



8TH ARCHITECTURAL FINISHES RESEARCH CONFERENCE

On-site visits

On 30 and 31 May and 1 June, you will be able to join on-site visits in Amsterdam and its vicinity, organized by the AFR8 committee in close collaboration with the Dutch professional heritage field.

Please note that these visits are optional. However, registration is mandatory and you can choose the option "I will not join". A limited number of spots are available for each visit, and these visits are subject to change. The exact meeting points for all tours will be published in advance of the event.

On-site visits:

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THURSDAY 30 MAY, 9 AM – 1 PM

1. Rijksmuseum, its colouring and more

The Rijksmuseum (1885) was designed by Pierre Cuypers as a symbol of the arts of the Netherlands. The ornamentation features neo-Gothic and neo-Renaissance style elements. During this tour, we will look into the AFR and reconstruction work of the Cuypers colour scheme of the Great Hall and the Gallery of Honour, the conservation work in the Library, and also at the conservation of some of the objects in the museum's collection, such as the Kopskamer, dolls houses and Lacquer room.

2. IJ candy, 1600-1800 (canal walking tour)

This tour is humouredly named 'IJ candy', referring to the IJ (Amsterdam's waterfront), which is pronounced like 'eye'. During the middle ages, dikes were built alongside the IJ and the river Amstel and the area became an important trading centre with the Baltic sea. In the houses built in this continuously expanding city, unique fragments of untouched painted finishes have been preserved, recalling those prosperous times. This on-site visit will explore paintings and paintwork in authentic condition with untouched paint surface from the period 1600-1800.

3. Two canal houses - tour A (canal walking tour)

During this tour we will visit two houses that initially date from the early 17th century. In House van Brienen (1729/1784) we will look at the restoration of mahogany imitation in the grand salon, gilded leather wallpaper and original silk damask. In the Bartolotti House (1732/1755/19th century), which features exquisite Rococo stucco and wood work, we will look at colour and wallpaper finds, and mahogany imitation.

4. Two canal houses - tour B (canal walking tour)

Together we will look at the current state of the historic interior design of two aristocratic canal houses and their colour schemes: Museum Willet Holthuysen and the Burgermeesterswoning. Originating in the 17th century, both houses have undergone profound changes in previous



centuries, commissioned by their wealthy owners who were inspired by contemporary French or English influencers.

Museum Willet Holthuysen is a 17th century canal house. The last occupant stipulated that the house should be preserved as a museum after her death, and it opened its doors in 1898. During maintenance, some older finishes became visible. These are rare and infrequent finds that are used to document or implement AFR. Some of the research has been conducted in cooperation with students from the conservation course at the University of Amsterdam.

The Burgermeesterswoning is the official residence of the Mayor of Amsterdam. It is also known as the House with the two columns or Deutz house and was initially built in the 17th century. Here we will see interesting results of AFR on finishes dating from the end of the 18th century in relation to the 17th-century building structure. This is because a major renovation was designed in 1791 by the city architect Abraham van der Hart and commissioned by the owner at the time, Cornelis Bors van Waveren. Van der Hart was also responsible for some of the buildings on the Saturday on-site visit to Haarlem.

5. The Rationalism of Berlage (walking tour)

We will visit some highlights from the era of H.P. Berlage's rationalism, based on geometric principles and rejection of all ornamentation based on old styles (neo-styles). One of these is the former office of the insurance company "De Nederlanden van 1845" (enlarged in 1911) with a restored stairwell, and another building is De Burcht (1900), the monumental building of the General Dutch Diamond Workers Union (ANDB). Here Berlage was given the opportunity to shape his ideals, which he shared with the client, Henri Polak, the chairman of the ANDB and the painter Roland Holst (all paintings in the building were created by him). Every detail reflects the original function. Berlage himself describes this as one of his most successful constructions. Inspired by Italian vernacular palaces, the building has a very powerful character of its own. The major restoration of De Burcht was completed in 2010. Old layouts were respected and historical colours were restored. Several special discoveries were made during the restoration.

6. Modernism (walking tour)

We will visit the interiors of the Burgerweeshuis (1960), Warnersblokken (1957), Rietveld Academie (1957), and Open Air School (1929-30) and learn about fascinating AFR results. In addition, the AFR of the façades of the drive-in houses (1937) and the two Citroen Garages (1929-31 and 1959-62) will also be discussed.

7. Paint windmill De Kat, in the vicinity of Amsterdam

The colour mill De Kat sells one of the largest ranges of colouring materials in the Netherlands. De Kat windmill was originally built in 1781. It is an octagonal mill with a rotating cap and external gallery. Since its restoration and partial rebuild in 1960, it has been fitted out to grind colouring materials. The mill is located on the river Zaan between De Zoeker and De Poelenburg windmills, near Zaandam's Zaanse Schans neighbourhood, where it makes a dominant contribution to the landscape. A windmill was first built on this spot around 1646, receiving its permit to use wind on 11 January 1646. A highlight of this visit will be the Zaankamer demonstration room.

8. Repainted garden room at Akerendam, a country estate in the vicinity of Amsterdam

After a short summary of the Garden room's history (1750) and the treatment of the conservation of the canvases, reconstruction painter will elaborate on the method, findings and considerations of the oil paint making process and the execution of the lilac-grey coloured paintwork on the wainscoting in a manner appropriate for the aged canvas paintings.



FRIDAY 31 MAY, 10 AM – 1 PM

On Friday the tours will take place between 10 am and 1 pm, the duration of each tour varies. Some tours will take the full three hours, others will take less time.

1. Artis Zoo (walking tour)

The theme of this tour is the theory and (im)possibilities of carrying out long-term architectural finishes research on the historical site of the Artis Zoo (1838) with partly annexed buildings and buildings from different periods. There will be a short introduction to the history of the zoo, and to the purpose and circumstances of the AFR. Afterwards a walking tour will take us through the flourishing garden passing façades with recreated colour schemes. There will be room for open discussion about the doubts and beliefs that have arisen during AFR and the decision-making. What are the leading factors in determining which layer in time is most suitable to recreate on a façade within such a varied building site? Do you determine this for each individual building or do you opt for a broader outline?

Since 2011, structural AFR has been linked to every renovation campaign of the buildings of Artis Zoo. This beautiful park has a wide variety of buildings; some were built as simple town houses which, during (phased) extensions by Artis, were incorporated and converted into animal quarters. Other buildings are architecturally and technically more impressive. This architecture finally enabled the zoological society to gain recognition after years of building and expanding: Groote Museum (1851-1854) by architect Jan van Maurik, or the bridges (1864), the Library (1867), the Members' Hall (1870), and the imposing, then unique and technically advanced Aquarium (1882) by the architect G.B. Salm, the Volharding (1886) by A. J. van Gendt, and the dwelling of the Director.

2. Theatre Tuschinski

In 2021 Time Out declared Theatre Tuschinski (1921) the most beautiful cinema in the world. The design in a range of different styles - including Amsterdam School, Art Nouveau and Art Deco - was meant to lead the audience into an illusory world, where the opulent interior served as a suitable setting for film footage and variety shows accompanied by film, organ and theatre orchestra.

3. Mendini House

It is commonly known that Italian designer Alessandro Mendini (1931-2019) and Frans Haks, the previous director of the Groninger Museum, shared a special bond. Few people know, however, that Mendini designed the interior of Haks' home in Amsterdam. Most of their discussions took place in person, with little documentation. This Mendini interior is a rarity, and aside from the Groninger Museum it is his only design in the Netherlands. The interior of the house was designed in 1997 and built in 2000-2001. Enter the studio through the postmodern Mendini façade, and you will find yourself in a miraculous and theatrical world. "Life is like a theatre. I want to live in a place that gives the impression that I am merely acting" (quote by Haks, 2003). The colours – which led the studio to be nicknamed the 'Toverbal', a candy ball with many colours – were retrieved from the colour palette developed by the Dutch artist Peter Struycken in 1994 for the exhibition rooms of the new Groninger Museum (which consisted of 16 colours and was expanded in 1999 by Struycken to a total of 30 colours).

4. Our Lord in the Attic Museum

Hidden in a centuries-old canal house, you will find a complete church in an attic. The owner of the house was a well-to-do German Catholic merchant, Jan Hartman. He built this church because Catholic Mass in public had been banned since 1578, but Catholics continued to celebrate Mass in hidden house churches. This custom was accepted and tolerated by the Dutch Republic's society,



which strongly advocated principles of freedom of religion and freedom of conscience. Amsterdam had more than 20 hidden Catholic house churches at that time. The first priest in this attic, Petrus Parmentier, was a missionary from Ghent. In that period the interior was brown, in the eighteenth century blue, and in the nineteenth century carput mortuum. The latest restoration recreated the colour scheme of its final period as a church (1862-1887).

5. Wall paper in Rapenburg 13

This house stands on the Peperwerf, a Dutch East India Company (VOC)-related, disused name for part of the island of Rapenburg. It was built for the skipper Frans Gerritsz (and not Pien Hein as was previously thought) in 1614 and contains a stone depicting a sailing ship inserted in the brick stepped gable. This early-17th-century residence is one of the few well-preserved houses with the interior dating back almost entirely to its construction period. During restoration work, fragments of wallpaper layers were found in many of the rooms.

6. Laboratory of the Cultural Heritage Agency

This on-site visit shows us around the laboratories of the Dutch Cultural Heritage Agency, where the microscopic and microchemical part of Architectural Finishes Research is performed and a wide variety of other cultural heritage materials are studied. For this task, the laboratory is equipped with an impressive range of analytical instruments, such as optical and electron microscopy, GC-MS and LC-MS, XRF, XRD, Raman, and infrared spectroscopy. Experts will tell us about applications of the analytical equipment and recent projects. The tour will also show us the reference material collection, including a vast amount of colour charts of paint manufacturers.

7. Gerrit Rietveld in Ilpendam

During this tour, we will visit House Van den Doel, a villa designed by the world famous architect Gerrit Rietveld in 1957-1959 on a stretch of farmland in the small rural town of Ilpendam. It was restored 60 years later. AFR resulted in reconstruction of the paint scheme.

8. The Craft School (1956 by J.B. Ingwersen)

The first Christian Technical School Patrimonium, also called the Craft School, was built in the fifties and designed by the architect J.B. Ingwersen. Characteristic elements such as 'architectural quotes' by Le Corbusier and the symbiosis of art and architecture make this building a typical example of the Dutch progressive Reconstruction Period after the Second World War. The building originally consisted of a lot of clean concrete and glass, but colour elements played a very subtle yet expressive role. Together we will look at the current condition of the renovation carried out in 2013. Ten years ago, the original colour scheme on wooden parts was restored and paint was removed from all originally unpainted architectural concrete elements of the building (including reliefs) with paint stripper, ice rays, or imitation painting.



SATURDAY 1 JUNE, 9 AM – 5 PM

On this day we offer eight full day excursions. The on-site visits will start at 9:00 am and, depending on the locations to be visited, end at approximately 4:00 pm/5:00 pm. The end of the tours also marks the end of the 8th Architectural Finishes Research Conference.

1. Leiden - Local municipal policy on AFR, the city scape of Leiden (walking tour)

The municipality of the city of Leiden co-hosts this tour. We will visit several sites illustrating the results of their decades-long, ongoing search for a proper balance between historic preservation interests, owners' wishes, financial resources, and available expertise. Since 2009, Erfgoed Leiden (Heritage Leiden) has awarded grants as part of a special programme, nowadays called Subsidy Historic CityScape. The rationale behind this subsidy scheme is to make the city centre more attractive to residents and visitors. Owners or tenants of buildings older than 50 years within the protected cityscape of the city centre can apply for a subsidy for several image-enhancing interventions, one of which is the application of historical colour schemes on historic façades. This historical AFR grant was introduced in 2009 following the worthwhile outcome of an AFR project (2007-2010), of which the results were published in 'Van Leidse schilders mette groote quast' by the Monuments & Archaeology department of the municipality of Leiden. It contains a separately attached chart of Leiden historic colour schemes, explains the use of paint on Leiden façades from 1600 to 1950, and also discusses the history of the painters' profession and workshop for a wider public. The tour will also focus on challenges concerning AFR on bridges and stone gateways, and we will additionally visit some historic interiors.

2. Country Houses, long running projects (bus tour)

In addition to their city residencies, Amsterdam elites also richly decorated their country houses with paintings and painted decorations. Some older dwellings were transformed from castle to country estate, like Loenersloot Castle by Andries Jan Strick van Linschoten in the late 18th century, or the Trompenburgh Estate commissioned by Admiral Cornelis Tromp (1629-1691) and his wife Margaretha van Raephorst (1625-1690) with elaborate allegorical painted decorations. Both will be part of the tour and both are long-running conservation projects, resulting in changing views on the conservation-restoration approach which will provide an interesting topic for discussion.

3. The Hague – Residency (walking tour)

The Dutch Central Government Real Estate Agency co-hosts this field trip to Johan de Witthuis and the Cabinet of the King in The Hague. The Hague houses the Dutch government and parliament, which might seem strange as The Hague is not the capital city of the Netherlands. It all started with a 13th-century hunting lodge, later rebuilt as a castle, which was set in an enclosure of hedges. From this, The Hague takes its name (the hedge as an enclosure for the building). More buildings, such as the Knights' Hall (Ridderzaal), were built close to the castle and it eventually became the home of the Counts of Holland. These buildings are called the 'Binnenhof'. In the late 16th century, the government of the Republic of the Seven United Netherlands was founded here, leaving behind the period of the Seventeen Provinces of the Imperial states of the Habsburg Netherlands, which roughly covered the area known as the Low Countries. The governmental institution changed over time, but the function never left the site. Consequently, many royal and diplomatic residences can be found in the vicinity. We will discuss recent and current restoration work at Johan de Witthuis and the Cabinet of the King.

4. Rotterdam – feat. Brinkman and Van der Vlugt (bike tour)



By bike, we will visit a large array of 20th-century building structures (from solitaire to urban scale) where AFR has been carried out and reconstructions have been undertaken in various ways. Amongst others, we will visit the Justus van Effencomplex (1919). This building consists of 273 dwellings and was designed by Michiel Brinkman. Its restoration was completed in 2012 and it won the 2016 World Monuments Fund/Knoll Modernism Prize. Furthermore, we will visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site Van Nelle factory (1920s) and Sonneveld House (1930s), both designed by the Brinkman and Van der Vlugt firm of architects. Both represent well-preserved Modern movement architecture in the Dutch Functionalist style. Finally, we will visit the first purpose-built pedestrian street in Europe, The Lijnbaan (1953), designed by the firm Van den Broek & Bakema.

5. Utrecht - Modern architects' own houses (walking tour)

This tour will take us to one of the most central cities of the Netherlands, Utrecht. We will visit iconic dwellings of architects of De Stijl, the Modern Movement and Postmodernism and learn how they used colour in their designs. These include the internationally renowned architects Sybold van Ravensteyn, Gerrit Rietveld, and Mart van Schijndel.

6. Haarlem - Neo-classicism/Empire (walking tour)

Various high-end buildings from the end of the 17th and the beginning of the 18th century catch the eye in the historic city of Haarlem. They were mainly designed in the neo-classical and Empire style. The walking tour will focus on AFR, resulting in interesting findings amid the decorations of this lavish period.

Two twenty-somethings commissioned Amsterdam city architect Abraham van der Hart to build their grand residences: Hodson House (1793) of Cornelia 'Keetje' Catharina Hodshon and House Barnaart (1803-1808) of Philip Barnaart. House Barnaart, since 2019 restored as a house museum, was one of the most special construction assignments of that time. Every detail reflects Van der Harts signature, from capitals on the façade to the doorknobs inside. It resulted in an almost un-Dutch city palace with the best-preserved Empire interior in the Netherlands. Van der Hart was also responsible for the Mayors dwelling in Amsterdam which can be visited on Thursday (Two canal houses – tour B). Pieter Teylers Huis is the former home of Pieter Teyler (1702-1778) and is closely linked to the creation of Teylers Museum, the first and oldest museum in the Netherlands. Teyler was a wealthy silk manufacturer and banker. Living in the Age of Enlightenment, Teyler had a keen interest in art and science. Based on the idea that knowledge could enrich mankind, he created collections in both fields. In his will, he stipulated that his fortune should be placed in a foundation whose objectives included the promotion of art and science. Behind his residence, the Oval Room was opened to the public in 1784. In later years, several extensions were made, from library to fossil and instrument halls and a brand new main entrance for the museum on the Spaarne (1889). Colour research was recently carried out in the auditorium. A comprehensive restoration of this home was completed in 2021.

7. Hilversum – ‘Dudok’, ‘Sloetjes’ and ‘Duiker’ (bike tour)

By bike, we will explore the colourful buildings of Hilversum, a city famous for its buildings by Modern Movement architects Duiker and Dudok. Furthermore, we will take a closer look at more average architecture, including the Sloetjes house (1950s), an exemplary house finished with modern materials of the time, owned by Stichting Hendrick de Keyser; a repurposed garage (1912) and some 19th-century façades.



8. Up North - Through the ages (bus tour)

A road trip around the IJsselmeer will take us via the Afsluitdijk (a 32 km-long causeway) through green pastures to the Frisian cities of Franeker, Leeuwarden, and Drachten. Here we will visit a variety of AFR projects covering reconstructions of colour schemes dating from the 18th to the 20th century. From Dudok's Vliermanument (1932), the world's oldest working planetarium of Eise Eisinga (1770s), an early eighteenth-century room bearing the traces of later generations in the Marthena house (16th century and onwards), the exterior of the Hoofdwacht (1844), and the interior of Eise Eisinga House (1782-1807) in Leeuwarden to Theo van Doesburg colour schemes for the iconic De Stijl Van Doesburg-Rinsma house (1920s) in Drachten. On our way back to Amsterdam we will have a short stop to view the vernacular practices in colourful, rural Staphorst.