

# Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences

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## 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	Nina Anna Kempa	
Student number	5362148	

  

Studio		
Name / Theme	AR3UA100 Urban Architecture Graduation Studio/ Glaneurs, Glaneuses	
Main mentor	Prof. ir. P. E. L. J. C Vermeulen	Architecture
Second mentor	A.B.J. van Deudekom	Building technology
Argumentation of choice of the studio	My motivation to choose the graduation studio of Urban Architecture was the interest to look at the architectural intervention as an element of a bigger picture than only the site. The studio aims to think on a broader scale and critically assess the given plot. This is what I find interesting and also looking into my future career. Analysing the context and firstly setting the general overview in the form of the master plan and then placing the individual project to complement the initial intention seemed like a great challenge and opportunity to put more value into my graduation project.	

  

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Commonness architecture - inclusive housing on Maaspromenade
Goal	
Location:	Maastricht, Netherlands

The posed problem,	Nowadays, cities face the growing loss of identity and social values caused by gentrification factors. The ubiquitous housing crisis shows how the basic and indispensable function of the city is not as assured and not for everyone. The capitalistic approach took over the city planning, and creating collective qualities is less a priority than an instant economic profit.
research questions and	How can architecture provide an environment of spatial justice? What is architecture's potential to create inclusive living conditions for all users, especially those with less agency? How can architecture work as a community creating and supporting tool?
design assignment in which these result.	Research book about the architecture as a tool for inclusivity; masterplan for the given site; architectural project for an inclusive housing in the urban block

The city of Maastricht has a dynamic past. Rich in heritage and spatially pleasant surroundings, builds the identity of the place. Located in the very south of the Netherlands, between Belgium and Germany, this thriving city has, for many years, been the face of the cultural centre of the diverse society open for expats, tourists and students. The chosen site lies in the Boschstraatkwartier, the location is facing upcoming changes - as the industry moves further from the Center and the proposed by the municipality Belvédère project tends to shift the character of the space. The city council wants to redevelop the area into a living and cultural quarter, including the existing squat - Landbouwbelaang (LBB). This creates a threat to the loss of many values such as cultural and social impact, which the community of the LBB has and following that even further gentrification.

Referring to the future plan, the proposed project discusses that and suggests an altered version. The design aims to create an inclusive environment for everyday functions, focusing on the needs of the people of Maastricht. Beginning from the master plan, the project looks into the site from a wider perspective, taking into consideration almost the whole Boschstraatkwartier. The plan stitches the site together by creating a variety of public spaces and inviting in the greenery by the naturalisation process of the water-land boundary. The individual project is a transformation of the unused space of Maaspromenade - the Maastricht's riverfront, into a new site for the social complex. The design focuses on the inclusive housing building intended for older people on different stages of their activity and independence. The 'house' consists of living units and common spaces as well as the completely open parts creating the balance between private and public (the first, second and third places). The idea of creating this specific type of dwelling tackles the issues of spatial equity, privatisation and commercialisation of key locations in the city as the waterfront certainly is.

## Process

### Method description

The research method will involve a series of steps documented in a research book. One of them is the literature review on the politics of architecture and urban spaces - the books 'Seeing Like a State' by James C. Scott and 'The Great Good Place' by Ray Oldenburg, that both describe the strategies of city planning tendencies, including failed ones, and search a vision for revitalisation. The findings from the sociology, anthropology and political sciences will refer to the given site conditions in a critical way. The following method is historical research, looking in the past for examples of the community orientated facilities and their dependencies (e.g. monasteries). The next field is case studies, and they are analysed to check different approaches to inclusive housing. One of the examples is The Masters organisation that creates social housing for those 'on the sidelines' of our society. This leads to the fieldwork of visiting those places and interviewing people who are involved in creating them - resulting in the analysis using text and drawings pointing out the desirable features. The observation and interviews serve as the site study as well. The methods of the design project will contain using the research as a theoretical base and working with the various graphic forms such as collages, annotative mapping, sketches, etc., and physical models to design the proposed master plan and architectural project.

## Literature and general practical preference

1. Awan, Nishat, Tatiana Schneider, and Jeremy Till. 2011. *Spatial Agency, Other Ways of Doing Architecture*. London: Routledge.
2. Carr, Stephen, Andrew M. Stone, Mark Francis, and Leanne G. Rivlin. 1992. *Public Space*. Edited by Stephen Carr and Cambridge University Press. N.p.: Cambridge University Press.
3. de Lapuerta, Jose Maria. 2007. *Collective Housing: A Manual*. Barcelona: ACTAR.
4. Gemeente Maastricht. 2021. "Sphinxkwartier." *Belvédère Maastricht*. <https://www.belvedere-maastricht.nl/en/actueel/further-investments-sphinxkwartier>.
5. Hayward, Richard, and Sue McGlynn, eds. 1993. *Making Better Places: Urban Design Now*. London: Butterworth Architecture.
6. "HIC - The 'Right To The City': From Paris 1968 To Rio 2010." 2016. Hic GS.org. <https://www.hic-net.org/es/the-right-to-the-city-from-paris-1968-to-rio-2010/>.
7. Kries, Mateo, Mathias Muller, Daniel Niggli, Andreas Ruby, and Ilka Ruby, eds. 2017. *Together! The New Architecture of the Collective*. Berlin/ Weil am Rhein: Vitra Museum and Ruby Press.
8. Lefebvre, Henri. 2012. "The Right to the City." *Praktyka Teoretyczna* 5.
9. Oldenburg, Ray. 1999. *The Great Good Place: Cafes, Coffee Shops, Bookstores, Bars, Hair Salons, and Other Hangouts at the Heart of a Community*. N.p.: Hachette Books.
10. Rossi, Aldo. 1991. *The architecture of the city*. Cambridge, Mass: MIT Press.
11. Scott, James C. 1999. *Seeing like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
12. Soja, Edward W. 2011. "Response to Kurt Iveson: 'Social or Spatial Justice? Marcuse and Soja on the Right to the City.'" *City* 12 (2).
13. Varda, Agnes, dir. 2000. *Le Glaneur et la Glaneuse*.

### Other references:

1. The Masters - organization creating inclusive housing - Live Life Together: <https://themasters.nu/nl/nl-home#the-masters-philosophy>
2. Gardening together - research and experiment of creating a common gardening care center 'de Diem' in Diemen, Amsterdam: <https://www.ksa.nl/en/projects/art-and-science-of-dementia-care-interdisciplinary-research-project>
3. Korteknie Stuhlmacher Architecten - Square, Church and Courtyard, care campus located in Kruishoutem, Belgium: <https://www.ksa.nl/en/projects/care-centre-kruishoutem>
4. Korteknie Stuhlmacher Architecten - Between Park and Garden, care centre located in Machelen, Belgium: <https://www.ksa.nl/en/projects/care-centre-machelen>
5. BULK Architecten - Pension Van Schoonhoven: <https://bulkarchitecten.be/nl/catalogus/publiek/pension-van-schoonhoven>
6. NU architectuurstudio - Huis Perrekes, the nursing home with the public garden located in Oosterlo, Belgium: <https://www.vai.be/en/buildings/zorginfrastructuur/perrekes-house>
7. Graphic - Batellier, J. F. Cartoon on the process of Urban Renovation. 1979 as a contrast to the aim of creating social spaces in the consumption city. Source: <http://arquitecturamashistoria.blogspot.com/2011/03/4-anos-del-blog-parte-2-celebramos-con.html>

## Reflection

1. What is the relation between your graduation (project) topic, the studio topic (if applicable), your master track (A,U,BT,LA,MBE), and your master programme (MSc AUBS)?

The studio theme is Glaneurs/ Glaneuses, and the act of gleaning meaning giving a new life to what was left behind. I find it an appealing approach and a response to the throwaway culture of the Anthropocene. The act of gleaning related to architecture links with the accessibility of spaces, distribution of resources and social rights. Those echos are strongly visible in the urban context as growing inequalities, which are present on the studio's location site in Maastricht. The site is complex and entangled in its current state creating a challenge to look at it in a way that exceeds architectural scale; however, it is too small for tools of urbanism. As a response, my research and project look into the inclusivity and communal values that bring attention to the primary and indispensable elements of life like a place to live and community.

2. What is the relevance of your graduation work in the larger social, professional and scientific framework?

Since the Industrial Revolution, the issue of the standards of living conditions has been reoccurring in the architectural discourse. However, the capitalist era brought this issue to the extent of turning the fundamental human right to a place to live into treating the built environment as a resource of the constantly growing profit. This is a shared concern that space strengthens social inequalities, and in this scenario, architecture plays a role as an agent of gentrification. However, it is the architect's role to keep up with the shifts and also, as a member of the society, react to them with the owned tools. Awareness and studying this phenomenon will give me a more comprehensive perspective into spatial politics and how equity could be achieved, and also how it can enrich the surroundings. I hope that will be a direction for my future professional work as an architect.