GRADUATION PLAN
Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences

Graduation Plan: All tracks
Submit your Graduation Plan to the Board of Examiners (Examencommissie-BK@tudelft.nl), Mentors and Delegate of the Board of Examiners one week before P2 at the latest.
The graduation plan consists of at least the following data/segments:

Personal information
Name
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Studio
Name / Theme
Heritage & Architecture: Rotterdam Harbour Heritage
Teachers / tutors
Ir. Lidy Meijers (Mentor Architectural Design)
Nicholas Clarke, Pr. Arch (Mentor Cultural Value)
Ir. Bas Gremmen (Mentor Building Technology Design)
Ir. Engbert van der Zaag (External examiner)

Argumentation of choice of the studio
Heritage and Architecture is closely related with the great interest I have in understanding the existing built environment and what those can mean in the field of architectural practise. This goes from the historical initiative, to the actual making and construction, all along with the move of her users both in the past and present as my personal perspective is about wearing architecture. By researching and designing with the existing, the Harbour Heritage Site of Rotterdam is an opportunity to explore her specific manifestation within the built environment. Particularly nowadays, as being an interwoven element of the historic setting and the present situation of the city of Rotterdam. Within the studio the mode of transformation can be investigated with focus on the layers of origin, being and becoming.

Graduation project
Title of the graduation project
Moving towards - the cotton warehouse of ‘Katoenveem’.

Goal
Location:
Rotterdam, Merwe-Vierhaven, Keilehaven - Keilestraat 39.
The posed problem,
(See att. 1) The warehouse is located on the end of a currently segregated pier in the Merwe-Vierhaven area which in its historic setting used to be part of the roaring Harbour of Rotterdam. After leaving the function of cotton storage where the building was constructed for, it remains now vacant in its present situation. However wearing the status of a monument, the building and her ensemble is seeking for (re)development, to connect towards the movement of the city of Rotterdam and her people. This results in the following definition of the research:
research questions and
What incorporates move of people in the movement of the monument listed architecture of the cotton warehouse ‘Katoenveem’ in Rotterdam?
design assignment in which these result.
By explicitly questioning the ‘moving towards’ my aim is to incorporate people in architecture, dealing with the moving of users in movement of the fabrics of the built environment. Done in the specific case of the graduation studio, this is driven by conducted elements of research:
- What is the movement of the city of Rotterdam, specifically the industrial Harbour Heritage site and how does this relate towards their use of the built environment? It will connect to the social, economical and cultural framework of Rotterdam with its field of operation considering the level of society and the use of the existing fabrics in cultural historical context.
- What are tools to design onto the theme of moving: move versus movement and how are these represented in the field of architectural practices? Driven by personal interest it focusses on methodology applicable within the process of
research and design.
- How can movement and moving be understood from the past, i.e. the intended operation of the warehouse and which current situations will draw the move of the scale layers of ‘Katoenveem’? What will make people move in its architecture and where lies the movement of the architecture itself? The research driven by analysis of the historic setting and present situation in the scale layers of the location will give input on how to understand these and therefore to design with.
- Where to relate it to moving in time from past - current - future; continuation and by doing so, what interventions will create this continuity of ‘moving towards’ considering moving versus movement?
In which sense of the defined task should be continued on intentional design considerations and what will this mean for the architecture of the existing. It will give guidelines along the process of changing and designing with the existing. By finding an appropriate program to implement in the physical structure of the architecture, (re)development will connect it again within the current and future moving of the city of Rotterdam.

Process
Method description
By understanding the existing my aim is to investigate the matter of the case of the cottonwarehouse of ‘Katoenveem’ within the Harbour Heritage site of Rotterdam and translate it to the essence in the overall process of research and design. This process incorporates the techniques of analyzing historic and existing fabrics, based on the approach of Architectonic, Cultural Value and Building Technology factors of researching and designing with the existing. This will investigate wether this given fabric is able to change and in what physical perspective this can be done. Observing (site visits, photograph, precedent literature, archive material) and actively working and studying with (3D models, maquette, diagrams, sketches) will give the input on how to implement the layers of scale (urban context, building ensemble, building itself, human being) within the process of designing in the specialization of Heritage & Architecture.

Literature and general practical preference
References:
- RDM campus Rotterdam
- BK City South atrium Delft
- Strijp S Eindhoven
- St. Jobsveem Rotterdam
- Glasmuseum / Glasblazerij Leerdam
Literature:
Gemeentelijke Archiefdienst Rotterdam.
Neufert, E., & Neufert, P. Architects’ Data (Third Edition ed.).
Rotterdam in Kaart. Retrieved from https://www.rotterdaminkaart.nl
Reflection
Relevance
The graduation project will give insight in the city of Rotterdam with her view on her Harbour Heritage site. It will show how
to deal with aspects of heritage in social - cultural and economical sense in the case of designing architectural transformation for the cotton warehouse of 'Katoenveem'. Vacant of occupation although meaningful in the being and becoming of the expression of the city nowadays. By the suiting of the program, the (re)development will connect operation of usage of the building with the current and future moving in all scale layers, from urban context, to the built ensemble, the building and its use of human.

Could there be synergies found with the Rotterdam Innovation District, the Stadshavens (cityharbours) of the Merwevierhaven whereof the building is part? Moving from harbour industry towards a makers city, the project will show its relevance in providing room for storing knowledge on making innovation as well as the process of creation and sharing. Could multicrafting draw the attention in moving from one field of expertise towards the other? As shifting from traditional methods to innovative techniques today, curiosity and importance of the primitive repeatedly remains. By explicitly designing on moving and movement in the field of heritage the purpose is to put the project into the larger social and scientific framework.

Time planning
(See att. 2)