

# 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](mailto: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                 | Sophia Vrisekoop |
| Student number       | 4032942          |

| Studio                                |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Name / Theme                          | New Heritage: Amsterdam / Almere   |  |
| Main mentor                           | Mr. N.J. Clarke MPhil  | Heritage and Design                      |
| Second mentor                         | Ir. L.G.K.Spoormans  | Heritage and Design                      |
| Building Technology mentor            | Ir. G.Y. Warries   | Architectural Engineering and Technology |
| Argumentation of choice of the studio | When I started my education, I never could imagine that I would become an architect one day. Over the years I developed a passion for history and architecture related historical contexts. The story a building can tell and the challenges of a respectful renovation that on one hand give the designer a puzzle to find a balance between renovation, program and story. At the other hand helps to honor the history of that building and its direct surroundings. I chose the New Heritage studio because of the complexity. The combination between history and design and the social approach. |  |

| Graduation project              |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Title of the graduation project | Hoptille – The redevelopment of a community  |
| Goal                            |  |
| Location:                       | The Netherlands – Amsterdam – H-Buurt – Hoptille   |
| The posed problem,              | The New Heritage graduation studio aims at value-based design by generating proposals from existing values. The aim is to maintain these values and potentially develop them further. The main design question is: "What can the extant values of the H-Buurt contribute to the sustainable future of living environments in Amsterdam?" |
| research questions and          | Can a redesign for Hoptille, as a community, improve the social interaction and enhance the experience of a safer living environment?  |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>design assignment in which these result.</p>  | <p>The redesign of Hoptille will provide the opportunity to learn from the past, while simultaneously looking at ways to increase the amount of housing in a sustainable way.</p> |
| <p>The graduation project will focus on the Hoptille ensemble buildings and tries to investigate the current challenges the buildings face. The aim of the research is to find the best possible solutions that are based on two hypotheses and will be presented in a redesign proposal.</p> <p>Starting with a relative young potential heritage building can bring numerous challenges. For example, are the existing buildings even worth preserving?</p> <p>After explorative analysis, a number of discrepancies came to the attention. As was stated by Koster (1982), Hoptille was a reaction to the high-rise Bijlmerflats, it was one of the first projects conducted as an inclusive design and the aim of the project had an important social origin. Those ambitions, whether they are still present or not, are the starting point of the personal research.</p> <p>Can a redesign for Hoptille, as a community, improve the social interaction and enhance the experience of a safer living environment?</p> <p>The design will search for the boundaries of both the building and the possibility of monumental value and will propose a redesign for Hoptille as a community to enhance the experience of a safer living environment.</p> <p>Part of the history of Hoptille is that it has been, and still is, a social housing project. Something that is worth preserving as it tells the history of that place.</p> <p>The redesign of Hoptille will provide the opportunity to learn from the past, while simultaneously looking at ways to increase the amount of housing in a sustainable way.</p> <p>Innovation in architecture are extremely important, but preserving and restoring 'old buildings' is also important because they are not only the reflection of our history, they also help us to understand and respect the people that live there.</p> <p>The project aims to present a respectful and worthy redesign for Hoptille so that in the future the building can be observed as being of high value. Even though it is not considered to be of value at the moment.</p> |   |

## Process

### Method description

The graduation studio's first quarter consisted of research in various phases, with differing amounts of collective research. In the second quarter the research is partly collective, but this collective research is more tailored to the personal design interests. In the second half of the year the research will be individual to best support the individual design process.

Because of this structure the research will transition from collective and general to individual and more specific to certain design topics. Simultaneously the collective research acts as a base for the personal research and design process

Next steps in the process will be:

More relevant study with a focus on solving the research question(s) and based on personal fascination, working towards a design concept: Literature study, case studies (comparative studies, typology studies), positioning studies, history study (in addition to the research done in the P1), reflecting (constantly during the process)

Observations (literal and personal): Field trip (a third one that focusses more on the relevant details of the buildings), general images, sketching, taking pictures, experiencing the spaces (hopefully the inside ones as well), touching materials, smelling the ambiance.

Mapping: Mapping the existing, mapping the history, look for opportunities in building and design, analysis of the surroundings, analysis of future plans and ambitions (municipality, regionally and even possibly nationally.)

Modelling: Sketching, making physical and digital models, 3D's, comparative studies.

## Literature and general practical preference

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Naafs, S. (2019, November 17) *De inclusieve stadsontwikkeling Vlogs*. Retrieved 30 November 2020, from

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## Reflection

Designing without doing in dept research can give only a mediocre design, it needs backing by research and it needs accountability, which can only be done by research. Rather than defining what lies inside or outside the realms of research in architecture, aims to discuss as an expanded field of possibilities.

Starting to ask questions before actually designing should help me in the process of designing something that I can be proud of. By studying cases and typology transfers, insight can be gathered on the basis of precedents, the answers to the question: what has been done before and will lead to answering the questions I have for my own design. I have to make choices and dare to be bold.

After analysing the research done by the stakeholders I noticed that there are some discrepancies. For instance when focussing on social interaction; users of all sites feel unsafe at night and experience a lack of interaction with other residents. For Hoptille, all social housing units, municipal initiatives such as Hoptille-huis, try to improve the social atmosphere by organising activities and help for those who need it but this makes me wonder... are there architectural interventions that can help this even more? Can architectural interventions help Hoptille to become a place where people actually want to live in stead of a place people live because there is nowhere else to go?