

METHOD OF THE PROJECT

OPEN UP THE SEMI-PUBLIC SPACE,
A PLEA FOR A WORK & LIVE DWELLINGS IN AMSTERDAM

NICO LEFERINK GRADUATION STUDIO DWELLING 1534920



H1 Graduation
Description

H2 Method

H3 Planning

H4 Reflection

Problem statement

This year the rents in Amsterdam raised to a record level (ANP, 2002, Huren in Amsterdam nog nooit zo hoog), ↯. This is mainly caused by the shortage of owner occupied dwellings in the city. This shortage will grow if there will be no change. In fact, in the coming years the need for more houses will even grow. The amount of single households is raising and will be more than half of the population in 2030 in Amsterdam (Hylkema C., 2013, p. 432, Amsterdam in cijfers 2013). Prices of dwellings, both for rent and for sale are now well above the standard. Only people with a regular job that in most cases will not be based in the area they live in can afford themselves these costs. The project location is located in an area where many people work somewhere else. It's Located in the center of Amsterdam but as lively and rapturous the center is this place doesn't take part of That.

The neighborhood is now shaped for the temporary lifestyle resulting in an introvert way of life. In the local area building blocks are separated through hard borders and most of the shops on the ground floor moved away. What's left of it is a neglected public space with nondescript storefronts. I want to change this negative way where closed facilities dominating the area at daytime and only change in the evening to a lively neighborhood. Is it possible to create affordable dwellings where people can work, live and dominating the public space with their character instead of the anonymous storefronts?

Research Question & design assignment

How can I design low-rise high density dwellings for single or double households which simultaneously provide (and stimu-

late) the semi-public space as a natural transition between public and private space?

Method description

In this graduation project the main assignment will be the task if the design of the dwellings can be designed mainly for single household low-rise high density dwellings in the city center of Amsterdam. The design should be an effective solution towards the costs resulting in a qualitative design with simple detailing, effective and multifunctional use of the interior space and which simultaneously stimulates the semi-public space.

This space, on the border of the public and private, the inhabitants can give a personalized character to the public space. Resulting in a public space where individual expression will be dominating permanent or temporary activities. The interior, detail, atmosphere and sustainability aspects should be fully integrated with the permanent living condition of combined working and living together of the residents.

In order to come to a solution to stimulate the semi-public space. I have to arrange a natural transition from dwelling area towards the dwelling unit. To further stimulate the semi-public space there needs to be adjustments also in the home. Therefore I will focus each period on a specific part in the transition between public and private. These zones within the public and private borders are connected to specific scales which will be included in the research. Every period there will be a feedback to the previous zone with a view to stimulate the natural transition and overlook the global process. For more information you can look to the time planning.

Overall method

To integrate my research question in to the broadest possible way in my design, I have chosen to look to a number of levels in my method. In total there are four levels. The first three levels focus on the general question of what the semipublic space is in general. The difference between the first three levels is how the information have been searched.

Level 1: theoretical approaches

The research theme: an investigation around the world towards the semi public space.

What are the differences in semipublic spaces in the world? Are in differed cultures different ways to claim the public space? The theme research were therefore analysed case study projects in several countries in Europe and beyond based on typical dwelling projects in which the transition from the dwelling towards the public was documented. For this research I used a large amount of literature out of books webpages magazines.

Level 2: research based on observation.

Visiting a number of cities in Europe to investigate the semi-public space from the first hand.

This sub-study of the semi-public space lends itself very well to research what can be done on the basis of perception. In this part of my research into the semi-public space I have visited three (capital) cities in Europe. The purpose of these visits was to document the connection between dwelling and the public space, specially the elements that where connected to the dwellings but claimed a part

of the public space. This research consisted primarily of a photo reportage that I made. It focused me on neighborhoods surrounding the center of the cities I visited. I did this seem possible to satisfy the findings of the investigation with the project location in Amsterdam. Another purpose of these trips was to examine what capital Amsterdam is actually, there are elements in the city exist that make this unique capital In comparison with other European cities.

3 level theoretical research

How can an architect and residents in the design process and during the live stimulate the semi-public space?

In this sub study, I looked at some other options to stimulate the semi-public space. In the two previous levels, I studied the connection from home to public space. A study in which the human aspect was denied. At level 3, I examined on the basis of theoretical research how residents themselves want to encourage the semi-public space and what an architect can do in the design process to encourage this phenomenon. Based on the conclusions of the first 3 levels a broad overall overview of what could be in a search to means of the semi-public space. Based on the conclusions of these levels I made an overall planning in which I always focused on different areas so that the research question and its integrated corresponding conclusions were broad in my design.



afb. 1 Niveau 1



afb. 2 Niveau 2



afb. 3 Niveau 3

Level 4: executive approach.

A study comparing the conclusions from level 1 to 3 which are applied to the notions of the planning (see Fig. 11).

This level represented a variety of architectural structures where I want to integrate the research question into the detail. The main groups are:

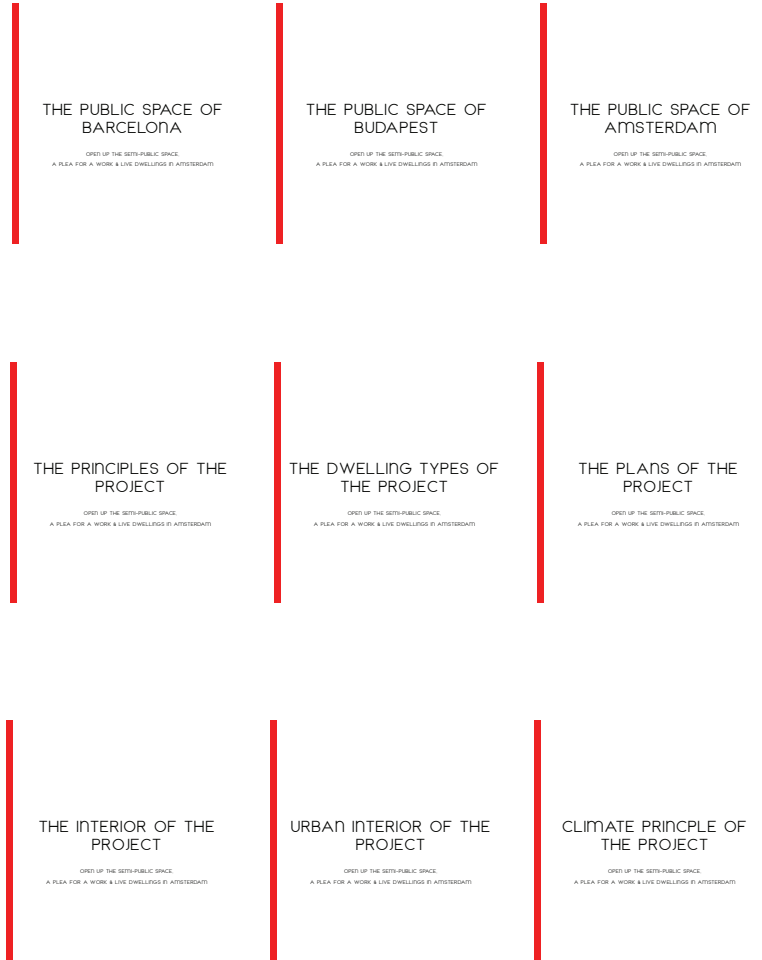
- The logic of the project.
- The dwelling types of project
- The plans of the project
- The interior of the urban project.
- The interior of the project (construction, etc.)
- The climate principles of the project.

As with levels 1 to 3, I started making a booklet for each investigation in which the main question with the corresponding next sub-questions related to the topic of the book in advance were asked. This allowed me to focus entirely on the (sub) investigation. Finally on the day of the p5 nine books will be presented. Each book will give information about a specific part of the search to the research question.

The planning

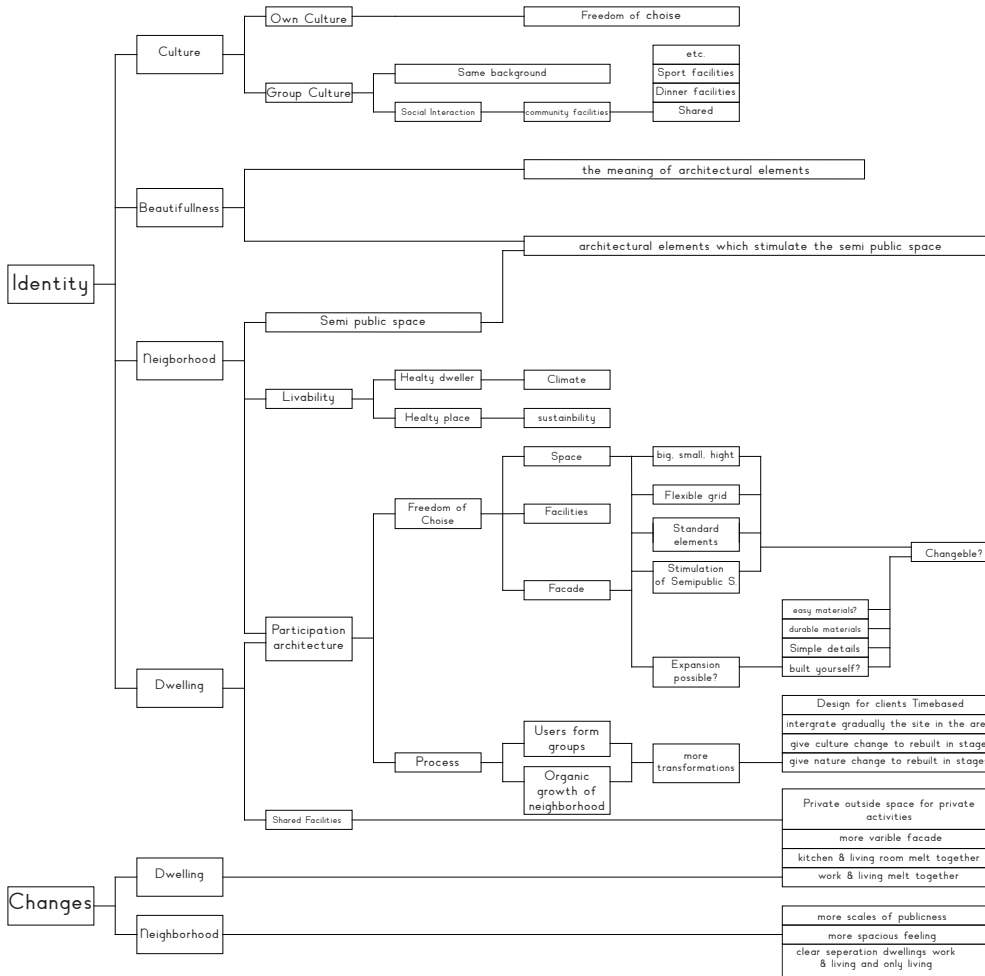
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Reflective of the method, research and planning.

The method I have used, I have developed after the project progressed degree. The booklet I made sure that I was able to frame my development and thus enable the central investigation. For me it was an ideal way to investigate. The method was easy to apply the general idea think of the studio. Every week there was tutoring which looked at the progression of each student. The booklet was honorary and clear framework set by myself and was under every week to see clear progress. This method builds on the products that are manufactured and not as many students who apply the try-and-error manner in which the informative flow is assessed each week, and wherein a part of the informative examined is discarded.

The plan that I've applied is a very comprehensive plan and can actually be called no planning because no dates are set where the products must be off. It gave me personally to hold on to integrate research in the broadest manner allowed by the design. Here I was able to measure the process itself progressed to estimate where I wanted to put more emphasis on. Something you I do not want to capture before. Therefore, this plan was suitable for me.