

Elderly Care Home LAKE NYDALA

Creating Architectural frameworks for a meaningful life in old age.

The project is an Elderly Care Home by Lake Nydala. Surrounded by healing nature and a community that should bring a sense of purpose, the project aims to create a meaningful life even in old age. The main pillars of the project is: Nature, Engagement and Community. The project aims to balance the personal values of a home with social and engaging activities and still provide quality care.

Taking a stand regarding the history of retirement homes in Sweden, the project opposes the careless and impersonal institutes of the past. Asking the question: How can we challenge the sterile care environment and how can wood create an atmosphere of home?

The retirement home is attempting to reconnect with the community, not having the elderly as an isolated island, but as a valuable part of society.

Being in your room is a harmonious activity, where you are embraced by the forest outside and recharge. Opposing the gray sterile institutions where caretaking is usually done.

Sustainability is an important aspect of the design.

There is mainly two outlets for this: Firstly, gathering trees from site and assembling them as part of the structure. Using the leftover parts for the fireplace and wood workshop. Secondly, the greenhouse creates sustainability through engagement. Giving the elderly the experience of picking their own vegetables and at the same time lowering the overall climate impact of the building.

Having the retirement home right by the lake offers a lot of opportunities of recreation. The elderly can work in the Wood Workshop, hike in the forest, pick berries, fish in the lake or just relax and hang out in the Café. Once again, trying to create value in their lives.