

Design for the First Roof Vision for Amsterdam: From Rooftop Landscape to the Individual Roof

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BSc thesis 2nd and 3rd period 2014-2015

The Why

Amsterdam Rooftop Solutions works on innovative rooftop projects. With their projects they show the potentials within Amsterdam for more green, a decrease of the energy use, less CO₂ emission, improvement of air quality, an efficient way to decrease the peak water in a still growing city. Besides that the projects aims to reveal the value of rooftops for urban accessibility and perception.

The potential is great. Within the city of Amsterdam there is currently a surface of 12 km² of flat roofs waiting to turn into multifunctional rooftop projects. *Amsterdam Rooftop Solutions* initiated five pilot projects, each with a different character and function. These projects came to existence because of special cooperation between the roof owner, the users of the building, the people who took the initiative, knowledge institutions, entrepreneurs and/or the municipality. Nevertheless, the pitfall is to focus on the design of individual rooftops only, instead of looking at the bigger areas that have the potential to be developed as a real 'roof landscape'. A vision (the first Roof vision for Amsterdam) is needed.

The Where

The commissioner of this project is *Amsterdam Rooftop Solutions*. For this project the tutors and *Amsterdam Rooftop Solutions* will select a part of the city where a vision for rooftop development is needed. Within the study area, at least one of the already built pilot projects can be found (see figure 1).

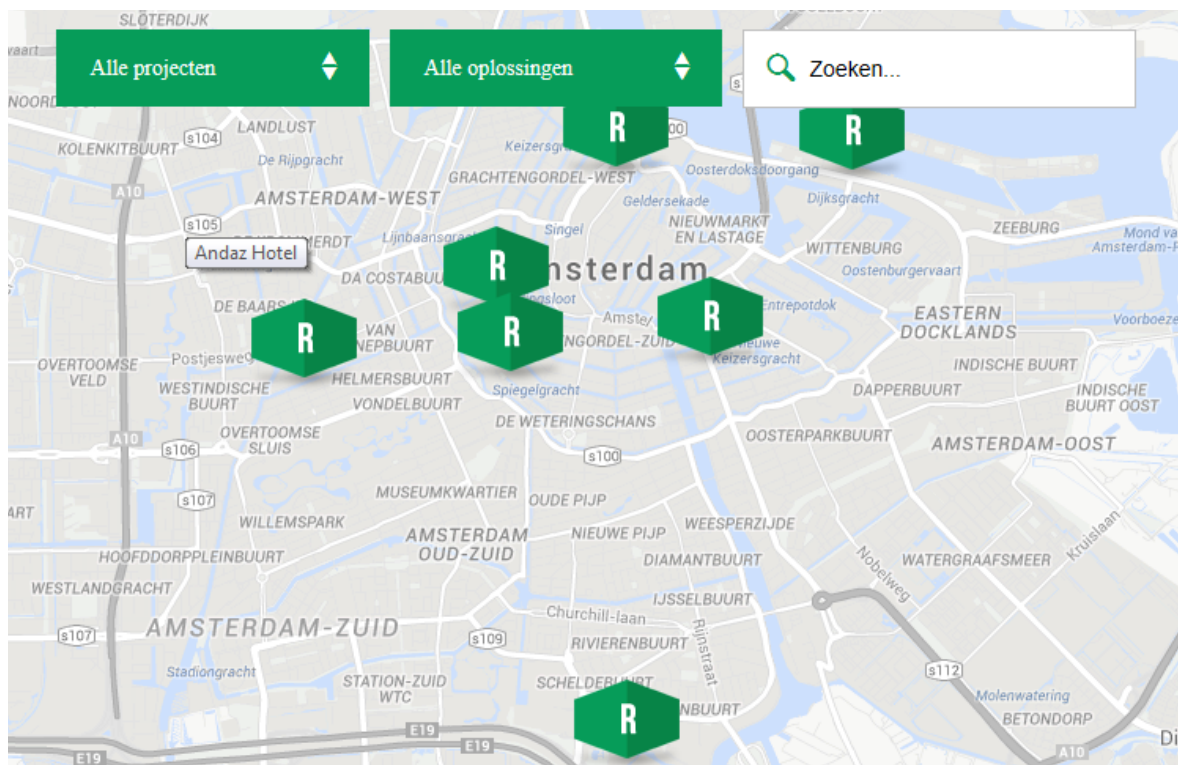


Figure 1: Amsterdam Rooftop Solutions (source: <http://amsterdamrooftopsolutions.com/rooftops>)

The *What*

The tutors ask you, in line with the questions of *Amsterdam Rooftop Solutions*, to discover the potential of multifunctional roofs by designing on different scale levels. The scale levels encompass:

1. The strategic scale, in which you will focus on a bigger part of the city. We challenge you to develop a vision about the potential meaning of the Amsterdam rooftop landscape. You will develop strategic design principles to strengthen this vision. You can focus in your vision on different aspects, for example water retention, accessibility to green, urban agriculture and many more. To gain ideas an important part of the project also involves an analysis on other (rooftop) projects and an analysis of (part of) the site of Amsterdam.
2. The operational scale, in which you focus on a rooftop itself. In this phase you will show how the more generic design principles of phase 1 can be translated into more specific design principles. You will apply these principles in a design for a single rooftop or a group of (nearly) connected rooftops. You will inquire the technical conditions and you will include several technical drawings to your design to show the technical feasibility of your design.

Because rooftop design involves many stakeholders you can also include the process towards the realisation of your design. This part is not obligatory, but it would be a very interesting chapter within your thesis.