

Introduction. Topographies of Encounter

In a post-industrial era where nature and human beings must return to a state of equilibrium, and reject rigid planning approaches (the "second modern generation", or "classic" Modern Movement), the aim is to define a city that primarily adapts to natural rhythms ("third generation city"). In a way, as Marco Casagrande argues, we opt for targeted interventions that act as "needles" of different gauges in a living territorial organism, aspiring to generate positive effects and new stimuli within the entire urban system.

The proposal responds to the need to develop the central area of Hyllie, located in the southern part of the city of Malmö, through an intervention that harmonizes landscape, community, and infrastructure by means of a new habitable topography. Inspired by the neighboring hills of Kroksbäcksparken, the design operation extends their forms into the project area, creating a natural continuity that redefines today's fragmented spaces. This topographic strategy also provides protection from the prevailing winds of the area, generating more welcoming outdoor spaces for daily life and the development of outdoor activities.

Furthermore, Hyllie represents the gateway to Malmö from Denmark via the train. For this reason, the proposal assumes a significant urban responsibility: to welcome those arriving and to offer them an attractive, vibrant environment full of opportunities for living, working, moving, and social interaction. It is a strategic place to project the city's identity outward, and at the same time, toward its own interior.

Complementary Guiding Idea: ENSO

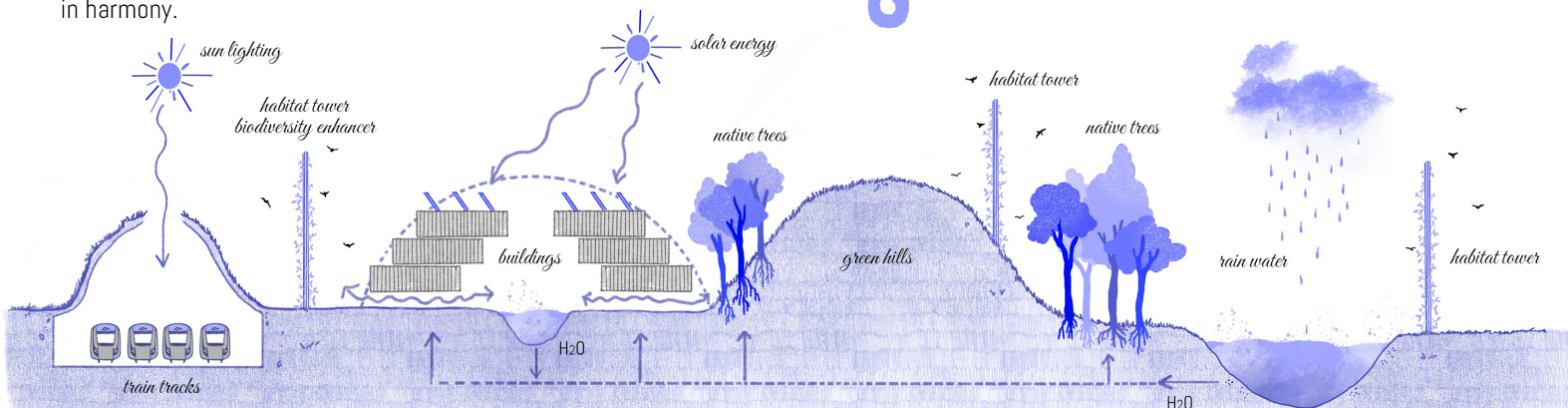
At both a conceptual and formal level, the project is also inspired by, and structured around, the form of the Enso. This is a Japanese zen symbol representing fullness, emptiness, balance, cycle, and continuity. This circular figure, traditionally painted with a single stroke, guides both the spatial organization and the architecture of the intervention.

At the same time, through this geometry, a parallel is established not only with the Kroksbäcksparken hills as previously mentioned, but also with the numerous circular forms that permeate the area: ring roads, roundabouts, urban orchards, the Kroksbäcksparken labyrinth, and the imposing Hyllie Vattentorn.

The constructed circles emerging from this idea are not only functional volumes, but also gestures reflecting a holistic and meditative vision of dwelling: spaces open to the community, where emptiness is as important as fullness, and where architecture, nature, and society strive to interweave in harmony.

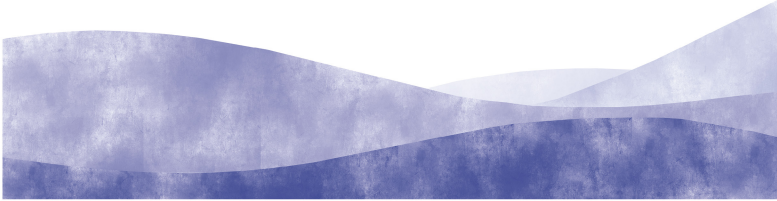


Kroksbäcksparken, located north of Hyllie



Explanatory section of the proposal

As Javier Maderuelo asserts, landscape is not simply a filtered view of territory, but a cultural construct... a social and urban narrative. The proposal suggests an urban composition with architectural, symbolic, and environmental narratives, enabling citizens to write their own experience of the landscape.



Urban Built Structure and Program of Uses

The project aligns with the 3-30-300 model and proposes a green, dense, and mixed-use city.

Each "ring" functions as a programmatic node within an integrative urban system. In addition to vegetation-covered "mountains" and buildings serving different purposes, they can also take the form of lakes (inverted mountains) and large skylights over the underground train lines and motorways (truncated cones/hollow mountains).

All of these elements are connected through shared outdoor spaces and sinuous paths that weave among them and link up with the area's existing pathways of similar geometry in Dagvattenparken. Notably, the buildings gradually step down in height toward their interior courtyards, creating a geometric parallel with the adjacent hills.

In general terms, the proposal fosters healthy living habits by promoting the use of public transport, pedestrian routes, and non-polluting mobility methods such as bicycles and electric scooters. Integrated among the new buildings are the following proposed uses:

- Intergenerational, sustainable housing of various sizes, with shared indoor and outdoor spaces (elevated walkways and a large central courtyard).
- Library and cultural center.
- Market spaces for local (km 0) products.
- Sports and recreational areas protected from the prevailing winds.
- Visitor center, serving as a symbolic bridge between the city of Malmö and the Hyllie neighborhood.
- Nursery and play areas.
- Workspaces, coworking facilities, and community workshops.
- Bicycle and electric scooter parking.
- Public urban gardens and landscaping with native species, the former managed by the local community.

Healing Scars. Topographic Continuity

The new artificial topography extends over the existing infrastructure —railway lines and Annetorpsvägen— through a landscape covering that does not interrupt their function but redefines them as an active part of the environment. Access to the railway lines is preserved at two specific points via two cylinders on either side of the tracks, each housing a vertical circulation core (stairs and an elevator).

This gesture enables internal pedestrian and cycling connections within Hyllie, but also links it to its immediate surroundings to the north, including Kroksbäcksparken, Kroksbäck, and Holma. In this way, a continuous and permeable landscape is created, dissolving today's barriers and scars.



"Skylight hills" over the train tracks



Residential building. Interior courtyard



Residential building. Interior view from elevated corridor

Regenerative District. Ecology, Circularity and Participation

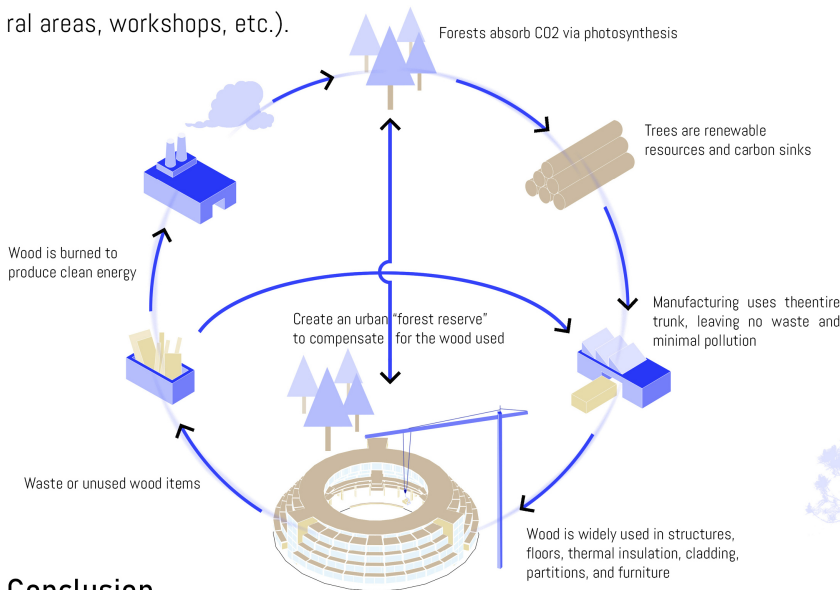
The project is guided by a series of sustainability principles: efficient stormwater management, circular economy, urban biodiversity, and climate neutrality. The vegetation employed will be native and adapted to the local climate, occupying a central role in the landscape design of the intervention area. This will enhance air quality, climate regulation, noise reduction, thermal comfort, and biodiversity.

Among the vegetation, small rainwater retention ponds are interspersed —functioning as inverted hills— that provide water self-sufficiency to the neighborhood by storing water for reuse in cultivation, irrigation, and everyday needs of the new buildings. These complement the existing lakes, which are preserved.

Additionally, we propose a series of vertical structures called “habitat towers” scattered throughout the intervention area. These are superimposed hyperboloids in the form of small towers, which can be colonized by climbing plants and local birds, creating niches for biodiversity and contributing to the emergence of specific ecosystems within the built environment. Regarding the structural and construction systems of the proposed buildings, the main material chosen is timber, due to its ecological value and coherence with circular economy principles. During their growth phase, trees absorb CO₂, and the timber derived from them is renewable, versatile, recyclable, has low transformation impact, and can ultimately be converted into clean energy at the end of its useful life. Furthermore, its natural aesthetic reinforces the integration of the project into the landscape and the overall cultural identity.

In summary, the technical strategy also includes:

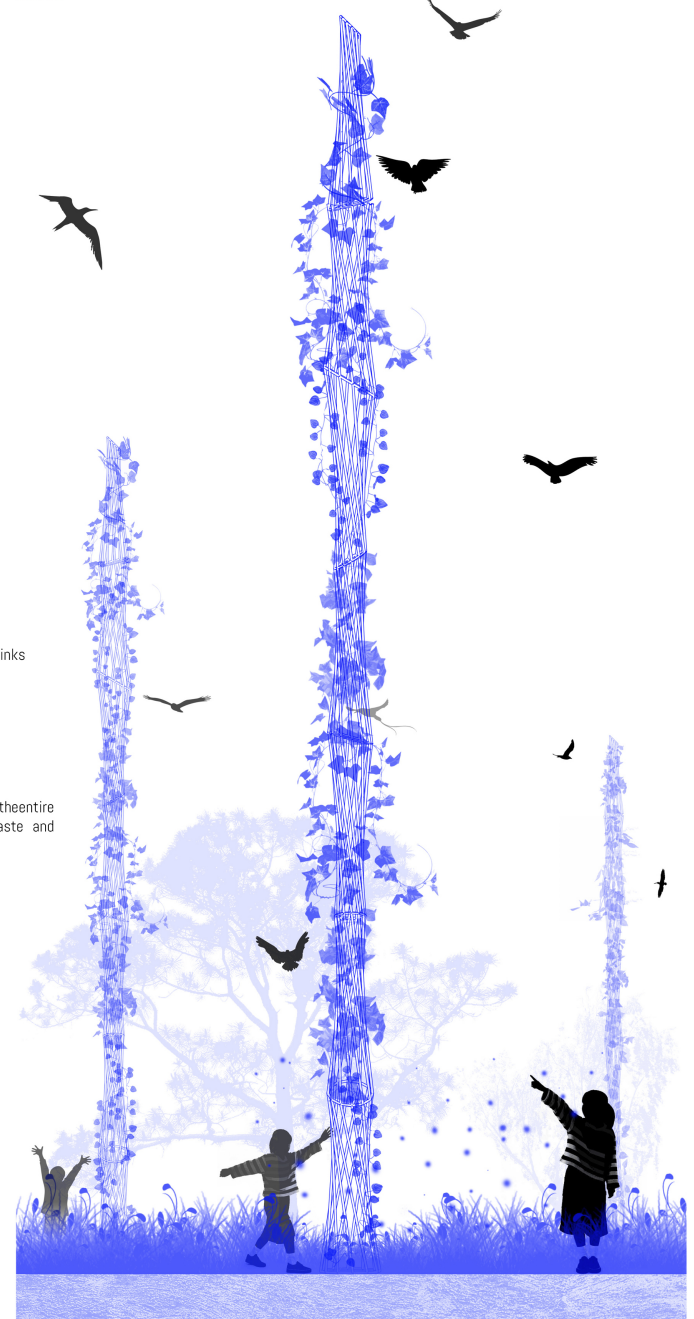
- Passive and bioclimatic energy and ventilation systems, such as solar energy and cross ventilation.
- Rainwater reuse in green areas, crops, and new buildings.
- Citizen participation in the design and use of shared spaces (parks, cultural areas, workshops, etc.).



Conclusion

This proposal transforms separation into continuity and infrastructure into opportunity. Through a new topography inspired by the Kroksbäcksparken hills, it creates a dense, green, multifunctional, and profoundly human urban environment.

It seeks to offer a sensitive, resilient, and poetic vision of what a neighborhood of the future can be: a gateway to the city, a climate refuge, an urban ecosystem, and a space for active, healthy, and shared living.



Habitat Towers: Generators of Biodiversity (birds, insects and vegetation)