

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	Sjors van Klooster
Student number	5183987

Studio		
Name / Theme	Architectural Design Crossovers – Heterogeneous London	
Main mentor	Roberto Cavallo	Architecture / Design
Second mentor	Freek Speksnijder	Building Technology
Third mentor	Johan van Lierop	Architecture / research
Argumentation of choice of the studio	Architectural Design Crossovers graduation studio, with Heterogeneous London as its topic, addresses a multidisciplinary approach, meaning doing research in many fields that go beyond the architectural discipline, but are nevertheless entangled and inseparable. Addressing these relationships and dependencies in the design is what I would like to pursue in my future work.	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	A Contemporary Brownfield development Towards an ecocentric third generation London
Goal	
Location:	East London Waterworks, London, United Kingdom
The posed problem,	Over the years, the Anthropocentric societies are to blame for the unhealthy urban environments they have created. To heal them, we require a turning strategy. As Anthropocentrism is the cause of the problem, the research suggests a more Ecocentric approach: the Ecocentric, Third Generation city framework: a city that aims to restore the balance with- and heal the Anthropocene urban environment, where retrieving nature and reconnecting the human conscious to this nature is its driving entity. Brownfields are, due to their post-anthropocentric characteristics, the seeds for an ecocentric Third Generation city, as they are where the city is no longer and require healing. Where current Brownfield development is still excessively anthropocentric, this research suggest a new, contemporary brownfield regeneration strategy: a counter manifestive answer to the current environmental problems: a healing strategy, focused on healing the social & natural

	<p>environment and taking an ecocentric position within. Where architecture and landscape architecture synergistically are the operating tool of the strategy, they adapt this vision by being responsive to the environmental issues & community needs while simultaneously retrieving nature & re-connect human to this nature. This strategy has the ability to restore the balance with- and heal the Anthropocene urban environment, eventually creating awareness and stimulates to reconsider an ecocentric position in the urban environment. Metropolis London as center of the industrial revolution contains many brownfields and therefore functions as the case study of the research.</p>
<p>research questions and</p>	<p>Research question: How can the Ecocentric, Third generation London framework be the driver towards a regenerating strategy for brownfield development?</p> <p>Subquestions:</p> <p>What are the threats & opportunities of the brownfield regeneration strategy within the Ecocentric, Third Generation London Framework?</p> <p>What are the guidelines for the conduction of the brownfield regeneration strategy within the Ecocentric, Third Generation London Framework?</p> <p>Where in London would regenerating postindustrial landscapes within the framework be most opportune-full?</p> <p>How can (landscape) architecture be the operating tool of the Ecocentric, Third Generation London framework?</p>
<p>design assignment in which these result.</p>	<p>Conducting the created brownfield regeneration strategy upon the most opportune-full site in London: Retrieving nature on a brownfield by creating a remediating- followed by re-wilded landscape with an architecture that is responsive to this landscape and the community needs. It entails creating an architecture that is rather a sustaining than destructive device for the landscape, becoming part of it or being able to adapt to it.</p> <p>Program of requirements: According to the community, analysis and strategy: creating a local community hub, the social hearth of the natural area. Stimulating the community to become part of nature in order to heal and educate them, making them aware of the benefits of nature: a wide range of activities that will improve mental & physical health, education, increase biodiversity and encourage visitors to come, stay and explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - visitor & community center - research & education center - adult playground - retreat <p>Not only focusing on the brownfield site but also the adjacent natural area, as it's one system and avoids an overkill of interventions on the brownfield site.</p>

[This should be formulated in such a way that the graduation project can answer these questions.

The definition of the problem has to be significant to a clearly defined area of research and design.]

Process

Method description

The methodology & methods aim to develop the regenerative strategy for brownfield development, the most opportune-full brownfield and the conduction of the strategy upon. The methodology of this research can be explained according to two different approaches: the contextual & the theoretical approach. These two approaches run simultaneously and form a synergy. The theoretical approach aims to provide the knowledge necessary from the State of the arts for the understanding of the overall conditions and systematic approach of the strategy in a research paper, giving guidelines to the design, whereas the contextual approach aims to map the site- data and knowledge to identify potential sites including the threats and opportunities.

The theoretical approach

A research paper of the contemporary brownfield regeneration strategy, will be an elaboration of the framework derived from the state of the art, including a position that aims to persuade the reader to think differently about brownfield development in relation to our urban environment. Precedents and case-studies will support the strategy and choices made in the design.

The contextual approach

The contextual approach aims to map the site data and -knowledge to identify potential brownfield sites including its threats and opportunities. On the scale of London, 6 filtering lenses are applied, filtering down to the most opportune-full site, making the research feasible and most potential-full:

- Lens 1. industrial re-location
- Lens 2. socio- environmental deprived areas
- Lens 3. nodes of infrastructure
- Lens 4. site investigation - cultural heritage
- Lens 5. site Analysis - potential occupancy
- deprivation
- Lens 6. natural context

The lenses are mapped in catalogues and maps, photography and writing, filtering towards the most opportune-full brownfield, followed by the site analysis of the chosen brownfield site. Deriving from the analysis & the strategy, an architecture & landscape architecture will develop into a design, fitting the vision of the latter. The mapping and site analysis combined with the vision of the strategy derived from the research paper, will lead to the conduction of the design.

Literature and general practical preference

Bakshi, A., & Gallagher, F. (2020, December). Design with Fourth Nature. <https://doi.org/10.1080/18626033.2020.1852690>

Barton, J., & Pretty, J. (2010). Urban ecology and human health and wellbeing. Research Gate. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/285118479_Urban_ecology_and_human_health_and_wellbeing

Berger, A. (2007). Drosscape: Wasting Land in Urban America (1st ed.). Princeton Architectural Press. https://marywoodthesisresearch.files.wordpress.com/2014/03/berger_drosscape.pdf

Clément, G. (2003) The "Manifeste du Tiers-Paysage", Editions Sujet/Objet <http://www.gillesclement.com/art-454-tit-The-Third-Landscape>

Casagrande, M. (2013). From Urban Acupuncture to the Third Generation City. Research Gate. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/309741134_From_Urban_Acupuncture_to_the_Third_Generation_City

Davies, E. & TEDxAlgonquinPark. (2013, December 19). Restoring Urban Wilderness: Eric Davies at TEDxAlgonquinPark. Youtube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K9205yeBL60>

Grant, S. W. (2013). Gardens Are a Physical Manifestation of Culture: Postmodern Public Parks of the Twenty-First Century Will Be Built on the Infrastructure of the Industrial Age. <https://scholarship.rollins.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1038&context=mls>
Institute for European Environmental Policy. (2014). The Health and Social Benefits of Nature and Biodiversity Protection.

John Dixon Hunt (2000), Greater Perfections: the Practice of Garden Theory, ISBN-0-8122-3506-1, Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press

Michael Hall, C. M. H. (2013, May). The Ecological and Environmental Significance of Urban Wastelands and Drosscapes. Research Gate. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/299781286_The_Ecological_and_Environmental_Significance_of_Urban_Wastelands_and_Drosscapes

Pollan, M. (2003). Second Nature: A Gardener's Education. Grove Press.

The Hastings Center. (2018, May 11). Environment, Ethics, and Human Health. <https://www.thehastingscenter.org/briefingbook/environmental-health/>

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)?

The topic of a counter manifestive brownfield development is deeply multidisciplinary. Environmental issues, natural dependencies & community understanding are few examples where the disciplines of architecture and landscape architecture overarch and can be synergistically entailed in their approach, crossing disciplines of multiple master tracks. Metropolis London as center of the industrial revolution contains many brownfields and therefore reflects the studio topic 'Heterogeneous London' relevantly.

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

The problem of the Anthropocentric urban environment is not unique to London. The unhealthy urban environment, the human-nature dichotomy and the Anthropocentrism that causes it are common in most urban metropolises. Therefore, the Ecocentric Third Generation city framework for regenerating brownfields would be relevant for more cities or areas. London specifically as center of the industrial revolution, the era of pollution. Due to the abundance of brownfields in the urban environment of London, a counter manifestive development as the one discussed in the research paper, will be most suitable. However, this strategy aims beyond the healing of the site. Not only is the designer taking a new position towards the urban environment, it is also stimulating the user to do so, reflecting this in its (landscape) architecture. It aims for people to reconsider their position towards the urban environment and nature within.