P5 | **TRANSPORT HUBS AS PUBLIC SPACE** Transforming the public space surrounding Brussels-South Railway Station

Mike van Weerdenburg - 4679040

P5 | Introduction **STATIONS**

Public Space

Used by a large amount of travellers each day



P5 Introduction **STATIONS**

Public Space

Works great



P5 | Introduction **STATIONS**

Public Space

Works great, until you need it



P5 | Introduction **STATIONS**

Public Space

Works great, until you need it

The public area often falls short when you are forced to spend time there, while these are the moments that the space needs to deliver.



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P5 Introduction RESEARCH

Main Goal:

To understand what is missing in the current stations and transport hubs and what can be done to improve it



P5 Introduction RESEARCH

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Main Research Question:

"How can architecture contribute to the spatial layout and experience of public space in European intermodal transportation hubs of the future?



P5 | Methods METHODS

Three main methods:

Literature Study

Case Study Analysis

Redesign



Main Research Question





RESEARCH

P5 | Research LITERATURE

Two Main Problems:

P5 | Research LITERATURE

Two Main Problems:

Integration

Diversity



P5 | Research LITERATURE

Two Main Problems:

Integration

Diversity



Four Cases

Four Cases

Hamburg Hauptbahnhof





Four Cases

Hamburg Hauptbahnhof

Berlin Ostkreuz



Four Cases

Hamburg Hauptbahnhof

Berlin Ostkreuz

Gare de Paris-Austerlitz



Four Cases

Hamburg Hauptbahnhof

Berlin Ostkreuz

Gare de Paris-Austerlitz

Brussel-Zuid / Bruxelles-Midi



Main Concept:

Concept by Bertolini

Main Concept:

Concept by Bertolini







Main Concept:





P5 | Case Studies

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COFFEE & DON

Galerie Horta Hortagalerij

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Main Concept:

Node vs. Place

These two aspects should be in balance with each other. Stations can be placed in the model created by Bertolini.



Place

Redeveloped Model

A new model was created to more accurately study these aspects with the public space central



Redeveloped Model

A new model was created to more accurately study these aspects with the public space central

Node:

- **A** | Slow traffic
- **B** | Transport network
- **C** | Station reach
- **D** | Transport facilities

Place:

- 1 Centrality
- **2** | Spatial performance
- **3** Station functions
- 4 Amenities



Models:

Using the model to determine the quality of the Node and Place of the case studies:





Ostkreuz

Gare d'Austerlitz

Brussels-South





Main Lessons:

The Public area is often nothing more than an area.

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The connections between different modes are often the places that lack the most quality, but they should be prioritised.

Public Space is more than the main public area.

Transport hubs should be more than a transport hub and shopping centre.



Design Aspects

These design aspects have been established to help guide the redesign in the right direction



P5 |

BRUSSELS-SOUTH RAILWAY STATION

P5 | Brussels-South LOCATION

Brussel / Bruxelles / Brussels

Three main stations, established after the construction of the North-South connection



The Building

Multiple reconstructions



The Building





The Post Office

The current South-east side of the station. This building has been abandoned for some time



The International Terminal

The current North-west side of the station, dedicated to the international terminal and border patrols.


P5 | Brussels-South THE STATION

The new office

A new expansion and renovation of the Post-Office building by OMA will house the new offices of NMBS / SCNB.





P5 Brussels-South THE CURRENT STATION

Layout



P5 Brussels-South THE CURRENT STATION

Plan of Attack



P5 Brussels-South THE CURRENT STATION

Plan of Attack



Arriving from the centre





The central interchange



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The entrance





Avenue Fonsny



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The main entrance





Fonsny Square





The current state





Avenue Fonsny





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Covered Street





The inside



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Experience





Ticket Hall





The Platform





The Platform





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DESIGN APPROACH

P5 | Approach **CENTRAL THEME**

How to change the station?







NODE



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P5 | Node AVENUE FONSNY

New Situation

Large barrier created by Bus, Tram and Cars



P5 | Node AVENUE FONSNY

Current Barrier

Large barrier created by Bus, Tram and Cars



Current Barrier

Large barrier created by Bus, Tram and Taxi's

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Lack of Daylight

Lack of Connections

Lack of Quality Routes



Proposal:

Create a void



The Network

The amount of stops currently in the street



Possibilities

The network on a bigger scale



Future Changes

The transformation of a Pre-Metro line to a regular Metro Line, with the addition of a new station.







Current Route

Weird, Confusing and Disorientating



Proposed Routes

Using (mostly) existing infrastructure



Proposed Routes

Using (mostly) existing infrastructure. Using an existing tunnel the other line can also be rerouted



Proposed Routes

The unused tunnel should still be in place, the new metro tunnel will go underneath it.



Existing Unused Tunnel

Metro Line 3



Improved Route

This removes all the tram lines from the Covered street and the complicated street underground.







Connections

It allows for opportunity, but not enough

Rail Tracks



Connections

Creating a void in the train deck allows for light to go inside this massive underground area and it establishes a connection between the two transport modes



P5 | Node PROPOSAL

Remove half of the amount of tracks


P5 | Node **SPLITTING THE STATION**

S-Trains and Mainline

To be able to do this, the local S-trains will be separated from the mainline stations





P5 | Node **S-TRAIN STATION**

New Location

This allows the station to run more frequently and reduce the capacity loss





P5 | Node PLATFORMS

Creating better platforms

The space inbetween can be used for voids,



P5 | Node BENEFITS

Advantages:

It allows for a better connection with the levels below

It allows for more space on the platform

It allows for more light for the levels below

It allows the S-train network to stand on its own and connect better with the other local transport system

It allows for a better optimised S-train station with higher frequency

It optimises the tram routes around the area









PLACE

P5 | Place CREATION OF A PLACE

Central Goal:

Create more quality spaces around the station

P5 | Place CREATION OF A PLACE

Central Goal:

Create more quality spaces around the station

Based on:

- **Different Users**
- **Different Uses**
- Different traveling speed

Each area should be connected with the station and support the station



AVENUE FONSNY

P5 | Avenue Fonsny OBJECTIVE

Central Goal:

Create more quality spaces around the station

Design Concept

The creation of a Hybrid Space: A space that can be considered part of the station building while it is still outside



Design Concept

This space is created by enclosing the space from above with a canopy,



Design Concept

This canopy will be connected with the surrounding buildings on smaller areas of the street, enclosing it without creating two separate spaces in the street.



Design Concept

This canopy protects the area from rain and extends the station forwards. It will be made from glass with translucent solar panels



Design Concept

This allows for energy collection and it will not block views to the buildings



Design Concept

This new space will host the new entrances to the S-train station and new improved connections to the existing station



Design Concept

The increased activity in this space increases the value of the surrounding building



Design Concept

This will stimulate the owners to activate the plinths in the building with different functions and reducing the monoculture in the area.



Design Concept

Within the street, the main tram line will remain as discussed earlier. They will share the space with the pedestrians and cyclists, creating a shared space.



Design Concept



Design Concept

As for the design of the street itself, the aim is to create a quieter area for a slower speed of travel, contrasting the busy inside and underground with a large amount of greenery and seating areas.













Design Concept

The design reflects this with a central meandering flow through the street. To stimulate this slower pace, the tram in the shared space will curve through the Fonsny Square to keep the speed low.













Design Concept







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P5 Avenue Fonsny DESIGN

Layout



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FONSNY

ENUE



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V

FONSNY

ENUE

P5 | Avenue Fonsny S-TRAIN STATION

Location



P5 | Avenue Fonsny S-TRAIN STATION

Location



P5 | Avenue Fonsny S-TRAIN STATION

Access Routes



S-TRAIN STATION

P5



S-TRAIN STATION

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P5 |

THE ENTRANCE



INTERSECTION

Design Concept

Integration

Diversity



P5 | The Entrance | INTERSECTION |

Entrances

The main entrances in this area



P5 | The Entrance INTERSECTION

Canopy

A new canopy is created that combines all these entrances under one roof. The canopy will be a curved structure, guiding people inside.





P5 | The Entrance INTERSECTION

Canopy

This complex form will be supported by a truss system and several V-shaped pillars.






P5 | The Entrance INTERSECTION

Canopy

The canopy will be finished off with cement plaster, made using recycled concrete and will give this canopy the feeling of one single element.







P5 | The Entrance INTERSECTION

Multifunctional Space

The main walkway around this area



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P5 | The Entrance | INTERSECTION |

Multifunctional Space

This space can be used by the local area to promote activities or have expositions and in general act as a gathering space for the community.

Placing this area in the middle of the main entrance allows travellers to see where they have arrived and can interact with the local community.



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P5 | The Entrance INTERSECTION

Design Concept:

Removal of current Buildings Central community area New Entrance Tram Stop Green Roof Extension Building New Roof



Design Concept:

Removal of current Buildings

Central community area

New Entrance

Tram Stop

Green Roof

Extension Building



Design Concept:

Removal of current Buildings

Central community area

New Entrance

Tram Stop

Green Roof

Extension Building



Design Concept:

Removal of current Buildings

Central community area

New Entrance

Tram Stop

Green Roof

Extension Building





Design Concept:

Removal of current Buildings

Central community area

New Entrance

Tram Stop

Green Roof

Extension Building





Design Concept:

Removal of current Buildings

Central community area

New Entrance

Tram Stop

Green Roof

Extension Building

New Roof



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Design Concept:

Removal of current Buildings

Central community Area

New Entrance

Tram Stop

Green Roof

Extension Building





Design Concept:

Removal of current Buildings Central community Area New Entrance **Tram Stop** Green Roof Extension Building New Roof





Design Concept:

Removal of current Buildings Central community Area New Entrance Tram Stop **Green Roof** Extension Building

New Roof



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Design Concept:

Removal of current Buildings Central community Area New Entrance Tram Stop Green Roof

Extension Building



Design Concept:

Removal of current Buildings Central community Area New Entrance Tram Stop Green Roof

Extension Building



Design Concept:

Removal of current Buildings Central community Area New Entrance Tram Stop Green Roof Extension Building



Design Concept:

Removal of current Buildings Central community Area New Entrance Tram Stop Green Roof Extension Building



APPROACH

P5



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AM STOP

TRAM STOP





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P5



P5 | The Entrance OVERVIEW

Fragment



P5 | The Entrance ACCESS

Metro Station







THE EXTENSION



Rhythm in the building

Continued in the new building





Rhythm and Ending

The building will feature a slanted end to create an end to the long building



Facade Detail



+ 16.200



Floor connection



+ 16.200



Roof Connection



+



Circulation

The building will feature a slanted end to create an end to the long building



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DESIGN


First Floor





Second Floor





Third Floor







Fourth Floor



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Fifth Floor





P5 | The Extension CLIMATE SYSTEM

Overview

The building uses a Heat Pump system located on the fourth floor for heating the building.

The new roofs of the design are used to collect rainwater, that will be stored underground.









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AIN STATION ROOF **L**

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THE COVERED STREET



P5 | Covered Street OBJECTIVE

Using the new possibilities

Creation of a large open space



The Existing Structure



The Existing Structure

The current main elements



The Existing Structure

The forces are transferred to the retaining walls



The Existing Structure

The current system is still visible in the ceiling of the ticket hall



The New Structure

To allow for the changes, the new proposal is to make simplify this idea, moving the forces directly towards the retaining wall and foundation slab



The New Structure

The structure will be mounted with roll joints to prevent excessive stress



The New Structure

This new structure will be slanted, which allows it to also transfer the loads of breaking and accelerating trains.



The New Structure

Since the new structure connects on different areas to the bridge, a new substructure will be created to help transfer the load towards the new mounting points.



Section



Structure

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Escalators

Circulation

Viewing Angles

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METRO STATION

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METRO

STATION

METRO STATION

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CONCLUSION

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P5 | Conclusion RESEARCH QUESTION

Main Research Question:

"How can architecture contribute to the spatial layout and experience of public space in European intermodal transportation hubs of the future?

CONCLUSION

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CONCLUSION

P5 | THE END

