Graduation Plan

Personal information

Name: Dominika Kubieniec  
Student number: 4241568  
Address: Ternatestraat 67  
2612AX Delft  
Telephone number: 0 613 934 971  
E-mail address: D.M.Kubieniec@student.tudelft.nl

Studio

Name: Explore Lab

Teachers:  
1st (Architecture): Robert Nottrot  
2nd (Building Technology): Ype Cuperus  
3rd (Research): Maurice Harteveld

Argumentation of choice of the studio:
Explore Lab is a studio, which allows to develop design based on own unique fascination. My fascination begun in the sphere of informal urban setting and in the notion of participatory design, as a way of shaping the city by its inhabitants. This however had been incorporated in the observation of urban marketplace, which became the main interest. Explore Lab provides me with the framework and support in research on this specific topic and allows to organize design work independently.

Title

Space of marketplace

Product

Problem statement

The formation, functioning and development of marketplaces are underlined by economic motivations and therefore are related to urban economics. The political transition and market transformation in Poland during 1990s, led to emergence of particular form of marketplace. The main interest of this inquiry is a distinctive type of permanent marketplace, which forms specific built environment in contrary to seasonal or temporary markets. Those marketplaces in Warsaw tend to disappear nowadays especially due to increasing land value and investment perspectives. The current tendency is to completely liquidate bazaars or replace them with homogenous market halls that usually lack aesthetic and spatial quality.

Yet the urban marketplaces proved to be important for local communities. They constitute a vibrant public space and they are embedded in the city's history. Moreover, the farmers' markets are important part of local food systems and they enhance urban economy.

Objective

The aim of the project is to propose a solution for new type of structure housing indoor/outdoor marketplace, which would suite the needs of contemporary city of Warsaw. The research will provide specific information on program and features to be implemented into design.

Overall research question

What spatial qualities determine attractiveness of contemporary marketplace, resulting in vibrant public space?
Technical research questions

In order to have full understanding of the phenomenon of urban marketplace the research will be carried in three different domains:

A. Processes, which result in formation of marketplaces in specific location, providing the general context and the circumstances for emergence of characteristic form: economic, political, social.
   a. What kind of laws and regulations decide on location of marketplaces?
   b. How the ownership is structured?
   c. What kind of infrastructure is needed?

B. Actual physical shape of the marketplace - its spatial organization and the materialization aspects.
   a. What is the relation of an area to supply?
   b. What are the dimensions and types of single stall?
   c. What are the common building technics?

C. Processes, which take place in the environment of marketplace creating distinctive type of public space: social, economical, psychological.
   a. Who are the users: merchants and consumer?
   b. What kind of social interaction take place
   c. Why people like/dislike marketplaces?
   d. What kind of products is being sold?

The objective of the research is to define relations between the dynamic processes and physical form of marketplace.

Methodologies

The research will be based on 8 case studies, which together make up a fair representation of permanent urban marketplaces in Warsaw. The strategies of research have been assigned according to the fields of inquiry:

A. Qualitative research
   a. Main sources: journals, news, literature
   b. Study on adequate legal regulations

B. Spatial analysis
   a. Mapping
   b. Analytical drawings

C. Empirical research
   a. Field studies
   b. Interviews
   c. Literature studies to provide basis in fields of sociology, anthropology and psychology
Design hypothesis

Based on primary recognition of the topic some conjuncture might be made on the characteristics of the design:

- The designed structure should be flexible, allowing modification and adaptation to needs of different users - open structure.
- Rather then a single hall the building should provide adaptable framework of spatial order, in which the market program could be implemented.
- The building could serve other functions like residential, offices, leisure etc. to justify its position in the city.

Planning

Between 6th and 13th November the field studies will take place in Warsaw. The outcome of the research will be presented in form of drawings and text. In due course of research but not later then on the beginning of December the site will be chosen for the design and the program will be specified.

Relevance

Although the project proposal appears to be very site specific, the general theme of marketplace is relevant to any other contemporary urban environment. Warsaw has been chosen as a field of investigation because of the occurrence of marketplaces in form that has been already eliminated in the majority of large European cities. The aim of the design is however, to come up with more generic solution that could be implemented in different geographical context.

Literature