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E17 Norway Jury Report





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E17 Norway Jury Report Åkrehamn



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European 17 in Norway

European is an innovation process for architecture and urban development, centered around an open competition of ideas for architects, landscape architects, and urban planners under the age of 40. The European competition takes place every 2 years with European 17 being the 17th edition.

In European 17, 51 competition sites from 12 different European countries were launched at the same time connected by the theme Living Cities 2: Care.

For European 17 there were 5 sites in Norway:

- Larvik, represented by Larvik municipality.
- Krøgenes, represented by Arendal municipality
- Åkrahamn, represented by Karmøy municipality
- Østmarka, represented by Trondheim municipality
- Grensen, represented by NTNU (Norwegian University of science and technology)

European-Norway is a foundation that organizes the European process in Norway. The secretariat of European Norway is run by Kaleidoscope Nordic.

For questions and inquiries, contact:

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General Secretary of European Norway

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The composition of the jury

Ida Winge Andersen

President of the jury. M. Architect, company director, and partner at Rebuilding.

Jacob Kamp

Partner and creative director at 1:1 Landskab .

Eli Grønn

M. of Architecture and Urbanism MNAL, partner and leader for Urbanism and Planning with Dyrvik Architects.

Luis Basabe Montalvo

Founding partner of ARENAS BASABE PALACIOS ARQUITECTOS.

Katariina Haigh

M. Architect, Project Development Director at Asuntosäätiö.

Ilkka Törmä

M. Architect, urban designer and researcher, editor-in-chief at Outlines

Eili Vigestad Berge

Director of sustainability and public relations at Mustad Eiendom.

Substitutes:**Cristian Ștefănescu**

Owner of a-works Assistant Professor, Bergen School of Architecture

Merete Gunnes

M.Sc Landscape Architect MNLA and founder of TAG landscape.

The jury procedure

The competition is organized as a tender under the Norwegian rules public procurements as a "Plan-og Designkonkurransen" Listed on the TED database and according to the Rules for European 17.

As stated by the rules for European 17, the jury met 2 times per site. The first jury meeting selected a shortlist of a maximum of 25% of submitted entries. The second jury meeting selects the winner(s), runner-ups, and special mentions.

Technical Committee

The secretariat for European Norway made up the technical committee. The technical committee prepares the jury process, controls the eligibility of the proposals, and takes notes of the jury discussions.

The Technical committee consisted of Tone Berge, Bjørnar Haveland, and Andrea Pérez Montesdeoca.

The 1st jury round

The purpose of the 1st jury round is to select a shortlist for the second and final round of the jury. The site representative participates as a jury member with one vote. The jury met for a full day per site. The meeting was conducted using the A1 printed boards of the proposals and Miro as a digital exhibition.

The 1st jury round took place the 14.09.2023 in Åkrehamn.

Attending:

From the jury: Ida Winge Andersen, Jacob Kamp, Eli Grønn, Luis Basabe Montalvo, Katariina Haigh, Ilkka Törmä and Eili Vigestad Berge.

From the technical committee: Tone Berge and Bjørnar Haveland

From the site: Kristian Endresen and Vignje Winje

Midpoint dialogue meeting between jury and site representatives

A dialogue meeting was held between jury leader Ida Winge and jury members Jacob Kamp, Katariina Haigh, Luis Basabe Montalvo, and the site representatives at the European Forum for cities and juries in Vienna on the 11th of November 2023.

The 2nd jury round

Selection of winner, runner up, special mentions.

Conducted as a physical meeting on the 12th of November 2023, also in Vienna.

In this meeting the site representatives participate as an observer, with the right to make a statement at the start, but without any vote.

Members of the board of European Norway can also be present, but just as observers.

The decision of the jury is final and independent.

Attending:

From the jury: Ida Winge Andersen, Jacob Kamp, Eli Grønn, Luis Basabe Montalvo, Katariina Haigh, Ilkka Törmä and Eili Vigestad Berge.

From the secretariat: Tone Berge, Bjørnar Haveland, Andrea Perez Montesdeoca.

From the board: Marianne Skjulhaug

From the site: Kristian Endresen and Vignleik Winje

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
01	Shortlisted	MC855	Grønn og glad	Winner: 12 000 Euro prize
02	Shortlisted	XT796	Stitching together	Runner-Up: 3000 Euro prize
03	Shortlisted	PU810	Symbiotic Landscape	Runner-Up: 3000 Euro prize
04	Shortlisted	GA752	Spirit of simplicity	<p>The jury gives credit to well-studied and represented street redesigns. They provide a useful tool to discuss one important topic in Åkrehamn with the stakeholders. Secondly, the need and recognition of wind-sheltered public spaces is a welcomed observation.</p> <p>The new proposed plaza is oversized for this small town, competing with the existing town squares. Ideas about infill building, ecological concepts and green roofs remain too abstract. Overall the proposal is somewhat conventional in its aims and while simplicity can be good, the proposal does not offer enough to build a vision for Åkrehamn.</p>
05		IC622	Åkra is almost alright	<p>The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury valued the thoughtful programming of certain buildings and their illustrations that could engage the public. However, the proposal is too focused on these separate buildings and their choice is not sufficiently argued. Another idea that the jury acknowledged having potential, is the rerouting of the county road around the central block, thus strengthening the walkability towards the harbour. Beyond these, the proposal is undeveloped; it appears to lack the capacity to tackle the various challenges presented by the site comprehensively and convincingly.</p>
06		JL875	A forest with clearings	<p>The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury found the concept of the city as a forest with clearings interesting as it suggests an ecological approach. However, the execution of this promising idea falls short and appears contradictory: the "clearings", meaning the key public spaces in Åkra, are the planted places, while otherwise, there is little forest in the town. The proposal is concerned with the detailed design of the squares, but the designs and their reasoning are challenging to comprehend. On the strategic level, the proposal is thin and does not deliver a holistic proposal for the town centre.</p>
07		OW292	Reconciling the city with the sea	<p>The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury acknowledges the concept of bringing the city back to the sea, but this concept is not depicted in the proposal clearly. There are interesting elements such as boathouses by the sea, a seafood theme, and multipurpose buildings near Elkjøp that frame the park. Nevertheless, the proposal appears as a collection of ideas about buildings and lacks a cohesive concept and overarching urban vision to masterplan Åkrehamn's development.</p>

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
08		TH709	Sharing time!	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The strength of the proposal is in the first board: the jury praises the proposal for understanding the need for a process to develop the town and the importance of engaging and involving the citizens. The proposal does so with do-it-yourself culture as a tactic, which might well work in Åkrehamn. The proposal focuses on Rådhusgaten street: redesigning the street and lining it with new buildings. However, there are issues with the proximity of the proposed buildings and the proposed architecture falls short of showing qualities that can engage the street. The proposal does not address nor communicate wider mobility; it seems to be closing potential routes to the Rådhusgaten. Some drawings are not explained sufficiently or linked to the text-based ideas, making it difficult to understand certain solutions.
09		UA053	Land(m)Åkr(s)	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury appreciates the proposal for structuring the town with different levels of mobility, although the proposal lacks clarity in what that entails concretely. A useful observation in the proposal is the relationship between the cultural centre and the soon-to-be-vacated school building and the goal to utilize it. However, the challenge lies in the excessive plazas in the small town, and the reasoning for the parking solution that further enlarges such space. The project's drawback is its focus on separate themes without demonstrating connections between them.
10		YZ408	Sharing is caring	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The concepts of the commons, sharing and participation are commendable. For example, the idea that car parks could be seen as multipurpose areas that could be drive-in cinemas. That gives a unique twist to the large amount of surface parking in Åkrehamn. Unfortunately, the ideas and concepts remain underdeveloped as a masterplan, which is a significant drawback and without which the project lacks a backbone.



Create bold plans for how Åkrehamn can develop from a fragmented, car-based landscape into an attractive, urban town centre.

Flexibility and adaptability to different uses. There is a will to invest in Åkrehamn, but it is still a small place where each new building is a considerable investment. New proposals should explore flexible uses for buildings such as housing that can easily be converted to commercial use and vice versa.

How can a new urban center connect to the harbor and the breathtaking landscape?

Summary of the task

The goal is to give Åkrehamn a vital and functional centre that promotes more walking and biking. We need a plan for how the existing urban structure can be strengthened, and how the centre can be strengthened through developing the connections between the harbour and the main road.

The site has massive potential for both new construction and transformation of existing structures. We see this area as the key for achieving a sustainable urban environment in Åkrehamn and create stronger continuity in the urban fabric.

How can the site be developed to create an attractive town centre? How can the sustainable city simultaneously be a place for businesses, retail, and a preferred place to live in an area currently dominated by suburban housing?

How can we create high-quality and inclusive outdoor areas and urban spaces? How can the town be better connected to the sea, the beach and its natural surroundings?

The task is to make an overarching urban plan, one that can convincingly allow room for ambitious visions and realistic processes for implementation. Show how the vision can be implemented in the immediate, short, medium and long term.

General remarks

The main tasks outlined by the competition brief were to create an attractive city center, showing the potential for both new construction and renovation as well as creating high-quality outdoor areas in an overarching urban plan. The jury saw the key challenge to be giving coherence and vibrancy to the existing, dispersed town structure.

Having viewed all of the competition proposals, it is clear that mending the urban fabric, creating conceivable city spaces and finding the identity of Åkrehamn has not been easy. Perhaps the proposals show us that there is not ONE solution that does the trick. And maybe even more controversially, that architecture alone cannot answer the task.

Looking at the aerial photos of Åkra, seeing the town center – and the study site around it with a beach, a harbor, fields and sea, the city center looks empty. Densely knit suburban fabric surrounds the less dense town center. The only real dense urban place within the town center is the old harbor.

The jury has thus favored proposals that aim to solve the city on more than one level in a balanced way; successful proposals have combined different scales or worked simultaneously on town blocks, streets and the landscape. The most interesting proposals managed to create a clear vision of how to sensibly connect the harbor with the 'new' city center. These proposals also linked the urban fabric to its underlying and surrounding landscape. Finally, successful proposals had something to help get local stakeholders on board, whether that was a well-communicated theme in the proposal or a sense of excitement about the place.

So, what is needed to turn the competition proposals into successful planning? Is it an overall conceptual plan, a toolbox, a set of city-building rules or a very detailed and prescriptive plan covering all areas of the city center? Or is it something that can inspire the various stakeholders to join the process? Åkrehamn needs all of the above in a good mix to create the necessary city hierarchy and participation. It is the clear recommendation from the jury that the winning proposal work together with the 2 runners up to form a coherent strategy on many scales for the renewal of Åkrahamn.

Winner



Winner



Winner



Winner



Winne



Winner



Winner



Winner



Winner



Winne

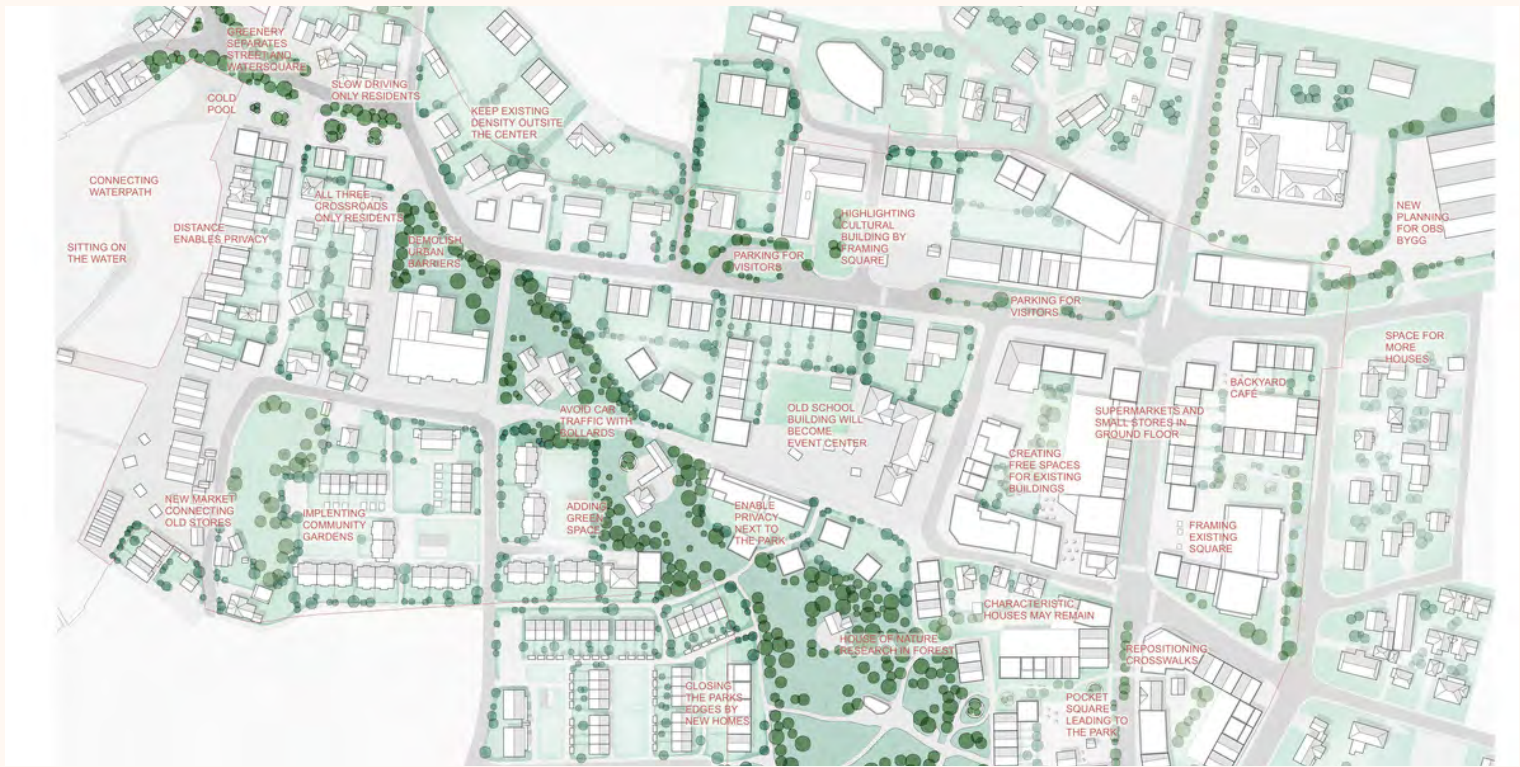
Winner

MC855 – Grønn og glad

On the large scale, the project “Grønn og Glad – A Community of All Beings” proposes a clear strategy to generate an urban centrality for Åkrehamn by developing and extending the existing North-South green belt into a clearly defined central spine. This structure, reaching all the way from the beach to the old harbor, connects the natural qualities that surround Åkra with a row of existing programs in the center to create a common narrative. Although some specific situations proposed in this green belt do not seem easily realizable, the jury sees in it a narrative clear and strong enough to lead its gradual development, capable of giving Åkrehamn from the very moment an image of its missing centre.

Beside this big move, the proposal identifies the urban block as the key scale, in which this rather dispersed urban situation has a chance to become an urban structure.

Subsequently, it proposes a set of tools to regulate a transformation of the blocks, both in their role of generating spatially clear outsides and programmed living insides. The Jury sees in the idea of redefining Åkrehamn by the reinforcement of its urban cells a credible response to the informal dynamics, which seem to have been the motor of this area’s urban development up to today. At the same time, it opens possibilities for the public actors –the municipality– to get integrated with a leading role in this complex process.



The scale of the proposed buildings are successful both at keeping with Åkras architectural identity while showing how carefully placed taller buildings successfully can contribute to reinforcing urban qualities.

The jury has observed with some skepticism the over-dimensioning of public spaces in the project, especially in the number of urban squares. On the one hand, they do not seem credible with an urban density and intensity like Åkrehamn's. On the other hand, they would reduce the intensity of both the green centrality and the greater definition of urban space created by the new blocks.

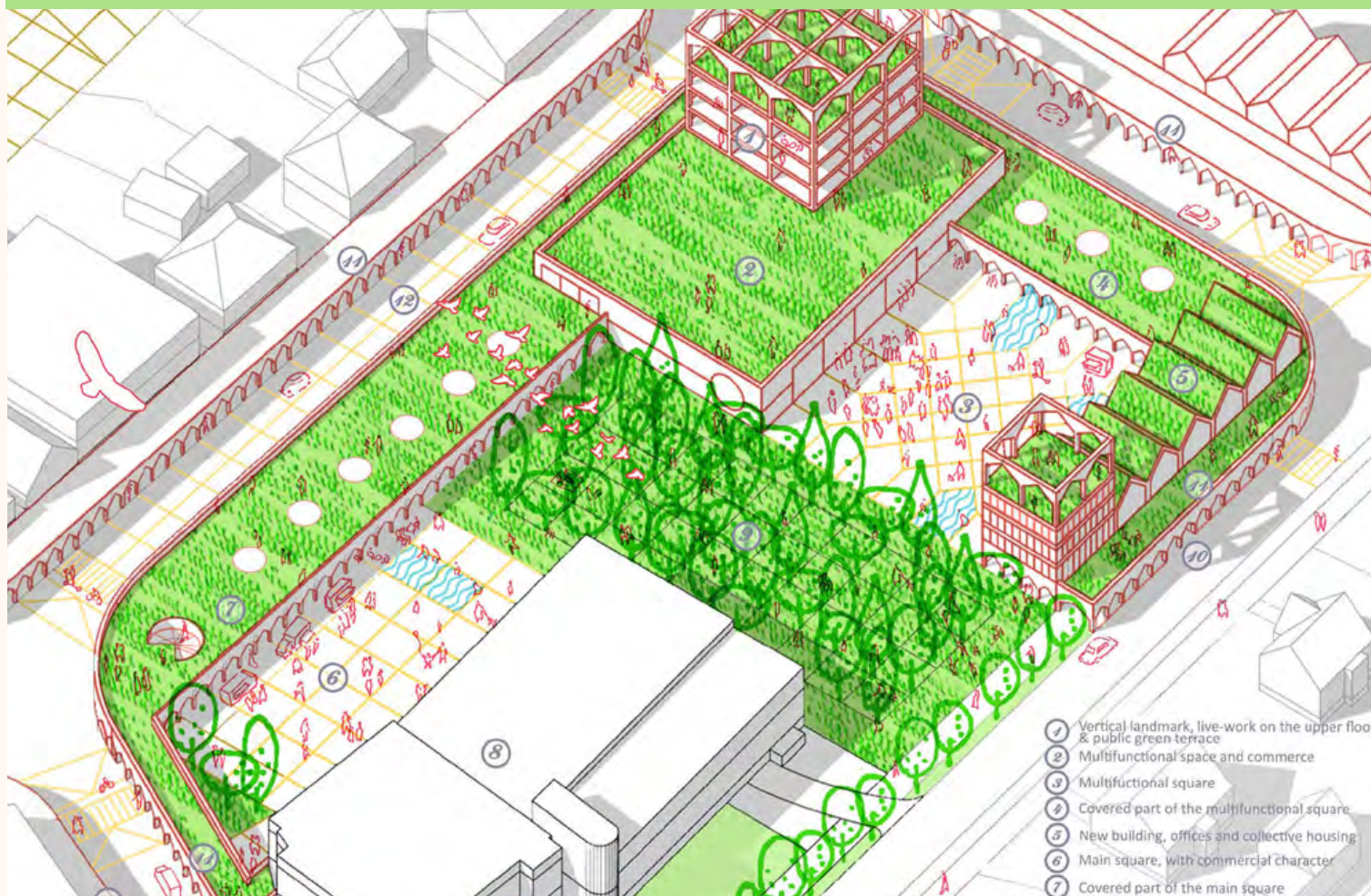
Finally, the Jury acknowledges the emphasis placed by the project on using and enhancing what is already there, what increases its ecological, social and economic resilience, and therefore its credibility.

Authors:

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Tobias Herr (DE), architect
Ben Thullesen (DE), architect

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Runner-Up

XT796 - Stitching together

Stitching together provides Åkrehamn with a wealth of suggestions. Some of the ideas are provocative and exaggerated, obscuring the foundations of the proposal and making it difficult to communicate to stakeholders. Nevertheless, the proposal is built on well-thought-out and presented master-plan basics. It emanates excitement and optimism about the town, which might serve Åkrehamn well in the upcoming planning work.

The most prominent ideas are arcades and stoaes that Stitching together proposes to unify the town centre, bestow it with identity, and provide shelter from the elements. The amount of arcades is overblown, and their implementation would be problematic in several ways. However, in places, stoaes could work as intended, giving integrity and intimacy to shapeless, oversized squares or undefined streets.



Most successfully, *Stitching together* demonstrates how to turn the backyard-like area between Rådhusvegen and the old road to the harbour, Åkravegen, into legible streets and town blocks. The proposal has placed infill buildings to form compact blocks and complemented that with a boldly extensive redesign of the streets and revamp of the surface parking. Central city blocks of Åkrehamn take shape.

Another great goal of *Stitching together* is to extend access to the waterside of the harbour. A key element is a pier in front of the private waterfront plots. While not an easy solution to implement, the pier could be transformative for the harbour in combination with other public space improvements proposed by the water.

Finally, the tentative schedule of the various projects provides insight into a strategy to revitalize and transform Åkrehamn, giving the vision a much-needed time perspective and priority.

Authors:

- Ana-Maria Branea (RO), architect urbanist
- Marius Stelian Gaman (RO), architect urbanist
- Anamaria Bujanca (RO), architect
- Romina Popescu (RO), architect
- Alexandru Mihailescu (RO), architect

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Runner-up



Runner-up



Runner-up



Runner-up



Runner-up



Runner-up



Runner-up



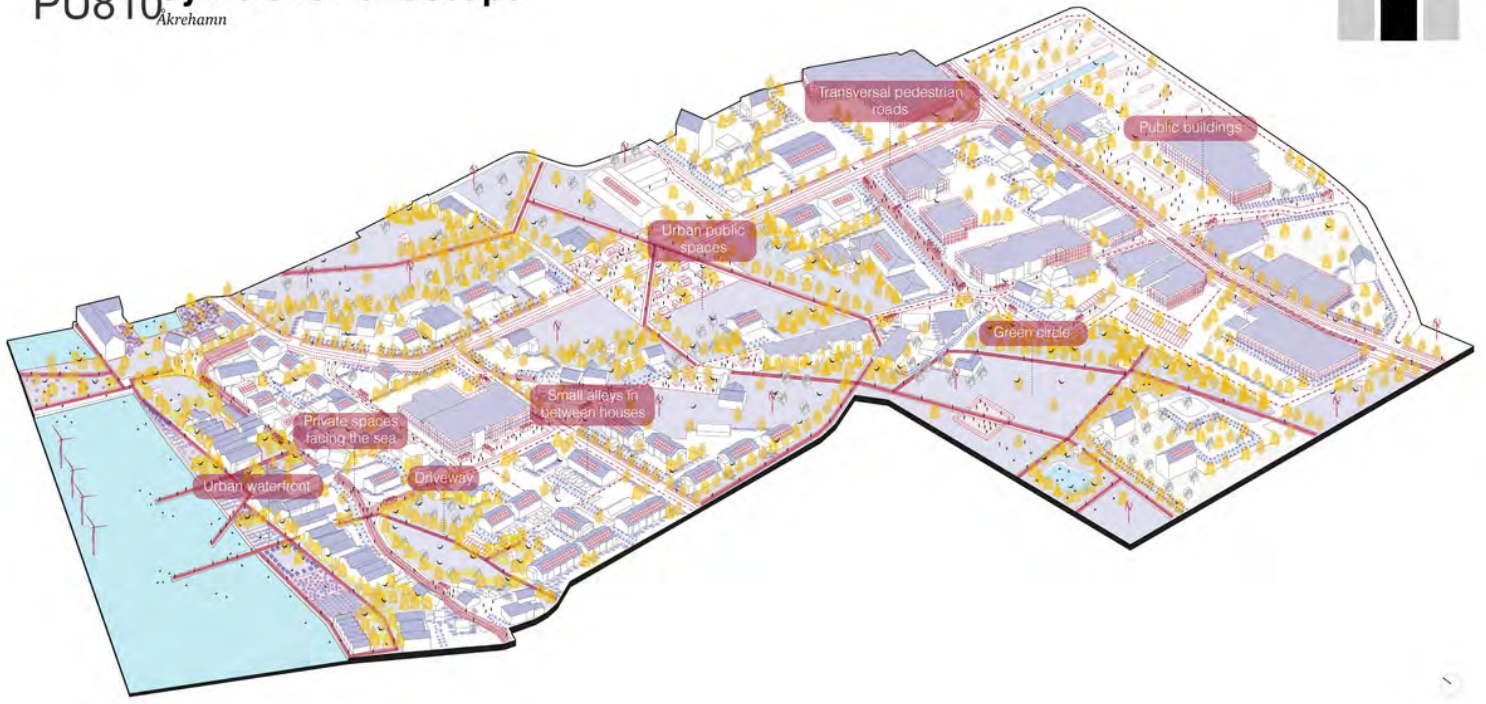
Runner-up

Runner-Up

PU810 - Symbiotic Landscape

Symbiotic Landscape focuses on a series of elements that need to be connected and proposes a phased project through various steps to transform the landscape. Highlighting the significance of a north-south urban waterfront and a corresponding green belt in the city center, the project links these features through a network of west-east transversal streets. A masterplan is composed using plants, shrubs and street furniture as tools for tactical urbanism that adds a consistent scale to the street network.

The jury thinks Symbiotic Landscape is an interesting proposal that uses green structures as tools for transforming and revitalizing the urban fabric of Åkra. The jury is impressed with the solid concept and boldness of this project. It is a fully sustainable project, presented in stunningly beautiful graphics. It triggers the viewer's visions and imagination of what Åkrehamn could become.



In the jury's opinion, the proposal to develop along the waterfront is important, although the landfilling might be unnecessary. The jury also questions the economic feasibility, as well as the challenging growing conditions for trees, due to heavy weather and constant wind. It would be interesting to see the urban scheme of waterfront, green belt, and transversal streets clarified and strengthened through a strategy that is more varied and contains a wider array of tools and instruments than only trees, shrubs, and furniture.

This proposal shows a new meaning of densification, through trees and vegetation, and is a completely new way to address the situation of Åkra, and although it is not proposing new buildings, it structures and provides identity to the city in an innovative way.

Authors:

- Filippo Fiandanese (IT), architect
- Silvia Lanteri (IT), architect urbanist
- Maicol Negrello (IT), landscape architect
- Alessia Carena (IT), architect
- Federico Demichelis (IT), architect
- Marthe Van Endert (BE), architect
- Sara Barera (IT), architect
- Cara Geldenhuys (ZA), architect

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12 Winner

12 XJ587 - Grensen 2030: Circularity Apparatus

14 Runner-Up

14 FS378 - In Between Lab

16 Special mentions

16 UN402 - The Gatehouse





European 17 in Norway

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In European 17, 51 competition sites from 12 different European countries were launched at the same time connected by the theme Living Cities 2: Care.

For European 17 there were 5 sites in Norway:

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M. Architect, urban designer and researcher, editor-in-chief at Outlines

Eili Vigestad Berge

Director of sustainability and public relations at Mustad Eiendom.

Substitutes:**Cristian Ștefănescu**

Owner of a-works Assistant Professor, Bergen School of Architecture

Merete Gunnes

M.Sc Landscape Architect MNLA and founder of TAG landscape.

The jury procedure

The competition is organized as a tender under the Norwegian rules public procurements as a "Plan-og Designkonkurransen" Listed on the TED database and according to the Rules for European 17.

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The Technical committee consisted of Tone Berge, Bjørnar Haveland, and Andrea Pérez Montesdeoca.

The 1st jury round

The purpose of the 1st jury round is to select a shortlist for the second and final round of the jury. The site representative participates as a jury member with one vote. The jury met for a full day per site. The meeting was conducted using the A1 printed boards of the proposals and Miro as a digital exhibition.

The 1st jury round took place the 26.09.2023 in Trondheim.

Attending:

From the jury: Ida Winge Andersen, Jacob Kamp, Eli Grønn, Luis Basabe Montalvo, Katariina Haigh, Ilkka Törmä and Eili Vigestad Berge.

From the technical committee: Tone Berge, Bjørnar Haveland

From the site: Nina Tanche-Nilssen, Inger Snerting

Midpoint dialogue meeting between jury and site representatives

A dialogue meeting was held between jury leader Ida Winge and jury members Eili Vigestad Berge, Ilkka Törmä, and the site representatives at the European Forum for cities and juries in Vienna on the 11th of November 2023.

The 2nd jury round

Selection of winner, runner up, special mentions.

Conducted as a physical meeting on the 12th of November 2023, also in Vienna.

In this meeting the site representatives participate as an observer, with the right to make a statement at the start, but without any vote.

Members of the board of European Norway can also be present, but just as observers.

The decision of the jury is final and independent.

Attending:

From the jury: Ida Winge Andersen, Jacob Kamp, Eli Grønn, Luis Basabe Montalvo, Katariina Haigh, Ilkka Törmä and Eili Vigestad Berge.

From the secretariat: Tone Berge, Bjørnar Haveland, Andrea Perez Montesdeoca.

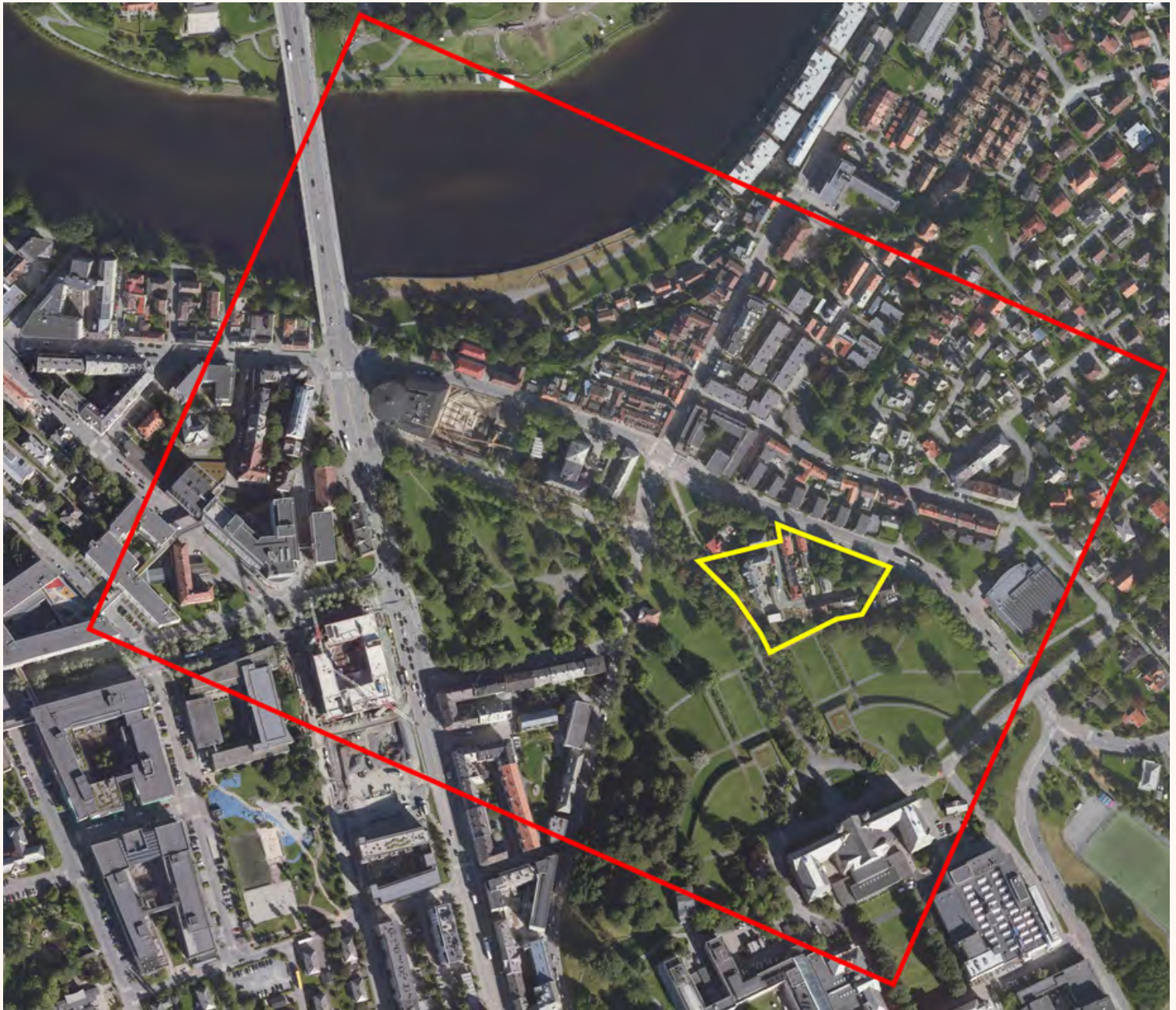
From the site: Inger Snerting and Nils Jørgen Moltubakk.

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
01	Shortlisted	XJ587	Grensen 2030: Circularity Apparatus	Winner: 12 000 EUR prize
02	Shortlisted	FS378	In Between Lab	Runner-Up: 6 000 EUR prize
03	Shortlisted	UN402	The Gatehouse	Special Mention
04		XJ120	Circular shift	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit for taking a clear stance on circular principles, emphasizing experimentation and the potential use of reusable materials for construction. The visualization of the new building lacks conviction, though the location of the entrance is deemed favorable. The project's interaction with the street is commendable, and the landscaping and terracing at the back show promise, although they are described as more of a concept than a finished product. The project establishes a strong relationship with the main road and effectively utilizes both sides of the site. The entire building is viewed as a "living lab," highlighting its experimental nature.
05		OB873	Ubregrenset	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit for its inspiring drawings which evoke the characteristics of a meticulously planned city. Rooted in a landscape strategy, the design demonstrates a keen understanding of its contextual surroundings. Additionally, the project's potential to serve as a living lab further underscores its thoughtful and innovative approach to functionality within its broader context. The project's scale is well-resolved, but it fails to challenge its own grid concept due to its theoretical nature. The jury also raises concerns regarding the treatment of existing buildings.
06		OZ340	Without borders	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury acknowledges the strategic approach to incorporating elements on different scales, including public spaces and various typologies with different programs. The jury wants also to give credit to the project's boldness and bravery, the decision to place the new large building inside the area is seen as positive, potentially making it a significant place. Criticism is directed towards the lack of a clear statement and architectural proposals, suggesting a deficiency in conveying a strong architectural vision.
07		ZO824	Canned Heat	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit for its uniqueness, featuring established pillars/trees that serve various purposes. They provide shade underneath, and one can ascend them. Access to the second floor of these structures is possible. They don't obstruct sunlight, and the design enhances rather than disrupts the area. However, the project fails to deal with the complexity of the task.

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
08		QP304	Inclusiensen	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The proposed project introduces a glass structure at the back, contributing to a contemporary aesthetic. However, its lack of detailed description and visualization raises concerns about accessibility and clarity. The incorporation of an intermediate glass building appears promising, yet the project's disregard for the heights in the program poses a potential drawback.
09		DB258	Vorosopia	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit for a really good text that supports the project so precisely. The introduction of a new type of housing and the design of common areas are seen as positive and exploratory as well as the effective use of areas for public spaces. The jury acknowledges the project's philosophical nature, however, the architectural language is more rhetorical than practical, leaning more towards a graphic task than a true architectural challenge.
10		PR281	Building between the lines	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give the proposal credit for demonstrating a strong understanding and effective handling of various scales in design. The jury also acknowledges the smart features in the plan that contribute to the overall quality of the design and the good thought put into the financial aspects and the project's different phases. The jury raises concerns regarding unrealistic new round buildings aesthetics but most lack innovation and outdoor space design.
11		UQ007	The portal	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit for how the proposal tries to solve the eastern part of the site, with a building that addresses one of the challenging areas on the site. The jury also acknowledges the feasibility, effective use of space and clear conceptualization of the proposal. However, the project lacks comprehensive consideration of the surrounding environment and a holistic approach to outdoor spaces.
12		SR357	Border town	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit for a strong conceptual approach with a strategic transformation of buildings for university relevance. The jury acknowledges the good facade design towards the main road, creating an iconic expression. The project succeeds in borrowing characteristics from existing buildings to contribute to the city's identity resulting in interesting urban aesthetics, rich in formal response. The project's weaknesses are evident in its failure to address sustainability themes and the lack of coherence in the overall project design.



Revitalise and adapt a cluster of historic wooden houses to become a living lab for the university and a social interface between the campus and the city.

Propose a concept and a process for transforming Grensen into an extroverted, social and accessible urban environment so that the area can function as a social interface between the city and the university.

Do this through innovative architectural interventions and thoughtful programming of university functions under an umbrella of a living lab that can generate knowledge for a better world.

Summary of the task

The European 17 site Grensen is strategically located between The Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) and Norway's 3rd largest city, Trondheim. NTNU is planning a major restructuring of its campus and these upcoming changes will elevate Grensen to a strategic position as a campus access point from the city as well as embedding it firmly between new university buildings.

NTNU enters European 17 for ideas on how to make Grensen a living lab for CARE: experimental architectural approaches to working with built heritage through innovative adaptation and thoughtful programming. The site and its historical wooden buildings have the potential to become a platform through which the campus can open up to the city, mixing uses and adding diversity and liveliness to the area.

NTNU acquired the site with future development in mind, but challenges arose after the existing buildings were listed as historically significant. A period of uncertainty followed, with the listed buildings being rented out or used as temporary accommodation for visiting researchers. Half of the houses have fallen into disrepair from neglect and are currently uninhabitable. There was no coherent plan for Grensen and seemingly no hope for the quietly decaying buildings. Now entering into European, the site has a chance to come alive as a meaningful link between the university and the city.

The university sits on a hill overlooking Grensen. This physical removal of the campus from city life has created challenges for students and faculty, who have pitched ideas for potential on-site programs.

Visions have included a meeting spot for visiting researchers, faculty and neighbors, a space to showcase and communicate ongoing research and in general, serve as a social interface between the university and the city. The university can feel like an isolated island and increasing concerns for the mental health of university students and staff make the task of connecting NTNU and the city through Grensen all the more critical.

Grensen is not just a mere revitalization project. NTNU's mission statement is creating new knowledge for a better world and the site's unique situation and proximity to campus makes it an ideal place for experimentation. Can the site bring the university down from its hill and become a living lab where research and prototyping can happen in a real-life setting?

The site poses needs that the university's faculties are uniquely positioned to answer. NTNU is at the forefront of research on architectural preservation, sustainable building practices and technology for building energy efficiency. By working intelligently with its built history, Grensen can become a living link between the city's rich past and forward-thinking future.

General remarks

The brief asks to formulate a comprehensive concept and process for the transformation of Grensen. While the task is concise, it opens up for considerable interpretation of what a living lab can be, and what programming is best suited for the site and more importantly its historic buildings. At the core of the assignment is the challenge to balance heritage preservation and transformation matched with the right usage. The result is a demanding task that is both architectural and highly strategic.

Considering the brief's emphasis on concept and process, the jury favoured proposals that presented a decisive, systemic approach to Grensen's transformation and established integrity with its heritage features. Furthermore, these projects demonstrated adaptability in various directions. Instead of rigidly adhering to specific forms, successful proposals displayed openness to reworking within the concept. They can be executed in stages.

After the competition, users will be involved. As the programme for the site was not fixed in the competition brief, the jury concluded that successful proposals must demonstrate ample scope to accommodate various functions in the scheme. There must be the possibility to connect either the existing buildings or the proposed new buildings to larger units. The best proposals had the potential to be living labs, testing conservation methods, experimentation in new buildings, combining these two and exploring social programming of various types of spaces.

The jury also appreciated proposals with robust urban qualities. That includes how essential spaces in the proposals connect with the main university building and lawn, how Grensen presents the university to the street, and how the proposal utilises the movement through the site.

While many proposals highlighted the transformative impact of new buildings on Grensen, a few advocated for a radical reconfiguration of existing buildings, thus challenging the paradigms of building conservation. Two of these are among the top projects: the In-between lab and the Gatehouse. The first sketches out a light-touch approach to connect and extend the old buildings, while the latter proposes knocking down walls to unite and enlarge the buildings. The jury saw the In-between lab as a structurally easier and more adaptable concept and therefore as a more flexible starting point for the post-competition process.



The winner, the Circularity apparatus, provides the most flexible process to develop the site gradually. It is less architectural than the other top projects: the Circularity apparatus is a more strategic proposal and can easily be developed in phases. It represents an urban framework that can be divided into various renovation, transformation and infill projects. Should the university require a larger interior space, the Circularity apparatus can be reworked to accommodate it as a new building, without losing its urban qualities. After all, that might prove easier than forcing such space in to the old buildings, which are inherently different. The Circularity apparatus can be combined with elements of the other awarded projects, in particular the elements of working on the shielded in-betweens. The project provides a solid basis to facilitate the programming of the site and developing a scheme for the future living lab.

Winner Winner Winner Winner Winne



Winner Winner Winner Winner Winne

Winner

XJ587 - Gensen 2030: Circularity Apparatus

This project stands out among all the proposals because it is a spatial strategy on how to transform Gensen into the living lab the brief demands, rather than being a proposal and a design for one or more set buildings.

This is the future, where buildings are shaped by what is at hand through reuse, either direct or through up-cycling. So the suggested buildings in the proposal are to be seen more as 'placeholders' or symbols than actual architectural designs..

The neighbourhood in Gensen becomes a true laboratory for finding new, experimental and sustainable solutions, on all scales. It could be for the whole building, but also for testing materials or specific solutions within a building

The proposal builds on a strong respect for the existing, but also an open-minded wish to look at the existing with fresh eyes – and succeeds in doing both by keeping with the logic of the lay-out of the city-spaces and the scale of the existing buildings, but not being afraid to be very bold when it comes to how new buildings might look.

View 1. Grensen Makers Street and park link



The streets and squares of the proposed site appear as humanely sized spaces, gaps, between the old and new building volumes. A great variety of different types and sizes of city-spaces comes out of this approach. Especially the transitional zone towards Christian Frederiks Gate is solved really well as a series of small urban 'niches' which invites people in to go exploring in the dense new neighborhood behind.

The proposal gives the strongest answer to what a living lab can be by providing a simple structure where a diverse range of experimental projects and processes can be implemented by different university actors. The project provides a degree of flexibility that will allow the living lab to become a truly participatory process between students, researchers and university departments. Some buildings can be experimental design-build projects by students, some objects of research on energy efficiency, while others can be developed in more conventional ways if desired.

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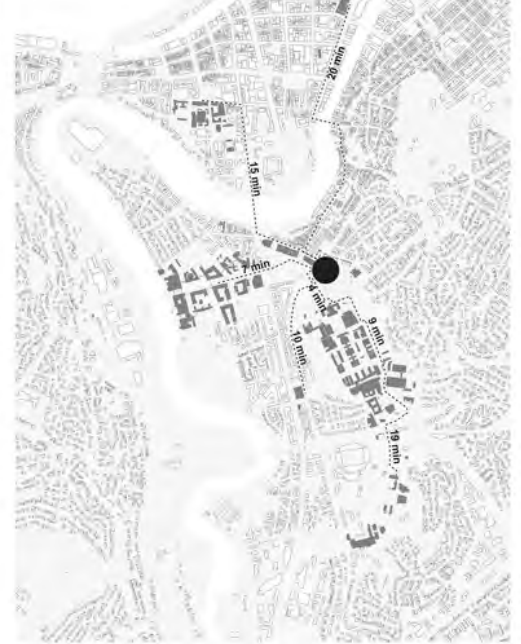


Runner-Up

FS378 - In Between Lab

In-between lab draws attention to a characteristic Trondheim typology: the roofed inner courtyards and shielded outer-inner spaces. The illustrations envision a light, beautiful structure barely touching the old wooden houses. While fully respecting the fragile historic environment, the new construction serves a dual purpose, creating a second skin to insulate and protect while simultaneously creating new flexible spaces.

The structure can be read as a greenhouse, but also something more, something new. The contrast between the new and the old is captivating and together with the name In-between lab it raises the idea of a structure, capable of solving energy and climatic challenges, preservation together with adaptation, along with spatial and programmatic considerations. The interpretation goes beyond a mere glasshouse, offering an innovative approach and should be further researched.



Noli Diagram
● Grensen
-- Walking Distance



In-between lab must also be commended for being one of the few projects that show genuine care for the biodiversity of the site. By placing a larger structure in between the existing buildings in Grensen, they allow for the triangle lot to be left as is, only placing a carefully crafted ramp in between the trees. This “in-between” attitude is present in all the different scales of the project and represents one of the clearest architectural interpretations of the E17 theme of Care.

The project shows an adaptive approach and can easily be combined with the winning proposal. It allows for phased implementation and the testing of new ideas. The proposal goes beyond filling the gaps between existing buildings; the team ingeniously employs the structure to introduce larger indoor spaces and define distinct outdoor areas. Its strong connection to the university park enhances the site's welcoming atmosphere, while the corner plot remains a green escape with minimal interventions, ensuring accessibility while preserving its natural charm. The jury commends the team for its light-touch approach, inviting nature, people and history in.

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Special Mention

UN402 - The Gatehouse: The Open Border

The project must be commended for deceptively beautiful illustrations and a radical approach to the transformation of the existing buildings. The Gateway transforms Grensen into one large university building and a covered street that is intended to bring people through and shelter them from the harsh environment. The L-shape is a clever strategic move, that makes the 'university corridor' the proposal's central and connecting element, and generates strong relationships with the context. While it occupies and gives an active role to the back side of the oldest buildings facing the university, it manages to become part of the heterogeneous urban front facing the street.

Nevertheless, the jury found less convincing how the proposal intervenes in the historic buildings, in a way that is pretty unrealistic and would presumably demand a complete reconstruction. There are not only technical but also many philosophical challenges in making such a complete makeover to listed buildings. Although the project claims to work on their existing matter, in reality it ends up erasing a lot of their uniqueness and heterogeneity. In a way it shies away from the 'dirt' of the existing fabric, as the visualisations of the project reveal. But in cleaning it up it seems to be sacrificing much of its valuable genius loci. Its doubtlessly remarkable technical radicality seems to lead precisely to the production of a standard.



The way in which ‘the Gateway’ connects everything together as one large building also challenges some main aspects of the task, such as upgrading Grensen to an inviting urban environment, and allowing for research and experimentation on existing buildings. The proposal, while one of the boldest, risks making Grensen into a large standard university building, and does not give space to the kind of research, experimentation and circularity that the program asks for. A more gentle approach to conserving the existing buildings would have added value to this proposal. It would have given the possibility of using Grensen as a learning laboratory of how to use old valuable buildings as a core of something new.

Regardless of the numerous challenges of the proposal, the jury highly appreciates the project addressing and exploring a typology that is typical to Trondheim; the roofed in-betweens.

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European 17 in Norway

European is an innovation process for architecture and urban development, centered around an open competition of ideas for architects, landscape architects, and urban planners under the age of 40. The European competition takes place every 2 years with European 17 being the 17th edition.

In European 17, 51 competition sites from 12 different European countries were launched at the same time connected by the theme Living Cities 2: Care.

For European 17 there were 5 sites in Norway:

- Larvik, represented by Larvik municipality.
- Krøgenes, represented by Arendal municipality
- Åkrehamn, represented by Karmøy municipality
- Østmarka, represented by Trondheim municipality
- Grensen, represented by NTNU (Norwegian University of science and technology)

European-Norway is a foundation that organizes the European process in Norway. The secretariat of European Norway is run by Kaleidoscope Nordic.

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The composition of the jury

Ida Winge Andersen

President of the jury. M. Architect, company director, and partner at Rebuilding.

Jacob Kamp

Partner and creative director at 1:1 Landskab .

Eli Grønn

M. of Architecture and Urbanism MNAL, partner and leader for Urbanism and Planning with Dyrvik Architects.

Luis Basabe Montalvo

Founding partner of ARENAS BASABE PALACIOS ARQUITECTOS.

Katariina Haigh

M. Architect, Project Development Director at Asuntosäätiö.

Ilkka Törmä

M. Architect, urban designer and researcher, editor-in-chief at Outlines

Eili Vigestad Berge

Director of sustainability and public relations at Mustad Eiendom.

Substitutes:**Cristian Ștefănescu**

Owner of a-works Assistant Professor, Bergen School of Architecture

Merete Gunnes

M.Sc Landscape Architect MNLA and founder of TAG landscape.

The jury procedure

The competition is organized as a tender under the Norwegian rules public procurements as a "Plan-og Designkonkurransen" Listed on the TED database and according to the Rules for European 17.

As stated by the rules for European 17, the jury met 2 times per site. The first jury meeting selected a shortlist of a maximum of 25% of submitted entries. The second jury meeting selects the winner(s), runner-ups, and special mentions.

Technical Committee

The secretariat for European Norway made up the technical committee. The technical committee prepares the jury process, controls the eligibility of the proposals, and takes notes of the jury discussions.

The Technical committee consisted of Tone Berge, Bjørnar Haveland, and Andrea Pérez Montesdeoca.

The 1st jury round

The purpose of the 1st jury round is to select a shortlist for the second and final round of the jury. The site representative participates as a jury member with one vote. The jury met for a full day per site. The meeting was conducted using the A1 printed boards of the proposals and Miro as a digital exhibition.

The 1st jury round took place the 13.09.2023 in Arendal..

Attending:

From the jury: Ida Winge Andersen, Jacob Kamp, Eli Grønn, Luis Basabe Montalvo, Katariina Haigh, Ilkka Törmä and Eili Vigestad Berge.

From the technical committee: Tone Berge, Bjørnar Haveland

From the site: Lisbeth Iversen, Kristin Fløystad, Håvard Heggehøuen, Ole Andreas Sandberg Liljedahl, Ragnhild Hammer

Midpoint dialogue meeting between jury and site representatives

A dialogue meeting was held between jury leader Ida Winge and jury members Eili Vigestad Berge, Ilkka Törmä, Katariina Haigh and the site representatives at the European Forum for cities and juries in Vienna on the 11th of November 2023.

The 2nd jury round

Selection of winner, runner up, special mentions.

Conducted as a physical meeting on the 12th of November 2023, also in Vienna.

In this meeting the site representatives participate as an observer, with the right to make a statement at the start, but without any vote.

Members of the board of European Norway can also be present, but just as observers.

The decision of the jury is final and independent.

Attending:

From the jury: Ida Winge Andersen, Jacob Kamp, Eli Grønn, Luis Basabe Montalvo, Katariina Haigh, Ilkka Törmä and Eili Vigestad Berge.

From the secretariat: Tone Berge, Bjørnar Haveland, Andrea Perez Montesdeoca.

From the site: Lisbeth Iversen, Kristin Fløystad, Håvard Heggehøuen, Ragnhild Hammer

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
01	Shortlisted	QP810	Co-Krøgenes	Runner-Up: 9000 EUR prize
02	Shortlisted	XJ116	Krøgenes Peninsula	Runner-Up: 9000 EUR prize
03	Shortlisted	KN486	Sea you in Krøgenes	Special Mention
04	Shortlisted	DF730	Knitting Krøgenes	The jury wants to give credit to the proposal for demonstrating a powerful tool for handling the given situation, with a valuable attempt to develop a non-romantic typology. Overall, it is a very credible proposal, even though adjustments are needed, and the tunnel's necessity is unclear. The project organizes ideas and concepts effectively, showcasing a comprehensive approach. However, the negative aspects highlight an outdated modernist dream with a lack of a central point in the space between buildings, resulting in a hierarchy deficit. The project also raises questions about the purpose of the turquoise megastructure, its programming and feasibility.
05		MB151	Past Forward	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit for the commendable analysis with flexible phase descriptions that allow for adjustments. The project also preserves possibilities for harbour development. The project could have engaged more actively in developing the road leading to the hill, potentially creating a vibrant city street. It retains a significant portion of existing buildings, but some elements feel disjointed, resembling isolated islands. One potential approach is to interpret this discontinuity as a strategic choice, envisioning clusters as bubbles within the forest, with chaotic intersections in certain areas. However, both the nature of the green in-between and the purpose of the red area lack consistency and remain unclear.
06		AO994	The ideal city	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit for a beautifully presented project with a captivating narrative and a memorable graphical proposal that adheres to its own ideals and logic. The project introduces a unique typology - neovernacular - posing a crucial question for our time: how do we coexist with buildings we don't find aesthetically pleasing? However, the project offers a rather naïv urban structure, which generates serious doubts in its urban qualities and functionality. Another notable drawback is the lack of explanation on how the project transitions from its current state to completion, leaving a gap in understanding the process from inception to the present day.
07		XT072	Rebuilding with biomes	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury praises the proposal presenting a toolbox to address evolving needs during the process. It successfully demonstrates the practical application of its tools, presenting a scenario and offering a guide for a process. However, while effective in showcasing tools, it falls short in providing a structured framework and exhibits weaknesses in decision-making and site understanding.

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
08		RE324	Krøgenes weaving a future	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit to the innovation hub and for the varied functions in this plan. However, this proposal does not manage to create a complex urbanity beyond the street+block logic. It puts all its energy in the creation of formalistic architectural anecdotes, with no typological reflection.. Despite being dense, the project feels suburban due to parking garages in every building's first floor, hindering street activation. The proposal also neglects how to transform big-box situations. Current challenges for the site, including making mobility and planning work for future infrastructure, remain not addressed by this project.
09		MN553	Sjøhaven	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury praises that there is recognition of the need for phases in the project and their good intentions regarding citizen involvement. The approach to access from the city center is appealing, and there is sensible terrain work in the south/west. However, on the negative side, concerns are raised about relocating the road for building construction, leading to potential noise issues for buildings facing the road. Large distances between functions, lack of natural meeting places and the unrealistic solution of a bridge for wildlife are highlighted. Additionally, many commercial buildings are suggested to be moved but without a new location assigned, making it an impractical proposal lacking good urban qualities.
10		PM832	Viable city	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit to its good intentions regarding focus on environmental, social, and governance (ESG) considerations as well as for their ideas on the implementation of sustainability goals. However, concerns arise over the lack of changes in the layout of the area, the absence of spaces for people, and a perceived lack of vibrancy. The jury criticized the alteration of roads, resulting in more asphalt and increased traffic, ultimately diminishing the overall liveliness of the area.
11		WM080	Krøgenes Accretion	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury acknowledges that the project retains and repurposes many existing buildings, introduces new roof programs to several structures, proposes a new ferry terminal and takes into consideration birds and insects. However, there are concerns about the two long-separated promenades. Additionally, the relocation of parking facilities is seen as a potential factor that could increase traffic on the coastal road and the residences appear to be quite small.
12		RY298	I love Krøgenes	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury praises the inclusion of tools to explore the potential in various construction areas. Little Venice is highlighted as particularly clever. However, the proposal's strength lies in its attempt to address the asphalted wetland, exploring the natural ground beneath the parking lot and discussing possibilities for the space. Despite having a toolbox approach and a plan, the project lacks a clear expression, it fails to offer suggestions on connecting neighborhoods, e.g., leaving the marina isolated from the rest of the area. In the complex urban setting with intricate topography, the proposal lacks infrastructure and, in general, structure. Overall, the proposal resembles more of a diagram than a comprehensive proposal.



Transform a big box shopping and industry area into a vibrant urban district centre.

Make a proposal for a holistic intensification and transformation of Krøgenes into a well-connected, local urban centre that supports the needs of the growing population that comes with the new battery factory and associated industries. Do also take into account the needs of the existing communities of neighbours and local businesses.

Show how the proposal would work in the immediate, medium and long term. Arendal municipality wants proposals of urban design and programming that are visionary in terms of regenerative capabilities, urban typologies, sustainable building practices, mobility and social sustainability. The municipality also wants feasible processes for how to engage local actors, businesses and civil society in the transformation.

Summary of the task

Krøgenes is a car-based district centre in Arendal municipality that has found itself in a strategic position facing an upcoming era of transition. Consisting mainly of big box retailers, warehouse facilities, parking lots as well as industry today, the area sits in the middle of several existing and planned developments. One of the most significant developments is the new battery factory, now under construction just to the north of the site. The factory will create more than 2500 new jobs and attract an estimated 6500 new inhabitants to the immediate area.

With thousands of new inhabitants moving into the Krøgenes area over the next few years the area needs a strategic approach to urban development. The scale of the changes will stretch the capacity of the municipality both in terms of capital, planning resources and care services.

The challenge is to ensure sufficiently rapid construction while maintaining social sustainability in planning for the structural social changes that come with so many new inhabitants. The success of the transformation will largely hinge on productive collaboration with local businesses, civil society and inhabitants, a type of co-creation Arendal has developed successfully over the past decade. By stimulating collaboration between local forces, Arendal aims to trigger local initiatives and new sustainable solutions.

What processes and interventions could help imbue Krøgenes with a strong identity, increase well-being and belonging, as well as open possibilities for climate-friendly mobility?

The development of smaller, compact local centers is a key strategy for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the municipality's Regional Spatial and Transport Plan. Krøgenes exemplifies the main challenges Arendal faces in order to realize this strategy. The prevalence of monofunctional car-based trade areas detached from their surroundings, lack of pedestrian and bicycle connections, and low housing qualities all provide tangible starting points on the path towards developing a better Krøgenes.

Arendal has entered European 17 to find ways to develop the Krøgenes area into a vibrant local and well-connected urban center. Innovative forms of mobility and regenerative typologies of public space, housing, and services can all be leveraged in the case of Krøgenes to create value for both the climate and local economy. How can the development be tuned so that it provides the care needed for the existing local community and the even stronger, robust sense of care, community, and accessibility that will make the new inhabitants feel at home?

General remarks

Krøgenes represents a generic urban development challenge that we encounter all over Europe – how to recreate and reconnect a commercial and production area into a livable mixed-use community. The task was to imagine and plan a new city structure including the issues of how to connect to the rest of the town. More housing is needed in Arendal but can it be created inside the existing structure in phases?

Krøgenes is located apart from the main town structure and is fairly disconnected by public transport. Its development is very dependent on private landowners and their involvement in recreating their properties. Bringing social and environmental sustainability into the urban structure proved to be a demanding task. The strongest proposals managed to imagine a process through which the change may happen in phases. Getting the landowners involved in the change process is a key to make the urban change happen and to do it in a controlled yet successful way.

Most of the proposals kept the existing streets in their places and the urban tissue was almost neglecting the streets, using them only as an outside traffic system, when a few of the proposals showed the potential in modifying the existing traffic system and thus creating a new hierarchy that better fits the suggested urban structure. Both of which could become an interesting and well functioning system if parking, cycling and pedestrian needs were taken carefully into account.

The topology of Krøgenes was better understood in some of the proposals. The height differences are remarkable and the scale of the competition area set a challenge to the competitors. The cluster-type proposals were more interesting theoretically when as many competitors had studied the topologies and ended up in a more organic urban structure that fits the site. The latter seems more feasible also regarding the divided land ownership. Some of the proposals managed to create a sense of one Krøgenes but surprisingly many had decided to keep the different parts of Krøgenes relatively disconnected from one another. This is a general challenge in the development of such mixed use areas whereby neighboring plots may not be constructed simultaneously. One key to success in the further planning and execution of Krøgenes will be how to keep the area as one in spite of the unsynchronized development of individual plots. Keeping and creating pleasant connections and green areas will help the inhabitants get rooted and enjoy their own living area. Many proposals view that the commercial and production functions may stay in the area with careful traffic design.

The jury did not pick a winner, but opted for awarding two runner-ups. The two proposals feature radically different approaches to how they treat the lower area of parking lots and shopping. Co-Krøgenes demonstrates a thorough and convincing attitude towards keeping most of the buildings, and adding new mixes of commercial, offices and housing in the central parts of the site: Turning the large parking lots into an urban structure without killing the activity that is there in the process seems feasible, but it fails at taking the larger site into consideration. Also the schemes for the south hill overlooking the harbor are topologically unconvincing.

Krøgenes Peninsula on the other hand, took the task of making a regenerative and climate adapted urban environment seriously and suggested reopening the former marsh. - A move that might be controversial, but answers the call to make more space for other species inside the site as well as increasing the climate resiliency of the new development. While the housing project it proposes next to this new lake has failed to convince the jury or the site representatives, the quality of the seaside developments make up for it.

Both proposals have their shortcomings, which is only to be expected of such a complex site, however together they feature complimentary attitudes and solutions that together will give the municipality and developers the right tools to continue the process. The jury sees important strategic and tactical values in further collaboration with both runners-up.

Runner-up



Runner-up



Runner-up



Runner-up



Runner-up



Runner-up



Runner-up



Runner-up

Runner-Up

QP810 – Co-Krøgenes

Co-Krøgenes receives a shared position as a runner-up due to its excellence as a realistic and sustainable strategy for transforming the big box typologies in Krøgenes. The project succeeds in showing a strategy for maintaining and repurposing a maximum number of existing retail buildings, preserving them as they are, and developing a vibrant mixed-use and car-free urban environment around them. Co-Krøgenes takes the parking issues seriously and demonstrates how the commercial life of the area can be sustained during the transition from car-based big box shopping into a credible mixed-use cluster centered around a successful 10-minute city concept. Furthermore, Co-Krøgenes has integrated a well-developed intermodal structure into the site. This enables Krøgenes to become a well-connected district center with a walkable interior and robust public transport connections while allowing its retail businesses to serve the car-based suburban neighborhoods around it. There is a challenge of spatial quality in the juxtaposition of housing and existing big scale buildings. They often collide with steep topographic differences, which adds to the level of difficulty in further development.



The project is primarily a strategy for the transition of the core areas of Krøgenes rather than a comprehensive design or holistic plan for the entire site. The east side of the site has not been considered, and the plans for new developments on the south hill overlooking the harbor lack realism and architectural qualities.

While the project is not ready for independent implementation, it receives the shared runner-up position because it excels in addressing the most challenging aspects on this site: establishing a strong and sustainable strategy for transforming the big box typology, building on existing elements and avoiding the use of new megastructures to tackle topographical and parking challenges.

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Runner-Up

XJ116 - Krøgenes Peninsula

Krøgenes Peninsula shares the runner-up position for presenting a comprehensive plan which does not just propose a more feasible step by step process, well developed architecture and more detailed social infrastructure than any other proposal, but also takes the call for regenerative and climate resilient solutions seriously.

One of the key features of Krøgenes Peninsula's vision is re-establishing the old lake. This redefines Krøgenes as a peninsula, which lays a striking new basis for the urban structure. The project proposes eight strategic tools from a blue-green perspective, taking nature, buildings, the community, and mobility into account. Krøgenes Peninsula is communicated in a clear and understandable way both in drawings, text and overall layout.

The existing parking lot is replaced by a lake, a both practical and conceptual move that transforms the entry point and situation of Krøgenes radically into a better place. The project proposes three independent neighborhoods. They are interconnected with green areas as a natural response to the existing topography and the road system. The built up green adds to the natural green landscape.



The proposed housing exhibits numerous qualities, striking a good balance between the built and the natural landscape. The housing areas along the shoreline are especially remarkable. There are splendid residential projects by the harbor and the eastern shoreline. The lakeside housing looks pleasant and makes a huge visual and functional change as the entrance view to the area. The area that used to be a dull suburban bigbox area has been reinvented as a pleasant neighborhood with green lakeviews.

However, the jury would like to see a bolder move when it comes to mobility. Could the local road be transformed, maybe one-directional? The proposed parking along the main road would potentially generate unnecessary car traffic amidst housing.

The housing to the West faces noise from the road, yet several commercial buildings must be torn down to make space for the housing. The jury is unsure whether this is the right location for housing, and it seems as if the idea of the lake has forced its location. The question arises whether the areas “LakeMeadow” and “Bedrifts” should change places or be integrated, in order to protect housing from noise and require fewer buildings to be demolished. The jury also notes that the lakeside housing may be affected by the existing roads dominating the views.

Regardless of certain weaknesses, the jury values this proposal highly for both its chosen strategies and the topics it has resolved successfully. The jury encourages the team to explore those more with the stakeholders in order to develop an improved holistic and strategic future plan for Krøgenes.

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Special Mention

KN486 - Sea you in Krøgenes

The project “Sea you in Krøgenes” provides a clear support for a process-oriented urban redevelopment of the Krøgenes area, which manages to integrate well both the existing buildings and an amount of new urban blocks. It concentrates motorized mobility into the current main roads and generates three urban enclaves with some specific characteristics, over which a connecting network for pedestrians and bicycles is superimposed.

The jury acknowledges the project’s maturity and the clear strategy of dividing the area in ‘motorized exteriors’ and ‘lively interiors’, as well as its understanding of urban structure as a support for diversity. Also, the use of soft mobility as the main connecting ingredient shows a big potential, and helps to solve the otherwise difficult connection between the port and the commercial area.



Less convincing is the project's typological approach to blocks and urban spaces—. The proposal seems to rely uncritically on present peri-urban standards. The generic characterization of housing and public space types results in an urban landscape that tends to erase the differences, and the proposed layer of anecdotic programming is not able to compensate the lack of urban intensity.

While the large ramps used for bridging the level differences of the site is an interesting idea that could solve both parking and the disconnected nature of the site, it also seems like a massive and complicated solution to a problem that could be solved in simpler ways and create series of issues that the project does not address.

From the jury's point of view, while "Sea you in Krøgenes" certainly offers a credible and mature urban structure, it fails to offer a strong enough narrative to support the construction of the new identity that the current non-place of Krøgenes is demanding.

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15 QH311 - Standing stone to the sea

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17 IA862 - Topography for life

19 SP816 - Community (AS) Cente





European 17 in Norway

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European-Norway is a foundation that organizes the European process in Norway. The secretariat of European Norway is run by Kaleidoscope Nordic.

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General Secretary of European Norway

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The composition of the jury

Ida Winge Andersen

President of the jury. M. Architect, company director, and partner at Rebuilding.

Jacob Kamp

Partner and creative director at 1:1 Landskab .

Eli Grønn

M. of Architecture and Urbanism MNAL, partner and leader for Urbanism and Planning with Dyrvik Architects.

Luis Basabe Montalvo

Founding partner of ARENAS BASABE PALACIOS ARQUITECTOS.

Katariina Haigh

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Ilkka Törmä

M. Architect, urban designer and researcher, editor-in-chief at Outlines

Eili Vigestad Berge

Director of sustainability and public relations at Mustad Eiendom.

Substitutes:**Cristian Ștefănescu**

Owner of a-works Assistant Professor, Bergen School of Architecture

Merete Gunnes

M.Sc Landscape Architect MNLA and founder of TAG landscape.

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As stated by the rules for European 17, the jury met 2 times per site. The first jury meeting selected a shortlist of a maximum of 25% of submitted entries. The second jury meeting selects the winner(s), runner-ups, and special mentions.

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The secretariat for European Norway made up the technical committee. The technical committee prepares the jury process, controls the eligibility of the proposals, and takes notes of the jury discussions.

The Technical committee consisted of Tone Berge, Bjørnar Haveland, and Andrea Pérez Montesdeoca.

The 1st jury round

The purpose of the 1st jury round is to select a shortlist for the second and final round of the jury. The site representative participates as a jury member with one vote. The jury met for a full day per site. The meeting was conducted using the A1 printed boards of the proposals and Miro as a digital exhibition.

The 1st jury round took place the 13.09.2023 in Larvik.

Attending:

From the jury: Ida Winge Andersen, Jacob Kamp, Eli Grønn, Luis Basabe Montalvo, Katariina Haigh, Ilkka Törmä and Eili Vigestad Berge.

From the technical committee: Tone Berge, Bjørnar Haveland

From the site: Ingerid Heggelund, Hanne Øyen Herland, Kari Madsen Moldvær, Ole Sannes Riiser



Midpoint dialogue meeting between jury and site representatives

A dialogue meeting was held between jury leader Ida Winge and jury members Eli Grønn, Eili Vigestad Berge, and the site representatives at the European Forum for cities and juries in Vienna on the 11th of November 2023.

The 2nd jury round

Selection of winner, runner up, special mentions.

Conducted as a physical meeting on the 12th of November 2023, also in Vienna.

In this meeting the site representatives participate as an observer, with the right to make a statement at the start, but without any vote.

Members of the board of European Norway can also be present, but just as observers.

The decision of the jury is final and independent.

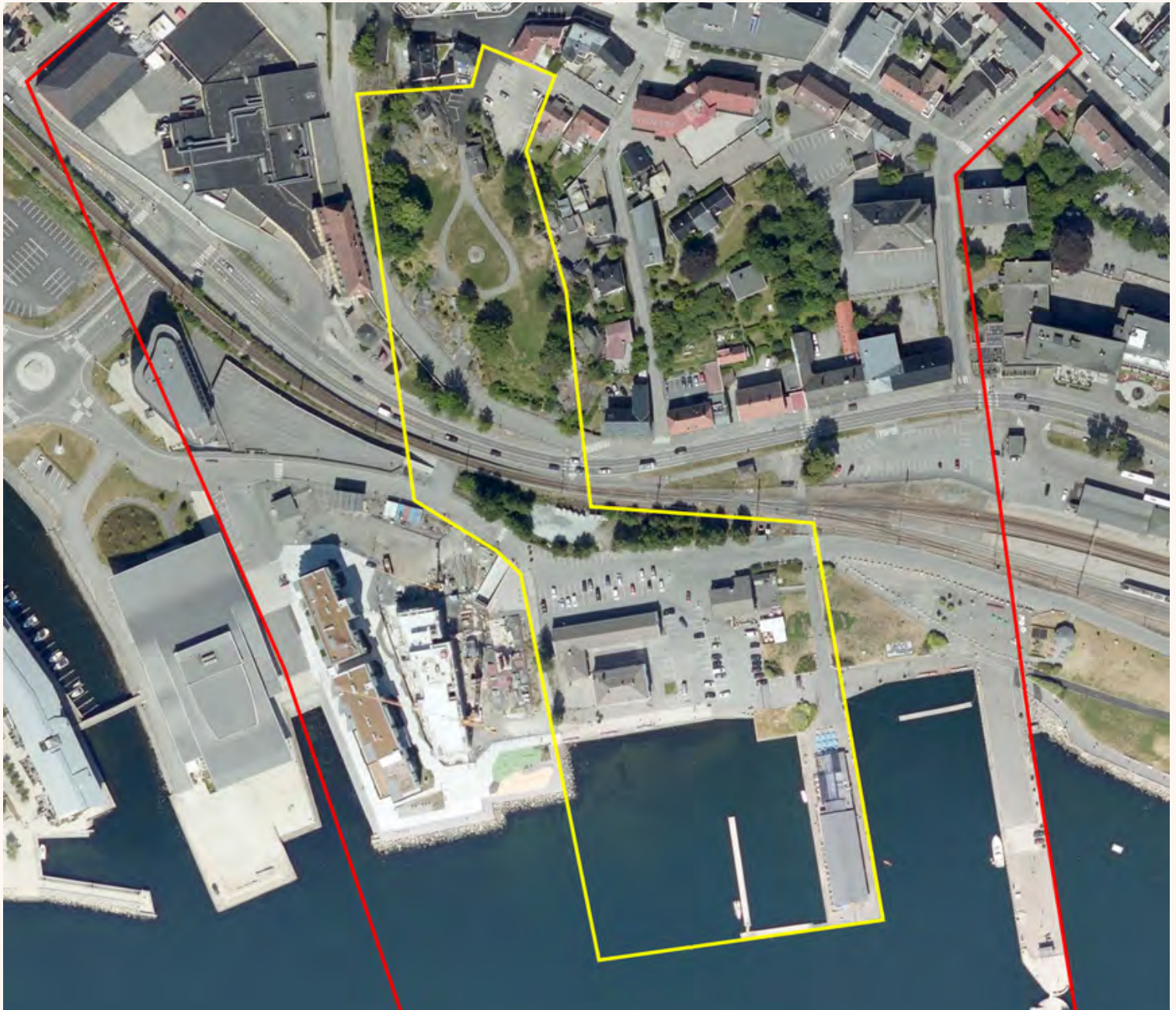
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From the secretariat: Tone Berge, Bjørnar Haveland, Andrea Perez Montesdeoca.

From the board: Marianne Skjulhaug, Agustin Sebastian-Rivera

From the site: Ingerid Heggelund, Kari Madsen Moldvær, Ole Sannes Riiser



Design and program a connection that revitalizes and brings the centre and seafront together.

The town centre is cut off from the seafront by a busy road, a railway line and steep topography. The main task is to propose a concept that overcomes these barriers, bridging the gap between Larvik's centre and the seafront.

Explore how this connection, as well as adjoining public spaces and historic buildings, can be programmed and elevated with new features to attract people and revitalise the centre.

Summary of the task

Larvik is a small town characterised by a comfortable climate and natural beauty, but suffers numerous infrastructural and geological limitations, which have burdened town planning and development particularly in recent years.

Larvik is located on a narrow piece of land between the sea and Farris Lake, with rugged topography and a harbour distinctly exposed to the elements. The town's geography is further constricted by regional infrastructure. All rail and car traffic passing from Oslo toward the south of the country is channeled through Larvik.

To compound matters, the town centre has several areas that are essentially untouchable for future planning, owing to a new railway line project that has been put on hold indefinitely.

Already decades in the making, the line would have provided an underground stop in the centre, but also necessitated the demolition of several town blocks. It is currently not possible to plan any long-term uses for the areas potentially affected by the railway, in case the project starts up again.

The old railway tracks are currently blocking Larvik's connection to the harbour. Today the harbour is so disconnected that people prefer to drive the 500 meters up to the town square rather than navigate a maze of obstacles by foot.

Despite the many limitations affecting Larvik's capacity to develop its centre, there are still a few tools hidden at the bottom of the toolbox. Financing has been granted to bridge the many barriers between the harbour and the centre as well as for a new library. Both of these projects could contribute significantly to revitalizing the centre and connect the heart of the town to its beautiful harbour once again.

Larvik has entered European 17 to get inspiration and direction for how to overcome these tricky barriers. We begin by asking:

how can programming, public space and historic buildings work together to make the distances in Larvik feel smaller and the town more attractive and accessible?

How can programming, public space and historic buildings work together to make the distances in Larvik feel smaller and the town more attractive and accessible?

Larvik needs a new library. Could the site work as a host for the new library or would another type of public or commercial programme be better suited and more strategic for the site?

General remarks

In Larvik, the town center and the harbor are separated by a busy road, a railway line, and challenging topography. The task outlined in the brief was to create a connection that would unite the center and the seafront.

The jury would like to thank all participants for their entries. These entries clearly reflect a dedicated group seeking to solve Larvik's connectivity challenge. Larvik received a total of 19 proposals, exhibiting a wide array of ideas. Four of these entries were short-listed for consideration.

While many proposals concentrated solely on the crossing itself, the jury wished to see better understanding of how everything around the area connects. Different roads encircle the area, each serving distinct roles and functions, which should have been integrated into a comprehensive and analytical approach. Specifically, greater consideration should have been given to facilitating access to the harbor from the train station for people arriving in Larvik via train, as the station adjoins the study site. Ideally, the proposed crossing should be easily accessible from the train station.

Nonetheless, the jury found numerous intriguing ideas and proposals that were thoroughly evaluated. It is really important that the upcoming plans strongly prioritize linking Larvik's city center with the harbor, strengthening the city center, and it is the jury's opinion that the winning project offers a robust concept that can fulfill this task.



Winner

LW585 – (Re)generate

The proposal creates a strong link between the town, Bøkkerfjellet and the seafront. It suggests a variety of means of how to connect the strongly separated parts of town through a row of physical, programmatic and visual interventions, which should use circular economy as a material resource. The fragmentary approach to the task was considered by the jury to be an appropriate response to an equally fragmented environment, as well as a valuable tool for dealing with a development process full of uncertainties.

The proposal suggests a multimedia library and digital archives dug inside Bokkerfjellet and a multi-function cultural centre down by the seashore. These two focal points should be interconnected by the visually strongest feature of the proposal, the bridge. The multimedia library is suggested to be built inside Bøkkerfjellet in order to be a part of the connecting route. The vertical connection is a good addition, although a possibly fairly demanding one to make tempting to use on street level. The new bridge has a smooth design and it looks inviting to use in its human scale. Lowering the bridge level is a clever solution to make it more inviting and closer to street scale.



On the other hand, the shoreline is dominated by two characteristic features – the cultural centre including a library and the sculpted access to the Fjord. Taking water as a part of the program is a clever and natural solution to avoid creating a direct borderline where the sea meets the land. Breaking that borderline into a built marine landscape is an inviting gesture to the inhabitants too. The redesign of the shoreline is based on the idea of partly recycling the material from the old car park and redesigning it into the seapool structures. The project proves that the site is suitable for a new cultural activity. It could be a library, a cultural centre and accommodate commercial space too. The idea of keeping the old Tollboden building and adding new parts to it works well and gives the library a special character.

In an urban sense the proposal is flexible for further elaboration and programming. The specific functions may easily be specified or partly reprogrammed when needed. The bridge and the seapool are the main characteristics of the proposal. The rest can be developed further according to future programs. The vertical connection through Bokkerfjellet must be carefully designed to be a pleasant part of the routes. The study of the shore area proves that there are good opportunities to build something inviting by the shoreline for the people. If it's not a library, the proposal gives other ideas based on the marine location. Making the marine wildlife and research visible at the pool area is a beautiful idea worth researching and programming more.

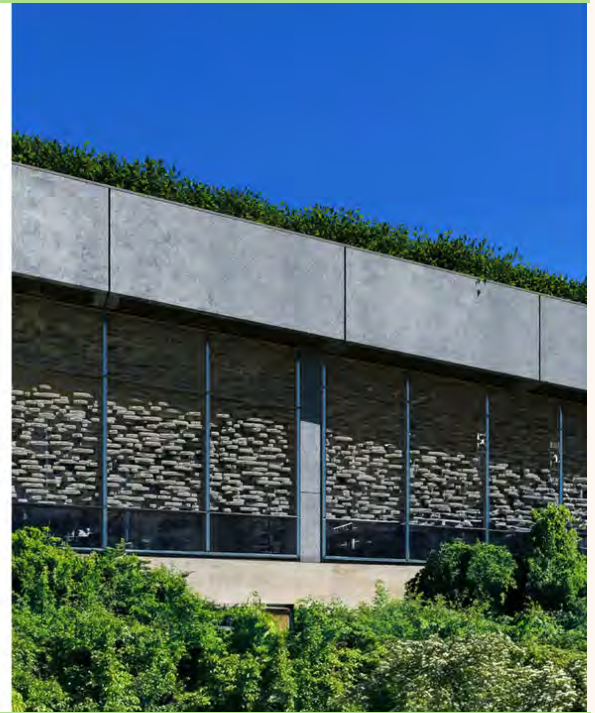
The proposal was also the “Folkestemmen’s” (audience) favorite, which gives a solid basis for further development together with all stakeholders. The jury notes that programming and investments in phases need to be taken carefully into account in the process of further development, for what (re)Generate seems to be the adequate project.

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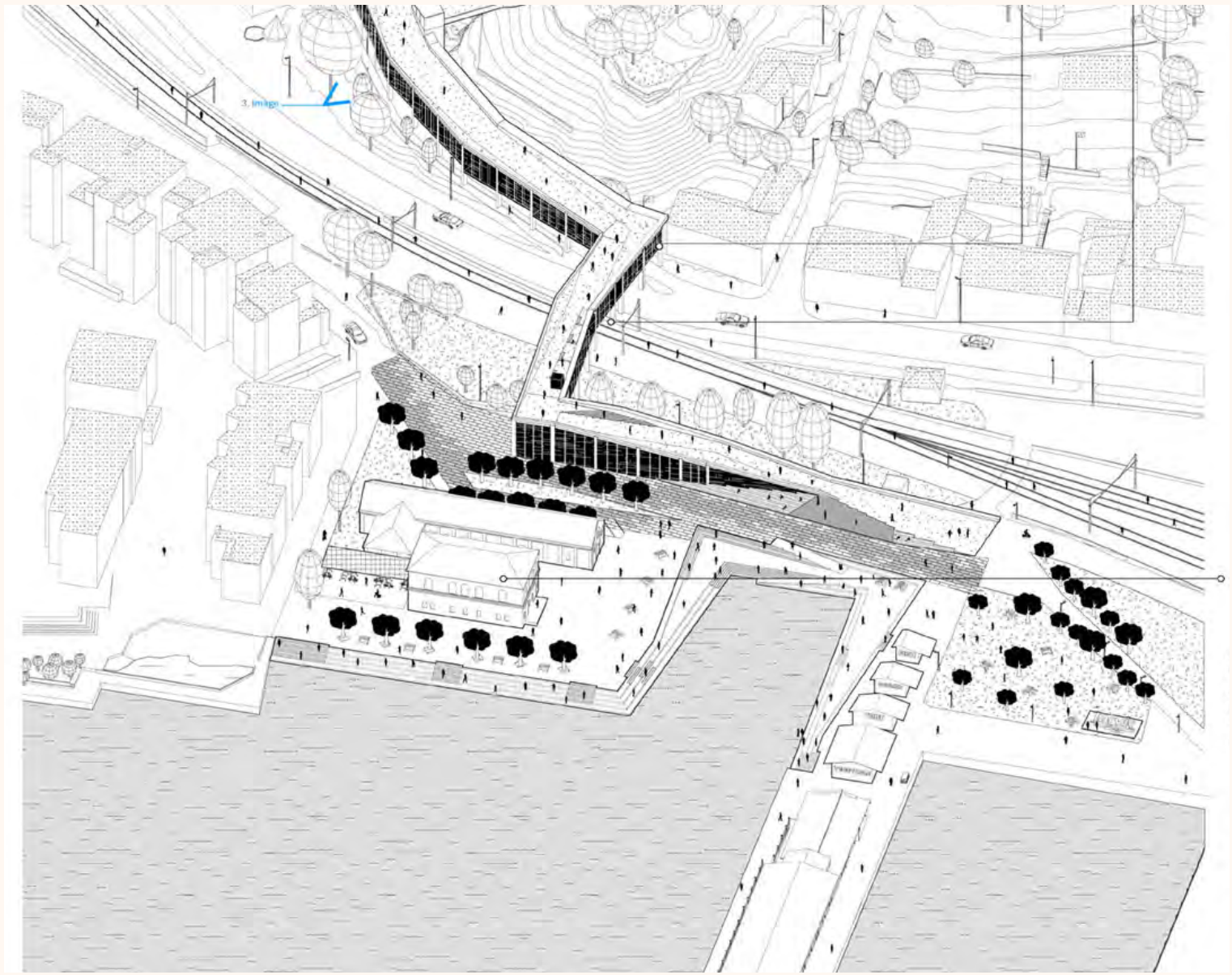


Runner-Up

QH311 - Standing stone to the Sea

The project aims to connect Bøkkerfjellet and the harbor via a promenade. It suggests building a library within this promenade, featuring a walkway on top. The structure can be constructed in phases, using local materials. A part of the library will be inside the hill's bunker. The promenade ends at the harbor, with stairs leading to the water.

'Standing Stone to the Sea' impressed the jury with its detailed plans and drawings, showing thorough consideration. It focuses on Larvik's features, such as the hill's view of the fjord, a welcoming library atmosphere, wildlife considerations like lizards using the crossing, and the use of local materials. The main concern revolves around the project's lack of flexibility, given its status as a megastructure with fixed connections at both ends. The project could have benefited from focusing less on the details and materiality of the structure and more effort on a sensitive adaptation to the landscape and better resolved meetings with surrounding urban spaces. Additionally, the proposed phases seem unrealistic and more rhetoric.



The jury appreciates the project's unique concept and how it connects different parts of the city. It's a bold move that could revitalize Larvik by linking the city center to the sea. At best it could characterize the arrival view into Larvik. The project's idea of using the library as a connector is seen as innovative and forward-thinking in urban development.

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Special Mention

IA862 - Topography for life

Topography for life impresses with a strategy for the whole study site. The proposal outlines comprehensive pedestrian-friendly street refurbishment and couples it with light and easily executable interventions around the streets. The jury appreciates that the project places the library and programs on the mountain, showcasing public spaces, and strengthening Larviks city centre. However, the project falls short due to certain ambiguities. The proposed winding path lacks clarity in its ultimate destination, and the harbor building appears more as a landmark than a highly functional structure. The project introduces several small ideas, but the main aspects require more articulate development for a stronger impact. Topography for life is a reminder to look beyond the explicit competition guidelines when attempting to revitalize the centre of Larvik.

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 Gustavo Figueira Serrano (ES), architect
 Itarte Pérez Álvaro (ES), architect
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Special Mention

SP816 - Community (AS) Center

The jury highly appreciated the transformation of the historic buildings, which successfully combined preservation and reinterpretation with innovative additions. The introduction of light structures were noted as sensitive and commendable design elements, considering energy and climate factors, creating semi-climatized spaces bridging the gap between indoor and outdoor areas. This approach effectively preserves and revitalizes the cultural heritage in an intriguing way.

The proposed escalator as a solution for improving connectivity received commendation for its intelligent and efficient urban approach. It skillfully tapped into the underground potential and made creative use of the bunkers. However, concerns were expressed regarding the costs of implementing this structure, limited population in Larvik and whether this approach would be regarded as safe at night.

Authors:

Barbara Mazza (BE), architect
Claudio Cortese (BE), architect

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Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
01	Shortlisted	LW585	(Re)Generate	Winner. 12 000 Euro prize
02	Shortlisted	QH311	Standing stone to the sea	Runner-Up: 6000 Euro prize
03	Shortlisted	IA862	Topography for life	Special Mention
04	Shortlisted	SP816	Community (AS) center	Special Mention
05		BP091	Naturally Public	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit to the distinctive library building. Pyramiden exhibits positive aspects such as strong connections to the city center and an acknowledgment of the city as a network, with efforts to program existing buildings. The project's understanding of scale raises concerns, and despite numerous ideas, prioritization is lacking. Overall, the positive elements of connectivity and adaptability are undermined by unrealistic aspects, such as the insufficiently addressed megastructure and the inadequately sized library spaces.
06		XP925	The Larvik Folkepark	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury acknowledges the commendable sense of humor and boldness, incorporating classic amusement park elements like a Ferris wheel and viewpoints. The integration of the ramp into the landscape, particularly the mountainside of Bøkkerfjellet, is laudable for its efficiency and attractiveness. However, the jury's skepticism about the viability of an amusement park on the site raises concerns. Despite its vibrant facade, the project lacks the depth of true architectural or landscape architectural innovation. The process is deemed premature, indicating room for much further refinement.
19		WX941	Join up the dots	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit to the energetic drawings and the robust conceptual approach that showcases the team's commitment as well as a well-designed harbor. The project is a challenging concept, featuring a bridge constructed from buildings that resembles a landscape. The library is nestled deep within Bøkkerfjellet, presenting a modern, Minecraft-like revitalization of the fishing harbor—an intriguing response to the challenges posed by the terrain. Aesthetically, it offers an interesting solution, although the buildings comprising the bridge seem disproportionately small in scale. Overall, the project is inspiring in its ambition, but faces challenges in achieving holistic functionality and realism.
18		TO922	Bryggefjellet, uniting Larviks heart and horizon	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The proposal is praised for its tight structure and the potential to create a strong sense of destination by incorporating multiple buildings. However, it falls short in addressing how to integrate with existing structures and lacks clarity on the landing point of the bridge. Overall, while the proposal has positive elements like a cohesive structure, it is marred by issues of integration, unclear design elements, and a perceived disconnect from the existing urban context.

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
07		ES922	Uno messuno e centomila a line	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit to the proposal for presenting some interesting ideas, such as construction on the front of the mountain with an elevator and a lower bridge over the road. The library's distributed layout and the potential phased development are also positive aspects. However, the project, while straightforward, lacks poetic elements. The integration of the bridge tower with the library is interesting, but the design is criticized for its fragility, especially concerning the simultaneous operation of two elevators. The practicality of the bridge design is acknowledged, yet the complex transportation system from Bøkkerfjellet to the sea is considered a downside.
08		QI248	The loop	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit to an intriguing interpretation of the landscape, maintaining a thoughtful connection between the mountains and the sea. The proposed architectural design focuses on a ramp that deviates from the natural terrain, creating a loop with a mix of elements like an elevator and buildings. The inclusion of an amphitheater within the loop is a positive aspect, providing a framing effect and noise reduction. Removing the pier to enhance beach accessibility is also commendable. The proposal falls short in responding adequately to the challenges presented.
09		EX713	The cultivated path	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury praises the proposal for daring to address challenges without resorting to a mega-project approach. It introduces different independent elements, steering away from a one-size-fits-all solution. The decision to place the library atop Bøkkerfjellet near the parking area is well-received, as is the thoughtful incorporation of a forest backdrop for the dock. However, the project faces criticism for its challenging plank crossing, incomplete appearance, and a potentially overly humble approach.
10		GK248	Larvik Lines	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury praises the approach to addressing the situation around Tollboden, incorporating a surrounding structure. The inclusion of an observation point on Bøkkerfjellet connected by a cable car adds an interesting and scenic element. The project emphasizes greenery, creating a lush environment that is aesthetically appealing. However, a major drawback lies in the challenge of integrating Tollboden into such a project, raising doubts about its feasibility. Additionally, the ambitious green and expansive design raises concerns about the considerable amount of land required.
11		JG145	Bridging the gap	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit to its integration with the terrain, featuring a ramp leading to Bøkkerfjellet and creating a new path between significant locations. The design demonstrates competence and sensitivity across various scales. The harbor integration is well-executed and humble. However, the concept seems incomplete, lacking substantial content or purpose.

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
12		ZW840	Larviksterrassen	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit for a comprehensible proposal through clear illustrations. The building, prominently positioned atop a mountain, spans two floors below ground level, expanding the park's surface like a terrace. While the design is straightforward, the structure appears to lack a clear purpose, leaving much space on the mountain's summit unutilized. The proposal heavily emphasizes the elevator, providing limited information on other design aspects and lacking cohesion.
13		OL504	Urban Soilution	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury praises the thorough analyses and visual appeal as well as the consideration of the existing road as a potential ramp.. However, it falls short in addressing the task at hand, as the suggested location for the library seems disconnected from the city, indicating a lack of understanding of Larvik's overall layout. The narrow, multi-story design of the library raises concerns about its functionality. While the proposal challenges the task and presents interesting ideas, it fails to effectively solve the underlying challenges.
14		LX936	Sansevandring	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit for integrating the library into the scenic Bøkkerfjellet, offering a unique and picturesque setting that could potentially attract visitors. The inclusion of an elevator and a bridge adds accessibility, enhancing the overall connectivity of the project. However, the graphical representation of the proposal is challenging to decipher, potentially hindering effective communication of the design intent and concerns arise about the feasibility of operating a library in such a location.
15		BX327	Kystbyen	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury praises the straightforwardness of the project, featuring a pier, an elevator, and a library, making it easy to comprehend. The proposed solutions are basic, with bridges and ramps, but they compromise the scenic view of the sea. Additionally, the inclusion of an elevator disrupts the natural aesthetic of the surroundings, detracting from the overall visual appeal. While the project's simplicity facilitates understanding, its negative impact on the view is a significant drawback.
16		RT507	Non Stop Larvik	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit to the proposed library, which envisions an expansive structure spanning the entire Bøkkerfjellet. The building's roof is seen as a potential compensation for obstructed sea views by new constructions. Positive aspects include the innovative use of the library roof and the desire for an urban park, while negatives center around the potential impact of the bridge on Tollboden and the challenge of its sea-based foundation.
17		ZA648	Larvlink Bokkerfjellet bridge	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury commends the project for a well-designed ramp with a fluid and functional connection featuring a favorable slope, along with the appreciated incorporation of a green belt. The drawing's unique orientation provides a fresh perspective, revealing a critical point in the western competition area near the Fritzøe site and Farris building. Criticism arises regarding the undersized library. The ramp, while efficient, accentuates an existing barrier and lacks universal design in its shortcut to Tollboden.



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E17 Norway Jury Report Østmarka



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European 17 in Norway

European is an innovation process for architecture and urban development, centered around an open competition of ideas for architects, landscape architects, and urban planners under the age of 40. The European competition takes place every 2 years with European 17 being the 17th edition.

In European 17, 51 competition sites from 12 different European countries were launched at the same time connected by the theme Living Cities 2: Care.

For European 17 there were 5 sites in Norway:

- Larvik, represented by Larvik municipality.
- Krøgenes, represented by Arendal municipality
- Åkrehamn, represented by Karmøy municipality
- Østmarka, represented by Trondheim municipality
- Grensen, represented by NTNU (Norwegian University of science and technology)

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The 1st jury round took place the 27.09.2023 in Trondheim.

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From the jury: Ida Winge Andersen, Jacob Kamp, Eli Grønn, Luis Basabe Montalvo, Katariina Haigh, Ilkka Törmä and Eili Vigestad Berge.

From the technical committee: Tone Berge, Bjørnar Haveland

From the site: Frank Grønås, Thomas Kilnes-Kvam, Mathias Keiseraas, Einar Bye and Kathrine Løbersli Sørstrøm

Midpoint dialogue meeting between jury and site representatives

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Selection of winner, runner up, special mentions.

Conducted as a physical meeting on the 12th of November 2023, also in Vienna.

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The decision of the jury is final and independent.

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From the secretariat: Tone Berge, Bjørnar Haveland, Andrea Perez Montesdeoca.

From the board: Marianne Skjulhaug.

From the site: Frank Grønås, Mathias Keiseraas, Einar Bye and Kathrine Løbersli Sørstrøm.

Matrix of submitted entries

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01	Shortlisted	RP409	A Home for All	Winner: 12 000 EUR prize
02	Shortlisted	KY096	Østmarka Therapeutical Landscapes	Runner-Up: 6 000 EUR prize
03	Shortlisted	OL579	Way to Care	Special Mention
04	Shortlisted	EQ555	Østmarka Re-enacted	Special Mention
05	Shortlisted	FB361	Hortus	The jury praises the proposal for its consistent approach of blending with the cultural landscape, matching the topography and featuring a well-designed nursing home. The densification and expansion of the existing residential structure have been skillfully implemented, aligning with the Klæbu model. Allotment gardens on Kanonhaugen are a thoughtful suggestion, although, with the proposed structures and activity, they also alter the impressively open and unbuilt landscape. The housing typology mimics the appearance of the existing buildings and the typology is rather conventional. They would have benefitted from a more boldly contemporary take on what housing could offer on this unique site.
06		QC777	Living Communities	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit for the modular and scalable design for housing units. The atrium gardens in the nursing home enhance patients' well-being and the parking is solved smartly, using the terrain levels. Nevertheless, the nursing home has a complex layout, making orientation difficult. Another notable drawback is the loss of most of the meadow with the red-listed fungi. The idea of the porosity that structures the plan is rather conceptual; while it creates shortcuts for the residents, it discourages public access through the site.
07		UH232	Music to my ears	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury praises the creative and poetic approach to integrating music as a tool in programming. Furthermore, the nursing home is thoughtfully planned in two sections on both sides of the road. Together with the existing public buildings, it creates a clear public centre for the site. However, the jury had also concerns about the functionality of the nursing home, its blocking of the north-south connectivity and the traffic and street design challenges in the <u>solution</u> .
08		LD619	Sammenvevd	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury acknowledges the housing solution with a well-integrated, scalable concept and appealing housing units whose type seems fitting for the neighbourhood, although the typology is not very versatile. However, their block layout is somewhat crowded and there are drawbacks in the street layout, too: there are three almost parallel streets north-south, but otherwise, the connectivity to the surrounding street and woods could have been stronger, considering the amount of housing.

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
09		Al143	Caespitosus	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury credits the striking contrast among the various buildings and planning that effectively defines the nursing home's outdoor areas. The location of the nursing home is deemed suitable for such high-density use. Among several drawbacks is the removal of many of the existing buildings without a clear reason. Furthermore, there's concern about the privatisation of the neighbourhood in the north, which appears underdeveloped. Important east-west connections are blocked in the proposal.
10		ZO913	Amongst the lawn	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury acknowledges the sensible typology with a semi-conditioned zone around the buildings and clusters of small houses, appreciating the use of glass structures as well as the good layout for residential areas. The buildings are partially connected by a walkway with passages underneath for people and animals. The dominance of the nursing home on the site is a notable drawback. The density on the site is high and little concern has been given to the need for wildlife corridors or the preservation of the red-listed fungi. While the nursing home offers the potential for good living conditions, it has obvious logistical challenges.
11		BX601	Community of care	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury appreciates the proposal for recognizing the site as part of a larger area and the preservation of the existing structures. While the housing is conventional, the residential environments have a cosy, balanced scale. The nursing home features well-designed living spaces, meeting rooms, and safe surroundings for the elderly. However, the proposal lacks a cohesive concept that would make use of the uniqueness of the site or that would use the nursing home as an opportunity for a strong architectural gesture. Furthermore, the lack of wildlife corridors suggests a need for a more integrated masterplan approach and a narrative.
12		NC211	Home in the fields	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury appreciates the proposed nursing home for its well-planned layout. Notably, the outdoor areas, though marginally sized, have received significant attention, with features like an atrium and a café contributing to the design. On the downside, the lower housing typologies fail to introduce substantial improvements compared to the existing structures on the site.

Matrix of submitted entries

	Jurymeeting 1	Code	Project Name	Project Feedback
13		EF544	Host the people mark the site	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury wants to give credit for its distinctive form with a strong and modern expression, daring to match the scale of the existing hospital on Østmarka. However, the decision to create a circular building is divisive and the choice not to incorporate the entire program into one building poses significant challenges. The housing could have been ideally more versatile. While the project strengthens the east-west connection, the proposed housing blocks north-south corridors.
14		OW427	Gard-ing Lade	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury praises the project for activating the landscape on Kanonhaugen and aiming for a new kind of housing model. However, the nursing home appears very challenging to operate due to detached pavilions and limited connections between Kannonhaugen and built areas. The project severs the east-west public walking and cycling routes through the site. The access through the site is not easily legible, creating a confusing urban layout. In particular, the road closure affects access to the kindergarten and community housing.
15		FR654	(Eld)itive Home	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury appreciates the clear explanation of the benefits of the 15-minute city concept, on which the proposal is based. However, the evaluation points out a lack of clarity on how this concept has influenced the proposed solution. The nursing home, while well-explained and centrally located in the meadow, raises concerns about its size, appearing excessively large.
16		PU759	Regenerating Østmarka	The project did not make it to the shortlist. The jury acknowledges the preservation and expansion of existing structures, such as the Victoria Family Center, and the preservation of the fungus meadow untouched as a positive goal, but being complementary surrounded by buildings severs the red-listed fungus. The decision to maintain the current access to the kindergarten is also commendable. The nursing home is following the Klæbu model. However, the layout is complicated; it has long and complex internal connections, which is a major drawback. The proposal also falls short in addressing corridors for wildlife.



Investigate how a new nursing home and a scalable housing programme can be integrated on a highly sensitive site. How do we prioritise between the need for housing, care services and urban ecologies?

1. A design concept for a nursing home with 60 - 70 units.
2. A design concept for a scalable housing programme with that is sensitive and well adapted to the site.
3. Find innovative concepts that balance social sustainability with care for the ecological systems on the site.

Summary of the task

This task goes to the heart of the challenges intrinsic to the idea of sustainable development. A denser city requires more services and housing, putting pressure on existing green corridors and urban habitats. How do we prioritize, and how can sensitive and innovative architecture and programming not just mitigate the negative impacts but also create regenerative concepts for an equitable city for animals, plants as well as humans?

Lade, the peninsula on which the site is located, is an important and complex part of Trondheim city. It contains many listed buildings and historical sites dating back from Viking settlements to listed modernist architecture from the sixties. The area is known for its green landscape and rolling hills, much of which also have different categories of protected status.

With Trondheim being one of the fastest-growing cities in Norway, Lade has become a strategic area for densification, leading to an increased need for municipal services, especially care for the elderly. The Østmarka area already contains a range of different municipal and governmental services such as a school, kindergartens, assisted living facilities, and a psychiatric hospital. The municipality has acquired the site with the intention of building a nursing home.

In addition, they plan a commercial housing scheme on the same site. Østmarka has obvious cultural and natural values and the municipality wants to strengthen and make them more accessible.

Plans for development on the site have met resistance among neighbors. They fear the loss of precious natural and cultural environments, old trees, and fertile soil. The forest functions as a green lung for the area, allowing deer to move freely and the rolling hills of the meadow landscape are home to insects and pollinators. Lade is unique in Trondheim for its soft interaction between wildlife and people and functions as an important recreational area.

Also, a grassroots initiative has shown interest in acquiring the derelict old wooden houses on the site to establish a housing coop that could provide affordable housing through self-builder methods and collective practices.

Trondheim municipality is entering European 17 to receive ideas and concepts for how to reconcile the contested character of the site and develop it in a holistic way that can address both the concerns of inhabitants and provide care services to the overall population

General remarks

The challenge was to develop an area which has strong ecological values as well as a beautiful natural setting for a sensitive urban refill with a nursing home and housing. Competitors were free to challenge and adopt the questions set by the organisers, which some of the proposals decided to do.

The jury was content to see both very strategic as well as tactical proposals. The strongest proposals had done a thorough analysis of the site and programs and had managed to answer both urban strategy and tactics successfully. The jury sees the need for both in all the further discussions with stakeholders and the development process of Østmarka.

Østmarka has a strong topography, which underlines the separations of Kanonhaugen from the northern part of the site. Yet, Kanonhaugen is the visually dominating part of the area and its entrance view. The winning entry 'Home for All' had studied the physical qualities more than most others. The varying topography of the site had been taken as a cornerstone of the proposal. At best, the nursing home typology follows the topography or takes advantage of the views of the landscape, and the scale of housing adjusts to the height differences.

From an ecological point of view, the strongest proposals had created or kept the existing North-South connection and connected it with the fungi area and Kanonhaugen. Many successful proposals improved pedestrian routes through the area to connect it to its surroundings and offer better quality recreation to all the inhabitants of the greater area.

In most proposals, buildings were subordinate to the landscape and they sought to blend with it, which seems appropriate in this site that has cultural heritage qualities. The housing solutions varied from those which hardly kept any of the existing buildings to those which tried to carefully preserve them all and even combine them into new structures. The jury was content to see innovative studies of scalable housing, especially in the strongest proposals. Placing housing straight on the northern hillside of Kanonhaugen raised questions about sufficient daylight, but that location proved an interesting option for the nursing home. Positioned between the school, the daycare centre and the hospitals to the west, the nursing home completes a chain of public buildings thus strengthening a kind of public core of the site.

The jury was happy to see a vast variety of nursing home typologies with an innovative approach. Unfortunately, some of those studies were not functional enough. Nevertheless, they proved the potential of the site for such use. The winning entry's nursing home was seen as both functioning and architecturally beautiful in its design.



Winner

RP409 - A Home for All

The project successfully integrates both a nursing home and the necessary housing units into the site with a subtle yet distinctive touch. This gentleness is exemplified in the visually stunning graphic presentations, inviting a closer examination to appreciate all the project's qualities.

Through a 'green ring', the project links the site to the existing green corridors of the Lade peninsula stretching inwards from the coast. They build a successful overarching green strategy of living with other species that is implemented at both the neighbourhood and architectural scales.

There is a clear strategy on where on the site there is room for building new, how and why the existing building mass is kept, and where large green areas are left untouched. The project successfully collects programs in denser points in order to leave other parts untouched for the sake of the other species with which we share this site.

The nursing home is placed as a series of linked pentagonal shaped buildings along the northside of the steep slope from Kanonhaugen, thus creating a protected green area south of the buildings for the fragile inhabitants. The pentagonal shape of the building creates a subtle but distinct character to the nursing home, resulting in a strong identity.



All of the existing buildings are kept and refurbished. In addition the project proposes to add to the existing houses to enlarge them. This is the one point where the jury is not completely convinced, as it seems like a superfluous intervention, which would involve a complex action on the structures, and would unnecessarily invade the otherwise respected green area.

Towards the north an agglomeration of new housing is proposed, 6 pentagonal buildings, similar to the stadtvillas of Germany and Austria form a small cluster around an open landscape room. They form a new and interesting building typology for living in the city in close contact with the surrounding nature.

The project 'A home for all' is a convincing winner of the competition in Østmarka with its humane approach that clearly understands the scale of the site and works successfully on many levels. The project creates something completely new with convincing architecture and a holistic strategy towards the landscape.

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Runner-up



Runner-up



Runner-up



Runner-up



Runner-up



Runner-up



Runner-up



Runner-up

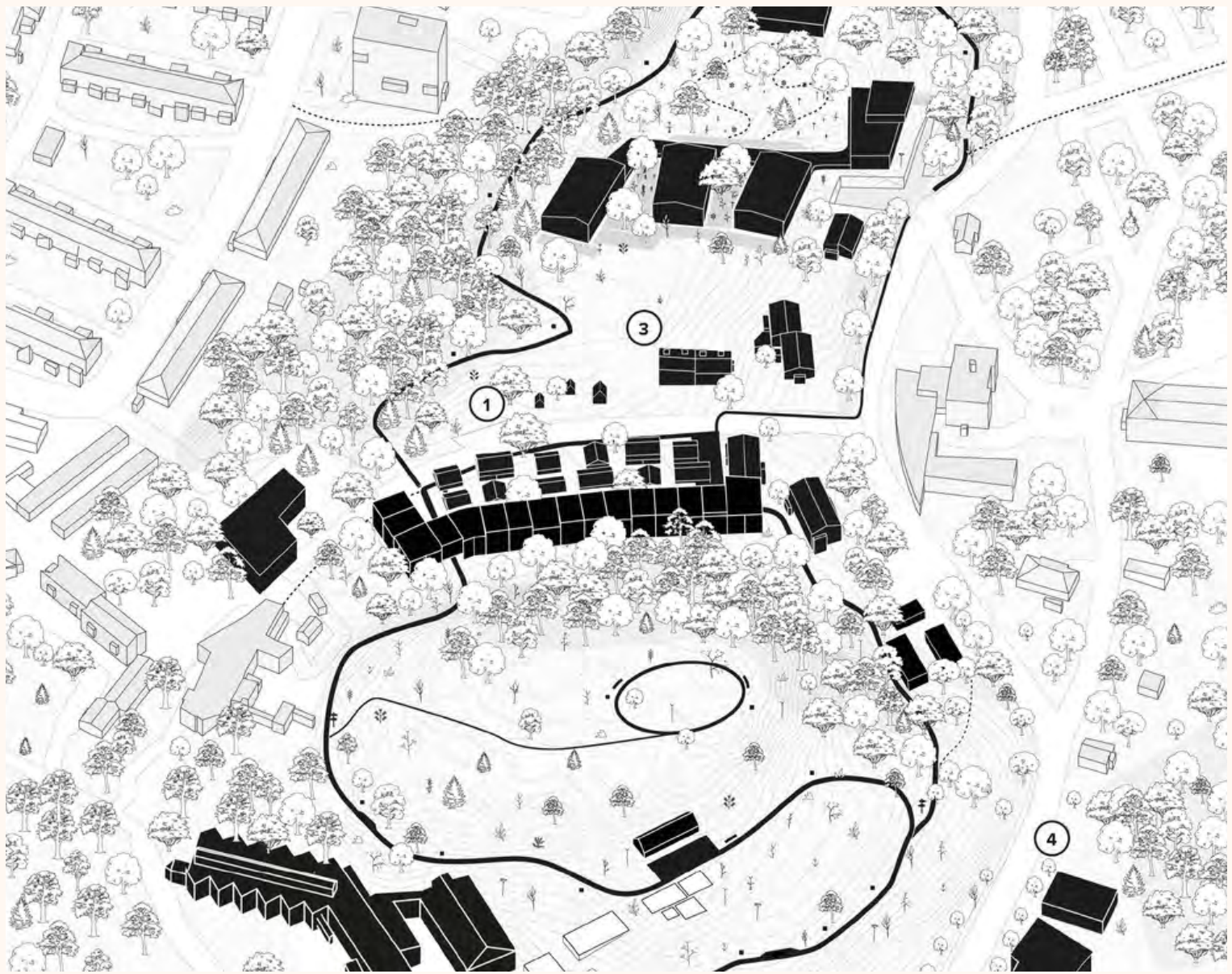
Runner-Up

KY096 - Østmarka Therapeutical Landscapes

Therapeutical landscapes introduces a subtle approach towards the landscape and the site with a clear phasing strategy, capitalising on the existing qualities by making them accessible.

The initial step starts with a lighter touch, featuring an elevated pathway that gracefully traverses the landscape, accompanied by smaller assisting structures. This pathway opens up Kanonhaugen's natural habitat making it accessible while preserving other areas in their natural state.

The project represents a clear strategy for existing buildings: start using them as is, as soon as possible! Some buildings are introduced in the first phase, followed by others in the second. In the latter, the team introduces the idea of reusing the foundations for the nursing homes, resulting in a cluster of interconnected buildings. The jury found this approach more compelling in terms of climate considerations than purely functional or architectural aspects.



The third phase introduces a cluster of buildings: the village. This was one of the few proposals suggesting a somewhat larger scale to a housing complex, which the jury appreciated. However, concerns remain about the assumed flexibility and the location's shadowed position beneath Kanonhaugen.

Therapeutical landscapes is formulated through a strong narrative, which underlines its processual character and shows robust strategy marked by intelligence and potential. The project focuses on densifying in specific areas and preserving and repurposing not only the buildings on site, but also the school. It showcases a commitment to allowing nature to shine and be accessible, and the approach to the southern part of the site could seamlessly complement the winning proposal.

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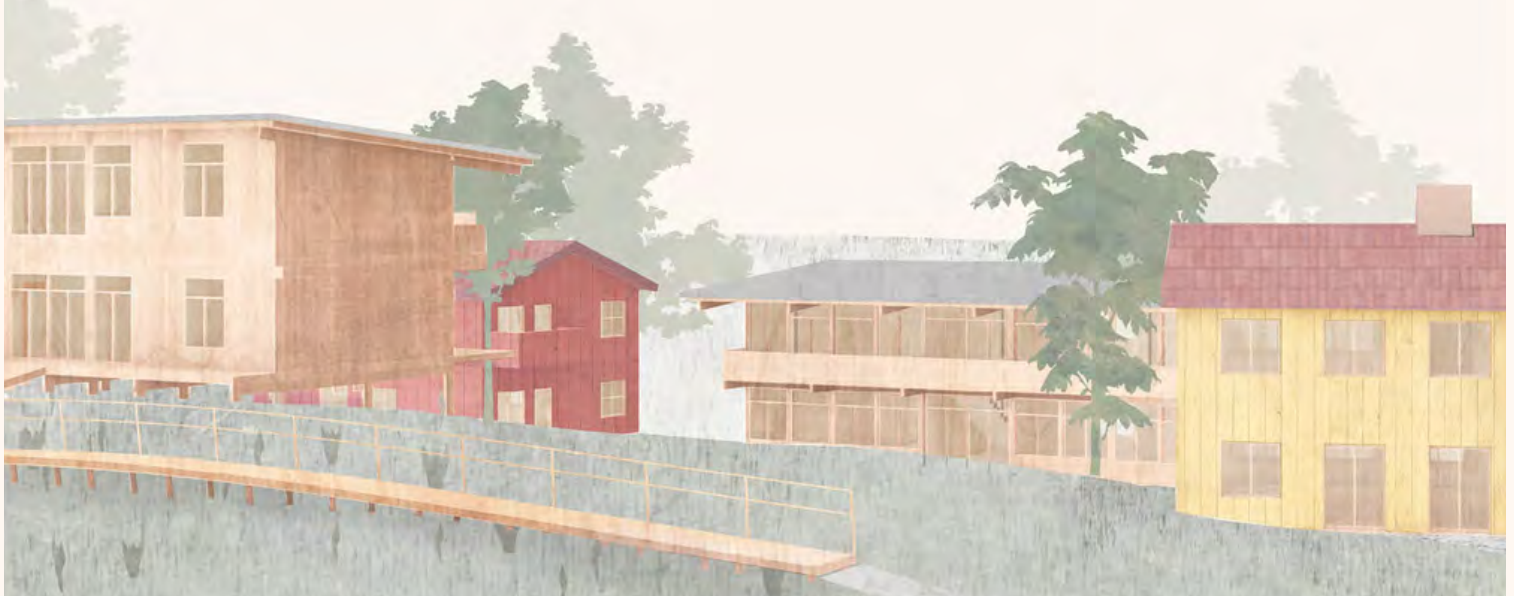
Special Mention

OL579 - Way to Care

The project receives a special mention for a process-oriented approach to working with landscape and building on it gradually and minimally. The project does all it can to disturb the soil as little as possible. With these principles, Way to care sketches out ideas for how humans build and live among other species. The proposal goes beyond the competition brief for Østmarka and right to the heart of the European17 theme.

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- Zuzanna Sekula (PL), landscape architect



Special Mention

EQ555 - Østmarka Re-enacted

Østmarka reenacted lets the existing landscape of Østmarka dictate the layout of buildings. The goal is a coexistence with nature, balanced with the need for housing and a nursing home.

The buildings are placed at the edge of the site, framing an open north-south landscape-room. This is the only project that places the buildings on the edges of the site. The jury appreciates the project's approach to the landscape and the proposed directions and structure of the proposal.

Additionally, the jury highlights the good analysis and the sympathetic presentation-technique showcased in Østmarka reenacted.

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