Aerial view with the strategic site

CATEGORY urban/architectural

LOCATION Estö, Nynäshamn
POPULATION city 13 000, municipality 26 000
STRATEGIC SITE 17 ha
PROJECT SITE 6 ha
SITE PROPOSED BY the municipality of Nynäshamn
OWNER OF THE SITE the municipality of Nynäshamn

COMMISSION AFTER THE COMPETITION
Detail planning commission. Landscape development.

TRANSFORMATION OF SITE
In the middle of the last century, the site was a vibrant part of Nynäshamn, serving the community with often-frequented sports fields. During the last two decades it has been losing in significance and most of the major sports activities have been relocated to the north of the town. When these activities ceased, a rift in the urban fabric occurred, causing a perceived distance between the central town and the southern district of Estö.

The main task is to develop a scheme that again transforms the area into an attractive public space, which has the capacity to tie the town and its parts together. The urbanistic task has here to be performed with predominantly landscape means. The competitor must suggest a suitable programme that may contain mixed functions, possibly with an emphasis on leisure activity and nature features. As the ground of the open field is close to sea level and therefore threatened by flooding, it is not possible to erect larger permanent buildings, something that however may be considered for the surrounding heights.

CITY STRATEGY
The growth of the town is in many ways connected to infrastructure. The harbour is ice free, and is of major importance as a goods port for the Stockholm region. It is currently undergoing a large expansion. Nynäshamn is connected to Stockholm by local train and by a newly built motorway. A local train station has just been constructed close to the site, something that further increases the pressure for transformation of the area. The original city plan, developed in 1915 by planner Per Olof Hallman is still considered as an important framework for the expansion of the town.

Nynäshamn - Sweden - Europan 11

Central park



Aerial view from the west, Photo Carina Albin, Nynäshamns Posten



Aerial photo with the project site

SITE DEFINITION

The project site is an ancient seabed and comparatively flat, surrounded by a hilly landscape. To the west is a leisure harbour with the closest water line. Directly north of the site, the railroad forms a clear boundary. It is possible to cross it through a pedestrian bridge, part of a well used path that connects central Nynäshamn with the area of Estö. To the south and southwest is a large residential area, mostly consisting of apartment blocks but also some single-family villas. Two main streets pass through the site, meeting in a junction. At the junction are presently a gas station, an outdoor bus garage and a small old kiosk transformed into a popular Thai restaurant.

NEW MOBILITY

Mobility and transportation are key elements for the site. Larger scale transportation systems as the railroad line and the road connecting to the ferry harbour and further to Stockholm influence the site and its local communication structure. Identifying or engendering the right combination of passages, nodes and activity centres is the key to bringing forward the transitional and connective qualities of the site.

NEW WAYS OF LIFE

For this site, the question of mobility is closely connected to that of lifestyle. The area may be formed as an asset for the nearby residents in terms of activity, leisure and play, as well as culture and contemplation. This is further accentuated by the proximity to nature and the archipelago.

NEW SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainability is here first of all perceived as having a long timeframe. The gradual and extremely slow transformation of the landscape is a strong feature of the site, present in the geological structure with its demarcated outcrops. If the sea level rises as predicted, large parts of the area may be flooded within 100 years. A strategic approach towards a long-term sustainable development needs to be part of the design scheme.



Aerial view from the west, Photo Carina Albin, Nynäshamns Posten

Nynäshamn - Sverige - Europan 11



The harbour in the centre



Occational flooding on the site



Entering the site from the east



The old swith gear building