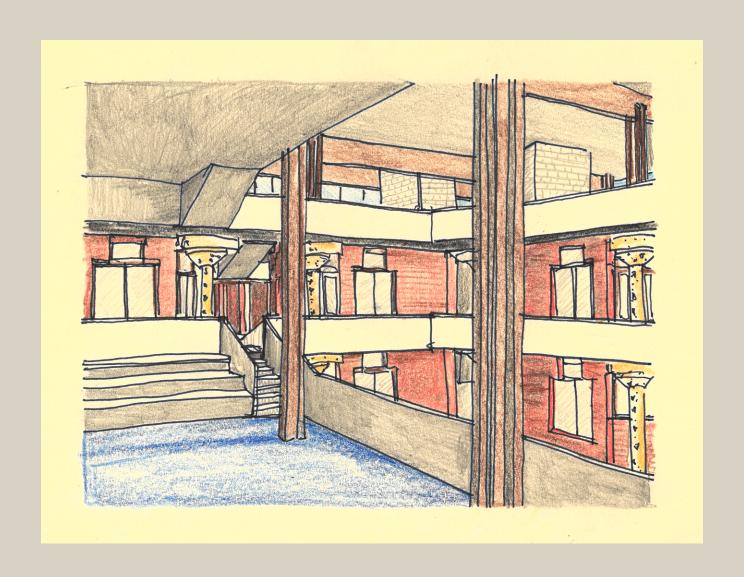
Both doors around the entrance to the department house is removed to make a more spatious entrance, to express concrete mushroom column and make a more clear wayfinding in the building by having a view to the outside.



The old stairwell concrete wall is removed to allow for a view directly towards the outside. Around the mushroom column is a living room between lecture halls.



Since the timber staircase within the original unit is removed, a new staircase is placed in the atrium. It also provides direct access to the collective platform in the atrium on different levels.



All walkway bridges are replaced with a new material and accoustic paneling. The stepped seating is multifunctional for presentations or lunch time pauses and small discussions. The original walls are well preserved by covering the atrium with a roof.



The new roof covering the atrium is made of laminated redwood timber beams as a reference to the original roof materials icon to architect Joop van Stigt. Two new columns are introduced to support the weight of the platforms and new roof to the existing foundation.



The interior surfaces are completely changed to incoproate new insulating material therefore a white dropdown ceiling is added, covered wall surfaces with a lighter white paint finish and new floors are added to incoporate heating as seen in the north cluster



This approach to transforming the building drastically reduces the experience around the concrete column. Only in the summer may the doors be opened to the tiny balcony. However this tight space doesn't stimulate social interaction as originally intended by the architect.



The second floor has open desk workspaces for anyone to sit and work. Here there are views to the greenery on the roof terrace. The presence of plants is good for concentration.



On the Wiitesingel square the view of the original Humanities faculty appears as if little has changed. The alleyway to the left still leads to the preserved outdoor courtyard while the alleyway to the back courtyard is now covered to make a large interior atrium.