Reflection

reflection on the method & theory

Site analysis through literature study on the body of knowledge of climate change, aquatic ecosystem and cultural heritage in Baakse beek basin and forest landscape restoration is vital to understand the landscape as a process so that the diagnosis of the site could be more comprehensive. Mapping on the historical and current situation of the study area's landscape typology, ecology networks, land use and water system at different scales helps to understand the study area in-depth and to effectively show site's potentials after overlapping different maps.

- reflection on the design content

The thesis is fascinated by a line about the landscape biography of eastern Netherlands, which is a promising starting point to trigger historical forest landscape to be related to the current situation. The concept is clear and straightforward to guide readers to understand the definition and importance of forest landscape restoration.

- generic value of the research

The research provides a new perspective to employ forest landscape restoration to cultural-historical landscape for resilient development. A new forest landscape is proposed to function as an infrastructure to promote landscape quality from the ecological aspect and also societal aspect, which presents forest landscape restoration's capacities of addressing water issues and landscape perception issues. Moreover, the research also presents how to explore the potential values of the estate landscape through forest landscape restoration.

- "Flowscape" and this project

The graduation studio topic is "Flowscape" which aims to explore the historical continuity of landscape as a process of time and flows. Knowledge from different fields is synthesized into landscape design proposals. The proposal in this thesis, forest landscape restoration for high cultural-historical perception and climate resilience, shows how to put the theoretical methodologies and principles into practice in the context of estate landscape in the eastern Netherlands. To achieve resilient development, especially from ecology, landscape perception and agriculture aspects, the historical role of forest and contemporary and future opportunities from the site itself are considered and integrated into the vision this project proposes.

reflection on ethical issues and dilemmas

Though principles of forest landscape restoration have been successfully applied worldwide in similar cases, it's still necessary to involve more participation from local

people and land users, which is lacking in the thesis. With abundant negotiations with land users, what they really want to achieve in certain piece of land could be considered detailly. So that more positive values and added profits from the valuable estate zone can be brought to both land users and other stake holders. Besides, since forest landscape restoration is supposed to be an intervention at regional scale, the cost would be a lot for transforming the current agriculture-dominated landscape into a landscape mostly covered by trees. And as for estate owners, their personal life might be affected when some of their territories are open to the visitors like the thesis proposed, though they could gain profit from these changes. Thus, negotiations between designers and estate owners should be organized when needed and plans for estate owners' future life should be made for them. Moreover, the principles of forest ecology contain a wealth of knowledge, but I haven't read them all for sake of time. Forest-ecology related principles could have had more possibilities to be applied to this estate landscape.

- special issue, like Corona-crisis, and the thesis

Although the corona issue has been bringing more uncertainties to our study, work and life, the thesis still could move forward. Difficulties always could be overcome by taking a positive attitude and helps from others. For our lab, which involves an exchange program with students from Politecnico di TORINO and several excursions on site in 2020, corona- crisis does bring lots of impacts on the schedule of our lab. Apart from that, site's hydrological situation in spring is hard to be visited on site for sake of the potential risk of taking a train and the quarantine policy. However, it's fortunate that our site is based in Netherlands, so data, information and research of the site from different aspects are available online. And our knowledgeable Dutch tutors help a lot by recommending books and cases to study on. As for digital mentoring which I already started before corona outbroke in Europe, I am used to it to some extent and regular digital mentoring in group during our work-from-home period always give me new inspiration from other students' work.