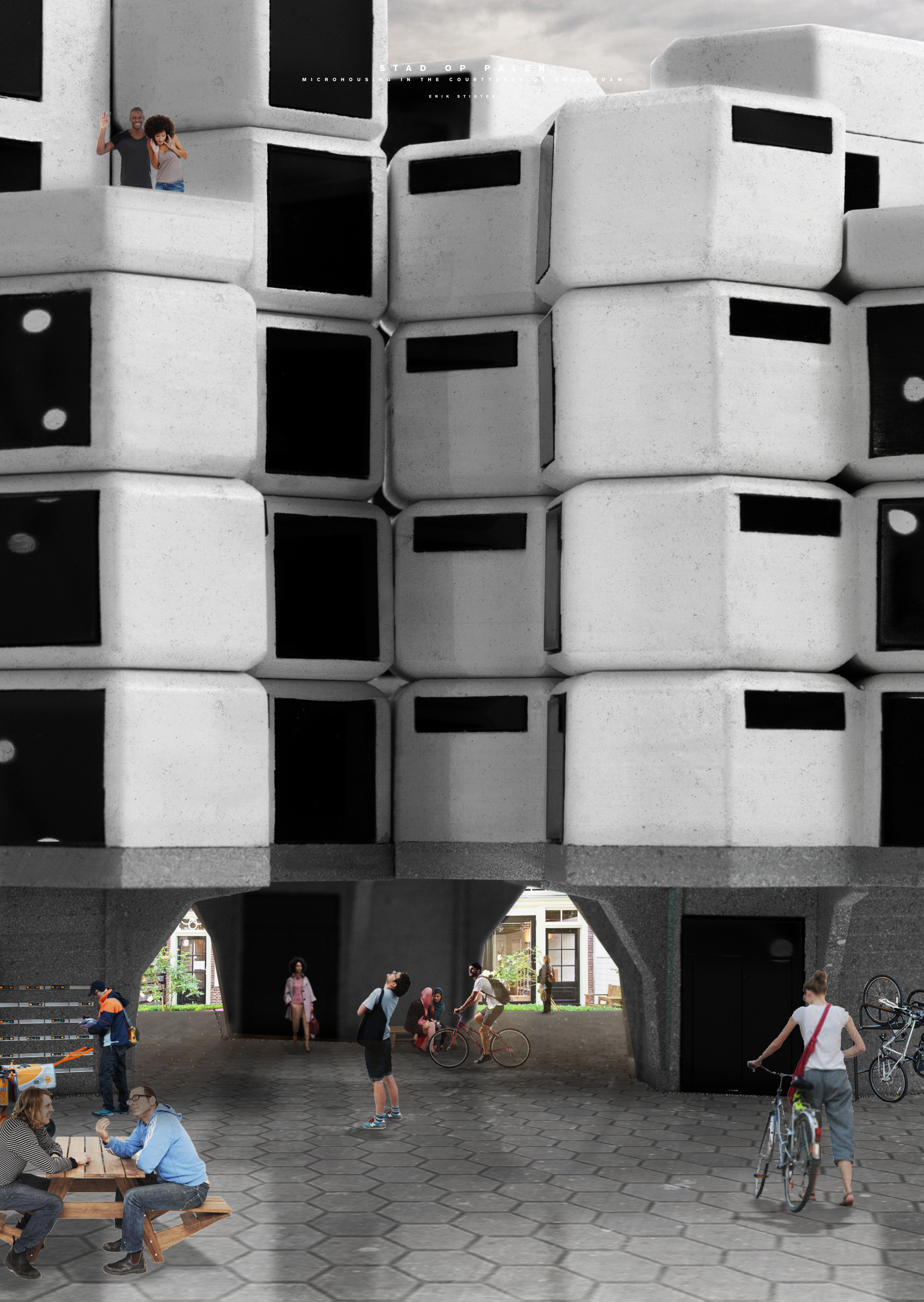
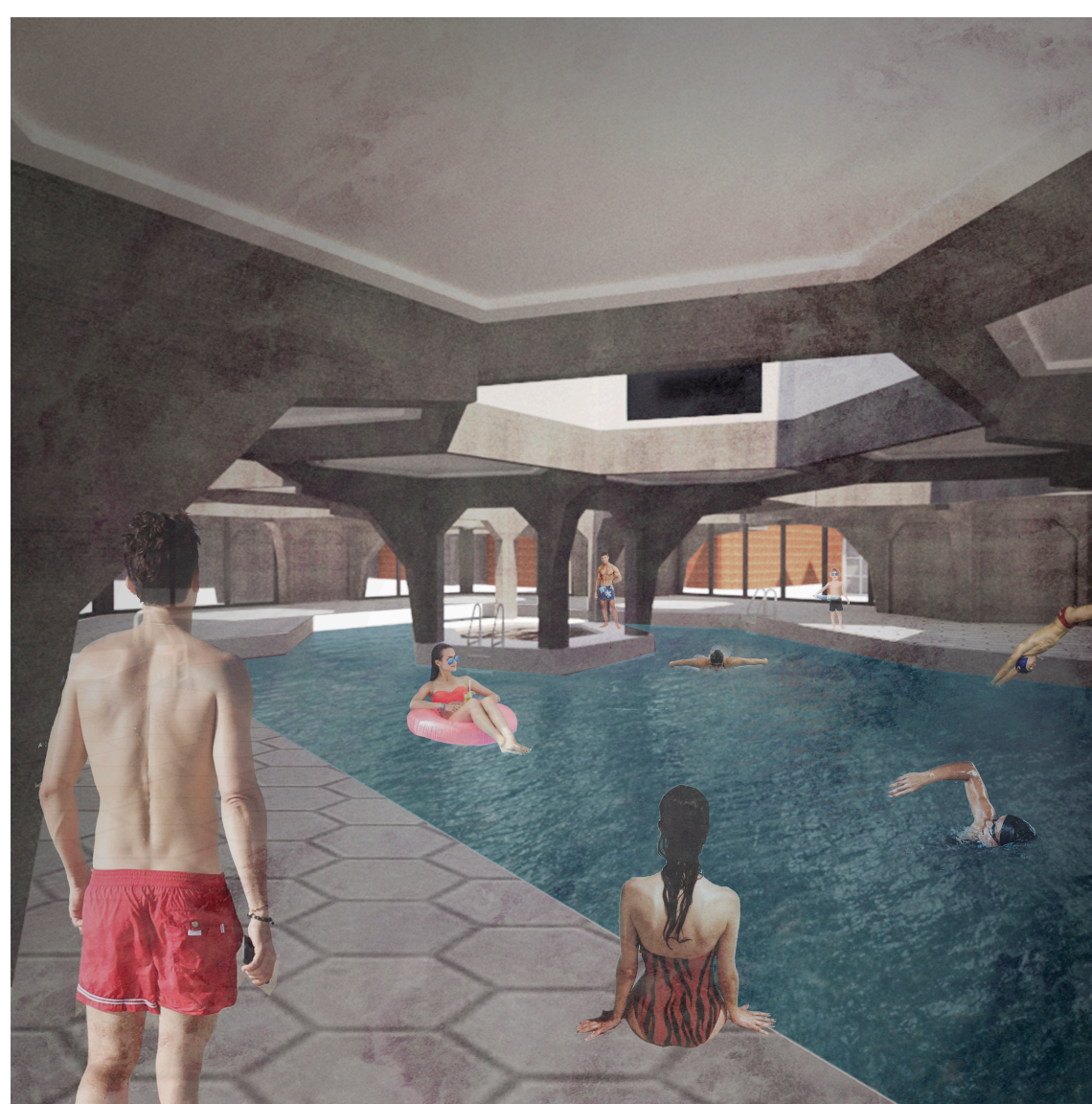
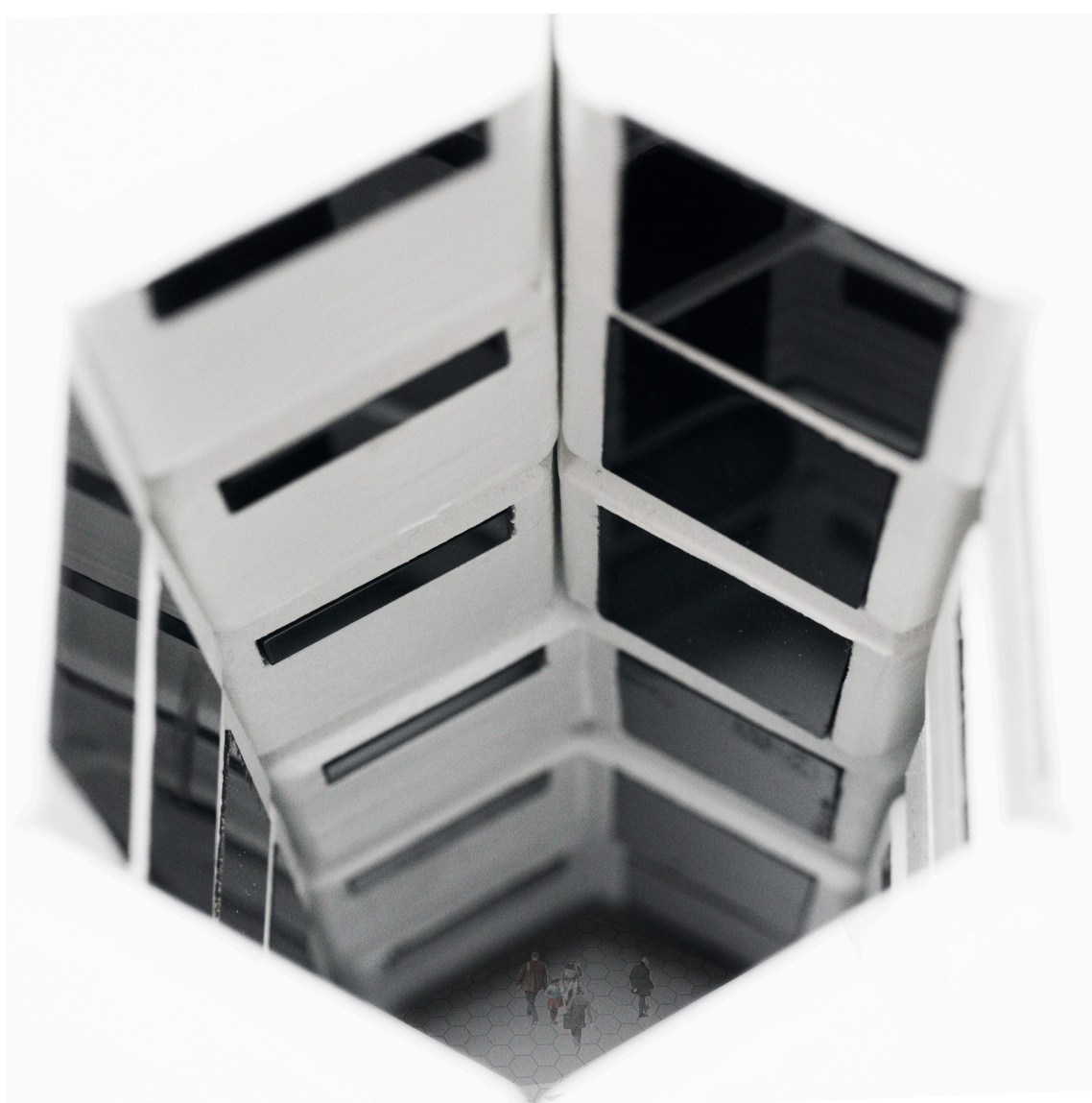
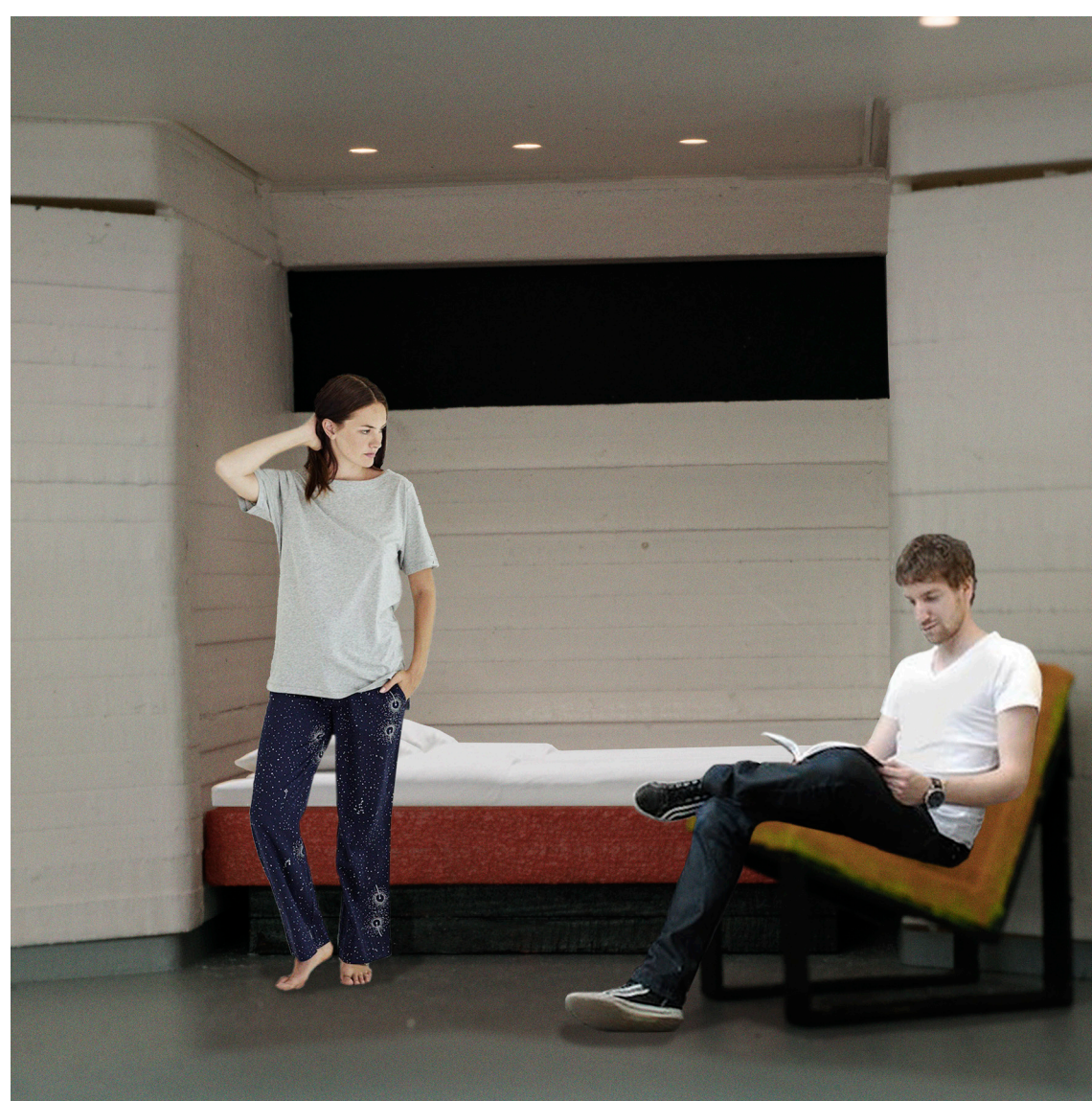
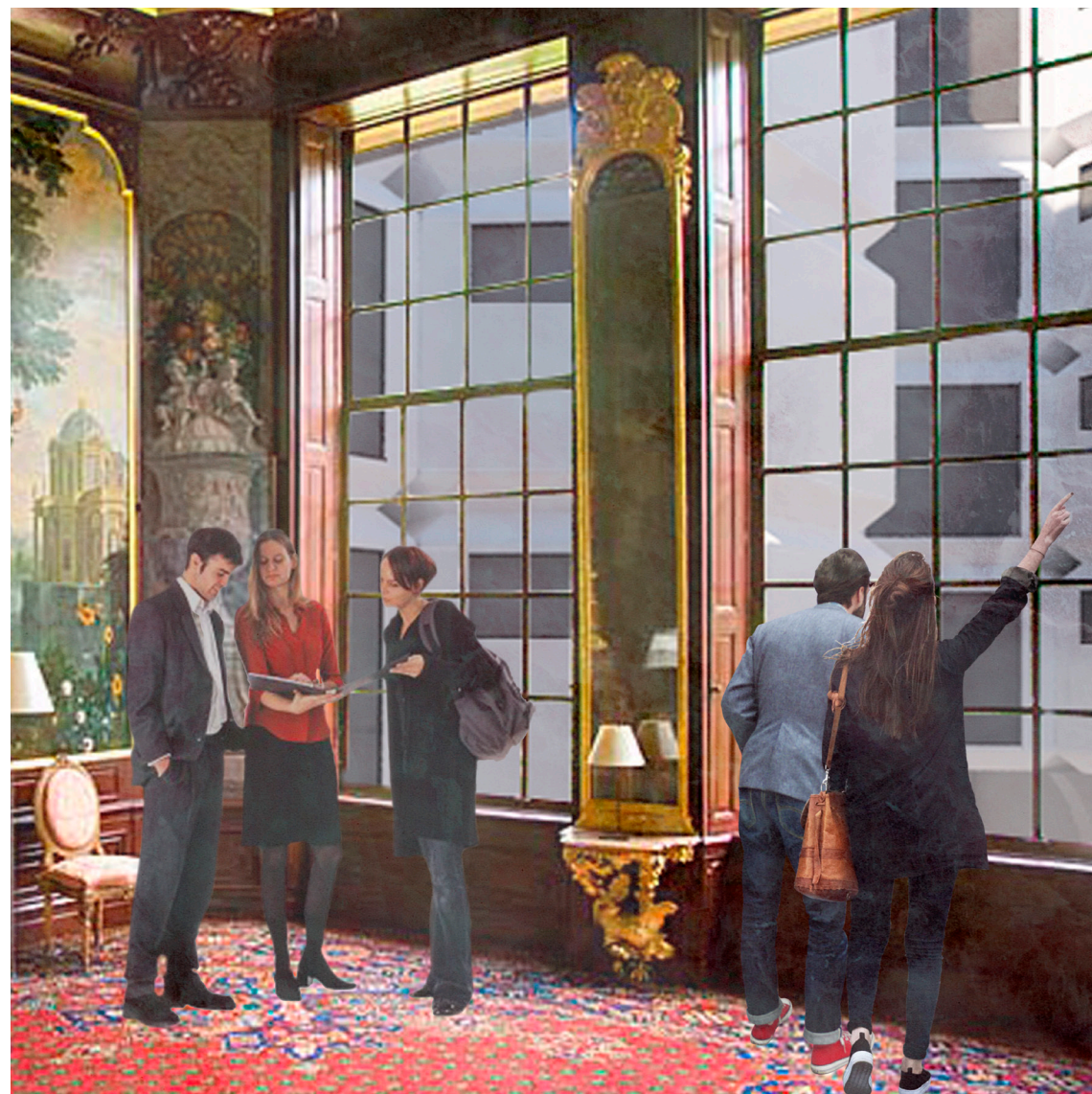
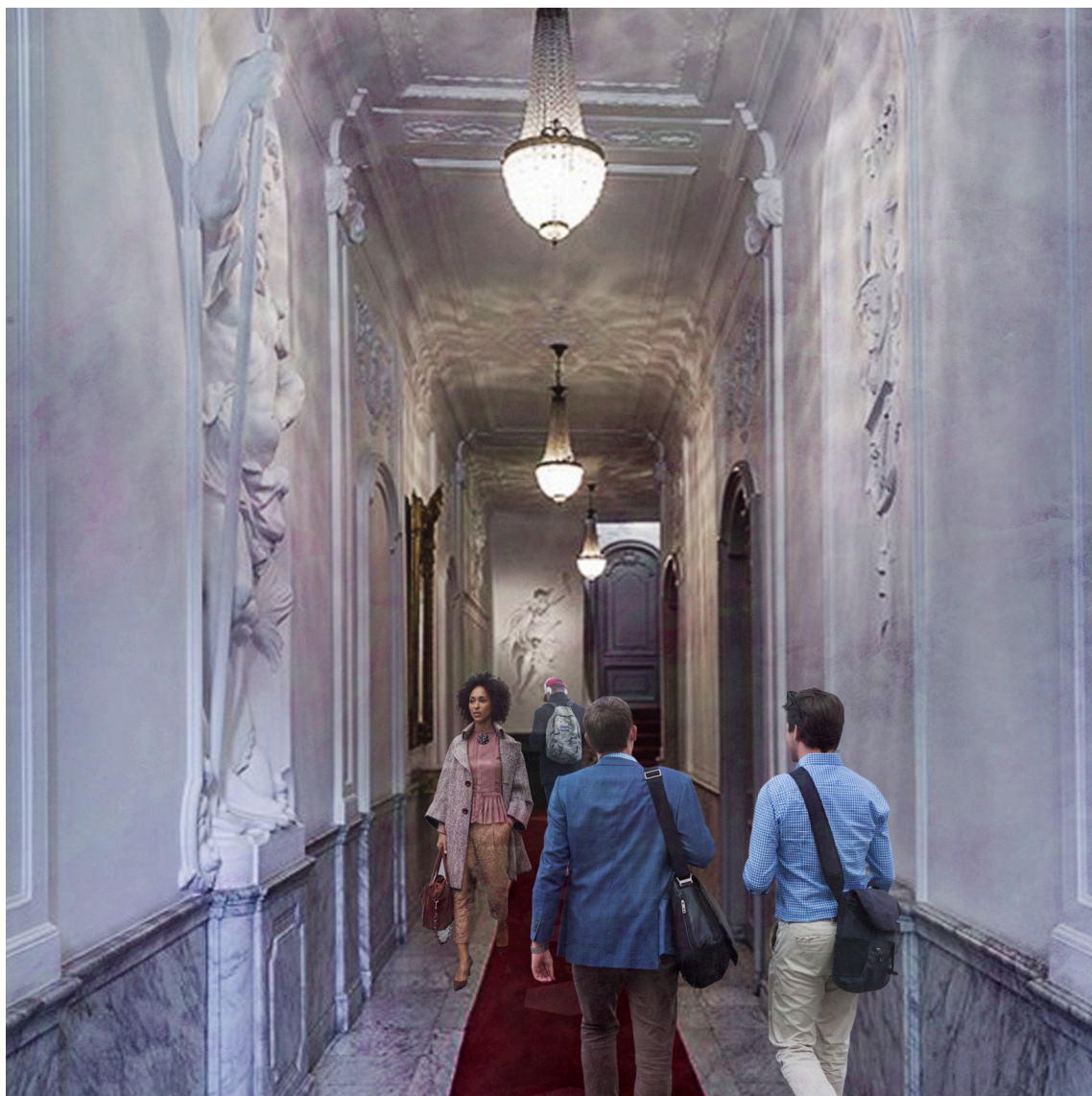
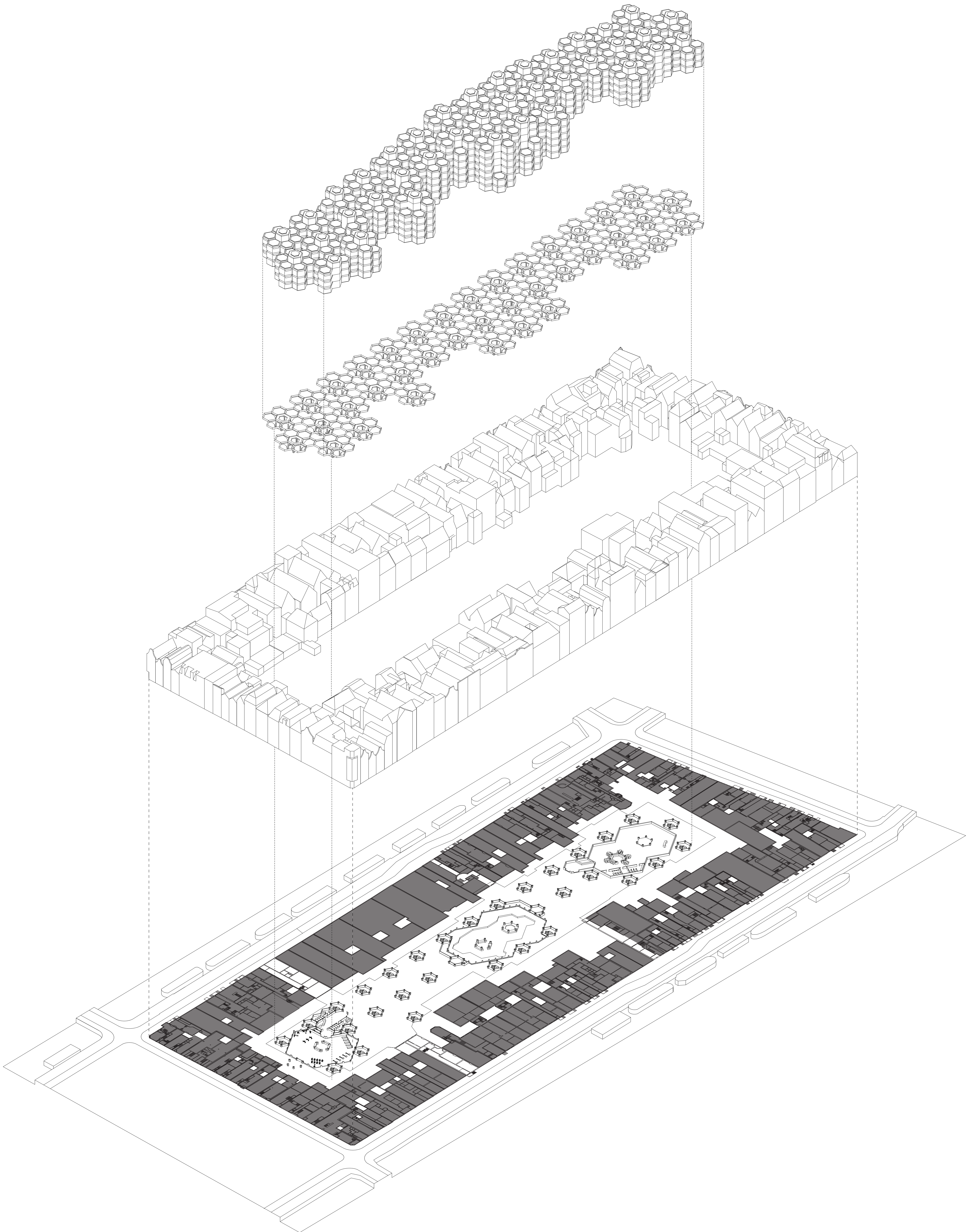


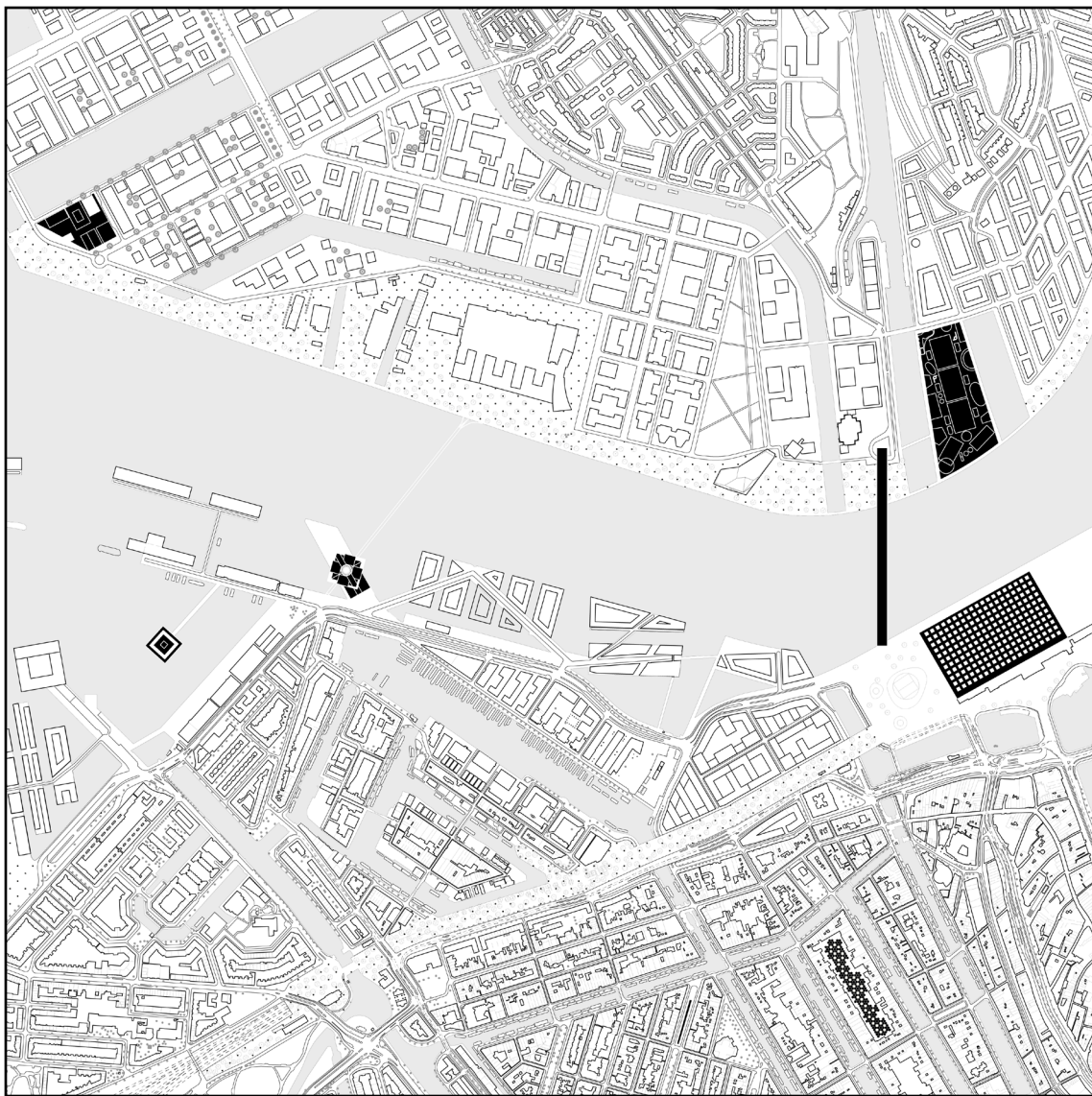
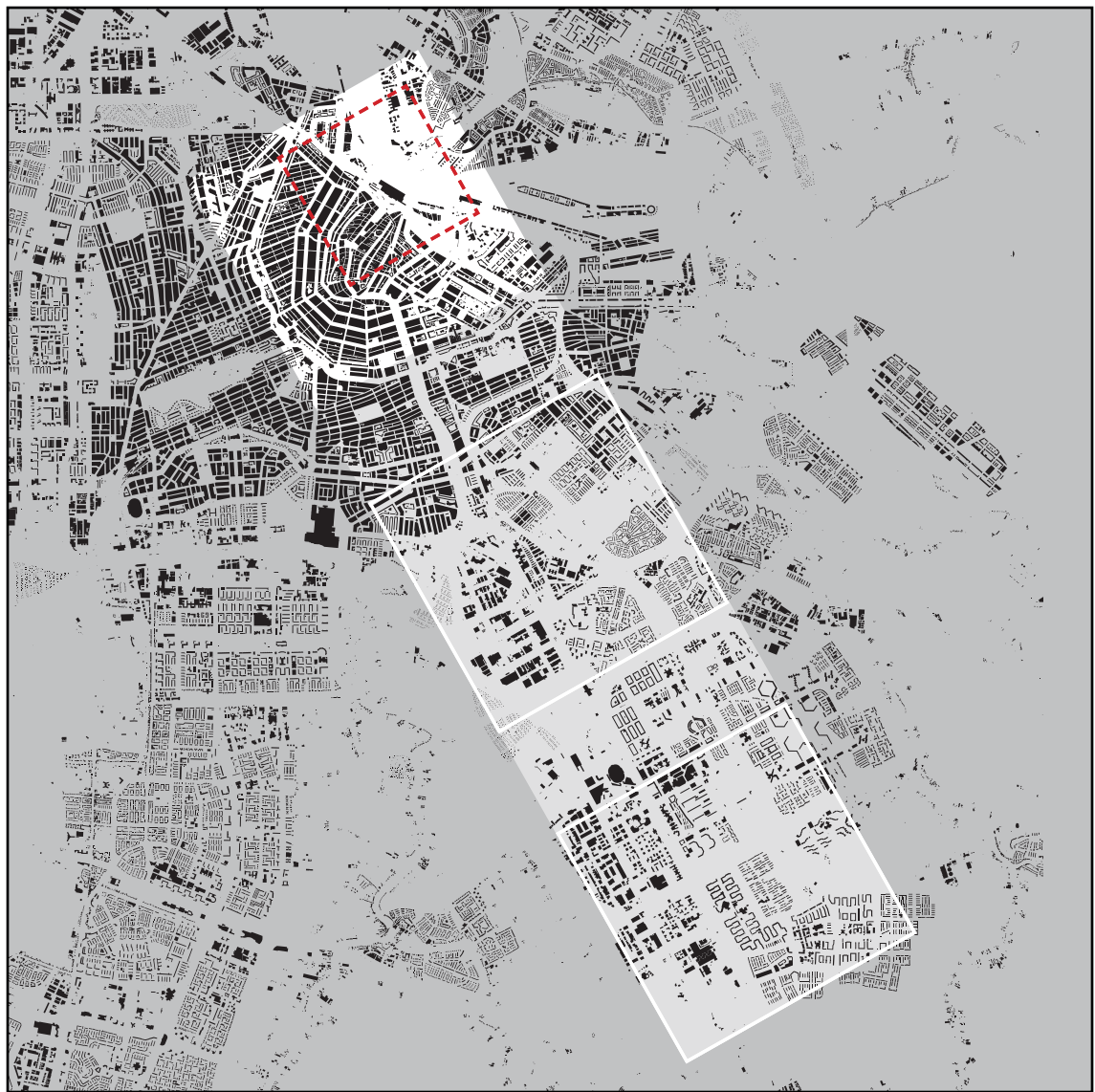
STAD OP PALEN
MICROHOUSING IN THE COURTYARDS OF AMSTERDAM
ERIK STIGTER





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STAD OP PALEN

MICROHOUSING

ERIK STIGTER
2017 / 2018

Nederland Actual headlines: "London like prices in the city center of Amsterdam, 150.000 euro for fifteen square meter." The rental prices in the city of Amsterdam are becoming extremely expensive. In the rental affordability index of Nestlé, Amsterdam is listed on the 17th place. And the expectation is that the growth of cities like Amsterdam will only increase in the coming years.

If we take a stroll in the city center of Amsterdam it is surprising how crowded and quiet places exist next to each other. The small streets are used by tourists to get from A to B, while the canal belt is quite calm and used by bikers, cars and people living there. Imagining these streets without the parked cars and a more urban density the streets become a vibrant place.

But it hard to imagine high-rise at the monumental canals of Amsterdam. How can we density this most desirable piece of Amsterdam and keep it vibrant without harming its historical value?

My answer to this question is to build within the courtyards of the historical building blocks, nearly invisible from the street level. The ground floor of the courtyard is entered true some of the existing buildings. The courtyard becomes a communal space that can be used by the current and future residents. Above this public area, small pods are stacked on a structure of columns. The stacked pods form a scape of private units, mixed with shared units. The columns cover all serving functions, such as installations, staircases and elevator shafts. Between all hexagonal tower there is space left

free to let in light and air true the superstructure. The building provides affordable housing by reducing the foot print of dwellings while maintaining high living standards.

In 2050 Amsterdam needs to cope with over one million inhabitants. Nowadays it is already extremely hard for students, starters, seniors, young professionals and expats (most of them single) to find affordable housing. The private-owned sector is too expensive and they are not eligible for the social sector. What is left, is the free rental sector which could not provide enough dwellings leading to increasing prices. The city should develop types of housing that makes it possible for these people to live in the inner city in the limited space while maintaining their high living standards.

For the new developments the new citizens which live on their own should be taken into account. They do not need large apartments, but they want their privacy and luxury. Communal and extra rentable spaces could provide in extra needs. Like having people over for dinner, using the communal kitchen and a rented dining room, having a barbecue with some neighbours at the shared terraces and gardens, studying and working in a shared library, a bike repair shop, and once a week a dive in the swimming pool. But also the public space is very important to them. The location is of major importance. They are looking for a city lifestyle with all kind of facilities in the direct vicinity.

What is better to have this all for a affordable price between de Herengracht and the Keizersgracht?

