BISKOP - RIMFROST Suburban meeting place.

Master's thesis by Jakob Schleimann-Jensen, MPARC - U+A/DL Chalmers University of Technology, 2013

THANKS

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MPARC - Architecture and Urban Design

U+A/DL - Urban and Architectural Design Laboratory_2013

> Chalmers University of Technology

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ABSTRACT

Suburbs, socially and geographically isolated islands, in the fragmented city of Göteborg. Biskopsgården is isolated from the city by both socioeconomic and physical borders. Many feel powerlessness about the city's development, and who has control over it. More and more common areas and meeting places are closed down, and the money controls who belong where. But it is the people that should determine how the urban commons are used – through participatory means we can create new common places together. We can create the tools needed to take the power to physically affect our own neighborhood.

The key idea of this thesis is to create a meeting place for all citizens in Biskopsgården built through discussion, production and participation. By involving and collaborating with the local organization Pantrarna – methodology for approaching this type of process was developed. They have been successful in engaging the people of Biskopsgården in standing up for their humanitarian rights. A suiting site was discovered through researching the area and networking with officials in the municipality alongside Pantrarna, thus creating a platform of contacts. The program and ideas of the project was formed during a Harakat workshop with the local youth. Their input was then translated into a project - a suburban meeting place.

The end result of this thesis is not necessarily the end of this project. The aim is to contribute and incorporate some aspects of it to reality – if not built, then hopefully working as catalyst for upgrading the site. However, the project is just one part of the thesis. The "learning by doing" and the developed methodology are equally important. As architects – we hold possibility through participatory means; create tools for making the alternate spaces that are missing.

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BISKOP - RIMFROST Suburban meeting place.

Biskopsgården is a Swedish suburb that is isolated from the city by both socioeconomic and physical borders. This nature close area contains a young population with a growing social and political awareness. The key idea of this thesis is to create a meeting place for all citizens in Biskopsgården built through discussion, production and participation. By involving and collaborating with local people - methods for approaching this type of process were developed. A suiting site was discovered through networking with officials in the municipality. Contact with the organization Pantrarna - För upprustning av förorten was made and a relationship was established. Through their input a foundation of knowledge was made, which was then translated into a project - a suburban meeting place. The research part of this thesis was done in collaboration with Eric Andersson and Fanny Winkler.

GLOBAL CONTEXT





At the above line there are listed examples of which architectural tools that were used during the research and the thesis. These are fully listed and described on page 16.



Suburbs, socially and geographically isolated islands, in the fragmented city of Göteborg. Together they create an urban archipelago of segregated islands. The reason for chosing the suburb of Norra Biskopsgården & Länsmansgården was because of the recent activity of Pantrarna.

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CONTEXT - BISKOP

MAPPING

By mapping the commons and local actors of the area, a clear understanding of the basic conditions is made. This will locate possible sites and serve as a fundament for the programming.

CHOSEN SUBURB

RESEARCHING

A thoroughly research to understand the context is essential, and creates a point of departure. Collecting facts and knowledge of the area is done through different mediums; maps, statistics, drawings, models, visiting, speaking, reading.



SUBURB NORRA BISKOPSGÅRDEN & LÄNSMANGÅRDEN

The segregated suburb island consists of different borders that isolate the area: infrastructure to the east, nature to the west and socio-economic differences in comparison to the adjacent areas such as Torslanda.

LAYER DRAWING

This mapping of Biskopsgården in the form of a layer drawing shows from bottom to top: nature/city areas, infrastructure with the public transportation shown in bold, buildings, and activities on the top. Sport activities are the dominant for youth in the area; not counting the commercial ones.





By mapping the commons and

local actors of the area, a clear understanding of the basic conditions is made. This will locate possible sites and serve as a fundament for the programming.

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STATISTICS

Putting Biskopsgården in the relation to Torslanda, which is a rich adjacent area in the west, makes it especially clear that Biskopsgården is a suburb troubled by its socioeconomic standards.

BISKOPSGÅRDEN VS TORSLANDA



O RESEARCHING

A thoroughly research to understand the context is essential, and creates a point of departure. Collecting facts and knowledge of the area is done through different mediums; maps, statistics, drawings, models, visiting, speaking, reading. ENVIRONMENT CHARACTERS



*•*0

DOCUMENTATION

Keeping track of one's process through the mediums of text,

pictures and diagrams – offers feedback through learning by mistakes/successes. It also holds the potential to be externally used as an open-source methodology.

Eastern part - Tram tracks, Squares, Large housing blocks, School



Middle part - Housing blocks, parking, in-betweens, sports



Western part - Svartemossen, nature, lake, parking, soccer field

SWOT ANALYSIS

TRENGTH Young population Qualities of nature Heterogeneous backgrounds Multicultural Sports Internal solidarity Growing social movement Public housing

EAKNESS

Lacking city lights Social gap Cutdowns in public sector Security cameras Low priority in relation Precarious spaces Low income

PPORTUNITY

Engagement Willingness to change Possible education Develope the cultural scene Unused space Basis for new activities



HREAT

Repressive authorities Prejudice Media Right wing politics Financial cutdowns Idleness Unemployment

O RESEARCHING

A thoroughly research to understand the context is essential, and creates a point of departure. Collecting facts and knowledge of the area is done through different mediums; maps, statistics, drawings, models, visiting, speaking, reading.



THE PANTHERS/PANTRARNA FOR REFURBISHMENT OF THE SUBURBS

The autonomous group of Pantrarna – För Upprustning av Förorten was founded the 14th of February in 2011 in reaction of social and economic inequalities and cut downs. They involve local youths to change their own neighborhood. They have been successful in engaging the people of Biskopsgården in standing up for their humanitarian rights – focusing on the young population. Idle talking doesn't interest them and they prefer taking action by demonstrations and events like lectures, theme days, summer camps and soccer cups. With huge commitment they have been fighting for the rights of opening a youth club in the area. The members themselves are youths and young adults that have grown up in the suburbs. They promote equality disregarding of sex, ethnicity and sexual orientation.



Pantrarna and their equivalent in Stockholm, Megafonen, holding a seminar at KTH architecture. Representing Pantrarna here is its founder - Murat Solmaz.

INTERVIEW - PANTRARNA

We: Can you describe the current situation in Biskopsgården?

Ahmed: There is a need to upgrade the suburb. Gloria: Describe the picture of how it's like for a group of young boys or girls.

Ahmed: The youth that live here feel like outsiders. They are mostly socializing with each other, because they don't feel related to those that live in the inner city. This is problematic in the future because then they will have a hard time being social with people from other places.

We: What kind of activities would be suitable here? Ahmed: I was thinking about having urban gardening slash café slash library.

Gloria: I'd like to involve the youths in the actual growing.

We: One idea that we have is also that they should be involved in the building process.

Ahmed: Yes exactly, and then they will feel related.

We: Another thought is to have a DIY-workshop.

Ahmed: That would be nice since the youths are very handy.

We: Do you think that the focus should be on young or old people?

Ahmed: No, there won't be any age limit; it will be for everyone.

Gloria: It should be for all that are interested.

Through dialogues and group discussion; focus points of interest emerge from the multifacetted diversity of knowledge and experiences. This should be a basis – both in the process, and in the daily activity of the built product.

We: Do you think that it is important to take care of the identity of Biskopsgården, or do you have the same needs as in the inner city?

Ahmed: We do our own thing here, because suburban culture is still a Swedish culture. It's better to strengthen our culture here and get more out of what already exists.

Gloria: You need to adapt meeting places after what living patterns the local people have, this could become something special for Biskopsgården because you plan it with those who live here. That's why there is so much potential with this project, because it's a new way of thinking when it comes to creating meeting places.

Ahmed: And to share ideas and experiences, there is much to learn by working together and that's what we want to promote. People in the suburbs need to be able to work with each other as well as with those from outside, just like now for example.

We: Do you think that this would attract young people? Ahmed: I think that it would, it's so close to everyone who lives here in the northern part. That's very attractive when it comes to activities, young people want to do something all the time – continuous. A lot of girls would be appealed to this also, to come here and grow things...

We: Is there any interest in participation?

Ahmed: There is interest!

Gloria: It should be made your own. You can be part of the construction phase, learn how it's done and when it's been built you'll think "I did this and that..." Then you will want to take care of it and do so ideally – because it's ours!



PHOTOS OF PANTRARNA







Forming a base platform existing of actors that have different roles in the process. By collaborating with these the input becomes multispectral, and the various fields of expertise complement each other.



Some of the main members - Murat Solmaz, Ahmed Ibrahim, Majsa Allelin and Johannes Anyuru.



| Drawing ategories: | CONTEXT - BISKOP | TIME | LINE M | IETHOD & MAKING A SI | TE | WORKSHOP - HARAK |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| The U+A/DL 1 course started with the focus on urban com- mons. Urban spaces that are "held in common" and defined by their usage. Betonghallen Workshop: Urban Archipelago. In different groups the students explored sites of Göteborg. I started to work together with Fanny Winkler and Eric Andersson. | Pinup Betonghallen: Urban Archi- pelago. Presented research of Biskopsgården. Architectural Utopias: project work in Biskopsgården at a chosen site, number 1. A deserted site, a burnt down carport, in the interstice of the housing area and the nature. Process presentation on the ex- change pilot project of ADU 2020. | U+A/DL 1 final critique. Presented a meeting place on site 1 - mainly a library café and a greenhouse, with a small kitchen. Meeting with Ahmed Ibrahim of Pantrarna to present the Architec- tural Utopias project. Presented the project as an article in the DIY issue of 4 ARK. | The U+A/DL 2 course started with the continued focus on urban commons. We planned to find a new site, take contact with more actors and develop our methodology. The Advanced Theory and Method- ology course started. I start to write an essay about our participation in Biskopsgården. Searched for a new site in Norra Biskopsgården and Länsmansgården. | Mail and phone contact with Michael Göransson of the Culture and Recreation department. Setting up a meeting. Meeting with Jens Larsen of the Parks and Nature at Läns- mansgården to investigate site 2-4. Evaluating the sites. Meeting with Culture and Recrea- tion department along with Pan- trarna. Meeting at Hyresgästföreningen along with Pantrarna and municipal workers. | Mail contact with Ingemar Henriks- son of the Sports and Association department. Regarding site 3 and 4. ATM essay hand-in. Ending up in a description, analysis and thoughts around the situation in Biskopsgården and the project. Mail, phone contact and meeting with municipal employees Margare- ta Sjölholm and Nina Wolff. Regard- ing new sites, they suggest site 5. | Larsen of the Parks and Nature de partment. Arranging a meeting fo site 5. |
| OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER | JANUARY | FEBRUARY | MARS | APRIL |
| 2012 | 2012 | 2012 | 2013 | 2013 | 2013 | 2013 |
| Defining "islands" of interest for the second part of the course. Choosing to work with Biskopsgården, mainly after becoming inspired by the documentary about Pantrarna | Started to work with the first project in Biskopsgården after hearing the requests of Pantrarna. Zoomed in | Mail contact with Thomas Öby of Bostadsbolaget, owner of site 1. Arranged a meeting regarding the project. | Mail and phone contact with Jens Larsen of the Parks and Nature de- partment. Trying to find a new site. He suggests 3 new sites, site 2-4. | Mail and phone contact with David da Cruz of Fastighetskontoret to get information about the new sites. Mail contact with Ulrika Thunberg of the Sports and Association depart- ment. Regarding possible funding of a future project. | Mail contact with David da Cruz of Fastighetskontoret to get informa- tion about the new sites. Meeting with a large group of Pan- trarna to decide the new site. Site 5 is chosen. | |
| (Behandla oss inte som djur). | on a possible site of a burnt down carport. Mail contact and the first meeting + interview with Pantrarna, Ahmed and Gloria, at site 1. | Meeting with Thomas Öby of Bostadsbolaget, owner of site 1. Presented the project with positive response, but can't use the site due to security cameras. | Phone contact and a meeting with Tina Tornsvala Biskopsgårdens Odlar- förening. Proved to not be fruitful. | Presenting the previous project on skype for ADU 2020 students from Belgium and Costa Rica. Mail contact with Thomas Öby and Carina Dahlin of Bostadsbolaget. Checking up on other sites. | U+A/DL 2 final critique. Presented documentation of the work so far with focus on the sites and the methodology. | tended meetings and built a score |
| | | | | | | |

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ARCHITECTURAL TOOLBOX

When working outside of the norm frames of a building project, optional approaches are vital. As architects – we hold the possibility through participatory means; create tools for making the alternate spaces that are missing. We have created and gathered these tools, or methods, in a toolbox, and through our current process we have used most of them. They were defined in a way so that they should be available for anybody – not only architects.

RESEARCHING

A thoroughly research to understand the context is essential, and creates a point of departure. Collecting facts and knowledge of the area is done through different mediums; maps, statistics, drawings, models, visiting, speaking, reading.

DIY

The methods of do-it-yourself, or do-it-together, are based on a desire by individuals to create alternative changes. This serves as a knowledge sharing medium, and questions the current structural form of the society by selfmanaged initiatives.

DOCUMENTATION

Keeping track of one's process through the mediums of text, pictures and diagrams – offers feedback through learning by mistakes/successes. It also holds the potential to be externally used as an open-source methodology.

PROGRAMING

Analyzing the context and user group in question, the missing/desirable functions are defined, which hold abilities for improving living patterns. Through actively including local participants, the local experts, the programs are underlined.

MODEL EXPLORING

By using the medium of modelling the mind doesn't restrict itself to mere two dimensions. Spatial qualities and materiality are explored and refined by sketching with both physical and digital models.

MAPPING

By mapping the commons and local actors of the area, a clear understanding of the basic conditions is made. This will locate possible sites and serve as a fundament for the programming.

PLATFORM

Forming a base platform existing of actors that have different roles in the process. By collaborating with these the input becomes multispectral, and the various fields of expertise complement each other.

KNOWLEDGE SHARING

Through dialogues and group discussion; focus points of interest emerge from the multifacetted diversity of knowledge and experiences. This should be a basis – both in the process, and in the daily activity of the built product.

S FUNDING

Learning the case-specific opportunities of financial funding, to make the process independent from commercial intentions. Financial can be handed to municipal instances and scholarships.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Through methods of sustainable thinking try to achieve selfsufficiency. Applying existing technology in the effort of being autonomously off-grid through producing its own resources.

SCENARIO TESTING

Visioning future scenarios, by asking a series of utopian "what if"-questions will root out which problems are present. When trying answer these – ideas will be sprung as how to lift the problematization through creative means.

CO-DESIGN

Involving the actual users in the design process, and let them create their own product by catalyzing a definition of their ideas, will result in a beneficial outcome.

When working with an exposed user group – letting them partake in the building phase will integrate these people to the process, making them proud of the product. This ultimately leads to increased future upkeep conditions.

WORKSHOP

Through the medium of different workshops with the participants we achieve: a steady base for the design steps, and clear stepping stones for the physical production. It also gives opportunity to apply for municipal funding.

ELEMENT CATALOG

Working as a catalyst for the creative mind, the element catalog gives examples of what furniture and elements that can be created through co-production.

SCENARIOS

SCENARIO TESTING

Visioning future scenarios, by asking a series of utopian "what if"-questions will root out which problems are present. When trying answer these – ideas will be sprung as how to lift the problematization through creative means.

> What if there was an urban common that could integrate different groups of people of Biskopsgården?

> What if Biskopsgården provided people with a space to realize their own ideas?

> What if Biskopsgården could be selfsufficient by producing its own resources in the neighborhood?

> What if the identity of Biskopsgården became stronger by local participation?

DOCUMENTATION

Keeping track of one's process through the mediums of text, pictures and diagrams – offers feedback through learning by mistakes/successes. It also holds the potential to be externally used as an open-source methodology.





MAIN REFERENCES

The culture house of Cyklopen is an ongoing project in the periphery of Stockholm. It was initiated by a group of activists that wished of having something that was lacking in the society - an open and free culture house. The group behind is called Kulturkampanjen, and they strive for anticapitalism and cultural diversity. After years of direct action, occupations, endless meetings with politicians and bureaucrats the first building started in the Stockholm suburb Högdalen in June 2006. Kulturkampanjen did not accept anything other than non-recurring amounts from the state as they wanted to stay independent. In November 2008, while the Network against racism's canceled meeting would start, the house was destroyed in a fire and organized Nazis were said to be the ones behind it. After the fire a memory manifestation with 250-300 participants was marching from Högdalen center to the demolished Cyklopen two kilometers away, and there was a great enthusiasm among the present people to build up the house again. After two years of bureaucratic struggle; Kulturkampanjen did a new application for planning permission on a plot in Högdalen again and started to build up Cyklopen again.

U. O. C. S.



ECOBOX

ECObox is a DIY project by the architecture practice aaa. It contains a temporary garden that grows and changes in a process without final end. The strategy is to use recycled easily accessed material as a base for free creation. A basic structure was made where the main material consisted of pallets to give opportunity to cultivate, create paths, furniture in a free pattern. They call it a gardening process rather than a garden object. The process is driven by the participants and is controlled by their own desires. What happens depends on the persons that are present and what they want to contribute with.

Trough ECObox, aaa desires to create spaces for informal meeting, where people meet in a green living room made out of individual and common farming lots. They want to encourage conversations and discussion by making space for it. New spaces and context are created within the work of architects and residents where everybody is equal member in the association. This means that architects are forced to let go of control. It's a new type of freer architecture, outside the office template.

DIY

The methods of do-it-yourself, or do-it-together, are based on a desire by individuals to create alternative changes. This serves as a knowledge sharing medium, and questions the current structural form of the society by selfmanaged initiatives.





HARAKAT

Harakat means "movement" in Arabic, Turkish and Persian. It can be about physical, as well a social movement. Harakat is a concept, an informational forum of lectures and discussions. The aim is to create a broader perspective on our society, with focus on historical and contemporary happenings, which has influenced the society and made it what it is. The first Harakats in Sweden was arranged by the group Megafonen, based in the Stockholm suburbs Husby, Rinkeby and Vällingby-Hässelby. In Gothenburg and Biskopsgården, Harakat is now arranged by Pantrarna - För Upprustning Av Förorten. Every other week they invite people who are representing different parts of the society; like researchers, artists, local figures and common people to speak. Harakat has become a meeting place for knowledge sharing with no fixed physical site, consisting of lectures and a following discussion.

COLLECTIF ETC

MAIN REFERENCES

The French collective Collectif Etc consist of a group with over a dozen of young architects that started as friends collaborating in different ways in the city, while they still were studying. After gaining some attention after holding different workshops, they applied for a competition to design a public space in St Etienne. When the jury made the evaluation, Collectif Etc required that:

"If you pick us, you have to know that you have to let us manage all the money, and you have to realize that we will do a collaborative, participative work with all the inhabitants. That's what we stand for – if you don't accept that, we don't want to win the competition."

The jury chose their proposal, and said that they trusted them. St Etienne became a space for collaborating within many different fields and interests. Together they worked with associations, municipalities, local schools, social centers and random people. To reach other groups than just the people interested in building, they organized food lessons, music events and concerts – everything that could bring people to live together in a place.

"Temporary interventions are a way to show that with little money, much ambition and many people, you can do great things." -Collectif Etc

CONCEPT

Through the group discussions, workshops, and interviews involving us students, Pantrarna, and the Chalmers studio U+A/DL - the idea of a project grew. This was the concept of a meeting place build through discussion, production and participation.



MEETING PLACE

An open space, accessible for all citizens.

PROGRAMING

Analyzing the context and user group in question, the missing/desirable functions are defined, which hold abilities for improving living patterns. Through actively including local participants, the local experts, the programs are underlined.

DISCUSSION

A platform for sharing knowledge, experiences and spreading information. A central point for organizing political actions.

PRODUCTION

A space for creative cultural production. Focus on creating instead of consuming.

PARTICIPATION

Possibility to take part during the process, and affect the meeting place on a user level.

MAPPING

By mapping the commons and local actors of the area, a clear understanding of the basic conditions is made. This will locate possible sites and serve as a fundament for the programming.

STRATEGY

By developing and clearly defining the method used during the process - the idea is for this to accessible in other similiar places in the future.



Use the same method to spread over the area.



Possible to spread the method to other areas.

Forming a base platform existing of actors that have different roles in the process. By collaborating with these the input becomes multispectral, and the various fields of expertise complement each other.

PLATFORM

While meetings were held, phone calls were made and e-mails were sent - a sort of contact platform was created. This network was created in trying to make a site for the meeting place. These are the actors who were involved.



KNOWLEDGE SHARING Through dialogues and group discussion; focus points of interest emerge from the multifacetted diversity of knowledge and experiences. This should be a basis – both in the process, and in the daily activity of the built

product.

2012-2013 MEETINGS

- IN SEARCH FOR AN AVAILABLE SITE

| | NOV | /EMBER | | | DECEMBE | R | | JAN | IUARY | | | FEBI | RUARY | | | MARCH | I | | |
|------|------------|--------|--------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|----|----|-----|-------|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----|-------|-----------------------|----------------|----|
| 47 | 48 | 49 | 50 | 51 | 52 | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 09 N | wurearesta | | 16 Nov Ahmed and Glo Pantrarna | oria, | 17 Dec Ahmed Ibrahim Pantrarna | | | | | 05 Feb Hyresgästfö Pantrarna | 07 Feb Fritid, | Kultur och Pantrarna | Feb Biskops larförening | 26 Feb experie gården | | | 10 Mar Pr Pantrary | resentation fo | yr |

Proposed sites from Park och Natur



Meeting Documentation

ANALYZED SITES

In the very beginning of the process - site 1 was located at a burnt down carport in between a housing area and the lake of Svartemossen. After having done a project there based on interviews and meetings with the core group of Pantrarna, this was presented to the site owner Bostadsbolaget. This site proved to be inaccessible due to the security cameras put up here. Later, other sites were suggested after meetings with municipal departments. These were investigated and through contact with different actors - the site 5 of Rimfrostgatan was then chosen to be the place most fitting for this project.





MAPPING

MAPPING

By mapping the commons and local actors of the area, a clear understanding of the basic conditions is made. This will locate possible sites and serve as a fundament for the programming.

SITE 1 BURNT DOWN GARAGE SLOT





| | SITE OWNER | Bostadsbolaget, Public Housing Company. | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 5 | CONTACT PERSON | Thomas Öby/Carina Dahlin. | | | | | |
| de sro | AVAILABILITY | Made unavailable after contact with the provincial government, because our public project went against the permits for security cameras in the area. | | | | | |
| I GAR | SURROUNDINGS | On a parking lot in the interstice between a public housing area and the nature with a lake. | | | | | |
| VMC | OUR RELATION | The best site in the area according to Pantrarna. | | | | | |
| TDO | CONDITIONS | | | | | | |
| SITE 0 - BURNT DOWN GARAGE SLOT | + Close to the housing a + Close to nature and th + Close to sport activitie + Free space + Connected to infrastru | e lake - Not owed by the municipality s | | | | | |





Our previous project proposal on site 1 called Biskop Farming. A potentially good site made unavailable due to site owners security cameras.

By mapping the commons and local actors of the area, a clear understanding of the basic conditions is made. This will locate possible sites and serve as a fundament for the programming.

SITE 2 GRASSLAND NEXT TO A CLUB HOUSE



| | SITE OWNER | The sports and associations department. |
|--|---|---|
| A | CONTACT PERSON | Bo Albrektsson/Rustan Lundbäck. |
| 10 | AVAILABILITY | Possibly, not thoroughly investigated |
| EXT | SURROUNDINGS | In the fringe of an activity area. |
| NDN | OUR RELATION | Suggested by the park and nature department, Jens Larsen. |
| SLA | CONDITIONS | |
| SITE 1 - GRASSLAND NEXT TO A CLUB HOUSE | + Close to nature + Close to sport activitie + Free space | - Distant to the housing area - Shadowy - Poorly integrated - No natural connections - Precarious |



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MAKING A SITE

MAPPING

By mapping the commons and local actors of the area, a clear understanding of the basic conditions is made. This will locate possible sites and serve as a fundament for the programming.

SITE 3 GRAVEL PITCH AT THE OLD FITNESS CENTRAL



| SITE OWNER The sports and associations department | nt. |
|--|------------|
| CONTACT PERSON Bo Albrektsson/Rustan Lundbäck. | |
| CONTACT PERSON Bo Albrektsson/Rustan Lundbäck. AVAILABILITY Unclear availability; the site owner will it, though there is an ongoing detail pluthat this site might house a preschool i that this site might house a preschool i SURROUNDINGS In the fringe of an activity area. OUR RELATION Suggested by the park and nature depugets and the second secon | an showing |
| SURROUNDINGS In the fringe of an activity area. | |
| OUR RELATION Suggested by the park and nature deputed by the p | artment, |
| TEA CONDITIONS | |
| + Close to nature - Distant to the housing area + Close to sport activities - Precarious + Sun conditions + Connected to infrastructure + Free space with an existing foundation | a |



MAPPING
 By mapping the commons and
 local actors of the area, a clear
 understanding of the basic
 conditions is made. This will
 locate possible sites and serve

as a fundament for the programming.

SITE 4 PLAYGROUND BESIDE A TEMPORARY PRESCHOOL



| | SITE OWNER | The park and nature department. | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| | CONTACT PERSON | Jens Larsen. | | | | |
| DEA | AVAILABILITY | At first available since the preschool was to be removed, though the city of Göteborg later decided to keep the temporary for additional years. In the fringe of the housing area, close to a small growers association, sport fields and playground. | | | | |
| 0 BESI | SURROUNDINGS | | | | | |
| SCH | OUR RELATION | Suggested by the park and nature department, Jens Larsen. | | | | |
| PRI | CONDITIONS | | | | | |
| SITE 3 - PLAYGROUND BESIDE TEMPORARY PRESCHOOL | + Close to the housing a + Close to nature + Close to other activitie + Sun conditions | - Distant to the center of the area | | | | |



SITE 5 - THE CHOSEN SITE

OLD ASPHALT TENNIS COURT IN A HOUSING AREA

 MAPPING
 By mapping the commons and local actors of the area, a clear understanding of the basic conditions is made. This will locate possible sites and serve as a fundament for the programming.

| ≥ | SITE OWNER | The park and nature department. |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| JRT | CONTACT PERSON | Jens Larsen. |
| ASPHALT TENNIS COURT IN 4REA | AVAILABILITY | Planned to be a meeting place for everyone by Jens Larsen. Currently uncertain if we can collaborate with his goals for this site. |
| r teni | SURROUNDINGS | A forgotten in-between space in the middle of the housing area. |
| PHAL | OUR RELATION | Suggested by the municipality worker, Margereta Sjöholm. |
| ASI | CONDITIONS | |
| SITE 4 - OLD | + In the middle of the and + Connected to the hous + Close to other activitie + Sun conditions + Free space + Sheltered by the lands | sing area s |



RIMFROSTGATAN

The in-between space of Rimfrostgatan is a decaying site in the transition between the area of Norra Biskopsgården and Länsmansgården. The caretaking owner of this this site is the municipal department Parks and Nature. Its sociotope values, by the municipality, indicates that this used to be/is supposed to be an active place where people meet and do things together. Today it's unused and deserted, the playground is torn down and the tennis court asphalt is cracked. Being naturally framed by nature and infrastructure, this place passed by pedestrians on their way towards both Länsmanstorget, Friskväderstorget and two tram stations. It holds the potential to be something that strengthens its surrounding community - a natural place for a meeting place.





CONTEXT - RIMFROST



Keeping track of one's process through the mediums of text, pictures and diagrams – offers feedback through learning by mistakes/successes. It also holds the potential to be externally used as an open-source methodoloav.

RECENT VIOLENCE





Autumn 2013

- > 30th August: Köldgatan, Biskopsgården. Shooting outdoors against 23-year-old man. Hit in the leg.
- > 2nd September: Väderilsgatan, Biskopsgården. Shooting outdoors against 17-year-old man. No injured.
- >4th September: Väderilsgatan, Biskopsgården. Shooting outdoors against 17-year-old boy and 28-year-old man. Both dies.
- > 8th September: Sommarvädersgatan, Biskopsgården. Shooting outdoors against facades and an apartment. No injured.
- > 17th September: Godvädersgatan, Biskopsgården. Shooting outdoors against 31-year-old man and club rooms. No injured.
- > 17th October: Friskvädersgatan, Biskopsgården. Shooting outdoors against 18-year-old man. Hit in the hip.

Keeping track of one's process through the mediums of text, pictures and diagrams – offers feedback through learning by mistakes/successes. It also holds the potential to be externally used as an open-source methodology.

SUPPOSED SOCIOTOPE VALUES

RIMFROST PHOTOS









The road of Rimfrostgatan with its adjacent public housing area. Looking south west.



Pedestrian tunnel accessing the site from the north west. Looking south east towards the site.



The place where the torn down playground used to be at the western part of the site. Looking east.



Trees on the site as viewed from the western pedestrian path. Looking north west.

Keeping track of one's process through the mediums of text, pictures and diagrams – offers feedback through learning by mistakes/successes. It also holds the potential to be externally used as an open-source methodology.



RIMFROST PHOTOS

The site as viewed from the car road of Rimfrostgatan. Looking south.



The typology of the adjacent public housing aera north of the site. Looking north.



Pedestrian tunnel accessing the site from the north east. Looking north.



The deserted boulés court at the southern part of the site. Looking west.





The pedestrian infrastructure passing through the eastern part of the site. Looking north.

The pedestrian infrastructure passing through the eastern part of the site. Looking south.

RIMFROST PANORAMAS





Keeping track of one's process through the mediums of text, pictures and diagrams – offers feedback through learning by mistakes/successes. It also holds the potential to be externally used as an open-source methodology.

CONTEXT - RIMFROST



Panorama showing the connection between the tennis court and its southwestern entrance.



Keeping track of one's process through the mediums of text, pictures and diagrams – offers feedback through learning by mistakes/successes. It also holds the potential to be externally used as an open-source methodology.



Panorama of the old tennis court. Looking south.



Panorama showing the connection between the tennis court and its eastern entrance.

, Fig. **KNOWLEDGE SHARING**

Through dialogues and group discussion; focus points of interest emerge from the multifacetted diversity of knowledge and experiences. This should be a basis - both in the process, and in the daily activity of the built product.

"Today many feel powerlessness to the city's development, and who has control over it. More and more common areas and meeting places are closed down, and the money controls which people belong where. But it is we who live in the city that should determine how it should look and be used. *We can create the tools needed to take the power* to physically affect our own neighbourhood. There are alternative ways; with determination and knowledge, we can create new common places together."

This was how the workshop event of Harakat was described. To spread some of our ideas amongst the people of Biskop, and to get them to participate in the programming of the meeting place, we were invited by Pantrarna to hold a discussion forum in the youth club of Vårvinden. The first part of this Harakat was a lecture held by us, presenting our methods and point of departure. In the second part we had prepared a workshop for them to take part in. They got the chance to brainstorm ideas of activites that they felt were important to focus on for a meeting place, and also how those were best to be organized on the site of Rimfrost.

WORKSHOP

Through the medium of different workshops with the participants we achieve: a steady base for the design steps, and clear stepping stones for the physical production. It also gives opportunity to apply for municipal funding.



The Facebook event: "Harakat - Build your own solution"

HARAKAT



A poster for the event.



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HARAKAT PHOTOS

KNOWLEDGE SHARING

Through dialogues and group discussion; focus points of interest emerge from the multifacetted diversity of knowledge and experiences. This should be a basis – both in the process, and in the daily activity of the built product.



Documentation of the Harakat.

WORKSHOP LAYOUT



Write program proposals Gather the proposals

Open discussion about the proposed programs







WORKSHOP

Through the medium of different workshops with the participants we achieve: a steady base for the design steps, and clear stepping stones for the physical production. It also gives opportunity to apply for municipal funding.



Write programs on volumes Place on site

Organize programs on site



PROGRAMING

Analyzing the context and user group in question, the missing/desirable functions are defined, which hold abilities for improving living patterns. Through actively including local participants, the local experts, the programs are underlined.

PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS







PROGRAMING

Analyzing the context and user group in question, the missing/desirable functions are defined, which hold abilities for improving living patterns. Through actively including local participants, the local experts, the programs are underlined.

As defined by the workshop.

CO-DESIGN

Involving the actual users in the design process, and let them create their own product by catalyzing a definition of their ideas, will result in a beneficial outcome.

WORKSHOP RESULT

The result of the workshop ended up in defining the project in two main parts, of which different activities were focused around: a building and an activity park. The building was roughly divided librarycafé and a workshop, whereas the park's main aspects were sports, scene and sitting possibility.







Workshop documentation.



PROGRAMING

Analyzing the context and user group in question, the missing/desirable functions are defined, which hold abilities for improving living patterns. Through actively including local participants, the local experts, the programs are underlined.





By using the medium of modelling the mind doesn't restrict itself to mere two dimensions. Spatial qualities and materiality are explored and refined by sketching with both physical and digital models.

PROCESS - SITE MODEL - SITE FLOW, 1:100

the context of Rimfrost made a clear point of departure for the project process. Considering that financing this meeting place would be hard - the plan was then to make a rather small and cheap structure. It should be able to expand when further resources are available. The site owner, Parks and Nature Department, aren't very S keen on having a permanent CES building here. Because of this it's important for the building to have a mobile foundation. If it's required for it to move then it should be possible to do so without tearing it down, and possibly moving it to another site.

The result of the workshop and









SCENARIO TESTING

Visioning future scenarios, by asking a series of utopian

"what if"-questions will root

out which problems are present. When trying answer these

- ideas will be sprung as how to lift the problematization

through creative means.



MODEL - BUILDING PROTOTYPE

The initial ideas of the building are represented in this prototype model. One idea was for it to be able to close its surfaces fully for when it's unused so that there is a lesser risk of destruction, but still for parts of it to be semi-transparent nature and can illuminate the site from inside. When opened, these facade elements makes the border between inside and outside more diffuse, and changes the site. The loft should be a calm place, but still have visual connection with the outside and the first floor.

MODEL EXPLORING

By using the medium of modelling the mind doesn't restrict itself to mere two dimensions. Spatial qualities and materiality are explored and refined by sketching with both physical and digital models.



PROCESS - THE BUILDING

It was clear from the workshop that the building was to be one single volume situated on the upper part of the old asphalt tennis court. It contains a librarycafé and a workshop, which requires a kitchen and a toilet. Throughout the sketch process the building took many forms, and it ended up in being a quite simple form which interior was to be flexible and airy. To be reasonable in relationship to the conditions, the footprint of the building is quite small - placed to give room for outdoor activities. Angled towards south for light conditions and as a backdrop for the rest of the site. To compensate for its meager footprint the volume was raised to house double room height and a calm loft for the library part.

BUILDING VOLUME DIAGRAMME



Small, realistic footprint.



MODEL EXPLORING By using the medium of modelling the mind doesn't restrict itself to mere two dimensions. Spatial

Raised volume for loft and double room height.



Corners cut to turn towards the infra-structure and sun.



Large front roof angle for light condition and visual connection.





Large openings front and back to expand the indoor environment to the outside.

MODEL - SITE, 1:100

The meeting place of Biskop-Rimfrost lays sheltered by the landscape. Through the day it's to liven up the place of Rimfrostgatan to its potential to be a natural forum that connects the areas of Norra Biskopsgården and Länsmansgården. In the night, even if no one is using the building, it's still possible for it to light up the site and thus creating a safer feeling for pedestrians passing by. The layout of the mobile furniture as shown in the site model is just an example. Depending on the needs and resources this can vary. Some of the smaller furniture can be stored in the building.

ELEMENT CATALOG

Working as a catalyst for the creative mind, the element catalog gives examples of what furniture and elements that can be created through co-production.

MODEL EXPLORING

By using the medium of modelling the mind doesn't restrict itself to mere two dimensions. Spatial qualities and materiality are explored and refined by sketching with both physical and digital models.





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SITE AXONOMETRY

As part of the participatory aspects of the meeting place - furniture for outside and inside use are produced in the workshop part. These can be spread throughout the site and inside the meeting place freely. Shown here is just an example of a furnishing. They can be produced after need and resources. Here are some examples of such furniture.





DIY furniture reference: Collectif Etc.





MODEL - BUILDING PROGRAM, 1:100

PROJECT - CONSTRUCTION

REFERENCE PROJECTS

BUILDING PART



FOUNDATION

Mobile foundation



Montpelier community nursery

KITCHEN CORE



Lightbox house



Cyklopen

PROGRAMING Analyzing the context and user group in question, the

missing/desirable functions are defined, which hold abilities for improving living patterns. Through actively including local participants, the local experts, the programs are underlined.



Diagonal 80



MODEL EXPLORING X

> By using the medium of modelling the mind doesn't restrict itself to mere two dimensions. Spatial qualities and materiality are explored and refined by sketching with both physical and digital models.

BUILDING PART





WORKSHOP

MODEL - BUILDING PROGRAM, 1:100









Casa

Casa

portable



Library tower



Lightbox house

MODEL - BUILDING SKETCH, 1:100



By using the medium of modelling the mind doesn't restrict itself to mere two dimensions. Spatial qualities and materiality are explored and refined by sketching with both physical and digital models.



MODEL EXPLORING

X

By using the medium of modelling the mind doesn't restrict itself to mere two dimensions. Spatial qualities and materiality are explored and refined by sketching with both physical and digital models.

MODEL - STRUCTURE SKETCH, 1:50



Showing the main thoughts of the skeleton structure in the sketch phase. Not the final construction version.

MAIN MATERIALS

The construction consists of common materials that should be easy to work with and makes for a simple and honest impression. The structure is a wooden beam construction, which is relatively cheap. The dimensions have been estimated using TräGuiden. The facade and interior surfaces are made of wooden boards, and polycarbonate is used instead of windows - being insulating and durable. Plywood boards are cheap and easy to change when becoming too damaged, thus they can be used as free graffiti walls. There is only one exception of using ordinary wooden beams in the skeleton structure: to avoid a large dimension for the roof beam - glulam wood was chosen instead. In the final phase of the construction solar panels are added to the south facing roof, which has a good angle for that. By using solar panels the meeting place strives for becoming self-sufficient, by being off-grid.

BEAM DIMENSIONS

 45x195
 SYSTEM OF JOISTS

 115x115
 PILLAR INSIDE

 45x170
 PILLAR IN WALL

 42x225
 ROOF BEAM (GLULAM)

 45x200
 RIDGE

 45x45
 HORIZONTAL WALL BEAM

 45x70
 INNER WALL PILLAR

SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Through methods of sustainable thinking try to achieve selfsufficiency. Applying existing technology in the effort of being autonomously off-grid through producing its own resources.



Pender C. Build the skeleton structure Voden skeleton structure Struct







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MODEL EXPLORING

By using the medium of modelling the mind doesn't restrict itself to mere two dimensions. Spatial qualities and materiality are explored and refined by sketching with both physical and digital models.

THE BUILDING

The bottom floor consists of three main segments. The leftmost for the café with double room height. The middle one for the kitchen/toilet core and the single room height workshop along with a staircase to the loft in the top, and a semi-outdoor space with openable facades in the bottom. The rightmost segment is an expanded workshop space with double room height and an open able facade door that leads to the outdoor workshop. On top of the middle segment, with the staircase leading up to it, is the library loft.

MODEL - BUILDING, 1:100

PROJECT - BUILDING





Working as a catalyst for the creative mind, the element catalog gives examples of what furniture and elements that can be created through co-production.

PERSPECTIVE SECTION C-C 1:75





Between structure.

Facade facing west



Facade facing south



Facade facing north

PROJECT - BUILDING





B

EXTERIOR PERSPECTIVE



INTERIOR PERSPECTIVE



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FUTURE PROCESS

Forming a base platform existing of actors that have different roles in the process. By collaborating with these the input becomes multispectral, and the various fields of expertise complement each other.

CO-DESIGN

Involving the actual users in the design process, and let them create their own product by catalyzing a definition of their ideas, will result in a beneficial outcome.

THE FUTURE?

NOISNICS Permi it will Rimfr the p The "I metho archit partic

contribute and incorporate some aspects of it to reality - if not built, then hopefully working as catalyst for upgrading the site. Depending on how well the platform continues to drive the project forward even without students as a main driving force, the outcome will of course vary. It also depends on how well the site owner, the parks and nature department, receives this design proposal. But even if they might not give permit for the building itself - hopefully it will inspire them to revitalize the site of Rimfrostgatan in some other ways. However, the project is just one part of the thesis. The "learning by doing" and the developed methodology are equally important. As architects - we hold possibility through participatory means; create tools for making the alternate spaces that are missing!

The end result of this thesis is not necessarily the end of this project. The aim is to





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