

Excursion Architectural Design Gerrit Rietveld Academie Amsterdam

Guest professor: Thomas A.P. van Leeuwen
Teachers: Dorine van Hoogstraten, Henri Snel
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Thomas A.P. van Leeuwen said: "I'd rather teach a few hours in the open air than a whole day indoors". Hence we go: as the start of the class architectural history and theory we go to the area between the Canal du Centre and Guise, on the border of Belgium and France. We concentrate on 18th and 19th century industrial heritage: abandoned factories, big waterworks and utopian housing estates.

The excursion is meant as an introduction to the class architectural history and theory class, that after the excursion deals mainly with architectural history of the 20th century.

All students of the department get to know each other during this short but intense fieldtrip, in which they have to bike a lot. This will help when they have to collaborate and communicate afterwards.

Day 1

- Leave Amsterdam at 9.30 hrs: bikes go in a separate bus.
- Travel by bus via the Deltawerken
- Visit Le Grand Hornu
- Sleep in the youth hostel of Mons

Day 2

- Bike from Mons along the Canal du Centre, the historical and modern ship elevators in Houdeng and Strépy-Thieu
- Visit Bois du Luc in La Louvière
- Along the Canal de Charleroi a Bruxelles, Le Plan Incliné near Ronquières
- Bus to hotel in Maubeuge

Day 3

- From Maubeuge we bike
- Through Foret de Mormant
- Visit the Familistère de Guise
- Return to Amsterdam in the evening

Map

- 1 Le Grand Hornu near Mons
- 2 historical and modern ship elevators in Houdeng and Strépy-Thieu
- 3 Canal de Charleroi a Bruxelles, Le Plan Incliné
- 4 Maubeuge
- 5 Le Familistère de Guise