Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences

Graduation Plan: All tracks

Submit your Graduation Plan to the Board of Examiners (<u>Examencommissie-BK@tudelft.nl</u>), 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	Clarisse Leung
Student number	5999480

Studio			
Name / Theme	Methods of Analysis and	Imagination	
Main mentor	Willemijn Wilms Floet	Architecture	
Second mentor	Niels Tilanus	Building technology	
Third mentor	Willie Vogel	Research	
Argumentation of choice of the studio	I chose Methods of Analysis and Imagination for my graduation studio because of two key reasons regarding the site to the working style of the studio. First, I am fascinated by the site of the studio, Tallinn, Estonia. I am interested in working on a heritage project for my graduation. Tallinn has an old town with an array of heritage buildings. The city has a lot of potential heritage sites to work with.		
	Second, I think the working style of the studio matches my personal interests. I like to push myself to use creative ways of analysis and visual representation. The studio also stresses creative methods and representations. I am positive that I can hone my visual communication skills working with the tutors and colleagues of this studio.		

Graduation project				
Title of the graduation project	Inhabited Walls			
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Goal				
Location:		The city wall of Tallin from Nunnatorn to Kuldjala torn, Tallinn, Estonia, including Suur-Kloostri 18.		
The posed problem,		Two main problem statements are observed.		
		First, some parts of the city wall are underutilized. Tallinn's city wall used to		

be an integral part of the city in the Middle Ages due to its defensive purposes. Currently, it is considered obsolete with no specific function serving the city. Yet, the city wall blocks a lot of sunlight, ventilation, and views. This caused a lot of debate on whether the wall should be entirely removed. Considering the wall being an important piece of heritage, there is a need to rethink the role of the city wall.

Second, the old town is consumed rather than inhabited. The local population in the old town has been plummeting since the 1960s. This phenomenon is caused by a series of events in the Soviet era. Today, the old town of Tallinn is rather monofunctional. It is a UNESCO heritage site that is mostly occupied by places targeted at tourists. Heritage is treated as commercial resources rather than a living entity that evolves with Tallinn's inhabitants. The old town needs to be diversified.

research questions and

Main research question

How can Tallinn's city wall be reactivated and reused as a living monument?

(A living monument refers to a monument that has dynamic interactions with people and are relevant to their daily lives.)

Sub-questions

What is the history of Tallinn's city wall?

What are the dynamics and statics of the city wall?

What role does the city wall play as a resource for Tallinn?

How to intervene in the city wall while protecting the essence of the monument?

How can the city wall be inhabited?

design assignment in which these result.

The chosen site for the project is the part of the wall from Nunnatorn to Kuldjala torn. This part of Tallinn's city wall is considered as underused. The project is an investigation of how the city wall can be reactivated and inhabited. The project could act as a model that can be expanded to other parts of the city wall to diversify the old town in a broader sense.

The part of the city wall from Nunnatorn to Kuldjala torn is a site that has several neighboring buildings. There is an elderly club (Kodulinna Maja) connected to Kuldjala torn. There is also a secondary school (Gustav Adolfi Gumnaasium) that is on the East of the city wall. Along the wall, there are two existing buildings attached to the wall. Those buildings are currently holiday apartments (Delta Apartments). This project hopes to transform the holiday apartments and expand the buildings to create a private community with residential units for the seniors in the elderly club and the teachers and students from the school. It is a place to connect locals of different ages. Inhabitants of different generations can help each other in this residential complex. By introducing a local community to inhabit the city wall, the project hopes to reactivate the part of the city wall and diversify the area. Architecturally, the project aims to be private on the outside, but vibrant on the inside.

The project wants to involve the city wall in the daily lives of the inhabitants to reactivate the city wall as a living monument. The project hopes to

develop an ongoing relationship between local communities and the city
wall.

Process

Method description

First, the project uses architectural drawings as tools for analysis and investigations. Architectural drawings include plans, sections, elevations, perspectives are essential to the project. At the start of the project, an unfolded elevation of the city wall is used to have a thorough study of the system of the defensive wall. Plans and sections are juxtaposed onto the elevation to give a holistic analysis of the wall. Furthermore, a layered drawing was made as a tool to understand the different thresholds in the city. The thresholds are dissected with three main scales and juxtaposed together to create a detailed investigation. The juxtaposition of scales and drawings will be carried out from analysis to final products.

Second, diagrams are used to distill main concepts from the analysis and design. Diagrams are extensively used to conclude key ideas and as a form of communication. Simple diagrams will be used in analysis and design to help sharpen concepts.

Third, physical models are used as design tools. The use of physical models in different scales can enhance the understanding of masses and spaces. Physical models will be made during the design process and as final products for communication.

Fourth, other forms of tools of design are adopted to expand the possibilities of the project. For instance, a board game was made to find programmes for the project. Tools like board games help me think creatively. These tools will be used more during the design phase.

Lastly, the project studies a list of literature references and practical references. Literature references about defensive walls and walls in general are studied. Literature about Tallinn's old town is also crucial to the project. One study 'The "Venice syndrome" in Tallinn Old Town' builds up the argument of how Tallinn's old town is consumed rather than inhabited. Moreover, practical references dealing with heritage sites are beneficial to the project. 100 Het Steen Antwerp by noAarchitecten and Hedmark Museum by Sverre Fehn are inspiring heritage projects. Residential projects like Amsterdam Orphanage by Aldo van Eyck influenced the design of an internal street in my graduation project. The Klaeuwshofje in Delft is an integral reference for the project for its thresholds into the private courtyard. Literature and practical references are critical in the analysis and design stages.

Literature and general practical references

Literature references

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Bruns, D., and Kangropool, R. *Tallinn Sajandeis: Ehituskunstiline Ulevaade*. Eesti Raamat, 1971.

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Unesco. "Historic Centre (Old Town) of Tallinn." Accessed October 22, 2024. https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/822/.

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Practical references

Aldo van Eyck. 1960. Amsterdam Orphanage. Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Dirck and Elizabeth Uyttenhage. 1605. Klaeuwshofje. Delft, Netherlands.

Louis Kahn. 1969. First Unitarian Church of Rochester. Rochester, United States.

Louis Kahn. 1960-1965. Erdman Hall. Pennsylvania, United States.

noAarchitecten. 2016-2021. 100 Het Steen Antwerp. Antwerp, Belgium.

Sverre Fehn. 1967-2005. Hedmark Museum. Hamar, Norway.

Sverre Fehn. 1990. Villa Busk. Bramble, Norway.

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)?

My graduation project is linked to the theme of the Methods of Analysis and Imagination studio. The graduation studio is titled 'A Matter of Scale'. The studio uses different scales to analyse and design. My graduation project is about the city wall of Tallinn. The project spans from the scale of the old town to the scale of construction details of the city wall. The project has a strong connection to scales in terms of its overall concept down to its detail treatment of heritage materials.

The graduation project is also related to a wide range of architectural topics. First, the project investigates an urban problem of a monofunctional zone.

Second, the project touches on questions of heritage protection and reactivation. Third, the project explores the possibility of creating publicness within a private community. Fourth, the project experiments with construction methods involves with heritage intervention. Fifth, the project is connected to interior design, especially in the internal street.

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

The graduation work is a response to multiple urban and architectural issues that are happening around the world. The main theme of the project is about diversifying monofunctional areas, which is a common problem in many touristic cities around the world. This project wishes to add to the discourses about the issue. Additionally, the project discusses how pieces of heritage can be treated. It has long been a challenge for many places with a growing number of built heritages. This project hopes to provide a possibility of how important built heritages can be reactivated as living monuments. Lastly, the project addresses the topics of publicness and privateness. In the age when more and more people are moving to cities and living together, the level of publicness and privateness is worth studying. The graduation project hopes to be an investigation of how to design for a private community in a busy area, touching upon topics of public and private. The graduation project reacts to various pressing issues, hoping to spark conversations on those topics.