

2014  
PORTFOLIO  
LAURENS VANDAMME

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**EDUCATION**

Sint Lucas Ghent, Belgium  
*Bachelor of Science in Architecture*

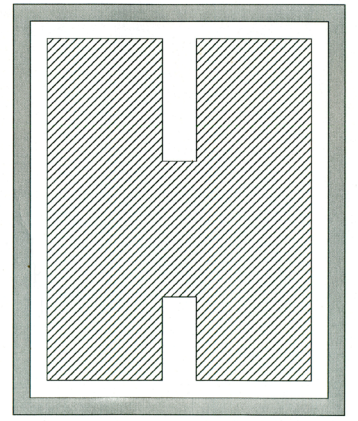
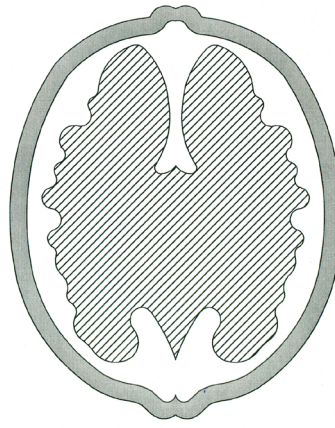
Sint Lucas Ghent, Belgium  
*Master in Urban Design and Spatial Planning,  
Master of Science*

# NATUUR/NATUREL

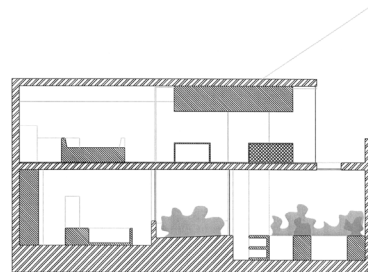
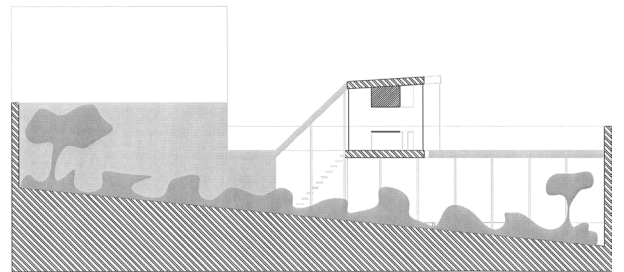
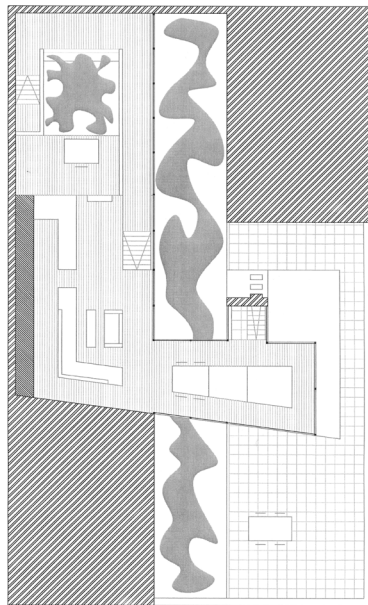
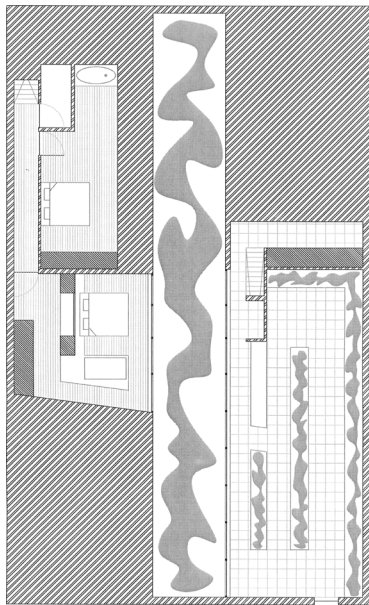
DATE  
TYPE

2006/2007  
Academic exercise  
2 Bachelor Architecture  
Sint Lucas  
Ghent, Belgium

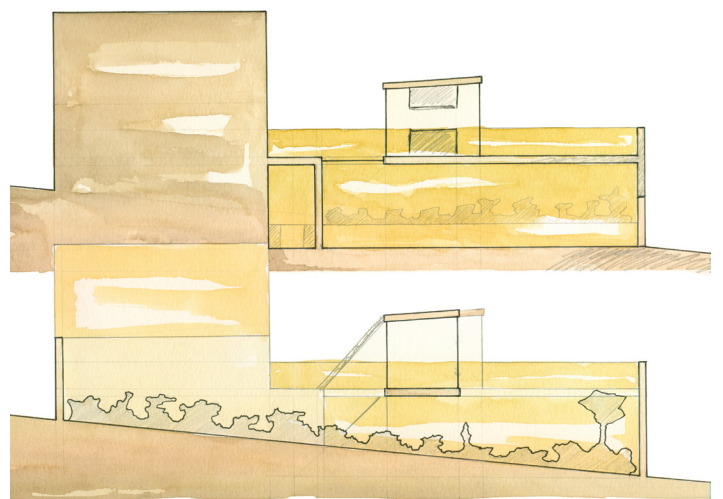
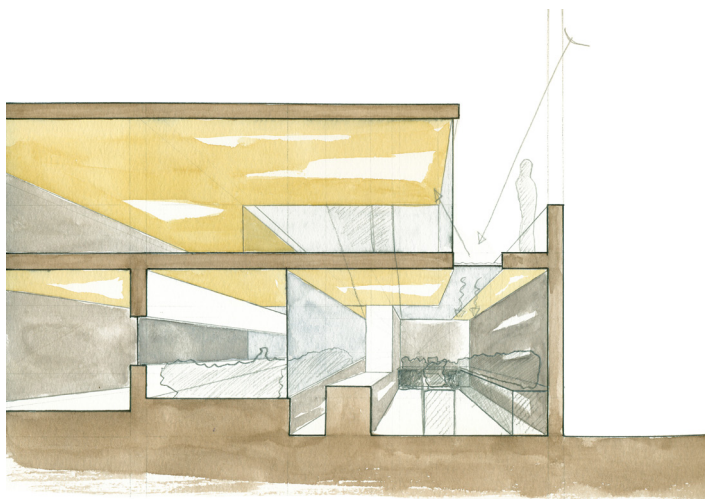
ORGANISATION  
LOCATION



Walnut concept AutoCAD

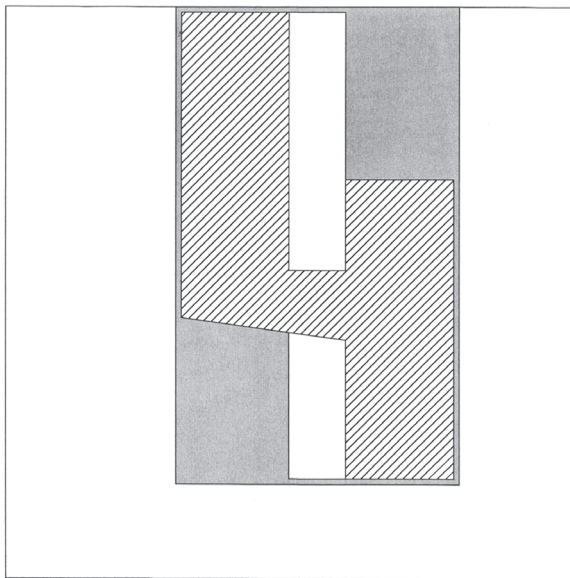


Plans AutoCAD



Perspective and sections Aquarel





New building between existing buildings AutoCAD

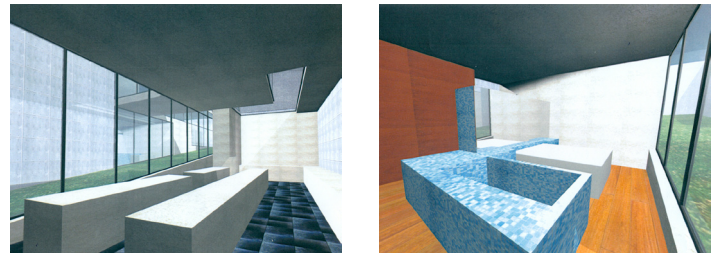
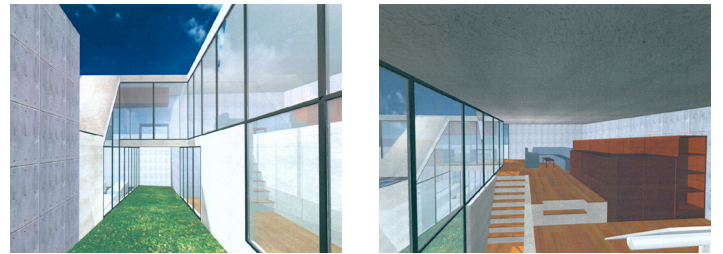
## IN A NUTSHELL

*The aim of the exercise „nature/naturel“ was to fit a home and workspace between 2 existing houses on a slight slope. The terms nature and naturel had to be the inspiration for this composition.*

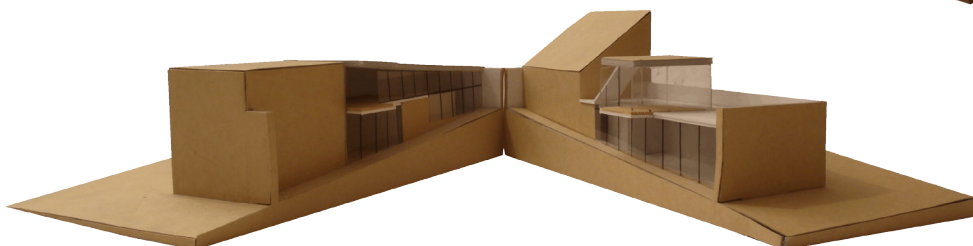
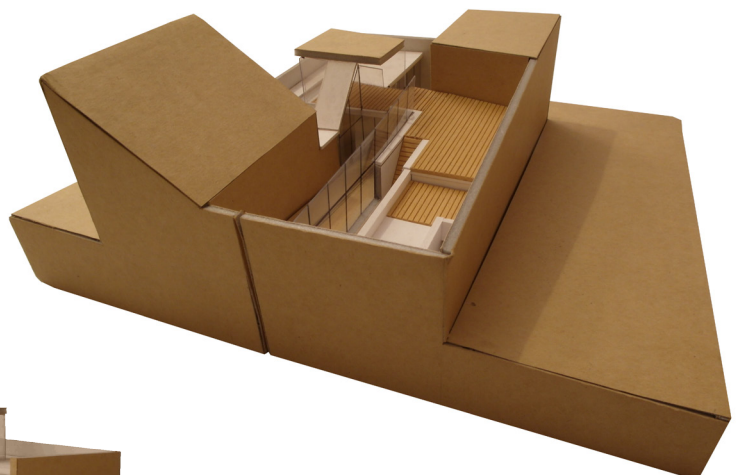
The project had to implement the combination of working and living. This is realized by locating the two functions in separate volumes, each with its own entrance. A small intern connection joins the two volumes. The volumes are constructed adjacent the two existing buildings and the space in between serves as the garden. This form, configuration and duality of functions and volumes are inspired on the configuration of a walnut.

The space between the two volumes has a more important role than just separating the functions. Just

like the walnut the building is constructed in a introvert manner, there are no openings provided in the exterior walls, except the two entrances. So all the windows and views are directed toward the interior space. Through this, the walls facing this interior space are constructed almost exclusively out of transparent materials. That way the green interior space is experienced to the fullest by both volumes. Because the green space follows the original slope of the terrain, one experiences it in different perspectives. Thereby the eye level in relation to the surface level varies from 30 cm to 470 cm. The connection between the two volumes isn't situated on the surface level but on the first floor, that way the house benefits from the rooftop terrace on top of the work-volume. This connection is the only place where the garden is experienced in the longitudinal direction and features the dining room.



Interior and interior garden 3DS MAX



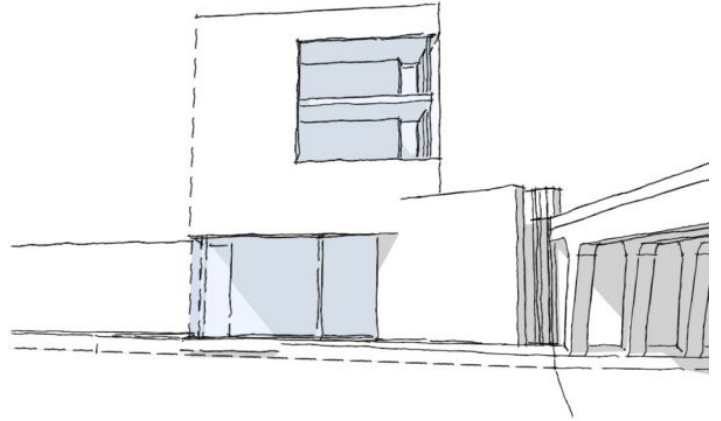
Scale model Wood, plexi and foamboard

# RE-USE

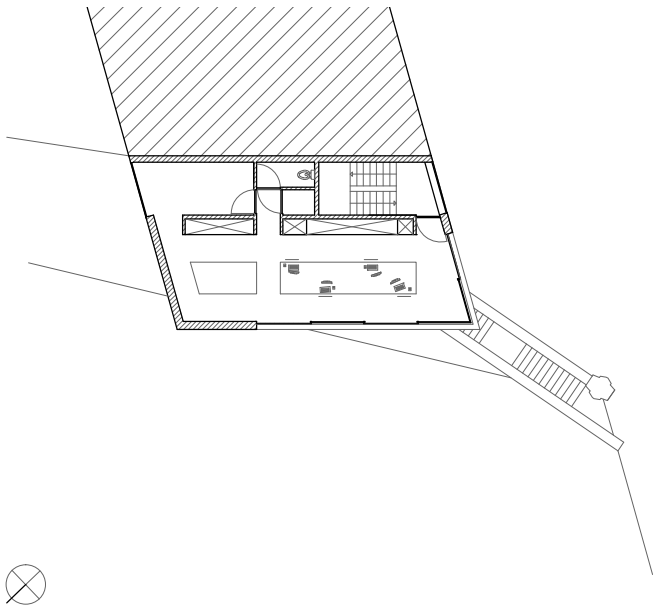
DATE  
TYPE

2009/2010  
Academic exercise  
2 Bachelor Architecture  
Sint Lucas  
Ghent, Belgium

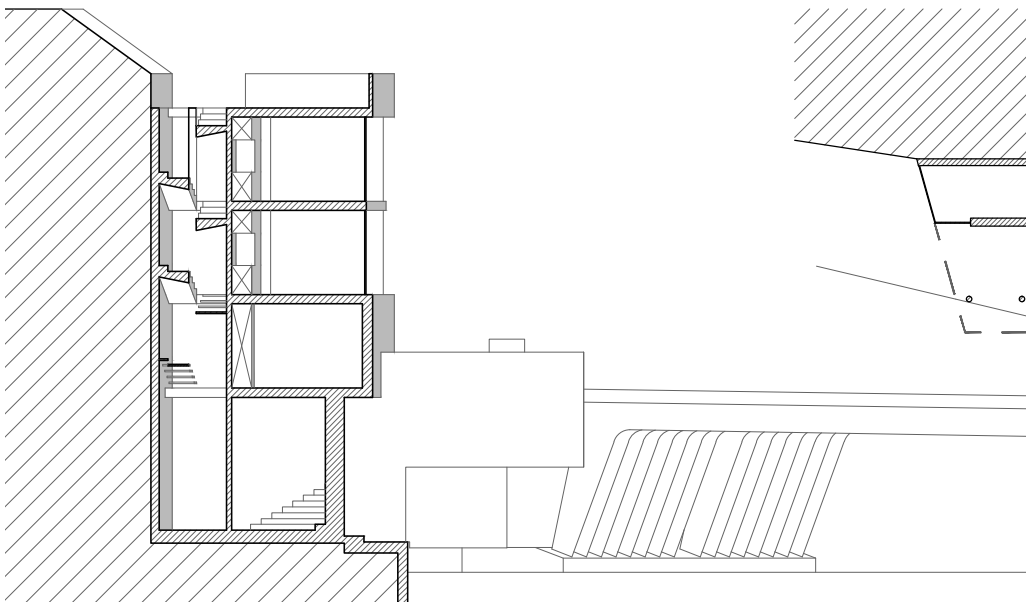
ORGANISATION  
LOCATION



View along bicycle path SketchUp



Workspace and exhibition configuration AutoCAD



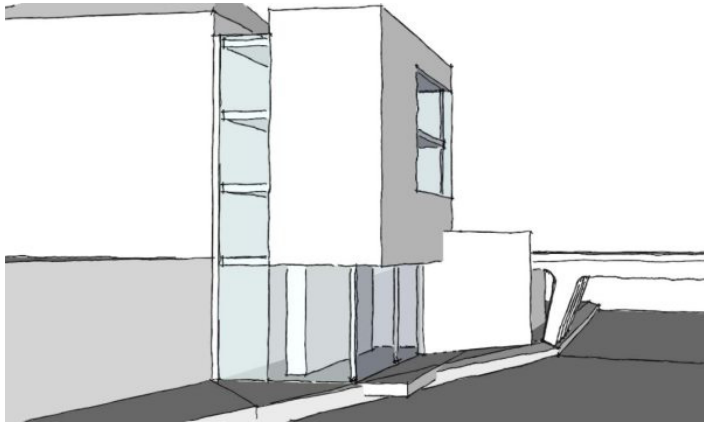
Section and level -1 AutoCAD



*Re-use was an exercise which consisted out of a selection of an unused area in the urban fabric of Ghent. Subsequently one had to find a suitable function for this terrain, implementing the idea of re-use.*

This project is situated on an undeveloped terrain located near the intersection of the beltway and a river, it implements re-use in three ways.

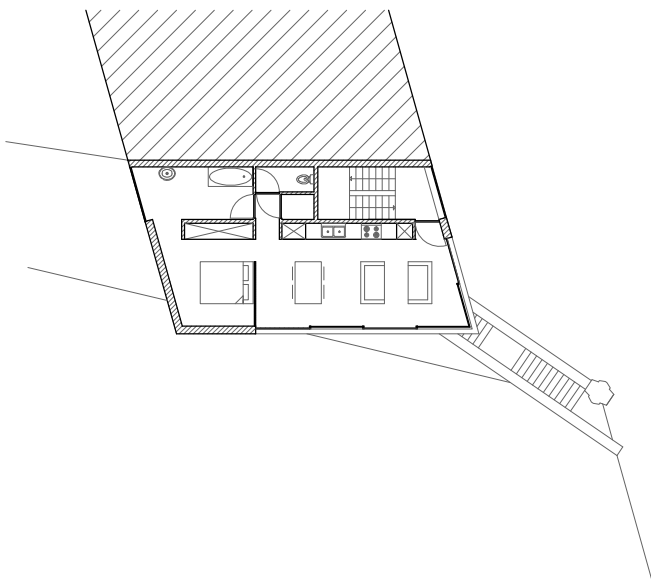
The first, most obvious one, is the re-use of the terrain, which was a small, long piece of wasteland situated between the river and a row of houses that has never been finished. The purpose is to give the wasteland a more convenient use and create an end to the row of houses. To accentuate this ending the project disconnects this row of houses by making a part of the facade transparent, creating a point at the end of the line, much like an exclamation mark.



View from the river SketchUp

By adding a taxi-boat stop, the river is re-used as a mode of passenger transport. This re-using the river as a mode of passenger transport was inserted by adding a taxi-boat stop as new function. This function is situated on the waterfront level (-1) and is connected to the street level (0) with a separate stairway. The location was a vital factor for positioning the taxi-boat stop, it's opposite STAM, the city museum of Ghent, near the beltway and public transport.

The final step of re-use is implemented is by designing levels 0, 1, 2 and 3 of the building with the idea that they could be used for other purposes later in time. By creating open spaces which can be separated by removable walls, one guarantees the possibility to change the function quickly. To assure this, the spaces were configured and tested to other functions.



Studio configuration AutoCAD



Scale model Balsa wood, plexi and foamboard



Day- and nightsimulations 3DS MAX and Photoshop

# CANAL: NEW BRIDGES FOR BRUSSELS

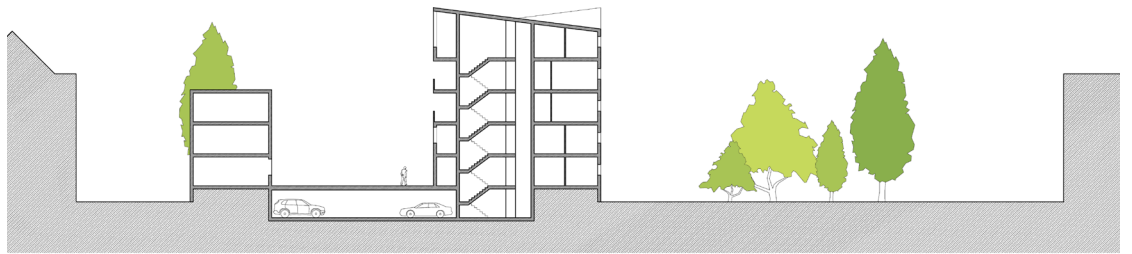
DATE  
TYPE

2010/2011  
Academic exercise  
3 Bachelor Architecture  
Sint Lucas  
Brussels, Belgium

ORGANISATION  
LOCATION



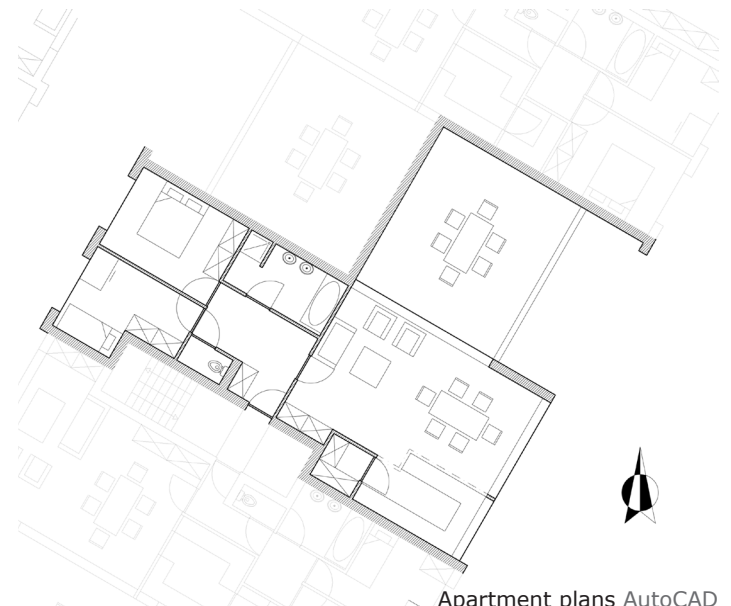
Processed image MSA/TRITEL New green connection Photoshop



Situation and sections AutoCAD



Plan AutoCAD



Apartment plans AutoCAD





The bachelor's thesis consisted of redesigning an entire housing block, starting with a vision on urban living. This housing block was situated behind the church Sint-Jan Baptist in Sint-Jans-Molenbeek, a commune west of Brussels where the canal acts as a barrier. One had to take into account that the canal functions as a barrier and the potential to create bridges or barriers, as well as on transition zones between the city center and the peripheral neighborhoods.

Starting with the idea that the canal forms a barrier between Brussels and Molenbeek, I tried to lift the barrier mentally and functionally by creating an attractor on the other side of the canal, rather than trying to resolve the barrier itself. At the moment there is a big wave from Molenbeek toward Brussels, this because of the functions that Brussels possesses.

In the opposite direction there is far less movement, this by the lack of functions in Molenbeek. With placing a new function in Molenbeek, one which Brussels doesn't have, I tend to create a more balanced interaction between the two, in order to lift the barrier.

This attractor for Brussels consists of a green axis linked to recreative functions and collective housing. It is of great importance that this axis is not an isolated one but that it is a part of a larger green axis along the canal or that it is a part of a green beltway around Brussels or that it is a part of both.

By connecting the green islands in the urban fabric of Molenbeek one creates a green axis. Apart from connecting the green islands, this axis links different squares and functions, it complements sports



New configuration Photoshop and AutoCAD

infrastructure and the collective use of these spaces. The housing block that needs to be rebuilt is situated next to this green axis. Instead of rebuilding the housing block in a conventional way I opted for a form of collective housing. The surrounding buildings allow a building height of 5 storeys. By increasing the existing building height (of 2 to 3 storeys) to 5 storeys, one creates a higher density which creates open space for the green axis.

The implantation of the building took into account an optimal orientation in relation to the sun and respected the perspectives of the existing streets. By building more dense, space is spared. This spared space isn't used exclusively for the realisation of the green axis. A part of this extra space will be used to realize a semi-public open space for the inhabitant of the collective housing project. This space

gets a semi-public sense by; the positioning of the buildings, the absence of strong connections (passageways), the presence of collective functions and a surface level that is 1 meter higher than the surrounding surface levels. This 1 meter higher surface level is created by a semi submerged parking lot.

This parking lot ensures the disappearance of parked cars, making place for the vulnerable road users. Furthermore the inhabitants can enjoy a polyvalent collective interior space.

The dwellings are designed in such a way that they have a valuable arrangement and I have tried to provide each dwelling with an exterior space. The exterior spaces are positioned in such that it is impossible for neighbors to look inside.



Scale model Balsa wood and cardboard



# SOUTHERN MOSAIC

DATE  
TYPE

2011/2012  
Academic exercise  
1 Master Urbanism and  
Spatial Planning  
Sint Lucas  
Ghent, Belgium

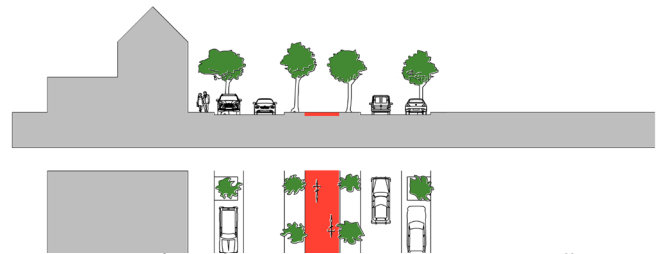
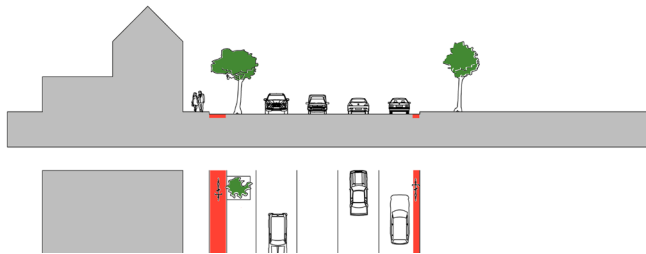
ORGANISATION  
LOCATION



In cooperation with  
Toon De Keyser



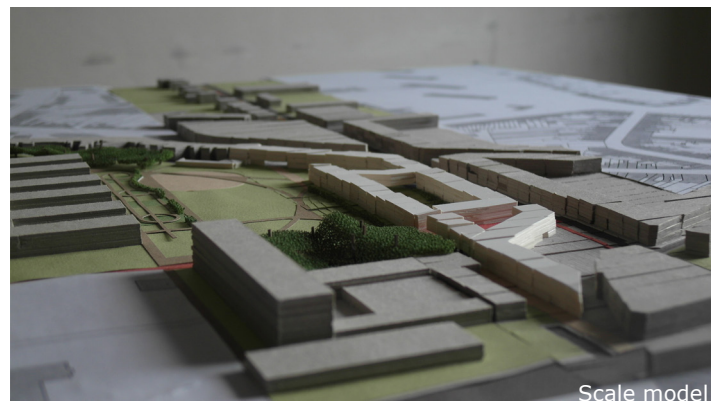
Green lungs and green beltway Photoshop



Bicycle path as green connective support Illustrator



Scale model

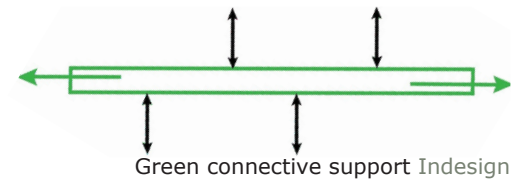


Scale model



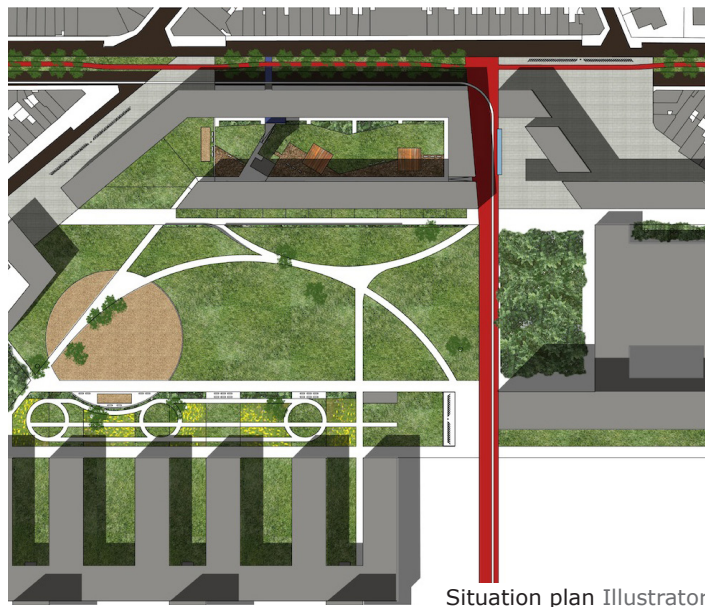
*Southern mosaic was an exercise which consisted out of three interventions: the realization of a cycle route, an infill development and a public space.*

First of all we studied the aims of the city; Ghent as lobe city, Ghent as car-free (bicycle-)city and Ghent as city by the water. The combination of these three formed the base for the elaboration of this exercise. It was vital to establish a strong network of blue and green structures combined with connections for non-motorized traffic. This network consists of a green beltway around Ghent which connects the three green lungs, and where different blue and green corridors start to penetrate deep within the urban fabric. On top of that the network should function as a support for functions, such as: schools, green-zones, public services, . . .



We can conclude that the aim is to create a cycle path as green connective support.

As a test case one of these green connective supports will be developed. This one connects the Maaltepark with the city centre along the De Pintelaan and the Muinkschelde. We used Barcelona as study-case, there they have realized a network for cyclists that disconnects the motorized traffic, which results in the safest, most pleasant and most durable situation for the cyclist. We projected this method on Ghent (De Pintelaan) in which we connect the cycle



Situation plan Illustrator

path with the surrounding functions through materialization and priority rules.

While designing the cycle path it became clear that a piece of terrain of the University Hospital is perfect to locate the infill development and the public space. At the moment this space functions as a green space which is cut up in pieces by circulation axes and a parking lot. That way it doesn't connect with the neighborhood, resulting in a green space with no value.

The master plan of the UH relocates the entrance and the exit of the hospital, this results in the downgrading of traffic in De Pintelaan. The reduction of traffic creates the necessary space to implement the cycle path. Simultaneously the circulation axes and the parking lot are relocated, making space for the infill development and the public space.



Section Photoshop

The implantation of the infill development restores the continuous streetscape. The deduplication of the infill development creates a housing bloc with an interior space on a proper scale. The public space is located between the infill development and the UH, it connects the infill development, the neighborhood, the cycle path and the UH. The space functions as a park that is divided in different sections to create a sense of security. An example of one of those chambers is located between the central square and the UH, here we used dense vegetation and greenery as a buffer and inserted a revalidation track as well.



Section Photoshop



# MASTER'S THESIS

DATE  
TYPE

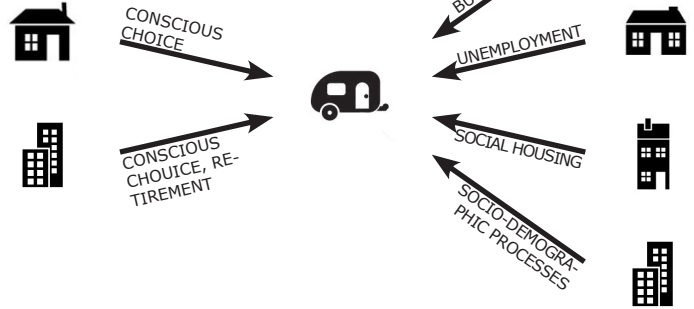
2012/2013  
Research thesis  
2 Master Urbanism and  
Spatial Planning  
Sint Lucas  
Flanders, Belgium

ORGANISATION  
LOCATION



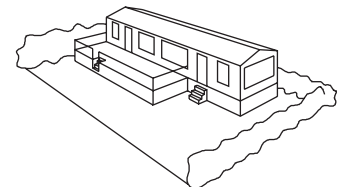
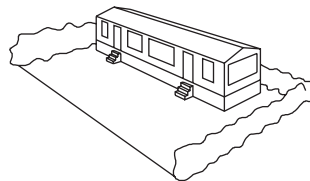
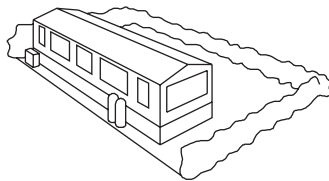
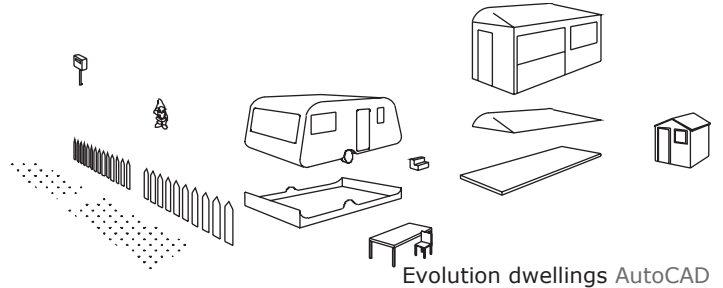
CONSCIOUS  
CHOICE

LAST RESORT



Supervising lecturer: Pascal De Decker  
Mentor: Caroline Newton

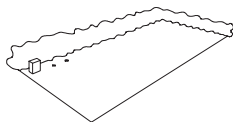
Migration to the campground Illustrator



Positioning dwelling AutoCAD



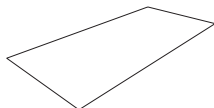
Campsite Ormendaal  
RKG → Relocate  
52 dwellings, official 2  
permanent



hedge  
grass  
sewerage  
water supply  
electricity



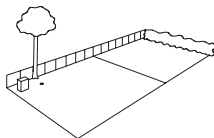
Campsite Les Chalets  
RKG → Relocate  
2 dwellings, official 0  
permanent



grass



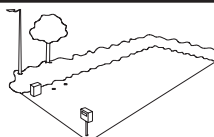
Campsite Bergendal  
Extinguish  
97 dwellings, official 17  
permanent



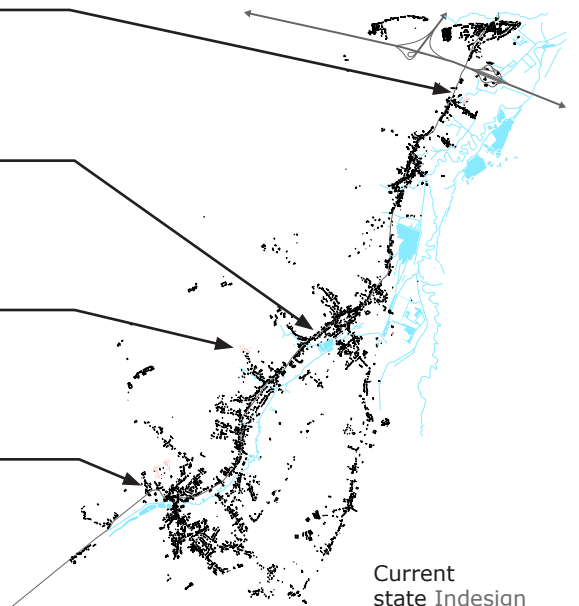
tree (shadow)  
hedge  
grass  
fence  
water supply  
electricity  
gravel



Campsite Holiday Parks  
Small scale living  
113 dwellings, official 82  
permanent



video surveillance  
tree (shadow)  
hedge  
grass  
water supply  
sewerage  
electricity  
mail distribution



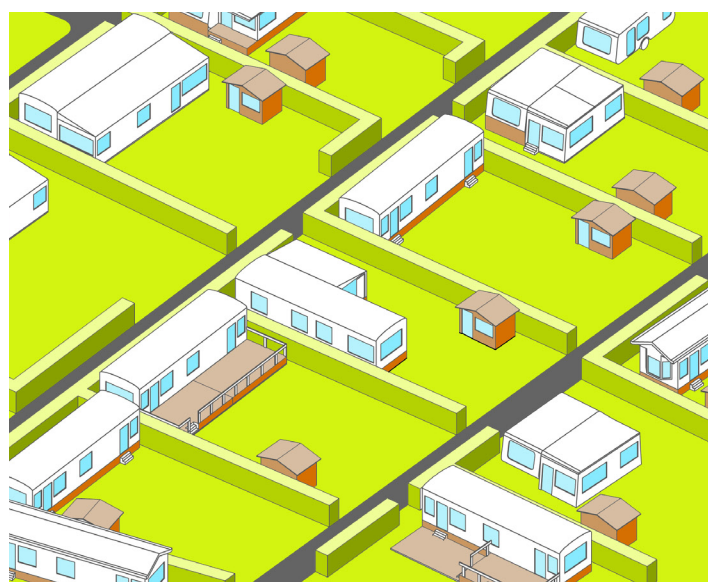


## PERMANENT CAMPGROUND DWELLERS, A WAY OF LIVING WITH A FUTURE?

*The purpose of this research thesis was to examine whether permanent campground dwelling is a way of living with a future or not? For this I examined the spacial consequences in case permanent campground dwelling becomes a formal way of living. The occupation of a caravan on a campground for one week gave me the opportunity to experience and examine this phenomenon up close. Among other things I examined evolutions, habits and structures. After that I examined the necessary terms and conditions to guarantee optimal integration for these new housing types. The findings mentioned above are conform the policies provided by RISO Vlaams-Brabant and are tested through a case-scenario.*

Permanent campground living is a form of living with a future if it concerns social housing-projects focused on campground dwellers. This doesn't mean campground living in it's current form but social housing projects which take into account the wishes and needs of the campground dweller.

Thanks to the in-depth research it became clear that the exterior space around the caravan is very important for the social contacts and representation. While creating social housing focused on campground dwellers, it will be of great importance to take this into account. It means that one has to provide this exterior space while designing social housing-projects focused on campground dwellers. The positioning of the dwellings in relation to the exterior space and each other will be a crucial factor to create social structures and forms of representation.



Configuration camping Holiday Parks AutoCAD and photoshop

The new zoning small scale living (presented by RISO Vlaams-Brabant) could be a form of living which supplements the current housing market. But I have to warn that eventually this new zoning will not benefit by the target group.

This evolution is already visible on site. The moment the grounds are rezoned, they lose their illegal status, this results in the rise of their value, making investments attractive. The regulations to prevent the formation of housing for the fortunate are the prohibition to parcel out the terrain and a limitation of the surface area and the volume of the dwellings. Nevertheless one can develop a project that aims on people who are more fortunate than the target group. The financial benefit for the owner and the lack of affordable renting houses will lead to the social exclusion of the target group.

As the origins of permanent campground dwelling are inextricably linked to economic influences, it will be essential to take this into account while seeking for solutions. The existing strong social structures constitute the largest economical integration sphere, the one of reciprocity. While seeking solutions for permanent campground dwelling it will be of great importance to preserve these structures as much as possible. At the same time one has to strengthen the two other integration spheres, the one of redistribution and the market, that way one can ensure a positive economical situation for the campground dwellers. Therefore it will be of great importance to choose locations close to the village center while looking for areas to implement social housing-projects focused on campground dwellers. This location, where the integration spheres of redistribution and market are present, will ensure the possibility of economic inte-

gration of the campground dweller.

Apart of this all, one can observe that there are different types of systems - that have already been installed or grew there in an natural way - which are now implemented in urban interventions. Systems of reciprocity like the 'torekes', or the 'ik-u's' are examples of this. Permanent campground dwelling can be considered as a form of collective housing where different functions and spaces are shared. This is another example of a system which is now being used in urban interventions. We can conclude that there are different valuable systems present on the campground on which we can inspire ourselves to create new urban interventions. For this it will be crucial to keep on doing research on campgrounds in their actual state, in particular campgrounds where permanent campground dwelling is still going on in it's original state.

