URBAN SHEPHERD
CULTIVATING WIDE URBAN ENVIRONMENTS

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Examensarbete inom arkitektur, avancerad nivå 30 hp
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TODAY’S MENU
Urban Shepherd Fornhøjden

A TALE OF BIRDS BEES & APPLE TREES.
The birth of Urban Shepherd.

LARGE SCALE VISION, SMALL SCALE EXPERIMENT.
Scaling vision, process & system in Fornhøjden.

MIDWIVES & DANDELIONS.
What is next for the Architect and the idea?
TODAY’S MENU

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- A TALE OF BIRDS BEES & APPLE TREES.

The birth of an idea - Urban Shepherd.

- LARGE SCALE VISION, SMALL SCALE EXPERIMENT.

Scaling vision, process & system in Fornhöjden.

- MIDWIVES & DANDELIONS.

What is next for the Architect and the idea?
In Autumn 2012, we discovered our two apple trees were sick.

About this time a neighbour and I formed a garden group.

Ideas can be born in the strangest place...at the tiniest of scales.
1 bad moth + 2 sick apple trees
where do you start?
PEST CONTROL
If we can keep chickens, why not try bees as well? We can then look after both ends of the apple tree.
Urban Shepherd is a design tool and strategy that creates and connects local food systems, advocates regenerative urban landscapes, and supports resident run initiatives.

It is guided by a vision of applied experimentation and scalable and replicable actions.
VISION - TO CHANGE THE SITUATION

SYSTEM - WHAT WAS MADE

PROCESS - HOW SYSTEM WAS MADE

SITUATION
How can we reintegrate cities with the ecosystems that sustain them?

Can this be achieved in a manner that can cultivate community and redefine public space?

Can public space become productive, connected and regenerative?
Urban Shepherd is not so much about having a greenhouse, chickens, sheep and a vegetable garden, but how those elements are tied together to create functional interconnections between healthy public space and social activity.
Urban environments that meet current human and ecosystem needs without compromising the requirements of future generations of plants, animals and humans.

VISION - WHERE WE ARE AIMING.
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- MIDWIVES & DANDELIONS.
  What is next for the Architect and the idea?
CONTEXT - EVERY VISION NEEDS A HOME
södertälje
built & industrial

Spatial:
86,246 inhabitants
Sweden’s 20th biggest kommun

Social:
Average age 38.9
national average: 41.1

Natural:
Stockholm’s most fertile soil
city centre
water & land
fornhöjden
project site

4053 inhabitants
1729 residential flats

74.7% foreign background
57.1% employment rate
forest
natural & diverse
agriculture
fertile & nearby
PROCESS
5 PHASES OF URBAN SHEPHERD PROCESS

1. OBSERVE
   - environment & context
   - understand your environment.
   - nature functions in wholes
   - ACTION
     Create a spatial, social and natural inventory of your context. Be an ethnographer.

2. DEFINE
   - purpose & goal
   - questions you are solving
   - needs you are addressing
   - where you are aiming
   - what is your holistic goal
   - ACTION
     Write a mission statement.
     Define holistic goal.

3. MAP
   - activities & processes
   - understand social process
   - activities, schedules, people
   - ACTION
     Map processes and possible activities that will be operating in your system.

4. CREATE
   - tools & action
   - ideate tools for management
   - action for implementation
   - ACTION
     Create the tools, actions, events, materials, objects you need to create your system.

5. EVOLVE
   - question & feedback
   - assume change, implement, monitor and control your system.
   - ACTION
     Test your system.
     Apply feedback.
1. OBSERVE

understand your environment. nature functions in wholes

ACTION

Create a spatial, social and natural inventory of your context. Be an ethnographer.
SOCIAL
Han vill ge Fornhögden en egen samlingsplats

HE WANTS TO GIVE FORNHÖJDEN A COMMUNITY MEETING PLACE
The district of Fornhöjden has a high priority in the local authorities and amongst politicians.

After several initiatives and programmes implemented in the area, a lot of experience and background material is available.

The residents of the area are interested in an improvement of their situation.

There are already well functioning networks in the area [e.g. with school, health care services, property owners and local associations]

Södertälje is in the focus nationally when it comes to issues related to immigration from the Middle East - the mayor of Södertälje even talked about this in front of the American Congress.
Varför brinner bilar i Fornhöjden?

Arga unga pojkar uppstår inte ur tomma intet. Många av ungdomarna varken jobbar eller studerar och blir genom det utanför och utträkade.

En förklaring att fundera över är att många barn redan från början inte kommer till skolan. I en tjänsteskrivelse från utbildningskontoret står det att 55 barn i lågstadiet är borta mer än 30 procent av skoltiden. I högstadiet är 130 elever (cirka fem procent) frånvarande mer än 30 procent av tiden. Det innebär att var tjugonde elev i årskurs 7–9 är borta från skolan alldeles för mycket. En stor del av frånvaron har föräldrarna meddelat skolan så allt är inte skolk.
Culture clashes when the inhabitants do not know the Swedish planning process and culture or have little knowledge about Swedish administration.

Language problems - a lot of the inhabitants do not speak Swedish.

Tiredness amongst the residents - Fornhöjden has been object of many studies and approaches without real improvements for the residents - so, now something proper needs to be achieved in order to keep them motivated to participate and help improve their areas.

Vandalism and criminality is common in these areas and supports the bad outside image of the areas in the city and the region.

Fornhöjden is not well integrated into the urban life of Södertälje - it is home to many excluded people - while for other citizens of Södertälje there is hardly any reason to ever visit.
Fornhöjdens dag firades av många

I lördags var det dags för Fornhöjdsdagen för nionde året i rad. Heldagen bjöd på musikuppträdanden, tal av kommunstyrelsens ordförande Boel Godner, möjlighet att prova på dans och alla barns favorit: hoppborgen.
Previous initiatives have not led to a general and especially not to a lasting regeneration of the areas - physical problems, crime, vandalism and a very bad outside image still remain a major problem.

**MAIN OBJECTIVES OF LOCAL ACTION PLAN**

Sustainable regeneration of the deprived areas - with a special focus on physical and economic regeneration.

Improvement of the bad outside image of the area and the re-integration into urban context of Södertälje.

New methods for a better integration of ethnic minorities - leading to their growing independence and involvement in neighbourhood regeneration.
Table 1-3 Social data of the residents in the four areas included in national anti-segregation initiatives (Södertälje kommun 2007a, Södertälje kommun 2007b,
PARTIES MET & INTRODUCED TO URBAN SHEPHERDING

GOVERNMENT
- SÖDERTÅLJE KOMMUN I. S. D. €.
- ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE D.
- CITY PLANNING OFFICE I. S. D. A. €.
- PUBLIC SAFETY DPT. D. A. €.
- CULTURE / LEISURE DPT. I. S. D. A. €.

OUTSIDE
- TÖREKÄLLBERGET A.
- BEE URBAN A.
- ARBETSFORMEDLING D. €.

INFLUENCER: I.
STAKEHOLDER: S.
DECISION MAKER: D.
ALLIES: A.
FINANCIAL SUPPORT: €.

EDUCATION
- FORNBACKASKOLAN I. S.
- NATURSKOLAN S. A.
- GREEN FLAG RÅD A.

HOUSING
- HYRESGASTFORENING S. A.
- VÅRDCENTRAL S.
- BRF OPALEN-TOPASEN I. S. D.
- TELGE BOSTADER AB I. S. D. €
- TEMPO SUPERMARKET S. D. A. €
SPATIAL
SPATIAL - ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT

Occurs when one does not have access to economic betterment for any number of reasons. This could range from access to workplaces, possessing sufficient knowledge for employment.

Image - Ann Legeby, Lic.of Sc./Ph.D. Candidate
Research: The School of Architecture, KTH
SPATIAL - INTEGRATION

Occurs when the physical space in which we move and operate hinders movement, access or membership to certain individuals or groups.
ownership
divided space

1. AB TELGEBOSTADER
2. SÖDERTÅLJE KOMMUN
3. TELGE FASTIGHETER AB
4. PROCARITAS AB
5. BORIS FASTIGHETER AB
6. HSB'S BRF TOPASEN
7. MARKARYD'S BOSTADER
8. HSB'S BRF OPALEN
s pa t i a l

landscapes, nature, architecture

PATHS
the streets, sidewalks, trails, and other channels in which people travel

EDGES
perceived boundaries such as walls, buildings, and forest edges

ZONES
relatively large sections of urban space distinguished by some identity or character

NODES
centres of interest or activity, focal points, intersections or loci

MARKS
readily identifiable objects which serve as external reference points

spatial

paths
main channels people move

HEAVY TRAFFIC

MEDIUM TRAFFIC

LIGHT TRAFFIC
edges
perceived boundaries

1. VEHICLE BOUNDARY
2. FOREST
Highlighted zones represent spaces with spatial and natural properties conducive to hosting and fostering activities within the urban shepherd system.
nodes
centres of interest

1. FOOTBALL FIELD
2. FORNBACKASKOLAN
3. HF LOKAL
4. COLONY LOTS
5. KIOSK
6. PIZZA
7. SUPERMARKET
8. DOCTOR
9. BUS STOP
marks
reference points
1. FOOTBALL FIELD
2. FORNBACKASKOLAN
3. COLONY LOTS
4. SUPERMARKET
5. APPLE ORCHARD
6. BUS STOP
selected sites

initial sites of action

1. APPLE ORCHARD
2. SCHOOL GROUNDS
3. SCHOOL FIELD
4. FIELDS
5. FOOTBALL FIELD
6. COLONY LOTS
APPLE ORCHARD

LAND OWNER: Boris Fastigheter AB
SIZE: 2813m2 plus surrounding marginal land

The closest thing to a local park, the apple orchard is the first space to welcome you when arriving to Fornhöjden by public transport. It contains 20 mature fruiting apple trees and has recently undergone some maintenance work. The owner of the space (the owner of the local supermarket) plans to maintain the space and turn it into a welcoming park and family space... where of course you can buy ice cream. Two paths cross the orchard, one intentional, one created by people wanting the fastest route to and from public transport.

This is the starting point for a number of reasons.
• It is “public land” as the owner wants to create a park.
• It will be the site of the future centre of Fornhöjden.
SCHOOL GROUNDS

LAND OWNER: TELGE BOSTADER
SIZE: 350m² +

The school is centre of Fornhojden, geographically and socially. The entire housing system is built around the school as the centre figure. This creates opportunities for strong links between the residential and institutional areas.
SCHOOL FIELDS

OWNER: Telge Fastighet AB
SIZE: 2500m²

The open areas around the school “Central Park” of Fornhojden. Placed between the school and the main pedestrian pathway, it is seen daily by many, but rarely used. Four different landowners border the school field which gives it the added possibility of bridging commercial interests. It is also used a lot by the students at the school.

URBAN SHEPHERD VISION: the outdoor classroom of urban shepherding and the main artery of regeneration in the area.
The fields are quiet, vast and mainly unpopulated grassed areas in the north east corner of Fornhojden. Although there are buildings in the vicinity, there are no houses which are directly attached. Owned by Sodertalje municipal the space is used infrequently during the colder months, but remains popular with dog owners. There are single benches positioned at all 4 corners of field 01.

The fields provide an opportunity to create more colony lots as the current availability has created a “black market” of hard handed and strong ruling families pushing out others.

VISION: connect with colony lots and become the heart of urban shepherd in Fornhojden.
FOOTBALL FIELD

OWNER: Sodertalje Municipality

The space surrounding the football field is of quite uncommon promise. Although quite marginal and disproportionate in shape and access it provides many opportunities for people to participate or be a spectator. Providing a mix of areas including basketball, seating and some questionable planting it is a strong “hallway” like space connecting north and south regions.

URBAN SHEPHERD VISION: Diverse activity and changing programs
Perhaps the most contested ground in Fornhøjden the colony lots grow more than vegetables. Sodertalje municipality has offered to give the land to Telge Bostader (the largest land owner in the area) if they can sort out the current “black market” rental scheme. Almost all of the original members have been pushed out by rough tactics by a few strong families in the area. One suggestion has been to demolish the lots to get rid of the problem...but there is another way.

URBAN SHEPHERD VISION: create more colony lots and opportunities to grow.
an amazing place to sit

natural

and amazing forest
1. OBSERVE

environment & context

understand your environment. nature functions in wholes

ACTION

Create a spatial, social and natural inventory of your context. Be an ethnographer.

2. DEFINE

purpose & goal

questions you are solving needs you are addressing where you are aiming what is your holistic goal

ACTION

Write a mission statement. Define holistic goal.

3. MAP

activities & processes

understand social process activities, schedules, people

ACTION

Map processes and possible activities that will be operating in your system.

4. CREATE

tools & action

ideate tools for management action for implementation

ACTION

Create the tools, actions, events, materials, objects you need to create your system.

5. EVOLVE

question & feedback

assume change, implement, monitor and control your system.

ACTION

Test your system. Apply feedback.
Fornhöjden is the first dandelion of Urban Shepherd.

Sending down a tap root, growing a flower and sending off hundreds of small seeds to colonise and grow in other areas of Sodertalje, Stockholm and wherever they may rest.

HOLISTIC GOAL
SYSTEM

Fornhouden

Build

Measure

Learn

Pivot

Other Areas

Persist Build
1. OBSERVE
   environment & context
   understand your environment.
nature functions in wholes

2. DEFINE
   purpose & goal
   questions you are solving
needs you are addressing
where you are aiming
what is your holistic goal

3. MAP
   activities & processes
   understand social process
activities, schedules, people

4. CREATE
   tools & action
   ideate
   tools for management
action for implementation

5. EVOLVE
   question & feedback
   assume change, implement,
monitor and control your
system.

ACTION
Create a spatial, social and
natural inventory of your context.
Be an ethnographer.

ACTION
Write a mission statement.
Define holistic goal.

ACTION
Map processes and possible
activities that will be operating in
your system.

ACTION
Create the tools, actions, events,
materials, objects you need to
create your system.

ACTION
Test your system.
Apply feedback.
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<th>Phase</th>
<th>Action</th>
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selected sites
initial sites of action

1. APPLE ORCHARD
2. SCHOOL GROUNDS
3. SCHOOL FIELD
4. FIELDS
5. FOOTBALL FIELD
6. COLONY LOTS
WHERE DOES OUR SYSTEM START?

“the strategy of successful urban regeneration itself - how you do it - is itself a strategy of premature gratification. Do the best, most sensual and seductive bit first - and fast.”

(Schonfield - A MUF manual. p.18)
ACTION 1: OUR NEW PLACE TO SIT

NEED: Community seating and a place to belong together.
PRINCIPLE: Social activities depend on the presence of others in public space
TACTIC: A one day workshop in building “community chairs”.
PEOPLE: Open to entire public, but will focus on 15-25 year olds.
EFFECT: Activity in the public realm, improved seating. Building knowledge gained.
ACTION 2: GROWING FOR ALL

NEED: Garden space to cater for all abilities and ages.

PRINCIPLE: Education. You can solve all the world’s problems in a garden.

TACTIC: Build upon Action 1 and create a system or raised, wheelchair accessible gardens for the school.

PEOPLE: Participants from Action 1 plus the school community.

EFFECT: An uncomplicated opportunity to maintain already established contacts. Celebrating growing food as integral to education.

VISION: Creating collaborations between the school and wider community. Time spent creating.
NEED: Movement between different areas of Fornöjden.
PRINCIPLE: Animals are the greatest objects of attention and interest (this includes humans!)
TACTIC: Mobile chicken tractor cared for by the school during the week and private families during the breaks.
PEOPLE: School pupils and connected families.
EFFECT: Breaking down territorial borders through rotational grazing of chickens. Plus eggs!
ACTION 4: BREAKFAST AND BEDS

NEED: More colony lot gardens.
PRINCIPLE: Let pigs express their pigness. Let chickens express their chickeness.
TACTIC: Build “the breakfast and bed wagon”. A simple wagon that makes garden beds as it moves along.
PEOPLE: People involved in Action 1 + 2 for the build. A small group of “urban shepherds”
EFFECT: Flooding the market with growing space while creating delightful moments in the public realm. Plus bacon and eggs.
ACTION 5: WATCHING THE WORLD

NEED: Putting something on a pedestal. Watching something that is worth it.

PRINCIPLE: Social activities depend on the presence of others in public space

TACTIC: Building workshop to create bleacher style seating.

PEOPLE: A chance to involve new participants processes.

EFFECT: Involving the second wave of urban shepherds.

VISION: A system of public seating that makes the ordinary seem special.
ACTION 6: EXTENDING THE SEASONS

NEED: A permanent space to extend the season and a heart of urban shepherd activities.

PRINCIPLE:

TACTIC: A greenhouse + chicken house + cultural centre of urban shepherd. PEOPLE: Everyone involved in Action 1-5, plus a professional lead group.

EFFECT: Activity in the public realm, improved seating. Building knowledge gained.

VISION: The heart of urban shepherd. Only after the synthesis of feedback from action 1-5 can we propose a building like this.
HOW TO BUILD: 1. GET TIMBER. 2 GET ANGLE. 3. GET BOLT

NOW BUILD COMMUNITY!
SUCCESSION:

Each mode of action increases in scale as we strive towards the positive succession of community.

**Complexity**  
- the degree of difficulty in the construction increases.

**Size**  
- the physical size of the structure increases.

**Participants**  
- the number of stakeholders/participants increases

**Social Contract**  
- level of engagement and resident responsibility increases

**Support System**  
- what is required to make the action successful increases

**Cost**  
- material cost increases

**Risk**  
- the chance that it will fail (in any way) increases

**Permanence**  
- the length of permanence and time increases for each action
IF YOU CAN BUILD A CHAIR...
...YOU CAN BUILD A PLACE TO GROW.
AND IF YOU CAN BUILD THIS...
...YOU CAN BUILD SOIL.
YOU CAN BUILD SOIL.
AND IF YOU CAN BUILD THIS SEAT...
...YOU CAN BUILD COMMUNITY AND A SPACE FOR IT.
TODAY’S MENU

Urban Shepherd Fornhöjden

- A TALE OF BIRDS BEES & APPLE TREES.
  The birth of Urban Shepherd.

- LARGE SCALE VISION, SMALL SCALE EXPERIMENT.
  Scaling vision, process & system in Fornhöjden.

- MIDWIVES & DANDELIONS.
  What is next for the Architect and the idea?
IDEA AS DANDELION
Fornhöjden Day August 23, 2014.

Plan to implement action 1 plus a demonstration garden with chickens and pig tractors through funding from Södertälje municipality.

- Receiving interest from private clients to create an urban shepherd vision for their area.

- Urban Shepherd is spreading...like a weed.

WHAT IS NEXT FOR THE IDEA?
ARCHITECT AS MIDWIFE.

1. Most likely not present for the conception.
2. Brilliant at listening.
3. Allowing space.
4. Trust and co-creation

At the end, I will not be the one holding the baby.

WHAT IS NEXT FOR THE ARCHITECT?
What is Love?

Baby don’t herd me

urban shepherd
"Freeing up or reclassifying land for urban agriculture requires more than a desire to hold hands and plant vegetables. It requires top-down institutional and bottom-up individual change. Urban Shepherd creates such change through a strategic vision, process and system. Exploring the urban experience through social and environmental landscape use, systems city creation and household engagements, the ideas here offer new ways of understanding urban nature. Future urban landscapes can be heightened by ecologically oriented urban strategies. Come. Meet us in the field."
Can public space become productive, connected and regenerative? Can this be achieved in a manner that can cultivate community and consumption.

Urban environments that meet current human and ecosystem needs without compromising the requirements of future generations can it break patterns of cities with the ecosystems that sustain them. Underpinning such collective small scale interventions, as one that makes you so sure it works where I live.

Urban Shepherd is not so much about having greenhouse, chickens and an interconnected containers, landscapes and activities of different scales to entire bioclimates, it aims to connect people with the environments they inhabit at a scale they are most comfortable with.

Urban Shepherd works across multiple scales. From a single tomato seed to entire bioclimates, it aims to connect people with the environments they inhabit at a scale they are most comfortable with.

Urban Shepherd does not necessarily describe the existence of a greenhouse, chickens and an interconnected containers, landscapes and activities of different scales to entire bioclimates, but it aims to connect people with the environments they inhabit at a scale they are most comfortable with.

Urban Shepherd works across multiple scales. From a single tomato seed to entire bioclimates, it aims to connect people with the environments they inhabit at a scale they are most comfortable with.

Urban Shepherd is about creating space, food and us, presenting an opportunity and a need for healthier spaces, food and people to cultivate community and a space for it.

The core mission of the project is to see urban regeneration as a matrix to start small and make it last. (adapted from Johan Paju.)

Now build community!
**Action 1:** Our New Place to Sit

**Need:** Community seating and a place to belong together.

**Principle:** Social activities depend on the presence of others in public spaces.

**Tactic:** A one-day workshop in building “community chairs.”

**People:** Open to everyone, but will focus on 15-25 year olds.

**Effect:** Activity in the public realm; improved seating; building knowledge gained.

**Vision:** A thriving public place that welcomes you to the area.

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**Action 2:** Growing for All

**Need:** Garden space to cater for all abilities and ages.

**Principle:** Education: You can solve all the world’s problems in a garden.

**Tactic:** Build upon Action 1 and create a system of raised, wheelchair accessible gardens for the school.

**People:** Participants from Action 1 plus the school community.

**Effect:** An uncomplicated opportunity to maintain already established contacts; Celebrating growing food as integral to education.

**Vision:** Creating collaborations between the school and wider community. Time spent creating.

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**If You Can Build a Chair...**

**...You Can Build a Place to Grow.**
**ACTION 3: CHICKEN + THE EGG**

**NEED:** Movement between different areas of Fornöjden.

**PRINCIPLE:** Animals are the greatest objects of attention and interest (this includes humans)

**TACTIC:** Mobile chicken tractor cared for by the school during the week and private families during the breaks.

**PEOPLE:** School pupils and connected families.

**EFFECT:** Breaking down territorial borders through rotational grazing of chickens. Plus eggs!

**VISION:** The chicken tractor is a way to connect people and space.

**ACTION 4: BREAKFAST AND BEDS**

**NEED:** More colony lot gardens

**PRINCIPLE:** Let pigs express their pigness. Let chickens express their chickeness

**TACTIC:** Build “the breakfast and bed wagon”. A simple wagon that makes garden beds as it moves along

**PEOPLE:** People involved in Action 1 + 2 for the build. A small group of “urban shepherds”

**EFFECT:** Flooding the market with growing space while creating delightful moments in the public realm. Plus bacon and eggs.

**VISION:** Enough growing space that people can share.

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**AND IF YOU CAN BUILD THIS...**

**...YOU CAN BUILD SOIL.**
**ACTION 5: WATCHING THE WORLD**

**NEED:** Putting something on a pedestal. Watching something that is worth it.

**PRINCIPLE:** Social activities depend on the presence of others in public space.

**TACTIC:** Building workshop to create bleacher style seating.

**PEOPLE:** A chance to evolve new participants processes.

**EFFECT:** Involving the second wave of urban shepherds.

**VISION:** A system of public seating that makes the ordinary seem special.

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**ACTION 6: EXTENDING THE SEASONS**

**NEED:** A permanent space to extend the season and a heart of urban shepherd activities.

**PRINCIPLE:**

**TACTIC:** A greenhouse + chicken house + cultural centre of urban shepherd.

**PEOPLE:** Everyone involved in Action 1-5, plus a professional lead group.

**EFFECT:** Activity in the public realm, improved seating, building knowledge gained.

**VISION:** The heart of urban sheep. Only after the synthesis of feedback from action 1-5 can we propose a building like this.