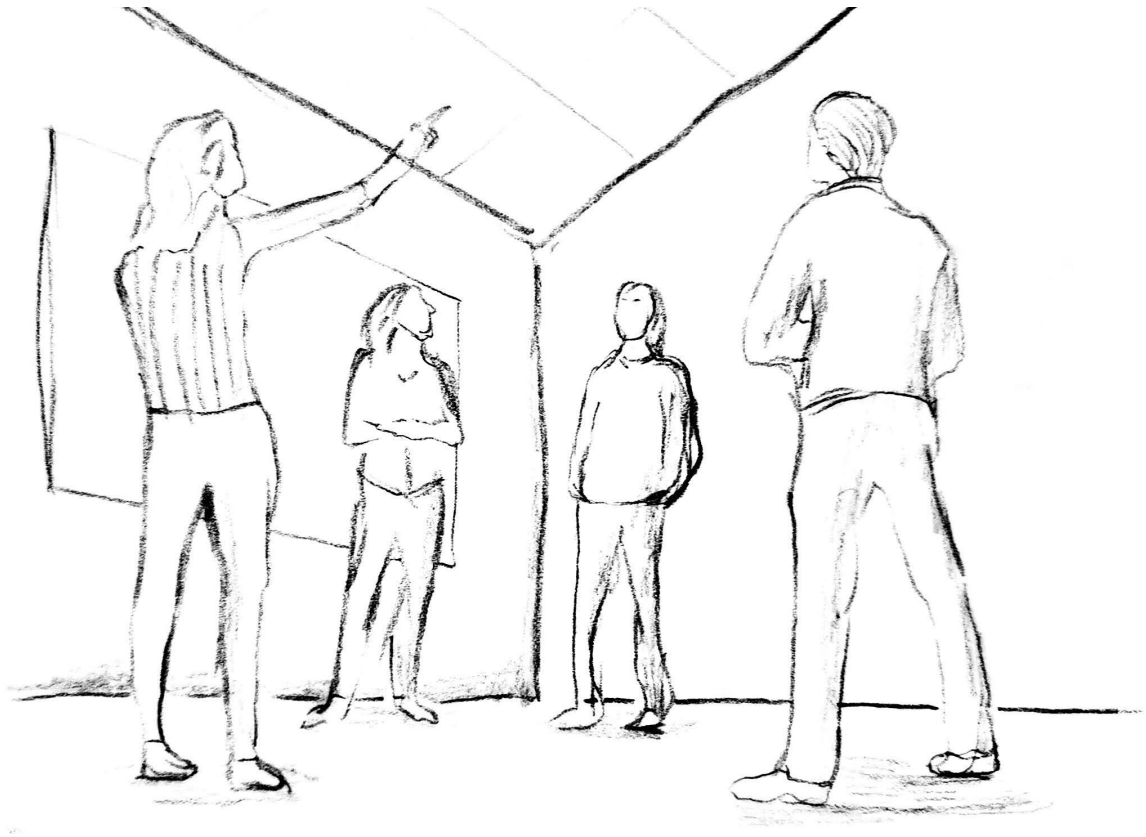


Uncharted Constructs

Exploring new ways of working with transformation and inclusive design



Workshop at Nordnes Verksteder

My project brings together three topics that are investigated together: A workplace run for and by people with a mental disability, transformation of a centrally located industrial building in Bergen, and AI as a critical tool to question how social and architectural processes can be developed.

I started out in my diploma by trying to single out a user group that I could work with. The reason for doing this was so that I could really gain knowledge on a specific group, and this would allow me to take a deep dive and find the potential within that group. I also had a wish to explore topics that interested me, for that I wanted to look into local material exploitations to see how I could integrate this into my project. My essay took a further dive into this, looking at the local knowledge that had to give way for standardization and how that knowledge was transferred.

As my diploma progressed I was starting to envision a place of work where practical knowledge could be transferred, and how this would help build relations and neighborhoods. My focus during the investigations on these former ways of material usage became more and more towards the culture of sharing knowledge and seeing the craftsmanship in what you make, and that is why I'm working with building a space for creating relations through working together.



Skuteviksveien 30

The basis for this has been working with people with mental disabilities, and creating for them a space where they can work and interact with the city, and the city can interact with them. During my investigations I visited several places of work that focused on offering work for people with mental disabilities, but they were all located outside the city. In my proposal I wanted them to be a larger part of the cityscape, and with this I might help break down stigmas and stereotypes surrounding this user group. With the focus of different uses throughout the day, the project would allow users from the neighborhood and the public to interact with it. Creating a building where they can host activities, courses and events would be important for the users of the building as well, so they get to see the value of the work they do.

I'm working with Skuteviksveien 30, located between two roads and along a busy walking street. It's one of the last industrial buildings in this area, well integrated into the neighborhood and street, with a protected facade. Its placement allows the building and the program to be well integrated into the city, both with public transport and allowing its own transport. The way it is located in the terrain allows for access from three different levels, which allows the public to interact with it in different ways. The project is drawn to allow a large specter of people to work there, built flexible enough to allow the workspace to be adapted to the needs of the employees over time. My project would take into account room for expansion and exploration of new uses, as more and more of these workspaces are needed each year and each employee might have different needs.

In developing the project I'm also critically using AI tools. The way I'm implementing it in my workflow is as a sparring partner to challenge me in my ideas and build on them, challenging it as a provider of information and ideas for a protected group in society, as a tool for engaging during workshops, giving new initiative when I'm stuck and more. The project got developed through site visits to relevant sites around Bergen as well as several workshops through Nordnes Verksteder.