From fortress to public building

In 1959 the embassy, designed by Marcel Breuer, was built at the corner of the ‘Korte Voorhout’ and the ‘Lange Voorhout’ in The Hague. This was the place of the old Hotel Paulez that was bombed during WOII. The new embassy consists of two rectangular volumes with each a separate monumental entrance. The volumes are connected by a transparent corridor and in the courtyard an independent auditorium is added. Because of safety reasons the embassy was moved to Wassenaar and so the building became vacant.

The focus of the design assignment is to create more liveliness on this significant location at the border of the inner city of The Hague. The aim is to attract people by giving the building a public program. So the plot would become more part of the urban live. A possible function is a hotel in combination with a museum (the Escher Museum).

An alternative function is a new department of the Faculty of Governance and Global Affairs of the University of Leiden. In both cases the building has to adapt to modern standards. The student has to substantiate proposed interventions in relation to the monumental values.

There is a strong relation between the H&A Architectural design studio and the Building Engineering studio (AR1A080).
From historic estate to contemporary retreat

Huys te Warmont is positioned in the middle of the park with the same name nearby the village Warmond. The first part of the building was the West tower build in the first part of the 14th century. From then on a big number of major renovations and extensions had taken place. The castle received its current appearance in mid 19th century. So the castle was not build in one time but grew over time creating different time layers. Now a days the building is owned by ‘Vereniging Hendrick de Keyser’. The future function for Huys te Warmont will be a 5 star hotel with conference center. Guests spending their day’s in the hectic city’s of the Randstad want to come have dinner and stay overnight in a peaceful and luxurious setting. They appreciate the historic appearance of the castle.

Combining the modern demands of the guest with the historic feeling of the building is a challenge. Even a bigger challenge is to extend the castle with a conference room. This project is about finding a way to connect today’s architecture and demands with this historic building and setting. of the Faculty of Governance and Global Affairs of the University of Leiden. In both cases the building has to adapt to modern standards. The student has to substantiate proposed interventions in relation to the monumental values

There is a strong relation between the H&A Architectural design studio and the Building Engineering studio (AR1A080).