

Reflection

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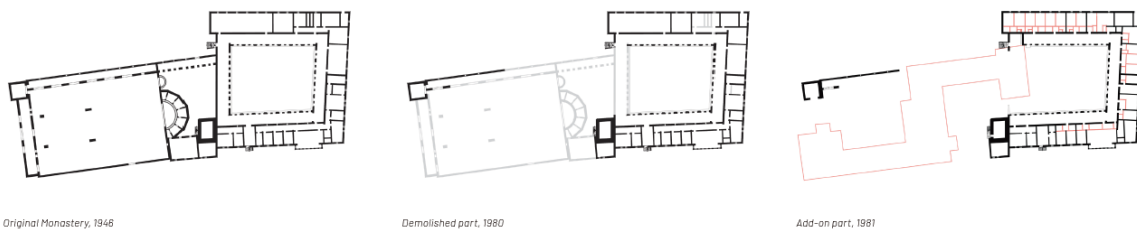
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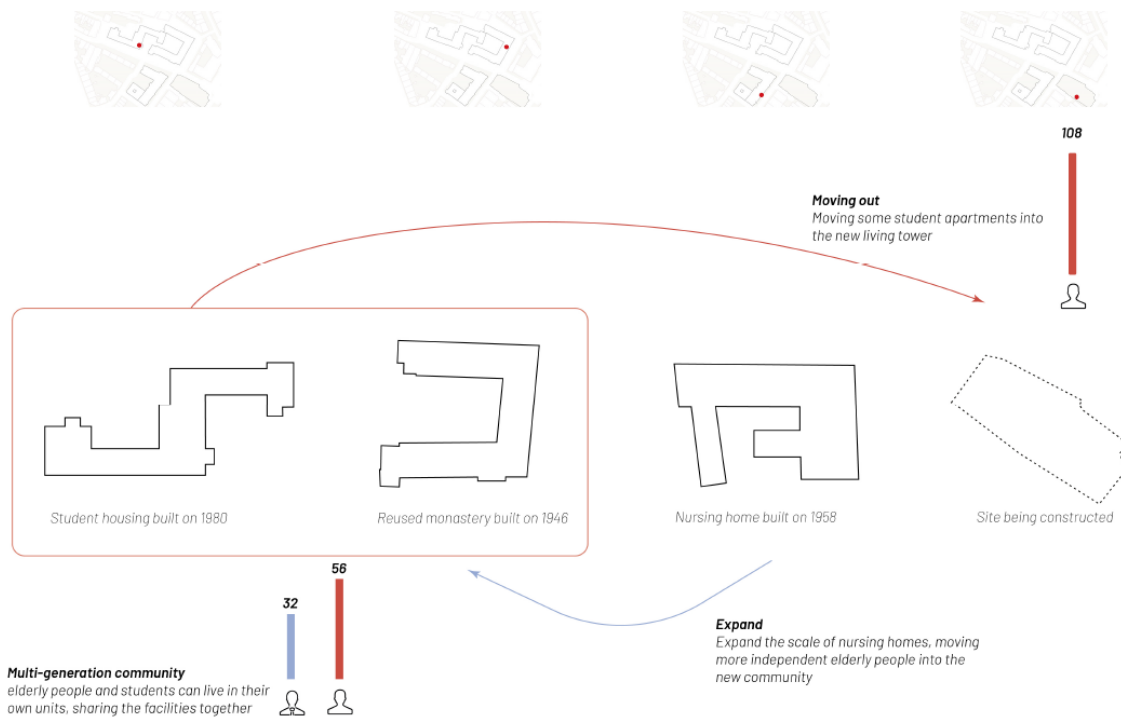
Problem statement



Doddendaal is a quite typical microcosm of the city construction of Nijmegen. It was destroyed in the war, being restored, being demolished again, and rebuilt in the 1980s. The church part was demolished, but a tiny part has remained as relics. The exterior of the monastery was kept, and the interior was transformed and separated for student housing. The monastery used to be a very beautiful building and is also a representative work of the architect Cees Pouderoyon. As a work from Boschen School, the aesthetics of proportion shows everywhere in this building. But unluckily, the add-on building built in the 1980s is not as delicate as before: there is no echos between old and new facade; the connection of old and new building is inappropriate, and lack of space quality. So I proposed my first research question:

How can we improve the add-on building and make it more respectful for the old monastery?

On the other hand, there are some urban issue around my site. Next to my site has a nursing home and a constructing site. The construction is paused due to the fight between the government and developers. The government wants more nursing home but the developers need more business. The nursing home has a limited connection with the outside world, and always an old man stands at the balcony looking at the road. And for the other residential houses built on the first wave in 1980s, they are gradually taken over by the developers to transform into High-end housings.



Demolish or transformed the elaborate buildings in the first wave is the trend of the city. After the quantitative analysis of these buildings, I propose to switch the programs between these building in order to solve the problems: To solve the fight of government and Developers, I proposed to move some students to the construction site to bring more business; To cater to the governments need that have more nursing homes, I propose to add some elder homes to my site. In these way, the program in my site will be a multi-generation community with both young and old people. The second research question comes from it:

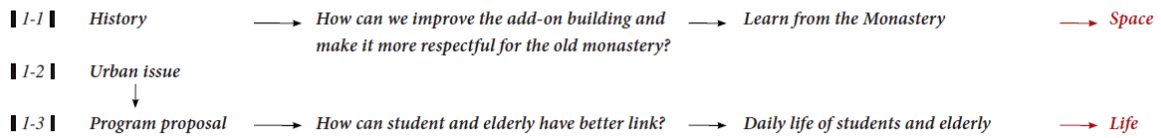
How can student and elderly have better link?

Objective

I start my research from the site and propose these two research questions, which trigger me to do deeper research about what we can learn from the Monastery and what is the daily life of students and the elderly. And they converted to the two big topics: space and life.

Questions:

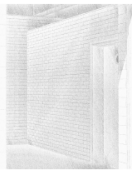
Research:



Framework

Space

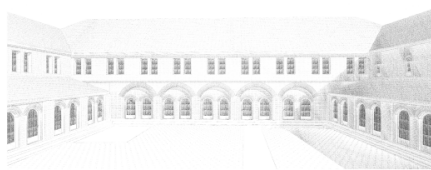
The old monastery can be a reference book that has lots of qualities and architectural elements that we can learn from: The proportion of the facade, the arrangement of the openings, the material, the bonding and patterns of the bricks, the structures. Instead of giving them away as they did in the 1980s, I would like to bring the positive qualities back.



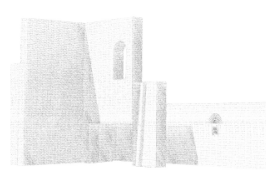
Room: Place for Solitary



Cloister: Place for Encounter



Courtyard: Place for Gathering



Relics: Place for Memory

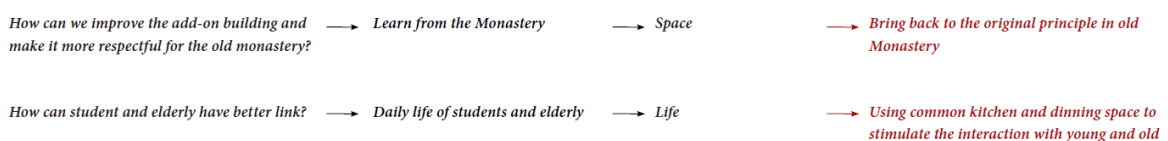
Life

Research about the daily of students and elderly and propose a way to let them have more interaction is the main point of 'life' topic. According to the time schedule of their daily life, we can found the elderly are very willing to spend their time on cooking, but student always lack time for that. I proposed to use common kitchen as the center of their collective life, to provide more possibilities for the interaction of young and old people, as well as let the elderly have satisfaction in contributing the community

Questions:

Research:

Proposal/Concept:



Relevance

First of all, The relics of the demolished church used to be hidden in the parking lot. From the south of my site is only allowed for pedestrians, and the walking webs are quite complex. In my design, I coherent the relics with the walking systems, it will be a fantastic place for the tourist or the residents. Secondly, I move the chaotic parking plot in the underground parking space nearby and make the ground floor cleaner. My site is the front door of the city center when people come from the main road. I will bring more green to the ground floor will make the front yard of the city nicer.