



Category Urban/Architectural

Location Augustenborg, Municipality of Sønderborg

Population Municipality of Sønderborg (77,000);

Augustenborg (3,300)

Study site 1,520,000 m²

Site of project Nordhavn: about 16,000 m²; embankment: about 7,500 m²; marina: 80,000 m²

Site proposed by Municipality of Sønderborg:

www.sonderborg.dk

Owner of site Municipality of Sønderborg, private property

Order after competition Participation in the development of a masterplan for the area.

TRANSFORMATION OF SITE

The area selected currently seems fragmented, characterised by large open plains, forests, the sea, a dense urban conglomeration, palace and spaces that remain unused after the discontinuation of harbour and industrial activities. These spaces feature different scales and morphologies. Old town houses located close to one another stand adjacent to large silos and rough industrial buildings, while rigidly laid-out baroque park areas lie beside the natural, meandering beach landscape. Various clashes between these morphologies and various transitions between the scales occur, and it is desirable that the future development of the area takes these fragmented spaces into account and utilises the dynamics generated by the clashes, just as it should accentuate the contrasts that exist in the area. Augustenborg is located in the Sønderborg area, which is one of the southernmost municipalities in Denmark, separated from Germany only by Flensburg Fjord. Augustenborg is a unique and attractive place to live and also a popular destination for yachtpeople and tourists. In addition to its strong historical and

architectural identity generated by its palace, Augustenborg is characterised by a distinctive landscape and a strong presence of water. A geography book from 1830 contains the following description: "Augustenborg, a palace and a small town 5.5 kilometres from Sønderborg on the island of Als, residence of the Duke of Augustenborg located in an extremely charming area full of the most beautiful forests." In many respects, this description applies to Augustenborg even today

CITY STRATEGY

Sønderborg wishes to become one of the most dynamic and attractive growth centres in the fields of business development, human well-being and culture by 2020. That is why the local government focuses on two broad development themes: The University City for Everyone and The Landscape for Everyone. Augustenborg town and harbour are essential elements in this vision and in the realisation of the overall goals. The Municipality of Sønderborg has one of the longest coastlines in Denmark, which is why there is a natural focus on the blue element: the water, the coasts, the straits, the belts and the fjords.



SITE DEFINITION

The study site consists of three areas: the Nordhavn, the marina and the embankment. The harbour area on the northern side covers an area of about 16,000 m², while the area on the southern side is about 80,000 m² large and the embankment about 7,500 m². The object is to convert the existing harbour area into a residential, living and leisure area that also attracts tourists. The new harbour area must impose more 'urbanity' on the existing town while at the same time tying together the striking land- and waterscape into a whole with the existing town. In order to make the most of the potential of the fjord, the connection between the two sides must be strengthened and visual contact with the water ensured from both new and existing buildings and future activities. Public access to the water and the harbour area must be retained. New functions such as public institutions, cultural activities for citizens and tourists alike, and bridges or stairs providing access to the water must be incorporated into the project. The harbour should be a place where people can meet informally.

TRANSFORMATION OF SITE

Located about 30 kilometres from Flensburg, the town of Sønderborg is connected with the E45 motorway by two main roads. By 2013, the main

oad will be expanded into a new four-lane motorway directly connected with the E45. The railway to Sønderborg is linked with the trans-European railway system. A modern airport is located eight kilometres north of the town centre. From the island of Als, there are ferry links to Jutland, Funen and Ærø. Augustenborg town is situated about nine kilometres from Sønderborg. An extensive network of roads, bicycle routes and paths leads to the town, just as there are well-developed public transport services. The primary access to Augustenborg is along the embankment at the harbour.

SOCIAL LIFE

Augustenborg currently has about 3,300 inhabitants. The town was built up around the palace, which serves as its landmark. The palace was originally a ducal residence, but since the war in 1848 the buildings have been used for such different purposes as garrison, hospital and a German teacher training college for women. In 1932, the palace was converted into a psychiatric hospital, which generated many jobs in the town. The hospital is now the largest workplace in the town and has influenced the population mix for many years. In addition to the hospital, there are some small business enterprises on the outskirts of the town. Augustenborg is a well-functioning, harmonious town that offers a wide

range of leisure activities for people of all ages: sports hall, a golf course, etc. The town is currently a predominantly residential conglomeration from which people commute to Sønderborg (about nine kilometres away) or to the Danfoss company in the northern part of the island (about 18 kilometres away). The town has a single high street, Slotsgade, with shops, banks and other service functions but, because of the proximity of Sønderborg and its shopping centres, commercial life in the town is on the decline. Augustenborg is not a suburb of Sønderborg, but in itself an attractive place for people to live. There is a school, a kindergarten, day-care facilities and a nursing home in the town, all of which meet the town's current needs and requirements.

NEW SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

The goal is to make the Municipality of Sønderborg carbon-neutral by 2029 and to ensure that it will be a growth and development area in which architecture, cultural heritage and functionality are consistent with this goal. It is crucial that the design of new buildings is based on sustainable principles, and new local plans will require that, as a minimum, all new buildings are Class 1 low-energy buildings (as defined in the Danish building regulations).

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