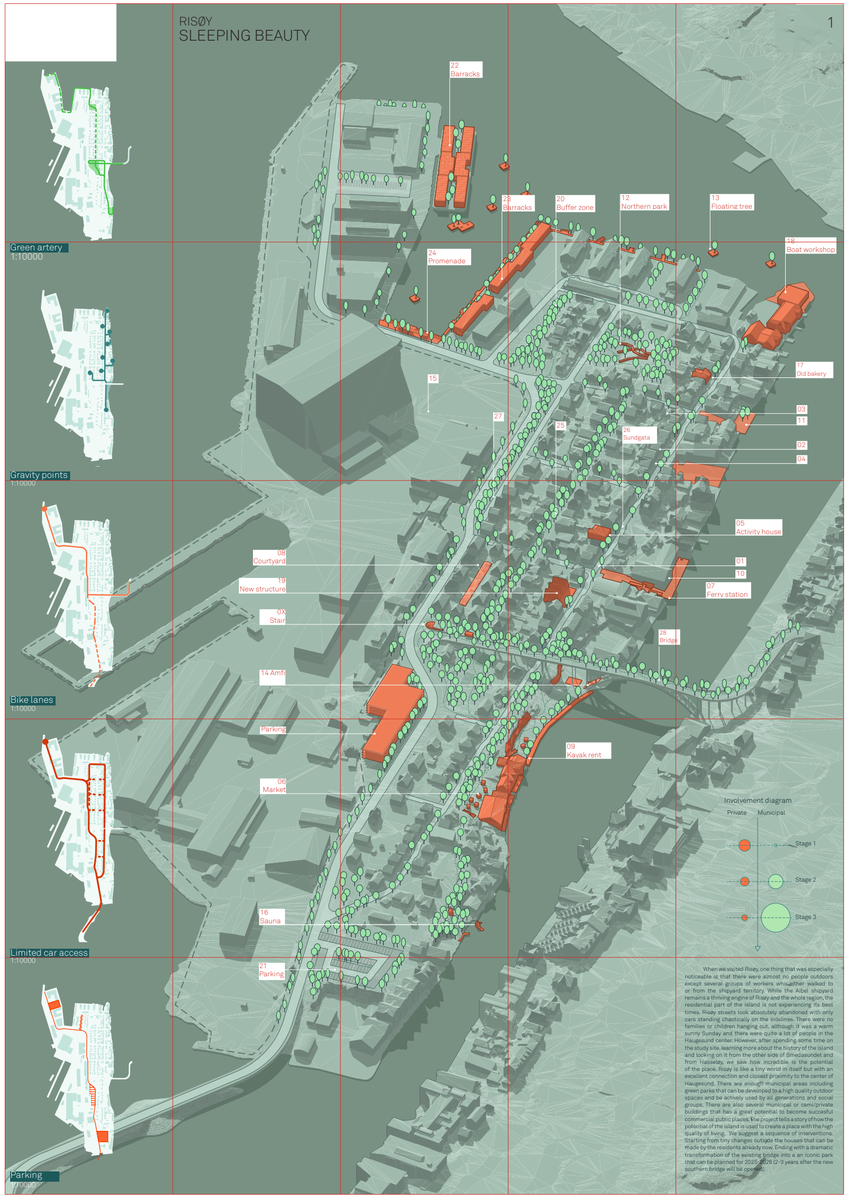
RISØY
SLEEPING BEAUTY



When we visited Risøy, one thing that was especially noticeable is that there were almost no people outdoors, except several groups of workers who either walked to or from the shipyard territory. While the Aibel shipyard remains a thriving engine of Risøy and the whole region, the residential part of the island is not experiencing its best times. Risøy streets look absolutely abandoned with only cars standing chaotically on the sidelines. There were no families or children hanging out, although it was a warm sunny Sunday and there were quite a lot of people in the Haugesund center. However, after spending some time on the study site, learning more about the history of the island, and looking on it from the other side of Smedsøundet and from Hasseløy, we saw how incredible is the potential of the place. Risøy is like a tiny world in itself but with an excellent connection and closest proximity to the center of Haugesund. There are enough municipal areas including green parks that can be developed to a high quality outdoor spaces and be actively used by all generations and social groups. There are also several municipal or semi-private buildings that has a great potential to become successful commercial public places. The project tells a story of how the potential of the island is used to create a place with the high quality of living. We suggest a sequence of interventions. Starting from tiny changes outside the houses that can be made by the residents already now. Ending with a dramatic transformation of the existing bridge into a an iconic park that can be planned for 2030-2040 (2-3 years after the new southern bridge will be opened).

01. One fine day on Risøy
Current condition of the streets.

Stage 1. Felles Dugnad

02. First move
Starting point can be a dialog between municipality, owners of the private property and current residents. It is important to introduce a common goal and to share responsibility. Residents can begin with small changes around their houses. This will already improve the appearance of the streets.

03. Opening of bike workshop
Private initiatives to introduce a healthier life

04. Municipality joins the process
Temporary green solutions on the sreets is a first move from the municipality.

Stage 2. Gravity points

05. Activity house
The existing activity house gets an open facade with the visual contact between the Sundgata and the indoor space. It gives more life to the street and attracts public. It's also a good place to open a little cafe.

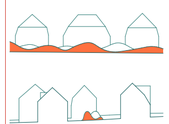
06. Market
This area has a unique identity with beautiful old wooden buildings and a square behind. We suggest to create here a local food market. Space can be organized both inside and outside. Belt of greenery will create a feeling of cozy enclosed square. The existing buildings should be preserved and can potentially be transformed into a restaurant market or a coworking space.

06. Market

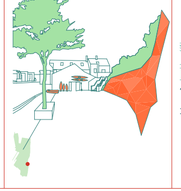
07. Around ferry station
Ferry station is placed in one of the ... Space is very narrow and produce great conditions to protect people that wait for ferry from wind and sewer nature conditions of Risøy.

08. Courtyard of the municipal block
The proposal is to define private outdoor territory of the buildings, but at the same time to create a public courtyard in the central area. The courtyard is open for everyone and has a connection with John Risøyens gate - the green artery which will connect two parks of the island

08. Courtyard of the municipal block
The main attraction of the courtyard is a special form of terrain. Several hills are formed to divide public space into a smaller gathering points. Such natural division does not destroy the solidness of the yard, but creates comfy meeting zones



09. Cayak rent



10. Open scene

11. Landscaping common coastline

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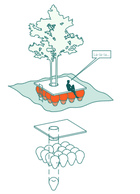
12. Northern park

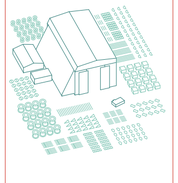
12. Northern park

13. Floating trees

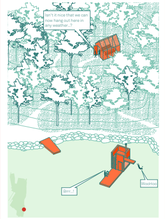


14. Underbridge amfi
Under the place, Risøy very unique to sit here under the bridge. Big stones, big wall.
Under the place is nice. Can't really say the same about the bridge.

15. Reuse of the production waste

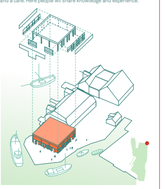


16. Floating Sauna
Sauna is a place where people can hang out here in the evenings.



17. Old bakery
One of the strategies is a municipal and community support for landlords wishing to improve their outdoor property or open commercial premises on the ground floor. Reopening of the old bakery is one of the scenarios of the activation of Sundgata.

18. Multifunctional boat center
The site has especially strong potential to become an important public place because of its connection between the Sundgata and Hasselø and a great panoramic view. The existing concrete structure can be transformed into amulti-functional boat -oriented public center , with the boat maintenance workshop, auditoriums and a cafe. Here people wi share knowledge and experience.



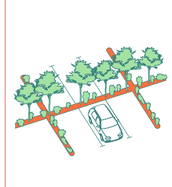
Stage 3. Big changes

19. Public greenhouse

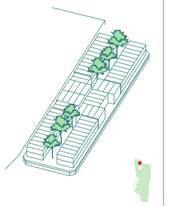
Public green house provides opportunity for islands citizens to spend time as close to nature as it can be all the year round. Back to back to each other neighbors can use it as a place to meet and as a place to grow food together. Also it is a place of project. Open space in front of the greenhouse could be used for different public activities. New structure is serving the goal to unite people and to strenth social connections on the Risøy.

20. Buffer zone
Green well between barracks and residential area becomes wider to create better sound and visual buffer for the residents living in the area. The main idea behind the proposal is to organize better welcoming zone with small public space on the hill that provide nice visual connection between historical buildings and area of the port. Board walk provides the development of the island and pieces of art could be great complimentarys to the square.

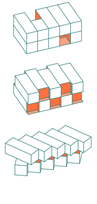
21. Greener parking



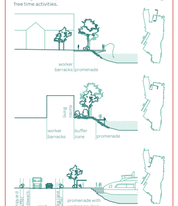
22. Worker barracks



23. Worker barracks.

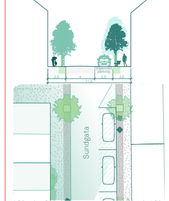


24. Promenade in the worker barracks area
Integration of temporary residents in the public activities by creating common public areas around the barracks and opening free time activities.

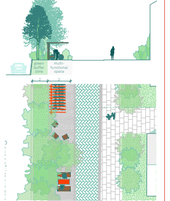


25. John Risøyens gate
The proposal is to change the two main residential streets into greener ones with shared spaces, organized parking and priority to pedestrians and cyclists. John Risøyens gate gets the role of a green connection between two existing parks with sitting groups, playgrounds and only accessible for ...

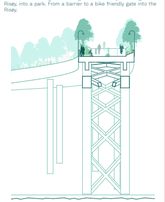
26. Sundgata
Sundgata is assumed as more lively public area with the access to the seashore and public premises.



27. Jens Risøyens gate
Green buffer zone of Jens Risøyens gate is transformed to a multifunctional green space.



28. The bridge
Opening of the new bridge in the southern part of the island in 2023 allows re-imagining of the role of the existing one. We suggest to convert the existing iconic bridge into a new symbol of greener Risøy, into a park. From a barrier to a bike friendly gate into the Risøy.



28. New accesses
Bridge park will be an experience by itself a fun green public space with beautiful viewpoints. Will attract residents of the other Haugesund islands and town center and tourists. Green hills on the sides are designed to serve as wind barrier for pedestrians and cyclists. New elements are created in the end of the bridge to make a variety of accesses to the island and to create a smoother transition between the bridge and residential streets.