

Hidden

Rethinking spaces that are not meant to become places

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In the epoch of the Anthropocene¹ there is a question of how to be more sustainable in the way we live. The UN goal number 9, 11 and 12 marks a starting point and the word 'arealnøytral'² or area-neutral becomes important terms of our cultivation of land. This highlights the question of how can resources be transformed to remain useful?

How can I contribute in repurposing a space that has no future purpose?

The chosen place for this project is between six tunnels, high mountains, and deep fjords, located in Alver Municipality called Vikaneset. You pass this place at 80 km/h and it takes you about four minutes, you find it along E39 north of Bergen, as an anonymous place and a route for passing through.

What you do not see is the huge quarry on top of the mountain, since 1971 there has been a crushing plant here, Husafjellet is the mountain, decreasing every day, by 2073 Husafjellet will be spread all over Northern Europe and western Norway.

Development of cities depends on places like Vikaneset, where the traces of what happens somewhere else is left as excavation and subtraction. This expansion may not happen in Norway, quarries like the one in Eikefet, Vikaneset, export the mountain to Germany, Lithuania, Poland, Latvia and contribute to industries, such as oil and gas and now the growing windmill parks. External powers profit from something the people living here only expe-

1 - The Anthropocene is a proposed geological epoch for the state that the earth can now be said to be in. The proposal to define a new epoch after the Holocene is based on extensive changes in the earth's surface due to human activity, especially in the time after the industrial revolution. (Wikipedia)

2 - 'Arealnøytral'
'If we are to stop the loss of biodiversity, Norway must become area-neutral. This means that we must reuse and densify already developed areas rather than developing of nature, and stop land consumption.'
(<https://www.sabima.no/et-arealnøytralt-norge/>)

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3 - Hyperobjects- In the Ecological Thought, Morton employed the term hyperobjects to describe objects that are so massively distributed in time and space as to transcend spatiotemporal specificity, such as global warming, Styrofoam, and radioactive plutonium.

4 - describing environmental conditions that promote social interaction, such as circular seating arrangements and a comfortable ambient room temperature. A physical environment with these characteristics is termed a sociopetal space.

5 - parasitism, relationship between two species of plants or animals in which one benefits at the expense of the other, sometimes without killing the host organism.

UN-goal:

9 -Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation. (<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal09>)

11 -Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. (<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal11>)

12 -Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. (<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal12>)

rience as a decreasing mountain. The locality is transformed in this huge export of a place. Local materials give a place its identity. This is now lost in Vikaneset with the subtracted mountain. What happens when a place loses its identity?

Places like Vikaneset become traces of subtracted activity when the activity is over. How can a quarry to be used after its "date of death" and become part of this community and contribute with its presence? How can the power of the locality contribute to the growth of this place?

The question of how we should live is a constant reminder of how we develop. And the way we live has no answer, nor enough questions. This project aims to honour the stone and explore possibilities for two futures in Vikaneset. I am investigating if and how we can use spaces that are not meant to be developed after their planned purpose to continue to have a purpose, and the impact this means to its surroundings.

It is important for me to investigate all the scales, from the global situation to the stone in your hand and the place you are in with your body. I read about the phenomena of power, Hyperobject³, locality, sociopetal-space⁴ and parasitism⁵ in understanding the complexity of the forces behind development and consequences.

My inspiration is; the stone, the locals of Vikaneset and my childhood home Solund. My approach is through site visiting, photographing, going into dialogue with the locals and using grid-system to investigate, compare and comprehend the different scales of these places and their spaces. Also look at a place as a four-dimensional space, where time is an important gesture for developing and proposing my project.

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Vikaneset

Bergen

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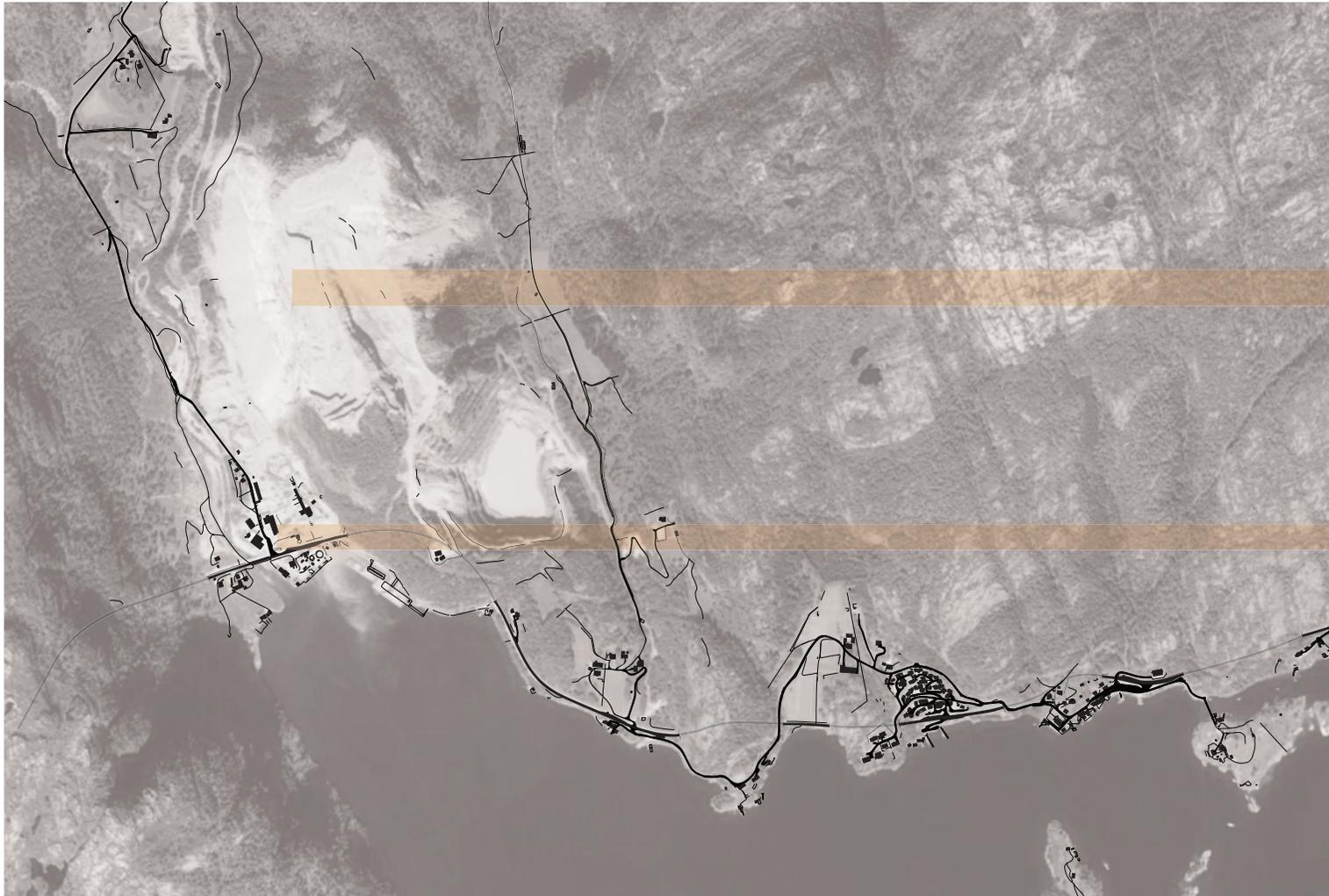
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Husafjellet

Eikefet

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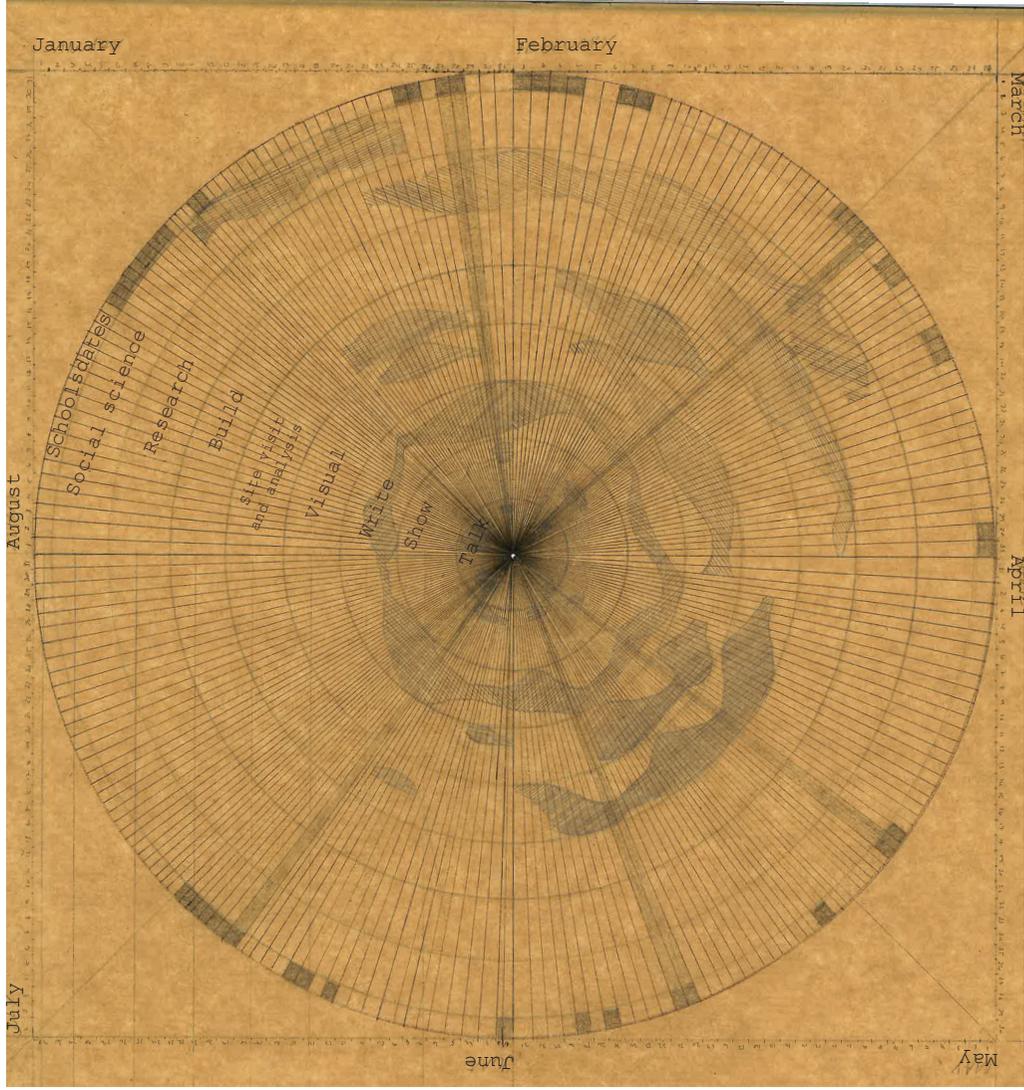
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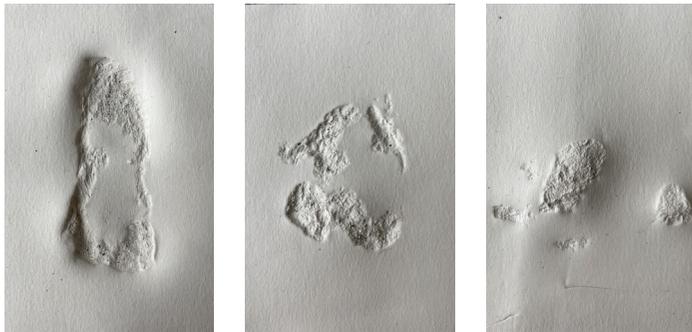
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Since November last year I have been writing a reflection note. This note is called *''Thoughts and Talks With Myself''* and are reflections I have made throughout the process. The following is excerpts of the reflection note with a page reference and section. The rest of the note will be available during my exhibition as part of the *''Archive for the Architect''* -part of my exhibition.

''I investigated some of the layers of our presence, by making a grid with words from previous semesters; change of pace | community | incompleteness | commons | continuation, level(s) cyborg | texture | animal(s) | simultaneity | tactility, | aftermath | equality | layer(s) | parasitism | symbiosis | place | space | expansion | growth | senses | feelings | abstracts | human-kind | nature | ecology | history | communication | footprint | production | immaterial | light | infrastructure | demand | necessity | void | avoid | quarry | subtract | excavation | non-scale | attitude | distances | fragments | moments | things | object | walk | industry | phenomenology | palimpsest | society | consume | identity | being | to be | Am, vernacular, structure(s), system(s), authentic, circle, methodology | sequence | stone | scale | gradient | succession | Anthropocene | material | matter | dystopia | transport | topology | creature | utopia | M3 | time | tempo | machine | language | motion | technology | dynamic | static | meteorology | maps | borders | water | public | private | future | construction | destruction | visible | invisible |'' (*''Thoughts and Talks With Myself''* p.10 section 4)



above | Top of Husafjellet (Øvrebo) below | footprint exploration (Øvrebo)

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''...I have located 5 quarries, this is quarries I've heard of or trawled by; Hyllestad, Sløvåg, Eikefet, Askøy and Jelsa, what triggers me the most and what has all the points is the one at Eikefet, this is located in a fjord, a small hidden place along the E39 route, I have driven by this place many time on my way to Førde or home to Solund, it is between two tunnels, it takes you 20 seconds to drive through it, and what I see every time is the strange landscape of a river with a lot of natural-shaped stones, machines of the quarry, high mountain and glimpse of the fjord, all in 20 seconds, 80 kilometres per hour.'' ('Thoughts and Talks With Myself' p.17 section 2)

I have nothing to show, I want to have the first meeting as a conversation, to talk about what matters to me, how we develop this planet, a talked about Anthropocene, the question of the quarries, how we can live in a community with a quarry. ('Thoughts and Talks With Myself' p.18 section 2)

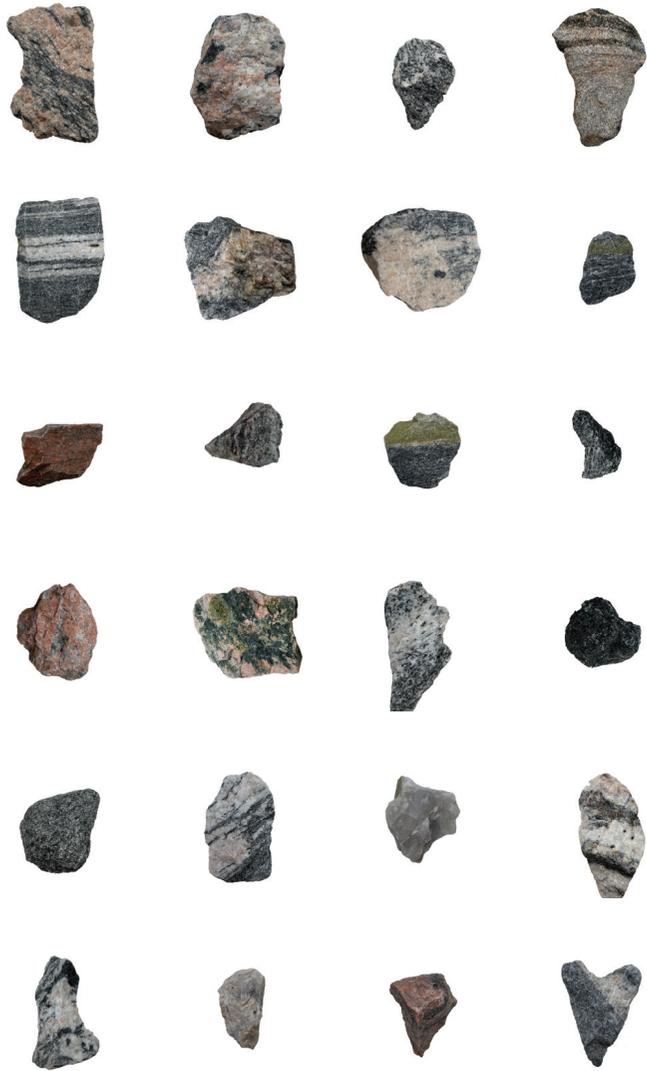
''The quarry of Eikefet is owned by a Belgian company called Group de Cloedt, it is a family company, for three generations, they own different quarries in France, Denmark, Latvia, Netherland, Poland and Norway, in Norway they own Eikefet, Halsvik and Seljestokken and has shops in Straume and Laksevåg, however, these quarries transform a place into fragment and export it to Danmark, Germany, Poland, Great Britan, Estland, Latvia and Lithuania. I get amazed by the size of one firm, and the expansion of a mountain, is the quarry the hyperobject? Or is the power of the one owning the company the hyperobject...'' (p.23 section 1)

''My wandering through this small community was very quiet at the same time noisy..'' ('Thoughts and Talks With Myself' p.36 section 2)



above | wrapped stone (Øvrebø) below | Local use (Øvrebø)

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''For comprehend the big scale and the information I collect, it can be beneficial to extract the local roads..'' (''Thoughts and Talks With Myself'' p.38 section 3)

''I am amazed by this and it is easy to become surprisingly entertained by the activity and the scale of everything, I felt small and big at the same time. The ambivalent relation to this is very present, I saw the small farms and humans looks like ants from here. I am sensing a hope, when I saw the old part of the quarry, how the nature grows and the structure of the ''stairs''...'' (''Thoughts and Talks With Myself'' p.39 section 2)

''When you have many stones in a landscape you easily recognize the stones put together in a system to form a structure, they look like a structure but they also look like the landscape they have been extracted from...'' (''Thoughts and Talks With Myself'' p.46 section 1)

''In this little community there are five kids, and the rest is grown-ups, its mainly people over the age of 60 living here. I think this makes a good foundation of the industry to take over when the time is right, you can feel they are sitting at the fence and waiting for people to get older. Torgeir feels he works against the power from the industry.''' (''Thoughts and Talks With Myself'' p.47 section 3)

''The exhibition is going to be important in communicating a context, a message, a critical care of the landscape I have visited for the past five months.''' (''Thoughts and Talks With Myself'' p.48 section 4)

''Awareness of the time we are living in, the time we are heading and the time we came from, these times are all one time, connected.''' (''Thoughts and Talks With Myself'' p.52 section 2)

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EDUCATION

08.2005/07.2006
08.2014/07.2016
08.17/ongoing

Anlegg og Bergverk Førde
Interiør Høyskolen Kristiania
Bergen School of Architecture

WORK

08.2006/05.2008
09.2008/04.2012
05.2012/09.2014
09.2015/ongoing

Excavator Brødrene Herland As
Worker at a gas station
Main office assistand Steinsund As
Worker at Vinmonopolet

other WORK

2014/2015
2015/2016
Spring 2018
Spring 2019
Spring 2020
Spring 2022

Representative for students NKH
Representative for students NKH
Admissions committee BAS
Admissions committee BAS
Admissions committee BAS
Diploma koordinator

MASTERCOURSES

Semester 7
Semester 8
Semester 9

Ocean Space
Re-form
Complex Contact

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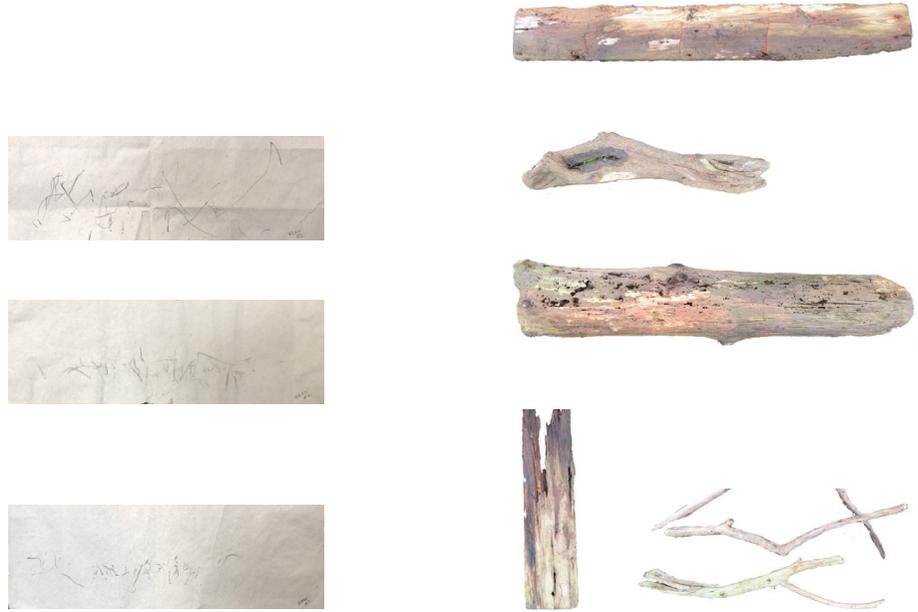
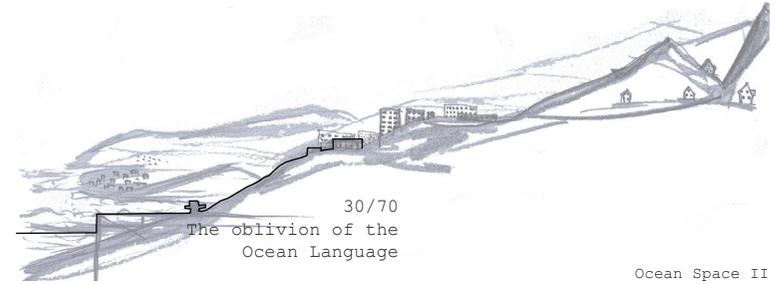
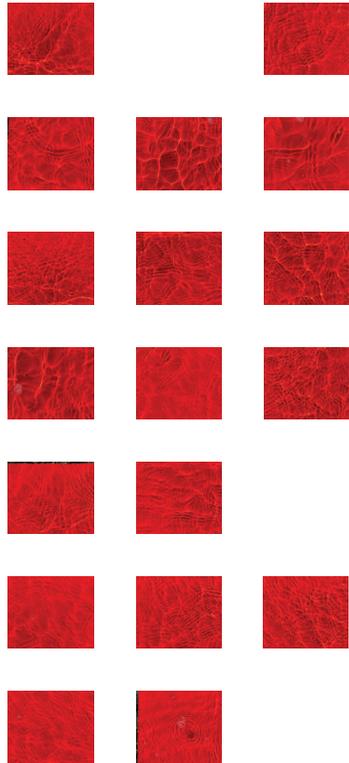
''Naustet og Vågen'' | My investigation started for real when I searched for different answers in how human, building and nature gets into dialog with each other, this work also made me think of where we come from, our origin, simplicity and how local things can get (written in 2019/2020)

''Grounded'' | Then came my proposal for understanding the bigger context of systems, urban living and all the spaces that is affected through decisions based on profit and power, this patriarchy that has led us to these different consequences we now are dealing with (written in 2020)



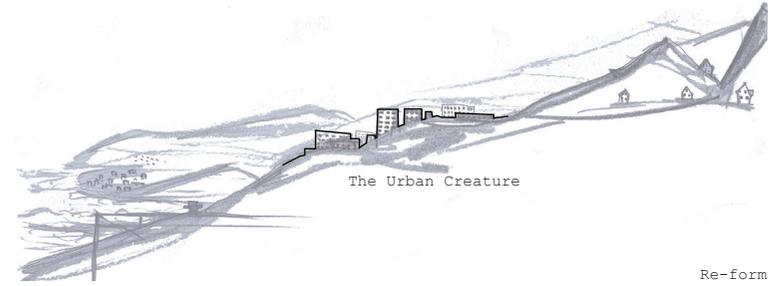
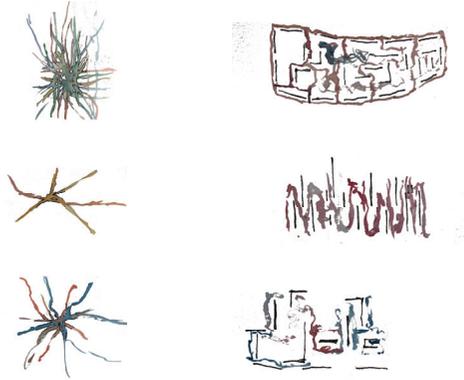
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Ocean space became my door into awareness of Anthropocene: I bring with me a lot from this course and project. However, the main thing is to listen and connect to nature, let nature tell me its different languages. The method of this is through participation in nature and collect different "words" of this storytelling. I also became aware of my own meeting with a method of sorting and collecting the information I gathered. This project also made me more curious about the system that controls everything and how this affects our planet. The ecological nature is treated like numbers and plastic, as if we have plenty and that it lasts forever.



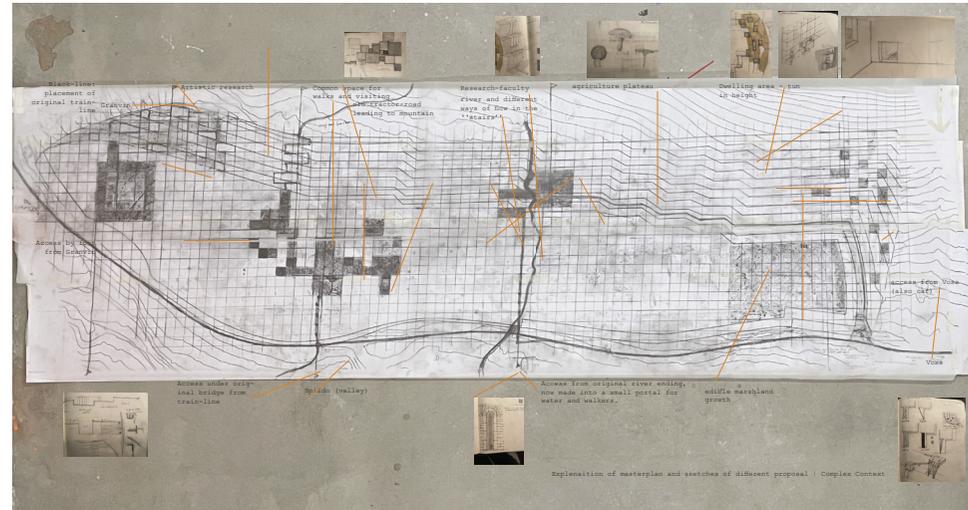
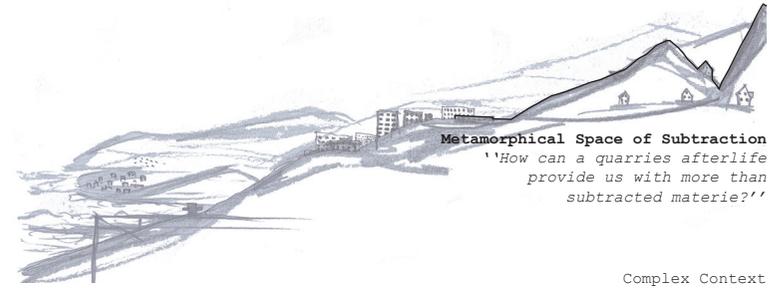
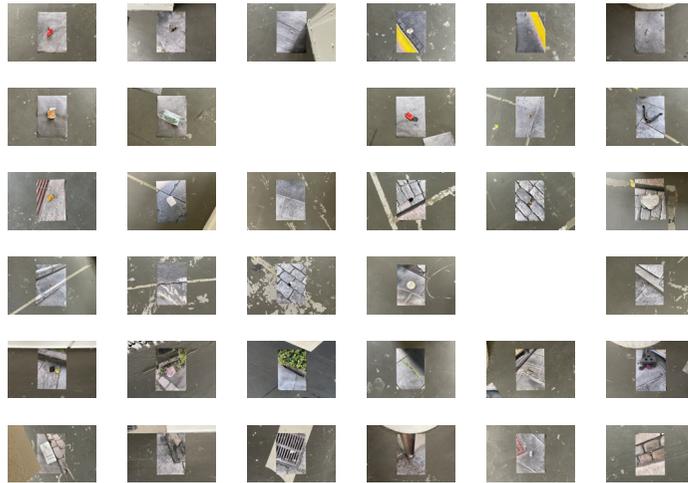
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The urban living is quite interesting to observe, no matter how strict you built the architectonic space, human inhabit, they/we always find our own way of using the spaces, architecture is only predictable into a certain way, and this opened my eyes for how important human acts of motion and presence is to a space. If not, the space is dead, or can you even call it a space, then? This project also made me aware of the fragility a city has in form of self-sufficient, and the consumption of space and recourses are making it difficult to integrate new use of the city, this is where time comes in as an important participant in urban creation.



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From having a thing and then placing it in a new space, giving it a new context makes this thing not a thing, it becomes part of a space, is has agency. This depend on the hierarchy of placement of this thing. However, it is interesting how its previous layer also gives the space a new set of "rules". I used this project grid as part of a rule, and made me comprehend many scales at the same time. I took a walks in this project, this walk made me think of the tempo of how we live and perceive our surroundings, and the change of pase between urban-district-rural. Each place has its own quality. And identity are important factors along use of the resources.



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