Heritage & Architecture

MSc3+4 Adapting 20C. Heritage: Resourceful Housing



Collage: Roelof Kooistra, 2023

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Code	AR3AH105
Credits	55
Location	Amsterdam
	Nieuw-West
Excursion	Yes
Costs	-

Two challenges in one studio: circular economy & housing crisis. Heritage makes the connection.

Redesigning the built environment is key for the sustainable future of our cities, contributing to societal challenges as energy justice and climate change. Also, the current housing crisis calls for more housing, better energy performance and diversified typologies. The circular answer is found in reuse, which is also at the heart of the heritage discipline. How can circularity and heritage approaches join forces? We challenge you to put waste and heritage in the same scale of cultural significance, from valueless to valuable. How to redesign the legacy of renowned Dutch housing towards densification and decarbonization?

In this studio we will study how linear processes can be turned into circular processes, both for tangible resources like materials, elements and volumes, and for intangible resources like design, performance and meaning. We will compare different design strategies, integrating

qualitative and quantitative methods to learn in which ways heritage, circularity and social (in)justice correspond or conflict in the housing sector.

This graduation studio follows a stepped approach. First, students will jointly research 'benchmark' cases, such as a listed monument, a transformed building complex and a demolished housing estate. This provides an in-depth understanding of how the various flows of tangible and intangible resources are kept, reused or wasted. Second, the students will work individually on a redesign proposal for a selected building, including a) research on resources and their values, b) values-based design and c) impact assessment of your redesign. The studio is in consultation with the City of Amsterdam and contributes to their strategies for the post-war district of Amsterdam Nieuw West.

Are you up for the mixed challenge of circularity, housing and heritage? Join us in developing new models for resourceful housing.