Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences



Graduation Plan: All tracks

Submit your Graduation Plan to the Board of Examiners (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	Baoky King Yang HUANG
Student number	5235014

Studio		
Name / Theme	Designing for Care in an Inclusive Environment	
Main mentor	B.M.Jurgenhake	Architecture Dwelling
Second mentor	F.M. van Andel	Architecture Dwelling
Third mentor	A.B.J van Deudekom	Architecture Engineering
Argumentation of choice	With the growing population all around the world, elderly	
of the studio	residence design has become one of the most important topics in architecture. What amazes me is that this studio focuses on more than just elderly residence design but also design that is adaptive to people of all age. The ability and knowledge that I will gain in this studio will help me in many other aspects.	

Graduation project		
Title of the graduation project	The Place to Celebrate Individuality: A study of personalization in secondary territory space of elderly residence	
Goal		
Location:	110 Morgen Hillegersberg-Schiebroek, Rotterdam	
The posed problem,	The architectural design of the homes does not offer enough personalization elements and space to fulfil the contemporary need for the residents to claim their individuality. While secondary territory has to most potential to celebrate the individuality, it is usually unappreciated and under-designed.	
research questions and	How can space in secondary territory enhance or restrict the personalization for residents in elderly home residence?	
design assignment in whic	h these result. A design guide for secondary space that encourages the elderly residents to claim and express their individuality.	

The research goal is to discover spatial characteristics and extract typical types of secondary territory space based on the definition, and to deconstruct the compositions of it in both behavioral terms and spatial terms. Eventually, a design guide that would enhance the role of the secondary territory to empower the elderly to claim their individuality will be generated.

Process

Method description

This research will be mainly carried out with qualitative research methods, and different methods will be applied in the attempt of answering each sub-question. The image above shows the methodology and expected results from research.

For the first part of the research to identify typical types of secondary territories, 25 cases of elderly residence from all over the world will be chosen. The secondary territory in all of the 25 cases will be identified based on a table of definition and characteristics of it, and then highlighted in plan, from which the basic characteristics of secondary territory as well as typical types of it can be observed. Characters of the secondary territory will be revealed with this research. Furthermore, the scale of personalization of each case will be rated through the SCEAM system, the Sheffield Care Environment Assessment Matrix, which contained 11 domains to measure characters of an elderly residence. The personalization score of the SCEAM will be one of the main principles for case selection in the next stage of research.

In the second part of the research to identify behaviors and conception of the secondary territory of the users, case study is the main method. The most "personalized" cases are selected and investigated in depth as stated above. For the behavioral study part, data are collected through observation. Another part of the research in this part is conception, where interviews on site are conducted. Interviewees will be asked on how they make sense of their own circumstances, decorations, behaviors, activities and emotions in the secondary territory. A behavioral map and emotion map will be drawn to reveal what people do, and to further investigated in terms of spatial composition and meanings of the elements in the space. This would eventually help generate a criterion that points out design choices that helps personalization of this space.

The third part of the research to is reveal the most important elements in secondary territories that encourage the residents to claim their individuality. This part of the research is carried out by photo documentation and scene drawings, which helps with spatial analysis and element counts. Eventually a design guide for secondary territories and/or elderly residence that encourages personalization and fulfil the celebration of individuality of the elderly will be generated.

Literature and general practical preference

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Reflection

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)?

A. Research Topic and Studio Topic: We have come a far way in elderly home design, from simply providing the elderly with food and shelter, to making the elderly feel comfortable, respected and a lot more. What we are now aiming at it to fulfill the top needs in the Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, self-realization. Personalization is a crucial part in self-realization and has already shown traces of will in many elderly homes. Therefore, to figure out where and how personalization is achieved is an important part in designing for care in an inclusive environment.

B. Studio Topic and Master Track/Program: As an architect, one of the most important job is to discover the true needs that sometimes even the clients don't know exists or don't know how to express, and to realize it. This studio encourage us to explore and discover the needs of the elderly ourselves and do a design by research. This is a good exercise for us to learn how to fulfil the needs of a certain group of users through the tool of architecture.

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

A. In professional terms, the research would be helpful in generating a design guide for secondary territory spaces in elderly homes, a space that celebrates each elderly person as an individual. Possible directions include customized space, movable space, or space to contain decorative elements.

B. In social terms, with this research on secondary territory space, awareness of the role of it will be raised. The elderly would be more encouraged to express their personality and claim their individuality, which was proven to be beneficial in terms of physiological needs, the social needs and the psychological needs. The organization will be more aware to treat the group as a sum of individuals instead of a collective group. The designers would be more conscious in creating spaces with more possibilities to adapts to the different needs of each individual.

C. In scientific terms, this fills in a gap of personalization in secondary territory. Although abundant research has been carried out on the definition, characteristics and role of secondary territories space in elderly homes (Archea, J, 2016; Altman, 1975), few have systematically identified typical examples of secondary territories and their individual characteristics. Moreover, the influence of secondary territory space in the aspect of personalization is neglected and needs further research. On the other hand, while some of the researchers have investigated on the influence of design in physical environment in terms of personalization, most of the focus were that on public and primary territory, none on the secondary territory, where it has the most potential for the residents to claim their individuality.