Why large needs small
at the "Binnengasthuis Residence"

Heritage & Housing - Floor Brinks

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P5 Presentation 25 - 06 - 2015
Content

Context assignment and area
  Location and history of Binnengasthuis
  Relevance project

Framework research and design
  Research topic and problem statement
  Value assessment and strategies

Design proposal
  Design as it is
  Interventions on volume - element - material

Reflection
  Program and strategies
  Why large needs small
Context

area and assignment
Binnengasthuis: outside appearance
Binnengasthuis: hidden inner courtyards
Binnengasthuis history: visiting hour at hospital
Binnengasthuis history: comfort in city centre
HERITAGE
institutional buildings of previous hospital

HOUSING
to be introduced as new purpose

middle class rent
650-1000 euro’s/month

single person households
late '20's - 60's
young professionals to young seniors

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VACANCY of institutional buildings (education and health) increases with 25%.

HOUSING always in demand in Amsterdam.

single person households late '20' s - 60' s young professionals to young seniors middle class rent 650- 1000 euro’ s/month.
Framework

theme and problem statement
Initial idea of housing: canal house
typical image in city centre of Amsterdam
Façade comparison: problem statement

canal house vs. Binnengasthuis
small large
Why LARGE needs small

large building needs small
‘appropriate’ for housing
Influence on perception of scale

1. plinth & windows

- strong
- medium
- significant
- low

2. Material measurements

3. Ratios and divisions

Search of “elements” in composition
Significance of elements: plinth
Significance of elements: windows
Why LARGE needs small

biggest challenge: largest difference in scale
Heritage approach: value assessment

Most monumental building on site

"Vrouwenverband" - since 1877
Values: Binnengasthuis opposites

Formal status
Informal liveable
Values: Binnengasthuis opposites

Exterior  Interior
Program: housing the young professional

WHO?
Yup (young urban professional)
status - comfort - facilities - flexibility

WHAT?
furnished apartments
long (months) and short stay (days)
Design dilemma

A building is in human scale when it is designed so that the human figure and other objects with recognizable size look normal in it and against it

(Monuments and monumentality, Elliot)

Preserve & accentuate monumental aspects

Create reference for recognition and comfort in housing
Design strategy

Reduce

Enlarge

Volume

Element

Material
Design

Binnengasthuis Residence
Combined living-working:
(1) stacked, (2) groundbound, (3) collective

Formal front
Liveable back
Front façade - formal face

STATUS AND ATTRACTIONNESS
Workspaces in plinth - connecting to canals of Amsterdam
First floor

First and second floor
Long stay apartments 50 m²: 18
Attic floor
Short stay apartments 35 m²: 10

TRANSLUCENT WALLS
more daylight - small size
material - luxurious item

50m² 50m²
Back façade - liveable side

COMFORT OF INNER SPACES BINNENGASTHUIS

Apartments with private balconies and lots of daylight on south
Strategies applied

**REDUCE**
- Comfort and detail/design
- "liveable"

**ENLARGE**
- Monumental, spacious, luxurious
- "status"
Level of volume/space

ENLARGE - tool: stretching
main entrance

REDUCE - tool: divide
apartment

corridor

Context | Framework | Design | Reflection
Long stay apartment 50 m²

Ground floor 34.5 m²
living - kitchen

Mezzanine 16 m²

Short stay apartment 34.5 m²
Level of elements

ENLARGE tool: stretching + contouring

ENLARGE tool: juxtaposition
ACCENTUATED ELEMENT IN PLINTH
Level of elements

REDUCE
-tool: divide + new size

ENLARGE
-tool: juxtaposition + contouring
Level of elements

**REDUCE**

Tool: divide + new size

**ENLARGE**

Tool: juxtaposition + contouring
ENLARGING WINDOW INTERIOR
Level of materials

REDUCE tool: new size

REDUCE tool: irregularities
Level of materials

REDUCE

tool: new size - repeating

190 x 190 reference glass block
Reflection

why large needs small
Exterior appearances

scale: monumental yet only accentuated in plinth
Exterior appearances

scale: enlarged

inserting small scale creates reference
Defining details

designing on detail level

leaves few space for user

quality for target group: comfort and ease
Luxurious aspects

Defined by:

A - location city centre
monumental architecture representing status
common spaces, materialization, furniture
Scale matters
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Rein Have
Thank you