

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	M. Lappa
Student number	5860857

Studio		
Name / Theme	Interiors Buildings Cities	
Main mentor	Mark Pimlott	Architecture
Second mentor	Mauro Parravicini	Architectural Engineering
Argumentation of choice of the studio	<p>The following resulted in my choosing this studio:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - My interest in public life within the urban context and, in particular, in the architecture through which it is manifested and enhanced - The approach of the studio which encompasses all scales, from the city to the interior, as well as my personal will to become better in designing interior spaces - This year's focus on public libraries, an important social infrastructure within cities 	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	bibliotek
Goal	
Location:	Stockholm, Sweden
The posed problem,	To rethink the Stockholm City Library which opened to the public in 1928, redefine its role in the city and develop a proposal for it.
research questions and	After a long discussion and two competition briefs regarding the future of the library, what is an appropriate response to it today? How can the Stockholm City Library engage with today's and future needs in terms of program and spatiality? And what does that mean for the existing building and its site? How can the transformation of the library be accomplished in a sustainable way?

<p>design assignment in which these result.</p>	<p>The above questions ask for a multi-layered design approach. The interior of the existing library building will be transformed in order to provide more spaces to the public, while maintaining its character, while it will also be connected to the adjacent annex building and the open urban space, so as to constitute a unity that includes and emphasizes the urban character of the site. The overall purpose is the library to be expanded, utilizing the capacities of the existing buildings, to offer more diverse program and to be better connected and opened up to the exterior space.</p>
<p>Process</p>	
<p>Method description</p> <p>In order to formulate a proposal for the Stockholm City Library, both the existing library and the architecture of Erik Gunnar Asplund needed to be analyzed. As a studio we have already researched the architecture of Asplund, through collectively studying not only the library but a number of other projects of the architect. This research was comprised of a series of drawings, diagrams, sketches, digital and physical scale models of key rooms in the library. In addition, by producing drawings we analyzed a series of precedent libraries designed by other architects in an attempt to explore the thinking behind their designs and comprehend the changes that libraries as institutions have undergone throughout the years.</p> <p>With the above as a base, and by also reflecting upon a series of events and lectures organized as part of the Research Seminar and upon individual readings and thoughts, I will be constantly going back and forth trying to synthesize all this knowledge and information and translate them into a meaningful design.</p>	
<p>Literature and general practical references</p>	
<p>Literature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gromark, Sten, Jennifer Mack, Roemer van Toorn, Hélène Frichot, Gunnar Sandin, and Bettina Schwalm, eds. <i>Architecture in Effect: Vol. 2. after Effects: Theories and Methodologies in Architectural Research</i>. New York: Actar, 2018. - Kubo, Michael, and Ramon Prat, eds. <i>Seattle Public Library, Oma/Imn</i>. Barcelona: Actar, 2005. - Lushington, Nolan, Wolfgang Rudolf, and Liliane Wong. <i>Libraries: A Design Manual</i>. Basel: Birkhäuser, 2016. 	

- Louw, Michael, and Stella Papanicolaou. *Buildings Reimagined : A Dialogue between Old and New*. Mulgrave, Victoria, Australia: Images Publishing Group, 2019.
- Sternheim, Joyce, and Rob Bruijnzeels. *Imagination and Participation : Next Steps in Public Library Architecture*. Translated by Jane Tee. Rotterdam: nai010, 2021.
- Stricker, Eva, Guido Brandi, Andreas Sonderegger, Marc Angst, Barbara Buser, Michel Massmünster, Zürcher Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften, and Institut Konstruktives Entwerfen (IKE : Winterthur, Switzerland), eds. *Reuse in Construction : A Compendium of Circular Architecture*. Zurich: Park Books, 2022.

Precedents' studies:

- Salle de Lecture, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Henri Labrouste, 1875
- Viipuri Library, Alvar Aalto, 1935
- National and University Library, Joze Plecnik, 1943
- Beinecke Library New Haven, SOM, 1959
- Berlin Statsbibliothek, Hans Scharoun, 1967
- British Library, Colin St John Wilson, 1962–1997
- Exeter Library, Louis Kahn, 1972
- Seattle Public Library, OMA, 2004

Other reference buildings:

- Carlos Ramos Pavilion, Álvaro Siza, 1986
- Stockholm City Library (proposal), Caruso St John Architects, 2014-2019
- Lochal, CIVIC Architects - Braaksma & Roos Architectenbureau - Mecanoo, 2018
- Oodi Helsinki Central Library, ALA Architects, 2018
- Het Predikherenklooster, Korteknie Stuhlmacher Architects, 2019

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)?

Libraries, as public and social institutions, are inextricably connected to the society and their context. At the same time, their spatial and architectural attributes largely affect their function as places for the public and inspiring environments. Hence, the design assignment for the Stockholm City Library is clearly related to the graduation studio "Interiors Buildings Cities", as all three scales need to be considered. The MSc programme "Architecture, Urbanism and Building Sciences" is also addressed by the graduation topic, since the latter poses questions regarding the changes in the built environment and sustainability. To wit, the topic is not purely architectural; it encompasses themes related both to urbanism and building technology.

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

From the collective research we conducted as a studio and from the available literature on the topic, it is an undeniable fact that the role of public libraries has changed a lot through the years. Nowadays, libraries are not places merely related to book-related knowledge and literature. They should be open to everyone, provide a diverse program for all needs and demands and enhance interaction among people. Thus, the present graduation project is research on the role of public libraries as social institutions in the future. Apart from that, dealing with existing buildings and designing for the future result in issues related to sustainability, social and environmental, and adaptability.