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Zaanstad

Future projection

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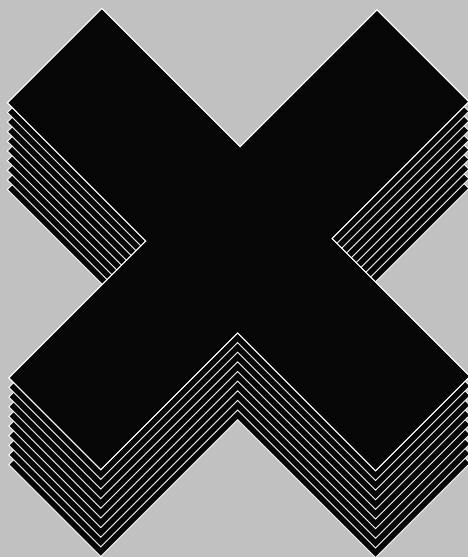
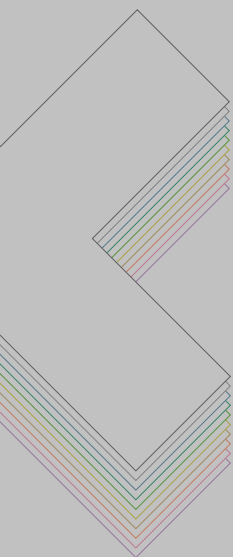
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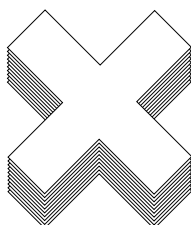
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Index

8	Book concept	231	Living future typology
11	0. INTRO	242	Work
13	Imagining Amsterdam 2050 and beyond	243	Work present typology
15	Recovering the future with architecture	251	Work Trends
23	AMS Mid-City Research	267	Work future typology
26	AMS Mid-City Methodology	278	Health
41	1. AMS PRESENT	279	Health present typology
43	Site index	287	Health Trends
45	Zaanstad	303	Health future typology
49	Centraal	314	Nature
53	City Islands	315	Nature present typology
57	Amstel	323	Nature trends
61	Sloterdijk	339	Nature future typology
65	Oud Zuid	350	Resources
69	Schiphol Corridor	351	Resources present typology
73	Zuid Oost	359	Resources trends
77	Schiphol Terminal	375	Resources future typology
82	Ams Present Mapping	386	Infrastructure
83	XL Mapping	387	Infrastructure present typology
85	L Mapping	395	Infrastructure trends
87	M Mapping	411	Infrastructure future typology
89	S Mapping	422	Mobility
91	XS Mapping	423	Mobility present typology
93	2. AMS TRENDS	431	Mobility trends
95	Location map	447	Mobility future typology
98	Lifestyle	457	3. AMS FUTURE
98	Lifestyle present typology	459	Site index
107	Lifestyle trends	461	Zaanstad
123	Lifestyle future typology	467	Centraal
134	Entertainment	473	City Islands
135	Entertainment present typology	479	Amstel
143	Entertainment trends	485	Sloterdijk
159	Entertainment future typology	491	Oud Zuid
170	Art	497	Schiphol Corridor
171	Art present typology	503	Zuid Oost
179	Art trends	509	Schiphol Terminal
195	Art future typology	515	Amsterdam Totaal
206	Living	518	Ams future mapping
207	Living present typology	519	XL Mapping
215	Living trends	521	L Mapping
		523	M Mapping
		527	S Mapping
		531	XS Mapping
		535	Materialisation Mapping

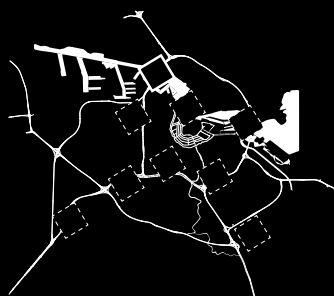
Zaanstad

Future projection; Text by Olindo Caso

For Zaanstad, the very spatial language that resulted in a disjointed urban profile inspired its solution – the issue of separation between Noord and the centre is addressed with a movement across the IJ, an ecological bridge connecting the two sides, allowing not only people movement but also that of fauna from the protected polder green in attempts to rehabilitate the polluted grounds of Petroleumhaven.

Along the IJ, the projects tackle various social and economic infrastructure needed in developing new urban areas. The interventions adopted by the research as well as the design of the group is centred creating supporting infrastructure, promoting amphibious lifestyles, urban efficiency within densification and finally the intentional act of designed vacancy.

Underlying the solutions to the problems on site is a greater goal of using blue-green buffers as design tools to create a connected ecology that grows outwards beyond the site of Zaanstad, to be part of a larger interconnected green strategy across the Amsterdam region.





Zaanstad

Future Model

The IJ is an important frame of reference in Zaanstad, acting not only as accessible public space, but also as a potential building site. The interventions, while belonging to different themes, all aim to create conditions for the water to act as a connector instead of a separator. The goal is to use the IJ as two perpendicular axes which then generates a pseudo structure for site organisation.

The axes of along and across the IJ will then guide and direct densification plans throughout the site, focusing on urban efficiency and quality improvement beyond numbers. The site as it stands has almost no amenities or services and hence is the perfect test bed for novel methods of approaching civic services and spaces such as greenery, waste, death, production and health.

In the end, it is an exercise in irony, embedding peripheral and formerly unwanted services into the core of the city – bringing back what was once banished to the peri-urban zones.



“ The projects tackle various social and economic infrastructure needed in developing new urban areas ”

“ The interventions, while belonging to different themes, all aim to create conditions for the water to act as a connector instead of a separator ”



Zaanstad

future vision

" The issue of separation between Noord and the centre is addressed with a movement across the IJ, allowing not only people movement but also that of fauna from the protected polder green in attempts to rehabilitate the polluted grounds "

" Research as well as the design of the group is centred creating supporting infrastructure, promoting amphibious lifestyles, urban efficiency within densification and finally the intentional act of designed vacancy "

