

Introduction

Building on the concept of the existing bike and pedestrian network of Tygelsjöstigen, the Hyllie tegelstig project introduces a brick path that implements the idea of placemaking as a method to create a living urban environment in Hyllie. The project both reinforces the unique identity of this neighbourhood and corresponds to current traditions of human-oriented urban development in Malmö. The project reuses existing systems and local traditions in the area which can be summarised into four categories:

1. Train node

Rather than hiding the barrier of the railroad, this project aims to highlight Hyllie's unique spatial quality as a transport node linking Sweden to Denmark and the rest of Europe. This project therefore enhances the railroad instead of excluding it.

2. Water

By reusing the strong symbol of Hyllie's landmark water tower, instead of inventing a new graphical identity, this project readapts the design of the water tower in a set of reoccurring pavilions proposed on site. The theme of water also alludes to Hyllie's two existing waterparks, as well as its proximity to Øresund and its connection to Denmark.

3. Parks

The green areas of Hyllie are reminiscent of the time when Hyllie was characterised by farmland. Therefore this project focuses on readapting the landscape into a continuous green corridor translated into an urban context.

4. Avant-garde art

With the aim of introducing a living urban environment in Hyllie, the main focus of the project will be to implement various placemaking activities through public art. Using Malmö's reputation of being an experimental art scene in Sweden, Hyllie will reinvent this tradition by turning it into an outdoor multi-disciplinary art experience, accessible to all who roam the streets and parks of the neighbourhood.

The theoretical framework of the project is built on Danish psychologist Ingrid Gehl's eight criteria for social sustainability described in her book *Bo-miljø*¹, as well as the method of the Power of 10+, initiated by the organisation Project for Public Spaces². The research is used as a starting point to address the need for public spaces in Hyllie that support people's sense of safety and well-being, while also contributing to an inclusive, playful, dynamic, meaningful and attractive urban environment in the Malmö region.

The brick path

The brick path, which has given the project its name, flows through Hyllie like a thread connecting greenery, landmarks, nodes, public artworks, parks, housing, restaurants and enterprises. Together, they overcome the mental and physical barriers of the site. Hyllie tegelstig is an abstraction of the railroad that poetically extends beyond the tracks from its way from Denmark, into Hyllie through the brick path and then further on into the rest of Sweden. By introducing at least ten different types of activities along the brick path, Hyllie becomes dynamic and relevant for various groups of people regardless of age. The placemaking approach of the project serves as a platform for interdisciplinary collaborations with local stakeholders, associations and residents. The format of the brick path also refers to the qualities of forest paths that intrigue people to explore where they might lead. Just like the existing path of Tygelsjöstigen, Hyllie tegelstig offers a sensorial pedestrian and biking experience in Hyllie that encourages people to engage in outdoor activities.

The brick material

Brick as a material holds a deep cultural and architectural significance in Malmö and the wider Skåne region. Historically, it has been a durable, low-maintenance material shaped by the availability of clay-rich soil, which is abundant throughout the region. Even though there are no active brickyards left in Skåne, the

Terri Peters, "Social Sustainability in Context: rediscovering Ingrid Gehl's Bo-Miljø" ARQ 20, no. 4 (December 2016): 374-377. doi:10.1017/S1359135516000488

² Project for Public Spaces, "The Origin of the Power of 10," Project for Public Spaces, January 1, 2009, <https://www.pps.org/article/poweroften>.

historical location of this function was often situated adjacent to the railroad.³ Using brick as the building material for the path sheds light on this tradition in a poetic way. Leftover products of the construction of the brick path, such as dismantled asphalt, will be used as material in one of the artworks along Hyllie tegelstig.

By working with recycled brick and site-extracted clay, the project reduces dependence on carbon-intensive construction materials like concrete and steel, while reviving a material culture that is both inherently sustainable and regionally specific. In doing so, Hyllie tegelstig, as well as the residential area of Hyllie bostadsskog, become not just places to live, but places that tell the story of Malmö's land, materials, and people—past and future.

Mental barriers

This project reflects on the presence of emotions as a connecting and bridging feature in the urban environment. Using the same logic as when seeing a familiar face on the other side of a road, where the personal connection to someone you know suddenly decreases the experienced spatial distance, this project explores how feelings can have an impact on people's sense of barriers. Regardless of whether people appreciate or dislike a certain artwork, public art has the power to engage people and make them feel something. As such, this type of activity in public space has the potential to bridge mental barriers in the urban fabric.

Art as a mental bridge

Hyllie tegelstig is an outdoor art experience including both existing and new artworks on site. In order to create a dynamic urban experience, the path will include different art forms such as murals, sound art, light art, a seasonally curated outdoor art exhibition, as well as poetry built into the brick path. Besides offering a varied experience along the Hyllie tegelstig, the artworks become a tool to mentally bridge the barriers in Hyllie.

A 100 meters long mural along the concrete walls of Annetorpsvägen tells the story of Hyllie from its days of farmland to its vision for the future. By distributing the story on both sides of Annetorpsvägen, mental distances decrease as people focus on the story told by the artwork rather than the disturbing traffic on the road. The story-telling quality of the mural is an incentive for people to cross the road and follow the artwork's narrative. Through its circulation flow, Hyllie tegelstig guides people to overcome the physical barrier of Annetorpsvägen via the existing bridge next to Malmömassan as well as a new decking proposed on the other side of the mural art experience. In order to create an urban environment in Hyllie characterised by contrasts and varied experiences, this project does not propose a complete decking above Annetorpsvägen. This also makes the mural relevant to people in Hyllie as well as commuters passing by at Annetorpsvägen or via the railroad, where a similar mural will be installed on the concrete walls of the station.

Linked together through the brick path, Hyllie's public artworks will create a continuity in the urban experience that mentally connects different parts of Hyllie in spite of geographical distance. As such, the communal identity of Hyllie will be united around a clear concept that offers a varied and meaningful experience of the built environment.

Tågkajen

With reference to the idea mentioned earlier of how feelings can act as a mental bridge between places, the intervention of Tågkajen will connect this proposal's residential area, Hyllie bostadsskog, to the planned area of Mallbo. Housing areas on both sides of the railroad will become mentally and physically connected by a "train dock path", which will be linked to the brick path system but also work on its own creating a pedestrian circulation flow from the east to the west side of the rail tracks. Besides being a social meeting spot where services such as restaurants and small enterprises intersect, Tågkajen enhances the presence and identity of the railroad in Hyllie. At Tågkajen the connection to the rest of Europe is represented in a format that imitates the idea of a harbour dock, which is nowadays often used as a space that combines social interaction with circulation flows in cities.

³ Länsstyrelsen Skåne, "Tegelbruk," Länsstyrelsen, Accessed June 29, 2025, <https://www.lansstyrelsen.se/skane/besoksmal/kulturmiljoprogram/kulturmiljoprogram-skane-historia-och-utveckling/kulturmiljoprogram-industrins-landskap/tegelbruk.html>.

Physical barriers

With Hyllie's recent history of being a farmland 25 years ago, this project aims to rediscover the pervading landscape that historically characterised the area of Hyllie. By tracing the existing and planned greenery of Hyllie, the project proposes park interventions that reinvent a continuous green corridor stretching from Kroksbäcksparken all the way to Dagvattenparken.

Located north of Annetorpsvägen is the park Hyllierankans odlingsområde. This project proposes an extension of that park across the new decking above the highway, which consequently connects it to Mässparken on the south side of Annetorpsvägen and further down to Vattenparken. In addition to that, the connection between Vattenparken and Dagvattenparken will be physically strengthened with a green pedestrian and bike bridge over the railroad.

The location of the new wooden bridge will position the water tower as a beacon when walking from the south to the north side of the railroad. Just like the brick path, the water tower serves as an important symbol for this proposal. The project reuses the existing status of Hyllie's water tower as a predominant object of orientation in the neighbourhood. Consequently, a wooden pavilion inspired by the shape of the water tower will be located on various spots alongside the brick path as a framework used for exhibiting art, serving food and drinks as well as being a resting place along the Hyllie tegelstig. The reoccurring pavilion typology also contributes to the level of orientation and recognition in the area, which serves as yet another instrument to mentally bridge different parts of Hyllie.

Hyllie bostadsskog

The name of the project's housing area, Hyllie bostadsskog, is inspired by the Dutch structuralism project Woningenwoud⁴, which is an example of how public and private space can blend into each other while still creating a spatial contrast between housing, community buildings and nature. In order to meet the goal of the City of Malmö to implement the 3-30-300 model⁵, this project proposes a large park between the residential houses in Hyllie bostadsskog. The park will support biodiversity through a natural landscape based on the existing topography and water area, which will be connected to the pond in the adjacent Dagvattenparken.

The residential houses of Hyllie bostadsskog answer to the wish of the City of Malmö to have more small-scale architecture in Hyllie.⁶ By combining two types of typologies and ownership models, the goal is to support socio-economic diversity among the residents of Hyllie bostadsskog. The bigger apartment buildings will apply a similar model as the one planned for the neighbouring area of Mallbo, while the smaller structures will introduce the reborn management model of *Egnahemsrörelsen*.⁷ In recent years, the city architect of Malmö, Finn Williams, has advocated a renaissance of this model.⁸ In the spirit of this current trend, the project proposes a model of urban living where municipally owned land in Hyllie bostadsskog will be offered to a self-building cooperative. Through a land lease system, individuals and families will be given the opportunity to construct their own homes. To ensure architectural quality across the neighbourhood, the City of Malmö is proposed to provide pre-designed architectural drawings. These will serve both as a source of inspiration and as a framework, guiding self-builders while maintaining cohesive aesthetics for the area.

The architectural concept emphasises community, sustainability, and flexibility. Each home will be integrated into a larger structure that includes generous shared spaces and extensive opportunities for urban cultivation, from rooftop gardens to communal planting beds. A central atrium courtyard will form the heart of each cluster, which can be programmed and shaped by the cooperative's residents to reflect their collective needs, be it a greenhouse, gathering space, play area, or open-air kitchen. This approach combines the individuality of self-building with the social and environmental benefits of collective living, contributing to a more inclusive, participatory, and ecologically grounded urban development.

⁴ E. Smit, "The story of another way of drawing. Structuralist architectural drawings in het speelhuis by Piet Blom" Bulletin KNOB 117, no. 2 (January 2018)

⁵ Green Cities Europe, "Fakta om 3-30-300," Green Cities Europe, Accessed June 29, 2025, <https://se.thegreencities.eu/fakta-om-3-30-300/>

⁶ Site Brief, European 18 Malmö (SE) page. 14.

⁷ Regeringskansliet, "Ny egnahemsrörelse ska öka byggandet av småhus," Regeringskansliet, Accessed June 29, 2025, <https://www.regeringen.se/pressmeddelanden/2024/05/ny-egnahemsrorelse-ska-oka-byggandet-av-smahus/>

⁸ Socialt Byggnade, "Made by many – Att öka mångfalden av vem som bygger våra livsmiljöer," November 7, 2023, presentation by Finn Williams, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2XS0GQGIpN0>.

Placemaking activities in Hyllie

Stationstorget

Wooden pavilions that create semi-enclosed spaces sheltering from the wind. They also function as booths for exhibiting artworks made by the local community. In order to contribute to social interaction at Stationstorget, brick furnitures and a café pavilion will be placed centrally on the square.

Vattenparken

Existing artworks will be highlighted due to their proximity to Hyllie tegelstig. In order to meet the local community's desire for more coffeeshops, an additional café pavilion will be located in Vattenparken. In the slope situated north-east of the water tower, a sound artwork inspired by the journey of a water drop from Øresund to Malmö will resonate from yet another pavilion. As a tool to soften the ground with more greenery, much of the asphalt currently present in Vattenparken will be removed. In order to repurpose the visual expression of the remaining asphalt of Vattenparken, a street painting will be introduced at the places where it has not been removed.

Annetorpsvägen

A mural along the concrete walls of the motorway will be painted on both sides of the road. Brick furniture will be placed alongside the brick path next to Annetorpsvägen in order to make the artwork more accessible to people. The decking above the motorway includes another pavilion serving food and drinks in a park connecting Hyllierankans odlingsområde with Mässparken.

Railroad

Likewise, a mural painting along the concrete walls of the station will be installed on both sides of the rail tracks. The trackbed will consist of a herb plantation with the vision to make the rail tracks area more green and aesthetically interesting.

Hyllie bostadsskog

A community building including cultural activities will be centrally located in the park of the residential area of Hyllie bostadsskog. Besides offering workshop spaces for the artists, children and local community engaged in the art curation for Hyllie tegelstig, the community building also offers bike service, music studios and a communal kitchen serving food and drinks. Another communal meeting spot in Hyllie bostadsskog is the sports field that offers activities such as bouldering, dancing, basket ball and gymnastics.

Dagvattenparken

The concrete wall next to the railroad will be kept in place, but slightly redesigned by cladding it in brick. At some places, the brick wall transforms into furniture, plant beds and art exhibition booths. The original wall will be partly dismantled in order to create a pedestrian and bike bridge connecting Dagvattenparken to Vattenparken.

Wind and Noise Mitigation

The landscape and architectural design work together to mitigate wind and reduce noise. The use of greenery—trees, shrubs, and vegetated screens—acts as a porous buffer rather than a solid barrier. Unlike solid walls that simply redirect wind, these natural elements diffuse and soften airflow, reducing its intensity while contributing to acoustic dampening. Overhead canopies further enhance this effect by deflecting wind from above and absorbing sound. Together, these features create a series of pocket spaces that offer quiet, sheltered zones for rest and social interaction. This principle is echoed in the design of the Egna Hem homes, where central atriums provide calm interior courtyards protected from external environmental stressors. Building placement and the articulation of façades also play a crucial role. Their dynamic configurations break up prevailing wind paths and redirect airflow, thereby reducing wind pressure and enhancing pedestrian comfort. Art installations are not only aesthetic interventions but also functional elements within this strategy. Positioned thoughtfully—particularly around the Stationstorget—they serve as sculptural windbreakers and help shape a more comfortable and temperate microclimate in key public areas.

Implementation

Please see the diagrammatic description at page 2 on the proposal's A1 poster.