

# DILEMMA AT LITTLE SOTRA

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Dilemma/ How will we grow communities and meet?  
On Little Sotra the neighbourhoods in change, and these images are taken 100 meters apart.



**Backyard** of 2000 was often an informal meeting place for our neighbours @private  
The balloons hung from wall to wall

# DILEMMA AT LITLE SOTRA

## AN ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL ON RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES

The project is a case study on fragile places on Litle Sotra.  
I am using the local Brattholmen School and the area around to explore how suburban and rural areas can be developed in other ways than in a centralized pattern and propose a new strategy on how to grow a community.

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**CONTEXT**

It started with my personal feeling of not wanting to move back to the island where I am from. The community I once knew while I grew up has changed so much the last decade, due to the centralization around the area and the growth of the shopping centre. We now meet at the restaurants inside the mall, and pass our village as if it was a drive through.

At the beginning of this semester, I made an extensive study of Litle Sotra and Brattholmen and identified the problems present in the area where the school-age population is shrinking but the elderly population is growing, and with more people moving into the neighborhood either retired or working elsewhere. This results in the risk of dissolution and creeping suburbanization, with the school at risk of being relocated. Current densification is elsewhere and centered around the shopping mall, and to counter this I have focused my attention on the latent possibilities of the school to strengthen the community and hold the ground. It's a mix between a shrinking city and a growing community. It is very much about a new village strategy.

The site today contains a lot of asphalt inside and outside the school area, a very nice recreational space that is hard to find, a historical seafront, that today has the only seaside shop on the island, and a quay with a public program which is a parking lot for 16 cars.

**WHAT**

*What can this place be for its neighbors and what can it be as a part of the island?*

The project seeks to deal with the question of loss of identity, change, densification, neighbourhood and civic infrastructure. How we move from our house to our meetingplaces in our neighbourhood. And what are these, or can they be? Our mailbox-wall in the middle of our road-way down our street where we meet a neighbour we have had for 15 years, is that it? On Litle Sotra most neighbours know each other, and most *sotrastriler* live here due to the rural qualities of the landscape, the seaside and trails in nature. I want my project to deal with this looking at the school as a catalyst, where I speculate that the school and the area around can come alive for bigger parts of the day for its neighbourhood, its users and as a part for the island.

How we build schools in the rural can be a village strategy, and it can both include the old as well as the young where we secure the informal meetingplaces at the core of our neighbourhoods. .

**HOW**

I want to utilize the qualities of the place, and weave them together. By connecting the edges of the neighbourhood together, to suggest a secondary pedestrian pathway through the landscape and down to the civic anchor of Brattholmen, the school. The area lacks of sidewalks, but I see this as an opportunity to look upon the wilder paths and connect them anew to create the local loops. The pathway a part of the school and the things you find along it are part of the neighbourhood. The school is to be the anchor in the neighbourhood, to offer both an exciting place to go to school, and to share the functions of the school with other actors making it alive day and night, all year.

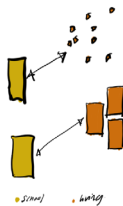
Local participation has been central in the development of my project, to arrive at more plausible public program and connections both within and across demographics, that make use of existing facilities of the school as well as the proposing new ones arising from the experiences and expertise of retirees and other locals.

## THE COLLECTION OF REFLECTIONS

### JANUARY

#### *reflections*

I wanted to come back, but why did I want this. I tried to search for the reasoning through the culture and the identity of me and my neighbours. What is it that defined us so much that we got homesick thinking about it? Why do we get homesick and how do we and when do we identify with places. Can the school have a new role when the typography around has changed so much? Can a connection to the nature and landscape be restored? Maybe I can try to do it like a story within a script? My text in social anthropology is a focus there is on how individualism, cooperation, equality and division can go hand in hand in towns and small towns in Western Norway.



#### Negotiable Identity

Us and them

How I see me, and how you see me

How we see ourselves as a group, as a community

How we define borders towards others

#### Dialect dilemmas

Language as a barrier, and as a new identity

The dynamic identity

Invincible boundaries

Knowledge of landscape

Islands as closed units?

This investigation of Little Sotra and the island around it is very much also based on landscape, and through my research now the focus upon individuals and identity I've found there is this strong connection to the rocky landscape and knolls. The islands have been cultivated since the ice age when the first people here followed the ice as it melted, and made lyngheier. They were fishermen, they were stirl. Very rapidly things change, especially now, - and this connection to the ocean, landscape and culture is changing before people do.

My conceptmodel is in the making, the rocky landscape I think at least I need to think about more as I proceed into my diploma.

**FEBRUARY***reflections*

Urban settlements represent the endpoint of domesticated landscapes. May 23rd, 2007 marks the day when a major demographic shift: The earth's population is more urban than rural. Here you have the majority of consumers of food. 80% in Norway live "urban". But how do we measure urban in this landscape? And can we have alternatives with good public places?

*Rural landscapes and seascapes - Before and now*

Is it more sustainable to live denser? Congestion of people? What is the impact of this on nature? Can nature be rewilded where it has been broken? If we all move away from rural?

Is that what will happen? High tech agriculture as the savior? Is this even real, will it happen? There is a lot of debate about what people think, and you can find both answers to be right. Things can also differ from place to place, on what is sustainable.

The utopian ideal is to put everyone into a megacity.

Intangible culture - what do we do if this goes extinct? (Havråttunet)

We could not survive if we lost our supplies now.

Cities are making so much waste (70% of the waste!)

*social gathering*

social-environmental thinking - we should understand our impact  
 Havre is a perfect example of living dense, sharing, environmental protection, an organization that is very much about understanding the landscape. Totally dependent on each other, but also a way of having their own independent. The sharing culture isn't a new thing, it's the oldest part of the culture.

Going forward

- Look at ourselves in the bigger picture
- We must be artists who change the image

Take a new angle of things:

Today I am a businessman, today I am an artist, today I am a librarian

Use yourself as a character to take on a new angle

Considering the materials within the project, from the site

We must dare to be there more, on the spot. Bleed a little. A way to map physically. Maybe 1:1 to make an impression of one of the buildings on one of the new plots. Show things

Are people as passive as I think?

Use DAV

Can I sketch out all the houses, also take the spaces with me down to the school and ask them what that room should have inside?

How can one become visible, show oneself? How to meet the people who are relative to the project?

Can I secretly plant a meadow on the "mound" on the steep islet?

Can I fill these common areas with anything?

**FEBRUARY****02:34 Reflections**

*I have started a survey of little Sotra, which is neither a unique place nor has something wonderfully exciting about it. It has mainly been a place that has developed both slowly and super-fast. Something has happened there in the last 30 years that is not unique either, but common in coastal settlements. A shopping center that made the rural a medium rural place and the vision of developing the city at the top and between department stores gave an immediate status as a city. There has never been a city there. And what defines a city is perhaps, population density? But what was the vision we have to ask, really? Should Einersen just make money? That it should just be like everywhere else and do like everyone else does? I wanted to investigate the reasons why we are moving back, to where our core identities were up and adopted. Founded. Founded. Is it important? Yes, because it does not say anything about how we perceive ourselves in relation to others and how we want to live. People want to move to the cities, they say. Then we milk that cow and build apartments on the belt and stick green patches on the entire municipal council and applaud the future and we have at least made an effort so that the seas do not rise into our living rooms here in Western Norway. We did ours. But do we do it? Do we want to live like that? And if we do not want to live like that, will we build green? What happens when we now do not become as many people as we expected, seen on a Norwegian scale. Many Norwegian cities see the consequences of centralization, but doubt the rhetoric and politics. Førde wants to create a city around its shopping center, because green sticker and sea, and that we are getting old. Then we can stay on the 3rd floor when the 1st floor becomes a pool. Maybe? They know they will not be more. Many Norwegian cities will not become more. But we became more! Yes we did. Instantly. But our*

*area regulations, area investments and plan maps also lack significant parts. They are often privately funded and funded in the end. They are so extensive and thin, and if I read several times that they are happy with a careful plan when it includes purpose, road width and a ROS that has been taken into consideration, you have to laugh. It's so much more complex. Do we know that we have 3 outcomes of population growth in Norway? By ssb? One indicates that we will be 2 million fewer people in the next 100 years. The other one 2 million more. So we just say that number in the middle. But that says something about the uncertainty. That number spreads by 4 million. It is almost the entire population of Norway. Either we make children or not at all. And what does it take then, for us to get involved in it? Create good communities around our children and ourselves where we actively participate, which is also not completely designed in the city of oslo. But in the rural places around Norway. How do you get excited about the idea of returning to your hometown and having children on the roof of a strap? No wait. How is it? Are we not? No. True that. I examine little Sotra because I know it very well. I know a lot of people there. I have many to interview. I can easily get in touch with people because well, it is a small island and like many places people live very close to the house they come from. It is almost only the elderly who live in the blocks. Except for 1 of them. My half-year-old cohabitant lives there. Because well, there is nothing else for sale. I have a couple of friends who live with 2 kids at their grandparents' house, because they can not find a place they want to live. Then something is not right if there are 100 apartments for sale at the mall? At the time of writing, you can buy as many as 87 apartments by straume. I can neither afford them nor desire the life they offer. When I became human, shaped and created by my social relationships and institutions, there was never a bit of me who wanted to look at the death of rurality in the end. Not to glorify the good life in detached houses with good gardens. Hello everything is not quite beautiful then either. But we commuted to everything then and we commute to everything now. But two different realities that have become entangled, and we can not afford any of the parts.*

*And we really do not want any of the parts. But the detached house because it is closer to a reality of the length of a life we have lived and will live. We have memories of how we felt in our neighborhoods. It shaped our social life and relationships and identity. Distance and nature and the sea to institutions and houses of worship gave room for so much more than the asphalt can handle. It's a romanticization. But it is real, if we are not to ask ourselves what is important in a life, and how we should invest our time in life outside our front door and what we experience outside as in our everyday lives. We experience freedom. We experience independence. We experience security. We find that it is easy to maintain relationships. Of course, if you're a jerk you are. But there are places that forgive everything on the island, the church, and should it only be those who do? I mean, should Straume really just become a happy Christian tremor church latte urban instead of creating gathering informal and formal to secure places for us to meet? Is it today only commercial offers in large shells that survive and deliver offers on site is like Sotra? Førde? Osterøy? Os? Ågotnes? Do we have nothing to learn from our communities? We have nothing to learn from places that have lived longer than 30 years. Should all developing places just want green stickers and pats on the shoulder? We must have a desire for a socially sustainable life, with societies that take care of each other, to a much greater degree, to another degree. In a relationship to our important place identities, which one builds on day by day. We like to change identities, but we have to like the new one and build on it. We must become active roles of our lives. Not just passive, because we are. Can I create engagement ?? How do I do that??*

## MARCH

"The project investigates a small community on Litle Sotra a small island outside Bergen. The project seeks to deal with questions of loss of identity, change, densification, neighbourhoods and civic infrastructure. The works so far gives a broad overview of the island, its history and recent development. Our proposal going forward would be to clarify the main question of the project and what you want from your answer. How do you position the project in relation to the development that is proposed elsewhere on the island. How do you relate to questions of density, infrastructure and typology. A possibility that was proposed by the student was to centre the project more on the school as a small civic program and use that as a catalyst for the project."

It comes the more I work on how unclear the dilemma is upon the way I attack my site. I saw that from the last presentation also I hadn't framed or decided much other than that I had chosen a site. By working with framing my aim and intentions in model and drawing I feel somehow on the way, but I still need to choose upon the strategy. I do want to play more here. I also want to not think so much why, but more on how I can achieve both the small things I usually see and then the bigger aspects to my project.

### Architectural intentions

- Is to revitalize the community by looking at the school anew rethinking it as a civic building- I want to create a new typology that talks more with the landscape and rethink how we build the schools components in lighter structures
- I want to both transform and rethink parts, to also see how much and how little can create a better civic community and be achieved
- I want to weave the place better together with the project being a series of components in larger or smaller parts
- I want to create urban elements in the rural context that can create gathering points in the in-between spaces
- I want it to be alive and visible that it is all day. Can something be active 24/7?

### Program to test

- Securing the existing program within the school but making it more open for other actors
- A whole new school
- To make better use of the quay and recreational area
- Mixing the school with other programs
- Making smaller interventions around the existing
- Adding the "missing" program to sites like a canteen and other actors (Elderly home ect)
- What can a civic place in a sub-urban place be?

### Key/Main actors

- The kids there today
- The engaged store-owners
- Elderly and active seniors

### Construction

- Light with a visible bearing structure
- Flexible (With some solid fixed elements)
- Tower building as a viewpoint and birdwatching?
- Wood and gneiss - And a cultural landscape that eats in the project

### Big picture

- To question the role of the shopping center as the main driver of movement and development as the right way of densifying the coastal communities
- Question how and where we want to grow old and stay young in
- The fragility of places with a social and identity heritage
- Finding the elements of the good in suburban to intensify and not take on virgin land to do so to create communities - Working with the widespread typology and finding the right elements to weave places
- Changing the typical typology of these places and re-invent their role in its close community but also to neighboring neighborhoods
- Capturing the good in these places that already exist, like people being more engaged as everyone is familiar - This is an ingredient to take care of one another. Can the suburbs be the more ideal way of living in terms of inspiring to take care of each other?

### Role of ecology

I wish that Brattholmen finds a way to engage more with its nature and its non-human actors. Is there a newer cultural landscape that makes us more engaged and excited to be within. Can the project include the fish, bees, whales, and coral reef in a matter?

### Hierarchy

- Opening up the school making it more accessible
- Creating intergenerational platforms and spaces
- Weaving the place together with smaller and bigger interventions
- Creating new program for both human and non human actors

### What is the problem with the site today?

The problem today is that the site is left fragile due to that the school is closed half the day, every weekend, and holidays which leaves the site in very silent and not in use much. There are only kids using the school and its teachers and other service staff. The site is surrounded by elderly generations who have only the mall to go to for any activity. There isn't an intergenerational aspect to the place and the structure today does not allow easily for other actors to take over if the school in the future will become centralized. The program is fragile and the introverted space could be seen as something more exciting and inviting.

### Multifunctional

Could some of the existing programs like the offices, sports room, and the recreational and public scapes be more multifunctional and more linked? Is there a program missing like a canteen that can have other actors in so this is a place for more people?

### Aspects to investigate

The ideas of "lysende stuer" (Lighting livingrooms)

- To see life within the buildings

The idea of only adding elements that can weave the place in a more acupunctural way

- Of smaller interventions and connections

A new school in a more village structure with urban elements in-between

- Splitting program and reassemble it anew

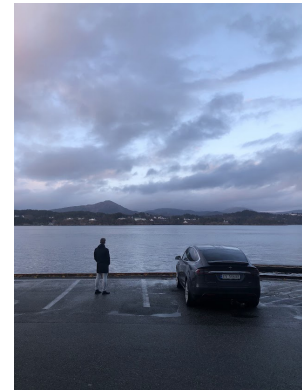


**APRIL***Reflections after my presentation*

At this point working a bit here and there is hard. Not finishing anything, always starting in a loose end to what has come clear to me during the process leaving a drawing or a model behind. I find it fun though to explore what can be done and how. I do believe I need to stray focused now to find the hierarchy again and to go back to site and talk to my key people. I have invited a few back for an interview, but not everyone wants to be filmed. I think film, can give a view and feeling of the place which I'm not so good at showing yet. Working with the existing and new atmosphere of a place, I think the key people here will frame my project better. I think the story of "my sotra" and the excitement

needs to come back into the project. But I also think that the more design phase really begins now. I've framed the story and my outline for a bit long now, but I think now the project makes sense to dive into in all parts and focus on the latent possibility of the school in the periphery that forms today a clearing in the middle of the neighbourhood.

How can I invite into this place, and make it become a part of the island again as a destination and also a place where you feel like you are a part of a community even if you are a newcomer or a old neighbour.



**MAY***Reflections*

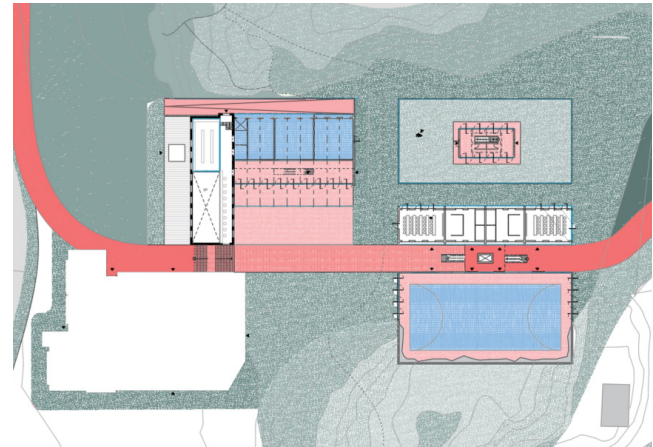
The pedestrian corridors introduce and ensure a more intimate scale and offer the opportunity for informal social encounters between locals and visitors. The 8-shaped loop is the loop that connects to the neighborhood and the neighboring neighborhoods. Along the loop, I have ensured four meeting points that are important for the neighborhood.

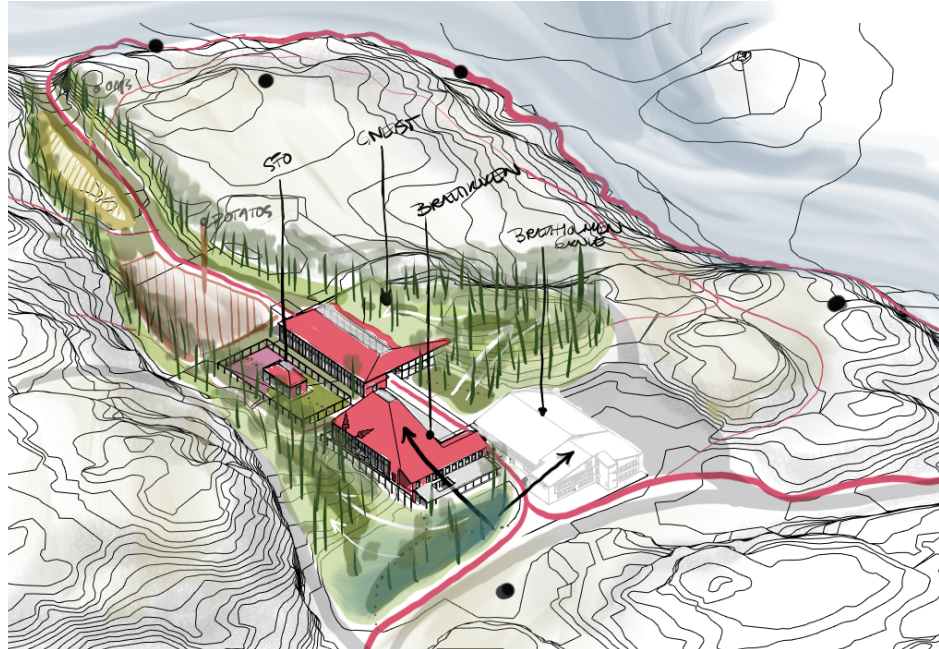
As a way of pulling the green in over the school area, it is creating a park surrounding the west part of the school all the way to the sea. This now asphalted schoolyard and parking transform partly back into being the infield for the farm, with partially productive land at the northern part of the school and has the community garden at the south. The community garden at the front creates a public park in front of the public part of the school.

I keep this part of the school for the younger classes 1-4 and the offices. I centralize the functions of the school that can be shared to this middle part which I transform from an introvert into a much more open structure with larger openings toward the public square at the front and back. At the back, I create a narrower and taller building for the classes 5-7 facing both the garden and the square. The main public square in the middle is the big event-day square. Creating both a place for the everyday life, with the pathway crossing through and a plaza which the buildings open ups towards. The new sports hall and library at the back here create an inside-outside space for the bigger events.

Here I try to use the logic of the pedestrian infrastructure to create these new synergies. I really want to explore more this into

the building and make the life here more connecting and weaving and inviting. I want to test out what this path really means by going through the project.





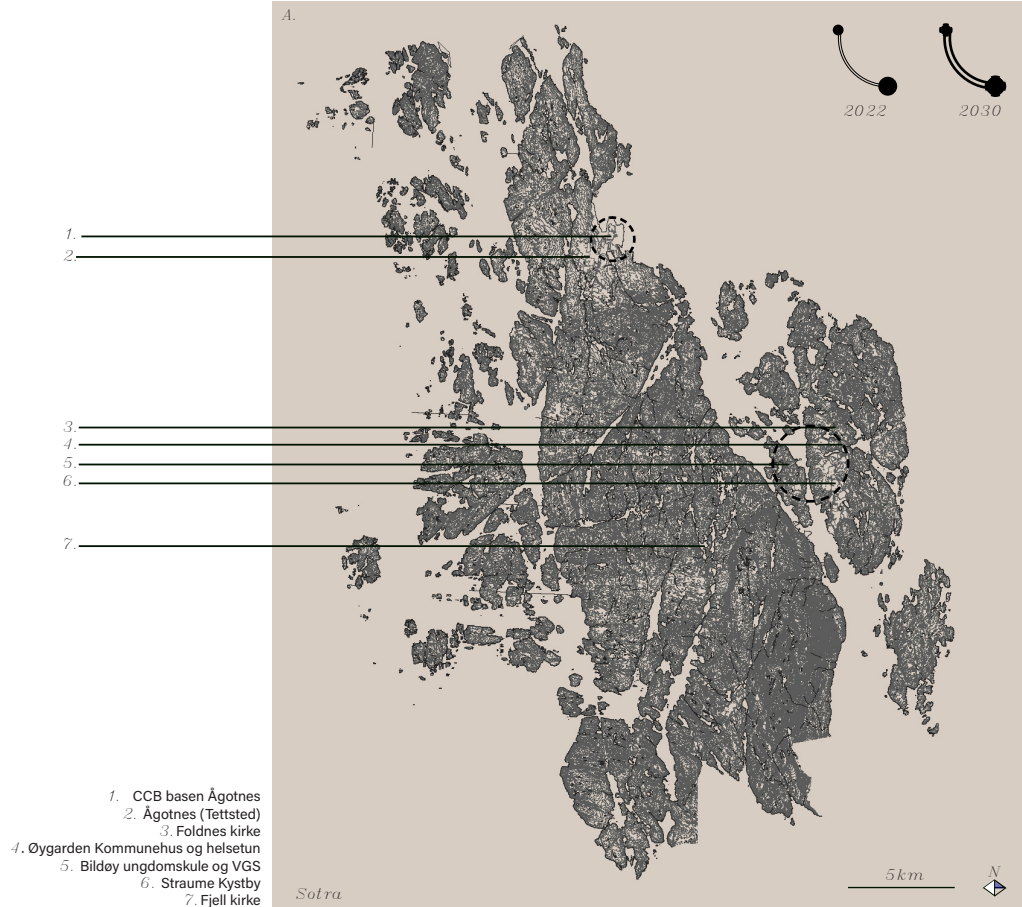
A SKETCH FROM MAY - How to revitalize the space in and around the school and make it an anchor?

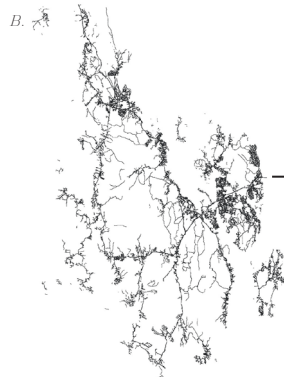
# RESEARCH

A.

### Little Sotra, and Sotra and a couple of hundred islands

This just sums up the old Fjell Herad, or municipality. But this map is to show what weighs heavy on the development on Little Sotra, because it has a lot to do with the rest of Øygarden (or used to.) The primary workfield, which also made Fjell go from a poor municipality to a rich one was the oil-industry on Ågotnes. Again, the oil-price drop in 2016, really shifted the energy on Sotra because too many lost their jobs and still haven't recovered from this. The development also relied on this money-machine, as the primary developers also is the industry itself. Also these jobs in the industry, the warehouses and other non-educational jobs compared with cheap housing made Sotra an attractive place. Also for engineers and oil-field workers. So it has been a place for good wages, work for everyone and easy to get a single house unit, with a close relationship to the prayer houses, schools and neighbours. But it's all in change.





Working age: 36% work in other municipalities  
 Businesses: 818  
 Employed in the private: 12 400  
 Valuemaking in the private sector in 2019: 9 billion  
 The marine industries accounts for 41% of value creation

B.

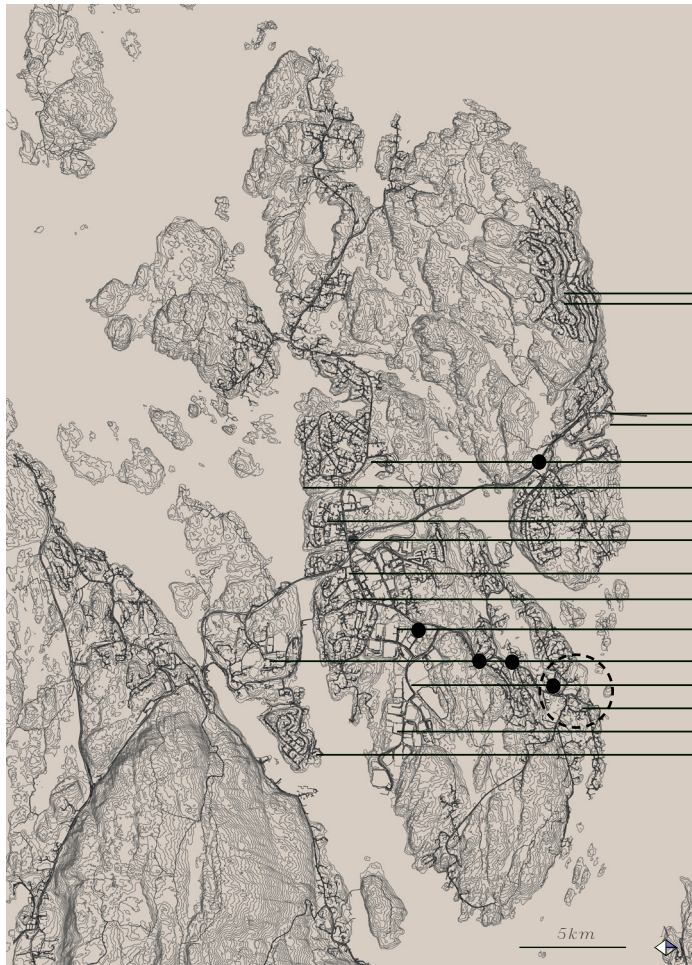
4,5 km area covered in road. There is a lot of workplaces on Sotra, but with the shift in industrial workfield there is today 8 545 people who commutes to another municipality to work, and 4 338 who commutes into Øygarden. In 2015 6000 people commuted out, so the growth is on about 42% after the oil-price drop. Making Sotra very vulnerable towards the industry. What will settlers do here tomorrow? There is little indication of further growth in the oil industry in Vestland and Øygarden, even though the industry has comparative advantages such as low production costs and a relatively low footprint. In Øygarden one can expect lower level of activity in the industry almost regardless of the scenario used and it will be critical to succeed in building new jobs in new green industries in parallel with continuous restructuring of existing industry. Regulations such as the EU's Green Deal and the new taxonomy, CO2 taxes and emerging green procurement requirements will push for new solutions to be developed and technological change of pace will pushing ever greater demands on production efficiency, new sales models and the need to form local delivery models towards new industries.



Øygarden Kommune  
 Inhabitants 2022: 38 905  
 Inhabitants 2050: 46 696

9.

The settlement is relatively dense on most of the larger islands, most often gathered in small beach resorts and fishing villages. The densest is the settlement on Lillesotra, Bildøyna and on the east side of Sotra. In total, Øygarden has 19 settlements with a total population that makes up 72 percent of the municipality's total population (2019). In comparison, the proportion of settlements in the population this year was 80 per cent in the county as a whole. There is today 11 653 single houses, compared to 1148 apartments. And some of the apartments has been for sale for years. 87% owns their own home here.



D.

### Litle Sotra and bildøy

The little island of Litle Sotra was really nothing 40 years ago. I find it interesting to see how a place like Sotra with its history as rural strileland and in recent times a suburb for detached house commuters, today can appear as one pioneer of a modern coastal city that has many parallels to the concept 10- the minute city. Natural resources have been important for life in here both financially and socially. Resources from the sea have both formed large parts of the basis of life and at the same time been a partial reason for how values and important societal norms, such as the appreciation of equality, have been formed. Christianity and pietism have been, and are, a key element of society here, among other things in politics and cultural life. Being stril is inextricably linked to Sotra. This identity marker can be regarded as a rural indicator that has historically been in opposition to urban Bergen. Strilen still plays an important role, both culturally and materially in the urbanization process, including in the design of the public space.

1. Hjelteryggen Skule. 2. Nærbutikk
3. Sotrabroen 4. Industrial area
5. Foldnes kirke 6. Liljevatnet skule (now kindergarden)
7. Foldnes Skule 8. Health island(helsetun)
9. Øygarden Kommunehus
10. Straume Kystby, Straume terminal
11. Youth club (closed) 12. Danielsen ungdomskule
13. Prayer house 14. Bildøy ungdomskule og VGS
15. Closed kindergarden 16. Prayerhouse 17. Sportspark
18. Brattholmen Skule 19. Brattholmen old ferryport, nærbutikk 20. Straume industrial park 21. Prayer house

E.



dwellings

F.



infrastructure

*What is rural?*

That something rural, "village" should be transformed into "city" makes history and time depth relevant. The urbanization process can be viewed in the light of some historical continuities and transformations. In order to be able to trace the urban, it is possible to look for phenomena and symbols that often appear in urban contexts, urban indicators, which for example can be a relatively high population or cultural offer in the evening, several times a week. Through location formation and opinion construction, one can trace the emergence of urban life and any challenges.

**Where**

The site started out as Little Sotra which is a west-coast island outside of Bergen. The area has gone from being a very rural place to getting a "city" status in 2011 due to its plans of densifying and building development around the shopping centre.

**Straume Kystby**

Apart from being the anchor of Little Sotra, its also a meetingplace for people around Bergen, Sotra and the rest of Øygarden. The modern mall gave an idea of a city that blossomed, that I wanted to question as its now being built. This idea is also very common for places on the coast, that now had an attractive anchor of shopping at the exact same time some population grew.

*Who is urban when they are still?*

Dugnad can illustrate one of the challenges with urbanization, in that newcomers may have other motives for showing up. Open kindergarten is a meeting place with small children and parents as the target group, a category many of Fjell's newcomers are in. Here, both Norwegian and foreign newcomers meet and a lot of informal information is exchanged. In addition to visiting several families with small children in private, this gave me insight into how this important group of newcomers (families with small children, young adults) related to the choice of place to live, move, own and the children's future. All this can be related to urbanization.



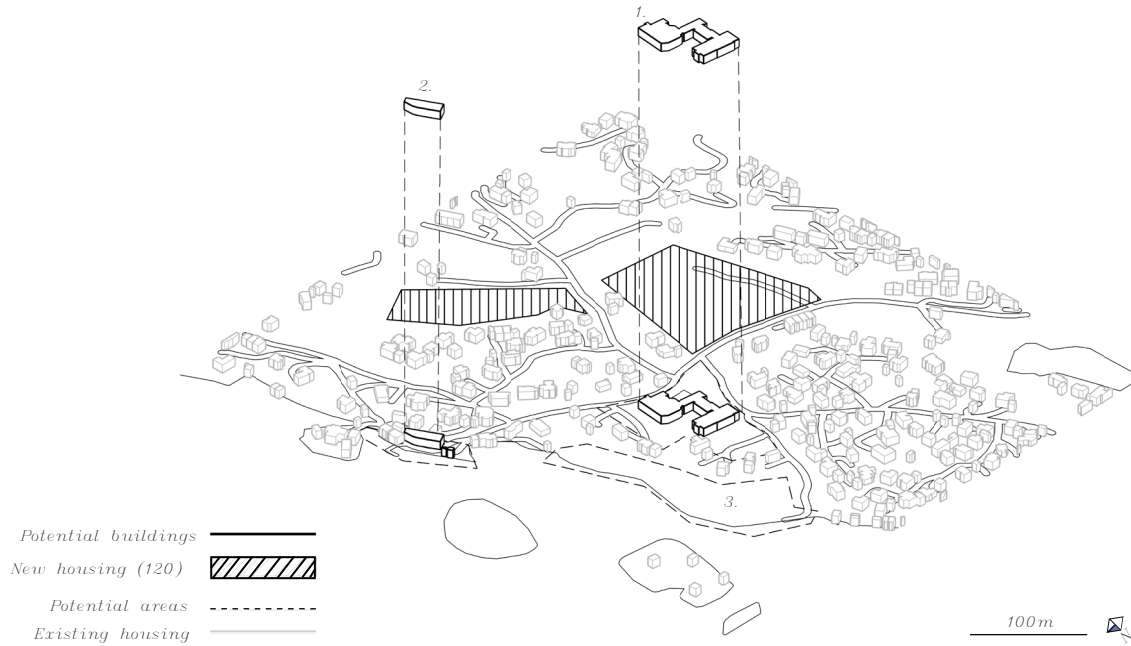
E.

### Brattholmen as site

With its close connection to the sea, its history of a place of “handel” and connecting people with ferries its now struggling to cope with the centralisation at Straume. The question of the future, will the shop close and school move? Or can one revitalize these areas towards a social sustainable future. With the potential lying in the visitors still, the daily users of the school and the only connection to the sea with a public program (?) on Little Sotra.

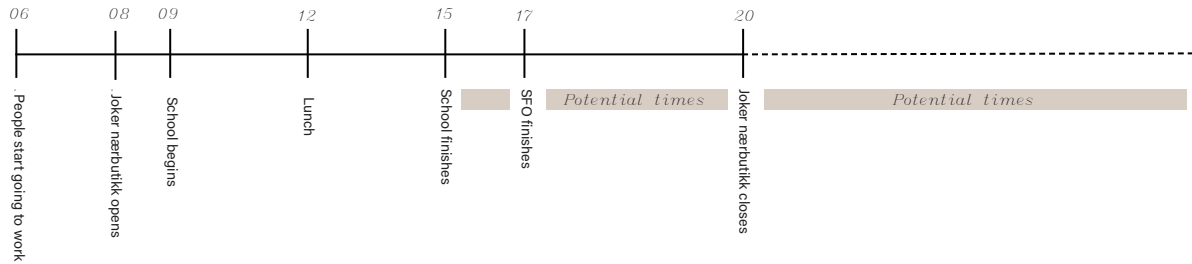


1. Freezone towards the water, hard to use (Impossible)
2. Brattholmen Skule / School (Run-down)
3. Local store/ Joker and shed (Hardly turning over)
4. New ferryconnection (Always up for discussion)

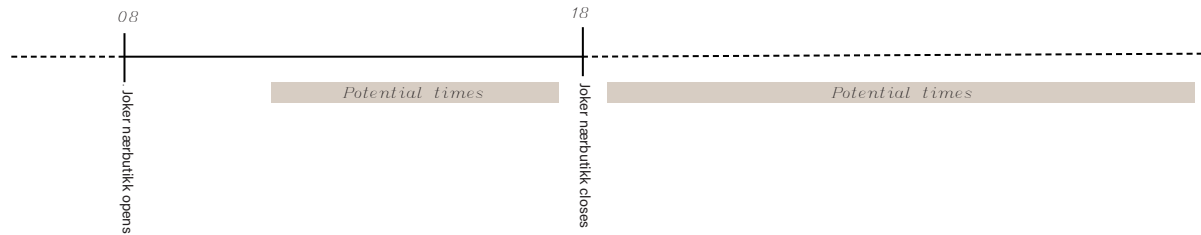


*Timeline***Everyday**

Times when things happen in Brattholmen

*Timeline***Saturday**

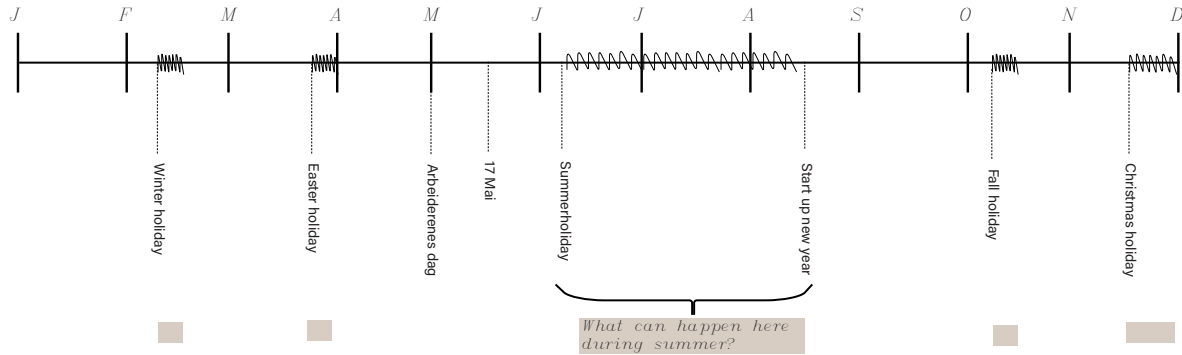
Times when things happen in Brattholmen



## Timeline

**Schoolyear**

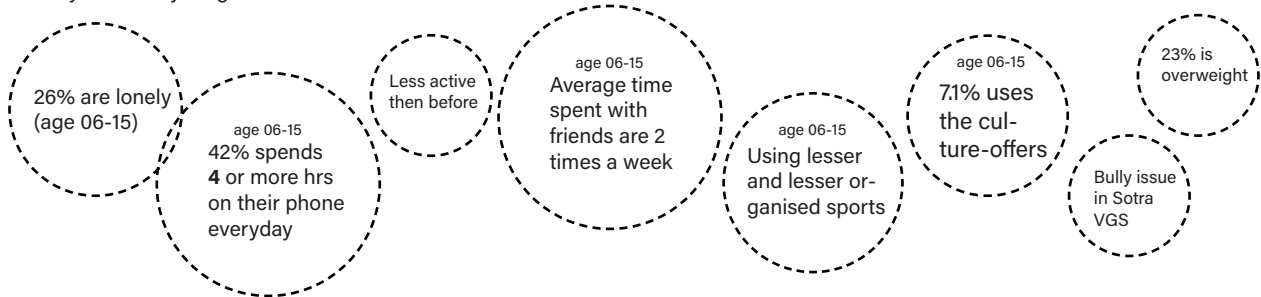
Times when things happen in Brattholmen and not



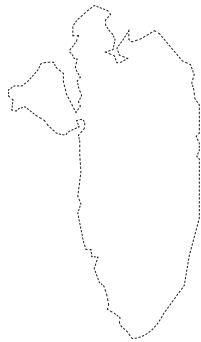
## Key facts

**How well are people doing in Øygarden?**

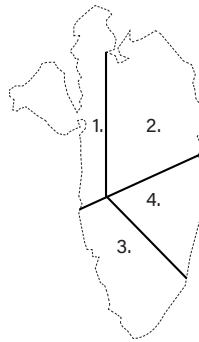
Mainly focus on youngsters here



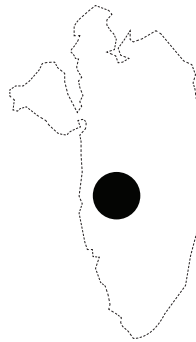
## DIVISION, SEPERATION, AND "IMPORTANTNESS"



*Little Sotra*



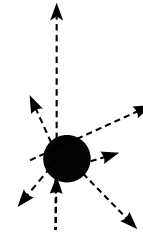
*Division*



*Straume*



*The rest*



*Important  
axes*



### Important from the eyes of the municipality

Since the malls came and dominated the social culture and status on Straume, the parallel idea of urbanisation really closed the focus into Straume entirely. Plans have come so fast, developments within the plan collide with one another and the social life of a small island has really been put through a test. How and why? As the previous important plac-

es has been down-prioritized in favour of apartment blocks, shopping, "gågaten", plan-developing this further, detail plans and time. The idea of making Straume exciting to move to, goes down the drain as the planning of social structure, culture and identity has not been deeply considered. The most important places for people were never at Straume until we were told it was, and then that also changed.



Density



Schools



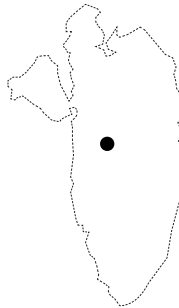
Kindergardens



Industrial areas



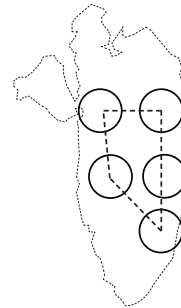
Neighbourhood



Churches



Prayerhouses



Main areas

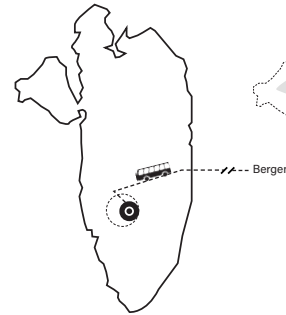


### Places within a life

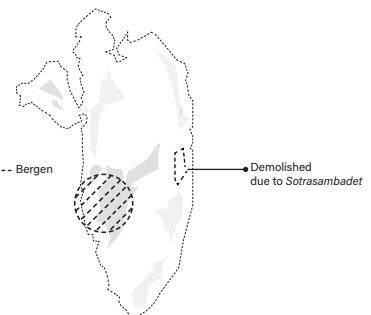
How we grow up, where and how the social structures and institutions are around us forms us and creates a underlying fundament for how we manage in life. Many smaller rural places of Norway has in this day and age a vision of urbanisation, densifying and shoppingcentre has the anchor of a town. The population growth of the recent 20 years, has done a lot of change towards the rural areas making the lifespan of culture so short that before it could settle it has come and gone again. I mean the social structures within an area, in terms of where and what happens and towards the settlements and how we live has changed faster than we were able to comprehend, and how could we be excited to move back to where we are from when the form of living and expectations towards it has changed the way we see our core-identity. How we relate to our place-identity and how we are cooperative individuals in Norway, we need to touch upon the much more complex part of living. Doing whatever in our plans, reaching for a urban-lifestyle can work, but only if we manage our social structures and understand them. Before we can be both green and sustainable, we need to be socially sustainable. Because what will happen is both gentrification and we'll lose important places of our life. I try to reach for these places, I want to understand what makes us excited about places, I want to challenge the social structure of the plans today to maybe reinforce core-place-identity.



*A typical  
life  
Little Sotra*



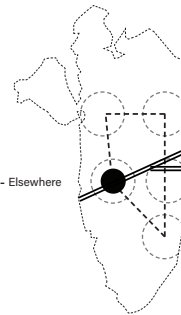
*15-19*



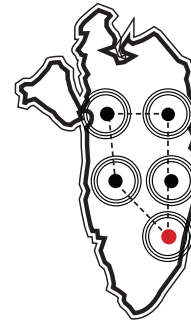
*Main development  
2000-2022 (-2035)*



*If you come  
back*



*Strong areas*



*What should  
be*



## POLITICAL AND HISTORICAL ASPECTS

### Social gatherings in rural areas

Social practices and phenomena have a temporal and historical dimension, which can be important to illuminate by giving the analysis a depth of time. All processes are temporal, have a time dimension. The urbanization process can be linked to both older and recent history, and becomes important for the overall context. The urbanization of Straume can be illuminated and understood through national and local discourses and narratives.

"The nature space" as a meeting place to get to know new people, some elderly ladies tell me. Going on a walk in nature with one you know and some you don't. "Turlag" can be a way of a very informal activity all can join.

The choice of housing can be decided by several factors, and strategic housing construction must take into account a number of different target groups. The city can be produced on different levels, of which children's local place identity-production is an example of. Transportation is an important urban element, and can contribute to equality and produce different urban territories. The strip can in several ways prove to be dynamic continuity, which can also be included in the city. Symbols from both nature and spray culture have already been used in the urban space and will be continued through Sotra Kystby in several ways, commercially and architecturally.

### Fishmoney

Historically a stril would live close to the fish: "They lived all the way to the beach, because it was about having a good harbor and a good view. The most important thing was that the city was located by a stream, but not anywhere in the stream. Fishing is best in the narrowest town, where the tide makes the stream flow into the fossa »(Geber 1996: 108 - 109). You could also back in the day pay with fish for your rent. Fish is also the reason a stril never starved, historically,- they have been poor but not hungry.

Although there is some uncertainty in the historical material, there are many indications that there was a large degree of social equality, which persisted through the Middle Ages and the tenancy period. Fyllingsnes says that also through land distribution, it is clear to see that the egalitarian thinking was strong. The plots of land had varying quality, but it was important that "everyone" got some good and some bad teigs; "In other words, a view of justice takes precedence over rational farming" (1996: 289). The idea of social justice and equal treatment, as Trond Thuen (2005) has called the principle of equality, is still strong today, as a long-standing, historical continuity.

### Residents of yesterday and tomorrow

Many of the residents have lived with others for shorter or longer periods places or are newcomers who for various reasons have chosen to settle on Sotra. The area at Straume have in a relatively short time undergone major changes and therefore they have most I spoke to also have some basis for assessing the qualitative changes that have found place. I myself was born there, and my friends and I has seen it go from one thing to several others. I have used my own subjective experience, together with the people I already know there, and people I don't to investigate in this project.

**Sotra Kystby** is the name of the area on Straume and Bildøy in Fjell municipality facing a major urban development. The coastal town will include the industrial park, sports facility and hiking area in the south, via Sartor Mall to Fjell town hall and the health village. Furthermore, the coastal city will include Straumssundet, central Bildøy and Bildetangen furthest north on Bildøy. A stone's throw from Sartor Senter, in the strait between Kolltveit and Straume, is located in Bildøy. The northern part of the island is called from ancient times The pliers. Here, the area will be developed into a city center and become part of Sotra Kystby. The pliers are currently being developed by Prosjekt Kystby AS, which is owned by Liegruppen AS. The first start of construction is estimated to take place in 2024, but depends on the progress plan for the Sotra connection

### What will people work with at Sotra in the future

"The West Norway scenarios 2020" conference showed a large potential room for maneuver in value creation and future employment rate in the long term. Øygarden is to a greater extent exposed and built around a one-sided business structure *which creates a greater vulnerability*. The scenarios in this knowledge base show that the need for restructuring will be great to ensure future growth, but that large investment projects such as Northern Lights and

"The Sotra connection" at the same time creates a budding optimism. Very few regions have such ambitious plans for new green business development and new jobs as Øygarden, but it will be very demanding to realize. There are many barriers that need to be overcome within

sometimes other infrastructure, attractiveness and a recognition that this will not be mastered alone.

Close public / private collaboration and new partnership models will be critical success factors for success in both attract new locomotives, but also in the restructuring of existing industry to ensure future competitiveness.

(2021 Ernst & Young LLP)

- The future jobs will demand a high education Source: McKinsey Global Institute «The Future of work in Europe»

- Sotras location close by the sea and the dish can utilized to establish new ones value chains

-70km coastline: Longest coastline on Western Norway (70 km) - strategically positioned for all industries within "Sea meets land"

- Co2 delivered to the door and one well-developed infrastructure creates a unique potential to realize circular business models

### Dokken + CCB = 2027

The Port of Bergen(Dokken) has now bought and taken over plot areas at the CCB base at Ågotnes and is thus one step closer to building state-of-the-art freight port at Ågotnes. According to the port director, Johnny Breivik points out 2027 as a current year for final establishment. The move from Bergen to Ågotnes will happen gradually, but the Port of Bergen has been clear that\ will not be an establishment on Ågotnes until the Sotra connection is finished. (This will generate 600 jobs) The government has a clear political goal of getting more goods from road to sea, but still the connection needs to be there with road too. How this will effect Bergen is yet to see.

### The goals the municipality has

- By realizing the preferred scenario, Øygarden will create 2,700 new jobs by 2030.

- Increase the share of renewables in the business composition either by attracting new green complementary companies or that existing companies adjust to new ones markets

- Øygarden will be one of the five hubs for hydrogen in Norway (ref. energy reports 2021).

- Be a driving force in the development of the" Coastal City Sotra" as a common boog labor market with highly competent jobs.

### The rules of urbanizing

So late in 1991, Gullestad wrote that Norwegians needed positive and good representations of city life. Others, such as Sørhaug (1986), Brox (2013), Thuen (1995) and Grytten (2004) have pointed to the pure cultivation of selected aspects of Norwegian history that have been meant to symbolize the «Norwegian». In connection with the nation-building from the end of the 19th century, this narrative was about the Norwegian belonging to the village. Sørhaug has called this the social democratic narrative about Norway where «The city is the village's declared main enemy [...]». The city's dialects have become ugly and / or deficient. Folk memory science has until recently neglected city life [...]. Norway has in a sense meant Valdres and Telemark [...]. »(1986: 71). Trond Thuen discusses the same phenomenon: "Det norske" was linked to "the village", peasant life and counterculture, while the national romanticists' counter-debaters, ie the "u-Norwegian", were associated with an urban elite "(1995: 59). Large parts of city life and coastal history, of which Sotra is a part, however, did not become part of this narrative, and have also been undercommunicated, according to Grytten (2004).

In Norway, these negative notions of the city were reinforced with the construction of post-war slums and "housing machines". These urban spaces were, partly rightly criticized beyond the 60s, among others in the Danish architect Jan Gehl's work *Life Between Houses* (1971). The city historian Ola Svein Stugu (2006) writes about how moving to the cities, and moving out of the villages, was seen as a challenge beyond the 70s, and where the answer was: decentralization and urban sprawl. At the same time, rural life was (again) highlighted as something more positive than urban life. So-called district policy arose in the wake of this, long before an official metropolitan policy was adopted. This was followed up through various "district policy instruments" over several decades, such as tax incentives, politically controlled localization of

state institutions and workplaces.

The rapidly increasing private motoring made it possible to spread the city geographically, as in Fjell's case, and many had the opportunity to commute. Services and merchandise also spread, from the city center to other settlements, which in turn contributed to the focus on car-based shopping centers, such as the Sartor center. The mountains and surrounding municipalities of Bergen became part of the «functional city», ie the cohesive labor and housing market.

Straume is representative of several of the long-term, negative, consequences of such a national city strategy, such as an overloaded road network, lack of positive qualities in the urban space and a great need for transport. Therefore, the urbanization of Straume must be understood in the light of a national context, where urbanization is highlighted as something positive and an environmentally friendly solution to these challenges.

Sotra Kystby is a large urbanization project that includes large areas and extensive developments and the process will last for several decades. Although there are plans to develop settlements such as Ågotnes, north of Fjell, the urbanization - the new urban space - will mostly revolve around the settlement Straume, and areas on Bildøy. Here it must be "added to urban qualities" and transformed into a future coastal city.

Urbaniseringen innebærer ikke bare å tilføre nye urbane kvaliteter; det innebærer også en kontinuitet av mange rurale kvaliteter. Mye av det rurale blir videreført, som en kontinuitet i byen. Fjell-sokning drar kanskje ikke lenger til byen, Bergen, på besøk.

### Adopting ideas

On 30 March 2006, the Fjell municipal council adopted the Municipal sub-plan for Straume 2005 - 2016, and the follow-up Area zoning plan for the center of the regional center Straume in 2011, the largest zoning plan in Fjell's history. In addition, illustrated brochures and prospectuses have been made of what is to happen. These include: «The vision is to make Sotra Kystby one of the Nordic region's most attractive regional centers - built on well-being, activity, aesthetics and sustainable solutions. Now the coastal town is about to rise on Straume and Bildøy in Fjell municipality. In the years to come, Sotra Kystby will emerge through continuous urban development "(Sotra Kystby 2013: 3).

Both according to what I know, local media and after my own review of some political case documents, the impression is that this large project has been, considering the size, a little conflict-filled process. We have joked around that the developpers also sleeps with the political table.

According to the local plans, elements from local history, local culture and the coastal landscape will be taken care of and made visible in the new urban space. This is also in line with what Hordaland County Municipality says in its first adopted strategy for urban development, Regional plan for attractive centers in Hordaland - center structure, services and trade: «Center development shall be based on the city's history, character and landscape features. The center shall have high architectural quality and inclusive meeting places. The center shall have good parks, playgrounds and generally accessible area for physical activity » (Hordaland Fylkeskommune 2014c: 18).

Straume and Sotra Kystby<sup>18</sup>. Urbanizing sustainably means avoiding, among other things

«Apple garden densification», a metaphorical term that has appeared in this discourse<sup>19</sup>, and which aims to build the city beyond, with area-demanding detached houses, garages and (apple) gardens. Instead, the city will be built inwards<sup>20</sup> on already available land; densification. Densification is used as a strategic tool to prevent further car-based urban sprawl, which is much of the reason for queues at Sotrabrua. as something undesirable since it, in an urban context, means that the densification potential for Straume is high, and this will also make it easier to establish a better public transport service and a more comprehensive service offer.

Personally I do not think that to just do the opposite is sustainable. I think this idea is too much repeated.

The urbanization of suburban municipalities such as Fjell, has today been put more in context with the fact that they are part of a larger area, a metropolitan region<sup>24</sup>. Fjell has many rural qualities with it, such as scattered buildings, the identity marker is sparse but not least that there is a collective perception that Fjell is "built" and district. Fair distribution of natural resources also has deep historical roots, and this idea of equality can still be traced, among other things, in today's discussions about access to the sea and green areas. As I will show, the Christian life and the voluntary sector represent a lot of social life which, among other things, contributes to urban qualities such as diversity, place formation and identity creation. Nevertheless, in several ways, Fjell is closely integrated with Bergen, historically, economically.

Fish trade has been replaced by commuting, which is a major traffic challenge; while culturally, Fjell has been influenced by dialect features from Bergen and "sprinkle music" has been recognized in the city's cultural life. Central in this context is population growth and migration. This creates a number of challenges with regard to housing construction, infrastructure and service offerings. A main point here is, as the report to the Starting on metropolitan policy and the local urbanization plans describes, is that the city's challenges, regarding for example infrastructure, housing construction, land use, environment and living conditions, are just as much the challenges of the suburbs. Politicians and planners try, both nationally and locally, to answer these challenges through urbanization and projects such as Sotra Kystby. The rural suburb will now become a city itself.

When eventually these rather different identities mix with each other and residents with different identity baggage move to, new identities arise which does not always fit into the existing identity categories. This is often reflected in the residents' experience and attitude to what Straume is and should be. With this project, I want to find out more about what it takes to make a regional center attractive enough to compete with the dominant neighboring municipality to be one attractive residence.

The main point here is that place - place - is created by being made into something meaningful through different social practices. The social city or street life on Straume consists of everything from the mother with a pram to the open kindergarten, the activity around the new market stalls or the joggers who have used the hiking trails nearby. Or it can be about volunteer work, stories on trips, sports or everyday activities such as going to school. A variety of such practices help to create as many experiences and stories (or stories, narratives, memories) about the city. This is how place formation or city formation takes place, through the city becoming something meaningful, a social entity.

This is also the anthropologist Gro Ween in his considerations of how practice creates place. The combinations and amount of place-producing stories and experiences can separate the urban from the rural. (2012: 228).

Massey (1991, 2005) also understands places as meetings, relationships and stories, and must be viewed globally. Places are not closed systems, but are open; people and impulses from all over the world can meet, whether in the form of migrant workers or global, religious and cultural impulses.

For the latter, the defining power over given regimes of truth about society, and the exercise of power through (urban) space, was central. Also for Linda Lien (2012) and Setha Low (2000) this power perspective is interesting; who controls and defines urban formation? Low distinguishes between social construction and social production of public space, «public space». By construction she aims first and foremost at the formal planning and physical execution of the public space, while production takes place through what Cresswell is quoted on; stories, relationships, everyday social life (2000: 128) and is urban.

"Residential plots are a very good store," said Erik, the retired planner. "Humility is valued in the land of sprinkles, but today it is also about getting rich, especially after the oil industry came. A few decades ago, a plot of land out here was worth zero and the municipality bought large cheap properties at the time, while today you get 34 million per acre. There is a huge increase in the value of real estate. An area plan that decides who can expand or not, will be pure lottery! Who gets the increase in value? Well, that's what the color of a map can determine. It's about life values ", he said.



A poster that used to hang on Straume.

*January*

week 1  
Clearance meeting  
Week 2  
Social Anthropology  
Week 3  
Climate, landscape, ecology  
Week 4  
Lectures, concept model and presentation

*April*

week 13  
modelmaking, project production  
week 14  
easterholiday  
week 15  
Diploma presentation, prepare and produce  
week 16  
evaluate from feedback from presentation

*February*

week 5  
Writing workshop with pavlina, lectures and writing program  
week 6  
1:1, lectures, on site performances and mapping  
week 7  
On site performances, photography and mapping  
week 8  
Exploration, making booklets of research and thoughts. Diploma program. 2 day fieldtrip to Etne.  
Modellmaking for next fieldtrip. 1 fieldtrip to Voss.

*May*

week 17-18  
Project production  
week 19  
Check with narrative, connect missing links  
week 21  
Taking the project to the final steps  
week 21  
Develoup a exhibition atmosphere/scenography for the project.

*March*

week 9  
Gather info from trip, making booklets and diagrams  
week 10  
Develouping project with framing it and situating it using the methods of being in dialoug with the actors  
week 11  
Modelwork, concept and narrative  
week 12  
A spatial develoupment of architecture in a new alternative of rural

*June*

week 22-23  
Exhibition work  
week 24  
Exhibition work  
week 25  
Exhibition preview  
Exhibition finished installed  
Dugnad  
week 26  
Exam 27th-30th.

**Education**

2017-2022  
Master in Architecture  
Bergen School of Architecture

2016-2017  
BIM Technician  
Noroff Fagskole

2010-2013  
Faglært innen medier og kommunikasjon  
/ Generell Studiekompetanse  
Sotra Videregående

**Distinctions**

Project  
Into the sea  
3rd year exam

**Other**

2018-2020  
Student leader  
Norske Arkitekters Landforening

2016  
Internship  
Rolf Eide Arkitekter

**Passions**

Photography  
Drawing & painting  
Travelling

**References**

Keth Aadland,  
Henriette Hillesoy  
Eiida Mosquera

**Work experience**

**2022-**  
Local AS  
Architect

2018 - 2022  
Sales advisor  
HM Galleriet

2017 -  
Family Photographer  
Private Business

2016-2019, 2010-2012  
Sales assistant  
Coop Obs, Sartor

2016  
Purchasing Manager  
Elite Caravans, Melbourne Australia

2015  
Store Manager  
Sketchers Outlet Store, Melbourne Australia

2015  
Store Manager  
Tiger Mist, Melbourne Australia

2012-2014  
Assistant manager  
First Man

**Skills**

AutoCad	●	●	●	●	●	●
Revit	●	●	●	●	●	○
Rhino	●	●	●	○	○	○
Photoshop	●	●	●	●	○	○
InDesign	●	●	●	●	●	●
Illustrator	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sketch up	●	●	●	●	●	●
3dsMax	●	●	●	○	○	○
Vray	●	●	●	○	○	○
Lumion	●	●	●	●	●	●

**Languages**

Norwegian  
English

Fall 2020 **Masquerade**

APP: Frederik Petersen, DAV: Anne Friis

Project: A mirrored world

Spring 2021 **Re-Form**

APP: Magnus Waage, Pavlina Lucas DAV: Tom Chamberlain

Project: The urban creature

Group project: Silje Lockert, Camilla Nneka Ilanu, Inger Hel-  
en Øvrebø and Aleksandra Ivashkevich

Fall 2021 **Grey matter**

APP: Jarome Picard, Elida Mosquera Dav: Eva Kun

Project: Ein handverkars stad

## Methods

Develop a tool box consisting of the rural elements, in terms of architectural languages that is found through mapping of building types and typologies with focus on the section. Also mapping of important places within a life, and what the challenges rural has.

So I can understand the quality of the different tools so they can be used in a way that strengthen the new architecture.

1:1 interaction with places and people, to understand the environment, scale and social-relationships

- Interviews
- 1:1 Engaging with performance
- Engaging with community in "secret" like the meadow
- Social events with the city-game

Collect resources of materials that can challenge the outcome of development, instead of imported "ferdighus" and prefabricated elements of current development, what can be created locally, and maybe already is?

Discover with DAV (Den Andre Verda)

- With drawing
- Sketching out the feeling of the place today and the memory of it.
- Pace and rhythm of it
- Using it in my 1:1

- Mapping landscape, ecosystems, seasons, nature's rhythm and presence / absence of species and integrating this in the project.

- Mapping qualities in relation to an already existing community and ground the ideas and concepts that is developed in the earlier phase and further explore the potential for connecting further development and coastal communities tighter together.

Study trips

- To shift perspectives
- To find engagement and tied together community
- Informal meeting places in the rural

Storyboards and writing

- Writing as a tool
- Write stories and take on roles

Photography and filming

The project should include

- Situation map
- Situation model (Landscape)
- Concept models
- Building models 1:100, 1:50, 1:20, 1:1
- Plans & sections 1:100
- Diagrams and illustrations
- Research and sketches collected in a booklet
- Explorations collected in a booklet
- History and landscape booklets

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