



THE ARMAMENTARIUM, EPISODE NO.8
GRADUATION PLAN - D.P.Landman – 1049518 - RMIT

INTRODUCTION

This graduation plan provides an overview of the content and planning, which makes up my graduation. It is divided into four main sections: product, process, reflection, and planning.

My personal motivation to enroll for the RMIT graduation studio is because I have a great appreciation for successful transformations and regenerations of the present environment. This is not merely limited to 'old buildings' or harbour areas, of which there is a lot present in recent architectural media, but my interest is in transformation through all the scales. The idea of re-use in the current climate combined with the realisation of the effect we have on our planet makes transforming and re-using our existing stock not just sensible, but highly important.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D.P. Landman', written over a diagonal line.

COLOFON

PERSONAL INFORMATION

D.P.Landman
1049518
Prins Hendrikkade 84a
3071 KE
Rotterdam
06 41 85 55 43
d.p.landman@student.tudelft.nl

STUDIO

RMIT – Armamentarium/Paardenmarkt
ir. N. Hermkens
dr. ir. W.J.Quist

TITLE

The Armamentarium, Episode No.8

PRODUCT

PROBLEM STATEMENT

The project takes place within the framework of the RMIT Graduation Studio and is focussed on the location of the Armamentarium. The Armamentarium Complex is an ensemble of several buildings, which has its origins in 1602 when it was established as the main storage facility for military goods in the Netherlands. Over the course of the 17th century the complex expanded into its current known volume of built space, mainly because of functional demand during the 80-year war and the 17th century wars against England. After the Netherlands became a monarchy in 1813, there became a decline in the military needs for the country and with the impending industrialisation that would follow the Armamentarium Complex began to lose its purpose. In the second half of the 20th century the ensemble of buildings was transformed into a museum about the Royal Dutch Army by means of conserving the existing structure and adding small elements the new function required. The museum has been rehoused elsewhere since the summer of 2013 and the complex of buildings now lies empty, waiting for a new purpose within the city of Delft.

The purpose of initial research that is being conducted is to formulate a base for a transformational proposal in order to give the Armamentarium Complex a new lease of life. The main research question that drives this work is:

How can the ensemble of the Armamentarium, in unison with the peninsula it is situated on, be transformed in order to become an integral part of the inner city of Delft?

GOAL

The intension of the graduation project is to formulate a realistic transformational proposal for the Armamentarium Complex to safeguard this remarkable ensemble for the future. In order to do so there will be specific focus within the research on establishing a new program. This will be done from two perspectives: the perspective of the city of Delft and its requirements, and the perspective of the ensemble of buildings; what can be offered or taken from a specific program that suits the ensemble best.

The new program for the Armamentarium Complex will be that of a TU Delft Expo Centre. This addition to the TU Delft spectrum of facilities will give the university a face again in the historic inner city and will become part of the framework of public/touristic attractions within the city. Additional functions in the form of a small congress function, workspaces for students, and a leisure function ensure the complex is used in a 24-hour fashion and functions on a local urban level. This programmatic concept is combined with a new masterplan for the area in order to make it become an integral part of the inner city.

PROCESS

METHOD DESCRIPTION

In order to attempt to answer the research question, the assignment is divided into 4 main sections with corresponding research and design approaches. In between each section are moments of contemplation and reflection. In the first section the focus lies on research, linked to theory and episteme. During this phase awareness and understanding about the Armamentarium Complex is acquired through a thorough analysis on key themes. At the end this will result in a formulation of the relevance of the research with regards to the assignment and a set of initial conclusions, which form the base for the next section. In this second section research by design is the main approach, with the goal of formulating a transformational proposal for the Armamentarium Complex. With this proposal my position towards the assignment is formulated in the shape of an architectural proposal, based on the research in the first section combined with additional research in this second section. This moment therefore also functions as a more in depth formulation of my position towards heritage. The third and fourth section of the assignment will have their emphasis on further elaborating on the transformational proposal, which forms the end of the second section. In between the third and fourth section there is a moment of consideration and at the end of the fourth section a moment of reconsideration. At the end of the process I intend to be able to give a proper answer to the research question in the form of a fully worked out architectural transformational proposal for the Armamentarium Complex. This also marks the moment of reflection, where I can compare the result with the intended research and design methods as discussed in this document.

Following the previously described framework, the research starts with a cultural-historical analysis, which is done in order to provide a base of knowledge with regards to the political and social relevance of the urbanisation of the Armamentarium Complex. The urban scales are further researched by a morphological analysis. Based on the importance of taxonomy and classification, the episteme of morphology, the study of shape, provides further understanding of the physical urban setting of the complex within its urban structure. By looking at the morphology of the different elements that make up the direct urban surroundings, a form of classification can be introduced by means of typological elements that are related to volume and function. The centralised location of the Armamentarium Complex within its urban setting can be determined, classified and characterised. Finally there is typological research in order to gain understanding of the unity of the ensemble of buildings within the greater ensemble of the inner city of Delft. The episteme of typology is a tool that can be used to determine and provide insight into the main characteristics of the different elements of the Armamentarium Complex. Whereas a 'model' provides an example in the form of a direct copy, a 'type' provides a set of essential characteristics that form the essence of the object. By understanding the essence it is possible to classify main characteristics, which in my opinion are one of the basic needs for an academic transformational proposal.

The process is enriched with case studies, the result of excursions and literature studies. During the design process I make extensive use of 3D models in order to explain the interventions in a clear fashion, but mainly to keep control over the spacial implications of the design.

LITERATURE AND GENERAL PRACTICAL PREFERENCE

The most relevant literature thus far, which has been used during the initial research:

RMIT Blackboard community:

Semester Manual RMIT Graduation Studio 2013.

Demarcatierapport Armamentarium, Rijksgebouwendienst, 2010

Charter of Venice, 1964

Nara Document on Authenticity, 1994

Articles and Historical Documentation provided

Internet:

www.wikidelft.nl

www.ruimtelijkeplannen.nl

www.atlas1868.nl

<http://www.delft.nl>

www.vanderkrogt.net

<http://openarchive.icomos.org/71>

REFLECTION

The 17th century was the most significant era in the history of the Dutch Republic and later the monarchy that is called The Netherlands. The great rise of the Dutch trading tradition was centralised around the Dutch East-India Company and one of their seats of power was opposite the Armamentarium Complex in Delft with an adjacent storage facility, which today is part of the ensemble.

Today many properties are unused and transformation strategies for these entities are very valuable for city centres. Not only economically but also socially. In the case of the Armamentarium Complex we are dealing with a unique state monument, which has been in active use for the past 400 years. A sensible approach with a valid value assessment can contribute to the toolbox of strategies that can be used as precedent when dealing with similar objects. The key theme is transformation, not necessarily preservation, but with respect to the unique inherent qualities of the object.

Graduation Time Planning

Based on RMIT GPS

Presentations Official moments during Graduation Project

Awareness

1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4 1.5 1.6 1.7 1.8

Relevance

1.9 1.10

2.1 2.2 2.3

Research & Design Practices

Methodes

Lectures Series Tom Avermate cs

Position paper

Graduation plan

Reflection paper

pp ab

pp dr
GP dr

Research

Situational Scale & Time

Urban **past/present/future**

Architecture **past/present/future**

Technological **past/present/future**

Thematic

Define: Problem Statement + Goal
Conclude: Startingpoints for (RE)Design

Design

SO/Prelim

Program

Preliminary **Urban** plan

Preliminary **Architectural** plan

3D model as design tool

DO

Urban

Architectural

Technological

Physical model

Worked out

Urban

Architectural

Technological

Presentation model

Personal

History Thesis

Last Exam

UK





