



TRONDHEIM, NORWAY - EUROPAN 9 SITE

European 9 in Norway – Four cities expand the European Laboratory

European Norway enters the 9th session of the European competitions with 4 cities and sites. European Norway participated for the first time in European 7 with three sites, and has managed to get all the winners into the implementation phase on different levels. The winning project in Stavanger is already a built reality. The total of 11 cities now involved lifts European, as an urban laboratory in Norway, from a local to a national level.

The board of European Norway consists of representatives from The Norwegian State Housing Bank (Husbanken), the Centre for Design, Architecture and Built Environment (Norsk Form), the National Association of Norwegian Architects (Norske Arkitekters Landsforbund) and the three schools of Architecture (Trondheim, Bergen and Oslo). The Norwegian State Housing Bank has made European to one of their main tools in investigating the Norwegian contemporary city, is heavily funding the competitions and is also following up the implementation process in each city. This is of great importance for the implementation of the winning projects.

Our fellow competition organizers and the developer organisations have prepared the ground for the competition program since last summer. This was pushed one big step further in Berlin, where European Germany hosted The European 9, Forum of Sites. The Norwegian cities were heavily represented. After having observed and discussed the local urban issues in a European perspective, everybody returned with a keen interest for what kind of ideas the competitors might discover and develop. In many ways the understanding of the challenges of the sites has “been on the move” up to the now finished competition programs, and will continue to do so into the phase of realization. All the cities involved have therefore committed themselves to engage the winning teams in study commissions, to ensure the process of lifting the competition ideas into the project phase, and to implement them.

EUROPAN 9 is an open invitation to young European architects to build meaningful urban life.

To engage in the forming of contemporary urban society does not signify to move away from architecture. Although when architecture is presented as a hypothesis rather than a definitive solution, architecture is still increasingly important as a physical tool for shaping social spaces of everyday lives.

What is changing is the range and complexity of what we try to define as the needs of existing and future inhabitants in order for them to manifest a meaningful society and urban life. We look for projects to open up discussions on the strategic role of architecture as catalyzing agents for the development of urban environments. In a considerable number of EUROPAN competition briefs (and certainly in many of the Norwegian ones) candidates are presented with a gallery of various players, ideas and visions. The competition is an invitation to enter this world and, and enter it from the outside by investigating coherent urban strategies.

This leads to what is a very important role for European Norway; the discovery of engaged professionals with the right competence and commitment for the task. The editor of the Norwegian Magazine “Byggkunst”, Ingerid Helsing Almaas, stated this in her editorial, presenting European 8:

“The inviting cities learn from each other. Not at least: they get courage and insights to enter into cooperation with young and able architects with other references, new to the cities. The result of this process is not only visible in the implemented projects. Even when projects are not realized or changes direction the competition winners has important influence on other planning processes in the cities.”

All seven Norwegian sites from European7 and European 8 are in progress for implementation.

The overall theme of European 9, “Sustainable city and new public spaces” opens a wide range of challenges to the cities and the competitors.

Odda on the western coast of Norway is a former industrial center now under change, even in decline and in search for a new identity and profile in the midst of a dramatic Norwegian landscape. The study area and site is located to a peninsula out in the beautiful fjord landscape. The town states in the program: “European participation is admirably suited to the phase in which we now find ourselves”.

Trondheim in the middle of the country is a Norwegian center of knowledge and science. The competition site and program profiles this through the strengthening of the city center as a university city; the site and study area is seen as part of such a strategy. Creative, constructive, critical is key words in this university strategy which also can be seen as slogans for the European competition. The developer asks for new innovative student housing, to be built within three years.

Two sites in the Oslo region are in the European 9 field of research:

The Grorud valley is the hinterland of the capital, a vast area with large housing projects and an industrial sub-urbanity from the middle of the last century. In planning terminology it has been in the shadows, but a strong searchlight has lately been set on the valley both from the local and the national government. European participation can be seen as part of a task-force carving out the new valley concept. The inviting parties sees the European competition at the Grorud center as a possible pilot that may introduce elements that can be transferred to other areas and contexts in the larger valley.

The town of Lillestrøm in the Skedsmo Municipality is located halfway between the Oslo city center and the new international airport at Gardermoen. Lillestrøm is the focus point in a municipality with large areas of suburban housing and a variety of expanding industrial and commercial conglomerations. The town is well known for three features: The football club that competes in the top of Norwegian football (the “canary birds”), the largest showroom in all Norway, “Norges Varemesse” and the “Kjeller Research Center”. The town is an important node in the Oslo region. The town is not known for its urban intensity, parks and public spaces and enters into Europan 9 to change this.

Europan Norway welcomes participants from abroad and at home to take part in this national investigation of the Norwegian contemporary city. The Europan Competition is searching for young talent from all over Europe. Europan Norway and the partner cities will be deeply committed to all strong ideas and explorations that is put forward, and to see that they are implemented.

A sincere welcome to Europan 9 Trondheim

Knut Eirik Dahl
President Europan Norway

Rita Ottervik
Major Trondheim Municipality

Knut Solberg
Group managing director, SiT

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City : Trondheim

Location : Elgeseter gate 49/Abelsgate

Population : 161 000 inhabitants

Study area : 9 ha

Site: 0.9 ha / "building site": 0,1 ha

1. TOPIC

The European site in Trondheim is the northernmost site of all the European sites. The main focus is to make innovative, sustainable, future-oriented student housing and public spaces in a rapidly developing area, "Elgeseter". The city district of Elgeseter is a hot spot for university extension and research. The European site and study area in Trondheim will be part of the development of the City of Knowledge. The city of Trondheim is discussing a new location for all parts of the university integrated in the city area.

Trondheim is Norway's 3rd largest city, and a centre of education, technological and medical research, with 30 000 students. The area of Elgeseter is where the city and university meet, and in this competition we want to explore how the interaction between the university and the city can be like and what is the

quality of such a place. How can this be unique in the urban structure of Trondheim? This will be an important part of the campus of the new city-integrated university, a new way of thinking about the university as opposed to the traditional university on the Gløshaugen plateau (NTNU - The Norwegian University of Science and Technology) which is a structure living its own life that is not integrated in city life.

A new university area with research communities and research-related business will have great significance for Trondheim's image as a city and will also be important for its profile as a leading university environment in Europe. The development of advanced student accommodation in a popular public area will be an important initial project for the vision. The site containing the study area is situated in the heart of the new university area and will subsequently become one of the most important public spaces in the new university area.

The site is located in the Elgeseter city area, by the main road Elgeseter gate from the south into the centre of Trondheim. Along the Elgeseter gate are important national (university), regional (hospital) and local (football-stadium) functions. This makes the area the densest workplace and living area in the city. In the future the site will be the main public space for the city area.





The challenge is to combine the student housing complex together with new public spaces to benefit the existing qualities and possibilities of the urban territory. Development of new public spaces is crucial for reengaging the landscape qualities and recreational activities in the urban situation and strengthening the connection between the existing university (NTNU), business innovation/research centre (Teknostallen), future university extensions and the river.

How can the student accommodation contribute to the new public space? How can this new public space and the student housing become a pilot and brand for the possible new university area? How can the public space in itself express sustainable development? How can interesting solutions for sustainable forms of transportation and urban living give new urban models that reduce the amount of space devoted to the car and open up for multiple use? The public space and student accommodation project must be attractive and accessible to all kinds of users.

Architecture for the student housing and design for open public spaces should be characterized by modernity and be a pilot for future developments.

SIT (Studentsamskipnaden i Trondheim as the developer) is at present responsible for accommodating about 4000 students. The intention is to increase the amount of student housing up to 6000 within the short term. The European project will be realized within about 3 years.



Opening of research conference in Trondheim



New wooden housing in Trondheim, Brendeland & Kristoffersen

2. URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Trondheim is situated in central Norway where the River Nidelva meets Trondheim Fjord. The city was founded in 997. Nidaros Cathedral is one of the main reasons for Trondheim's important role in Norwegian history. The Cathedral was established in 1152 (and they are still working on it!). It is the most significant church in Norway, a gothic cathedral, and was Northern Europe's most important Christian pilgrimage destination during the Middle Ages. The kings from 10th century and onwards have been crowned and blessed here.

The buildings of medieval Trondheim were mostly small, low timber houses, and fire all too often ravaged the town. To prevent more fires, the architect and townplanner Cicignon designed a new city plan in the Baroque style with wide boulevards in the 17th century. This plan is still the footprint of central city centre. But you also find narrow alleys and narrow streets, many originating in the Middle Ages, and many special wooden buildings, some built as far back as the 1700s.

Industrialization in the 1800s led to new growth. A number of factories and workshops were founded, and Trondheim was connected by railway to the south.

During the last 50 years the city has doubled its size. The strategy of Trondheim municipality is now to increase the density within the existing urban structures. The European-site is in the area of the city with the best accessibility, but still has good potential to increase the density. The city centre, the urban core, which is a concentrated low-rise grid structure, is peninsula-shaped within a huge meander of the River Nidelva that almost touches the fjord at the neck of the peninsula.

The population of Trondheim has had a general increase, equivalent to 1.5 percent. The amount of students that require housing are an important factor in the increase in residents.

Perspective - Vision and goal for the city: In the future Trondheim will also be distinguished by the values and distinctive characteristics that have been developed through a thousand years, since the establishment of the city. Trondheim as a civic society is to focus on vicinity, care and safety, openness and participation, tolerance and respect for our fellow beings. The city is to be distinguished by diversity and variation concerning its offers and events, and an international perspective.

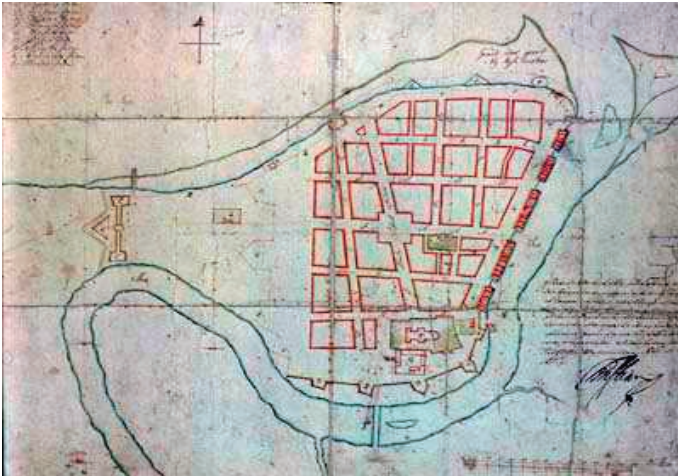
Diversity and freedom of choice, security and predictability: Basic services will be available wherever and whenever needed; safety for live and health, residence, work in a versatile business life, supervision and care for children and the young, school and varied services for the elderly.

Environment and development: The environment of Trondheim is to be one that promotes the health and well-being of its inhabitants, with clean air, water and soil. The green characteristic of Trondheim is to become a framework for physical development. Trondheim is to take care of its natural resources with regard to business and recreational use as well as being a site for experiencing nature for everyone.

Culture refraction and knowledge: The international traditions of Trondheim including diversity, with openness, tolerance and respect for others are to be ensured. Culture adventures and participation in cultural activities are to be important aspects of the city life. The culture of voluntary work/organizations is to play



Nidaros Cathedral, "Nidarosdomen"



Cicignon's plan from 1681



"Kristiansten Festning", a fort built in 1681.



A winterday in Trondheim city centre.

a central role, in addition to the professional institutions and bodies. Knowledge and competence, education, research and technology are to continue as the basis for developing institutions and companies in Trondheim, regional and national. Trondheim as an ecclesiastical centre is to be strengthened.

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH AREA

In the first decade of the 1900s Trondheim also developed into an educational centre, when the Norwegian Institute of Technology was established there. This has now developed into Norwegian University of Science and Technology, NTNU, which is the second-largest university in Norway. This is a national centre for technological education and research, with a solid foundation in the natural sciences. Creative, Constructive and Critical are the keywords in the university's strategy. Trondheim is therefore today an important city for industry and commerce, education and research. These keywords should also be reflected in the European proposals.

Every sixth inhabitant in Trondheim is a student, so the number of inhabitants in the city is about 180 000. Around 30 000 study at NTNU and HIST, Sør-Trøndelag University College. The students make a major impact on the pulse of the city, and contribute to an important diversity in culture life. Big festivals such as UKA and ISFIT (the world's largest student festival with a thematic focus) are arranged every second year. The student society, "Samfundet" (founded in 1910), is the largest student society in the country, and is the major symbol and centre for the student/university-city Trondheim, and its long traditions.

NTNU (Gløshaugen - located close to the site) offers a broad range of academic disciplines and has internationally recognized high quality standards in all areas of activity. NTNU has ten areas of study: Architecture, Technology, Humanities, Science, Social sciences, Medicine, Psychology, Fine art, Music, Practical-pedagogical education.

HIST (located in different places in the city) Sør-Trøndelag University College was established in 1994 by merging eight colleges in Trondheim. The college offers a wide range of bachelor's and master's programs as well as continuing education programs and other courses.

SINTEF, the largest independent research organization in Scandinavia has 2000 employees; 1400 of these are located in different places in Trondheim

ST. OLAVS HOSPITAL, (Trondheim University Hospital, located close to the study area) is a health enterprise and university hospital in the Mid-Norway health region, an area which has a total of 630 000 inhabitants. The new University Hospital is the first university in Norway which completely integrates patient treatment, research and teaching. The hospital will have a total area of 186 500 m². From this will 49 500 m² be used to university and teaching functions. The first clinical centers were completed in 2006. The entire project will be completed in 2015.

SiT (the developer) is the student welfare organization at the university and the university college/other colleges in Trondheim, and was founded in 1948. SiT is responsible for promoting the welfare of almost 30 000 students at NTNU, HiST and DMMH.



The main building "Hovedbygget" at Gløshaugen NTNU.



St. Olavs Hospital. Under construction



Gathering of students behind NTNU's main building



Studentersamfundet, Trondheim student society building.

Although these organizations have the strategic responsibility for facilities for their students, the practical responsibility for doing this has been delegated to SiT. Activities at SiT are subject to law and the Ministry of Education and Research ensures that SiT's work is carried out in accordance with the regulations.

SiT works to make sure that students enjoy a comfortable life besides their studies. Its activities are concerned with student welfare, including medical treatment, social work, psychological treatment, sports activities, kindergartens, accomodation, cafes and bookshops. This is done in order to provide essential services to students at the lowest possible cost - while at the same time enough profit to cover the expenses. SiT is also involved in external, commercial activities such as a travel agency, training course facilities and an academic press. The profits from these operations also benefit students in Trondheim.

Campus development – Knowledge city

Trondheim Kommune (the municipality) and partners are working on a strategy for campus development at Elgeseter/Øya, a city-integrated university. Physical and social urban development with the university as an engine for this makes the area attractive and the land-proprietor sector is interested in development. The project partners have a goal to make Trondheim a first-class educational and research city by 2020, and develop the Trondheim region into an attractive creative and internationally leading scene for knowledge.

Trondheim is part of the global knowledge society. Creativity, well-qualified people, knowledge and innovative ability are the most important factors for economic growth in knowledge society. This type of society is increasingly becoming a more

- 1 Sverresgate
- 2 Bloksberg
- 3 Klostergata
- 4 Nedre Singsaker gate, Magnus den godes gate
- 5 Lerkendal studentby
- 6 Berg studentby
- 7 Jonsvannsveien (NTNU)
- 8 Moholt
- 9 Frode Rinnansvei
- 10 Karinelund
- 11 Voll (Private)



Placement of student housing in Trondheim, connected with a busline which passes by 5 times an hour.

urban phenomenon where the cities are the motors for the development. Cities and regions are to provide the education, maintain and attract these types of people and develop and utilize knowledge for the development of society, business and products. The global knowledge society and the tough international competition for creativity, well-qualified workforce and knowledge, underline this. Universities and colleges are subject to an international competition of trying to attract talented students, lecturers and researchers. This sharpens the requirements for western and Nordic cities – and Trondheim. It means that the city's university and colleges and the remainder of the educational institutes are to be extra attractive, well-functioning and innovative. The ambition is for NTNU to complete measures to become one of Europe's 20 best universities by 2020. For Trondheim to contribute to NTNU becoming one of the leading universities in Europe, the city must attract well-qualified researchers and students, and promote innovation through city policy and develop an innovative city structure.

An innovative and attractive city district

Trondheim must use its urban resources to promote innovation, knowledge-sharing and learning to create a diverse city with a good human climate and an attractive city life. If the university and university college departments move to areas north and west of Gløshaugen, the possibilities for interaction with the central city areas will be strengthened. In order to strengthen this interplay the Elgeseter gate/ Holtermanns vei quarter and the central city must be better linked. The section from the Lerkendal area to the central city links the two city quarters together and is the backbone in the new innovative city quarter. Urban innovation-motors such as a new university library are to be located along this section. This section is to be an attractive location with

several meeting arenas, a dynamic city life etc. The European site and study area will be a part of the main areas in the new city quarter.

Cities contain a lot of resources in the form of city functions, enterprises, educational institutions, cafés, city area, meeting arenas, residential areas, students, human resources, creative environments, culture institutions, etc. The cities are not only a passive reservoir for these resources. The cities are a medium for growth, a place that provides the best interaction of the urban resources. A possible relocation of the university and university college departments will involve large investments in the city quarter of Elgeseter gate/Holtermanns vei (the study area). Such new investments are to be seen in relation to the existing resources of this particular area. Existing functions, knowledge-environments, buildings, and activities often have the potential to be better exploited and be beneficial to more people simply by carrying out fewer operations. For instance, the canteen of a firm/business can be made publicly accessible, and thus become a public gathering place and contribute to the city life and to the sharing of knowledge. The development of urban resources often occurs in the meeting between new and existing resources. New resources that are brought in can be used as catalysers for the development of the knowledge city. The European project; student housing and the new public spaces can contribute to the development of urban resources.



Vision for the Campusdevelopment at Elgeseter, made by Sasaki Associates

PRINCIPLES OF THE KNOWLEDGE CITY

The paramount principles of the knowledge city can be a guideline for the development of the European study area and the site.

The principles listed are general:

Location, mobilization, release and promotion of creativity:

- creative strategy in the city politics
- deregulation in the creative city quarters
- celebrate creativity in the city area
- mobilization of creative forces in a creative forum/network
- creativity promotive city management
- promotion of industrial, economic, social, cultural and organizational innovations

Promote tolerance for diversity

- buildings and the city area are to contribute to physical, cultural and social diversity
- promote democracy and fairness
- develop good citizenship
- develop new (looser) social community
- emphasize and celebrate diversity and tolerance through buildings and city area
- varied and mixed residential- and owner forms and price classes
- Many, varied and versatile meeting places
- the city's area as a multicultural meeting place (well-being, tolerance and multiplicity)
- commercial and non-commercial, outdoor and indoor meeting places
- good availability
- access for semi-public meeting places (i.e. lobbies/green spaces/rooms)
- buildings open for everyone on ground level

Proactive utilization of public investments in the public area:

- public investments in a new cover, lighting, planting etc accompanied in the following year of private investments in buildings with a factor of 5-10
 - public investments accompanied by commercial, cultural, social and organizational initiatives
 - development of an urban statement for building activity
- Integration of the city functions, city life and cultures:
- physical and cultural integration: integrated city formation
 - mixed city, multi applied city area, public useful city structure
 - cultural, social and organizational integration

- urban integration of new and ancient city areas
- the city as the university
- Network city with a public useful city- and building structure
- centre formation in trafficated and knowledgeable inter sections
- network metropolis/ -region
- homogenised city surfaces

The city that contributes towards human fellowship:

- creating, underlining and celebrating a good human climate
- not too pretty, but can be suitable to exist in urban intensity, concentrated, tall and dense extension
- decisions for use of space and a tight main structure
- neat and flexible multi-functional blocks
- bonus systems for the extension with high city quality
- International competition on the basis of distinctive and historical roots:
- preserve and maintain the typical local qualities, distinctive and history
- build on local values and competence
- build new city areas into the old ones

Optimal physical, functional, mental and virtual availability:

- highly international and regional availability
- plane, trains, buses and cars
- pedestrian and bicycling (between the functions of the city)
- availability of the city's functions, facilities, offers and places / market
- availability of the knowledge centres



Realfagsbygget, NTNU Gløshaugen.



Students working in groups.

THE CITY DISTRICT OF ELGESETER

The southern area of the city is strategically important for the further development of the university in the future. This European project should contribute to the new image of the university city of Trondheim.

Few or no city quarters have the innovative power as the area from the city centre / marketplace in Trondheim and south towards the areas around Lerkendal. A comprehensive extension and enhancement of already existing enterprises is presently in progress. A collection of culture, knowledge- and business activities of considerable size has already been planned within a 15 min. walk from the State administration office block in Princensgt. and southwards. Private and public centres of interest have definite projects ready for implementation within the next 5-10 years. In addition, considerable vacant spaces exist for various purposes. This makes this city quarter the most vital in Trondheim towards 2020. With its immediate vicinity to the centre and local and national focal points within culture, education and research in place, it gives the best basis for Trondheim to further develop as a knowledge city. With NTNU as a vigorous centre in the east and St. Olav's Hospital in the west, the city quarter is encircled by the largest national environment of expertise in this region.

The master plan for the area "Kommunedelplan Elgeseter" says "The main-concept in the plan is both compact and open, activities can be made denser in a compact way, while the green, parks and single-family housing will maintain the open structure of today.

Elgeseter has traces from urban activities going back to the Middle Ages. An adaptation and interpretation of the ideals of urban form from early 20th century should be an inspiration of further development for this area, like definition of open space and sight lines. In the plan of Professor Sverre Pedersen from 1914 you find an east-west connection crossing Elgeseter gate. This public space is still integrated in the master plan for Elgeseter, and is a part of the European-assignment.

INFRASTRUCTURE TRAFFIC

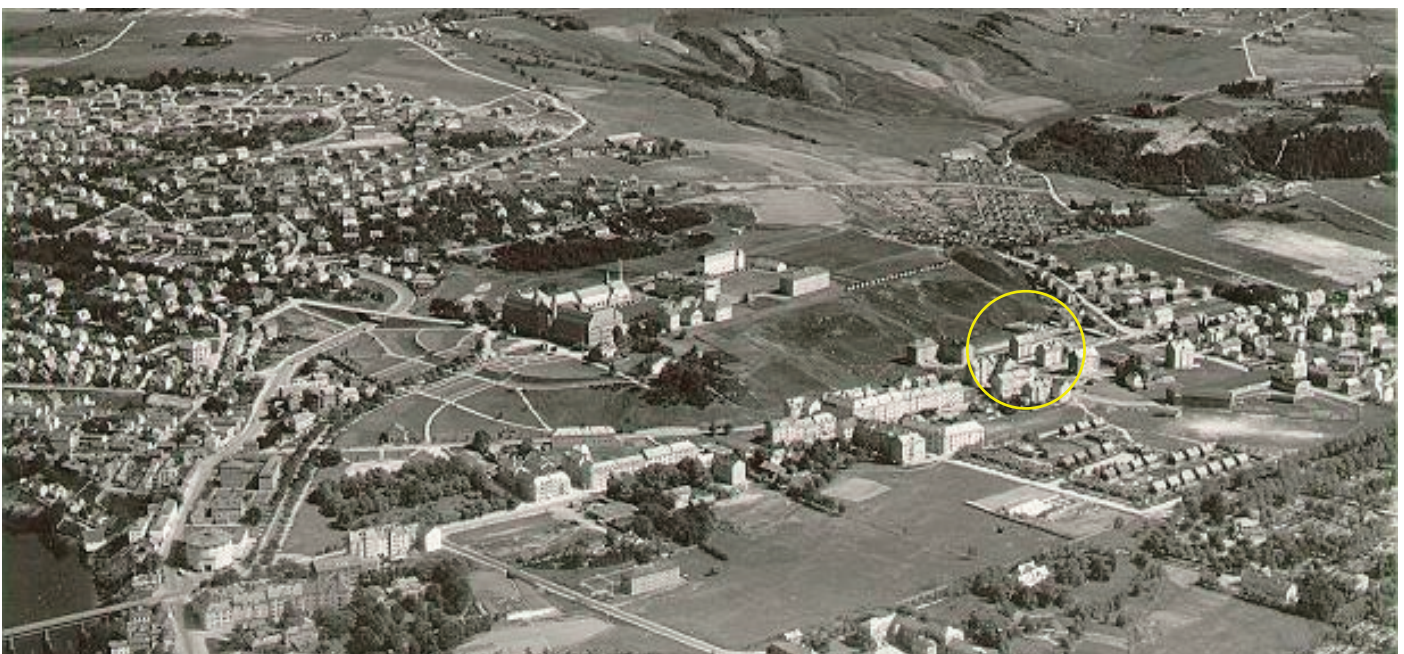
Elgeseter gate is the main road to the city centre from south. The street has an average of traffic over the year of 30 000 vehicles

per day, and the street is very polluted. Around 40% of the traffic is ending in the area, while the rest is just through traffic. 10% of the traffic is heavy and public transport. One of the new highways around Trondheim, North ring-road (Nordre avlastningsvei), will relieve Elgeseter gate of heavy transport, but are not from the starting point scaled for orderly traffic flow.

Today there are around 50 buses in regular service in each direction in the rush hour traffic. The buses have a small registered delay both in and out the city in the rush hour, but the situation is assessed as unstable and problematic since the existing traffic load is also increasing. The main cycle and pedestrian route between Heimdal in the south and the city centre is placed on the west side of Elgeseter gate west of TEAB, and past Teknostallen. It is possible to cross Elgeseter gate on another level at two points, one at the beginning of the street in the south and one at the end under Elgeseter bridge.

Car-, bus- and other heavy traffic causes serious air pollution, dust and noise problems for the neighboring dwellings and other activities along Elgeseter gate. The most serious noise problems are found on the east side of the street, especially between Abels gate and Einar Tambar skjelves gate, where the building site is located. Measures show that the total average of air pollution and dust is over recommended limit values. Concentration along the street will enhance the problems. In periods with high concentration of dust there can be a high risk of health-related causes of illness by staying in Elgeseter gate over a long time.

Some of the blocks have through traffic on both sides and through traffic between the dwelling and the nearby green areas. This has been documented as negative for the residential environment. A research study there has investigated how children around 10 years perceived the problem factors in their outdoor environment. The main conclusion seems to be that the children perceive the cars as the main environmental factor that has a meaning for them. With cars they also include the parked cars that take up space in their outdoor area where they roam and have their social arena, and the traffic that makes it stressful to move outside. However, the children seem to appreciate the historic and esthetic qualities with the dense buildings and the greenery. (Wilhjelm, 1999: Oppvekst i byen - en annengenerasjonsstudie, NTNU).



Historic picture from around 1930s.



TRONDHEIM KOMMUNE

KOMMUNEDELPLAN ELGESETER DESIGN MAP

KEY OF MAP

- Built areas
 - Areas for city building
 - Residential areas
 - Areas for public building
 - Cemetery
 - Recreation area
 - S Local centre
 - Areas that is or shall be locked up:
 - after law of culture monument
 - regulation after law or plan & buildingdepartment
 - Areas for special use or preservation of waterway
 - Waterarea for universal use
 - Important links in the communicationsystem
 - Main sirstreet
 - Public parking
 - Railway
- Symbols:
- The plans delimitation
 - Boundary for use of area
 - Boundary for locked up area
 - Areas where development plan is valid
 - Extension field that has its own regulations
- Permitteret structural mass
- 1-3 floors
 - 3-5 floors
 - >5 floors

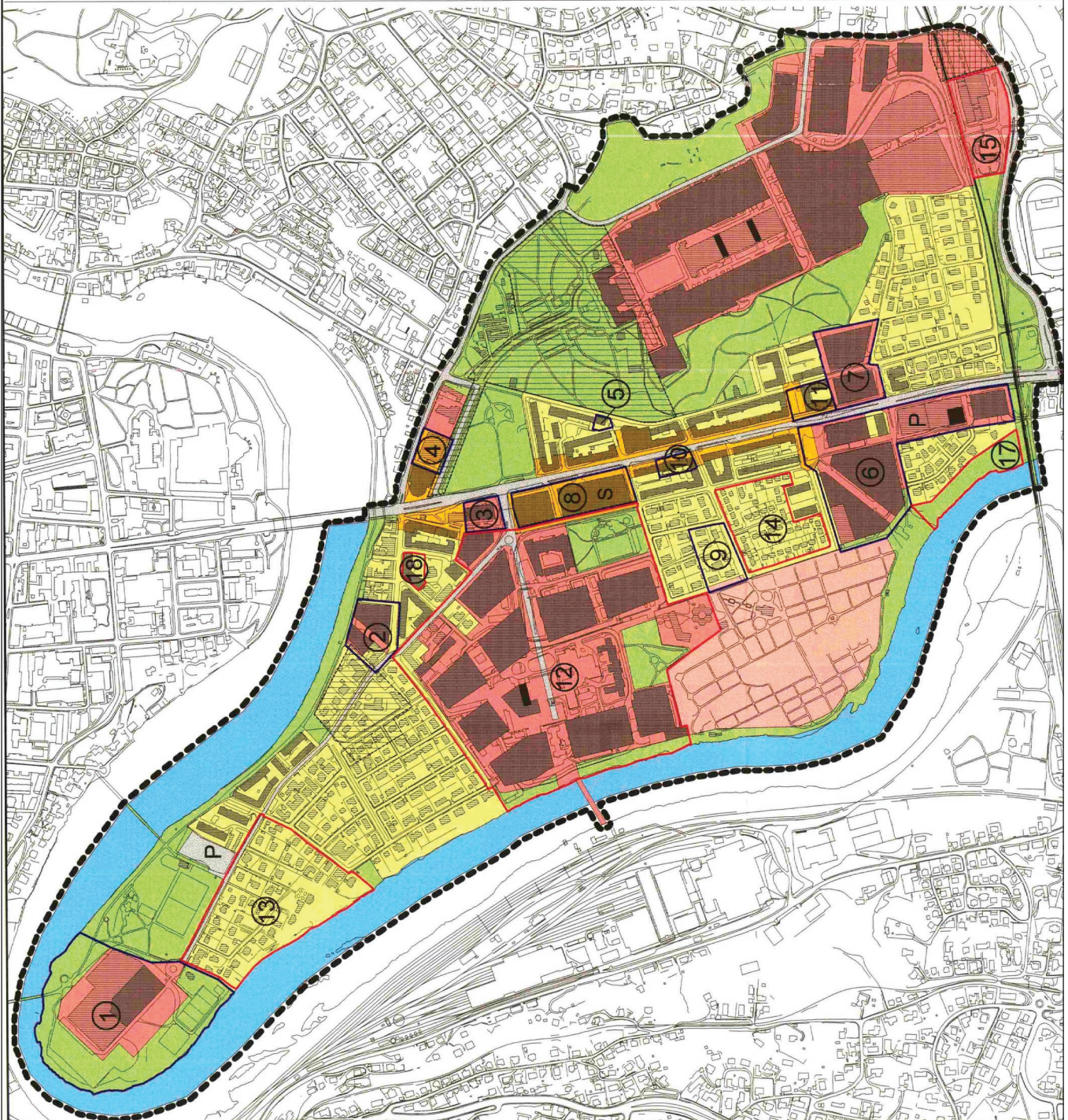
Ignore the numbers at the map

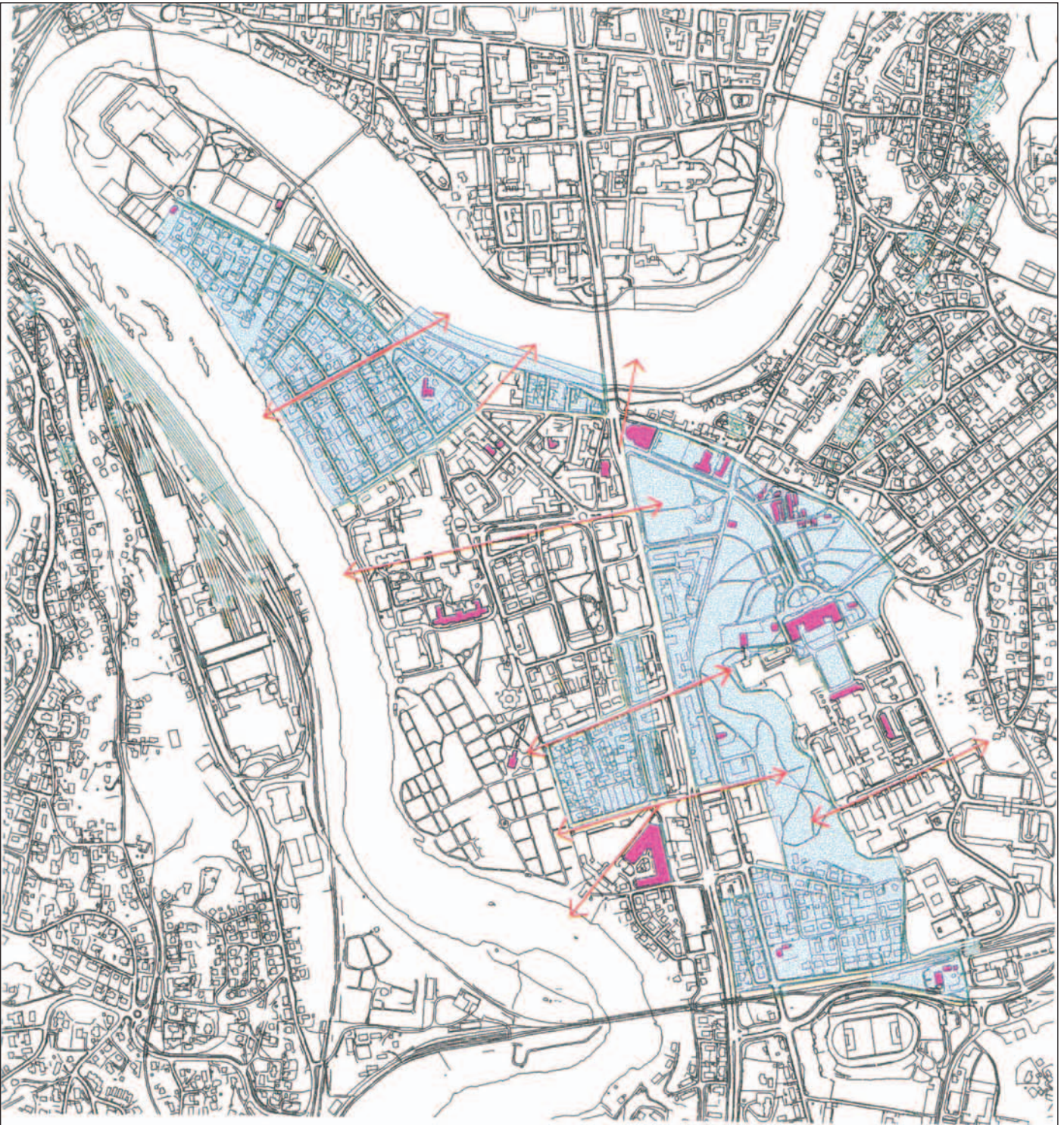


Kartmålstokk
1:5000



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TRONDHEIM KOMMUNE

KOMMUNEDELPLAN ELGESETER

THEME MAP CITY PLAN

KEY OF MAP

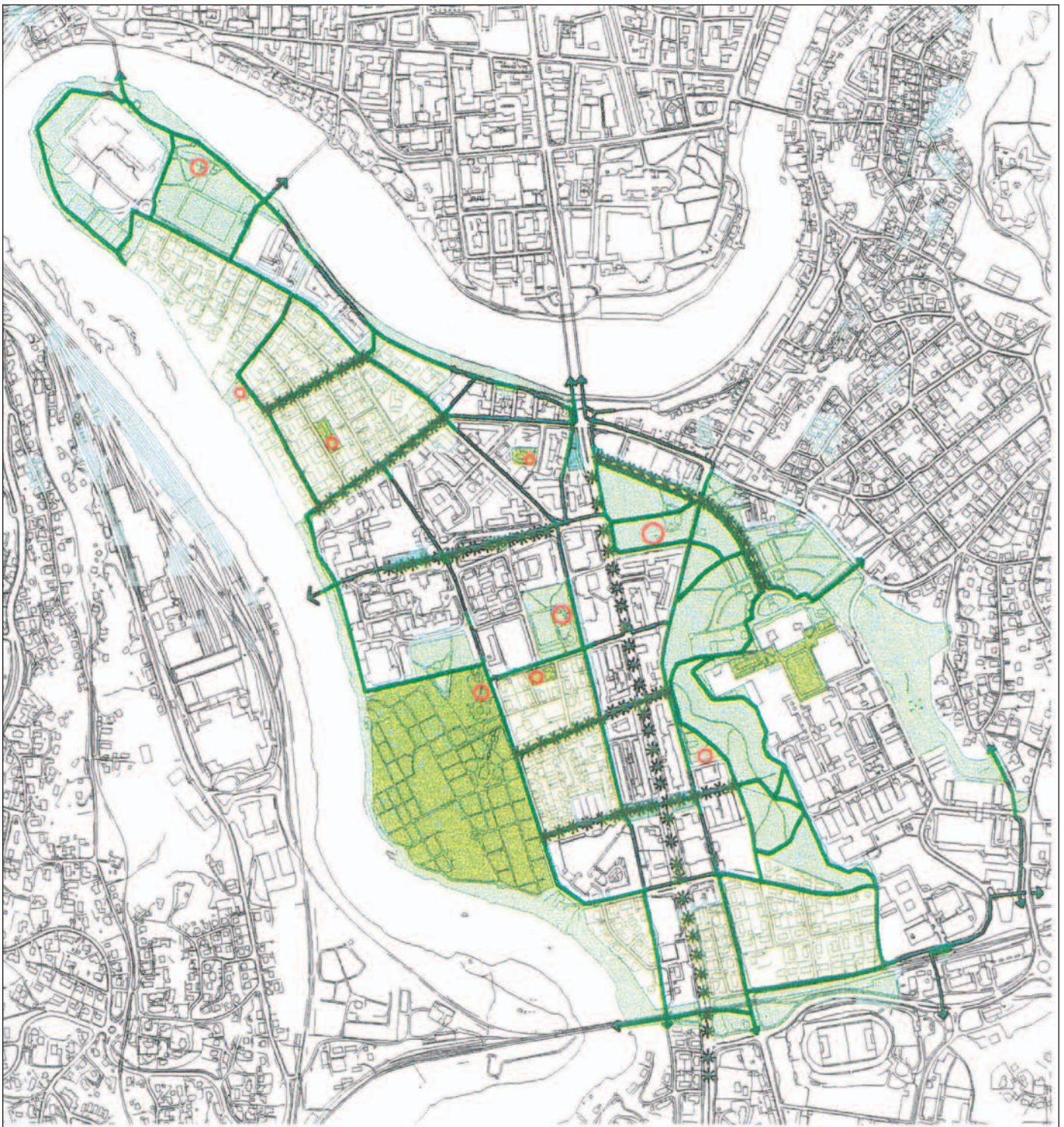
-  Antiquarian preservation area
-  Monumental building, important cultural monument
-  Sight line



Kartmålestokk
1:11000

Mai 1999





TRONDHEIM KOMMUNE

KOMMUNEDELPLAN ELGESETER

THEME MAP GREEN AREAS





Kartmålestokk
1:11000


0 200 400 Meters


KEY OF MAP

Green area


 Public park/ residential areas


 Area with park influence, restricted accessibility.

 Garden areas

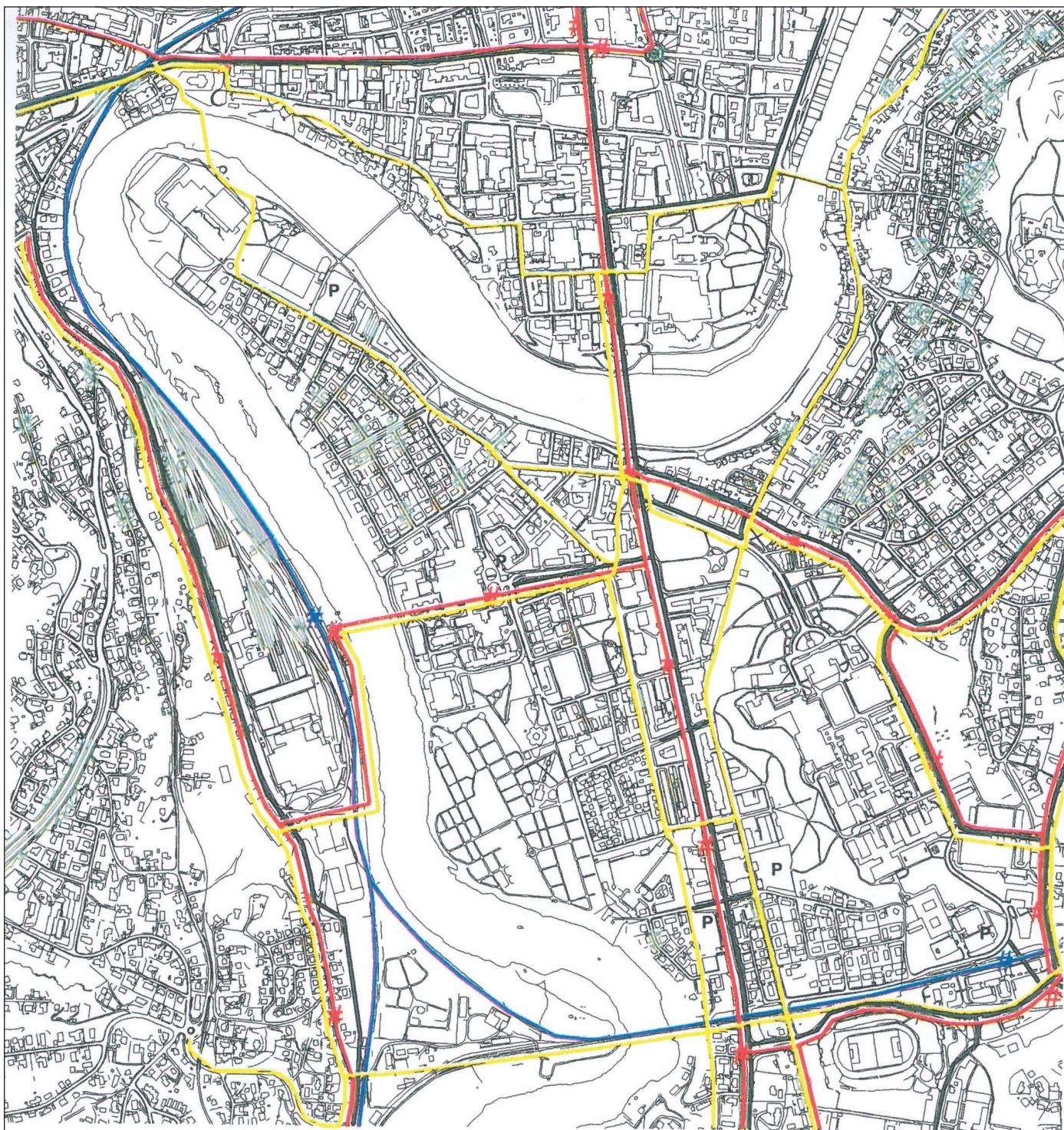
 Public space

 Playground

 Important walking trace-walking path

 Avenue- Elgesetergate

Mai 1999



TRONDHEIM KOMMUNE

KOMMUNEDELPLAN ELGESETER

THEME MAP TRANSPORT







Kartmålestokk
1:11 000




Mai 1999

0 200 400 Meters



KEY OF MAP

-  Main traffic road
-  Bus tracè
-  Main cycle- and walking tracè
-  Local railway

-  Bus stop
-  Railway station
-  Larger parking area

3. THE STUDY AREA AND THE SITE

Study area

The study area is located in the south part of Elgeseter, just south of the city centre. As already mentioned this is the most dynamic of the city quarters at the moment. The university is an engine for the social and physical urban development and this makes the area very attractive. There is an ongoing development of university/research-related functions connected to NTNU, SINTEF and HIST at Elgeseter. Today there are businesses in the innovation centre at Teknostallen. Many of these businesses are more or less that are connected to NTNU. The area is also attractive for residents.

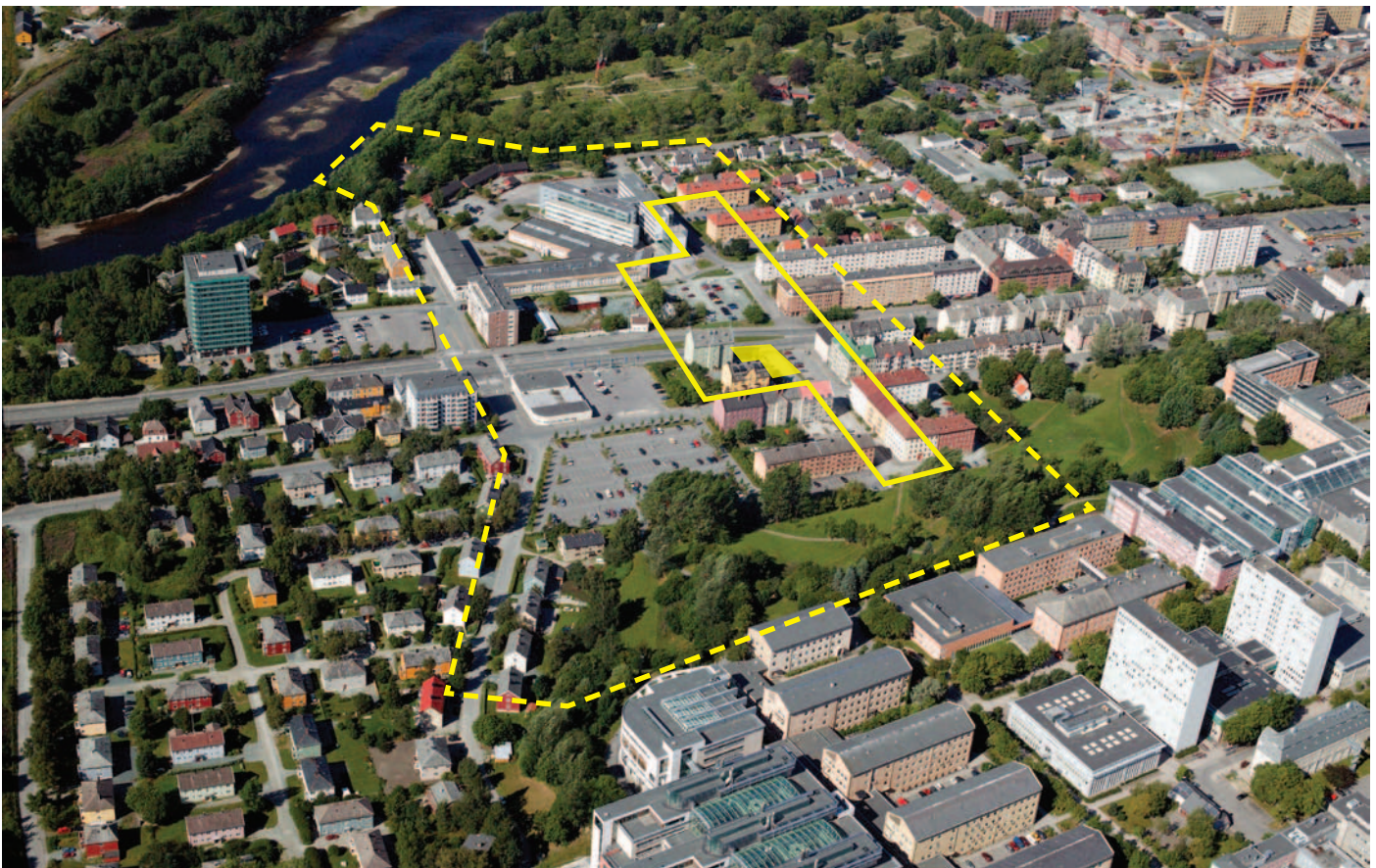
The city quarter has developed from the Elgeseter farm, today called Vollan, the oldest farm in the area. The main building seen today is most likely from last part of the 1700s, but remains from earlier settlement may be found inside the building.

The city plan (the grid structure) of Professor Sverre Pedersen from 1914 comprises the eastern city quarters from Tempe to Lade. The area of Elgeseter follows a main outline of the grid system, but softens it with interesting and picturesque space formations and diagonal streets. Both planned and existing institutional buildings made up the monumental point of focus in areas and alleys. Moreover, the balancing of larger green facilities, parks and trees are emphasized. The park facilities alongside the Nidelva and around Gløshaugen are for instance preserved.

The study area stretches from the River Nidelva towards the Gløshaugen plateau and consists of the unfinished, classic grid structure penetrated of the main road to the city centre from the south, Elgeseter gate. The main street divides both the study area and the site in two parts. Elgeseter gate is today a significant barrier.



A section of Sverre Pedersen's cityplan from 1914.



Elgeseter, north-west angle.



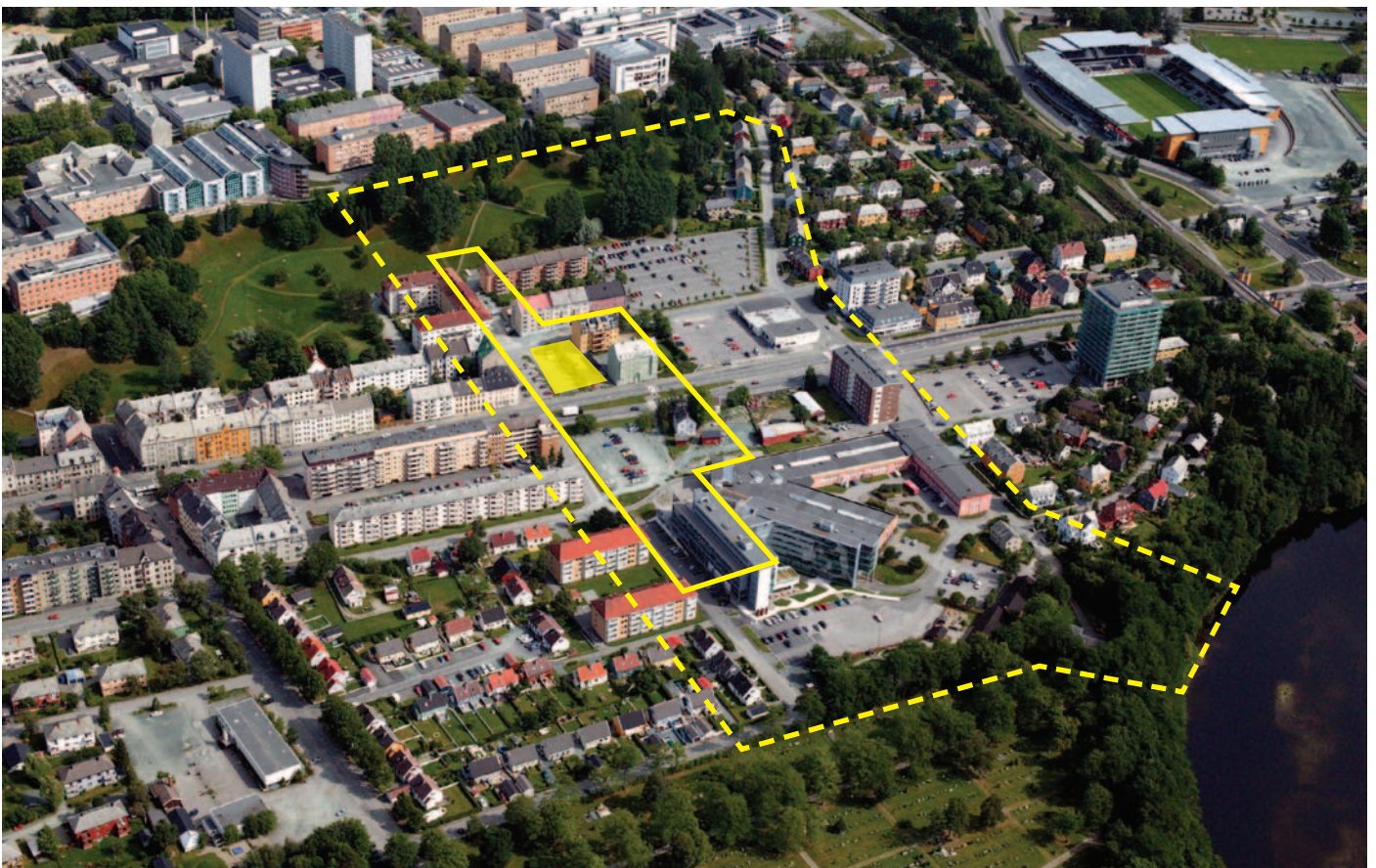
Innovation centre, Teknobyen.



Standing in Abelsgate, watching towards university park.



Looking south-east towards the building site over Elgestergate.

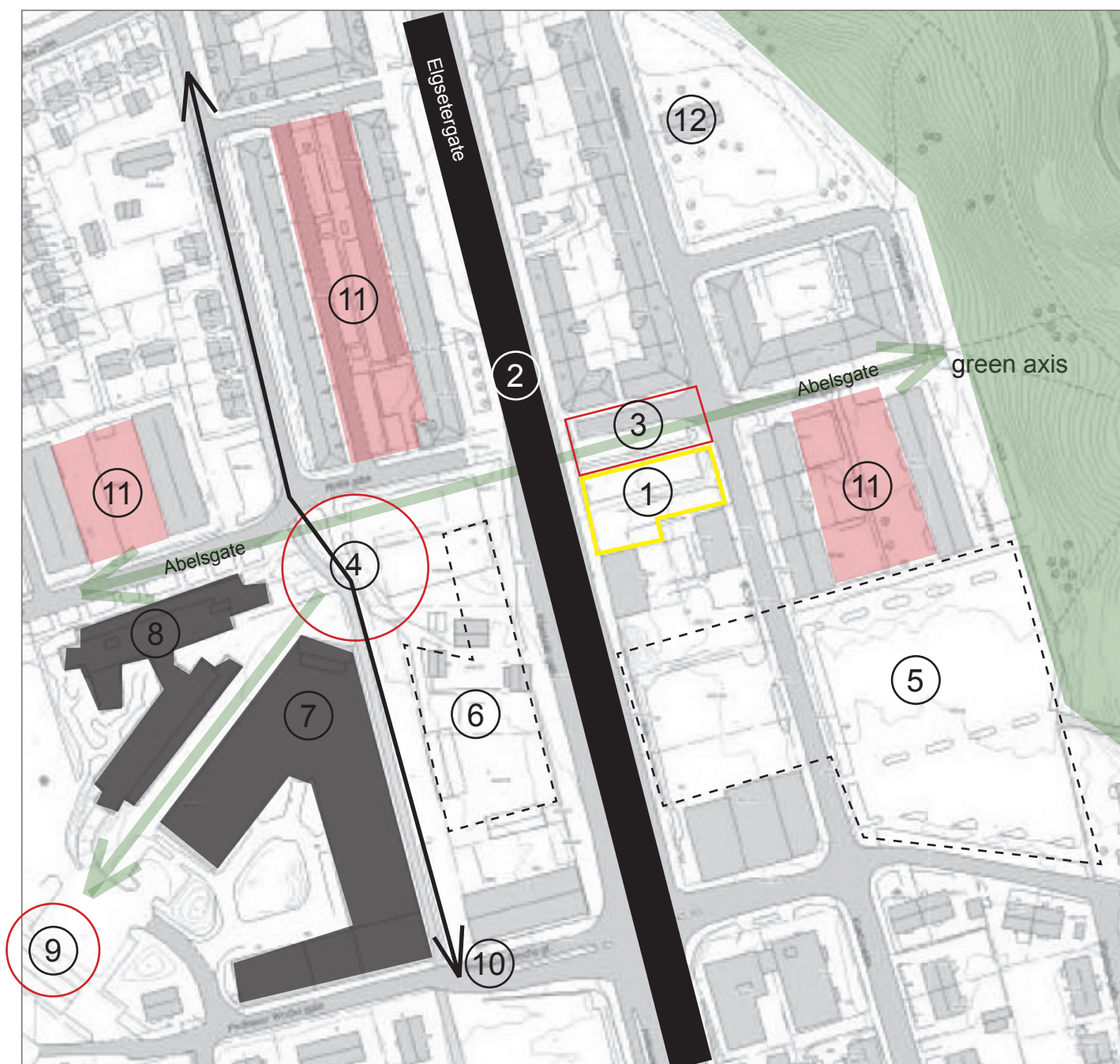


Elgeseter, south- east angle.

- 1 The building site
- 2 NTNU Gløshaugen, Technical University & SINTEF, research
- 3 NTNU main building, Hovedbygget
- 4 St. Olavs Hospital, University hospital
- 5 Innovation centre, Teknobyen
- 6 Teknostallen, technical research center, Teknobyen
- 7 Nidelva
- 8 Tilfredshet graveyard
- 9 University park
- 10 Hollow
- 11 Lerkendal stadion, Football arena



- 1 The building site
- 2 Elgesetergate, a physical barrier
- 3 Future public space?
- 4 Planned square for public use/ Dalsenget Torg
- 5 Parking today. University tomorrow?
- 6 Planned office/research/education building
- 7 Technical research center, Teknostallen, Teknobyen
- 8 Innovation centre, Teknobyen
- 9 Public space and axis to the riverside
- 10 Main tracè for soft mobility
- 11 Open, private courtyards
- 12 Chapell



The grid structure is not fully completed for the site and study area. Open spaces are mostly used for car parking. The building site (student housing) is one of these uncompleted spaces.

The riverside of Nidelva is today a green area not really functional or accessible for the public. The cemetery, the riverside and the hillside up to Gløshaugen comprises the main green structure in the study area. A structure characterized by lawns and groups of trees.

From the plateau to the river

From the Gløshaugen plateau there is the green hillside down to Abelsgate. The hillside is a classic landscape park with lawns and huge trees. Simple paths are established as short cuts from the university down to the city. The conversion from park to built structure is a clear cut, and not really refined.

Abelsgate stretches from the park down to the cemetery on the riverside. The street is not refined or straight forward. It is broken up by the Elgesetergate, a parking space and a residential plot.

The building structure is varied and reflects the area as a transition area. Some of the residential plots have closed courtyards and some have them open towards the street. The residential areas are mostly on the northern side of the Abelsgate. The blocks are built in different periods from previous century. At the end of the street, opposite the Innovasjonssenter, there is a small scale detached housing area. The one storey wooden houses are organized along the street and have private gardens in back.

Teknostallen is a former workshop for the tram way converted into an office building. Together with the new built Innovasjonssenter the two buildings makes a technical research center; Teknobyen. A future square is planned in front of the main entrances.

When entering Teknostallen Abelsgate continues forward, a small street splits from the future square and continues along the Teknostallen, it is broken up by some green space covering the parking in the basement of the Innovasjonssenter. So there is not any continuous line down to the riverside. A temporary built kindergarden also blocks the view. This street could be an important access to the river in the future.

However the city structure diffuses and vanishes. The area behind Teknostallen is today very much characterized as a backyard and not meant for public. The kindergarden is not established on permanent base.

The riverside is rather steep and not accessible today. However a small hollow in the landscape makes it possible to come down to the water.

Site

The site is on the east side of Elgeseter gate and connects a housing block from the early 1900s. The houses around the site are about 4-5 floors and accommodate dwellings. From the east side of the site there is an open green structure planned through the area and over to the other side of the road, ending at the River Nidelva. Included in the site is the backyard of the existing housing block, so the new transformed block is thought of as a whole. The site is an urban block (infill) in an unfulfilled grid structure.



View from University park



Elgesetergate, direction north



Teknostallen, technical research centre



A small hollow behind Teknostallen

Abelsgate is today the visual and functional connection between these green areas, although Abelsgate is mainly a grey street devoted to cars. The street cover is asphalt and has simple sidewalks. The lack of a conscious design is obvious. Not many of the buildings open onto the street, except Teknostallen which has the main entrance towards Abelsgate and the future square according the master plan. There is not much invitation for street life. The street and open spaces are dominated by cars and car use.

SiT has recently bought the building site (today used for parking) from the municipality for developing a student housing project. The participation in Europan 9 has made an expectation for an innovative project that can be a pilot for student housing in Trondheim. There is a demand for student housing in the city centre. An extensive mapping of how students live and what kind of residence they prefer is in progress. The project is under preparation and is done in cooperation between Trondheim kommune and SiT, the student welfare organization. Temporary conclusions show that there is a demand for building an extensive amount of new accommodation in the city.

Students in Trondheim live differently. The majority choose shared housing in student residences or on the private lease market. The student organization has 4000 accommodation units distributed on traditional campus concepts in mono-functional areas. There has been a pronounced shift of students' housing preferences in the direction of residence in the city centre. The proximity to the university and the city centre makes the building site attractive for student housing.

4. PROGRAM

STUDY AREA:

The area of Elgeseter is where the city and university meet, and through this competition we want to explore the interaction between the university and the city and what the qualities of such a place can be like. How can this be unique in the urban structure of Trondheim? University, hospital, offices, parks and dwellings gives the area many possibilities for a new development for a more urban model of mixed use.

Challenges for the study area are to design a strategic project for the green axis from Gløshaugen campus to River Nidelva. The strategic project will be a main public space for the future co-located university. Functions inserted here should be considered in relation to a city integrated campus area.

The University (NTNU Gløshaugen) is the continuation of the study area situated on a plateau, 30 meters above the site. It will be an important challenge to link the site and area around, also the riverside to the plateau. Elgeseter gate with heavy traffic is a barrier together with the differences in heights. It will be important and crucial to overcome these two barriers. The main challenge with the new design of the Elgeseter gate is therefore to balance the contribution to the accessibility of the main activities in the area and the city centre, counter the goal to reduce traffic and consequently the environmental load in an area where over 1000 people are living close to a highly polluted street.



DIRECTION NORTH

Abelsgate



DIRECTION SOUTH

Abelsgate

How to create interesting public space for many users and a wide range of activities (commercial and cultural, temporary and permanent) are the main questions. Connections and accessibility for all types of mobility must be discussed. Primary importance should be put on the link to the public transportation systems and the conditions for pedestrians and cyclists.

Programmatic intentions for the study area:

The public space designed

- as a main, public space for the city and a possible new integrated city university
- as a functional (pedestrians, cycles, public transport system) connection from Gløshaugen down to the River Nidelva, reducing the main street Elgesetergate as a barrier and the impact of cars in the area.
- rethinking and reengaging the landscape qualities and recreational activities in the urban situation, the planned green axes from Gløshaugen to Nidelva.
- as an attractor in the future new university area.

SITE:

The main challenge for the site is to design a new multi-functional public space, crossing the Elgesetergate (as a part of the green axis) and to integrate an innovative residential student housing.

The street (Abelsgate) and the place in front of the student housing project are very affected by noise. Can this be a good meeting place? How can the building open towards the city, give the city room for meaningful use. How can one cross the Elgesetergate in a best possible way?

The student welfare organization (SIT) has ambitions to develop new typologies for urban student residence. Through participation in the European 9 competition powerful ideas are anticipated and contribution that can form a platform for a pilot project that can be relevant immediately after a winner of the European competition has been announced. The intention is to engage the winners to compose a construction project for student accommodation.

SIT asks for a student housing project of outstanding quality. In connection with the housing, public programs should be added and together creating a mixed-use area. Competitors are encouraged to reflect upon the mixing of functions and sustainable solutions in relation to how young people (students) prefer to live and contribute to city life.

Programmatic intentions for the student housing and public space:

- design an innovative student housing
- mixed or multi-uses ; functions related to the public and the public space
- e.g.; educational related space, cafés, common rooms for the residents, training, studio/workroom in combination with the residence
- accommodation for 100-120 students
- viable and environmentally friendly solutions for energy use, materials, constructions and design (a Norwegian building will have an outer wall depth; 40-50 cm)
- universal design and accessible for all user groups
- underground car park for 15-20 cars
- parking for bicycles

design a new attractive public space;

- a multifunctional market in association with the new building (business / education) and Teknos tallen (research)
- a local street; Abels gate, accessible for cars
- extended multifunctional street room in association to the student residence
- connecting space for soft road users that cross the roads in order to avoid Elgeseter gate. As barrier; new section of Elgeseter gate – pedestrian crossing; over, under or on the street.
- bus stop integrated to this square
- connect the square visually (over Elgeseter gate) and physically (alt. under/on/over Elgeseter gate)
- universal design and accessible for all user groups



5. COMMISSION FOR THE WINNER

Student housing

SiT is the owner of the building site where the student housing will be erected. SiT will engage the team of the winning proposal, which hopefully shows innovative ideas and creative architecture. The winning proposal is supposed to be the pre-project as a foundation for further plans and tender documents and drawings. There is a condition that the winning team has to establish contact with a Norwegian planning team in order to be able to deal with the Norwegian laws, rules and local regulations.

SiT intends to erect the building as soon the plans are approved by the municipal authorities and the budget agreed by the board of SiT.

Public space

The municipality of Trondheim will use the winning proposal as a base for further planning. When the different parts of the public spaces are going to be completed will depend on the budgets for such projects.

6. MORE INFORMATION ON EUROPAN 9 IN TRONDHEIM AND USEFUL LINKS

www.sit.no/english
www.trondheim.kommune.no/english
www.trondheim.com
www.uka.no
www.samfundet.no
www.isfit.no
www.ntnu.no
www.hist.no
www.sintef.no
www.rit.no/stolav/stottefunksjoner/English
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trondheim>
<http://www.passiv.de/>

7. LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

TRONDHEIM-NO-PROGRAM.pdf	competition program with illustrations
TRONDHEIM-NO-TEXT.word	text without illustrations and figures
TRONDHEIM-NO-C-P1.jpg	
TRONDHEIM- NO-C-P1_2.jpg	
TRONDHEIM- NO-C-P1_3.jpg	
TRONDHEIM-NO-C-M1.dxf	
TRONDHEIM-NO-C-M1.pdf	
TRONDHEIM- NO-SA-P1.jpg	
TRONDHEIM- NO-SA-P1_2.jpg	
TRONDHEIM-NO-SA-P1_3.jpg	
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TRONDHEIM- NO-SA-M1_5000.pdf	
TRONDHEIM- NO-SA-M1_10000.pdf	
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TRONDHEIM-NO-S-M1.dxf