

# 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](mailto: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	Boyang Shen
Student number	5693918

Studio		
Name / Theme	Heritage & Architecture – Maritime Heritage Studio	
Main mentor	Lidy Meijers	Architecture
Second mentor	Thijs Bennebroek	Building Technology
Third mentor	Wido Quist	Research
Argumentation of choice of the studio	HA Studio's graduation project on water heritage preservation is a direction with great potential and attraction due to its locality, richness of perspectives, and creativity. And the Studio's approach to the valuation of heritage is very much in line with my own design inclinations, where preservation of the value of the building itself and its reuse are also the starting point and the core of the design.	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Waterdriehoek Art Triennial: A Local-beneficial Tradition-respecting Art Tourism In Heritage Area
Goal	
Location:	Waterdriehoek Area - FN Steel in Alblasserdam
The posed problem,	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Industrial heritage abandoned when unused.</li> <li>2. Maritime communities are in mediocre renewal.</li> <li>3. Heritage buildings with reuse potential are neglected.</li> <li>4. Tourism approach in the area appears outdated and lacking in consolidation.</li> </ol>
research questions and	<p>Main Question: What an arts tourism that fits Waterdriehoek's heritage and local community could be like?</p>

	<p>Subquestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. With regard to tourism and related areas, what are the demands and expectations of the local population for future development?</li> <li>2. Outwardly, how to organize artistic and cultural activities based on the built heritage to create a unique on-site art tourism brand?</li> <li>3. Inwardly, how can new activities be made to actively engage in the lives of local residents, serving and benefiting them while continuing traditions?</li> <li>4. How can this project balance and integrate the respective needs of residents and visitors to create healthy long-term development?</li> </ol>
<p>design assignment in which these result.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On a large scale, design a master plan for the Waterdriehoek Art Triennial, including a zoning plan based on existing heritage resources and the design of a tidal water excursion route based on existing water transportation, that transforms Waterdriehoek's landscapes and waterbodies into suitable vehicles for art.</li> <li>2. On a small scale, the FN Steel factory complex was selected as the object of monolithic architectural design. Transform it to host main exhibition area of water-environment art triennial but also serve locals' daily life and maritime culture in non-event period.</li> </ol>

**Process**

**Method description**

**1. Site visits & Interview & Questionnaire**

First-hand information will be obtained by walking and observing the site, and I will first experience the environment and things in the area, recognizing the various types of physical and social structures, visible and invisible, in their current state. The most direct first-hand information must be obtained by walking and observing within the site. In the case of Waterdriehoek, this should be accomplished through multiple walks through at least six major settlements and their surrounding countryside throughout the region.

Since personal observation is always subjective and limited, I also propose to conduct interviews and questionnaires. These interviews and questionnaires will focus on

understanding the tourism and arts industries in the Waterdriehoek area and their connection to the community, but also on the changes in the way of life shaped by the traditional industries of shipping and dredging in the area, as well as the changes in the industry. The largest proportion of respondents will be local residents, but also includes role-specific participants and people from outside the region.

## **2. Literatures**

It is clear that research related to built heritage cannot only focus on the current situation, but that the tracing of history, the compilation and the formation of specific historical narratives is one of the most crucial research elements. In this regard, although interviewing has a role to play, the main avenue of research is still the review of literature. This study will compare the information gathered with other sources (maps, photographs, and descriptions) from different periods of time and combines the constants and variables can better plan its development, restoration, redevelopment, and preservation (and even destruction).

## **3. Case Study & Typology Research**

In addition to accumulating basic background information using the above types of methods, design-oriented research relies more on finding similar project proposals and ideas from different perspectives at different points in the process. In this study this included four focused directions of case study and typology research in the strategy phase, the pre-contextual group work phase, the transition from research to design, and the architectural program layout phase.

## **Literature and general practical references**

### **1. Theoretical Basis**

The Waterdriehoek area is extremely diverse in terms of heritage values, while at the same time the monumental character that is central to the classical concept of cultural heritage is not predominant, and is highly conducive to the application and practice of some of the cutting-edge heritage theories of this century. Also because of the main question's requirement, the final monolithic design is centered on the concept of variable seasonal flexible spaces, will involve two architectural ontological discussions: the spatial juxtaposition of multiple functions and the temporal asynchrony of multiple functions, which will require the introduction of a number of relevant design theories.

#### 1.1 Against Authorized Heritage Discourse (anti-AHD)

Laurajane Smith first summarized the concept of 'Authorized Heritage Discourse (AHD)' and criticized it[20], liberating heritage participation from the confines of the old-fashioned AHD conception implies a more inclusive and participatory heritage engagement. Waterdriehoek is an excellent site for practicing anti-AHD at the practical level.

#### 1.2 Critical Heritage Study

More specifically, Critical Heritage Study calls for transforming passivity into proactivity and delving into the origins and demystification of heritage. As Rodney

Harrison proposed, revealing the various processes that produce heritage allows the public to understand heritage from their own backgrounds. And further, to derive vitality from the multiplicity of heritage meanings in facing the future.

### 1.3 Integrated functional organization of architecture

One of the outstanding features of the monolithic design phase of the project is the multiple composites of traditional building types, combining different functions such as art museums, workshops, schools, shipyards, etc., in the same building complex, forming an organic whole through appropriate functional organization. Koolhaas, in *Delirious New York*, extensively discusses the method of interweaving functions.

### 1.4 Transformable architecture: flexibility and non-commensurability

The realization of multiple non-consensual functions in limited spaces like the seasonal flexible spaces envisioned for this project requires a very special class of architecture "that change shape, space, form or appearance by the physical alteration of their structure, skin or internal surface, enabling a significant alteration in the way it is used or perceived."

## **2. Reference Cases**

### 2.1 Tourism Design Reference

- (1) Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennial
- (2) Setouchi Triennial
- (3) Shanghai Urban Space Art Season 2019
- (4) Hu Shi Guang Art Eco Site
- (5) SMACH Art Biennale
- (6) Venice Biennale

### 2.1 Architecture Design Reference

- (1) The Tate Modern by Herzog & de Meuron
- (2) Powerhouse Arts by Herzog & de Meuron
- (3) Tank Shanghai by OPEN Architecture
- (4) Utrecht Town Hall by Enric Miralles
- (5) Castelveccchio Museum by Carlo Scarpa

## **3. Bibliography**

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## 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)?

With the theme of art tourism, the project takes a holistic view of the water heritage, maritime culture and other integrated resources of the entire Waterdriehoek, using the design of an art triennial and its main venue as a practical strategy. At the macro level, the triennial revitalizes the multilayered heritage of the waterfront with architectural structures and artistic interventions at various scales; at the micro level, the main pavilion is designed as an architectural transformation of the largest industrial heritage factory in the region into a complex building that is multifunctional, seasonal, and directly interacts with the water. Both of these aspects echo Studio's core Heritage & Architecture, as well as the theme of Maritime Heritage.

As the graduation design for the MSc AUBS in Architecture track, the project's two scales, large and small, consider the relationship between the urban landscape and architecture in a composite manner. The idea of the project is to bring out the significance and connection of the monolithic building design in a larger scale environment. At the same time, the monolithic building itself, as a new type of large-scale multi-functional public building, will help to explore new design possibilities that can respond to the different needs of multiple groups of people.

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

Globally, the problems of industrial transformation and the treatment of industrial heritage in former manufacturing regions are universal. The Waterdriehoek region, however, superimposes on this universality a unique landscape heritage related to shipbuilding, dredging, agricultural water systems, etc., while at the same time these types of heritage have not yet been fully recognized and developed. Based on this premise, the project starts from the entry point of tourism and helps to provide some practical insights and contributions to the broader discussion of the above mentioned areas through research and design.

On the other hand, to achieve the goal of meeting new demands, this project involves designing a new functional form along with complementary materials and spaces. Due to the extensive volume and complexity of internal systems, the project must delve deeply into the development and application of existing or entirely new architectural professional and scientific content.