

By replicating the exhibition area of Helsinki Dreispitz through a model, I embarked on a comprehensive study of its exhibition methods, lighting, and spatial configuration. This process not only refined my understanding of the archive's operation but also revealed the intricate relationship between the architects, stakeholders, and the strategies behind its collection methods. I also explored the interaction between space, users, and architecture, gaining insight into how these elements influence the archive's function. From a broader perspective, I began to consider how the archive connects with the urban environment, its target audience, and its position within the city's infrastructure.

This in-depth study led me to reflect on the essential aspects of archives, particularly accessibility. Accessibility transcends the mere physical layout of circulation and transportation, extending to visual and tactile accessibility, each of which shapes different visitor experiences. During my time in Antwerp, I noticed that many archives primarily serve professionals such as architects and scholars, limiting access for the general public. This raised significant questions about how archives balance their dual roles as repositories and exhibition spaces, and how the application of spatial materials and visual design can either enhance or constrain their broader appeal. A particularly intriguing feature of Helsinki Dreispitz is its distinct entrances and elevators for the residential and archive areas. Additionally, these two zones are separated on the ground level, ensuring that visitors to the residential units and the archive do not interfere with each other, while still allowing for potential interactions and interesting spatial experiences in shared areas.

Throughout this process, I realized that physical models and drawings are invaluable in studying archives. Models, in particular, help visualize the scale and materiality of the space, offering a tangible sense of the atmosphere and user experience. The internal furnishings, such as storage systems, also play a critical role in the archive's functionality. Helsinki Dreispitz employs the kabinet system, which provides flexibility and efficiency, striking a balance between archive storage and exhibition needs. Different archives or architects may approach furniture and storage systems in varying ways, and analyzing these systems can greatly enhance our understanding of archival efficiency.

In my view, an archive not only reflects the intent and style of its collections but also relies on its accessibility to fulfill its function and outreach. My study of the physical form of archives has deepened my understanding of how these spaces interact with both exhibitions and the surrounding urban environment.

In addition, the relationship and proportion between the exhibition space and the archive, as well as their existence and interaction, and the modularity of the archive, are also very attractive to me. The modularity of the archive can combine different archive themes and exhibition spaces to maximize accessibility and improve touring and storage efficiency.