

Research Plan

Interiors Buildings Cities Studio
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Amsterdam city scale.

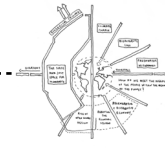
Large scale



A city portrait - Studio booklet

Doughnut Economics
by Kate Raworth

How can we appeal to the market, how do we sell to people that saving humanity is profitable?



1.1 Design intervention.

Drawing
Exemplars
Journaling



Precedents.

- 01 Park 20|20
- 02 Buiksloterham
- 03 De Ceuvel
- 04 Circl pavilion

Decentralised economy.

01 Upcycling.

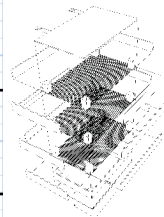
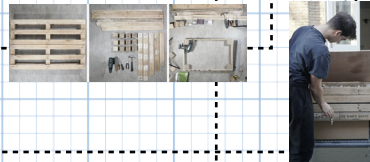
- Repurposing/Reuse.**
 - Books
 - Journals
 - Dissertations
 - Existing projects
- Building materials.**
 - DETAIL magazine
 - Archdaily
 - Dezeen
 - Think Wood

02 Organic waste.

Small scale initiatives

- Education
- Social cohesion
- Integration
- Encourage younger generations

Zero waste week.



Worm hotel.

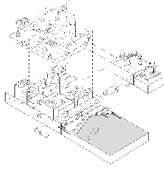
- 01 A project that acts as a small scale solution to organic waste.
- 02 Upcycling used timber pallet by disassembling parts.



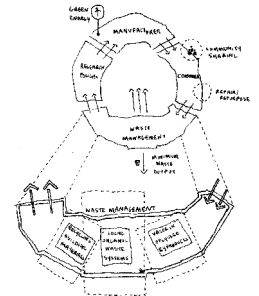
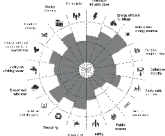
re-store
interview
amsterdam doughnut coalition



wormenhotel.nl
interview
amsterdam doughnut coalition



Circular city - Buiksloterham

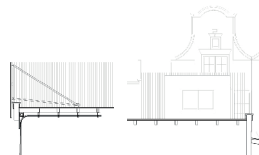


Circular economy - Consumer

Driehoekstraat.



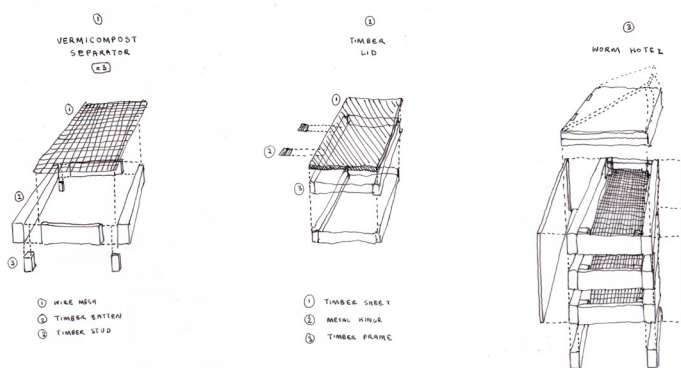
01 Establishing the programme criteria in response to the chosen site.



02 Exploring and understanding what already exists.

Problem Statement

What if we collectively as a planet just stopped producing and only used the resources we had available? How could we make this work for an ever-growing world population? To establish a position as an architect and designer, I want to continue to find different approaches to redesign, reuse and upcycling. How can we confront our endless consumption habits and highlight the mentality shift necessary for the continuation of our stable environment? As architects, we will need to justify any potential building in this world - we need new alternatives for the economy and a balanced model for which architecture can be placed to invoke societal change.



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1.

Worm hotel construction
assembly drawing

Research Questions

What is my **role** as an architect? What are my priorities?

How can architects **repurpose** and **reuse** existing materials to produce effective buildings that have a low environmental impact?

How can a hotel achieve a minimum import/export? Can a hotel operate with a **zero waste** policy?

How can we appeal to the market, how do we sell to people that **saving humanity** is profitable?

Why is such a building justified for the city of Amsterdam? Can a hotel provide a positive contribution to the city?

How long should the 'City Hotel' building last?

What is the **future relationship** of tourists and city locals? Do they need to be more integrated to achieve a better model for the city? What does tourism look like post-2020?

How can such a building touch on the **existing fabric** of the city? Which design approach is best to respond to existing layers of history in Amsterdam?

How does the 'City Hotel' fit within the new doughnut economic model?

Why are **building materials** so important to consider as designers, to reduce the impact on the environment?

How do world issues inform the **infrastructure** of cities?

Methods

Primary

Site visits

Interviews

Survey

Photographs, Film

Drawings (mapping, redrawing)

Archival drawings

Documentaries

Literature (books, journals, dissertations etc.)

Secondary

Online articles

Newspapers

Online videos

Discussion websites; threads

Social media

Methodology

The research plan diagram, shown on page 2, encompasses all the planned research for the Interiors Buildings Cities graduation project. It outlines the foundations of the ongoing research: small scale design intervention, concentrating on my own personal neighbourhood and local surroundings; and the scale of the city, Amsterdam where a broader research approach is necessary. These two foundations of research are coextensive to the reading of Kate Raworth's Doughnut Economics, which provides the theoretical framework for the basis of the research.

On the previous page, I have stated the primary and secondary methods which I will use to collect my data and information. When considering the small scale design intervention research, I gathered the majority of the information through the conditions of my living environment. Whereas, the city research represents more of the bigger picture, and demands more secondary data when the information is not easily accessible through my own findings.

Continuing onto developing a narrative for the early stages of my design project, the 'City Hotel', I plan to engage more with film and photography. I will use film as a medium that shows interactions and behaviours of the site, and its occupants. I will explore how nature responds to different architectural boundaries of the site and how the site adapts to different situations and events. Photography will highlight details and intriguing components of the site, which are often missed with the naked eye.

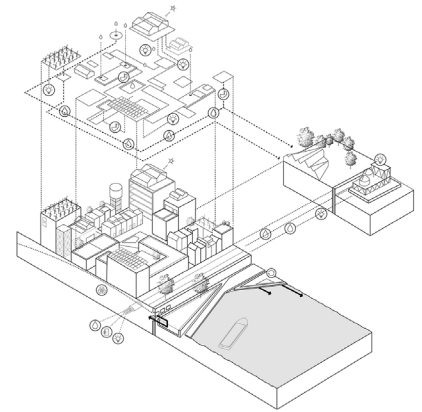
Research

Studio booklet:

A City Planned

In our studio, we started our research by looking at the urban history of Amsterdam. We were interested in the layers of history which informed Amsterdam's spatial composition and urban fabric: addressing the elements, materials, density and networks of the city. Understanding the social construction of Amsterdam through several centuries of intervention; how people and societies behaved was essential before advancing on a possible project for the future city of Amsterdam.

As a sub-group, we focussed our research on the reconstruction of neo-liberal Amsterdam. Analysing the reconstruction of Amsterdam comprises parts of the city that have been revitalised, filling in the gaps and even making new space. I became personally interested in land reclamation (making new space), specifically the IJburg development in the east of Amsterdam: investigating whether this development is a positive solution to the housing shortage in Amsterdam and the rest of the Netherlands; additionally, seeing if IJburg has mitigated the effects of urban sprawl in Amsterdam, stopping people from moving further east to Almere or Lelystad. To delve into this research, we visited the IJburg islands and walked around documenting the infrastructure and the different housing typologies. It was important for me to understand the decisions behind the urban planning for this new piece of Amsterdam, since this is a fairly new development. To find relevant information for this, we wanted to find design interventions through architects and designers that have contributed to buildings, infrastructure or landscape on IJburg. An example of this is Devla landscape architects who designed a piece of this development and implemented the circular model for Amsterdam.



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2.

Buiksloterham district - circular section
devla.la, 2020

Studio booklet:

Models, references, precedents, exemplars



Looking more into the hotel typology and development of the hospitality sector, we chose to research the accommodation platform Airbnb. Airbnb has become one dispersed hotel sprawling across cities around the world - a multitude of short term living opportunities and experiences that have shaped the way we all travel to new places. Part of the research was to compare the development of Airbnb to the hotel and how it shaped the evolution of the tourism industry. A first approach involved finding specific cases with qualities which encouraged people to choose the Airbnb experience over a hotel. We chose to divide the research into analysis of 5 different scales: city scale, site scale, building scale, interiors scale and components scale. This would filter out relevant information that would help the understanding of the architecture and how it plays a part in the city/place.

We were also interested in co-living examples which show the current status of the evolution of living. The idea of sharing is an important discussion in our research and we have chosen the case studies that demonstrate successful and unsuccessful approaches to co-living. When referring to the Doughnut Economic Model, sharing will become a key part of that model (not just through living). I plan to research more the possibilities of the sharing economy within my project and how sharing will be essential for mitigating the effects of mass-consumerism.

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3.
Shibuya apartment 201
by HOAP architects
archdaily.com, 2017

P1 - Individual project

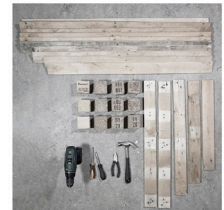
Upcycling and food waste management

Responding to issues of a consumerist society

To kickstart this project it was important to understand what matters to me as a future architect and designer. I discovered that I was subconsciously aware of my material consumption but did not see it as sinuous with architecture until I imagined the work exclusively on two different scales. In my student accommodation, I am obsessed with repurposing discarded material which is readily available within the city of Delft. To invigorate this new found niche, I looked into some already existing designers that fixated on upcycling in their work. An example of this being Enzo Mari's Autoprogettazione, a model concept that acts as a set of instructions for assembling your own functional furniture out of materials that you can find in your home.

Furthering my research into upcycling and how this can be applied to the scale of our built economy, I looked at different categories of waste products. After researching organisations from the Amsterdam Donut Coalitie, I became interested in food waste and how waste sorting and management requires more emphasis in decentralised networks. How can we implement the efficient infrastructure necessary and why we should be more aware of the waste source where the waste is generated in the first place. As a personal experiment, I embarked on a zero-waste week, to decide if such a lifestyle was at all possible. This involved a lot of personal research to determine how to change everyday habits and make conscious decisions to cut down on my waste production.

Engaging in interviews with organisations from the Coalitie such as 'Re-StORe' and 'Food Circle' also helped gain some insight and understanding of the research already established on this subject. I also plan to visit some projects which engage in active communities and social circles in the Netherlands.

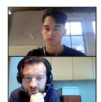


Pallets upcycling

Re-StORe Interview Questions 18.11.20

1. What ideas and principles does Re-StORe propose to the city of Amsterdam?
2. What is the essential goal for a project such as Re-StORe and what are the difficulties in achieving this?
3. How is it affiliated with the Amsterdam Donut Coalition?
4. How does Re-StORe contribute to the Doughnut economic model?
5. Why are companies and municipalities reluctant to implement composting installations such as worm hotels?
7. Are composting installations/worm hotels a short or long-term solution for mitigating food waste in cities such as Amsterdam?
8. Did the achieved Re-StORe testmodel involve positive change or shift mentalities of companies or municipalities?
9. What is a crucial factor in order for the city and people of Amsterdam to achieve a collective turn towards the Doughnut?
10. Following Re-Organise and now Re-StORe, are there any future projects in mind? (Where are these situated?)

Re-StORe Interview



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4.

Timber pallet de-construction
and worm hotel construction

5.

Re-Store Interview (zoom)



Future research

City Hotel, Amsterdam

Progressing into the design project for the 'City Hotel', I have selected a possible site in Amsterdam (Driehoekstraat) which suits my ideas and design intentions going forward from my previous research. I am now in the process of determining the criteria for my programme, according to the selected site. I will establish the critical elements of the site that help address my research questions, stated at the start of my research plan.

Further research will involve site visits where I can produce film, photographs and on-site drawings to communicate my first impressions and collective ideas for the project. Additionally, talking to the locals and engaging in local activities will help my understanding of the site and its history. I will engage in a series of mappings that formulate an informed urban plan based around my chosen site: working out the complexities of the built form and the networks that connect this piece of Amsterdam to the rest. It is important for me to address the political, social and environmental questions in this next part of the research, while staying attentive to my ideas formed from the P1 project.



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6.
On-site sketch

7.
1:500 site model of Driehoekstraat
neighbourhood in Amsterdam

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