Transforming Strijp S : from Philips industrial site to new residential and creative area.
Curulli, G.I.; Babalis, D.

Published: 01/01/2015

Document Version
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of Record (includes final page, issue and volume numbers)

Please check the document version of this publication:
• A submitted manuscript is the author's version of the article upon submission and before peer-review. There can be important differences between the submitted version and the official published version of record. People interested in the research are advised to contact the author for the final version of the publication, or visit the DOI to the publisher's website.
• The final author version and the galley proof are versions of the publication after peer review.
• The final published version features the final layout of the paper including the volume, issue and page numbers.

Link to publication

Citation for published version (APA):

General rights
Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.
• Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
• You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
• You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal.

Take down policy
If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us (openaccess@tue.nl) providing details. We will immediately remove access to the work pending the investigation of your claim.

Download date: 27. Jan. 2019
Transforming Strijp S: from Philips’ industrial site to new residential and creative area.

Irene Curulli *† 1, Dimitra Babalis * ‡ 2

1 Eindhoven University of Technology (TUE) – Den Dolech 2 5600 MB Eindhoven, Pays-Bas
2 Università degli Studi di Firenze [Firenze] – P.zza S.Marco, 4 - 50121 Firenze, Italie

Aim of this paper is to illustrate the project of renewal of Strijp S, one of the former industrial areas from Philips’ Electronics in Eindhoven, The Netherlands. Eindhoven is the birthplace of Philips’ Electronics, and until 2000 it was the manufacture area of the company, occupying large terrains for the production. The influence of Philips on the city of Eindhoven was not only economical but also ‘physical’ and social. Aiming for a healthy and productive life, Philips built industrial units, housing estates, public green areas, sport terrains. This strongly affected the urban development of the city.

After departure of the production, the Municipality was confronted with the presence of many ‘vacant’ sites (where historic characteristics and memories were strongly embedded) and the need of activating an operation of urban regeneration that would combine preservation, renovation and re-use for new activities. Within this large range of industrial sites, Strijp S is identified as case specific. The impressive ‘white spine’ formed by three tall white buildings and the first laboratory of Philips, named Nat-Lab, are the cornerstones of the company and are listed monuments. In this area was invented the first CD and produced millions of light bulbs. The site has an extension of 27 ha and is strategically located between the city centre and the open green field of De Wielewaal, creating a unique connecting corridor. The site is known as the ‘forbidden city’, due to restricted access to public. In 2006 the first buildings underwent to conversion, thus making this site accessible to people’s use. The transformation includes a mixed program such as housing, offices, cultural activities and so on.

Firstly, this paper will discuss on the meaning and heritage values of these former industrial sites for the city of Eindhoven. The local and regional identity is still tied to these locations, although activity has moved away. Secondly, the specific area of Strijp S will be taken in consideration. The author will show the process of transformation of the site from enclosed industrial area to open residential neighborhood. Starting from the environmental issues of Strijp S (soil pollution), this paper will explain about the implications of the existing industrial heritage on the new design of the area. Moreover, it will point out both successes and failures of the conversion. The paper will conclude by showing how the industrial heritage of Strijp S has played a crucial role in the transformation of the historic urban landscape of the city of Eindhoven and why it is becoming a design reference for other projects of industrial conversion in The Netherlands.

*Intervenant
†Auteur correspondant: g.i.curulli@tue.nl
‡Auteur correspondant: dimitra.babalis@unifi.it