

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	Lucas de Haas
Student number	4692489

Studio		
Name / Theme	AR3DC100 Architectural Crossovers Graduation studio	
Main mentor	Joran Kuijper	Architecture design
Second mentor	Agnes van der Meij	Architecture research
Argumentation of choice of the studio	The Cross-over studio has a strong element of research as well as design. Since I feel like research has always been harder for me, this studio could challenge me like it did in the Msc2 course. This way the design will be grounded on research that and this makes making design choices much easier. Lastly the location London seemed like it had a lot of potential since a lot of problems that London faces are shared by other cities in the world, but they seem to be on a different scope in the City of London.	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Social Idiocracies
Goal	
Location:	[Project Location]
The posed problem,	[Problem Statement]
research questions and	[Research Question]
design assignment in which these result.	[Design Assignment]
<p>Location; London, Shoreditch</p> <p>Problem statement; With the passing of time many of London's council Housing projects have fallen into disrepair, problems like damp, overcrowding and lack of outdoor space. This is why local authorities want to do away with the old blocks, to build new modern homes. These new homes are often re-evaluated for a higher rent making it impossible for old residents to return.</p> <p>Research questions;</p>	

Main question: Which architectural and urban planning principles are important to preserve or develop spatial quality within a London Council Estate in order to enhance its resident's social wellbeing?

Further questions;

- How have London's Council Estates been developing through time?
- How has the disappearance of the welfare state played its part in the deterioration of the London Council housing Council Estate?
- What typologies are applicable in a contemporary Council housing Estate?
- What are the current problems within the Council housing estates that prevent it from being a liveable, sustainable inclusive environment?

Design assignment; A redevelopment of a Social Housing Estate, creating a mixed-use building, while preserving livability for the current residents and developing new quality in and around the estate.

A well considered redevelopment strategy which considers the current residents as well as the changing housing needs of today's market and on top of that delivering a liveable, resilient, high density council estate. This strategy would then be leading in a design exercise which will follow the research paper. By expanding the knowledge on London council Estates and their current architectural qualities and weaknesses a broader understanding of Social housing in general can be made, since the analysis done on the three case studies could also be applied on Social housing complexes in different places.

Process

Method description

Literature review:

In understand the full context in which the council housing estate works the literature I am reading will contribute to the understanding of the positives and negatives of current situation in London as will it broaden the (historic) context of social housing in London. This will be visualised through a chronological timeline.

Case study Plan analysis:

- Drawing: Through analyzing plans, sections, morphology, elevations and ornamentation of three different case study estates a better idea of architectural elements that exemplify the London council estate in order to find their positive and negative elements. The analysed plans I found in archives around London. This analysis will contribute to finding out what the intentions of the designers.
- Photography: In addition to the plan analysis photography will be used to see what the current state of the Estates is.
- Film: to display elements that are harder to visualize by drawing and still images, film will be used. Here we try and display the movement going through the Estate. From outside to front door is one of the experiences that residents almost have every day. Therefore, its an important element to capture.

Literature and general practical preference

- Campkin, B. Remaking London: Decline and regeneration in urban culture. Bloomsbury Publishing, 2013.
- De Botton, A. The Architecture of Happiness Reissued in this ed. London: Penguin Books. 2006
- Gehl, Jan. Life between buildings. Vol. 23. New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1987.
- Sim, D., & Gehl, J. (2019). "Soft city : building density for everyday life." Island Press. Retrieved October 17, 2022. Chapter: Nine Criteria: for livable Urban density
- Napolitano, U. Jallon, B. Paris Haussmann: modèle de ville/Paris Haussmann: a model's relevance. Zurich, Park Books, 2017

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)?
2. What is the relevance of your graduation work in the larger social, professional and scientific framework.
 1. This studio Crossover design "heterogenous London" searches for an architectural project that is based on an interdisciplinary framework of multi-modal design research. In my project I search various research methods to achieve a conclusion/ or strategy on which I base my design.
 2. Recently the newly redeveloped Battersea power station opened its doors, inside its villas are priced at eight million pounds and it houses shops like Rolex and Cartier. Affordable housing is also there although it only concerns 9% of the total housing inside. As London develops more and more real-estate for the very wealthy it is also facing an affordable housing crisis that has been going on for decades. This research is partly politically motivated; it responds to the erosion of the welfare state by neo-liberal policies as it is motivated by; the architecture of council estate housing and the wish that this architecture is able to be transformed into a architecturally and socially good typology.