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	I.C.M. van Ommen
Student number	4607805

Studio		
Name / Theme	Design of the Urban Fabric / Embracing plurality, growing porosity	
Main mentor	Ir. L.P.J. van den Burg	Urban Design
Second mentor	Prof.dr.ir. M.J. van Dorst	Urban Studies
Argumentation of choice of the studio	I have always been interested in answering the question how people, we, are going to live with each other. For me as an urban designer, the scale of the neighbourhood is a scale at which this issue is most apparent. This neighbourhood scale level and approaching it from the eye-level perspective fits very well in the Urban Fabric design studio. Looking at the project from this eye-perspective, is necessary to understand how concepts like segregation, inclusivity and cultural heritage really land on site. In addition, this studio gives me the opportunity to work in the project not only with the physical urban environment, but by including psychological and socio-cultural aspects as well, it allows me to form a better understanding of the problems that arise in ethnic enclaves such as Moluccan neighbourhoods. After all, these are places where culture plays an important role. Finally, this graduation project addresses not only the tangible heritage of Moluccan neighbourhoods, but also the intangible elements of heritage. The Urban Fabrics studio gives me the opportunity to explore the relationship between the two.	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Moluccan Territories: The case of Moluccan neighbourhoods in the Netherlands
Goal	
Location:	Main site: Vught, Netherlands

	Additional sites: Assen, Netherlands and Maastricht, Netherlands
The posed problem,	Moluccan neighbourhoods in the Netherlands have been shaped by spatial segregation into neighbourhoods where Moluccan society has turned inwards. They are places where Moluccan culture is most strongly expressed and are central to Moluccan society. Therefore, the will of the majority of Moluccans is that Moluccan neighbourhoods are preserved and treated as cultural heritage. However, the tangible heritage is not recognisable and whether the shape of the neighbourhoods matches the intangible heritage of life in the neighbourhoods is not clear. Many neighbourhoods are also undergoing a transformation from a homogeneous to a mixed neighbourhood and this triggers reactions among residents. These reactions and the history of Moluccans in the Netherlands negatively stigmatise the neighbourhoods. There is also criticism from Moluccan society itself, that the neighbourhoods are places where time stands still and offers no room for individual growth. This is due to the one-sided housing supply and the low quality of housing. The trend in the decline of homogeneous Moluccan marriages is also putting pressure on the future of Moluccan neighbourhoods in the Netherlands.
research questions and	Main research question: How can Moluccan neighbourhoods in the Netherlands, through urban design, become inclusive territories, while enhancing the cultural heritage?

The research is divided into three parts, each of which in turn is divided into sub-questions. The first two parts of the research, through analysis, provide information where in part three, guiding principles, derived from the analyses, for |

the design are formulated, tested and
applied.

Part 1: Spatializing Moluccan heritage
1.How have Moluccan neighbourhoods
emerged and developed over time?

2.What are the spatial characteristics of
Moluccan neighbourhoods and what
makes them unique?

3.What spatial patterns can be found in
the use of inhabitants and visitors that
showcase the identity of the Moluccan
neighbourhoods?

Part 2: Forming scenarios
4. How do perceptions of Moluccan
neighbourhoods differ among different
generations and from non-Moluccan
society?

5. How will the Moluccan society and its
culture evolve?

Part 3: Designing inclusivity
6. How can Moluccan neighbourhoods
be transformed into more inclusive and
porous neighbourhoods?

7. What is the urban form that fits the
tangible and intangible Moluccan
heritage ?

| design assignment in which these result. | Moluccans in the Netherlands first lived segregated from Dutch society, now they are at a stage where they are more integrated, but now the neighbourhoods are undergoing and transformation from homogeneous to mixed. The neighbourhoods are under pressure in the current situation. To preserve the neighbourhoods, they need to focus more on inclusion of Moluccans, non-Moluccans and vistors. The housing stock must allow Moluccans to grow within the neighbourhood. In addition, an increased quality of housing and |

| | public space will also be able to combat the impoverishment of the neighbourhoods. By giving the neighbourhoods a more open character, the community will turn less inward and visitors will feel welcome in the neighbourhoods. |
| | In addition, making the tangible cultural heritage of the Moluccans recognisable is a strategy to give Moluccan society a place and to make the rest of society more in touch with the culture. After all, if one is more familiar with something, they are more likely to appreciate it. The design brief consists, on the one hand, of transforming the current neighbourhoods, because these places hold many memories for the Moluccans, but the heritage must be dynamic by being open to adaptation. The design also focuses on creating new heritage, at other locations, in a form that fits the future identity of Moluccan culture. By creating new places, there is more exposure of Moluccan culture. When people become more familiar with this heritage, the whole culture becomes more accepted. |

Process

Method description

The methodology used for my research can be divided in four domains: to understand, to formulate and to design&participate. During my process I will go back and forth through these domains, it is not a linear process. Reflection during this graduation project will help me improve the work that has been done earlier in the process.

In the first domain of understanding, literature research has helped me define Moluccan neighbourhoods as ethnic enclaves and distinguish them from concentration neighbourhoods. Literature has also given me a better understanding of the benefits and effects of segregation. How the vicious circle leads to a group turning inwards and can lead to stigmatisation. In addition, literature research together with a mixed media analysis helped me understand the meaning and role of Moluccan neighbourhoods for the Moluccans. The conflicts that were identified from the mixed media analysis could be explained using research on territorial behaviour. After P2, literature review and mixed media analysis, will help me even better understand the different perspectives on the Moluccan neighbourhood from different generations of Moluccans.

The second domain is intended to formulate the cultural heritage and a future of the neighbourhoods. Here, mapping and observations from fieldwork are used to formulate the physical characteristics of the neighbourhoods, such as unique qualities and porosity. This can be complemented by information from interviews, focusing also on the use of space by residents and non-residents. A number of interviews with experts and stakeholders of Moluccan neighbourhoods are also planned after P2. The interviews, together with a mixed media analysis, will allow a scenario to be sketched for the future of the neighbourhoods. In addition, these interviews again help in the reflection process on the first domain, to better understand the different perspectives. After formulating a scenario, the knowledge obtained from literature research, findings from mapping, observations from fieldwork and information from the interviews is translated into a pattern language. Each aspect is processed in a separate pattern, which patterns are related. The pattern language method makes it possible to create a language that is specific to Moluccan culture, but general for Moluccan neighbourhoods. Thus, the pattern language can also be applicable to other Moluccan neighbourhoods in the Netherlands.

The third domain is about design and participation. The application of the patterns allows for designing but the patterns together also allow for communication in a participatory design process. The patterns are presented to a group of participants. This allows for feedback on the patterns, and for new patterns to emerge. In this way, another reflective round is possible on the second domain, where the basis for the patterns lies. Participants are also asked to apply patterns to their own living environment. In this way, they reflect on their own on-site process.

Literature and general practical preference

[The literature (theories or research data) and general practical experience/precedent you intend to consult.]

<u>Literature</u>

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Sohilait, R. (2014). Renovatie Molukse Wijken: Onderzoeksrapport. Adfo Books.

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Verweij, A. (2014). Concentratiewijken: springplank of getto? In Soort zoekt soort. Platform31. https://docplayer.nl/9294642-Soort-zoekt-soort-clustering-en-sociaal-economische-scheidslijnen-in-nederland.html

Vijfeijken, B. van. (2021, November). De Molukse wijk als houvast. Geografie.Nl. Retrieved December 13, 2022, from https://geografie.nl/artikel/de-molukse-wijk-als-houvast

<u>I am in touch with the following experts on Moluccan neighbourhoods and culture. I want to draw knowledge from their experience:</u>

Prof Fridus Steijlen - extraordinary professor of Moluccan migration and culture

Rein Sohilait - advisor/process supervisor of projects of housing corporations in Moluccan neighbourhoods

Dr Elias Rinsampessy - Cultural anthropological thesis researching the development of ethnic identity among Moluccans living in the Netherlands

Geronimo Matulessy – Photojournalist who made a photography project about Moluccan Neighbourhoods

Huib Akihary - Art and architecture historian Moluccan Historical Museum foundation (MHM)

Ichtus Rahanra - Advocates for the preservation of Moluccan neighbourhoods

Kaja Sariwating - Initiatiefnemer en hoofdredacteur van Stichting MOZA, zij doen een project over de Molukse wijken als materieel erfgoed en verzamelen verhalen over het 'gevoel van de Molukse wijken'

Reflection

1. What is the relation between your graduation (project) topic, the studio topic (if applicable), your master track (A,U,BT,LA,MBE), and your master programme (MSc AUBS)?

For me, the topic of this years graduation studio concerns how people live with each other in a society with many people with different histories and cultures. The theme of this year's Design of the Urban Fabric studio is 'Embracing plurality, growing porosity'. This connects seamlessly with the topic of this graduation project. The diversity that the Moluccan society brings with it, which was initially not embraced by the Netherlands, but is now more accepted and appreciated. Moluccans being mentioned as the school image of integration, but in reality, Moluccan society is still focused inwards. Although many neighbourhoods are already more mixed, this study looks at making them more porous. To ensure by opening up the neighbourhoods, the preservation of the neighbourhoods.

It relates to the master track Urbanism by focusing on the living environment of the society, which goes beyond the physical living environment, but also involves larger systems, such as the segregation policy that led to the construction of the Moluccan neighbourhoods. But also other processes such as the development of the cultural identity of the Moluccans as a group plays a role. All in all, the master's programme is about how these aspects come together in the built environment and to provide solutions using a multi-disciplinary approach.

2. What is the relevance of your graduation work in the larger social, professional and scientific framework.

The Netherlands is an immigration country and will continue to face immigration flows in the future. The current migration debate is centred around people fleeing the war in Ukraine and the rise of climate migrants. For dealing with the growing migration flows in the Netherlands, a lesson can be drawn from the way the government regulated the care and housing of Moluccans in the past. Whereas today the focus is on dispersal and integration, at the time of the arrival of Moluccans in the Netherlands, there was a strong segregation policy. According to Steijlen (2017), this isolation of Moluse society in the early years hindered integration with the rest of Dutch society. As a result, the Moluccan community has turned inward and reactions are fierce when the neighbourhood threatens to go through a transition from a homogeneous to mixed neighbourhood. Especially in these times, when it is often mentioned that living environments should be inclusive and diverse, it is therefore important is to explore ways to open up this type of neighbourhoods more without making current residents feel they are losing part of their identity and culture.

Moluccan neighbourhoods are the only concentration neighbourhoods in the Netherlands where one ethnic group is segregated. The neighbourhoods are therefore a unique situation. However, there is a knowledge gap in the scientific field on the spatial impact of the neighbourhoods. The research that has been done on the Moluccan neighbourhoods is all covered by the social sciences (sociology, social geography and planning, cultural anthropology, spatial sciences, governance). The basis for all these studies often goes back to the work of E. Rinsampessy (1992) who researched Moluccan identity in processes of cultural change. In these and other studies, the emphasis is often on how culture is passed on to generations, with the neighbourhoods playing an important factor in the process of culture handover. The research that looks at the role of physical place on people's behaviour is about residents' Sense of place. It does not, however, make explicit which spatial features

lead to it here either. This research attempts to investigate the spatial characteristics of Moluccan culture and how culture affects the use of space and vice versa.

Moreover, now, reactions from society to the transition of neighbourhoods are triggers for municipalities to adjust their policies. Policy research on the Moluccan neighbourhoods showed that policies also differ for most neighbourhoods. There is no general policy on a national scale on how to deal with neighbourhoods. Different things are at play in each neighbourhood but still, a statement could also be made by the government on neighbourhoods that were also their initiative.

Moreover, the studies thus mainly look at the current situation and those of the past. A study on the right to exist of Moluccan neighbourhoods and design strategies for the future would complement the current field of knowledge.