The Architecture of Pleasure
A new recreational pier and wellness spa for Scheveningen

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Explore Lab 18
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Scheveningen: a seaside resort slipping into decline

continuously changing trends and fashions
outdatement of program of pleasure
high costs and low income
poor state of the built environment
revitalisation of the seaside resort of Scheveningen in decline through the design of a new recreational pier.
research aim

To explore the evolution of the architecture of pleasure at the seaside resort

To expose factors of influence of success and failure

To conform to the contemporary and future context
Case studies

Brighton, East Sussex, England [1730s]
Clacton-on-Sea, Tendring Peninsula, Essex, England [1871]
Scheveningen, The Hague, Zuid-Holland, the Netherlands [1818]
Scheveningen as a place for pleasure
1280

Fishermen’s village
1818

Jacob Pronk’s bathhouse
1884

Kurhaus
1930s
Geers Deynootplein
“Er is geen zee zo distingué,
Als de Scheveningse zee,
Daar baadt alleen de haute volée.
En er is geen strand zo charmant,
Als het Scheveningse strand,
Daar flirt de bloem van Nederland.”

– Louis Davids, De Scheveningse Zee, 1933
1960s

mass tourism
“Dag Scheveningen, dag
Dag, Scheveningen, dag
Eens was geen zee zo distingué
Als onze Scheveningse zee
Nou is het één enorme plee
Dag Scheveningse zee”

– Wim Kan, 1970s
today

Gevers Deynootplein
sea walls

Fusion with the city
Depriving the city of the sea
visitor groups

source: BRO bezoekersonderzoek Scheveningse Bad
spending patterns

spending patterns
Design
Scheveningen pier

What does the pier mean for Scheveningen and The Hague?

“The Scheveningen Pier is one of the Netherlands’ few landmarks.”

A PIER! ANY PIER!
64%
DEMOLISH THE PIER & BUILT A REPLICA OF THE FORMER WOODEN PIER!
58%
WITHOUT A PIER, SCHEVENINGEN WOULD NOT BE SCHEVENINGEN!

SHEVENINGEN RESORT
11,800,000 VISITORS LAST YEAR
23% visit the pier
pier definition: the in-between
pier definition: the in-between
An exclusive place to retrieve from everyday life
capturing nature

summer & winter solstice

wind [average 16.8 km/h] [18% W]

waves [1 m maximum during peaceful weather conditions. 10 m maximum during storm]
building

*Between land & sea*

land - rejection mass - thick

twilight - obscure - transition

sea - removal - porous
[function]

[land] : service, technical facilities, vertical traffic
[twilight] : baths, pools
[sea] : sauna’s, baths, lounges
chambers

walls are connected, creating chambers.
[flight routes & installations]
1. changing rooms
2. lockers
3. wc’s
4. showers
5. hairdryers
6. indoor pool
7. sauna [75°]
8. whirlpool
9. cold bath
10. aquatherapy/ jet stream bath
11. salt bath
1. changing rooms
2. lockers
3. showers
4. hairdryers
5. indoor pool
6. sauna (75°)
7. whirlpool
8. cold bath
9. aquatherapy/jetstream bath
10. salt bath
11. infrared sauna [50°]
12. hot bath
13. flower bath
14. moon bath
15. steambath relative humidity 60%
16. steambath relative humidity 75%
17. steambath relative humidity 90%
18. heated marble lounge
19. caldarium [50°]
20. lounges with view on horizon
21. massage & treatment rooms
22. stairs to restaurant & terrace
Building technology
segments & foundation
prefab

[1] To build in a rapid pace
[2] To minimise encountering the high wind load on site
[3] Foundation & building can be constructed simultaneously
[4] Lower costs, than building on site
gravity based foundation

[1] After construction in dock the two halves are shipped to site, whilst floating
[2] One half is positioned & sunk to the bottom with use of ballast
[3] The second half is positioned & connected to the first and also descend
[4] A scour is added at the bottom to protect the foundation from corrosion/erosion
building segments

[1] After construction in dock, the segments are transported on a barge crane to location

[2] At site the segments are positioned on foundation 10 m above sea level

[3] This is repeated until the building is complete. The pier is constructed at the same time
Chambers for ballast

Ultra high performance concrete [reinforced] 800 mm

Protective scour

Icewhite mosaic tiles 300 x 300 mm 10 mm

Liapor structural lightweight concrete [reinforced] 500 mm

Liapor structural lightweight concrete [reinforced] 500 mm

Ultra high performance concrete [reinforced] 300 mm

Perforations to absorb wave load

Installations [e.g. luchtbehandelkamer, ventilation ducts, swimming pools, water basins]
Accoya wooden planks 30 mm
wooden beams 40 mm
footbridge
polyethylene waterproofing membrane
thermal insulation 100 mm
thermal insulation sloped 1.5%
vapor barrier
Liapor lightweight structural concrete 300 mm
plastic double layered dome
fireproof glazing: 2 x 8 mm laminated safety glass
Accoya wooden bench 30 mm
supported by stainless steel frame
Liapor lightweight structural concrete 300 mm
Water drainage
Layer lightweight structural concrete 300 mm
conclusions
Thank you