

Delft University of Technology

Analytical Models: Hofjes

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Analytical Models: HOFJES



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Form and Modeling studies: Geert Coumans, Martijn Stellingwerff Methods and Analysis: Willemijn Wilms Floet (ed.)



Analytical Models: HOFJES

A *hofje* (the little charity courtyard) consists of a group of repetitive individual houses enclosing a garden, hidden inside the perimeter block. Beside of the community of individual houses, hofjes have a representative programme in memory of the founder, the gate and a board's room.

Hofjes are an important constituent architectural figure of the Dutch city since 1400 and up until today. Their sustainability is proven by the large number of historical hofjes that has survived, that they are still built and inhabited successfully. And, hofjes are an always returning reference for new housing design. Hofjes are private initiatives, but, related to the city in multiple ways: 1. originally they provided free housing for noble poor elderly single people, so, they were part of the social care system; 2. Hofjes are private property, but, (in principle) publicly accessible, in which architecture defines thresholds and boundaries naturally; 3. Well renowned architects were involved in the design of hofjes and reflect the architecture of its time and different social relationships between the community of the inhabitants, the founder of the hofje and their relationship with the city: invisible behind a wall (the archetype) or completely hidden, monumental or a combination of both: in disguise as a city palace.

The analytical models of hofjes investigate the formal, urban and social qualities of this special typology explorative and interactive. The models are presented in an exhibition (at the Faculty from 1-12 June 2019) against the background of drawings from the research publication 'Het Hofje, Bouwsteen van de Hollandse Stad, 1400-2000' (Nijmegen Van Tilt 2016).

This booklet presents analytical models of hofjes made by MSc2 students in the elective course AR0012 in 2019.

Geert Coumans, Martijn Stellingwerff, Willemijn Wilms Floet

Sint-Andrieshofje Amsterdam, 1616

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Revealing proportions







Perspective Scenography

Deutzenhofje, Amsterdam, 1694





The garden as a multi-actor

Hofje Meermansburg, Leiden, 1681





Geometry, Texture, Corners, Urban relations



Proveniershof, Haarlem, 1707





Social and physical recomposition over time

10

Hofje van Staats, Haarlem, 1733



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Repetition and/or Monumentality serving silence

Floris Buijs, Joël Swaab

Hofje van Samuel de Zee, Leiden, 1734







Sequence of thresholds; Twin courts' differences

Lin Yang, Jinghong Li

Hofje van Oorschot, Haarlem, 1768







In-sights inside in a box

Teylershofje, Haarlem, 1787







Sequence of spaces

Regenten- of Lenghenhof, Dordrecht, 1755







4 courts 4 atmospheres tied by social foundations

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