

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	Martina Rosenova Marinova
Student number	5869501

Studio		
Name / Theme	AR3AH115 Graduation Studio Revitalizing Heritage	
Main mentor	Arnold Hermkens	Architectural design
Second mentor	Dr. Marie-Thérèse van Thoor	Research
Argumentation of choice of the studio	The importance of revitalizing unlisted and compromised maritime industrial heritage through a comprehensive analysis of future demands, current conditions, and direct oral narratives is an adequate approach in the context of contemporary heritage redevelopment. Maritime heritage preservation in the Waterdriehoek region – the context of this graduation studio - poses difficulties since many of the factories there do not yet hold monumental status and are generally in a compromised condition. Revitalizing such buildings and their landscapes, with architectural, engineering and urban development means reintegrates these sites and thorough historical and oral history research ensures that their industrial legacy is commemorated in the present-day context.	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Memories of steel: Adaptive reuse of the Nedstaal factory
Goal	
Location:	Alblasserdam, The Netherlands
The posed problem	Between the 1940's up until the early 2000s, The Nedstaal factory complex was a leader in the production of high-quality steel products, and therefore of a great regional and international importance. Those steel products were then used in the maritime and other industries. The factory had an enormous economical and socio-cultural impact on Alblasserdam and other cities in the Waterdriehoek region. Nowadays, however, the former Nedstaal complex is slowly being disassembled with a complete disregard of its historical and socio-cultural significance. That process threatens the

	memory preservation and commemoration of the maritime industrial heritage of the Waterdriehoek region, of which Nedstaal is a prominent example.
research questions and	<p>The following research questions will be answered by separately writing a research paper. The main research question in that paper is:</p> <p>How can the personal narratives about Nedstaal Fabriek inform a value framework of its maritime industrial heritage?</p> <p>The thus formulated research question is further supported by the following sub-questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the chronological development of Nedstaal into an industrial complex? 2. What was the steel-making process sequence inside the factory and how did it affect Nedstaal's landscape? 3. What are the direct oral narratives about Nedstaal, collected from former employees and other members of the public? 4. What do these direct accounts reveal about the factory's tangible and intangible values?
design assignment in which this result.	Adaptive reuse of the Nedstaal Fabriek
<p>The assignment is to propose a thorough design for the adaptive reuse of Nedstaal, implementing the industrial and socio-cultural values, that emerged during the research. This redevelopment must commemorate the factory tangible and intangible heritage, while also accounting for the contemporary functional demands and future needs.</p>	
Process	
Method description	
<p>The research paper outcome – the creation of a value framework, will directly inform the design process, assisting in the conceptualization and further execution of the project. By investigating literature and archival sources, I will establish the empirical data of my research; Analyzing oral narratives under the form of direct interviews with former Nedstaal workers and other members of the Alblusserdam community, will help me determine the tangible and intangible socio-cultural values of the factory and its landscape. The latter will therefore aid my design assignment ensuring that the heritage aspect is properly analyzed and adequately commemorated in the adaptive reuse.</p>	

Literature and general practical references

The following literature is used to create a theoretical framework and collect data for my further research and then, based on that research, further execute the design.

Theory for the research paper

Landscape Biographies

Kolen, J., Renes, J., & Hermans, R. (Eds.). (2015). Landscape Biographies: Geographical, Historical and Archaeological Perspectives on the Production and Transmission of Landscapes. Amsterdam University Press. <https://doi.org/10.5117/9789089644725>

Biography of an Industrial Landscape

Riesto, S. (2018). Biography of an Industrial Landscape: Carlsberg's Urban Spaces Retold. Amsterdam University Press.

The Oral History Reader

Perks, R. (1998). The Oral History Reader (A. Thomson, Compiler; 2nd ed.). Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203435960>

Research Data

Arcadis 2019 report

Arcadis Nederland B.V. (2019). Heritage Line exploration of the Iron Century: maritime industry from Hoek van Holland to Gorinchem. Arcadis Nederland BV.

The steel face of Alblasserdam - book

Dam, O. v. (2008). The Steel Face of Alblasserdam. Foundation Publications West-Alblasserwaard.

Industrial Estates Alblasserdam report

Municipality Alblasserdam. (2022, November). Industrial Estates Alblasserdam. Municipality Alblasserdam. Retrieved October 29, 2024, from <https://raad.alblasserdam.nl/Documenten/Bijlage-n/Bijlage-2-Paspoorten-bedrijventerreinen-Alblasserdam.pdf>

Dordrecht Archive for archival data and photographic material;

Historical Society Alblasserdam for archival data and photographic material;

'De Wals' factory magazine, 23 issues reviewed

Practical experience

The main part of the research paper consists of direct oral interviews with former Nedstaal workers (Jan Hekkert, Harry Klassens, Ayhan Osmanoglou), and other people, who had a relationship with Nedstaal and thus experienced it in a different way than the employees – Emine Osmanoglou (daughter of late Nedstaal workers), Max de Groot (played as a child on the site), Maron Rietveld (site manager).

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)?

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

Relation between graduation topic, studio topic and master track

The graduation topic is directly related to the studio topic – the maritime industrial heritage of the Waterdriehoek region as it deals with the Nedstaal Fabriek in Alblasterdam, which is a former steel factory, part of that Waterdriehoek region. The factory originally produced steel wires for the ship industry. Furthermore, this topic directly relates to my master track and program – Architecture, as it concerns the adaptive reuse of an industrial building from an architectural point of view.

Relevance

Working on the adaptive reuse of Nedstaal Fabriek – a prime example of the Waterdriehoek maritime industrial past, is a relevant graduation project in the context of heritage revitalization. The implementation of oral history, combined with archival and literature research, is a thorough method of identifying the values a site might hold and how these can inform a value-based framework in a culturally sensitive manner. In that sense, examining these values with the methodology I proposed results in a diverse scientific framework – one both informed by empirical and qualitative data. Therefore, my work is relevant as it employs the variety of approaches mentioned to derive a well-balanced, culturally, but also scientifically informed design approach. Finally, that design approach will facilitate the adaptive reuse of Nedstaal and thus become a thoroughly researched and appropriately designed heritage revitalization project for my master's graduation.