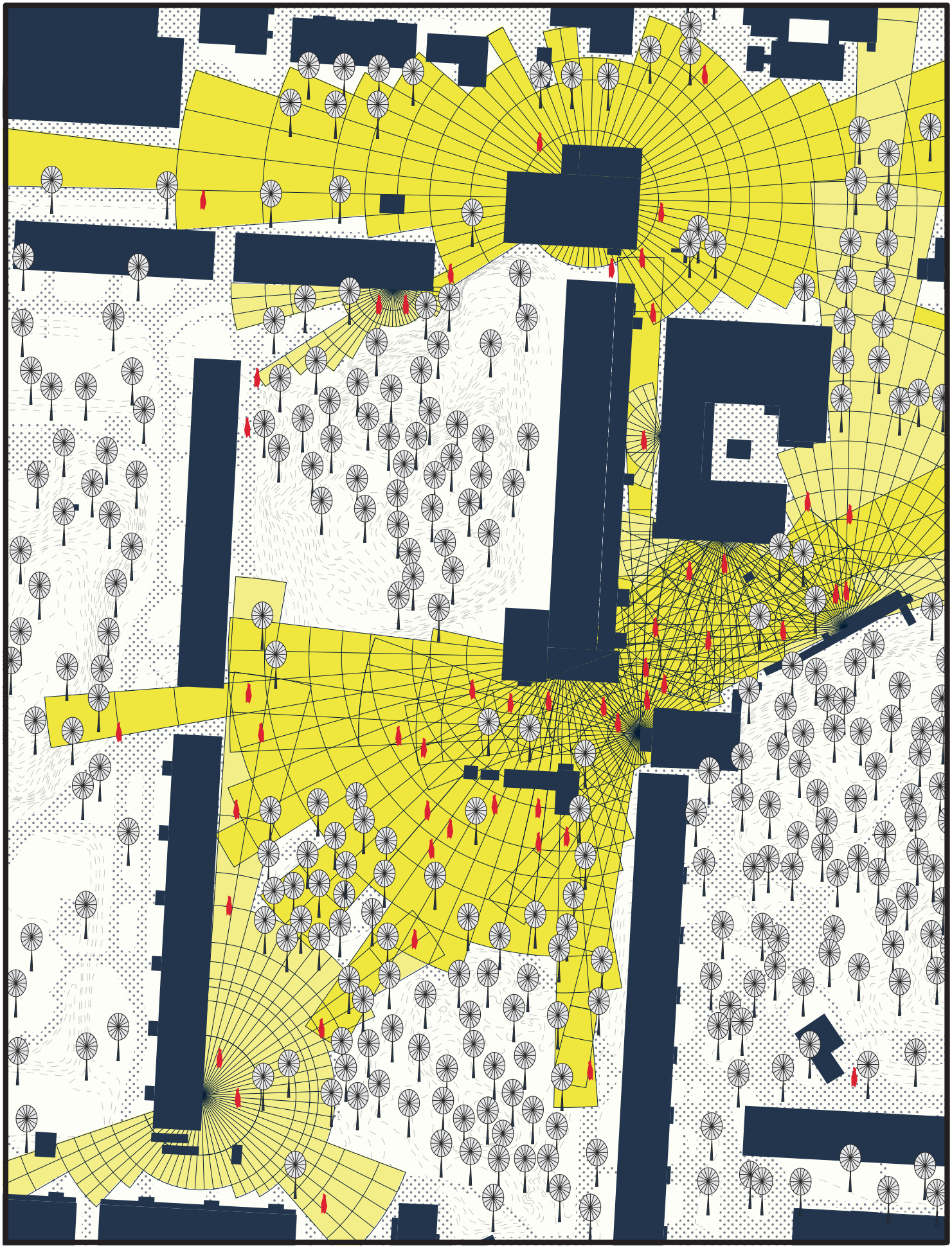

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Non-lonely architecture: an alternative approach for resilience to loneliness

Non-lonely architecture:
an alternative approach
for resilience to loneliness

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Abstract

The growing prominence of loneliness in public discourse underscores the need for environments fostering social interaction. Stemming from unmet needs for social connection, loneliness prompts questions about how relationships are formed and the role of everyday spaces in building social networks. This thesis thus investigates architecture's potential to address this challenge by facilitating relationship-building opportunities in local contexts. Specifically, in Hammarkullen, Gothenburg.

Adopting a pragmatic context-sensitive approach, mappings of existing conditions in the locality informed gaps to in social opportunities. Leading to the proposed intervention; a third place in the form of a resident centred café, complementing the existing local social fabric.
The methodology is built on human-centered practices. Recognizing that social engagement is subjective and dependent on human perceptions and socio-spatial relationships. This led to a mixed-methods approach adopting from discourses on loneliness and co-creation architecture. Key methods applied cover; Relational mapping of social systems informing the project positioning, involving traditional architectural methods, interviews and the use of relationscapes.
Relationscapes were also applied in thematic mappings of system dynamics. Further, destinations were identified and evaluated to their social quality towards loneliness using qualitative and quantitative methods concluding a mapping of social opportunities in the locality. In the design process, a participatory process was conducted with a focus group, co-creating the café. Overall, the methodology and theoretical framing are influenced by fields of human geography, gerontology, and relational architecture.The results shaped a conceptual narrative of a resident-centered café. Developed through civil, public, and grassroots collaboration. Wherein process, the architect takes on a role of facilitating relationships in addition to the traditional role of spatial expertise.
This thesis concludes that co-creation processes can produce social values relevant to mitigating loneliness while also fostering shared ownership of urban spaces and strengthening local agency. Furthermore, it infers that relational mappings of dynamic social systems can serve as tools to decipher where and how interventions can be most effective. Thus, contributing to the broader discourse on loneliness, participatory architecture, and citizens' rights to shape their built environment.

Key words: Loneliness, meaningful connection, participatory design, co-creation, third place

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Introduction

Introduction
Problemsetting
Purpose
Aim
Research question(s)
Delimitations

This chapter introduces what this thesis is about and what it seeks to achieve.

Introduction

Despite existing in arguably the most connected era in the history of humanity, loneliness is on the rise (Folkhälsomyndigheten, 2024). This issue is gaining prominence in public discourses and governments around the globe are acting towards finding solutions (Jing, 2023). To gain a sprinkle of scale, the consequences to loneliness when prolonged are comparative to smoking fifteen cigarettes daily in terms of longevity and mortality (U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory, 2023). By instating a national strategy to this challenge, Sweden is also responding.
In this strategy, meeting places and environments supporting social engagements are especially emphasised as paramount arenas of intervention (Folkhälsomyndigheten, 2025). Meeting places and environments are, of course, the central words when bridging this discussion to architecture. Herein lies the core to this thesis, in exploring the agency within architecture to contribute towards finding solutions to mitigating loneliness.

Problemsetting

So why is loneliness so detrimental? For one, loneliness affects our physical bodies. At its core, it is a sense of unsafety and thus raises cortisol and other stress responses. Psychologically, it affects our perceptions: how we see ourselves and others, and how we perceive the environment and interactions.
This combination of factors means that when experiencing loneliness, we are especially vulnerable (Smith, 2019). Relating to architecture, the spatial environment is intrinsically linked to how we live our lives, our wellbeing, and the opportunities presented for social connection (Jing et al., 2019; Jacobs, 1961).
Consequently, the social fabrics of our environment influence the relationships we form (Lyu & Forsyth, 2022; Whyte, 1980).
In addition to loneliness, we are also facing an array of other challenges. Global temperatures are rising, and political instabilities rock our democratic foundations (Jing, 2023).
Following this, one might ask: how do we build resilience to these challenges, and who holds the answers to these questions?
Within architectural discourse, one recognized arena for addressing these challenges lies in broadening the role of the architect by sharing the production of space with end users and placing design value on social outcomes rather than solely on spatial form (Awan et al., 2013). This takes to the discussion the discourse of participatory design and the notion of 'spatial agency,' where the tools of the architect are applied towards designing for and with others (Petrescu et al., 2016; Awan et al., 2013).
By recognizing residents as experts of their own environment, architects can play the role of facilitating processes wherein residents are empowered to shape and maintain their environment (Awan et al., 2013; Bollier, 2016).
In terms of loneliness, which by nature is riddled with subjectivities, participation in shaping solutions and co-producing knowledge of these subjectivities can provide the knowledge needed to respond (Jing et al., 2019). Thus, this work asks, can these realms meet? Can architecture, when locally anchored and produced with residents, shape localities resilient to loneliness?
he conclusion to this thesis argues that yes, these alternative approaches to architecture hold unique potential in producing social values highly relevant to this issue. and that is the argument told in the next eighty pages

Chapter: Introduction

Purpose

The purpose of this work is to highlight the societal challenge of loneliness and suggest that architects can be contributors to identifying and implementing solutions in this regard.
By extending the role and toolkit of the architect and challenge the gatekeeping of knowledge embedded in traditional practice.
Instead, suggesting architects share production of space by desiging with and on behalf of others wherin the process of architecture can be transformative towards contemporary societal challenges well beyond loneliness (Awan et al., 2013).

Aim

This thesis is situated in the neighborhood of Hammarkullen, Gothenburg, Sweden.
It aims to explore how the locality's spatial and social systems shape residents' opportunities to build social networks and meaningful relationships. With this knowledge, it aims to further decipher subjectivities of loneliness to co-create the design outcome through a process of participation. Further, it aims to inspire by storytelling the imagination of future possibilities for a currently empty café space in Hammarkullen that, through the co-creation of commons and place, can become a center for community and social engagement.
Lastly, it aims to investigate the potential of the 'third place' to be a place of social engagement and to contribute to neighbourhood resilience to loneliness.
At large, this work seeks to contribute to the discourses of urban social infrastructure, loneliness, and the architect's role in addressing contemporary social issues.

Research question(s)

How can networks of relations and participation inform the design of a locally anchored, socially accessible third place?

- *How can alternative architectural approaches contribute to loneliness resilience?*

“Architecture is immanently political because it is part of spatial production, and this is political in the way that it clearly influences social relations... The key political responsibility of the architect lies not in the refinement of the building as static visual commodity, but as a contributor to the creation of empowering spatial, and hence social, relationships in the name of others.” - Awan et al. (2013) p. 38.

“The current view is that the built environment can be seen as a setting for human activities. Such settings may be inhibiting or facilitating and a particular setting may be facilitating to the extent of acting as a catalyst or releasing latent behavior but cannot, however, determine or generate activities . . . the built environment provides cues for behavior and that the environment can, therefore, be seen as a form of non-verbal communication.” - Rapoport, (1977) p.2-3.

Delimitations

In addressing loneliness, this work distances itself from people suffering from its extreme states. This is due to the assumption that space can positively or negatively impact the likelihood of social interaction but cannot determine it, and people with extreme loneliness require more direct interventions, which are considered to be outside the scope of architecture (Jing, 2023; Folkhälsomyndigheten, 2025).

Although notably, viewing loneliness as a naturally occurring state of the human experience and understanding that social networks, the building of social skills, and positive experiences influence an individual’s space to act when lonely—in other words, the individual’s resilience to loneliness—makes a whole-life approach to the issue reasonable (Jing, 2023; Hawkley & Cacioppo, 2010).

This, by extension, means that this thesis does address the whole spectrum of lonely people but does so preemptively by providing opportunities for people, and neighborhoods, to build resilience to it. This thereby represents a whole-population approach, not only targeting lonely people per se. It also entails viewing architecture as predominantly influencing loneliness proactively.

When addressing loneliness in this work, it refers to negative loneliness, meaning that chosen loneliness, or aloneness, is excluded and such states are rather described in terms of solitude.

Further, this work only considers publicly available space in people’s ‘third place’ (Oldenburg, 1989), thus excluding other realms of intervention such as home and work environments.

Despite proposing co-creation as a crucial architectural tool and adopting authentic participation as entailing both question and answer collectively, this thesis, due to time constraints, limits participation to interviews and prepared workshops.

Countering this, active effort was applied throughout the workshop process, to include participants in shaping coming engagement, and participants were free to make their own interpretations with provided materials; this is the limit to the distribution of agency in the process.

Participation also raises the issue of who was invited to partake in shaping this work, wherein the outcome thus reflects the participants involved.

Conceptualization of need for proactive action

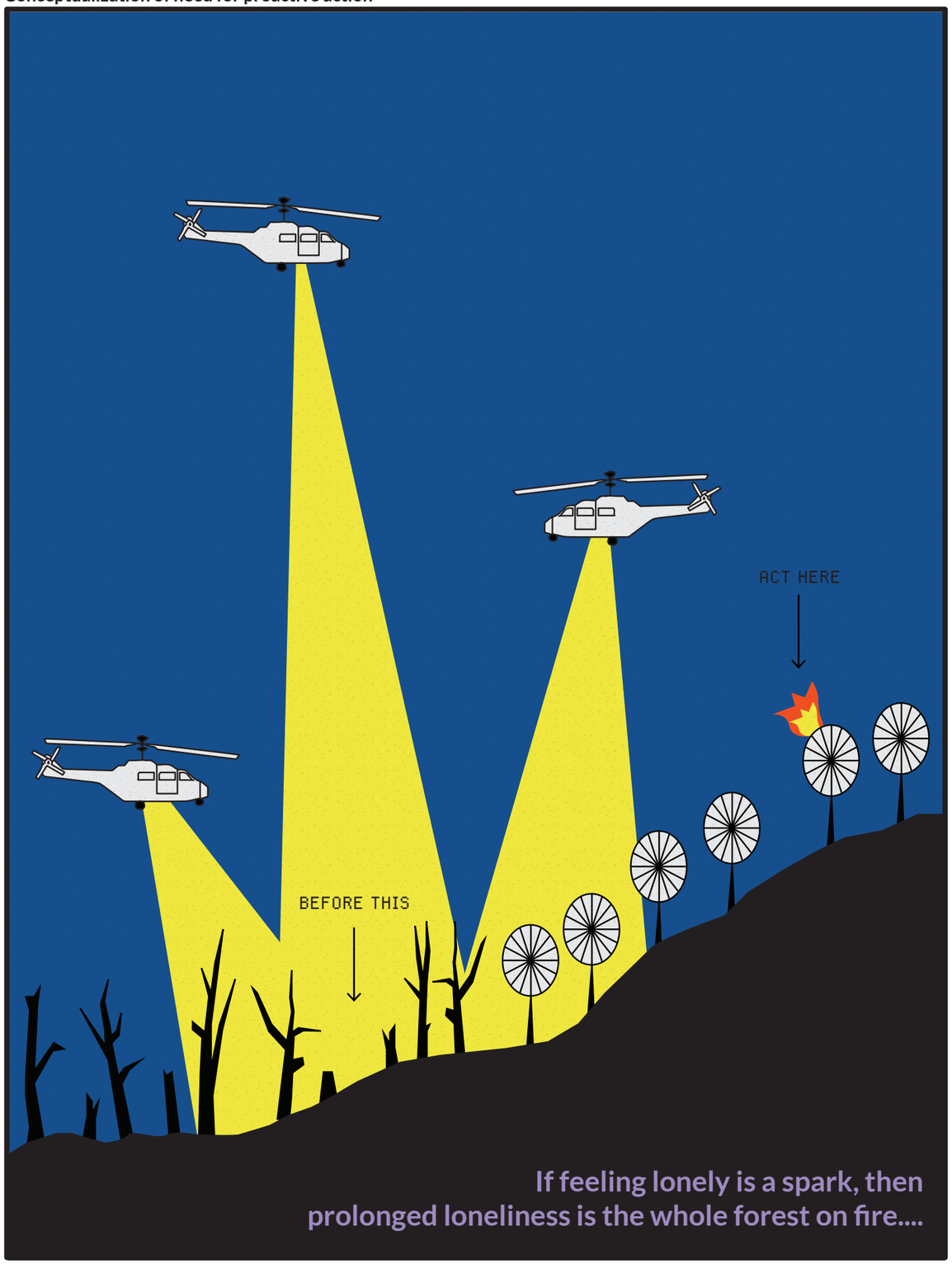


Figure 2:

Space influences people, and people influence space (Awan et al., 2013; Lefebvre, 1991). In terms of loneliness, we need to act both proactively and reactively (Folkhälsomyndigheten, 2025), both of which architecture has agency over. This thesis’s position on the issue of loneliness is that architecture’s main agency lies in proactive measures and can contribute in this realm.

Methods and tools

Introduction
Generally applied
Exploring literature
Context analysis
Participation
Design translation

This chapter covers the applied methods and tools used in this thesis, relative to each chapter of the work.

Introduction

This work takes a pragmatic, mixed-methods approach, combining both qualitative and quantitative methods. The process has been emergent, meaning the resulting 'third place' was derived in response to the broad question: *'What could complement this local context in terms of spaces for social opportunities to mitigate loneliness?'* Main stages are seen in fig.3. and following are methods and tools applied throughout the work sorted by chapter.

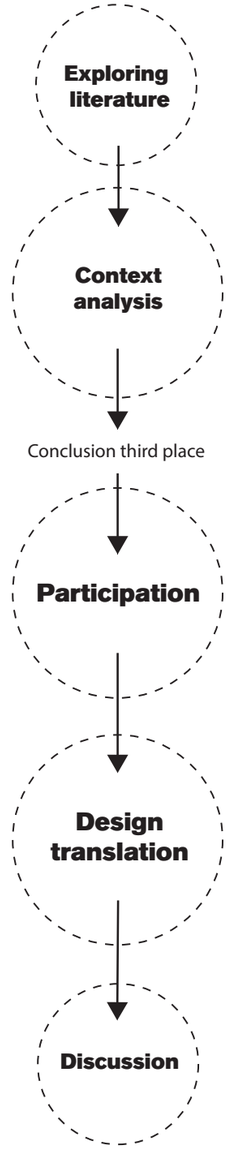


Figure 3: Thesis main stages

Generally applied

Actants, Assemblages, and Agencements: An actant is any part of a system, human or non-human, which, when mapped in constellation, forms assemblages.
Assemblages in turn describe something, and when in active change or development, assemblages construct agencements, generating processes and transformation (De et al., 2012; Petrescu, 2012; Wessells, 2007).
In the mapping process, actants, assemblages, and agencements are summarized as relationscapes.
Which are indicative of system dynamics and relational connections. This system of approach is applied in all various stages of the thesis.

Relationscapes are tools for revealing and identifying power dynamics, limitations, opportunities, and for communication (Petrescu, 2012; Petrescu et al., 2016).
In this work, this tool is applied to context analysis of actants' relationships, agencies, and dependencies to identify opportunities for intervention and deepen contextual understanding.
They are also applied to illustrate assemblages capable of producing social values relevant to loneliness.

Power influence analysis: Power dynamics affect any system. Mapping actants' relative power and influence regarding a proposed objective can thereby identify actants' ability to affect change (Mayers, 2005).
In this work, agency analysis was applied as a complement to relationscapes to deepen relational understanding of the context and, in the design proposal, to emphasize projected shifts in agency.

Exploring literature

A dive into the literature on architecture, loneliness, and the characteristics of the third place was conducted.
This exploration connects research on loneliness to architectural concepts and theory, serving as a basis for the decisions made in this work and also derived a framework for discussin loneliness as a form of objective to social resilience.

Context analysis

The context was approached with the aim of gaining an understanding of the social and spatial relationships that make up the daily life of people in Hammarkullen. This constituted mapping the places people frequent, destinations, and their inherent social environments. The approach was inspired by the works of aaa (Petrescu, 2012; Petrescu et al., 2016) and the doctoral thesis of Jing Jing (2023). Actants of each destination were collected and analyzed in a destination matrix, using methods of power analysis and relationscapes. The approach was chosen to position the intervention in relation to the existing social fabric and to reveal potentials for intervention (Petrescu, 2012). This is how the café space, which became the subject of this work, was revealed.

Transect walks: I In getting to know and mapping the context, emphasis was put on the subjective experience of daily life (Nadia Von Benzon et al., 2021).
This constituted an approach focused on experience and perceptions through transect walks.
The walks were then curated into top-down maps.

Observational visits: Observation was also applied in deriving the kinds of social environments attached to these destinations. These were collected by visits focusing on social atmospheres. These collected atmospheres were then applied to the later destination matrix.

Collecting actants: Throughout the work, actants of influence were collected in an actant index.
This became the basis for the creation of relationscapes, power analysis, and project positioning.

Destination matrix: Collected destinations were mapped by the barriers they present to engagement, their underlying actants (who runs and owns them), what kinds of people they likely engage, their social environment, and what type of likely interaction and relationship-building opportunity they hold.
The objective of this matrix was to gain an overview of the social opportunities available to people and what could complement these opportunities in terms of mitigating loneliness. The matrix also served as a tool to understand the kinds of actants that provide different social environments. This approach was inspired by previous work on perceptions and loneliness (Jing et al., 2019; Jing et al., 2024), the emphasis on barriers in terms of mitigating loneliness from the national strategy (Folkhälsomyndigheten, 2025), loneliness's physical and mental effects on engagement (Hawkley & Cacioppo, 2010), and the correlating relationship between local resources and loneliness scores (Lyu & Forsyth, 2022).

Interviews: Interviews were conducted both regarding the thematic issue of loneliness and with key actants of the neighborhood. These interviews served as a complement to deepening contextual and thematic understanding. Interviewees were sourced from online platforms (Reddit, Quora, and Facebook) and were conducted online, with a few exceptions. Gaming was used to ease conversation (Hiteva et al., 2021). Interviews were then curated into fictional characters developed with participants to promote agency to the end-product (Nadia Von Benzon et al., 2021).

Participation

Workshops were conducted with a focus group to complement knowledge of loneliness and to co-create the design outcome. In these workshops, participants were asked to create narratives and storylines in collages and discuss fictional characters. Characters correspond to various loneliness experiences. Stories and fiction were applied to externalize discussions of loneliness from individuals' own experiences, and ease discussion of difficult topics (White & Epston, 1990; Doucet, 2022). Approaches were inspired by methods of human geography that apply craft and art as a platform of co-production (Nadia Von Benzon et al., 2021).

Design translation

All materials collected were translated into a design suggestion in a storytelling format.
The objective of this approach was to promote imaginative thinking about the potentials of this space and the futures of Hammarkullen, and to make the process of architecture accessible to people outside of the discipline (Doucet, 2022).
In this chapter, a conscious choice to avoid traditional architectural communications of design was made. This means that instead of producing sections and plans, more accessible formats were applied, such as axonometrics and illustrations (Awan et al., 2013; Dunne & Raby, 2013).

Thesis tools methods and process

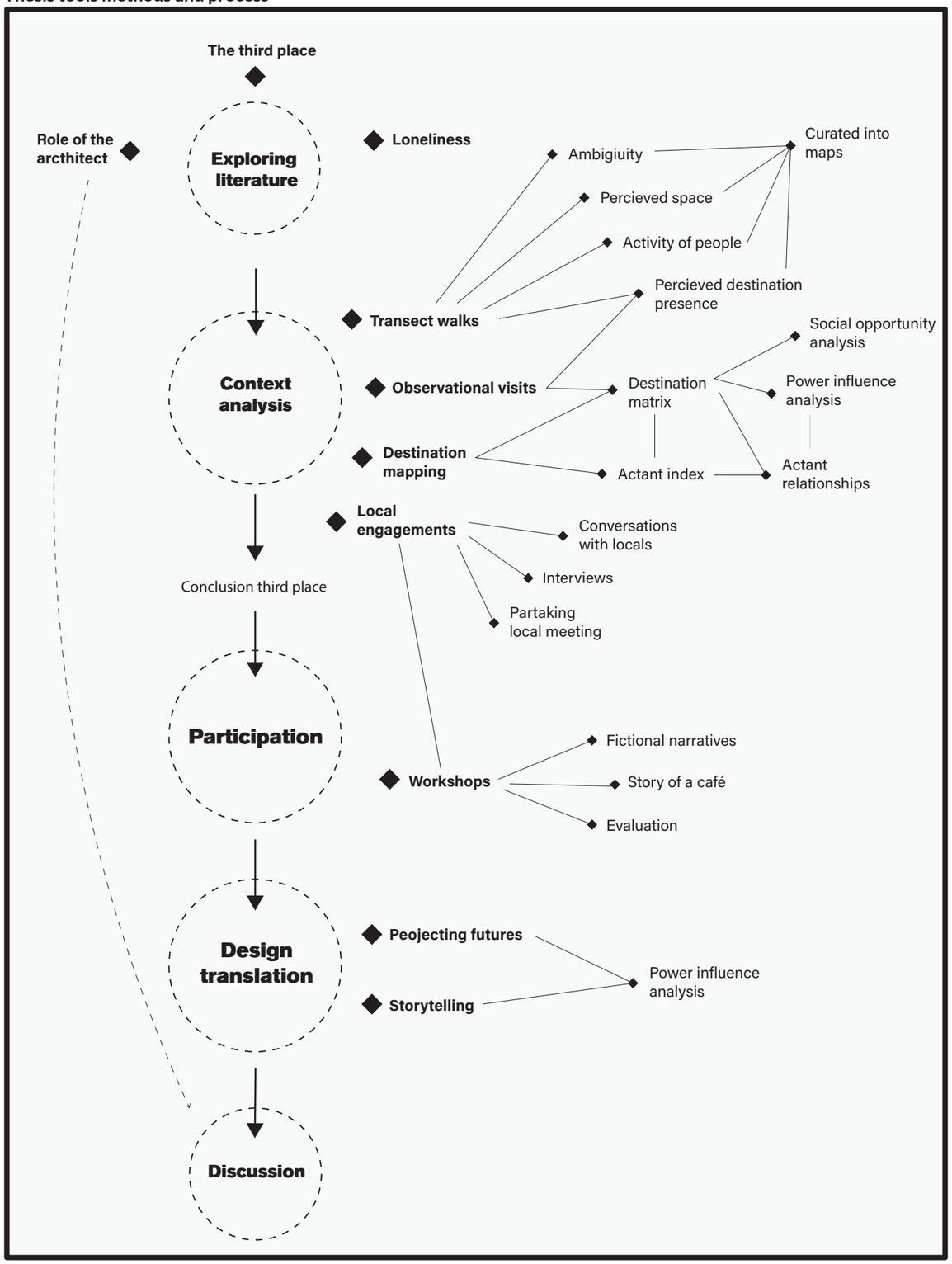


Figure 4:
Relationscape of thesis progression, tools methods and when they were applied. Generally applied methods are used throughout and only highlighted in especially key moments.

Exploring literature

Introduction
Concepts
Positioning of the architect
Resilience to loneliness
The third place and loneliness

This chapter outlines key concepts, theories, and references used in this work, and applies knowledge of loneliness to the concept of third places.

Introduction

:Positioning of the architect, loneliness resilience and potentials of the third place

This section outlines the positioning of this work towards architecture and later details the reasoning for suggesting participatory co-creation of a meetingplace of thirdplace characteristics to counter loneliness. It serves as an overview of considerations although does not go in depth to all concepts, they are rather scattered throughout the work as they are fit. It also discusses the various literature references and establishes a framwork to approach loneliness tied to space. This section starts out with a few key-concepts needed to follow the line of argument.

Concepts

Loneliness is defined as a subjective discrepancy between wanted and actual relationships.
Thus, it is determined by our desire for connection and not directly linked to objective aloneness (Jopling, 2024).

Model of loneliness, building on evolutionary theory of loneliness, the loneliness model developed by John Cacioppo, 2010, embodies understanding loneliness as affecting our physical and mental state and stemming from an evolutionary need for belonging to groups to survive.
The model understands loneliness as altering to our physiology, putting us in an unsafe 'fight or flight' mode wherein the loneliness both promotes and prohibits engagement.Loneliness on one hand promotes engagement by causing stress, incentivicing us to act.
On the other hand, it also alters our perceptions by psychological bisases clouding our impressions and memories (Hawkley & Cacioppo, 2010).
People in lonely states are thereby less likely to engage in both wellness and social activities as these alterations make any kind of effort increasingly difficult (Peplau & Perlman, 1982; Hawkley & Cacioppo, 2010).
This risks what is called the loneliness loop, wherein these physical and mental affects create barriers to engagement and thus risks increased isolation and decreased wellness (Hawkley & Cacioppo, 2010).
This work adopts the evolutionary theory of loneliness as its core understanding of its functionality and applies the model of loneliness, fig.5, towards investigating potential pathways to lower barriers to engagement when in a lonely state.

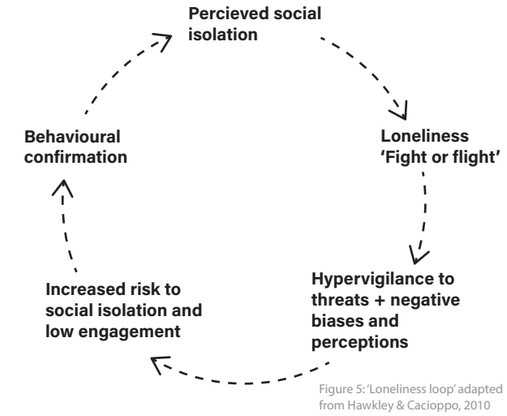


Figure 5: 'Loneliness loop' adapted from Hawkley & Cacioppo, 2010

Social networks refer to the extent of our social relationships, encompassing weak-and strong-tie relationships.
Size of social networks correlate with lower loneliness scores but are not in direct causational relation (Lyu & Forsyth, 2022). An objective to this work is thus to promote expansion of peoples social network.

Weak-tie relationships are the kinds of relationships held with people in the outskirts of our social networks, they are acquaintances, neighbors, collegues and familiar faces in places we requent such as grocerystore employees (Lyu & Forsyth, 2022; Hawkley & Cacioppo, 2010; Duck & Gilmour, 1981).
Larger weak-tie relationship networks correlate with lower loneliness scores and people who hold both strong-tie and weak-tie relationships are less likely to fall into

prolonged loneliness (Dahlberg et al., 2024; Vangelisti & Perlman, 2006; Latikka et al., 2023). Weak-tie relatioship interactions also lessen the feeling of loneliness and thus gives us more space to act countering the experienced loneliness as understood by the loneliness model fig.5, previous page.

Strong-tie relationships are the ones held closest in our social networks, these are friends, family, and romantic relationships (Jing, 2023).
Strong-tie relationships are characterized by meaningful connection to another human and are also the 'cure' to loneliness as they make us feel belonging and safety and a part of others (Hawkley & Cacioppo, 2010).

Co-presence refers to spending time in vicinity to other people and is linked to lessend feeling of loneliness but does not directly correlate to stronger relationships (Lyu & Forsyth, 2022).

Barriers to engagement, refer to obstacles that prohibit engagement in social or wellness related activity. These are identified as key to in adressing the loneliness challenge (Folkhälsomyndigheten, 2024).

The propinquity effect describes the social bonding that is determined by proximity in daily life rather than personal 'fit'. This is argued to be a key concept to foster social relationships by promoting both exposure to other people and frequent exposure to the same people (Festinger et al., 1950; Sugihto, 2016).

Positioning of the architect

Aiming to contribute to a societal challenge such as loneliness, this work necessitates a critical view to the architectural profession. This section dives into the why and how architects could become actants of change in contemporary social challenges and various literature challenging the traditional role of the architect. Arguing for expanding our praxis outside of the traditional scope.

Perhaps one of the most influential works criticizing the status quo of the architectural profession is the book Architecture Depends by Jeremy Till (2009).
In this book, he argues that architecture in its nature is a dependent discipline, shaped by external forces and existing in a resistance to this dependency by striving for perfection and 'finished' results.
This discrepancy causes a gap between the messiness of reality and architectural idealized aspiration. Till argues that architecture inherently is unpredictable and this messiness when embraced can provide opportunities for more relevant and ethical architecture and that architects need to adopt responsibility to society and users.
Building on Lefebres theory of space, the book spatial agency (2011) takes the next step in this discussion by suggesting how this practice of utilizing architectural tools to decipher and communicate messiness and to navigate the production of space as continuous.
The authors of the book critique mainstream architectural production for its frequent indifference to broader social contexts and its tendency towards normalization. Instead, they promote locally anchored responsive architecture which strengthens localities existing social systems. They suggest to do this by 'other ways' of conducting architecture wherein this notion of responsibility towards users as highlighted by architecture depends, is developed into concrete examples and approaches.
Especially emphasized are how the tools of the architect can be applied in mapping of dynamic systems which can be informative towards locally anchored interventions. They argue for architects to act as 'spatial agents' wherein our traditional tools are used to level the agency to architectural production and produce social and ecologically resilient societies.
A prominent example to the discourse on this are the works of aaa, especially in the projects of R-rurban (Petrescu et al., 2016). The job of the spatial agent is one of enabling and empowering others to engage in their environment in ways previously unavailable or unknown.
All mentioned argue for for architects to become active in social and political issues and act as agents promoting participation and co-production. Wherein the output is measured by its social production rather than solely spatial form. In other words, designers of agencies rather than solely built product. These agencies enable residents and communities to actively shape their environment by providing space, tools or knowledge needed

in this regard. With these alternative approaches, architecture can produce social cohesion, community, efficacy and meaning for people (Petrescu, 2012; Petrescu, 2016).
All in all promoting a more democratic and sustainable architecture and society. A kind of architecture in which the architect acts on behalf of others and becomes an expert citizen who acknowledges the limitation to their disciplinary reach and relinquishes the notion of 'fixed knowledge' thereby recognizing the experience of others in producing the environment's we all share (Petrescu, 2012; Petrescu, 2016; Awan et al., 2013).
This also center the discussion of value and what is valued in a today largely neoliberal society (Petrescu & Trogal, 2017).
Promoting an extended understanding of value and value produced through architecture. Centering this discussion back to the core objective of this work, countering the loneliness challenge, naturally all these positives associated with alternative architectural practice are relevant to this issue.
If architects can act as designers of agencies within the social networks of the localities of our work and apply our toolkits towards leveling the production of architecture. Architects can be active agents of change to contemporary challenges.
In terms of loneliness, these social values are already recognized in relation to capitalist views.
Wherein the monetary consequences to loneliness are promoting bodies of influence to consider softer values (Folkhälsomyndigheten, 2025; U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory, 2023; WHO, 2023). This is one of the main arguments of this work, that alternative architectural practice can contribute to mitigating loneliness and in this be recognized to gain mainstream space while addressing this socially pressing issue.

Resilience to loneliness

While previous works highlight resilience as a key architectural outcome, this section adresses resilience to loneliness specifically. Given that loneliness relates to social engagement, and such engagement is shaped by environmental opportunities, adding physical context for loneliness could be conceptualized to a two-axis understanding of individually-tied context specific resilience to loneliness.

Previously mentioned works have framed resilience as a needed outcome of architecture. I would propose an addition to this discussion: resilience to loneliness.
Loneliness is linked to social engagement, which is then shaped by the opportunities within our environment (Rapoport, 2016; Jing, 2024).
Just as individuals have varying capacities for social interaction (Uchihira et al., 2023), environments have varying capacities to promote social interaction (Jing, 2023). Therefore, I argue that resilience to loneliness should be considered as tied to the spatial environment.
As established, our ability to combat loneliness depends on personal factors such as self-perception, identity, and physical abilities(Lyu & Forsyth, 2022; Smith, 2019).
This thesis talks about resilience to loneliness on various scales, but mainly tied to neighborhoods.
The interplay is illustrated in the loneliness resilience diagram (fig. 6). This framwork is applied throughout the thesis as a way of organizing loneliness tied to space.

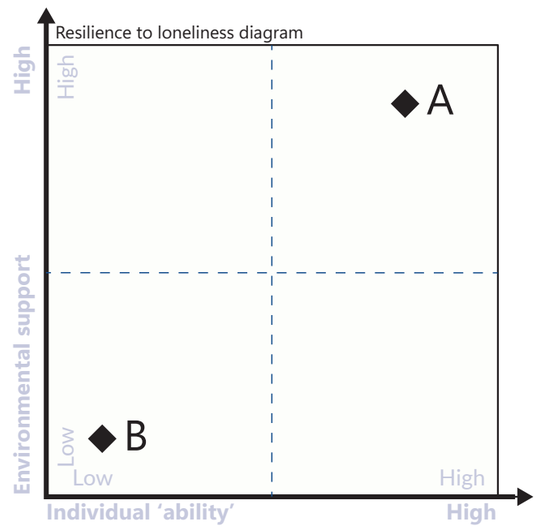


Figure 6: Authors conceptualization

A: *This is a person with low individually tied barriers to engagement. This could be someone who feels socially confident, who is physically able and has time to dedicate towards building their social network.*

B: *This is a person who holds strong barriers to engagement. Perhaps they are insecure in social settings, have a disability or low self-esteem. They also live in a neighbprhood of few social opportuntities and thus low envieronmenal support.*

The third place and loneliness

The design outcome of this work consist of suggesting a café space in Hammarkullen to be re-opened as a third place of community. This section goes into the particularities of the third place characteristics potentials in relation to countering loneliness and the potentials of commoning in attachment to such a place.

The concept of the 'third place' was coined by sociologist Ray Oldenburg, (1989). The environment of a good third place is relaxed and welcoming, embodying atmospheres of playfulness and conversation. They are neutral grounds, meaning anyone is welcome and is allowed to 'come as you are'. There is no expectation for visitors to partake in engagement with others or specific activities, making these spaces psychologically comfortable. They are frequented by people, thus promoting co-presence. This co-presence lessens the feeling of loneliness and, according to the loneliness model (p. 15), increases our ability to counter experienced loneliness (Hawkley & Cacioppo, 2010; Uchihira et al., 2023).

They are local and physically accessible from people's homes, which lowers the barrier to engagement, as the journey to the third place is embedded in daily life (Oldenburg, 1997). They are frequented by regulars, and thus hold potential for developing weak-tie relationships through interaction with 'familiar faces'. These connections lessen the feeling of loneliness and promote larger social networks (Latikka et al., 2023; Lyu & Forsyth, 2022; Oldenburg, 1989).

Third places provide a 'point of entry' for newcomers to an area into its community life. All these characteristics provide opportunities for frequent, unplanned encounters with people in a social atmosphere which feels inviting for building relationships (Oldenburg, 1997). These frequent engagements with a smaller circle of people, combined with the propinquity effect within one's local neighborhood, promote the building of both weak- and strong-tie relationships (Festinger et al., 1963).

Overall, the third place lowers barriers to social connection by being physically and mentally accessible and inclusive to a wide variety of people. Moreover, they are often embedded in the identity of neighborhoods. Having persisted over time, they become familiar, and as a result, residents have a relationship to the place.

This pre-existing relationship, place attachment, lowers barriers to engagement when experiencing loneliness by counteracting the associated negative perceptual biases (Jing et al., 2019; Vangelisti & Perlman, 2006; 2022). They are also especially important for those outside of education and work—for instance, serving as a place to stay in touch with one's community in retirement. This is particularly important for elderly individuals who are experiencing social isolation (Oldenburg, 1997; Lyu & Forsyth, 2022).

Oldenburg (1997) describes third places as generally under local private ownership and emphasises the need for planners to guard and facilitate these places in urban transformation. Connecting this to the previously discussed alternative roles of the architect as a spatial agent, one natural addition to this discussion is the concept of commons. Commons are not just resources but are shared resources managed by a community for the benefit of all members.

The key is the active participation of the community in their collective care, use, and decision-making. Commoning operates outside the dominant forces of market exchange or top-down control, prioritizing community needs (Bollier, 2016; Petrescu & Trogal, 2017). Thus, in parallel to Oldenburg's concern that commercialization removes the authenticity and locality of the third place, this threat could be guarded against by instating third places as commons rather than having architects solely facilitate their private ownership.

This also proposes that the 'regulars' who shape the culture and characteristics of the third place would also gain the agency to partake in shaping and maintaining the place directly. The role of the spatial agent in this process is one of identifying potentials for instating a third place of commons and assisting in its shared creation (Awan et al., 2013; Bollier, 2016; Abrahamsson & Hansson, 2022). This is the concept in which the brief of this thesis is grounded.

Context

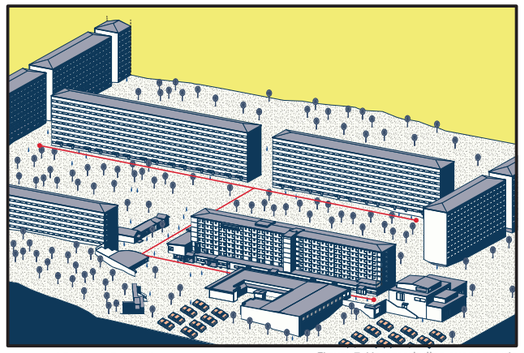
Introducing Hammarkullen
Getting to know Hammarkullen
Destination mapping
Barriers to engagement
Destination matrix

This chapter outlines key concepts, theories, and references used in this work, and applies knowledge of loneliness to the concept of third places.

Introducing Hammarkullen

Hammarkullen is a neighborhood in the outskirts of Gothenburg city, Sweden. Built in the 70s during the million homes program, a part of "Folkhemmet", or 'the people's home'. A political concept which played large part in developing the Swedish welfare state. The plan was ambitious, building one million homes, increasing living quality and revolutionizing the country's democratic and social welfare. Hammarkullen was in many ways the poster child for this movement, attracting attention from all over the world showcasing this new Swedish society (Törnquist, 2001). Today, many of these neighborhoods, including Hammarkullen, are unfortunately viewed as causing social inequality, a perception that has even led to drastic measures like deconstructing buildings to solve these issues (Demker, 2011).

Spatially, the neighborhood is characterized by its varied topography and large-scale, multi-dwelling buildings that enclose green almost exclusively pedestrian-dominated areas.
Socially, Hammarkullen is known for its strong civic presence and 'Hammarkulleandan'—a collective spirit. This spirit is thought to stem from a combination of immigrant influx fostering cultural diversity and a negative outsider perception that rallies collaboration. In short, Hammarkullen harnesses a strong sense of identity and capacity for collaboration (Törnquist, 2001; Fryk, 2020).
This is especially apparent in the many grassroots movements throughout the neighborhood's history (Stenberg et al., 2013).
A current example is the collective aspiration for 'Gröna Gatan' (illustrated in Fig. 7), a term coined by Nätverksträffen, a local network of community actors. This 'street' is filled with local organizations providing various social and educational opportunities. As a 'street' for future initiatives, 'Gröna Gatan' serves as the point of entry for this analysis.
The collective ability and rich cultural diversity of Hammarkullen are considered unique strengths, holding the potential for Hammarkullen to once again become a model for societal development—this time in terms of co-creation, democratic practices, and social cohesion (Fryk, 2020).
However, Hammarkullen also faces economic and social challenges, reflected in low high school graduation rates, residents living in overcrowded conditions, and



— 'Gröna Gatan'

Figure 7: Hammarkullen axonometric

a low average income. Criminality has also led police to label the area as 'particularly vulnerable', contributing to the negative outsider perspective (Abrahamsson et al., 2016; Hansson, 2018).
While Hammarkullen faces challenges, many efforts to improve conditions have been made, often stemming from the residents themselves (Stenberg et al., 2013).

Author's Reflection, Working with Hammarkullen has been a very positive experience. The people are incredibly friendly and generous with their ideas, knowledge, and time. The residents of Hammarkullen have been very important to the development of this work, especially through the many short interactions throughout this journey.

Hammarkullen, relative location

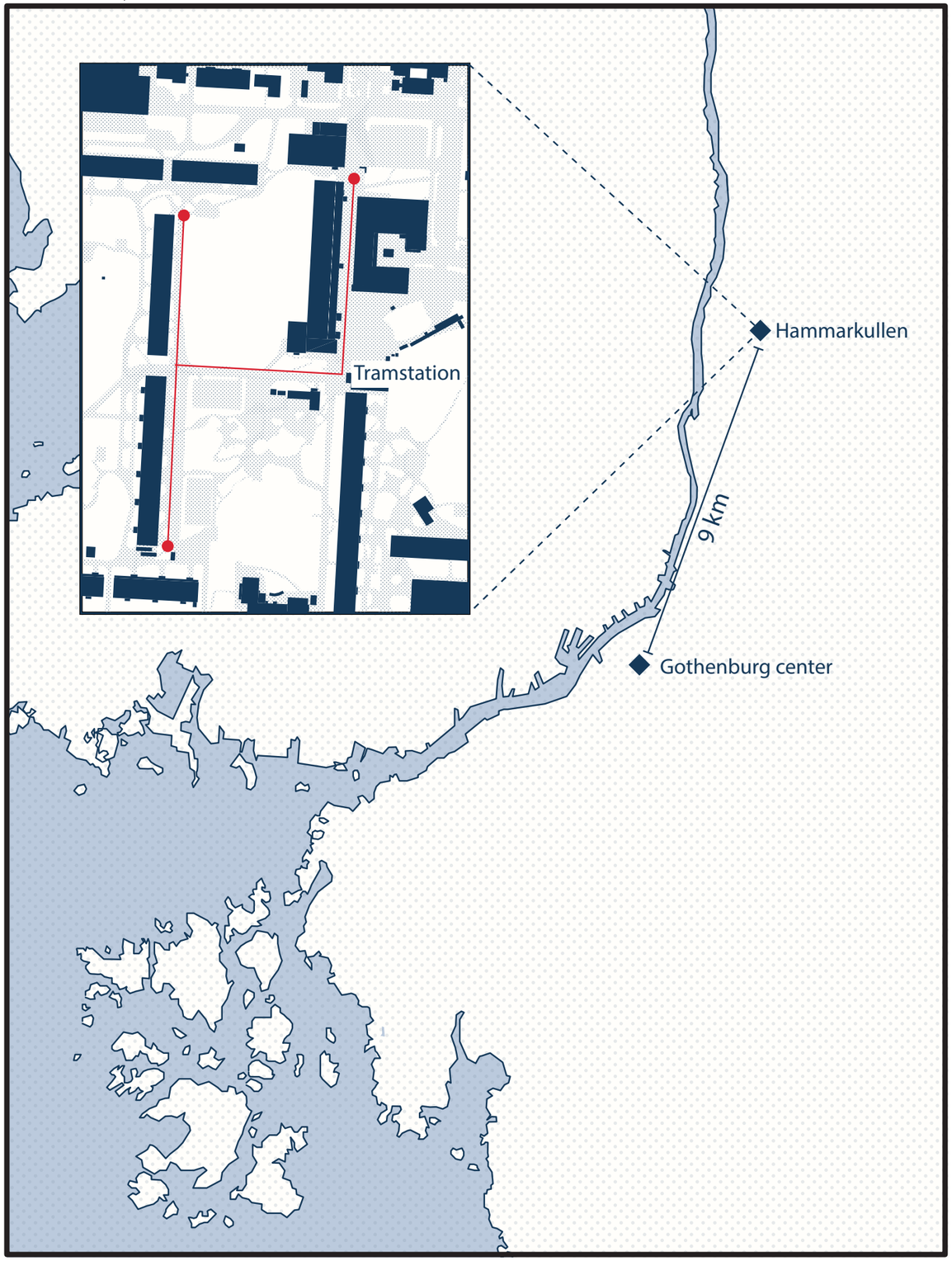


Figure 8:
Situated in the outskirts of Gothenburg, Hammarkullen can be reached from the city center by a 15- to -20-minute bus or tram ride. The neighborhood was constructed as a 'satellite' town in the 1970s and was intended to gradually integrate with Gothenburg's urban fabric. However, this integration never fully occurred, leaving the area somewhat isolated from the central city (Törnquist, 2001).

Getting to know Hammarkullen

:Transect walks

In first interactions with the context transect walks were conducted focusing on various themes of experience and observation. These walks served as basis for generating understanding of the *lived* experience in Hammarkullen rather than solely the conceived space architects often navigate (Lefebvre et al., 1996). Mapping the *perceived* space and activity rather than the *concieved* space allow for subjectivities of daily life to be revealed which may by other methods be difficult to catch. How space is used and feels rather than solely planned (Nadia Von Benzon et al., 2021; Corner, 1999). Mappings were conducted while sketching , fig.9-12, and observing movement of people and later curated into top-down illustrations of collected information. Following section describe each map produced.

Map descriptions

Perceived 'Allowed' Space (p. 19): This transect walk is an iteration of barrier mapping where barriers are mapped by how they are perceived rather than their conceived purpose (Corner, 1999).
For instance, a sign threatening a fine for crossing may pose as strong a barrier as a high fence. Likewise, a low fence can be perceived as easy and permissible to cross, despite its 'top-down' classification as impermeable. In this mapping, lines illustrate the perceived 'allowed' space and its subsequent reach. The mapping illustrates the areas along the transect where people are likely to feel comfortable moving and the 'reach' of that space.

Observed Activity (p. 19-20): These maps illustrate where people were most active during weekdays and weekends. The findings reveal that activity varies largely depending on whether it is a weekday or weekend, and some areas are almost completely depleted of human activity on certain days.

Ambiguity (p. 21): This transect walk focused on what material objects pique interest throughout the area. Marked points include anything from pieces of art and large rocks to traces of animals.
The mapping indicates which areas of the neighborhood provide rich impressions in terms of ambiguity.

Perceived Presence (p. 22): During the transect walks, a few places stood out as especially present in the neighborhood. These are destinations with frequent activity. In this mapping, the perceived presence of these destinations are illustrated.

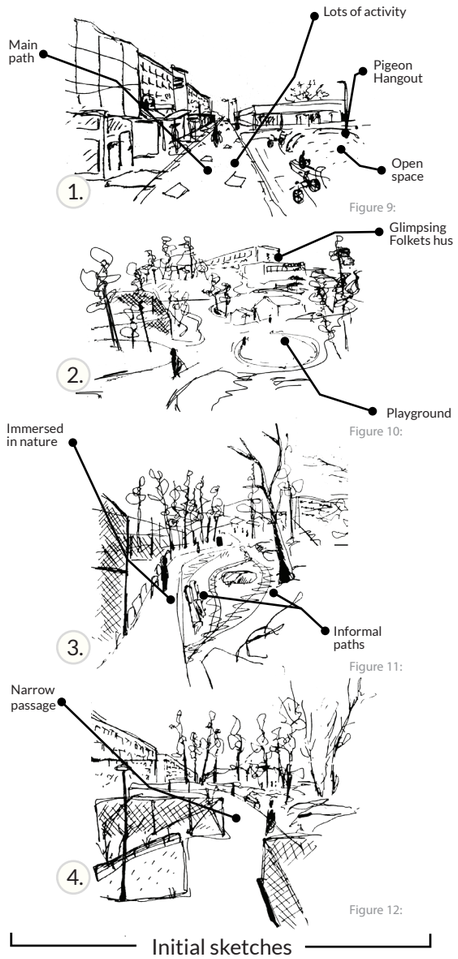


Figure 9:
Figure 10:
Figure 11:
Figure 12:

Initial sketches

Perceived 'allowed' space

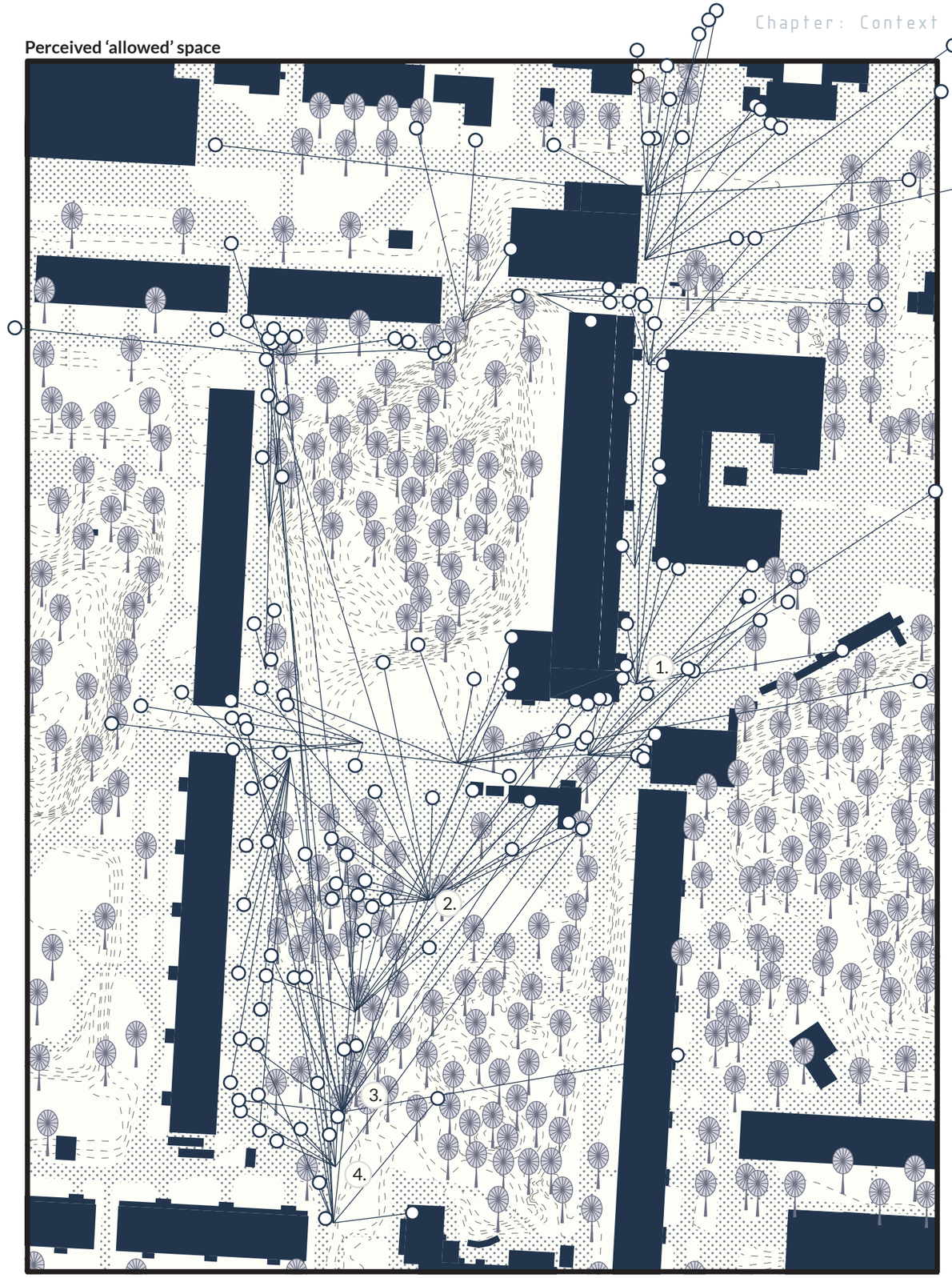


Figure 13: scale 1:1500

Transect walk exploring perceived 'allowed' space. Mapping shows that areas appearing open from above are often obstructed by greenery or terrain. The environment offers varied impressions and scales. In the parks especially, nature feels immersive and inviting, often more present than the built environment.

Observed activity weekdays

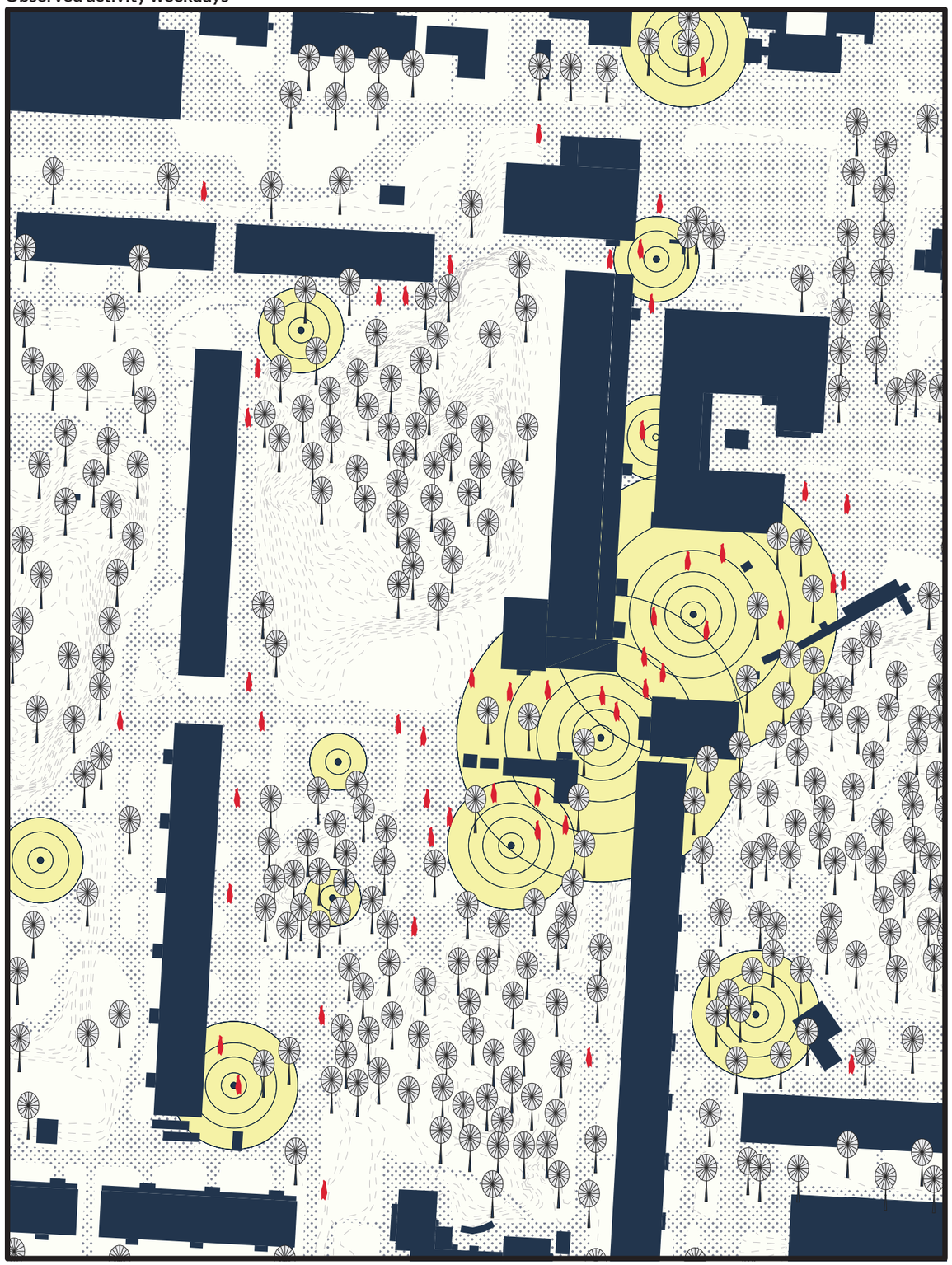


Figure 14: scale 1:1500

Visits during weekdays reveal most activity is centered around the neighborhood's main mobility node: the tram station. People are going to and from work, buying groceries, or taking their kids to the park after school hours.

Observed activity weekends

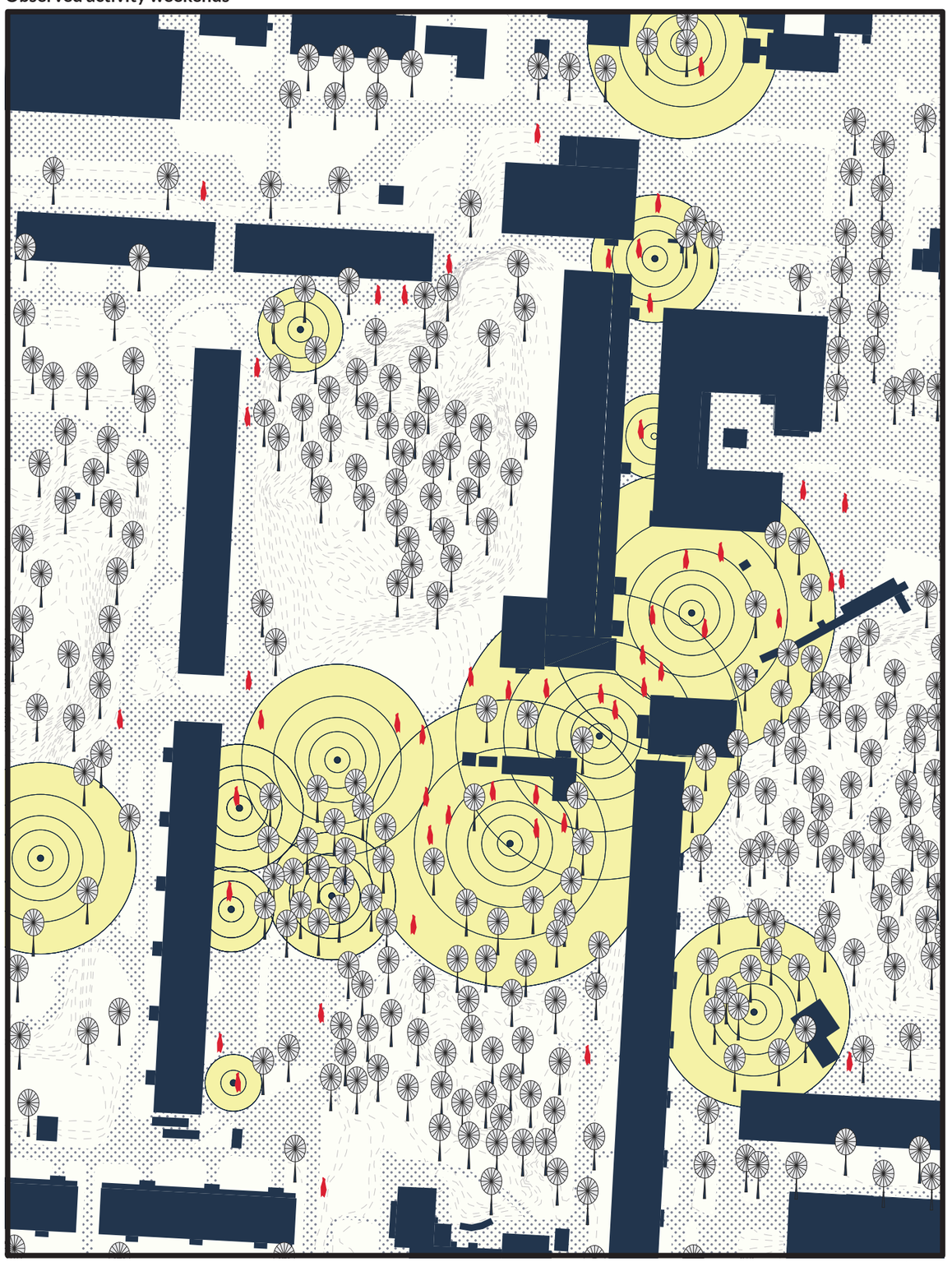


Figure 15: scale 1:1500

Visits during weekends reveal significant activity in areas that are inactive during weekdays. Activity also increases in the neighborhood's sports and park areas, where youth are especially present.

Ambigiuity

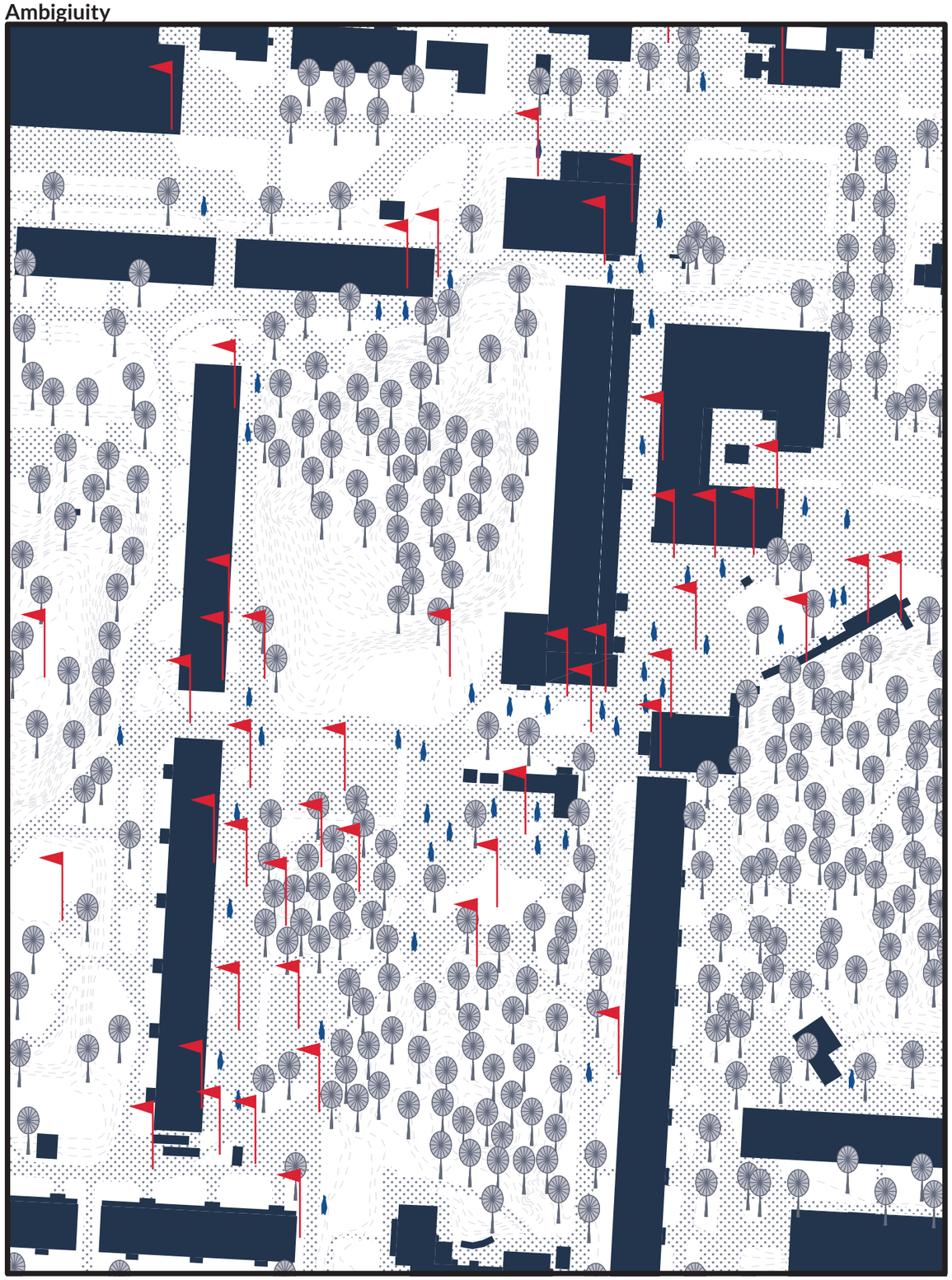


Figure 16: scale 1:1500

A transect walk focusing on ambiguity reveals a rich environment of impressions. Artefacts indicating past creative activity are plentiful, especially in and around the more active areas of the neighborhood. Points of ambiguity include anything from art installations to seating areas of unorthodox shapes.

Perceived presence

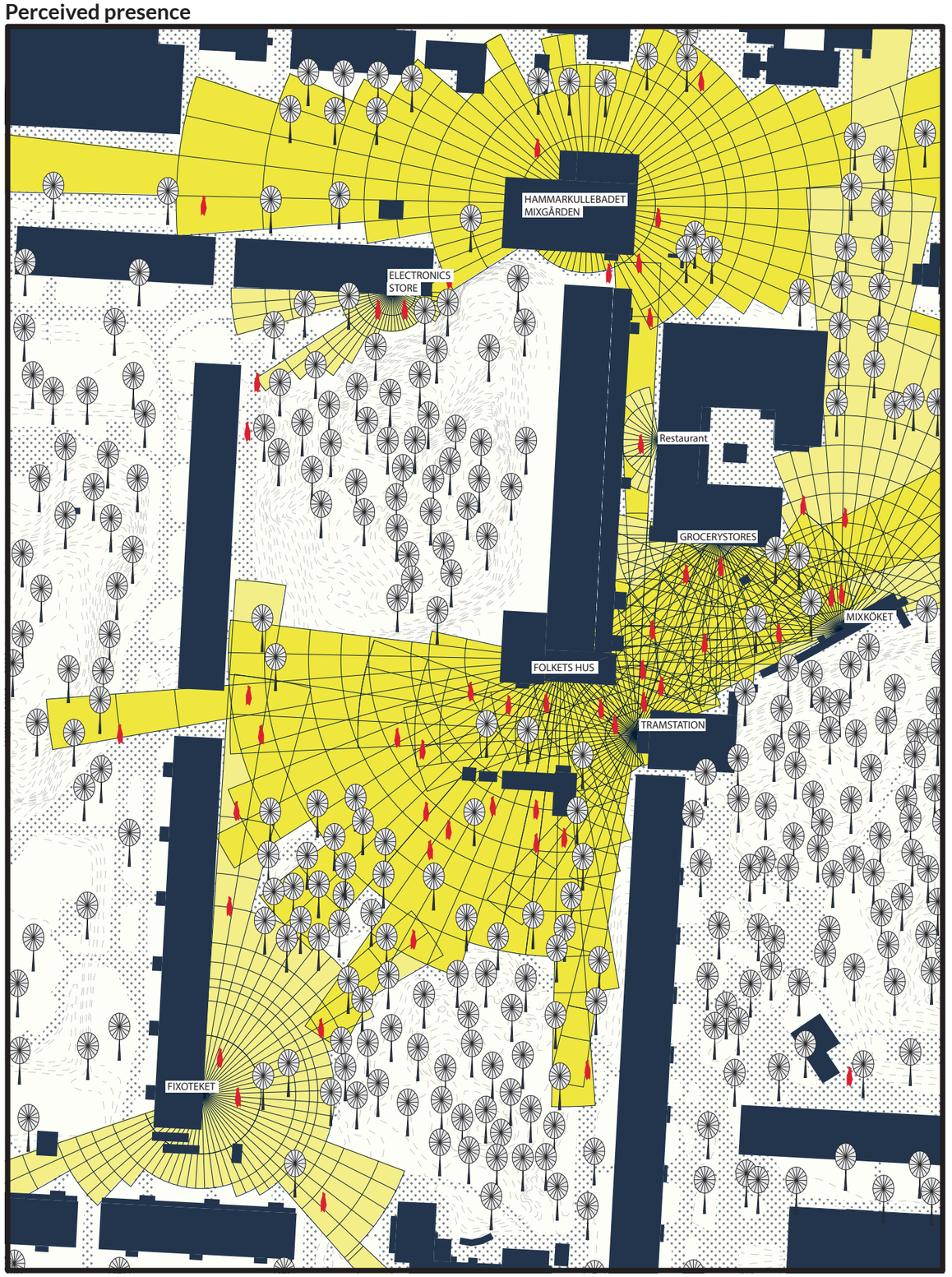


Figure 17: scale 1:1500

This transect walk focuses on the perceived presence of the most perceptually prominent destinations. The central square naturally has a strong presence with its various destinations, while the influence of Folkets Hus is felt throughout large parts of the neighborhood. Fixoteket, by contrast, is somewhat hidden.

Destination mapping

:Social environments and frequency of engagement

Searching for space to increase neighborhood resilience to loneliness the one must first understand what is already available. Different places residents have access to, of course, provide different social environments. Some places offer weak-tie relationships and short interactions, which can lessen the feeling of loneliness (Jing, 2023), while some places offer more opportunities for meaningful connection (Oldenburg, 1989). This section dives into the places available to people in Hammarkullen, how often they are engaged with, and the relationships that make up the social environments these places provide.

Approach

Places, labeled as 'destinations' in this work, were identified through observation, conversations with residents during transect walks, and various supporting documents and digital media, such as Google Maps. These destinations were then categorized by their likely frequency of engagement – that is, how often people interact with them.

To delve deeper into the social environments offered by these destinations, observational visits were conducted wherein social environments and interactions were documented. These observations were later categorized by the types of environments offered.

An example of a destination analysis can be found on the following page (p. 24).

Categorization

Weak-tie relationships are built through frequent engagement with people, often in one's vicinity, such as neighbors, co-workers, and community members (Festinger et al., 1963; Jing, 2023).

In this mapping, the potential for weak-tie relationships is derived from environments of short interactions wherein the likelihood of repeatedly encountering the same person, or 'familiar faces,' is higher.

Strong-tie relationships are meaningful connection, the 'cure' for loneliness (Hawkley & Cacioppo, 2010). In this mapping, opportunities for strong-tie relationships are derived from the social settings of the destinations. Destinations characterized by more extended, deeper interactions in settings where the environment is allowing, welcoming, and friendly are provided this label.

Lessening the feeling of loneliness: This concept has many parameters (Lyu & Forsyth, 2022); in this work, the emphasis is placed on elements relating to social interaction. Thus, places that offer opportunities for mitigating loneliness through social engagements, such as both weak- and strong-tie relationships and co-presence, are provided this label.

Daily: *Destinations people frequent daily such as grocerystores, the tramstation and schools.*

Weekly: *Destinations people frequent on weekly or monthly basis, such as libraries, eventplaces or sportsgrounds.*

Occational: *Destinations that are visited recurringly but not always availiable or in need, such as hairdressers or the yearly carnival.*

Weak tie relationships
- short interactions
- familiar faces

Strong tie relationships
- Regular engagement with the same people
- long interactions

Lessen feeling of loneliness
- co-presence
- weak tie relationships
- seeing another face
- any interactions

Figure 18:

Observational visit interpretation

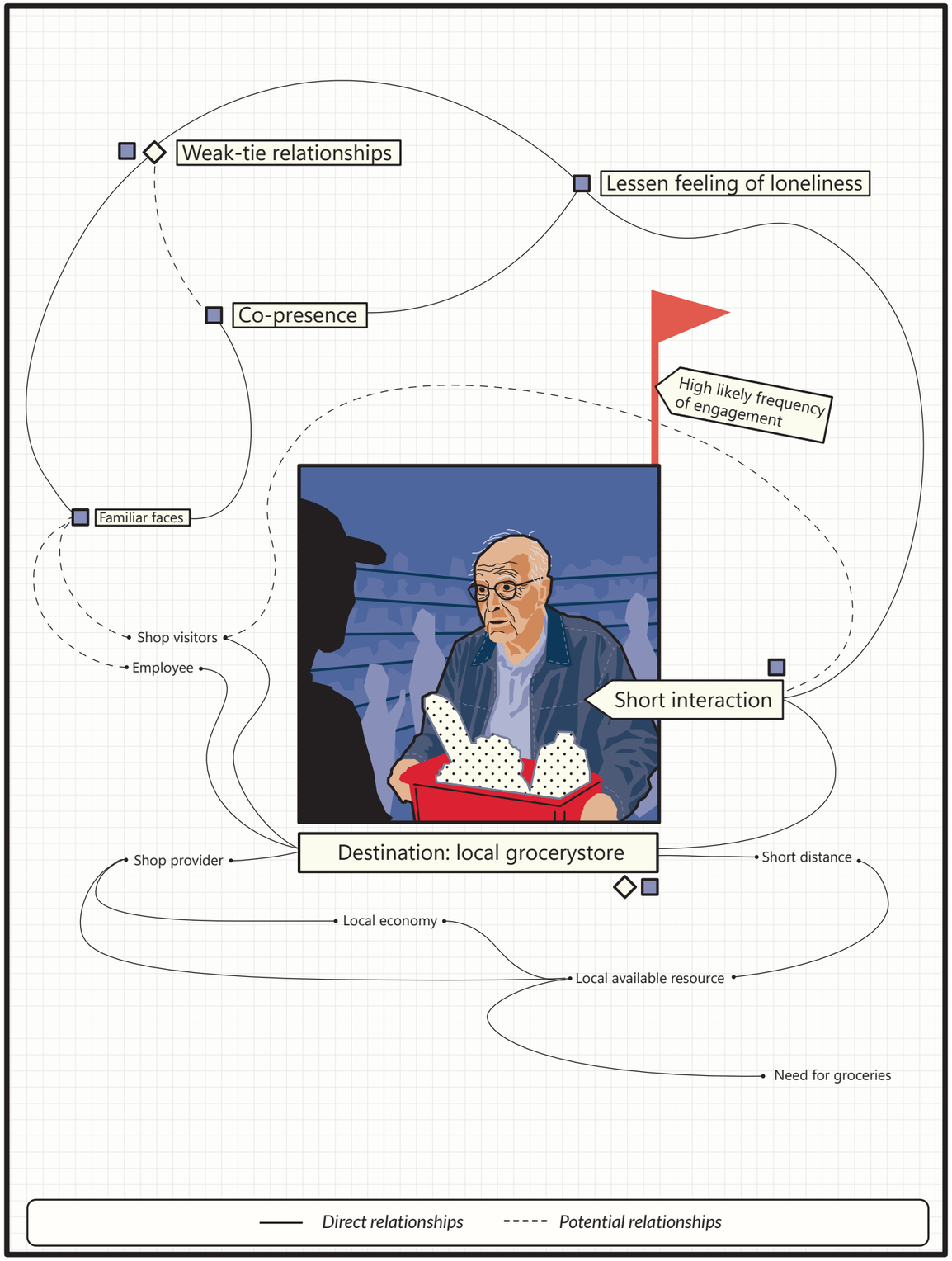


Figure 19:

The relationscape above illustrates the actants involved in shaping a social engagement that mitigates loneliness in daily life, builds weak-tie relationships, and provides co-presence. Since most people buy their groceries in person and smaller grocery stores are available in Hammarkullen, the likely frequency of engagement is high.

Actant index

“Understanding how public space serves as an environmental resource that influences different levels of social interaction is crucial to evaluate how the structural forces shaping the design and use of urban space can contribute to loneliness” Jing (2023) p.9.

Many destinations in Hammarkullen were identified and mapped through this work. These are collected in an actant index in the appendix (p.1-4), a few example visits and categorizations can be seen on the following page, p.26. This index served as the basis for all subsequent parts of this chapter. It is the base for the collected data, the relationscapes, and the actant power analysis to come. On the nextcoming spread, p.27-28, destinations with attached ‘places’ are mapped in the context.

Index of visited destinations

Folkets Hus

Folkets Hus is a civil organization initiated in 1978 through grassroots movements. In 1986, they built their “house of the people,” or Folkets Hus in Swedish, which is a meeting place for culture and democracy. It provides spaces that can be rented, art exhibitions, dance shows, support for people seeking work, and houses many local organizations through the spaces it provides (Folkets hus Hammarkullen, 2009). Folkets Hus is its own organization, composed of and owned by residents and local actors, but is also a member of Folkets Hus och Parker, a national civil organization. Folkets Hus is a key actant in the local community, through the spaces it provides, the activities it organizes, and its relationships with the public sector.

Visit: Folkets Hus has a variety of social environments depending on the activities being organized. It was visited during events, during an ordinary workday, and during a local meeting. The social environment is generally quite low-pressure; one can choose how much to engage and with whom. Its events feel okay to attend alone, and admission is often cheap or free. Social interactions observed were high in mood, with people often saying hi to familiar faces, friends, or making new acquaintances, as events supported interaction. When there are no ongoing events, the place is empty. Despite being open to the public, it has few seating areas and is not frequented by locals. In interviews, the personnel mention that youth occasionally make use of the spaces to hang out.

Library

The library was initiated through Folkets Hus, which provided reading events with residents. These events started a grassroots movement to provide a library for the children of Hammarkullen, leading to funding from Gothenburg City and its operation by Folkets Hus for many years. It also played a part in the culture of civil organization, shaping the identity of Hammarkullen; when at one point it was threatened with closure, residents’ protests ensured it remained open and was instead renovated (Hansson, 2018).

Visit: The library is calm and often frequented by families, the elderly, and youth. The atmosphere permits low-sound level conversation but is generally quite muted. In interviews, the personnel state that the place occasionally has trouble with youth and children spending their free time hanging out in its spaces after Minimix, Parkleken, or Mixgården close, which causes loud noise levels.

Fixoteket

A place for trading things, fixing what is broken or could be improved, learning, and building. Fixoteket often collaborates with other actants in the neighborhood (Fryk, 2020) and was built by residents tied to the Chalmers course Dare2Build. Today it is run by Bostadsbolaget, which provides the rented space, alongside Socialförvaltningen Nordost, which sustains one employee.

Visit: Fixoteket is a very welcoming place for various kinds of interactions. The environment is social and open. Observed interactions are characterized by friendly conversation of varying lengths, both short and long. People go there to engage in crafts or events and stay for prolonged periods. It feels like an environment where one may make a friend or closer acquaintance upon frequent engagement. Generally, the place is characterized by a welcoming culture, creativity, and values of sustainability that invite discussion. Key is the employee running the place, who to many seems to be a familiar face and a key character in the neighborhood.

Aktivitetshuset

Initiated by Hyresgästföreningen in 2018, a 600sqm space owned by Bostadsbolaget was transformed into spaces for local initiatives and organizations (Fryk, 2020). The spaces can be rented at a low cost.

Visit: Activity varies greatly; it is most prominent during weekends and consists of residents renting the available spaces for various events such as birthdays and organizational meetings. Generally, the atmosphere suggests one must have a prior invitation to engage, although upon conversation, most activity organizers welcome participation. The mood is overall friendly and happy. Interactions observed vary in length and are often coupled with activities like crafts, food, or games.

Parkleken

A playground with accompanying play supervision and activities. It provides guided family and children’s activities, aimed at 0–9-year-old children, and play supervision. It is a Gothenburg City initiative (Göteborg stad, 2025). It also provides spaces for heating up food, breastfeeding, and toilets.

Visit: The place is characterized by children playing and parents observing or participating somewhat passively. One feels welcome in the place; being there does not evoke feelings of unwelcomeness despite its direct target group of children and families. People generally have their social groups but are open to conversing with strangers and often do so in both shorter and longer conversations. Generally, it is a welcoming place with a welcoming, happy mood and very accessible to anyone seeking co-presence or a short conversation. Organizers appear to be very well-liked in the neighborhood and are familiar with most people coming to their activities.

Mixgården

Mixgården is a youth center targeting youth in middle to high school, up to 20 years of age. It provides activities as well as hangout spaces for youth, a café, and various forms of support for youth and families. Mixgården is open every day of the week after local schools close. It has been active in Hammarkullen for a long time, and when threatened with closure, residents gathered to keep the facility going. It collaborates with many other actants in the neighborhood and is an important actant in supporting youth, mitigating criminality, and providing safe spaces that foster cultures of acceptance and inclusiveness (Hansson, 2018).

Visit: The environment is similar to that of a home living room. Youth are playing games, just hanging out, or participating in organized activities. It feels very acceptable to ‘just be’ without direct engagement. Observed interactions vary in intensity, length, and type. Its specific target group makes it more comfortable for youth to engage in the place but naturally deters anyone outside of this group from participating. Personnel express that they have a wide reach among youth in the neighborhood but also project a “cool image” that deters some youth who do not feel cool enough to join the activities.

ATM

An ATM was added to the neighborhood following grassroots organization from residents wanting this addition. The ATM is reportedly often out of order (Hansson, 2018).

Visit: The ATM is frequented by people but characterized by queuing; people generally do not engage with one another when waiting for their turn, and thus it provides co-presence but no other apparent positive aspect relative to loneliness.

Tramstation

The tram station was built simultaneously with the neighborhood in connection with the Million Homes Programme. Throughout Hammarkullen’s history, it has been a place of on-and-off conflict. The tram station is a node of transportation connecting Hammarkullen to the rest of Gothenburg and increases pedestrian movement around the square. It also hosts ongoing art exhibitions featuring local artists, organized by Blåstället, a meeting place in Angered Center.

Visit: The tram station has heavy traffic; people are constantly moving in and out, seemingly with a direct purpose. Interactions are few; most people are wearing headphones or are in a rush, and the interactions observed are either among already established social groups or with a woman sitting at the entrance asking for money. She seems to be a well-liked character in the neighborhood, and many have established relationships with her, engaging in short conversations when passing by. Generally, the place offers co-presence but little opportunity for interaction.

Kiosk

Positioned next to the entrance of the tram station, in private ownership.

Visit: The place is characterized by a friendly mood and short interactions. People come in and seemingly are familiar with the people working there. The employees are very friendly and happy to help out if needed, as showcased when the author of this work was in need of a pen.

Frukt och grönt grocerystore

There is a shop specializing in green vegetables and fruit (often referred to as ‘Frukt och grönt’), and a small general grocery store that provides PostNord postal services. Both are located at Hammarkulletorget (Hammarkullen Square).

Visit: The grocery store is characterized by heavy activity, with many people moving in and out. Observed interactions are short in nature and often revolve around topics of the weather or groceries. The workers seem to be well-known in the neighborhood and friendly faces to many.

Figure 20:
This index details some of the destinations with attached places in Hammarkullen that were visited. These are also illustrated in the following axonometric, on the next page. A complete index of identified destinations and context actants can be found in Appendix (p. 1-4).

Axonometric of Hammarkullen, its identified destinations, and their correlating social environment categories. This mapping provides an overview of the social opportunities available to residents to build relationships or lessen their feeling of loneliness through co-presence or interactions.

School
Trädgårdsföreningen
Fixoteket
Sportsfield
Aktivitetshuset
Playground
Sportsfield
Hairdresser
Mariakyrkan
Carnival center
Parkleken
Minimix
Chalmers
Bostadsbolaget
Tramstation
Kiosk
Folkets hus
Library
ATM
Square
Grocerystore
Post
Resturant
Grocerystore
Folkhighschool
Framtiden
Mixköket
Bo-service
Restaurant
Electronics store
UPS
Sports hall
School
Hammarbadet
Mixgården
Park

Destination Lessen feeling of loneliness Weak-tie relationships Strong tie relationships *Frequency of engagement:* Daily Weekly Occasional

Figure 21:

Barriers to engagement

:Interviews and interpretation

At this point, it is established that Hammarkullen provides social environments wherein people are supported to counter loneliness and build resilience to it. The next natural question, however, becomes: how accessible are these environments, and who gains from their positive aspects? When conceptualizing accessibility beyond the physical realm, one could instead ask what might prohibit a person from engaging with a destination. This is the topic of the following sections, which identify potential barriers that may limit engagement.

Approach

Lowering barriers to social engagement is key to the loneliness issue (Folkhälsomyndigheten, 2024). Building on this concept, this section seeks to identify barriers that may be present in destinations. The first approach to this is based on interviews conducted with people identified as experiencing loneliness.Interviews were sourced through online platforms.

To protect participants' information, characters were created corresponding to several people's experiences. Barriers were identified in interviews. Each character is also placed on the resilience to loneliness diagram. These placements were derived in communication with interview participants and thus are also not reflective of Hammarkullen.

Characters

Lisa is a person with lower personally-tied resilience due to her economic situation and physical ability. However, she is very social and not afraid to converse with people, which helps buffer her position.

Anna just moved into the neighborhood and is looking to expand her social network. She is high in individual-ly-tied resilience.

Sarah is a person with low personally-tied resilience due to social anxiety and low self-esteem. Sarah is also unemployed and not in education. She identifies as a loner, which creates further barriers to engagement (Krakowski, 2021).

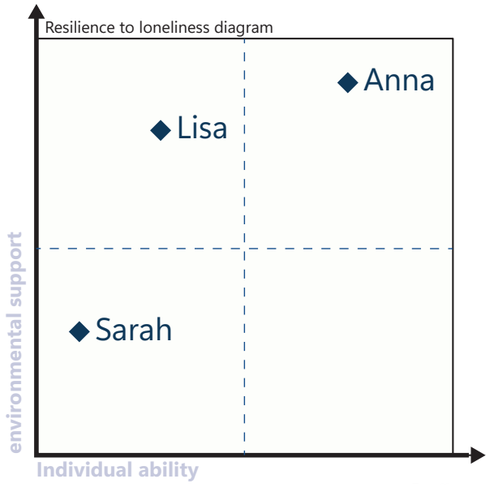


Figure 22:

Character: Lisa, identifies as socially isolated

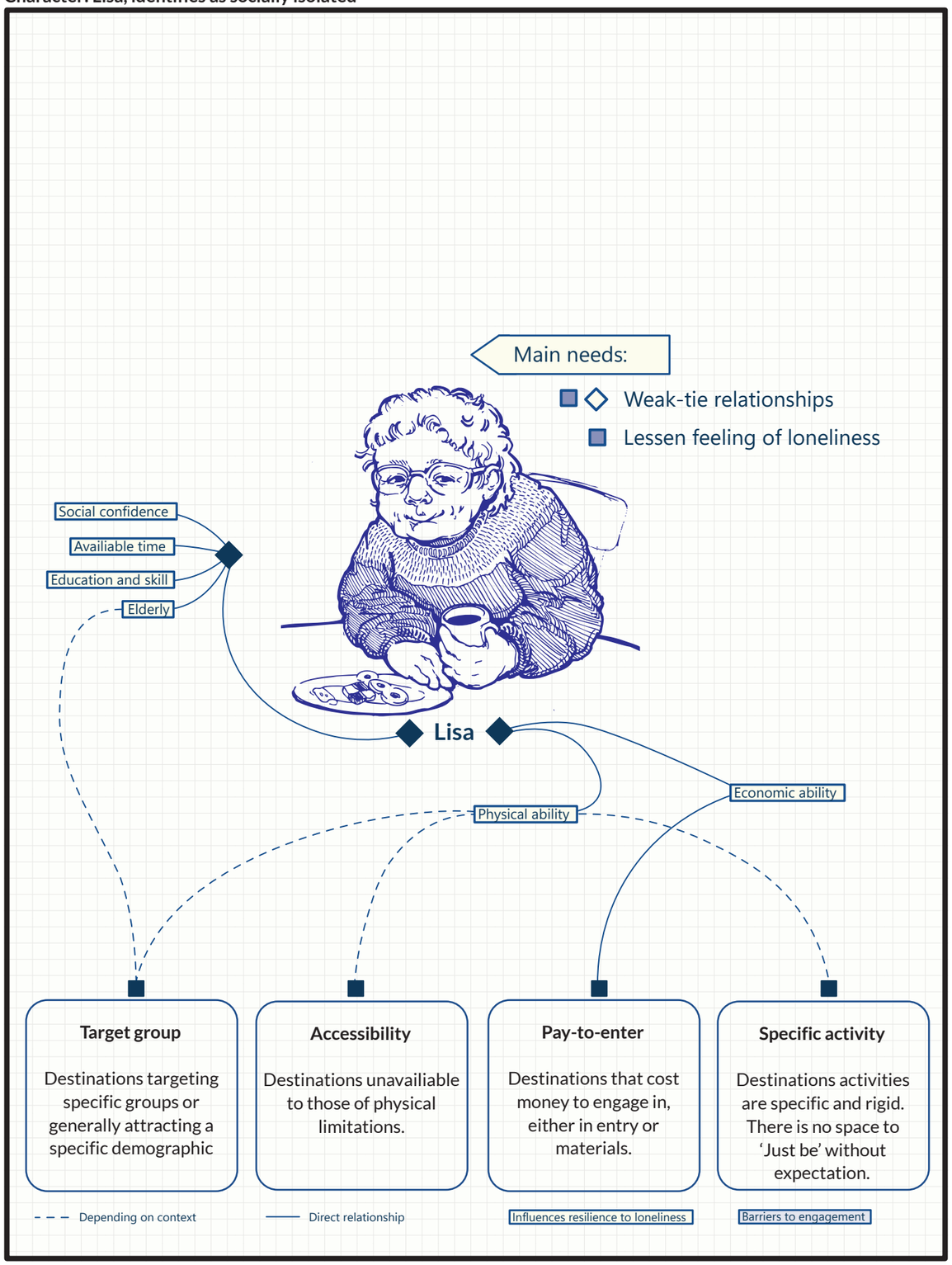


Figure 23: Character image by (K.Palme, Personal communication, 6/10/2025)

Lisa is a very social person, she loves talking to people and has an easy time making friends and has many close friends, however she does not see them often and thereby feels social loneliness (Smith, 2019). She is limited by her physical ability and also monetary assets. She has a lot of time on her hands as she is retired and mostly spends her days at home.

Character: Anna, identifies as lonely

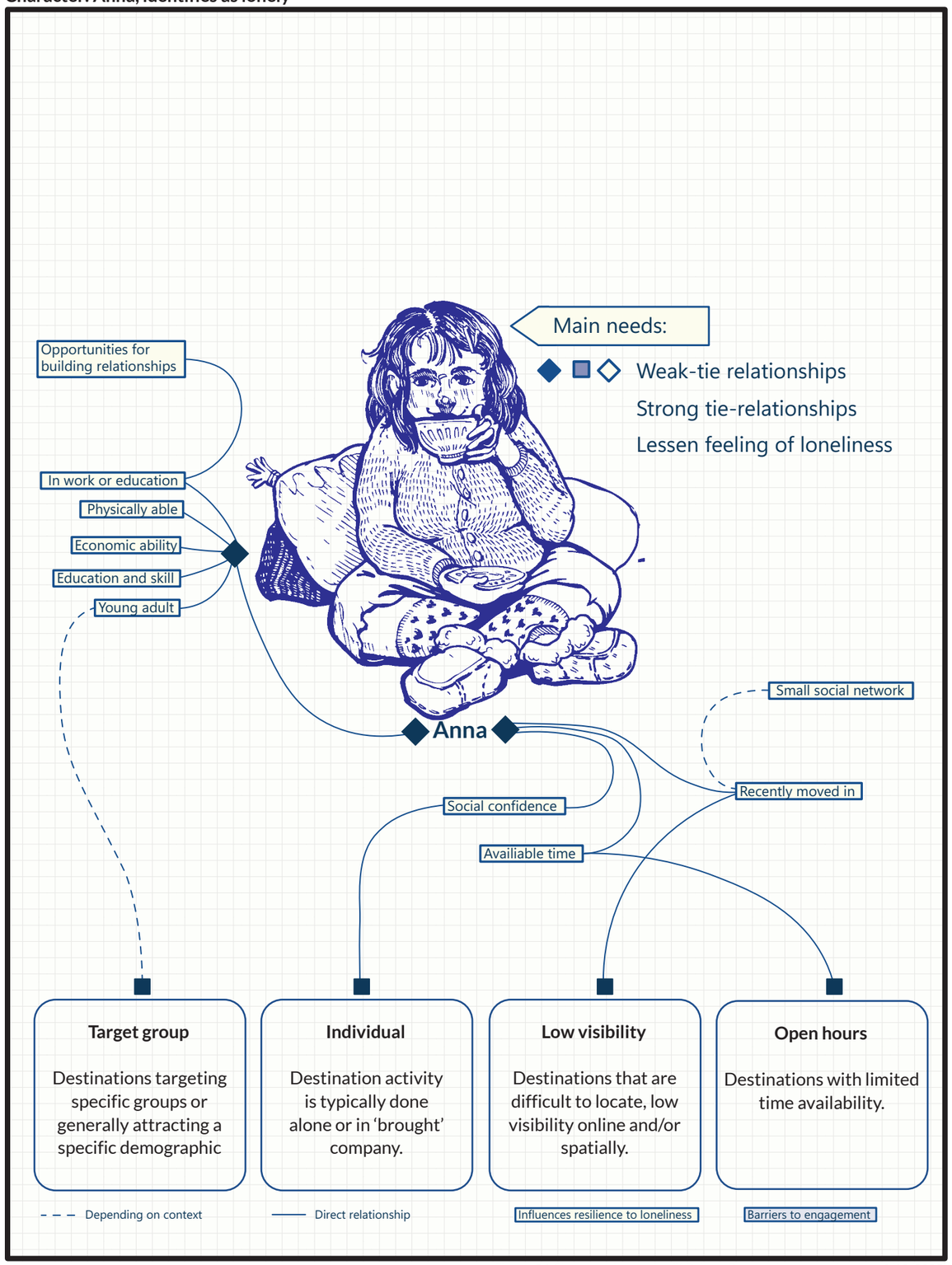


Figure:24 Character image by (K.Palme, Personal communication, 6/10/2025)

Anna is a social person. She is new to Hammarkullen and feels isolated due to lack of friends in her vicinity. She as no difficulty in social settings and wish for activities and places that fit her personality wherin she can meet people. She works and therefore needs activities outside of her working hours.

Character: Sarah, identifies as loner.

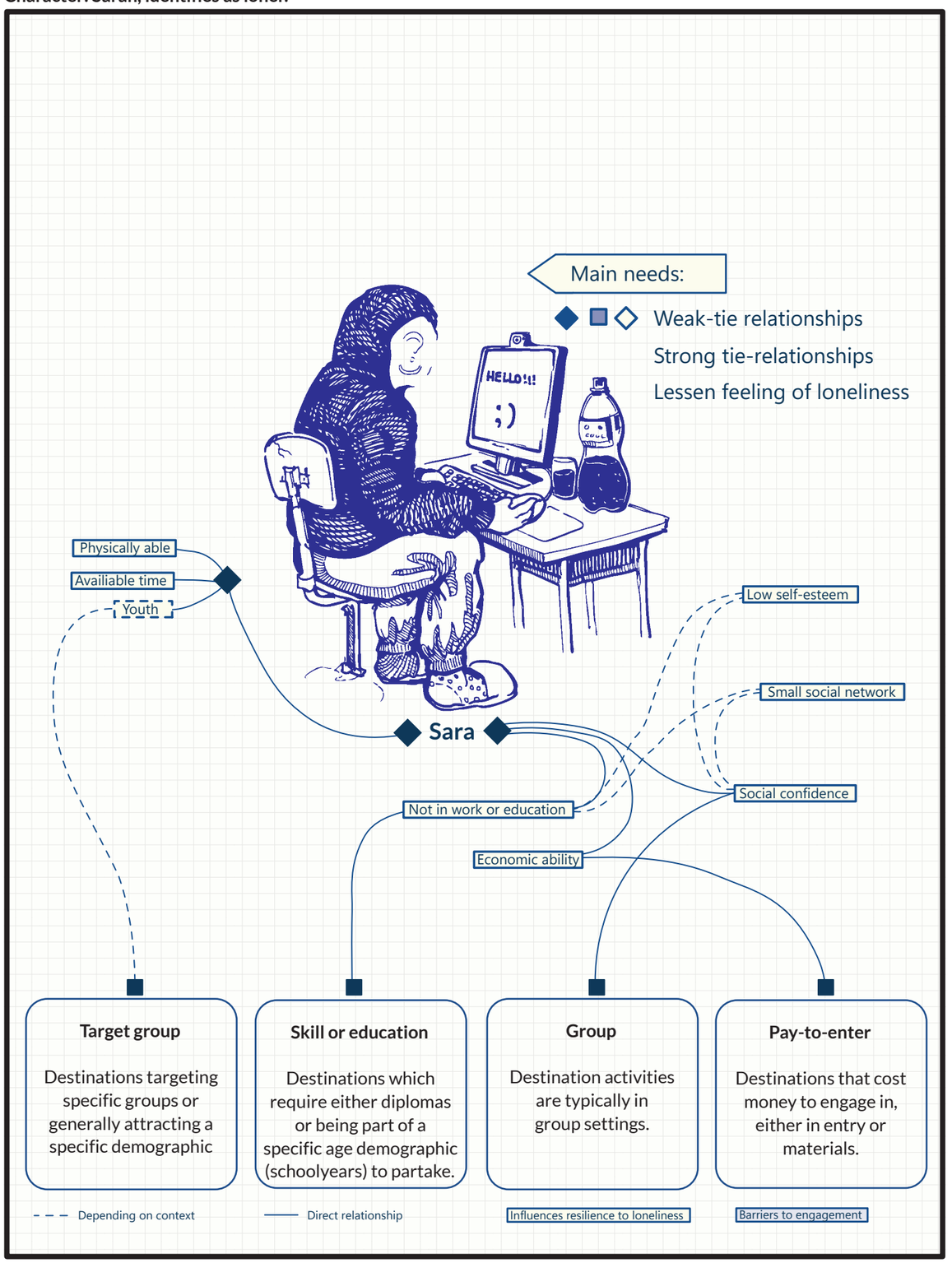


Figure 24: Character image by (K.Palme, Personal communication, 6/10/2025)

Sarah is both isolated and identify as a loner. She has a few friends but predominately online and feels insecure in social settings. She wants to have closer relationships but struggles with soical anxiety and also has neigher work nor education which means she does not afford activities that cost money and entering educational settings is difficult.

Destination categories

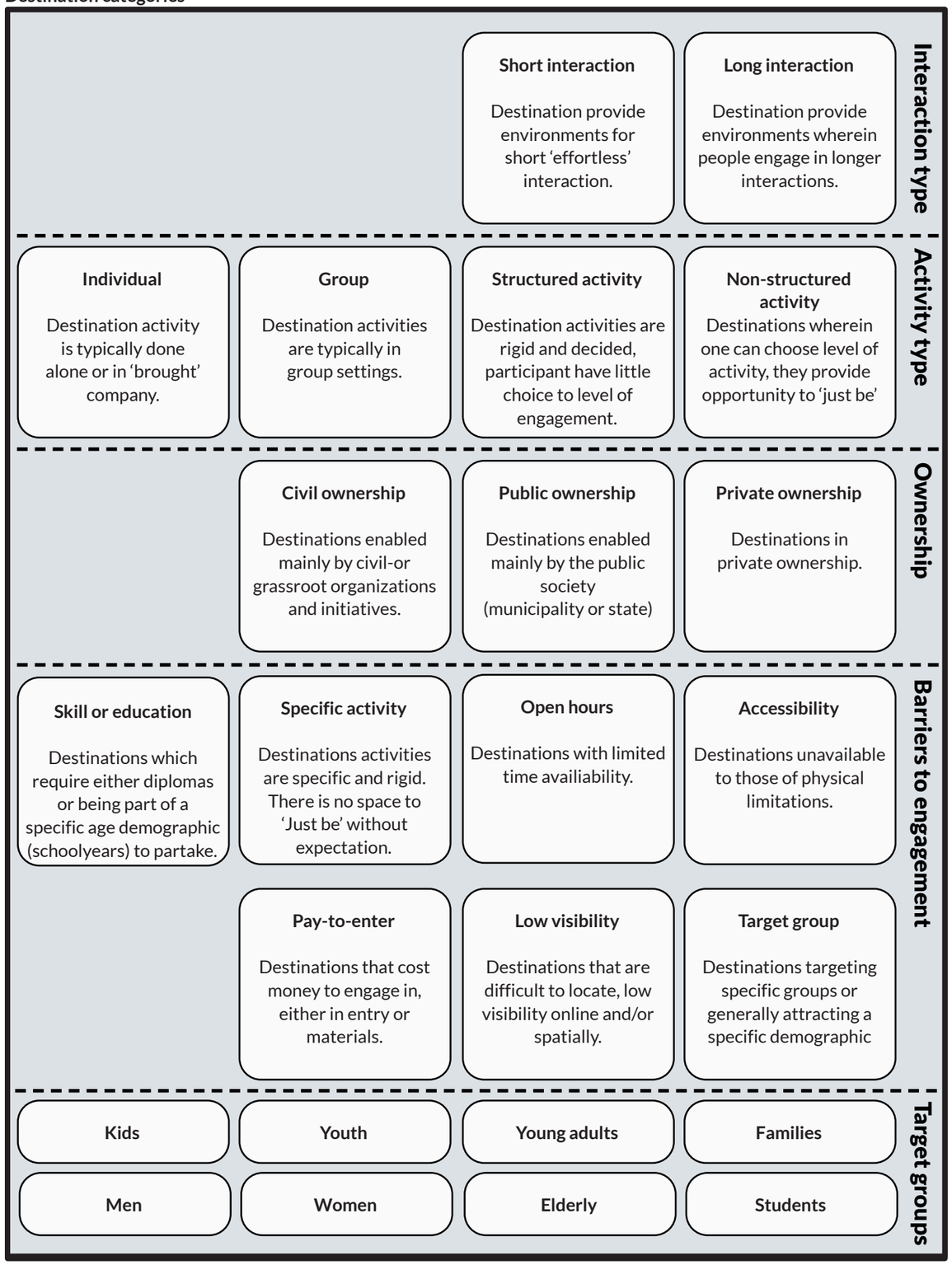


Figure 25:

Identified categories applied in the nextcoming destination matrix. Information was gathered on all identified destinations and can be found in table format in the appendix (p. 1-4).

Destination categorization

:Metrics collected on destinations

This section summarizes the identified barriers and categories that will then be applied to all collected destinations. These are derived from interviews, from the characteristics of the third place, and from the propinquity effect: the principle that frequency of engagement promotes relationships. Following are descriptions of each category identified. The objective is to establish a framework for evaluating social opportunities in Hammarkullen and then suggest a complement to this social fabric. This proposed complement ultimately became the suggestion of a third place.

Quantifying opportunities.

This project has already mapped available destinations and their general social atmospheres. However, to gain a deeper understanding and to be accurate in positioning interventions, these destinations require further investigation.

Reasoning: Folkhälsomyndigheten (2024; 2025) is one of many public actors calling for action to mitigate loneliness, emphasizing the need to make social interaction accessible.But what constitutes accessible social interaction?
This section of the context analysis aims to quantify various aspects of destinations that relate to their accessibility, in terms of likely engagement, and the underlying systems—the actants—that enable their existence. The objective of this exercise is to gain a deeper understanding of the social opportunities and the barriers to engagement in these potential places of connection.
The previous page, page 33, lists all the categories collected for the various destinations. In the following pages, these metrics will be applied to quantify and gain an overview of the social fabric and opportunities within Hammarkullen.

Categories

Interaction Type: This describes the length and depth of likely or observed interactions at a destination. For instance, a tram station likely has short, passive "see and hear" interactions (Lyu & Forsyth, 2022).

A café, in contrast, would be categorized as having long interactions, as it invites people to stay, fostering an environment for stronger relationships (Oldenburg, 1989).

Activity Type: This describes the kind of activity that happens at the destination. For example, a grocery store would be categorized as a place for mainly individual activities. A swimming class is a structured group activity, while a library allows for unstructured individual or passive social activity. The blend of these activities contributes to a versatile city life and expansion of social networks (Gehl, 2010; Oldenburg, 1997).

Ownership: This refers to the main actor type that enables the existence of the destination. For instance, a library would be public, and a kiosk likely private.

Barriers to Engagement: As detailed further on pages 29-32, barriers are aspects of a destination that may deter engagement. These are emphasized in research, although often not specified in detail, which has inspired this categorization (Folkhälsomyndigheten, 2024).

Target Groups: This refers to the groups of people for whom the destination is available. This can be explicitly stated, such as a primary school targeting children, or based on perception – for instance, an activity open to anyone but generally frequented by only a few groups, thus feeling unavailable to others.

Destination matrix

:Quantifying destination barriers, qualities and subjacent actants

So what could be read out of all this collected information? This section dives into quantified comparison of various destination data to gain an overview of the social environments available and the subjacent actants enabling them. The objective is to derive what types of barriers are most presented and the kinds of interaction opportunities and activity constellations they provide.
Of course quantity does not equal quality but the matrix serve as a tool to gain overview of the social environments and what could be added in complement.

Approach

All identified destinations were crossed with metrics of targetgroup, potential barriers and prominent activity type. The purpose was to gain an overview of social opportunities and what potential hindrances they hold for people to engage wth them. Details on each category can be found on previous pages, p.33-34.

Takeaways

Many places have limited open hours: Many destinations are limited by time-based access, meaning they are open only at certain times of the day or occasionally during the week.

Most destinations are characterized by specific activities: This means that when engaging with the destination, there are rigid, expected behaviors and little choice as to how one spends their time.
An example of a non-rigid activity environment is Mixgården, a local youth center (see page, 26.), where the environment is similar to that of a living room. One can choose to actively partake in an activity or 'simply be'.

Public and civil actors provide a variety of destination formats: Public and civil actors provide a large variety in the kinds of social environments their destinations hold. The public sector is especially prominent in offering a diverse range of activity types.

Short interactions are common in all kinds of destinations: This finding supports past research that local resources contribute to weak-tie relationships, co-presence, and interactions that lessen feelings of loneliness (Lyu & Forsyth, 2022).

Public and civil destinations are more likely to be in low visibility: Publicly-owned destinations are often less visible, which is not surprising given the profit-driven incentive for high visibility in private destinations. This suggests an opportunity to boost the reach of public destinations through focused visibility efforts.

Publicly-owned destinations are often target-group specific: Public destinations have a higher representation of being target-group specific. Looking at the data more closely, this corresponds to many public destinations being directed toward youth, families, and students.

Destination matrix

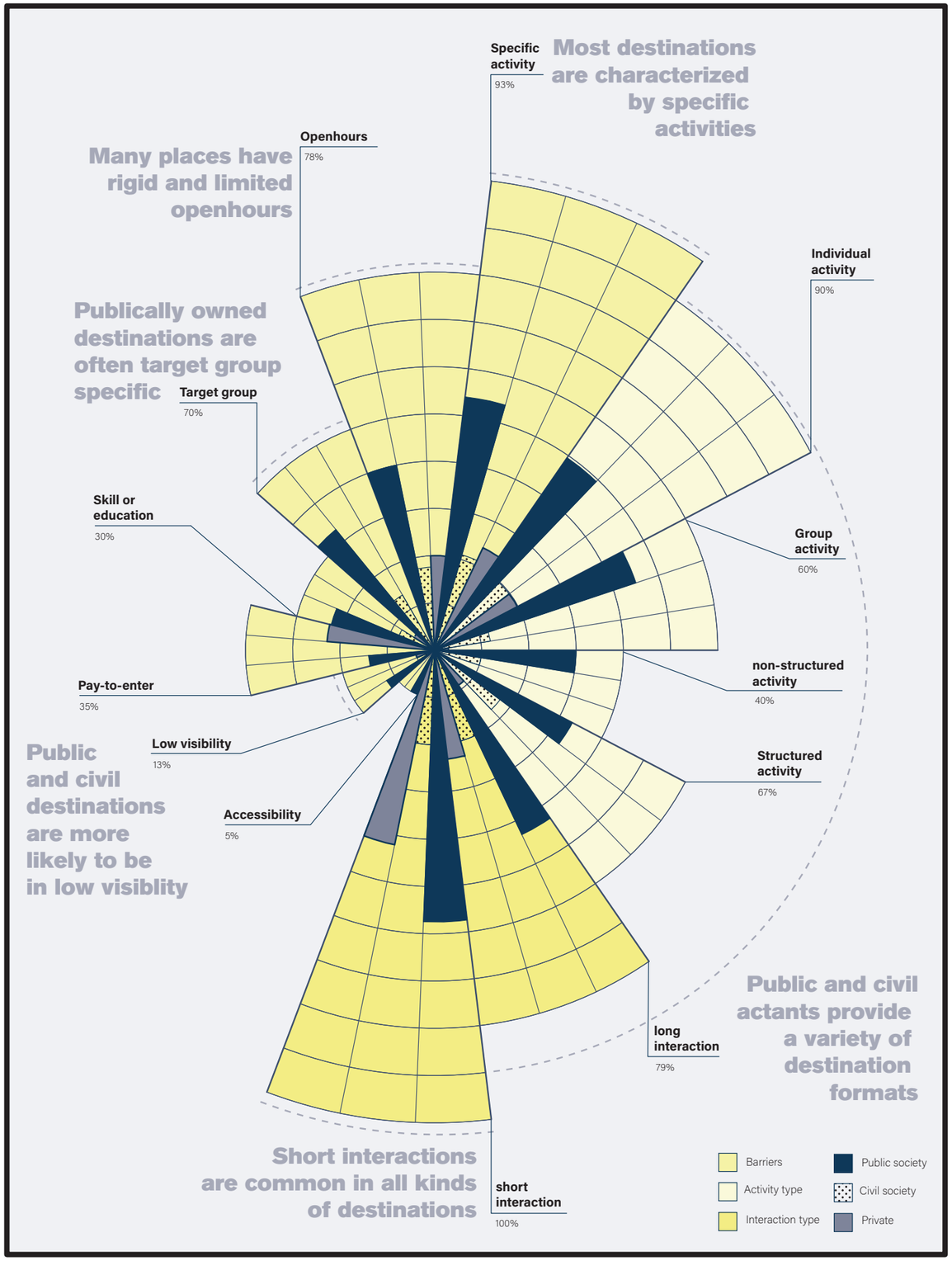


Figure 26:
This is a quantified mapping of destination barriers, activity types, and interaction types, overlaid with the percentage of each category's total divided by ownership type. The percentages indicate what portion of the total destinations possess each specific category.

Destination matrix

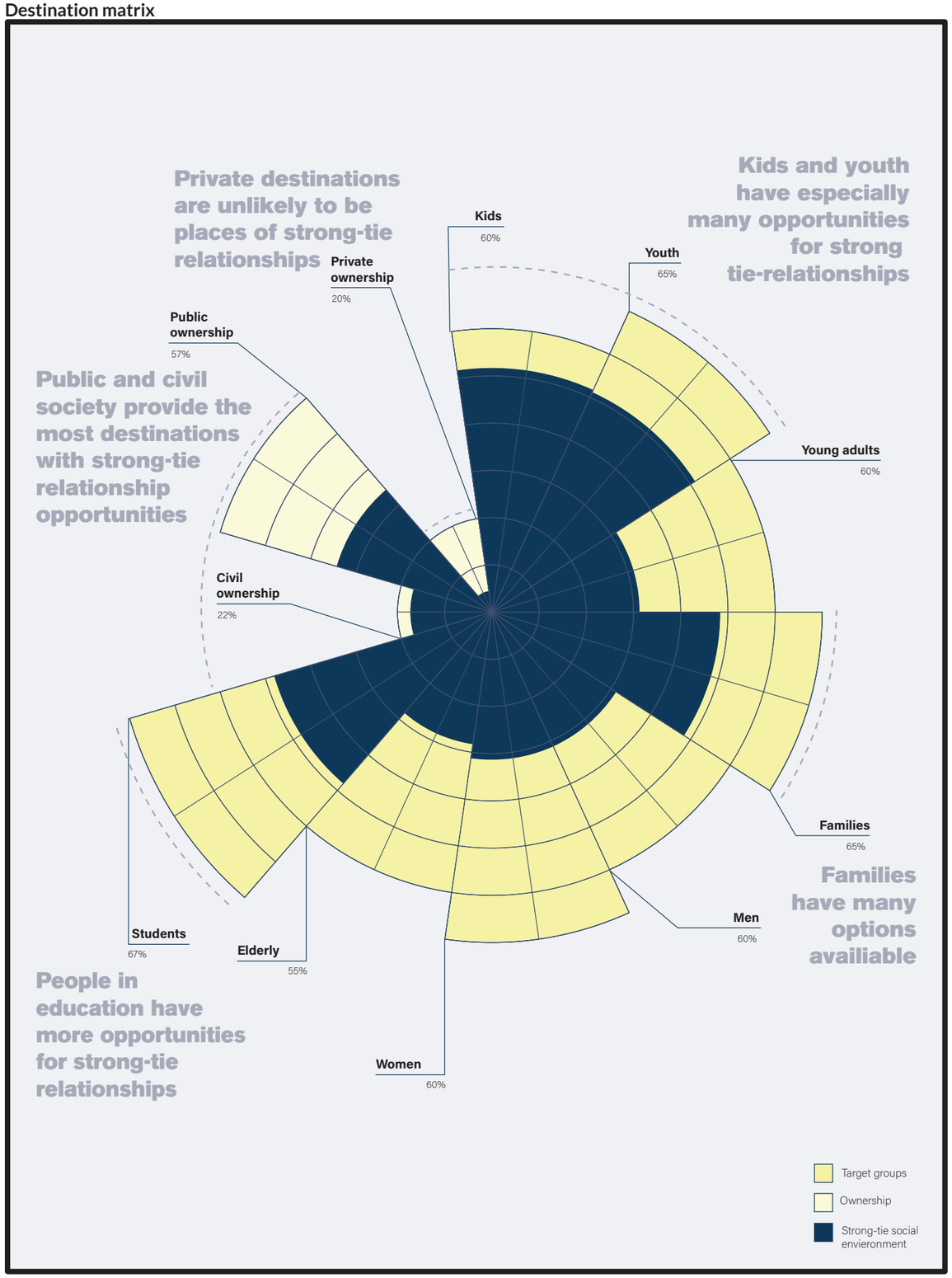


Figure 27:

Destination matrix of target groups and destination ownership crossed with social environments supporting strong-tie relationships. Percentages indicate how many of total destination posess this category.

Destination matrix

:Interaction type, initiation and enabling actants

This matrix indicates that civil and public actors are most responsible for creating environments that support strong-tie relationships, or the meaningful connections considered the 'cure' for loneliness (Hawkley & Cacioppo, 2010). The matrix also shows that some target groups are presented with a larger variety of destination environments. This suggests that creating places that are inclusive to a broader demographic, or to specific underserved target groups, would be beneficial for promoting social networks in Hammarkullen.

Strong-tie relationships

Destinations are characterized by longer interactions, high likelihood of frequent engagement, are in this category. For example, a grocery store is excluded due to its attached normative behaviors of solely buying groceries; it is an unlikely environment for forming stronger relationships.

Takeaways

Target groups: The matrix indicates that children, youth, students, and families are the target groups with the most opportunities presented to them. This is not only due to educational settings promoting stronger relationships but is also apparent when removing the educational categories from the analysis. This indicates that groups other than these may be subjects for supportive intervention.
Crossing ownership types with environments that support strong-tie relationships shows a strong indication that public and civil actors provide the most destinations with characteristics that promote stronger relationships.

Public and civil society provide the most destinations with strong-tie relationship opportunities: Actants of the public and civil society underpin the most valuable destinations in terms of building strong-tie relationships. Crossing these public and civil destinations by their barriers reveals that most of them are activity-specific and are limited by opening hours. This indicates that civil and public destinations are rich in variety but limited in availability. Further diving into target groups, many of public destinations are directed towards youth, kids, and families, with fewer options for other groups.

Private destinations are unlikely to be places of strong-tie relationships: Unsurprisingly, privately owned destinations are less likely to provide relationship-building environments; however, they are some of the most frequented destinations, such as grocery stores and kiosks. This indicates that private actants are important for weak-tie relationships and co-presence in terms of mitigating loneliness and building weak-tie social networks (Lyu & Forsyth, 2022).

Kids and youth have especially many opportunities for strong-tie relationships: Kids and youth are the target groups with the most destinations available in terms of strong-tie relationships. This is not surprising, since they are attached to educational environments where frequent engagement and longer, activity-supported interactions are characteristic.

Families have many options available: Families also have a wide variety of destinations available to them. These are mainly stemming from public initiatives or grassroots movements which have been supported by public funding.

People in education have more opportunities for strong-tie relationships: Education provides strong environments for building stronger relationships. This is due to longer interactions, frequent engagement, and supportive activities. Education, however, is one of the strongest barriers to entry for people outside of this category, as it requires diplomas or being part of a specific target group to partake.

Actant relationships

:Relational mapping and local engagements

To further understand the social fabric of Hammarkullen, a relational mapping of collected actants was conducted (Petrescu, 2012).
This mapping revealed that civil and public actants are positioned very closely to residents, particularly in their influence over programs, activities, and participation in organizational roles. The significant public presence in Hammarkullen is also evident, with many influential actants either collaborating with, being dependent on, or constituting public entities themselves (Fig. 28). These explorations were complemented by deeper engagement with some key actants in the network.

Approach

In engaging with the context some actants were interviewed or engaged with further by partaking local meetings or conversing employees. Interviews were conducted in informal settings and with the objective of expanding knowledge of the context challenges, opportunities and actant relationships.

Engagements

Socialförvaltningen Nordost: *Interview with an employee.* Socialförvaltningen is responsible for public functions in the municipality, such as schools, health, and social services.
In Gothenburg, they also support cultural initiatives and have the agency to fund social programs related to culture and art. The interviewee emphasized the need for third places in Hammarkullen, especially since many residents live in poverty and in apartments that are too small for their family's needs.
They noted that these places should have a broad demographic reach but should not overtake target-group-specific third places, such as Mixgården, as these are also important, especially for youth.

Folkets Hus och Parker: *Interview with employees.* They are a civil organization that supports meeting places and cultural initiatives. In Hammarkullen, they are heavily involved in sustaining Folkets Hus. They do this primarily through legal and communications support in negotiations.
For instance, they took part in establishing the Folkets Hus IOP, a legal agreement with Gothenburg City that provides funds paramount to their function.
They emphasise the need for meeting places whose organization and activities are representative of local cultures and identities: meaning that organizational roles should be filled by local residents and reflect a diversity of cultures, ages, and backgrounds.
They also stressed that activities in these places should be flexible and have a "low-hanging fruit" character—meaning they should be quick, simple, and adaptable to promote resident engagement.

Nätverksträffen: Visited a local meeting. They are an open group that meets regularly in Hammarkullen, composed of local organizations, residents, and public representatives. The group discusses collaborative strategies to promote social cohesion and challenge negative outsider perceptions of Hammarkullen.

LSS: *Conversation with an employee.* The LSS is an organization that assists people with mental and physical difficulties. As a part of Socialförvaltningen, they were interviewed about the challenges and potential of incorporating their daily activity program into a proposed 'third place' intervention for this thesis.
They emphasized the need for education to ensure positive collaboration but were positive about the idea overall.

The Library: *Conversation with an employee.* The library is frequented by many residents and is especially popular with families and children. They sometimes have trouble with youth being loud, particularly after other local activities have ended for the day.
They emphasized the need for alternative places where groups of youth can spend time away from the library.

Actant relationscape

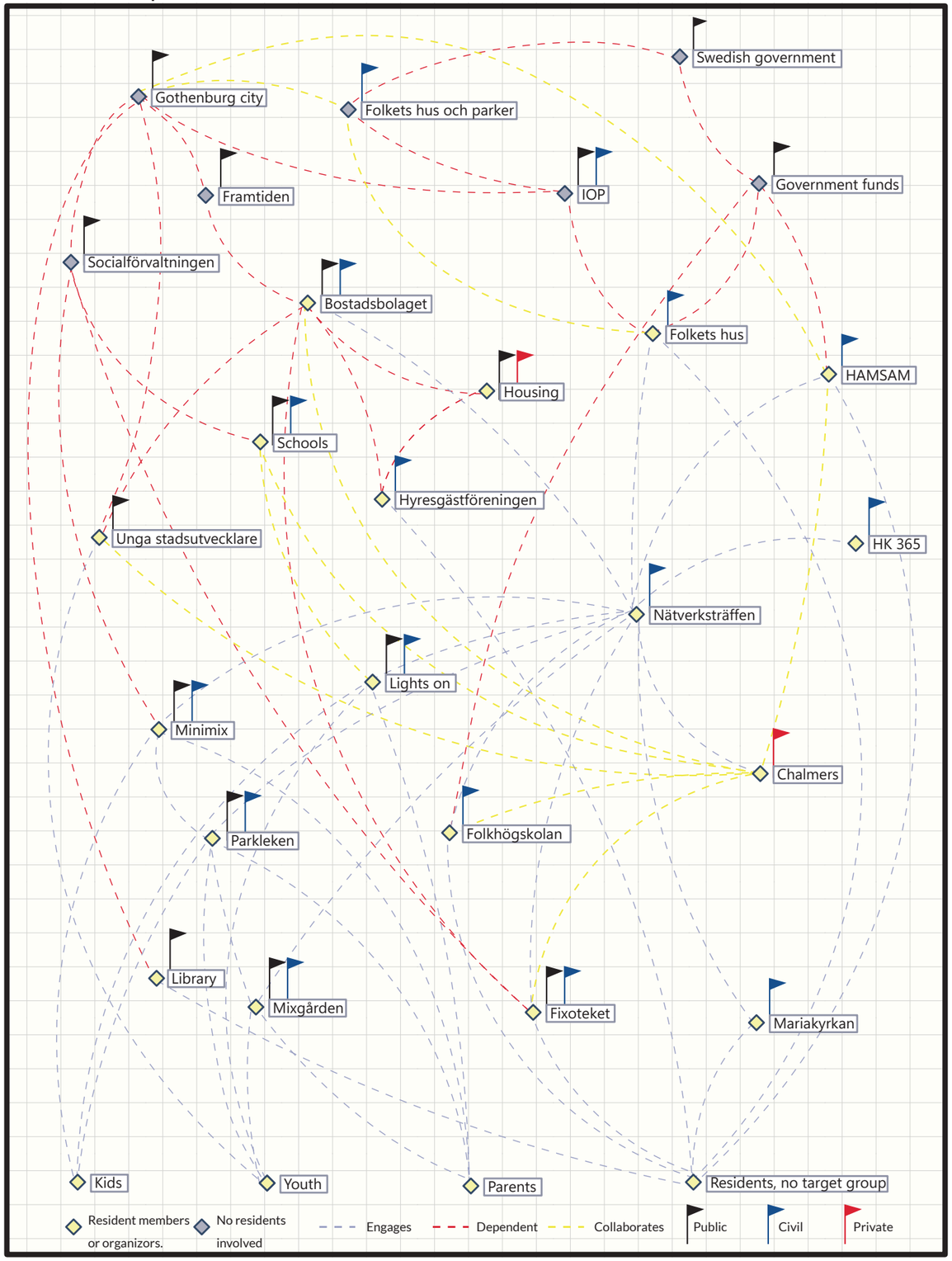


Figure 28:

The Relationscape shows how Hammarkullen's main actants interact with residents. Public and civil organizations are highly engaged, often including residents in activity and program development. Notably, Nätverksträffen serves as a key platform for collective agency, and the public presence in the area is strong. More information on each actant can be found in the appendix (p. 1-4).

Power influence analysis

Figure 29 illustrates the relations of making change in Hammarkullen. Relative to key local actants power and influence position. The positioning of Nätverksträffen is noteworthy, as it serves as a platform for collecting voices and agency. As shown on the previous page (p. 40). Folkets Hus och Parker also hold a significant position, acting as an 'in-between' mediator that wields influence by navigating conflicts and opportunities. In general, residents gain agency through organizations integrated into their daily lives and collective civil platforms like Hyresgästföreningen.

Power influence analysis

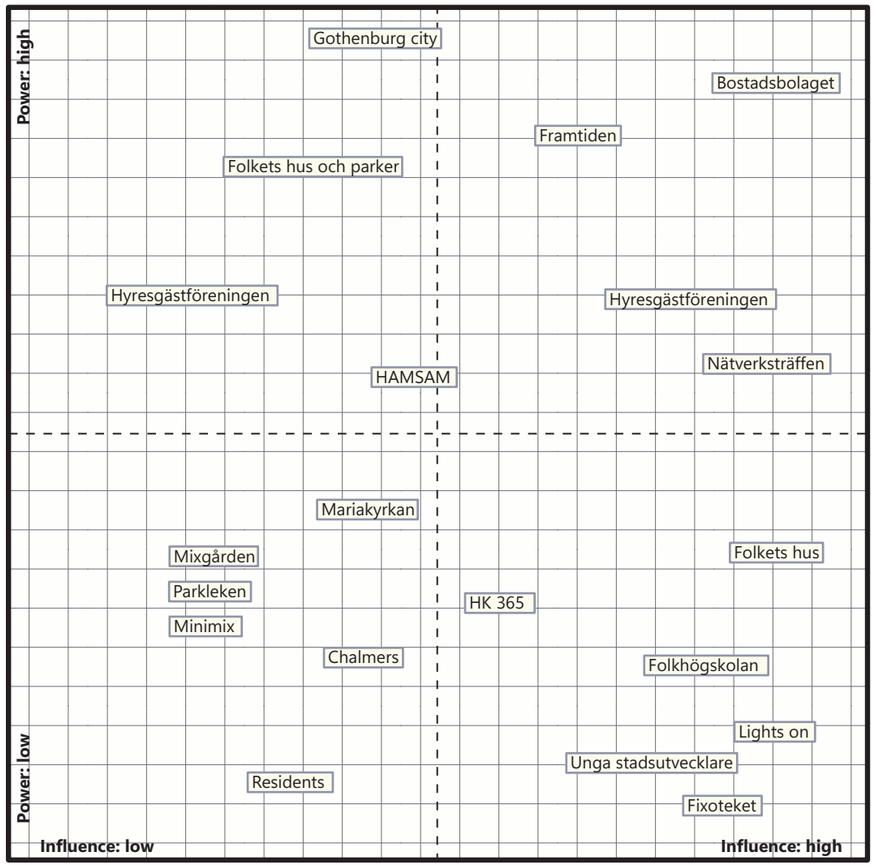


Figure 29:

** Bostadsbolaget is one of the main actants of the area.*

** Nätverksträffen is important for collecting voices and agency.*

** Residents gain influence through actants close to daily life and organizations such as Hyresgästföreningen, representing their voices.*

** Folkets hus is very dependant on their IPO from Gothenburg city and on Folkets hus och Parker for support in negotiations.*

** Actants working the closest with children, Mixgården, Parkleken and Minimix, are key collaborators in terms of families and childrens daily life.*

** Civil organizations depend on national governmental support through funds, making them vulnerable to political changes.*

Synthesis

"To a far greater extent than private commercial arenas, public democratically managed city space provides access and opportunities for all groups of society to express themselves and latitude for non-mainstream activities. The spectrum of activities and actors demonstrates the opportunities for public city space generally to strengthen social sustainability." - Jan Gehl, 2010, p.28.

Findings

Above statement embodies findings from this context analysis. The variety of destinations and the variety of enabling actants for these destinations provide a wide array of social settings for the residents of Hammarkullen.
Overarchingly, the synergy between civil and public actants provides the destinations of highest value for fostering strong-tie relationships. However, there are groups less likely to partake in these environments.
Synthesizing all collected knowledge, an intervention should encompass the following (while acknowledging the importance of other categories): *opportunities* for both *short* and *long* interactions. The intervention should facilitate *non-structured activity*, wherein one can choose their level of engagement. The place would benefit from *public and/or civil ownership*. It should be *inclusive of a wider demographic*, hold generous open hours, be *cheap or free to enter*, and have *high visibility*.
Crossing findings with Oldenburg's (1989) definition of a third place, such a place in civil or public ownership would benefit the neighborhood in terms of countering loneliness.

Revealed potential

In mapping the context by its relationships and various engagements, a potential revealed itself for the implementation of such a third place: a currently empty café in Folkets Hus.
This is shown on the next page (p. 43). The café is under civil agency, connected to the public sector through its actants, is in a high-visibility location, and encompasses all the necessary components to reopen.

Figure 30:
Key-considerations for intervention derived from context analysis.

Revealed potential in a today closed café

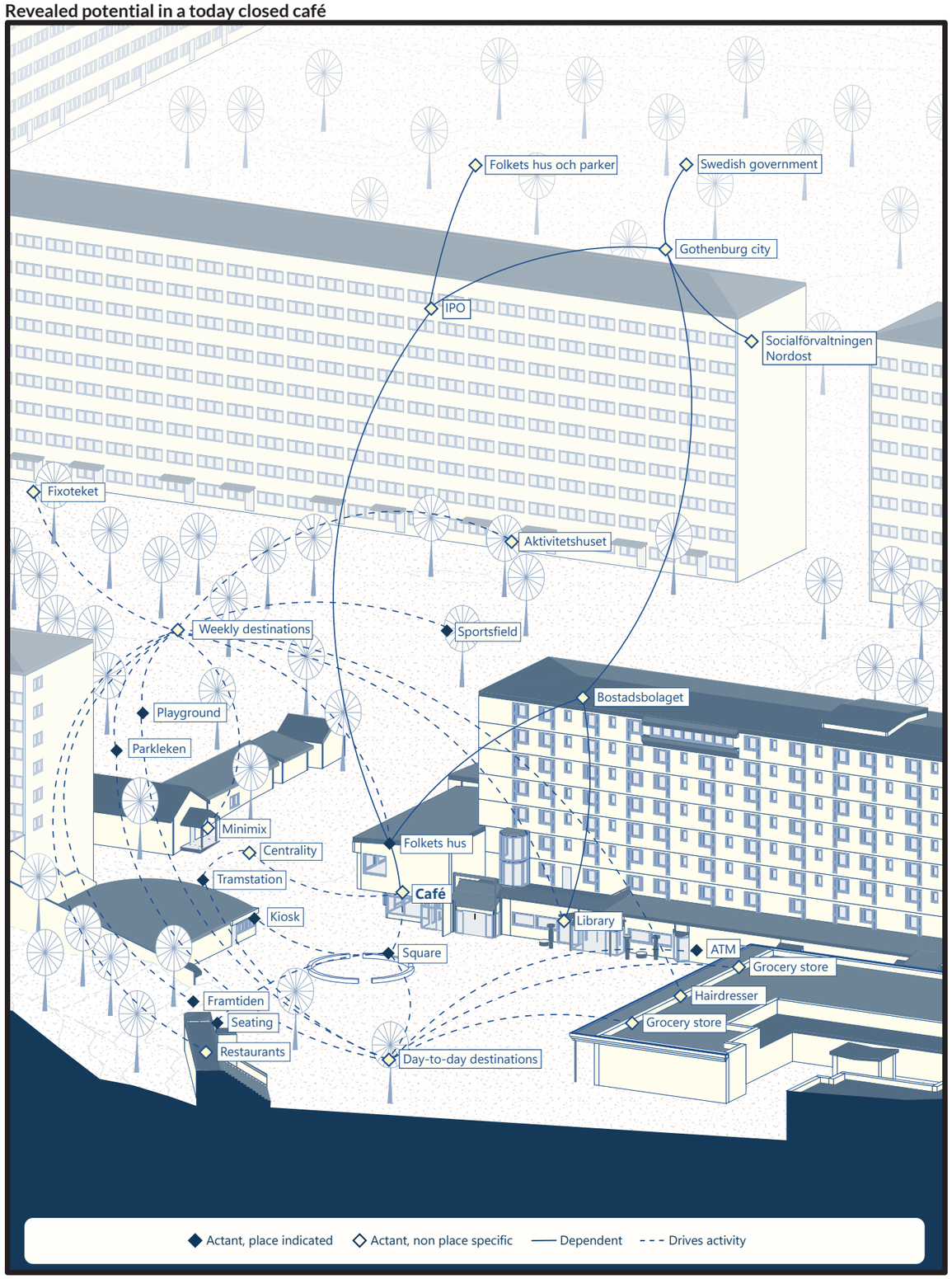


Figure 31:

Through engagement with the context, an opportunity was revealed in a currently empty café. This café now becomes the subject of this thesis, exploring how it could be reopened as a resident-centered third place. The illustration shows how various actants shape the café's current assemblage.

Participation

Introduction to workshops
Workshop 01
Workshop 02
Summary and reflection

This chapter goes into a participatory process conducted with a local focusgroup. The aim was to co-produce knowledge of loneliness and co-create the design translation.

Introduction to workshops

:Co-producing knowledge

“The invitation for participation through either action or the donation of knowledge acknowledges an incompleteness and limitation of the lone, single-disciplinary author.“ — Awan et al. (2013), p. 77.
This chapter embarks on a participatory journey with a focus group from Hammarkullen. The aim was to share the production of knowledge and the design process and to actively invite local citizens into the process of architecture. Three workshops were conducted, two of which are explored in more detail in the nextcoming pages.

Why participation?

Actively inviting non-architects into the architectural process allows the resulting outcomes to more directly address the needs and desires of the multitude of people who occupy and live in architectural and social spaces. The production of space is viewed as a shared enterprise, involving many actors. This understanding requires acknowledging the ‘gatekeeping’ of knowledge and the perceived ‘expert’ status of the architect that is existing in our discipline (Awan et al., 2013). Following is the objective of this process: to share the production of this thesis project.

Why this group?

The focus group was composed of free-time pedagogy students from Angered Folkhögskola, the local folk school in Hammarkullen. They are studying how to create meaningful free time and promote democracy and public engagement. Unique to their program is an approach that targets all of society—in contrast to the normative role of free-time pedagogues (Angered Folkhögskola, 2024).
The participants came from diverse backgrounds, and many were residents of Hammarkullen themselves.
Their contribution as expert citizens to this work is thus triadic, stemming from: their developing professional knowledge, their personal experiences, and their connection to Hammarkullen.

Participation and loneliness

Loneliness is subjective and thus tied to a person’s individual experience and abilities (Uchihira et al., 2023; Perlman & Peplau, 1998). Therefore, understanding perceptions is especially important when searching for solutions (Jing, 2023).

In previous research, participatory methods have been applied to decipher these subjectivities, yielding positive results (Jing, 2019). This work builds on this research by using co-creation to promote a more locally anchored and sensitive proposal, fostering shared ownership and agency over the results. Furthermore, the act of participation itself promotes relationships. Therefore, conducting workshops, despite on a small scale, has inherent benefits for creating connections, naturally relevant to this issue (Nadia Von Benzon et al., 2021).

General information.

Workshops ranged from 1-3 hours, and were conducted in Hammarkullen. They involved both teachers and students. The group was recruited by approaching the teachers of the education. Produced materials can be found in the appendix, (p.7-15).

Participants:	Workshops:
Ages: two: > 45 nine: 25 - 45 eight: 18 - 25 All work or study in Hammarkullen daily 4 are residents Total students: 17 + 2 teachers	*Workshop 01:* Creating narratives of social engagement *Workshop 02:* Co-creation stories of the café. *Workshop 03:* Evaluation and ideas for appropriations

Figure 32:
Image from the first workshop. Participants worked with collaging and storytelling to discuss how various people experiencing loneliness or difficulty in social settings could be engaged in activities and places. They also identified places of high belonging, wherin people feel compfortable going alone or when feeling insecure.

Workshop
01
:Creating narratives of social engagement

Participants discussed fictional character cards and images of places and activities. These characters, were based on the resilience to loneliness framework (read more on page.16) presented diverse physical and psychological limitations to engagement.
Participants created narrative collages depicting character stories and discussed how to engage them in places and activities and what environments they would be likely to feel safe in. The aim was to decipher how to engage individuals of low resilience to loneliness and what characterizes places of high belonging.

Results

Results emphasized need for varied places responding to characters interests and wants. Effective places provide space to 'just be' and a mix of structured and non-structured activity for individuals and groups.
They should also be rich in 'supporting actants', these are artefacts of conversation such as games, fika, posters, art or tv, supporting conversation.
Narratives were particularly insightful, emphasizing libraries and cafés as psychologically available places. They also identified gradual social exposure as key for building social skills, identity and by frequent exposure, meaningful connection. To conclude, places of inclusive welcoming cultures which support comfortable interaction and varying activity are paramount to engagement.
A sample narrative is seen in fig.35 and progression in fig, 34.

Information

Participants: 19

Duration: 1,5h

Date: 03/04/2025

Materials: *Paper, pens, glue, scissors*

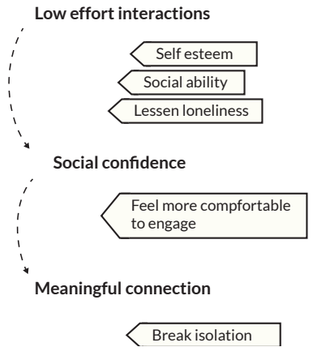


Figure 34:

Key-takeaways

Supporting actants
Café should have games, posters, information boards and organized activity supporting interaction

Short interaction
Café should provide environment for short 'effortless' interaction

Long interaction
Café should provide environment wherin people engage in longer interactions

Group
There should be opportunity for group activity, organized or non-organized

Connect to library
Café should connect to the library

'Just be'
Café should provide opportunity to 'just be' without expectation to engage in activity

Structured activity
Residents shold be encouraged to organize activities in the café

Non-structured activity
Café should provide opportunity for non-structured activity

Figure 33:

Story of finding connection

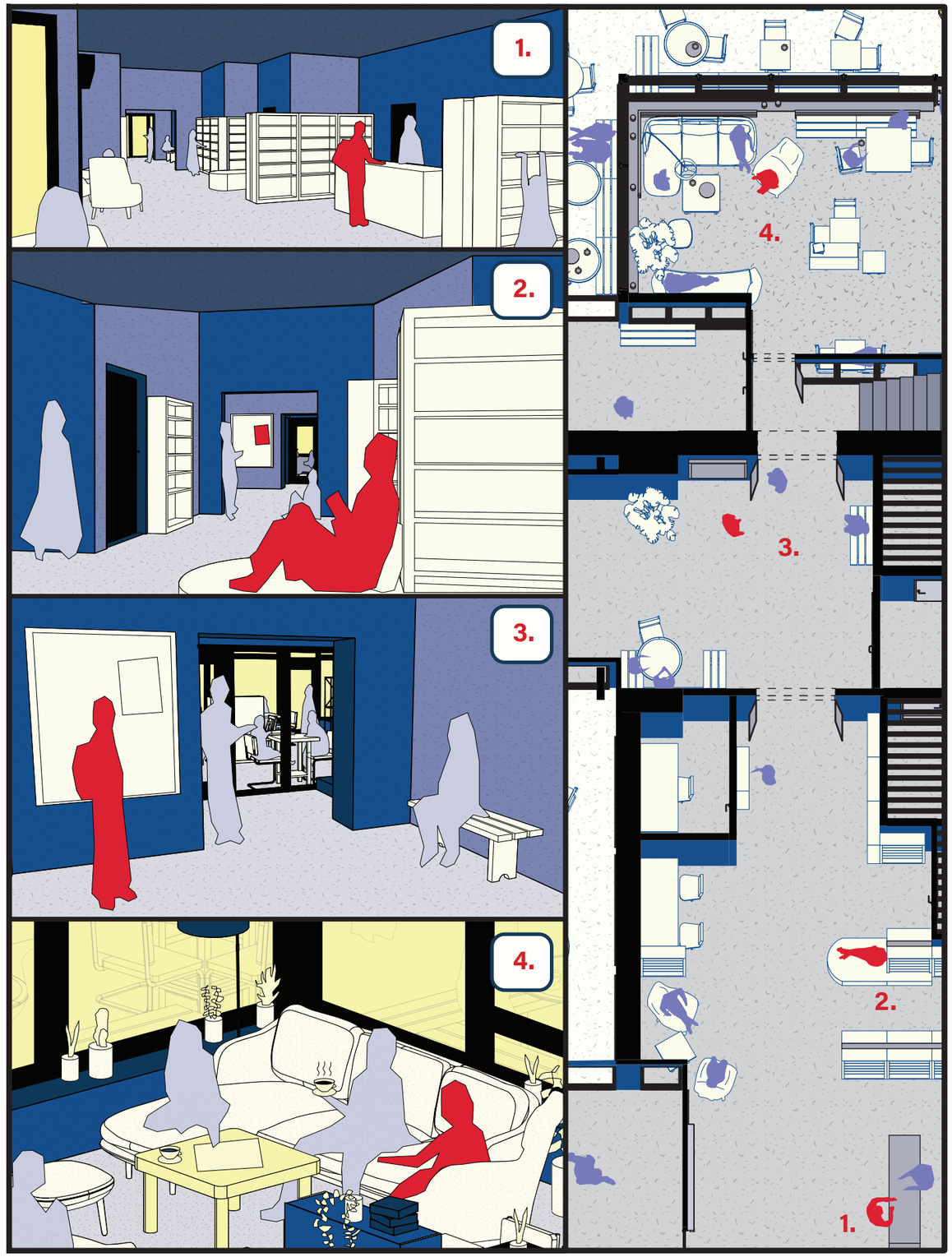


Figure 35:

The comic above illustrates a curation of one of the storylines created, wherin a person progressively feels safer to socially engage by moving through the various social environments of the Café and Library. This person frequented the library for a while before daring to engage in an organized gamenight in the café space.

Workshop 02

:Co-creation stories of the café.

Participants were tasked with imagining themselves as organizers of a newly opened café in Folkets Hus. This involved imagining the roles of organizing events, engaging people, and collaborating with local actants. Following, they assumed the roles of journalists, tasked with reporting on the café from an external viewpoint and constructing narratives using developed materials.
Lastly, they considered the engagement of characters introduced in the preceding workshop. The aim was to identify how a café could come to be in Hammarkullen.

Results

Storylines revealed an inclination for a grassroots-initiated and resident-owned café. Rich in collaborations with local actants that in outcome cultivate inclusive environments and diverse engagement.
News articles suggested that crime-related conflict is a central issue and that the perception of 'outsiders' was often negative. Most of the café stories branched outside of the scope of the local context and became meeting places for people all over Gothenburg.
They all emphasised how such a place could positively influence negative perceptions of Hammarkullen.
Characters from the previous workshop, played central parts in shaping café culture by frequent engagement and sharing skills and knowledge through resident organized activities. Fig. 37, illustrates a constellation of stories created, showing how the café becomes a place of community, collaboration, and belonging, challenging the outside perspective of Hammarkullen.

Information

Participants: 18

Duration: 2h

Date: 04/04/2025

Materials: *Paper, pens, glue, scissors*

Key-takeaways

Resident involvement

Café should provide plattform for resident influence and agency

Public ownership

Café should be supported by the public sector

Civil ownership

Café should be in civil ownership

Target group

Café should be targeting a wide demographics group, inclusive to all

Figure 36:

Curation of workshop two results

Figure 37:

Participant stories show how a café, deeply rooted in community and driven by resident involvement, gradually becomes a vital part of Hammarkullen's social fabric. Its programs, always evolving to meet local needs, ultimately create a platform for resident engagement that positively challenges outsiders' negative perceptions of the area.

Summary and reflection

:Key-takeaways and categories of evaluation

In summary, workshops conclude that in creating a place which feels allowed for a people to engage with, in and out of a lonely state, safety, variation of 'entry-point' to engagemeng, resident involvement and supporting envieronments for interaction are paramount. Following is a summary of workshop findings which derived what a such a place should encompass. It also develops the previous categories from the destination matrix, p.33-38, and adds a few new key key-takeaways to consider going forth as seen in fig.38.

Summary

The overarching theme of the workshops was resident involvement. Involving residents in organizational roles, inviting residents to hold activities, and promoting various 'entry-points' for engagement all contribute to community and to places that feel welcoming. Emphasis was put on how collaboration between various local actants promotes social cohesion and a stronger, more connected community.

To promote social interaction—especially important for people who are lonely or socially uncomfortable—the café should embody a few key characteristics. For one, it should allow for 'just being', not expecting visitors to engage in a specific activity. It should also allow groups to visit and to form. This, in the previous destination matrix categories, corresponds to 'group', 'individual', and 'non-structured activity' (Fig. 39).

The place should also be inclusive of all, not limited to a specific target group, although participants also emphasized the use of target-group-specific activities to reach particularly isolated groups.

In conclusion, the opportunity for organizing events directed at specific groups would increase the café's reach. They also identified how objects and themes can support engagement. In this work, these are labeled 'supporting actants.'

These actants support engagement in various ways, either by providing a distraction in conversation, such as a coffee mug or game, or by providing conversation topics, such as posters or events. Lastly, there was a strong preference for civil and grassroots ownership, wherein private ownership was viewed as too rigid and profit-driven and public ownership as occasionally limiting.Fig. 38. illustrates how safety is paramount to loneliness resilience.

Figure 38:

Reflection

The workshops were very productive in producing knowledge of loneliness and how a place could contribute to breaking one's isolation. Especially useful was the format of collaging and narrative construction. This allowed participants to distance themselves from this sometimes difficult topic and was emphasized throughout the workshops as both fun and engaging.

The workshops generally had a very loose format. This meaning that participants were free to interpret instructions and to take their own path with the materials they wanted to produce.

This worked in this group as they were very engaged in these questions and took great creative freedom in their creations. The most qualitative material was collected through ongoing conversations with the participant.

Adapted metrics for the Café

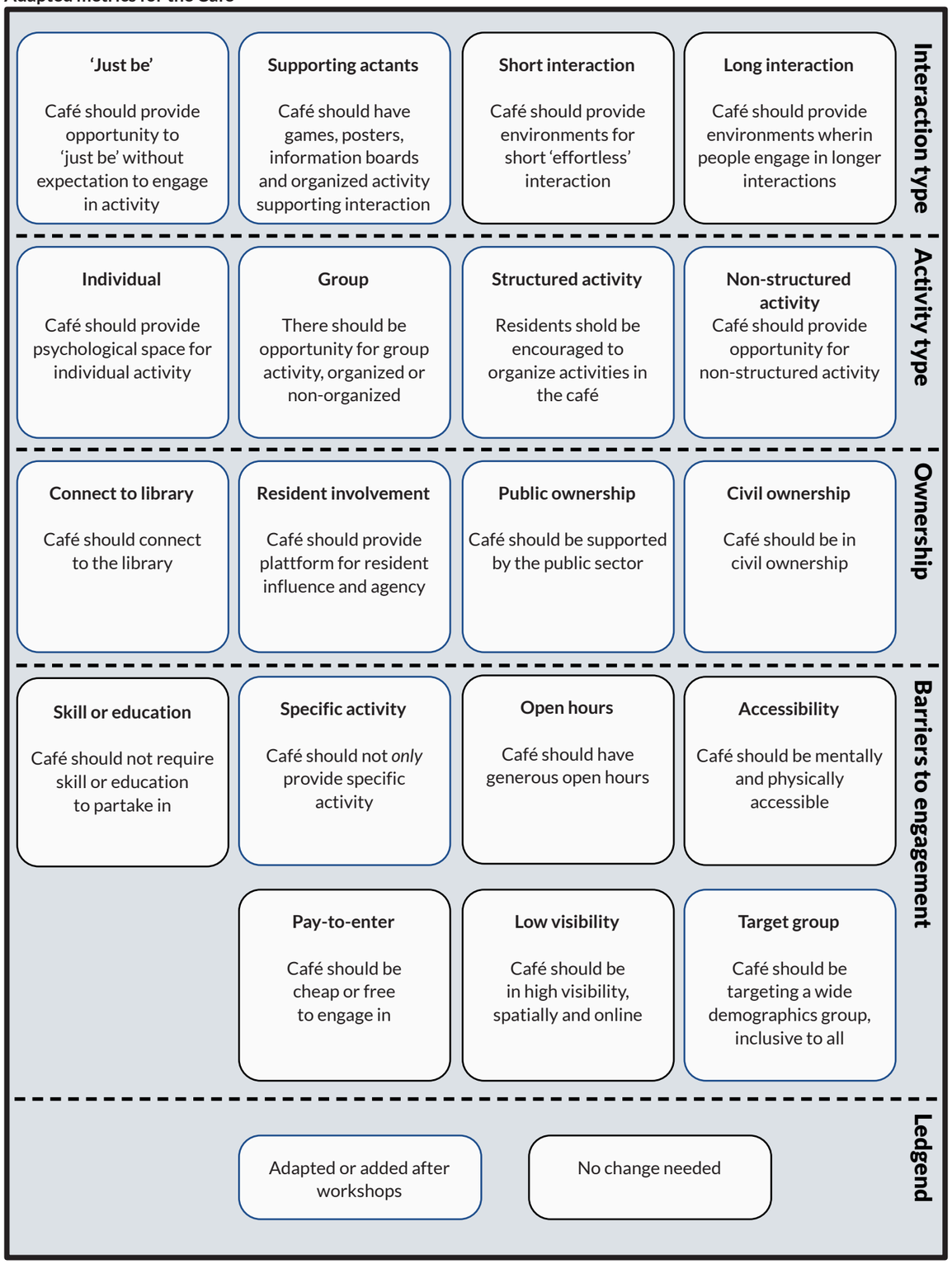


Figure 39:

Workshops provided nuance to the previously established evaluation criteria for the 'destination' of the café. They especially emphasized resident involvement, civil ownership, and inclusivity. They have been adapted for the later evaluation of the design translation (p. 69-71).

Design translation

Introduction
Assemblage to agencement
Spatial concepts
A story of co-creation
Projected outcome
Barriers and potentials to engagement
Loneliness resilience reflection

This chapter covers the suggested path foward to the café space in Folkets hus. It is a storytelling narrative of how various actions could lead to a community centered café.

Introduction

This chapter dives into a storytelling narrative and the various actions that could open up the café to become a place of community. The narrative is largely co-created through the workshops but is also heavily influenced by the relational and destination mappings of the context. The goal of this chapter is to inspire action and offer an alternative path to re-opening this café, a path wherein its maintenance is not dependent on profit, but rather on commoning practices and collaboration.

David Bollier, (2016), highlights the great potential of the commons in facing contemporary challenges and promoting ecologically sustainable and more humane societies. “Commoners are focused on reclaiming their ‘common wealth’, in both the material and political sense. They want to roll back the pervasive privatization and marketization of their shared resources—from land and water to knowledge and urban spaces—and reassert greater participatory control over those resources and community life.” - Bollier (2016), p.2.
Commons, or rather commoning practices, are forms of sharing, reciprocity, democratic organization and welfare (Petrescu & Trogal, 2017). This work views the café as a potential commons resource, and its activation and maintenance as acts of commoning.
In alignment with the practices of ‘spatial agents,’ this approach aims enable and empower others to engage in their environments in previously unavailable ways (Awan et al., 2013).
This is achieved by designing for agency, utilizing and activating local resources of knowledge and relationships, and actively incorporating platforms for citizen influence (Petrescu, 2012; Petrescu, 2016).
Inviting people to share in the production of conceived space and enabling more influence over the lived space promotes a more democratic and socially cohesive society (Lefebvre, 1991; Awan et al., 2013; Bollier, 2016).
Of course, this work is purely speculative in its thesis format and thus is rigid in its ability to provoke change. Responding to this limitation, the chosen format for this design suggestion is a narrative that illustrates the key identified actions which could activate this café. The storytelling format is a further expansion to the traditional role of the architect and an act of leveling agency in the architectural world (Doucet, 2022; Awan et al., 2013).
It is leveling in the sense that stories are accessible to anyone and, unlike inflexible architectural drawings, do not require past knowledge to decipher. Thus, storytelling is a method of reaching a wider public and inviting engagement with this work while also keeping the intricacies of the design’s shape undecided (Doucet, 2022). In conclusion, this proposal is not a design of a place, but rather a call for initiating a process to co-create this place and for it to become a place by and for its residents.

The story starts with an empty café space in Folkets Hus. In its physical attributes, the space holds all the necessary elements of a running café. What is missing is activity and people. So, how could this café become a ‘third place’ which contributes to mitigating loneliness, and what does the process to create such a place look like?

Café relationscape

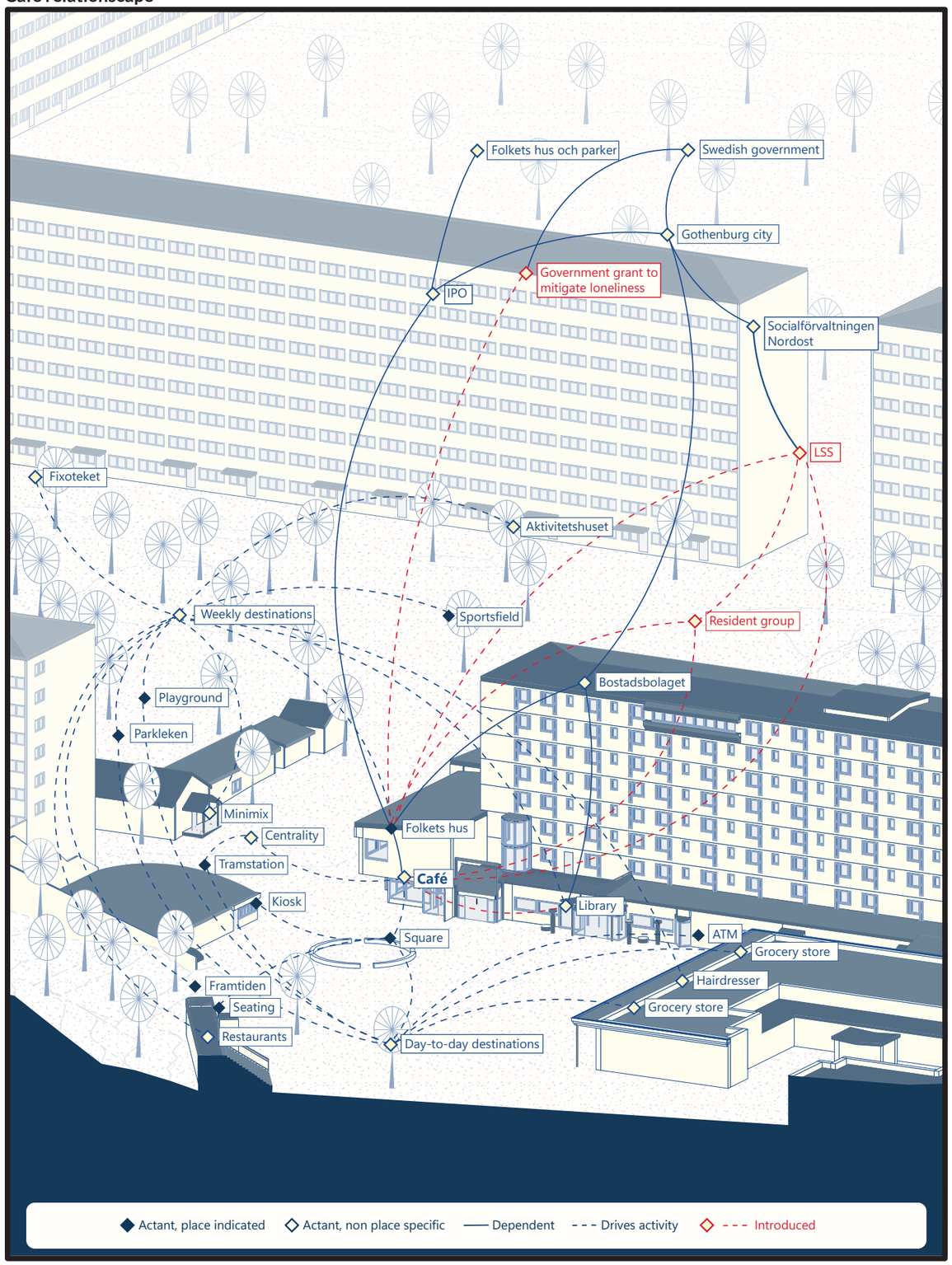


Figure 40:

The café today is centrally placed in Hammarkullen and supported by various actants driving activity or maintaining its function. Its closed due to economic difficulty and various attempts to re-open it have been done but to avail. This proposal adds actants to this assemblage, aiming to facilitate change in the system, nudging it from an assemblage to an agencement of social cohesion.

Assemblage to agencement

:Start by adding

Doina Petrescu in her writings on R-rurban describes how systems can be viewed as *assemblages* of actants. An assemblage describes *something* and can be used to understand complex realities, this approach is based in ANT theory, populized by Bruno Latour. Adding to this an assemblage can be or become an *agencement*, a system which is producing or changing something. Turning the café *assemblage* into an *agencement* which is producing change is the objective of the nextcoming pages.

Status quo

Today the café is owned by Bostadsbolaget and rented by Folkets hus. It is centrally located and connected to many actants of daily activity. Key actants are identified as; Bostadsbolaget who owns the building. Folkets hus renting the space and thereby holding agency over it. The adjacent library providing qualities as a place of high perceived belonging and allowance and Folkets hus och parker, acting as mediator between the larger public society and the civil local society. Four new actants are introduced in this assemblage as follows:

Architect --> Expert citizen of co-creation

LSS --> Run Café day-to-day

Residents --> Volunteer group

Grant --> Kick-starter

Figure 41:

Added actants

The architect is positioned as a facilitator of relationships and enabler of participation, guided by the principle that architecture can be a vehicle for social transformation (Petrescu et al., 2016; Awan et al., 2013). In this capacity, the architect would lead participatory processes, assist conflict navigation, amplify community voices, and propose spatial interventions.

LSS, a public organization supporting individuals with disabilities, is proposed to manage the café's daily operations through its existing activity programs. This is considered feasible due to LSS's history of similar collaborations and positive feedback from Folkets Hus och Parker about Folkets hus hosting them.
This also aligns with LSS's core value of promoting societal participation and would provide the café with financial resilience, as LSS programs are municipally funded (Socialstyrelsen, 2024a). Furthermore, this would reach a group at high risk of loneliness, the people within LSS care (Folkhälsomyndigheten, 2024).

A resident group and LSS participants would form a collective group, taking agency over the café's daily activities and maintenance. Residents' participation would be voluntary and time dedicated on their terms. The aim of this direct influence is to build strong community relationships and promote flexibility to meet local wants and needs. It is suggested this group be part of the Folkets Hus organization but operate independently from its larger-scale activities.

The government grant to mitigate loneliness, available to civil organizations provides the initial "kickstart" funding for renovations, activities, and community initiatives. An application in collaboration with LSS is more likely to be approved, as the grant prioritizes projects targeting people with disabilities, mental health difficulties, and other vulnerable social groups (Socialstyrelsen, 2024c).

Spatial concepts

Libraries are places of high perceived belonging (Jing, 2024; Lyu & Forsyth, 2022). Leveraging this relationship, the café space is connected to the adjacent public library (see Fig.42). This requires removing one wall and adding another to separate the café from vertical circulation, which employees primarily use. The entrance will also open to the public, with the locking function moved to an inner door. This creates a transition from the calm library to the more vibrant café, encouraging people to progressively gain comfort in engagement. Notably, shifting ownership of the passage to Folkets Hus would strengthen the grant application (Folkets Hus och Parker, personal communication, 25/3/2025). One room shifts use to an office for the LSS employees.

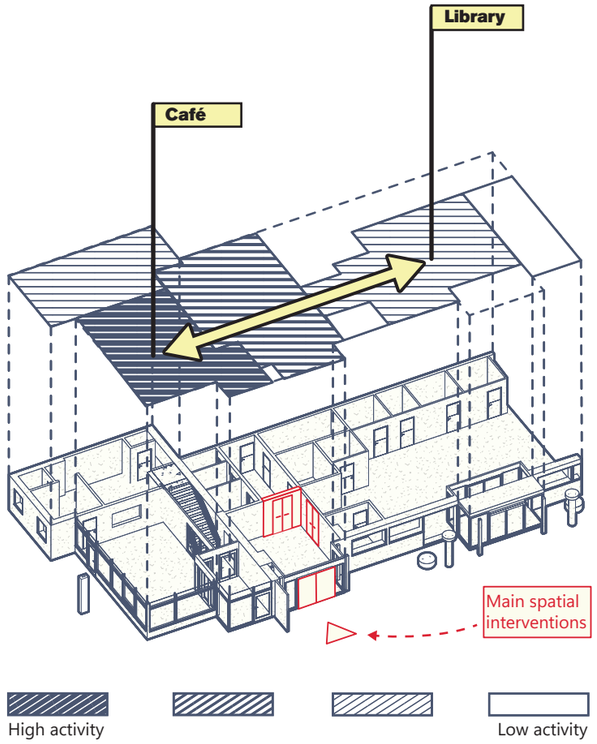
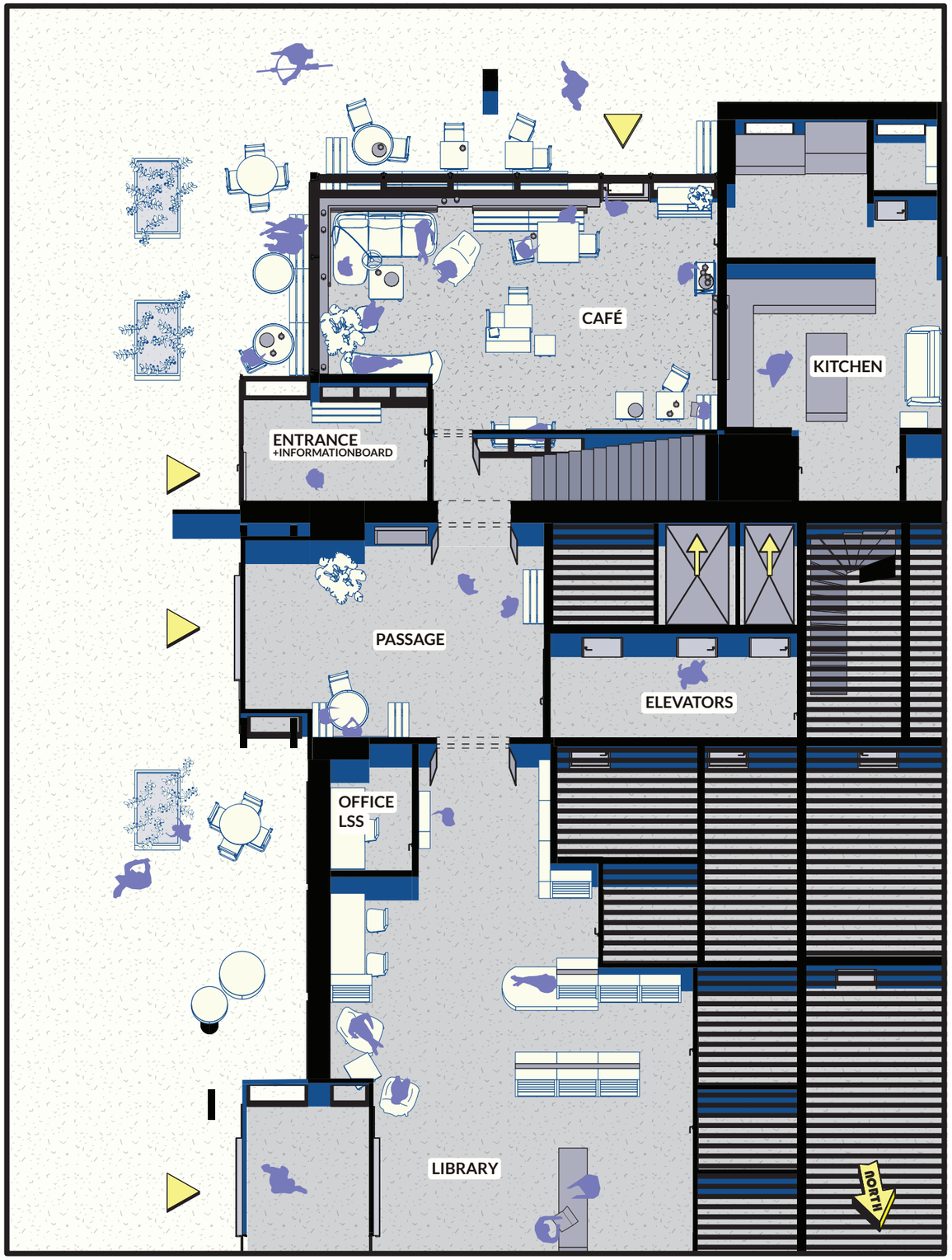


Figure 42:

Axonometric plan of Café



Axonometric floorplan after storyline plays out. The connection between the library and the Café promotes progressive engagement and perceived safety. This relationship was especially emphasizedz in workshops.

A story of co-creation

The story of the café begins with Folkets hus encouraging residents to get involved. For this, they collaborate with Bostadsbolaget and Hyresgäst-föreningen to reach people through their respective media platforms. Then, meetings are held with all relevant actants.
Together, they problem-solve, divide responsibilities, create programming, and plan the incorporation of the LSS. Thereafter, the grant application, constructed in collaboration with all involved actants, is submitted.
Once approved, community appropriation days are organized, allowing the local community to collectively shape their new café.
During this stage, the architect acts as a facilitator for co-creation and an expert advisor on spatial questions. When the café opens, a community celebration is held.

What is done...

	Local actants		Architect
1.	Folkets hus markets for residents to join.	-->	Supports in reaching diverse groups.
2.	Meetings are held planning the process.	-->	Participates in problemsolving.
3.	Application for grant is submitted.	-->	Argues for social impact of café.
4.	Co-building days are organized.	-->	Supports co-creation and applies expertice.
5.	Celebration is held opening the café.	-->	Joins celebration!
6.	Café is now a staple in Hammarkullen.		

Figure 44:

Rallying interest

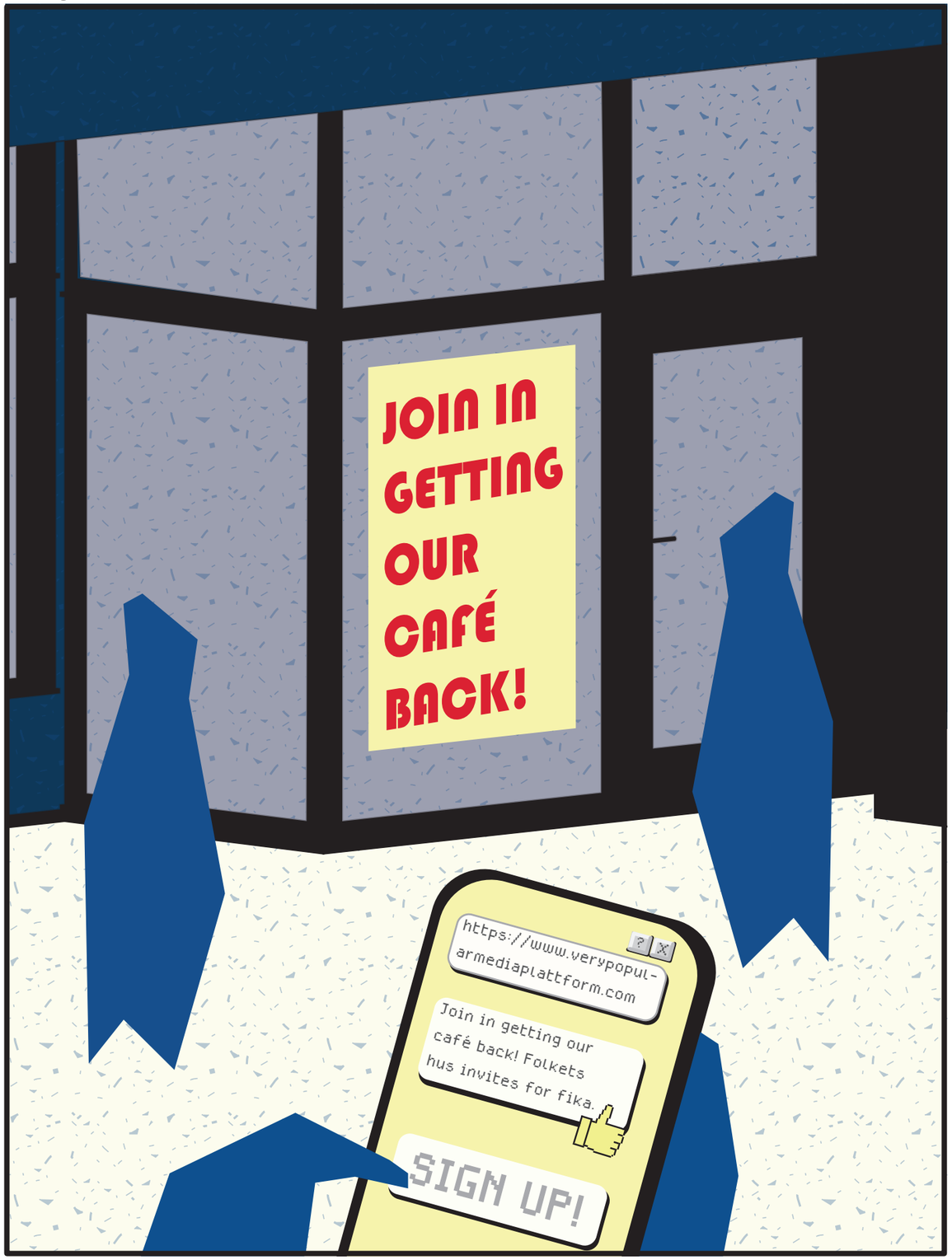


Figure 45:

Folkets Hus and Bostadsbolaget recruited residents for the Café group, promoting shared ownership by early involvement in the process. Residents, as experts on their own lived reality, provide insights and voice concerns that might otherwise be overlooked (Awan et al., 2013; Petrescu et al., 2016). This involvement democratizes the café's development (Abrahamsson & Hansson, 2022).

Figuring out the 'how'

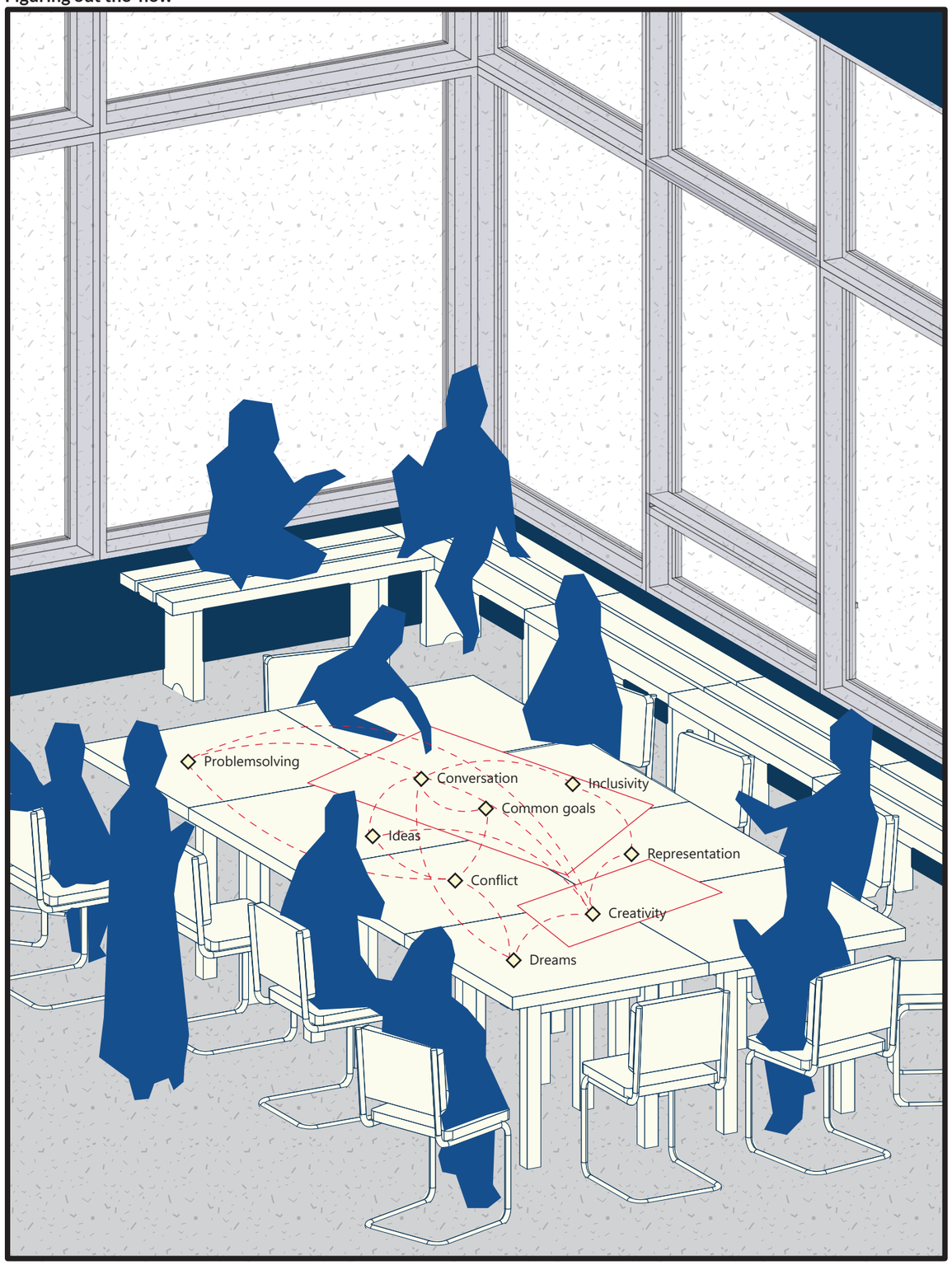


Figure 46:

A series of meetings is held to start the collaboration. The concept is that by collectively solving the challenges of starting the café, resources in terms of materials, relationships, and local knowledge reveal themselves in the process and conflicts are lifted and resolved early (Petrescu et al., 2016).

Application for grant

Figure 47:

An application is submitted for a government grant to mitigate loneliness, a shared enterprise among all involved actants. In this step, the architect plays the crucial role of a spatial and social expert, arguing for why this specific place and process are effective in mitigating loneliness (Awan et al., 2013).

Co-building days

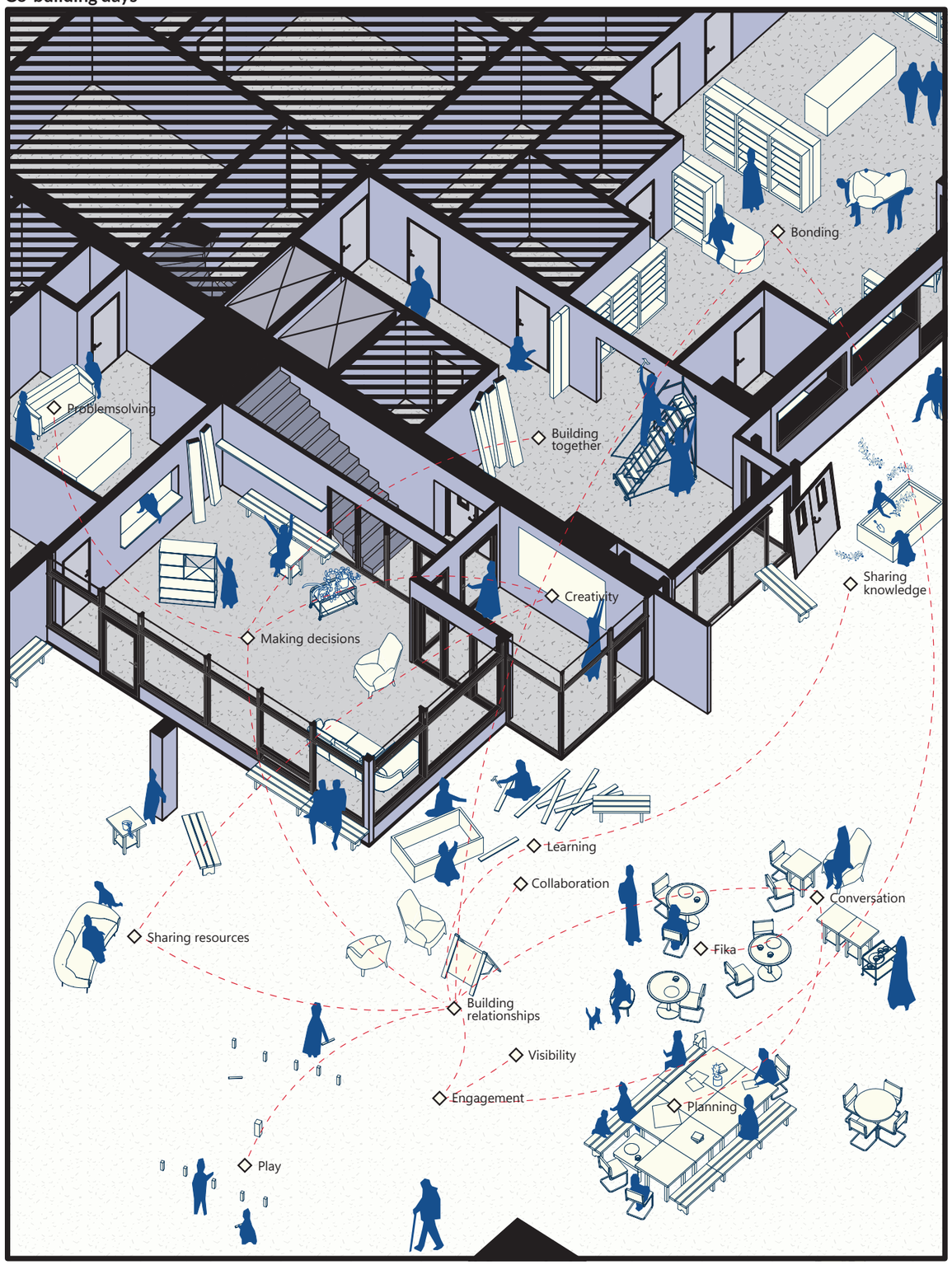


Figure 48:

Co-building days are held involving local actors and residents outside of the direct organizing group. This promotes the building of social networks, community, collective efficacy and attachment to the café by placemaking (Petrescu et al., 2020; Wates & Knevitt, 1987).

Celebrating creation!

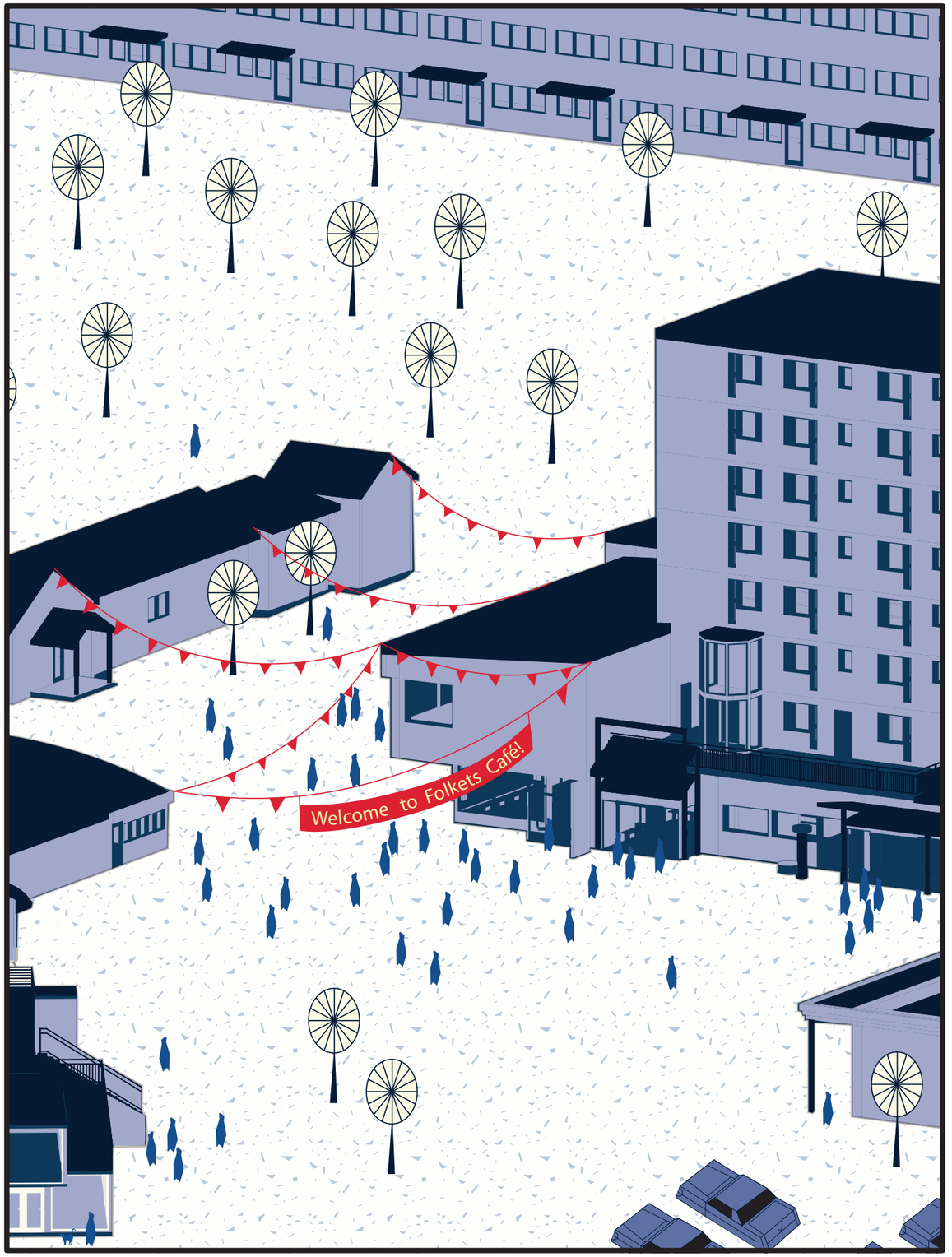


Figure 49:

On the grand opening day, people from all over Gothenburg will come to celebrate. The opening of the café should be a community-wide celebration, as the act of showing and sharing pride in a collective effort builds community and a shared identity tied to both the café and Hammarkullen (Abrahamsson & Hansson, 2022; Focus group, personal communication, March 28, 2025).

Projected outcome

:Unknowns and
agency (re-)distribution

Despite the construction of this story following a rigid step-by-step programme, the intention is for any action regarding the café to be non-assuming of rigid outcome.
Imagining each step as holding potentials for unknowns and assuming the involvement of people in its creation, the idea is that conditions are formed for empowerment. By rather welcoming the unknown and adapting to unforeseen opportunities and conflicts, the trajectory of this story most likely would play out very differently in reality (Petrescu et al., 2016). Imagining the steps of the story as actants on their own in the neighborhood assemblages, their introduction forms a kind of deterritorialization, inviting residents to shape their environment and challenging top-down shaping of public space and thus becoming parts of agencements in constant iteration and development (Adkins, 2015; Petrescu et al., 2016; Awan et al., 2013).

Agency (re-)distribution

The projection is that instating a resident group over the daily activity in the café becomes more grounded in local communities and cultures. By separating the day-to-day tasks of the Café from the daily activities of Folkets Hus and its staff, activity in the Café can be more responsive to local wants and needs.
Meanwhile, Folkets Hus employees, who have a lot on their plate from running Folkets Hus, can take a more overseeing role. This suggestion is supported by interviews that emphasized the importance of flexibility in grassroots and civil organizations in terms of resident involvement and connection (Folkets Hus och Parker, personal communication, March 25, 2025).

Although the resident group is instated alongside the LSS, the ownership over the physical space and responsibility of maintenance stays with Folkets Hus, Bostadsbolaget, and the library. This promotes resilience over time as the resident group may fluctuate in engagement and in people's available time.
Should the resident group disperse, Folkets Hus can initiate a new group. Should the economic situation change, or larger investments be needed, Folkets Hus, Bostadsbolaget, and Folkets Hus och Parker hold the available connections, knowledge, and potential funds to support the Café long-term.

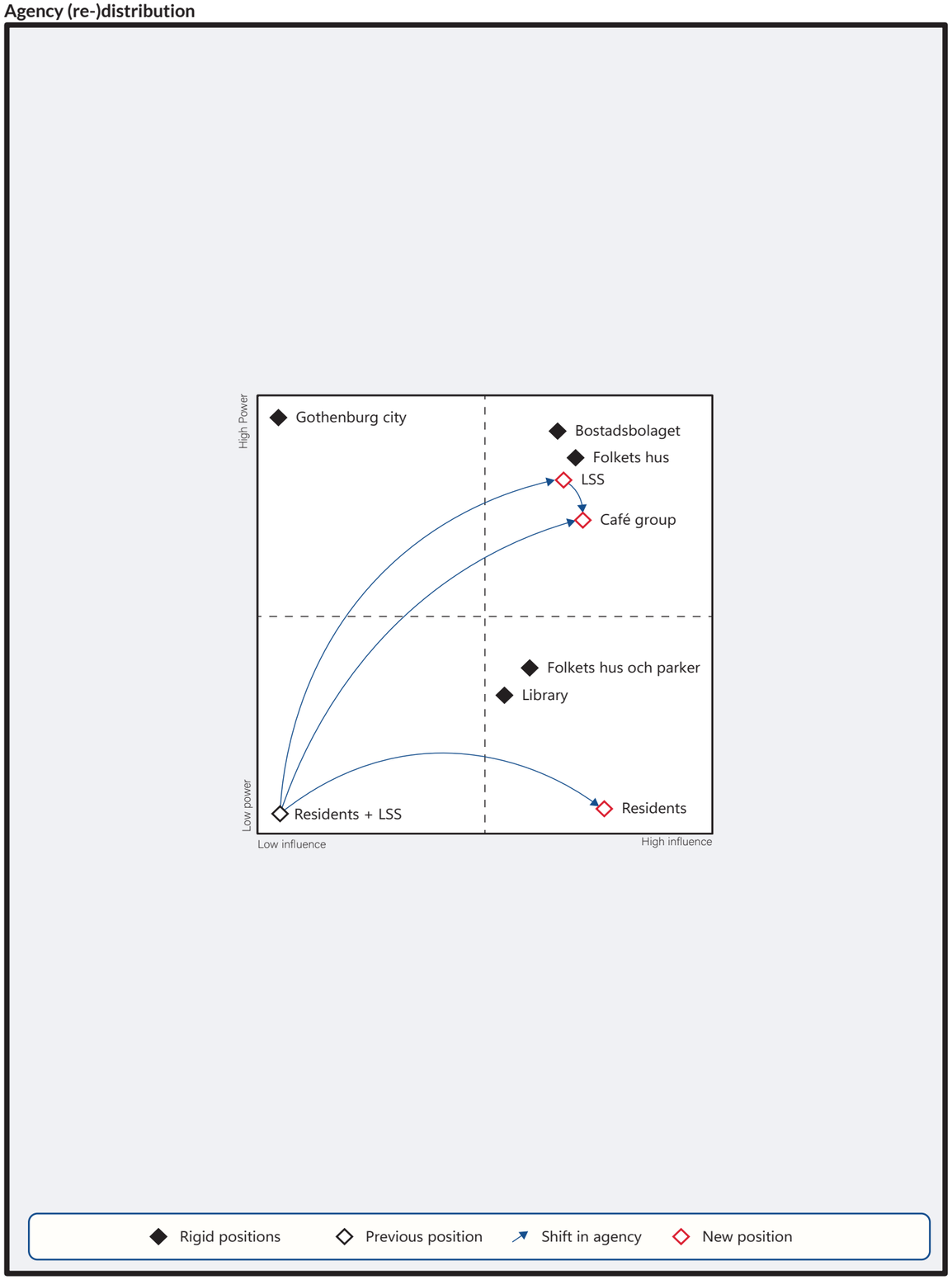
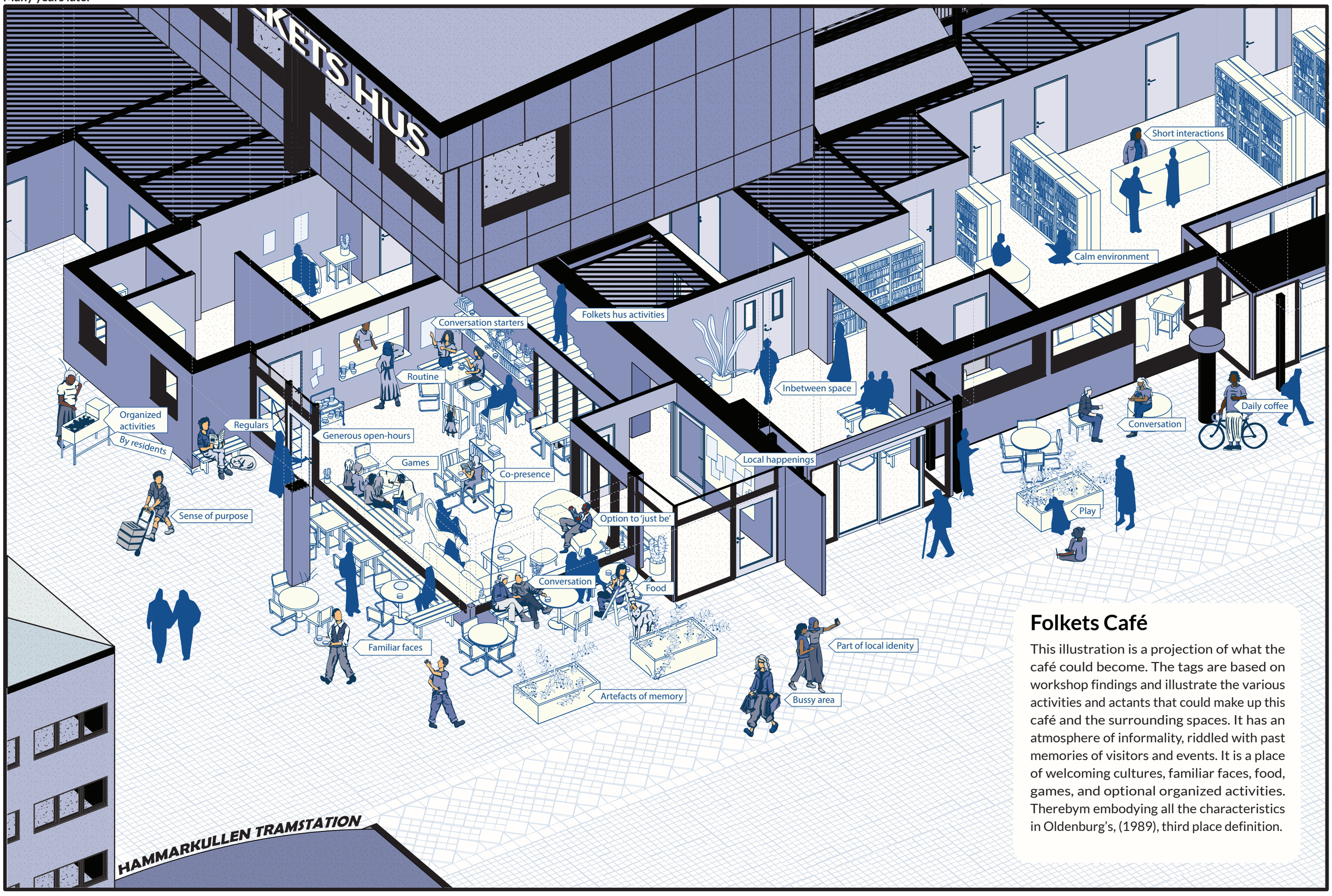


Figure 50:

The process promotes shared ownership, but the key lies in ongoing maintenance and resident influence through the resident group and the LSS. Involving residents in maintenance and activity organization gives them a platform of influence, enabling the café to become a place of social commons, democracy, community, and resilience (Abrahamsson & Hansson, 2022; Bollier, 2016; Petrescu, 2012).

Chapter: Design translation

Many years later



Folkets Café

This illustration is a projection of what the café could become. The tags are based on workshop findings and illustrate the various activities and actants that could make up this café and the surrounding spaces. It has an atmosphere of informality, riddled with past memories of visitors and events. It is a place of welcoming cultures, familiar faces, food, games, and optional organized activities. Therebym embodying all the characteristics in Oldenburg's, (1989), third place definition.

Figure 51:

Projected outcome

:Barriers and potentials to engagement

This section reflects on the potential outcome of the café against the metrics developed over the course of this work, fig.52. The result indicates that the café could become a place meeting the need for meetingplaces to mitigate loneliness, and that it embodies characteristics of a third place (Folkhälsomyndigheten, 2025; Oldenburg, 1890). Following is an analysis of the projected result.

Approach

The metrics were derived throughout this work and the estimate to their was derived by reasoning around the various positives and negatives to the café.

Analysis

The café is in civil agency, this was identified in workshops as paramount to developing a meeting place that is resilient over time and has the capacity to meet residents' needs. It also fosters a democratic society and social cohesion (Abrahamsson & Hansson, 2022; Sveriges kommuner och landsting, n.d; Petrescu et al., 2020).

The café has low barriers to engagement, though some persist, these include:

Pay-to-enter: As a café requiring an income, the need to purchase something is a potential barrier. This, however, is countered by Folkets Hus' stated 'openness,' wherein anyone is welcome to be in the space when it is open.

Accessibility: Accessibility may become a barrier in the café's creation due to budget limitations. This could limit engagement from the LSS, as some people under their care require specific spatial support.

Open hours: While the café has generous open hours, it is not always available.

Specific activities: The café will most likely organize activities, and due to its limited space, this could create a barrier to general engagement at those times.

The café is inclusive, being open to anyone to visit. This inclusivity is further promoted by the incorporation of the LSS (Socialstyrelsen, 2024a).

The café provides the opportunity to build weak- and strong-tie relationships and to 'just be'. This stems from available opportunities for both long and short interaction, and in providing an environment that allows for 'non-engagement' if wished. These factors all promote resilience to loneliness and lower barriers to engagement for those who feel socially uncomfortable (Workshops, personal communication, 3/28/2025; Uchihira et al., 2023).

Residents are involved in shaping the café, as they are invited to participate in both its creation and maintenance. This makes the café a 'commons' and promotes 'commoning,' which strengthens social cohesion, builds community, and thus also contributes to building interpersonal relationships (Petrescu et al., 2020; Bollier, 2016). Providing roles of responsibility also engages people who are socially insecure (Uchihira et al., 2023).

Provides a variety 'entrypoints' to community, the café is filled with anecdotal objects, traces of activity, posters of events, and various other conversation-starting actants. It also encompasses programs shaped by the resident group and thus likely provides an array of 'entrypoints' to engagement. These all contribute to a varied environment where different kinds of relationship-building activities take place (Oldenburg, 1890).

Café evaluation, loneliness potentials

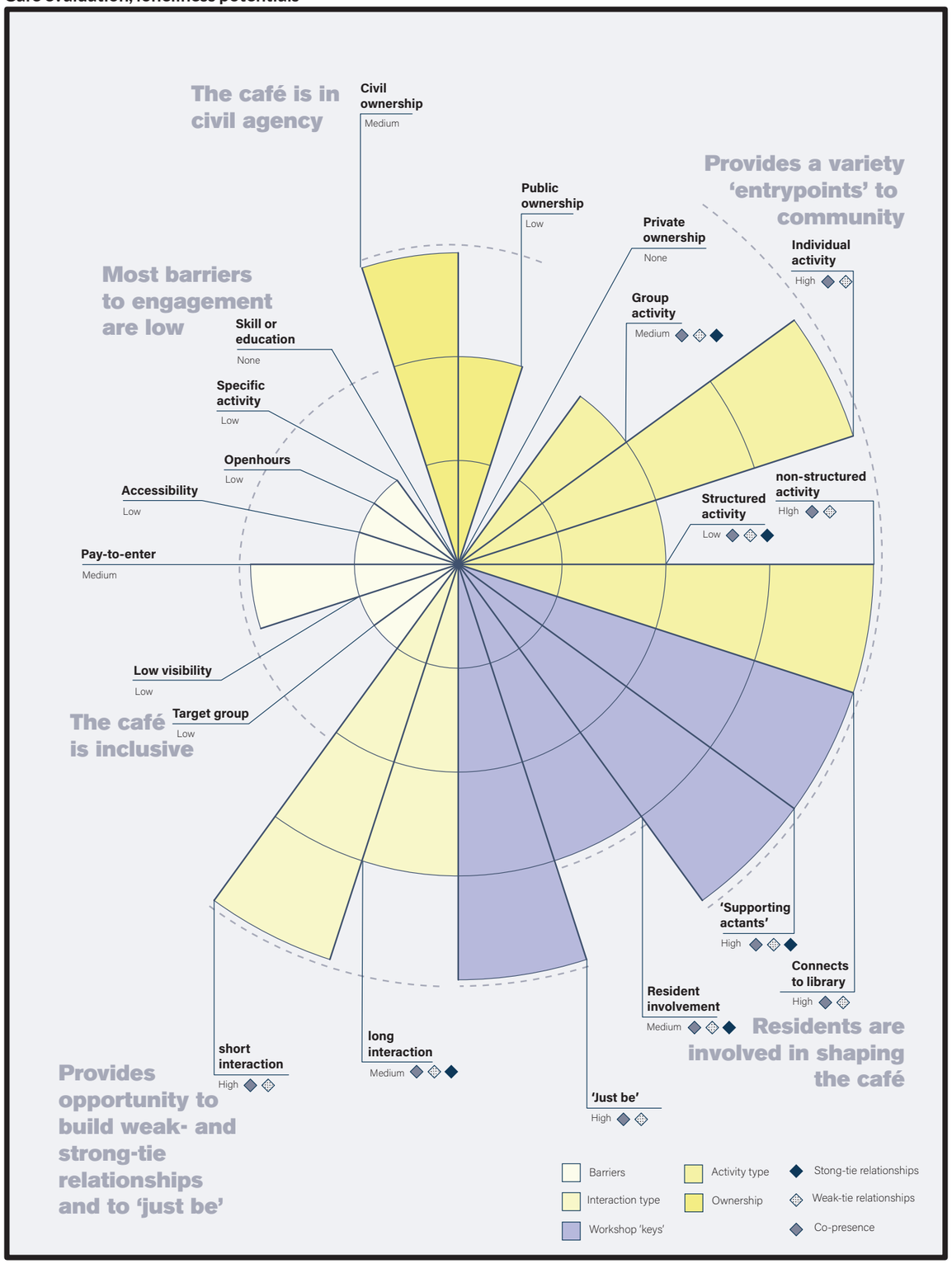


Figure 52:

The diagram above illustrates the café's inherent barriers, social environments, and reach to the various categories identified through this work. Colour indicates the categories' presence. Generally, it holds low barriers to engagement and high potential for building strong- and weak-tie relationships and co-presence, all contributing to mitigating loneliness and increasing resilience to it.

Resilience to loneliness framwork

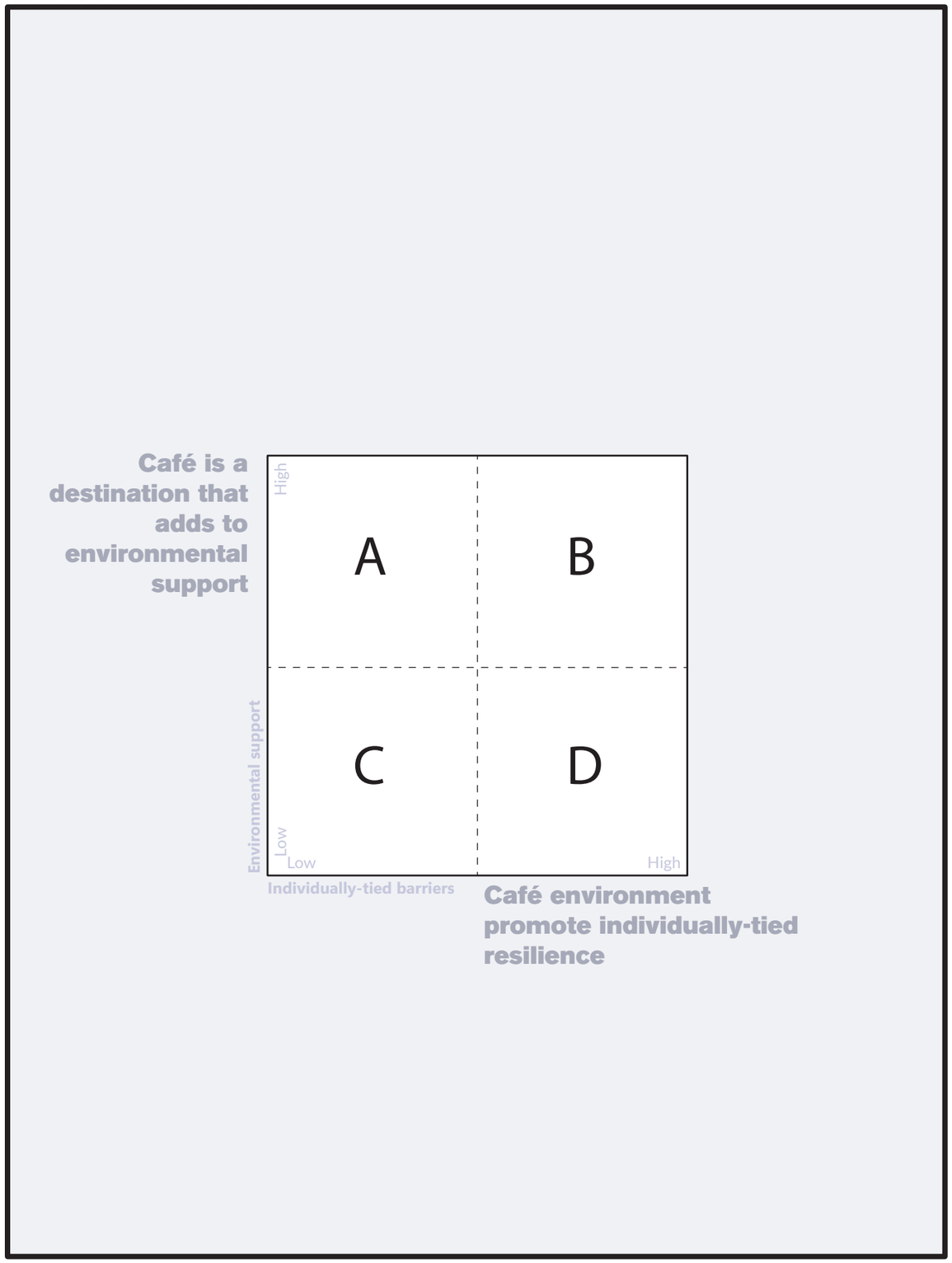


Figure 53:

Viewing resilience as both individually and environmentally tied opens a door to talk about neighborhood destinations promoting resilience on both scales. This café, in this case, could contribute to both.

Loneliness resilience

:What does this café do to neighborhood resilience to loneliness?

The café adds a destination to Hammarkullen, this strengthens the local resources availiable and its characteristics, as detailed in the previous page, promotes various opportunities for relationship building (Lyu & Forsyth, 2022).
Thus the café increases resilience to loneliness on a neighborhood scale and supports various individuals to themselves counter loneliness or build resilience to it by developing their social abilities, meeting people and building social networks (Uchihira et al., 2023). More can be read about the framework in page 16.

Analysis

A and C: People in this category need supporting places and spaces to build social ability, confidence, self esteem and social connections. The addition of the café upens up realms for needed interactions to these regards. Safety in social engagement and opportunitu to 'just be' are especially important for these people (Workshops, personal communication, 28/3/2025; Workshops, personal communication, 4/4/2025)

B and D: People in these categories are not particularily vulnerable to loneliness although also benefit from a place wherin they can counter loneliness when experienced. They are likely to seek connection on their own and thus this café is supporting but in lower need. They however very much contribute to social the social environment and are important for the café to become a place of vibrancy. (Workshops, personal communication, 3/28/2025; Workshops, personal communication, 4/4/2025)

Discussion

This chapter reflects on the results of this work and discusses the role of the architect in producing social change.

Discussion

This thesis sets out to answer the research questions: How can networks of relations and participation inform the design of a locally anchored, socially accessible third place? And how can alternative architectural approaches contribute to loneliness resilience? Resilience being the capacity of an individual to counter loneliness and localities ability to support social engagement contributing to this countering.

Purpose and approach

The purpose of this work was to highlight the societal challenge of loneliness and to suggest that architects can be active contributors to its solution by identifying and implementing relevant interventions.
This is achieved by extending the role of the architect to approach contexts through their relations, existing conditions, and the shared production of space through participation.
The aim was to explore how local spatial and social systems shape residents' opportunities to build social networks and to co-create a design outcome.
The study focuses on the context of Hammarkullen, Gothenburg, Sweden.
To establish an understanding of the locality's social fabric relative to its social environments and loneliness, this thesis applied a mixed-methods approach. The result is a storytelling narrative of a socially accessible, community-centered third place created by actant collaboration and resident involvement.

Results

How can networks of relations and participation inform design? The results indicate that alternative architectural approaches can yield knowledge relevant to the loneliness issue and, in the process, reveal potentials for implementing context-sensitive solutions.
The results also indicate that participation can be an effective tool in understanding the subjective nature of loneliness.
Moreover, participation builds relationships between people and design outcomes, wherein participants are empowered to act as expert citizens and take ownership of the architectural process. Thus, through this process, participation also contributes to loneliness resilience.

The results suggest that third places made for and by residents can be effective arenas to mitigate loneliness by lowering barriers to engagement. They do this by promoting the kinds of supporting social environments needed for people to engage in community life and feel a sense of belonging to place and others.
By engaging with a context's existing relational dynamics and enabling resident agency, the architect can help strengthen social fabrics. Therefore, the primary finding is not simply that third places can mitigate loneliness, but that the co-creative process of making them builds the social capacity to do so.

Reactive and proactive action is needed. The results indicate that while reactive solutions for acute loneliness are paramount, the most impactful role for architecture is in the proactive building of a resilient social infrastructure that prevents loneliness from taking root.
This follows from the understanding that an individual's experience of loneliness is inherently influenced by learned social abilities, sense of identity, and self-esteem. Thus, who we are as people affects our capacity to counter loneliness when it is presented—our resilience to loneliness. Therefore, this work concludes that to mitigate loneliness, society must provide sufficient support for experiences that build our abilities and self-perception.

Methodological takeaways and future efforts

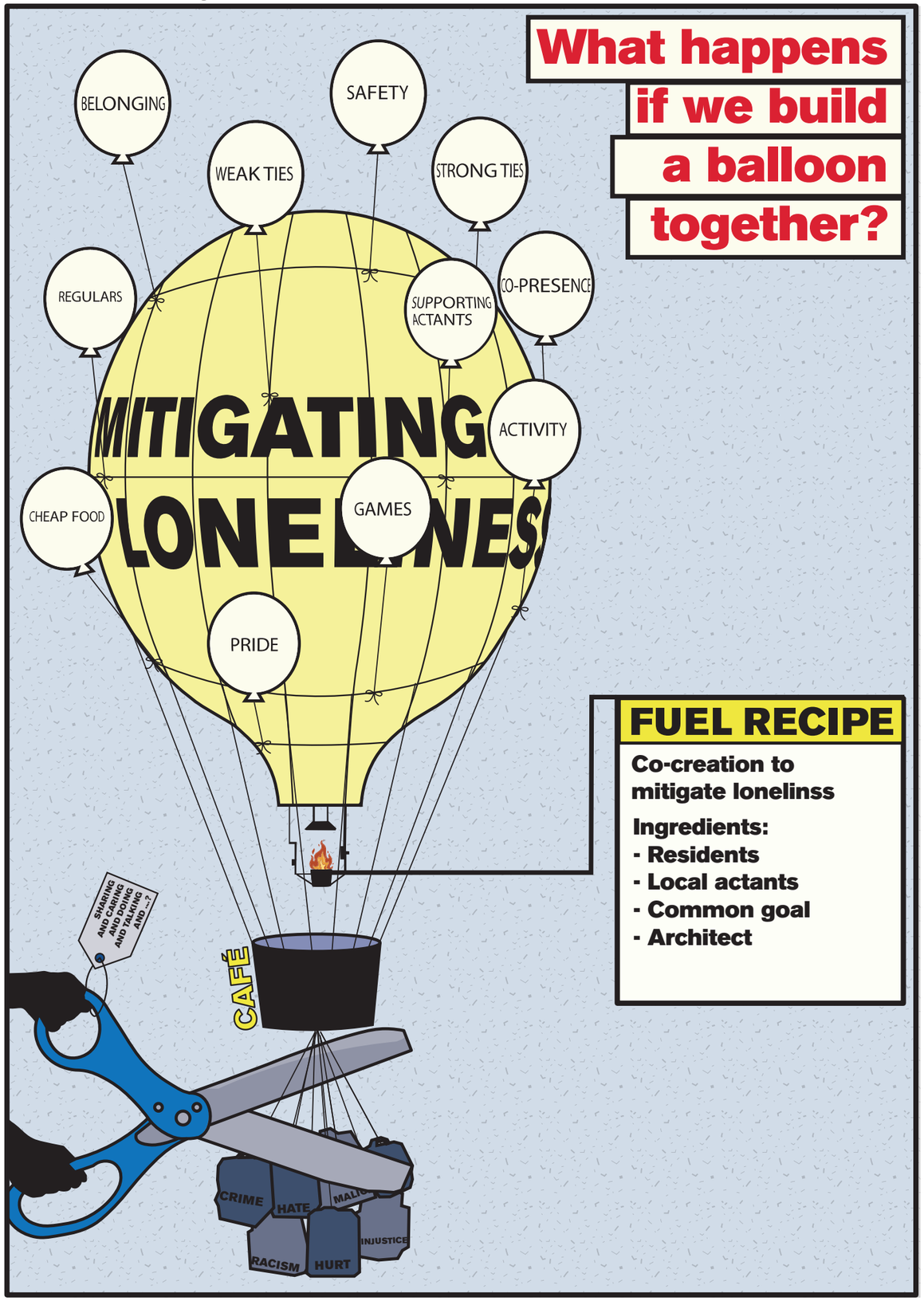
Destination Mapping. This work constructed a framework for evaluating social opportunities in localities by analyzing destinations' perceived social environments and barriers to engagement.
Because the social environment mapping was initially determined by the author, its conclusions should be seen as an interpretation. One that requires resident validation to be considered a definitive representation. This approach, however, could be a path forward for architects to argue for their role in identifying arenas for intervention and, if applied to several contexts, could be a metric for evaluating what and where interventions are needed. In future efforts, this mapping should be conducted directly with residents and ideally in collaboration with the human sciences.

Participation and Storytelling. Further, narratives and storytelling were especially valuable in workshops for deconstructing the subjective and vulnerable nature of loneliness. Narratives and fiction were applied to separate participants' own experiences from the discussions, thus easing conversation despite its sensitive nature. This proved to be a good method, as participants enjoyed the practice and it gave a lot of insight into the thematic issue without discomfort.
Storytelling further allowed for creative shaping of results, empowering participants to shape the projection of their work and often leading them to deviate from initially stated objectives towards specific narratives or aspects of loneliness they felt were important.
Although this work argues for participatory processes, it must be stated that participation was rather top-down in the practice of this work.
Ideally, participation involves shaping both question and answer with participants, but due to time constraints and the selected topic, their influence on the initial research question was omitted. However, efforts were made to extend agency to participants by actively inviting them to shape coming workshops and take creative freedom during the process.

'Supporting Actants'. This thesis identifies 'supporting actants'—the human and non-human elements, such as people, organizations, objects, or ideas, that shape a situation—as contributors to comfortable interactions. These can be anything from a topic to a board game to a cup of coffee.
But what they all share is the opportunity for distraction or conversation topics in interactions. These make building relationships easier and thus play a vital role in mitigating loneliness. Supporting actants are thus a potential area of future research.

From third places to third place characteristics.
Though this work looks at the potential of a third place in mitigating loneliness, the characteristics of the third place are what hold the most value to the issue. This is especially true regarding welcoming atmospheres, available 'supporting actants,' interaction, and the third-place embodiment of community, belonging, and 'just being.'
Recognizing that opportunities to interact are key to building personal social networks, and that these opportunities are tied to the characteristics of the third place. Following this thesis asks: Could the characteristics of the third place be applied in other parts of the daily life of people? Could a workplace, a school, and a housing complex also provide these characteristics and spread the opportunities to a wider range of people's lives? This work encourages future efforts in this field to investigate this potential.

Conceptualization of design translation



The cafés role in mitigating loneliness in Hammarkullen.

Figure 54:

Interviews were applied as a complement to knowledge of both the local context and the core themes.
Interviews with people identifying themselves as lonely served as a complement to other efforts in the work.
Interviews were conducted on a mix of platforms but mainly online while playing games.
The games served as a 'buffer' to conversing about vulnerable topics, and this work thus emphasizes the use of gaming in such interviews.

Final reflections

The expanded role of the architect. This work argues for an expanded role of the architect, wherein the architect acts with and on behalf of others within a locality's relational systems and measures the outcome in produced social value.
In this, loneliness was the subject of challenge, but the argumentation in essence is much broader than that.
This work argues that by expanding the role of architecture and extending the production of architecture to end-users, results can become more locally anchored and more efficient in producing a socially sustainable society.
With these approaches, architecture becomes an actant in addressing contemporary social issues. Specific to loneliness, this is a challenge to which governmental bodies are calling for all of society to contribute. I would like to argue that architecture is a natural actant in this issue and that it is a space we as a discipline should claim for our practice.

A personal reflection on empathy in practice.
Loneliness is natural to human experience; it is not something to be afraid of, nor ashamed of. But it lies in our being to treat it as a threat to our existence. In this, I want to add the somewhat contradictory reflection of how positive working with such a negative subject has been, particularly in interactions with people.
This follows from the understanding that despite loneliness being a societal problem reaching global and national scales, it inherently needs to be solved in the meeting of others—whether it is a person suffering from loneliness seeking meaningful connection or it is an architect mobilizing collective efficacy.
By "meeting," I do not simply mean physical presence in a space but rather refer to seeing the person in front of you. Seeing is larger than the physical, objective view; it is about adopting their state to one's own, hearing their conflicts, empathizing with their needs, and ultimately positioning yourself in another's shoes.
In this, my greatest (developing) skill applied through this work has been reflective listening and empathy.
This work consisted of many meetings with others: people representing organizations, 'fire souls' sharing their passion for change, and in interviews with people who dared to share their experience of loneliness.
These parts of the work have become fundamental in understanding the local context and the theme of loneliness.
Without these meetings, the search for solutions would have been conducted in despair. In this, I conclude that listening and seeing are crucial to the toolkit of the architect.

Ending note

Lastly, I want to end this work by calling out for anyone reading it to extend their knowledge of loneliness, and to architects reading this work to consider what they could contribute within their practice.
This is a challenge that requires a wide set of interventions to be countered, well beyond the scope of implementing third places and architecture itself.
Everyday we meet others; everyday we have an opportunity to make a difference. In terms of the discipline, we as architects can leverage this issue in negotiations and lean on the objectives of the government in finding solutions.
I call on all architects reading this work to consider where and when this could be used to create a socially sustainable, less lonely society.

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Literary references
Figure references
AI account

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AI account.

AI was used in production of one image in the collage for workshop 02. The image of two men shaking hands. Prompt to ChatGPT: “Make a realistic image of two people shaking hands, make one a busieness man. Their whole bodies should be visible and they should look happy”.

AI assistance tool was used in grammar and spelling checks, not for generating text.

Appendix

Actant index 1-4
Destination data. 5-6
Workshop details and results 7-15

Actant index

Actants have been collected through the thesis process by observation, mappings, conversations, interviews and documents. Actants presented are those deemed to be most relevant to loneliness in the context and those who involved interviews or other engagement are presented first. Those marked by a star mark (*) are included in the following destination evaluation.
Non-referenced material is derived from obervation.

Folkets hus*

Folkets hus is a civil organization initiated in 1978 through grassroot movements. In 1986 they built their "house of the people", or Folkets hus in Swedish, which is a meeting place for culture and democracy. They provide spaces that can be rented, art exhibitions, dance shows, support for people seeking work and house many local organizations through the spaces they provide (Folkets hus Hammarkullen, 2009). Folkets hus are their own organization, composed of and owned by residents and local actors but are also members of Folkets hus och parker, a national civil organization. The largest owner today is HAMSAM, or the carnival (Socialförvaltningen, personal communication, 13/2/2025). Folkets hus is a key actant in the local community, both by the spaces they provide, activities organized and their relationships with the public sector.

Bostadsbolaget

Manages and owns most rental buildings in Hammarkullen and is a company owned by Gothenburg city. As Hammarkullen is considered one of the most socio-economically exposed areas of Gothenburg, Bostadsbolaget takes on a larger role of supporting and sustaining efforts in the neighborhood than a regular rental company generally would. They further hold strong relationships with local civic organizations, particularly Folkets hus (Folkets hus och parker, personal communication, 24/2/2025).

LSS

The LSS helps people of varying physical and mental ability in need of support to live full meaningful lives. They provide "daily activity" which often is in collaboration with various actants of society. Public, private and civil.
They are positively positioned towards involving their practice in Hammarkullen and especially emphasize the positives which such a collaboration could entail both for the people in their own organization and the neighborhood.

For their daily activity practice to function they need office space for employees and preferably a bathroom solely for their use. Although the latter is not entirely necessary but when absent limits the range of people of need, they can deploy in practice. They further emphasize the need for knowledge regarding people of need when proposing collaboration (LSS, personal communication, 2/5/2025).

Library*

The library was initiated through Folkets hus, which provided reading events with residents which started a grassroots movement to provide a library to the kids of Hammarkullen. The library eventually was funded by Gothenburg city and run by Folkets hus for many years. It also played a part in the culture of civil organization, shaping the identity of Hammarkullen, when at one point it was threatened to close but due to residents protests it remained open and was instead renovated (Hansson, 2018). The library today has trouble with youth and kids on occasion spending their free time hanging out in their spaces following Minimix, Parkleken, or Mixgården being closed, causing loud noise levels.

Folketshus och parker

A national civil organization aims to foster resilience, build democracy and facilitate meeting places for culture, discussions and wellbeing (Folkets hus och parker, personal communication, 24/2/2025). They are a member organization and support various initiatives around the country in amongst others, finances, mitigating conflict, supporting collaborations and applying for funds. They are very important for Folkets hus, representing them in negotiations. Especially of emphasis are their contribution in forming Folkets hus IOP and rental agreements with Bostadsbolaget. During the interview they emphasized the need for any efficient civil organization to be flexible to residents' wants and needs. Demographic representation in leading positions and diverse "low hanging" activities attached to meeting places to mitigate loneliness. Meaning activities that can adapt quickly to wants, are simple in their execution and resident informed or led.

Socialförvaltningen Nordost

Socialförvaltningen is a part of Gothenburg city and is involved in various actors in the neighborhood. Key to their organizational form is their task of doing initial analysis of contexts prior to detail planning and their role of supporting cultural activities and local organization. This division of agency is rare in municipal organizations and provides opportunities for ongoing support. Moreover, they are responsible for education, elderly care and functions such as the LSS. Interviewee emphasized the need for "ear to the ground" personnel to anchor their practices in localities wants and needs along the problematics and positives of detail planning on one hand bringing in economic power to neighborhoods and on the other often risking loss of valuable social hubs due to gentrification, insufficient transference of information or poor mappings of informalities (LSS, personal communication, 2/5/2025).

Nätverksträffen*

Nätverksträffen is a grassroot organized group aiming to foster collaboration between actors in the neighborhood. They meet about once every two weeks in an open meeting where anyone can join. The meeting structure consists of each actor presenting their ongoing work and the group discusses future activities, goals and issues regarding Hammarkullen. Recently they have adopted a more proactive role in the neighborhood concerning the area of 'Gröna Gatan' (illustrated on p.21). In the meeting attended, discussions of collaborations and potential paths towards developing this area along strengthening the local communities were plentiful. Overall, they serve as a platform of collecting voices, together forming a stronger agency of influence.

Folkets hus IOP

The IOP is a form of collaboration agreement between public and civil sector both in terms of economic support but also in efforts towards common goals (Gothenburg city, 2025). Folkets hus is economically dependent on their IOP agreement with Gothenburg city, yearly receiving a little under 1,8 million SEK from Socialförvaltningen, Idrotts-och föreningsförvaltningen, and Bostadsbolaget to support their operations (Cisja et al., 2024). The IOP saved folkets hus from bankruptcy during the covid 19 pandemic and was initiated by Folkets hus och Parker representing Folkets hus in legal support (Folkets hus och parker, personal communication, 24/2/2025).

Fixoteket*

Place for trading things, fixing what is broken our could be improved, learning, and building. Fixoteket often collaborate with other actants in the neighborhood (Fryk, 2020) and was built by local residents tied to Chalmers course Dare2Build. Today it is run by Bostadsbolaget, providing the rented space, alongside Socialförvaltningen nordost, sustaining one employee. The place is characterized by a welcoming culture, creativity and values of sustainability.

Aktivitetshuset*

Initiated by Hyresgästföreningen in 2018, 600sqm of housing owned by Bostadsbolaget was transformed into spaces for local initiatives and organizations (Fryk, 2020). The spaces can be rented for low rent and are frequently used in weekends especially.

Parkleken*

Playground with accompanying play-supervision and activities. Provides guided family and kids activities, aimed for 0–9-year-old children, and play supervision. It is a Gothenburg city initiative (Göteborg stad, 2025). It also provides spaces for heating up food, breastfeeding and toilets.

Chalmers*

Campus for urban studies in architecture. Works closely with local actors and community, especially though their course "Dare2build", a course where students and residents build and design together often in Hammarkullen or surrounding neighborhoods.

Lights on

Organization that focuses on youth wellbeing and activity. They are an initiative by Framtiden (Fram-tiden, 2022) and do not own their own spaces but rather act as facilitators for other actors and initi-atives targeted youth. They especially work with the local schools, Mixgården, Parkleken and Mini-mix.
Visit. Lights on offer a variety of activities for youth in Hammarkullen, the atmosphere vary from very organized and directed activities such as directed art classes or sports to more informal drawing sessions or conversations. Their activities are directed at youth and children and on occasion par-ents. They also require a direct invitation by being part of one of the groups mentioned, meaning their activities are inaccessible when outside of these target groups. Interactions observed are both long and short and vary in intensity.'

Hyresgästföreningen

A civil overarching tenant's association, connecting and organizing local tenant associations. Hyresgästföreningen is strong in Hammarkullen and has been an important actor through its history and today. The organization have initiated research on "Hammarkullemodellen", aiming to collect and transfer the civil-organizational ability in the neighborhood to a wider audience (Fryk, 2020). Naturally, they collaborate frequently with Bostadsbolaget.

Hammarkullen 365

Civil network organization for culture work. They provide resident led culture walks around the area, largely focusing on the murals and Hammarkullekarnevalen with the aim of providing positive and accurate depictions of Hammarkullen, in contrast to how it often is depicted in media (information collected when attending a culture walk).

Angered folkhögskola*

Civil folk school aims to inspire critical thinking, engagement in society and solidarity. They provide courses in social and environmental sustainability, culture, arts and opportunities for complement-ing grades from high school studies (Angered Folkhögskola, 2024).

Visit. The environment is sometimes calm and sometimes more intense. It is characterized by groups socializing and conversing. Generally, the environment is inviting but following their target group of students partaking their programs one feels somewhat displaced engaging without a direct invita-tion. Generally, interactions vary in intensity and length and observed interactions indicate most people are already familiar with one another.

Minimix*

Minimix are an organization targeting kids over the age of Parklekens target group and below Mixgården. It was initiated by a young man in Hammarkullen who had such positive relationship with Mixgården growing up that he wanted to expand the concept to provide similar qualitative free time for younger kids (Fryk, 2020). The organization aims to know the name of each child who participates, meet them in their world and provide meaningful freetime activities along ongoing relationships with the children's parents.

Framtiden

Framtiden is a company concern owned by Gothenburg city, they own Bostadsbolaget and are actively engaged in the development of an equal Gothenburg (Framtiden AB, 2025, Göteborgs stad, 2023). In Hammarkullen they are especially visible in interventions targeting seeking work, assistance with CV and interview training, although they also are involved in many other processes in the area.

Mixgården*

Mixgården is a youth center targeting youth in middle-to high school extending up to 20 years of age. They provide activities as well as hangout spaces for youth, a café and various support for the youth and families. Mixgården is open every day of the week following closing of local schools. They have been active in Hammarkullen for a long time and when threatened to close, residents gathered to keep the facility going. They collaborate with many other actors in the neighborhood and are an important actant in supporting youth, mitigating criminality and providing safe spaces along cultures of acceptance and inclusiveness (Hansson, 2018). They have a large reach to youth in the neighborhood but also attain a "cool image" deterring some youth not feeling cool enough to join the activities (Mixgården personell, personal communication, 4/12/2024).

HAMSAM

Initiated in 1973 through grassroot movements, Hamsam is a collaboration council of Hammarkullen. They are a collective voice for organizations and actors of Hammarkullen and have been important in communications, especially the public sector. They are considered a key actor in the "Hammarkulleandan" the spirit of collective organization of residents in Hammarkullen. They are also responsible for the carnival Hammarkullekarnevalen, which has been very influential in the local cultures of Hammarkullen as well as outsiders' perspectives on the neighborhood (Fryk, 2009, Törnquist, 2001).

ATM*

An ATM was added to the neighborhood following grassroot organization from residents wanting this addition. The ATM is reportedly often out of function (Hansson, 2018)

Center for urban studies*

Initiated in 2010 in collaboration between Chalmers and Gothenburg university the aim was to promote higher education to youth, bridging parallel societies of Gothenburg to academia, along with the opening of programs focusing on social justice issues and co-creation. Today only Chalmers remain in the center but are an active actor in co-creation, building and social justice in the neighborhood. They especially contribute with their course "Dare2Build" which in collaboration with students and residents design and implement built structures in and around Hammarkullen (Fryk, 2009, Hansson, 2018).

Tramstation*

The tram station was built simultaneously as the neighborhood in connection to the million homes program. It has through Hammarkullen history been a place of on-and-off conflict. The tram station being placed underground, in likes of a subway station has been perceived as adding to

the lack of safety and for many years a dedicated safety guard was present in the station although this initiative has been retracted (Hansson, 2018). Moreover, the tram station is a node of transportation connecting Hammarkullen to the rest of Gothenburg, especially increasing the pedestrian centrality around the square (own mapping). It also holds ongoing art exhibitions featuring local artist organized by Blåstället, a meeting place in Angered center.

Electronic service*

Small local electronics store also provides UPS postal service.

Fiskhandlare*

Located in Mixköket and open on occasion selling fresh fish produce.

Bo-service*

A function for residents of Hammarkullen to voice their needs regarding rental homes from Bostadsbolaget.

Framtidshubben*

Located in Mixköket, framtidshubben is a place for jobseekers, assisting residents with CV, study council, interview practice and bridging employees with potential employees.

Salong Kam & Sax*

Local hairdressers with two locations. One directed at men, and one directed at women.

Grillogården* and Shwarma*

Resturants at the square of Hammarkullen, both owned and run by residents.

Hammarkullekarnivalen*

A carnival local to Hammarkullen featuring amongst others; dance, foods, and performances focusing on culture. The carnival is organized by HAMSAM and has been present in Hammarkullen influencing identity since 1974 (Fryk, 2009). The carnival takes place once a year drawing upwards to 40 000 visitors (Thuvander et al., 2019). The preparation work is ongoing and a large part of the available activities in Hammarkullen (Resident, personal communication, 25/1/2025)

Hammarkullen Moské*

Church engaging many of the Muslims in the neighborhood. They have had issues with their spaces not being large enough to provide for their needs.

Mariakyrkan*

A collaboration church of Missionskyrkan and Betlehemskyrkan. They are an open place for anyone in Hammarkullen and active actors in Nätverksträffen and many other collaborations in the neighborhood (Fryk, 2009).

Hammarbadet*

A swimming hall and gym facility owned by Gothenburg city. They have been a part in shaping the "Hammarkulleandan" especially when it was threatened to close, initiating grassroot organization of residents to protest. The protests resulted in a renovation and continued existence of the swimming hall (Hansson, 2018).

Hammarkullehallen*

Sports hall owned by Gothenburg city with variety of physical activities available. They also hold a café space that can be rented.

Trädgårdsföreningen*

A local community gardening organization appropriates space in one of the parks of Hammarkullen for urban farming.
The organization has been mentioned as influential, or even the start, of today's Nätverksträffen.

Kiosk*

Positioned next to the entrance of the tram station, the kiosk is a friendly place where one employee was kind enough to give me a pen for free when my sketching pen went out of inc.

Frukt och grönt* and Grocerystore*

Grocery store with a lot of green vegetables and fruit and a small general grocery store, provides postal services of Post Nord. Both are located at Hammarkullens square, hammarkulletorget.

Sportsfield(s)*

Variety of smaller and larger sports fields often in use during weekends, after school hours by youth and when the weather is warmer. There are fields for football and basketball. Youth of the neighborhood think that many of the fields could be developed with seating and better ground materials (Resident, personal communication, 25/1/2025).

Nytorpsskolan*

Local middle-to highschool. Often collaborates with lights on for after-school activities. The facilities close when teachers are not present (teacher, personal communication, 21/2/2025)

Emmaskolan*

Local pre-school. Often collaborates with lights on for after-school activities. The facilities closed when teachers are not present (lights on, personal communication, 8/11/2024).

Kindergardens*

There is a variety of local kindergardens.

Playground(s)*

Hammarkullen provides a few playgrounds for their residents, many are connected to school facilities.

Youthpark*

A local outdoor hangout-space located at Hammarkullskolan, the space was developed by Göteborg stad with the organization "unga stadsutvecklare", an initiative by the city to involve youth in planning processes.

Ungastadsutvecklare*

Gothenburg city initiative to involve youth in development of urban spaces. Youth local to Hammarkullen have taken part in various projects around the neighborhood and often in connection to the Urban studies courses.

Garbage sorting buildings*

Implemented by Bostadsbolaget to facilitate recycling and reduce littering in the area and following the limitation of land-stability due to abandoned underground parking facilities in Hammarkullen. They provide recycling bins.

Murals

Hammarkullen is rich in large scale murals covering the sides of the larger buildings. The murals are subject to the culture walks, provided by Hammarkullen 365, and have become part of the identity of Hammarkullen often recited in poems and writings about the neighborhood.

Pedestrian only-areas

When Hammarkullen was developed cars were excluded from the inner neighborhood's, making the large yards of the building's car-free.
This is very appreciated by residents (Resident, personal communication, 25/1/2025).

Pedestrian paths

Hammarkullen is rich in recreational paths, many connected with nature values such as parks and greenery. Residents perceive that most paths are available to anyone to walk on, but that the "nicest" paths are deterring for people of low mobility as they are in the forest "areas" of the yards and somewhat difficult to move along (Resident, personal communication, 25/1/2025).

Rats and birds

Hammarkullen is rich in unwelcome life such as rats and large amounts of pigeons. Opinions on animals vary amongst residents, some perceive them as adding ambiguity and some think they are destructive or gross. Most all agree that there are too many (Resident, personal communication, 25/1/2025).

Safety

Safety is often discussed in conversation around Hammarkullen. Larger actors, such as Gothenburg city and Bostadsbolaget perceive safety as something which needs increasing in the neighborhood and especially in attachment to specific places such as the library and Folkets hus (interview: Folkets hus och parker). When asking residents of their perceived safety, everyone approached conclude that they feel safe in the neighborhood generally, with a few specific isolated paths with low visibility as exceptions, and that what is most important for safety is having other people around or "many eyes" (Resident, personal communication, 25/1/2025).

Lack of proper grocery store

There is a lack of a larger grocery store in the neighborhood which many residents are in want and need of. Attempts to attract grocery store providers have been initiated on many occasions but the general low income of residents in Hammarkullen deter larger chains from investing (Socialförvaltningen, personal communication, 13/2/2025).

Pizzeria/café in Folkets hus*

A today closed café space that used to host a pizzeria renting the space from Folkets hus. The pizzeria closed due to economic difficulty and conflict with local criminals. The space is today used for meetings and occasional café functions tied to local organizations. Attempts have been made to open the café but due to the socio-economic situation of Hammarkullen actors have been unwilling to invest.

Hammarkullesatsningen

An initiative from Gothenburg city to decrease the social inequalities of Gothenburg where Hammarkullen was identified as a key neighborhood to intervene within.
The initiative has received both praise and backlash from residents and local actors, mainly in its processes excluding important voices. Along suggestions of changes not anchored in the needs and wants of the residents coupled with fear of raises in living costs risking displacement (Hansson, 2018).

Hammarkulletorget*

The square of Hammarkullen, characterized by open space, local stores, Folkets hus, the library, the Tram station, Kiosk, Mixköket and an art-installation by Chalmers "Dare2Build" course.

Chapter: Appendix

Destinaion mapping data.

Data is based on the actant index on previous pages and sorted using google spread.

Destnation name	Frequency of use	Barriers	Target groups	Ownership	Initiation	Reach	Interaction type	activity type	space/place	Collaborates
Fixoteket	Weekly, Occational	Low visibility, Open hours, Skill or education, Specific activity	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Public	Grassroot	Medium	Light short, Light long	Structured, non-structured, group, individual	owns space	yes
Aktivitetshuset	Weekly, Occational	Open hours, Pay-to-enter, Specific activity, Target group	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Public	Public	Medium	Vulnerable short, Vulnerable long, Light short, Light long	Structured, group	owns space	no
Parkleken	Day-to-day, Weekly, Occational	Open hours, Specific activity, Target group	Kids, Families	Public	Public	Large	Light short, Light long	Structured, non-structured, group, individual	appropriates space	yes
Folkets hus	Weekly, Occational	Open hours, Specific activity, Target group	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Civil	Grassroot	Medium	Vulnerable long, Light short, Light long	Structured, group	owns space	yes
Lights on	Day-to-day, Weekly, Occational	Open hours, Specific activity, Target group	Kids, Youth	Public	Public	Large	Vulnerable short, Vulnerable long, Light short, Light long	Structured, group, individual	appropriates space	yes
Hammarkullen 365 (engaged in organization)	Occational	Pay-to-enter, Specific activity	Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Civil	Grassroot	Small	Vulnerable short, Vulnerable long, Light short, Light long	Structured, group, individual	appropriates space	yes
Angered folkhögskola	Day-to-day	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Skill or education, Specific activity, Target group	students	Civil	Grassroot	Medium	Vulnerable short, Vulnerable long, Light short, Light long	Structured, non-structured, group, individual	owns space	yes
Library	Day-to-day, Weekly, Occational	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Specific activity	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Public	Grassroot	Large	Light short, Light long	Structured, non-structured, group, individual	owns space	yes
Minimix	Day-to-day, Weekly, Occational	Open hours, Specific activity, Target group	Kids, Families	Public	Grassroot	Large	Vulnerable short, Light short, Light long	Structured, non-structured, group, individual	appropriates space	yes
Nätverksträffen	Occational	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Specific activity	Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Civil	Grassroot	Small	Light short, Light long	Structured, group	appropriates space	yes
Mixgården	Day-to-day, Weekly, Occational	Open hours, Specific activity, Target group	Youth	Public	Grassroot	Large	Vulnerable short, Vulnerable long, Light short, Light long	Structured, non-structured, group, individual	owns space	yes
ATM	Occational	Normative behaviour, Pay-to-enter, Specific activity	Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Public	Public	Large	Light short	individual	owns space	no
Center for urban studies	Day-to-day, Occational	Low visibility, Normative behaviour, Skill or education, Specific activity, Target group	students	Private		Small	Vulnerable short, Light short, Light long	Structured, group	owns space	yes
Tramstation	Day-to-day, Weekly, Occational	Normative behaviour, Pay-to-enter, Specific activity	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Public	Public	Large	Light short	individual	owns space	no
Electronic service store	Occational	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Pay-to-enter, Specific activity	Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Private		Small	Light short	individual	owns space	no
Fiskhandlare (fish store)	Occational	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Pay-to-enter, Specific activity	Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Private		Small	Light short	individual	owns space	no
Bo-service	Occational	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Specific activity	Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Public	Public	Small	Light short	individual	owns space	yes
Framtidshubben	Occational	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Specific activity	Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, students	Public	Public	Small	Vulnerable short, Vulnerable long, Light short	individual	owns space	yes
Salong kam och sax men	Occational	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Pay-to-enter, Specific activity	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, elderly	Private		Small	Light short, Light long	Structured, individual	owns space	no
Salong kam och sax Women	Occational	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Pay-to-enter, Specific activity	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, women, elderly, students	Private		Small	Vulnerable long, Light short, Light long	Structured, individual	owns space	no
Grillgården	Weekly, Occational	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Pay-to-enter, Specific activity	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Private		Medium	Light short, Light long	Structured, individual	owns space	no
Shwarma	Weekly, Occational	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Pay-to-enter, Specific activity	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Private		Medium	Light short, Light long	individual	owns space	no
Hammarkullekarnivalen	Occational	Open hours, Specific activity	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Civil	Grassroot	Large	Light short, Light long	Structured, non-structured, group, individual	appropriates space	yes
Hammarkullen Moské	Weekly	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Specific activity, Target group	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Civil	Grassroot	Medium	Vulnerable short, Vulnerable long, Light short, Light long	Structured, non-structured, group, individual	owns space	no
Mariakyrkan	Weekly, Occational	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Specific activity, Target group	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Civil	Grassroot	Medium	Vulnerable short, Vulnerable long, Light short, Light long	Structured, group, individual	owns space	yes
Hammarbadet	Day-to-day, Weekly, Occational	Accessibility, Normative behaviour, Open hours, Pay-to-enter, Skill or education, Specific activity	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Public	Public	Medium	Light short, Light long	Structured, non-structured, group, individual	owns space	no
Hammarkullehallen	Day-to-day, Weekly, Occational	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Pay-to-enter, Skill or education, Specific activity, Target group	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Public	Public	Medium	Light short, Light long	Structured, group	owns space	no
Trädgårdsföreningen	Occational	Low visibility, Open hours, Skill or education, Specific activity, Target group	Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Civil	Grassroot	Small	Light short, Light long	non-structured, individual	appropriates space	yes
Kiosk	Day-to-day, Weekly, Occational	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Pay-to-enter, Specific activity	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Private		Large	Light short	individual	owns space	no
Frukt och grönt (grocerystore)	Day-to-day, Weekly, Occational	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Pay-to-enter, Specific activity	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Private		Large	Light short	individual	owns space	no
Sportsfields	Day-to-day, Weekly, Occational	Accessibility, Normative behaviour, Skill or education, Specific activity	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, students	Public	Public	Medium	Vulnerable short, Vulnerable long, Light short, Light long	Structured, non-structured, group, individual	owns space	no
Nytorpsskolan	Day-to-day	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Skill or education, Specific activity, Target group	Kids, Youth	Public	Public	Medium	Vulnerable short, Vulnerable long, Light short, Light long	Structured, group, individual	owns space	yes
Emmaskolan	Day-to-day	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Skill or education, Specific activity, Target group	Kids	Public	Public	Medium	Vulnerable short, Vulnerable long, Light short, Light long	Structured, group, individual	owns space	yes
Hammarkulleskolan	Day-to-day	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Skill or education, Specific activity, Target group	Kids, Youth	Public	Public	Medium	Vulnerable short, Vulnerable long, Light short, Light long	Structured, group, individual	owns space	yes
Kindergardens	Day-to-day	Normative behaviour, Open hours, Skill or education, Specific activity, Target group	Kids, Families	Public	Public	Medium	Vulnerable short, Vulnerable long, Light short, Light long	Structured, non-structured, group, individual	owns space	yes
Playgrounds	Day-to-day, Weekly, Occational	Target group	Kids, Youth, Families	Public	Public	Medium	Vulnerable short, Vulnerable long, Light short, Light long	non-structured, group, individual	owns space	no
Youthpark	Day-to-day, Weekly, Occational	Low visibility	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Public	Public	Small	Vulnerable short, Vulnerable long, Light short, Light long	non-structured, group, individual	owns space	no
Ungastadsutvecklare	Occational	Low visibility, Normative behaviour, Open hours, Skill or education, Specific activity, Target group	Youth, students	Public	Public	Small	Light short, Light long	Structured, group	appropriates space	yes
Garbage sorting buildings	Day-to-day, Weekly	Normative behaviour, Specific activity	Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Public	Public	Large	Light short	non-structured, individual	owns space	no
Hammarkulletorget	Day-to-day		Kids, Youth, Families, Young adults, men, women, elderly, students	Public	Public	Large	Light short	non-structured, group, individual	owns space	no

Workshop 01

1. 5 min.
Participants in groups were asked to reflect over interactions and discuss with eachother and describe why they remeber that specific interaction.

Description: *"Beskriv och reflektera över en gång du haft en intressant/spännande interaktion på en publik plats (ett bibliotek, i väntan på spårvagnen, etc.), 2. I par, berätta för varandra om varför ni valde just den interaktionen, varför minns du just den?"*

2. 5 min.
Participants were asked to describe places they felt compfortable in and discuss why.

Description: *"Skriv ned en plats utanför hemmet och arbete/studier där du känner dig välkommen. I par, berätta varför du valt den platsen."*

3. 10 min.
Participants were asked to fill answer what makes a place/activity feel welcoming and discuss their answers.

Description: *"Vad gör att en plats/aktivitet känns välkomnande?"*

4. 20 min.
Participants were asked to pick a charachter and reflect over their daily life and share thoughts.

Description: *"Plocka ett personkort från lådan på bordet. Individuellt reflektera över din karaktärs liv, hur ser deras dag ut, vad gillar de att göra, vilka personer*
träffar de dag-till-dag, vad är viktigt för dem? Presentera kort din karaktär och dina tankar om dem för din grupp."

- Participants were provided with character cards.

5. 10 min.
Groups were asked to attach characters to activities and places, reflecting and discussing why certain places and activities fit each character.

Description: *"I gruppen, använd er av bild-korten på bordet och tillsammans koppla bilderna till de karaktärer de passar till. Disskutera varför. *Vad gör att platsen/aktiviteten känns välkomnande för karaktärerna? Vad kan hindra karaktären från att komma dit? Varför vill karaktären gå dit?"*

6. 10 min.
Groups were asked to together describe characteristics of places with welcoming feelings, which the characters would be compfortable going to and why.

Description: *"Tillsammans i gruppen, fyll i vad ni tycker gör en aktivitet/plats välkomnande samt vad som kan hindra en person från att engagera sig?"*

6. 10 min.
Groups were asked to together for a collage of their findings, creating a "moodboard".

Description: *"påna tillsammans ideer på hur man kan skapa känsla av tillhörighet, trygghet och en välkommande plats/aktivitet. Klipp, tejpa, skriv, rita - var kreativa! * Vad skapar möjlighet för människor att träffas, känna sig trygga, känna sig välkomna och accepterade? *Vad händer på denhär platsen? Vilka aktiviteter sker? Finns det möjlighet att "bara vara" på platsen? * Vad skulle eran roll vara i skapandet av en sån plats?*

Materials:
Various pens
Scissors
Paperglue
Post-it notes

Printed:
Character cards

1.

Donald Duch

Jag är 45 år gammal, bor i Hammarkullen med min familj med tre barn. Jag har inte så många vänner men vill gärna träffa folk att spendera tid med, speciellt där barnen också kan hänga på.

2.

Leia Skyllander

Hej! Jag heter Leia, 32, och är nyinflyttad sen några månader. Jag är ensamstående med min son, 5år, och har en hund, Chewbacca. Jag älskar att lära mig nya saker, träffa folk och göra aktiviteter men vår ekonomi är begränsad.

3.

Carl Fredricksen

Hej! Jag är 85 år. Jag och mina vänner har svårt att hitta på aktiviteter att göra, ofta blir det att vi sitter på cafet i närheten - men det har stängt, dessutom kostade det en del.

4.

Emil Lönn.

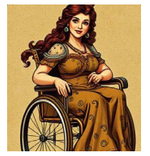
Hej hej! Emil heter jag, är 14 år och bor med min familj. Jag är väldigt aktiv, gillar sport och sånt men också att hänga med kompisarna. Ofta vet vi inte riktigt vart vi ska gå, eller så stänger alla dom coola platserna på helgen/kväll.

5.

Amir Alad

Hej! Jag heter Amir, 22 år och är ny i Sverige och vill gärna lära känna andra. Jag pratar inte jättemycket Svenska ännu och kan ibland känna mig utanför pågrund av det.

6.



Ariel Land

Hej! Ariel heter jag, 65, och bor ensam i en lägenhet. Jag sitter i rullstol och det gör ibland att det är svårt att hänga med på vissa aktiviteter. Ofta kan jag också känna mig rädd för att en plats inte ska vara utrustad för mina behov.

7.

Bob Rossi

Heeeej! Jag är 55 år och älskar konst, det bästa jag vet är att dela skaparglädjen med andra, jag lär gärna ut eller hjälper barn som vuxna att skapa. Min dröm är att få dela min skaparglädje med andra och bidra till glada stunder!

8.

Hira Hamad

Hej, jag heter Hira och är 22 år. Jag känner mig väldigt isolerad och har tappat kontakten med mina vänner från gymnasiet. Jag spelar mest på dagarna, vilket var kul men inte längre. Jag vill lära känna andra i min ålder men vet inte hur.

9.

Bruce Wade

Hej! Jag bor med min partner och vår katt Joker. Jag jobbar hemmifrån på dagarna och tycker det kan bli ganska isolerat. Tyvärr är jag inte så social av mig och blir ofta obekväm med personer jag inte känner väl.

10.

Moa

Jag är 5 år och heter Moa, jag gillar att leka, att se på djur, och vara med min mamma, Leia.

11.

Nalla Leijon

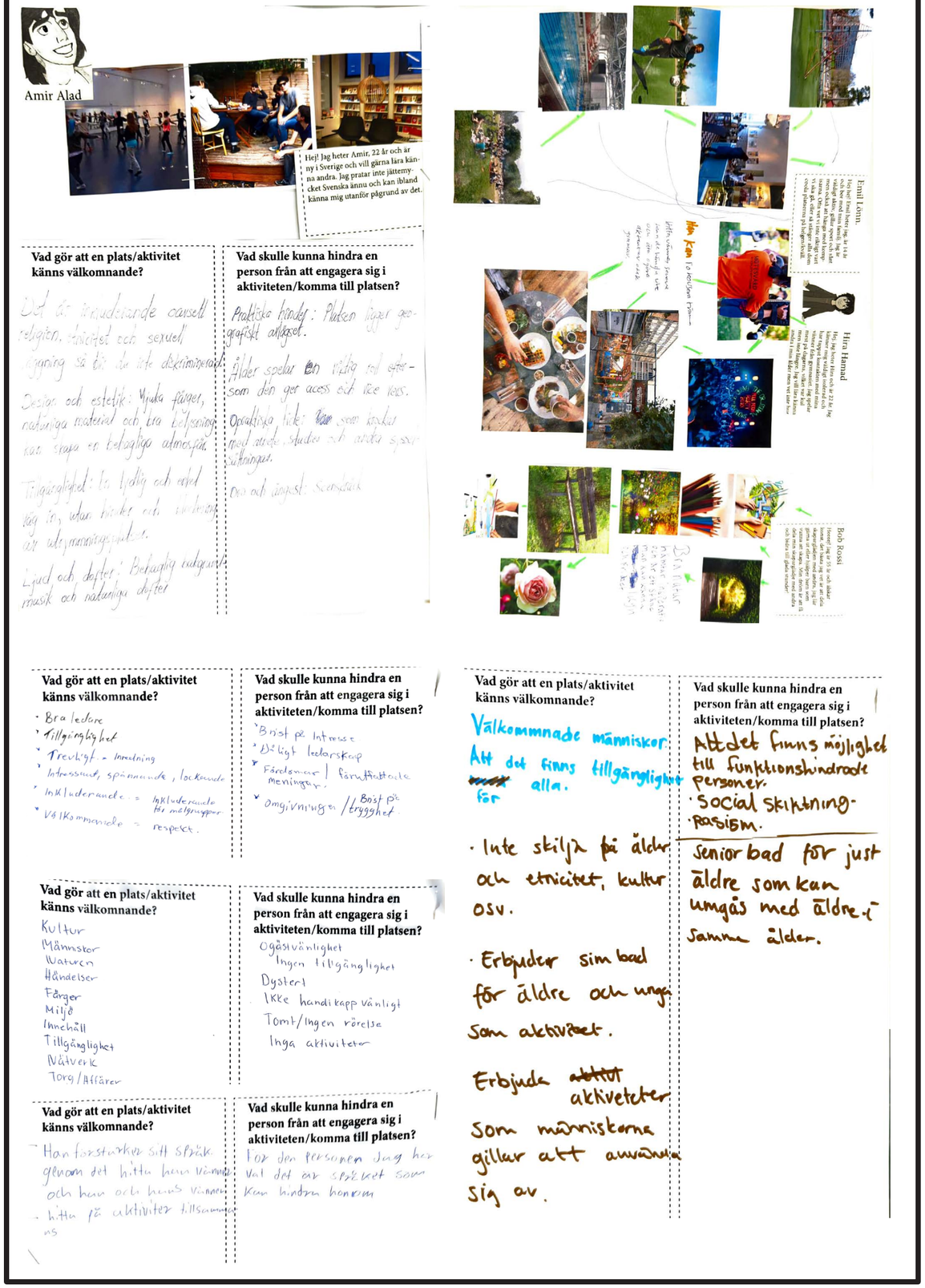
Hej! Jag heter Nalla och är en nyinflyttad person här, 23 år. Jag har en funktionsnedsättning som gör att jag behöver extra stöd i min vardag, och göra det svårt att delta i evenemang. Det är viktigt för mig med lugn och tydlighet.

12.

Petter Pettson

Hej! Jag heter Petter och bor ensam med min katt. Jag har just skillt mig och är ganska lost i vad jag ska göra med min tid nu... de flesta av mina vänner bor långt bort och jag har inte varit så bra på att skapa eller bevara vänskaper under åren.

Materials printed for workshop 01



Produced materials, workshop 01

Produced materials, workshop 01

Workshop 02

Participants were asked to sit in groups of 3-5 people.

1. 10 min.
Participants imagined being responsible for organizing a new café in Folkets Hus in Hammarkullen and tasked with brainstorming ideas of how to reach people and what activities would be fitting for their Café.

- they were provided papernotes of various types of media plattforms and tasked to fill out posts made by their Café.

Description: *"Med hjälp av online plattformar och posters, hur når ni ut? Vilka aktiviteter organiseras och vart publiseras de?*
** Fyll i instagram, facebook och poster lapparna, klipp in bilder eller rita vad som publiceras tillsammans med beskrivningarna. Funera på; vilka når vi med den här plattformen?*
Vad gillar dem att göra?"

2. 10 min.
Participants were now tasked to imagine themselves working for a media company and tasked with writing "outsiders" perspectives of their Café.

Description: *"Ni är nu journalister, skriv titlar till nyhetsartiklar om ert café, vad är intessant för tidningen att publicera?*
** Fyll ut nyhetsartiklar tillsammans, vad skriver tidningarna*
om?"

- They were provided notes to fill out with headlines of media coverage.

3. 15 min.
Participants were asked to construct timelines of their creations, what happens in what order and how are they related?

Description: *"Vilka andra organisationer, personer eller platser kan vara del i era aktiviteter? Hur engagerar de sig i de olika*
aktiviteterna?
** Koppla ihop de aktiviteter ni tror skulle fungera som sammarbeten! Klipp, klistra och rita! Hitta på nya om det behövs!"*

- They were provided large papers to draw and glue together.

4. 20 min.
Participants were asked to discuss what characters from the previous workshop thought of the Café, do they feel allowed to go there? What is interesting to them and what could potentially be deterring?

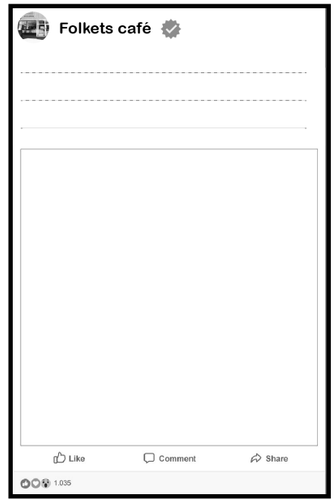
Description: *"Vad tycker de olika karaktärerna om cafét? När i er tidslinje kommer de dit? Varför?*
** Ta ett karaktärskort, fundera på karaktären och vad den*
personen tycker om de olika aktiviteterna, när är det troligt
att de väljer att komma till cafét? Hur känner de när dem
kommer dit? Kommer de dit när det inte är någon aktivitet?"

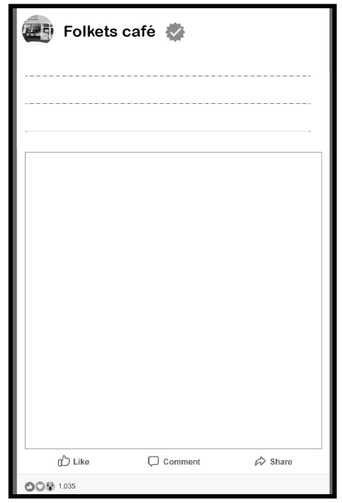
- Participants were provided with character cards.

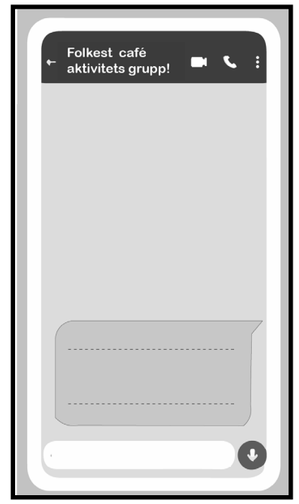
5. 10 min.
Participants were asked to present their work to the whole class and discuss their creations.

Materials:
Various pens
Scissors
Paperglue
Post-it notes

Printed:
Media posts
Newspapers
Character cards

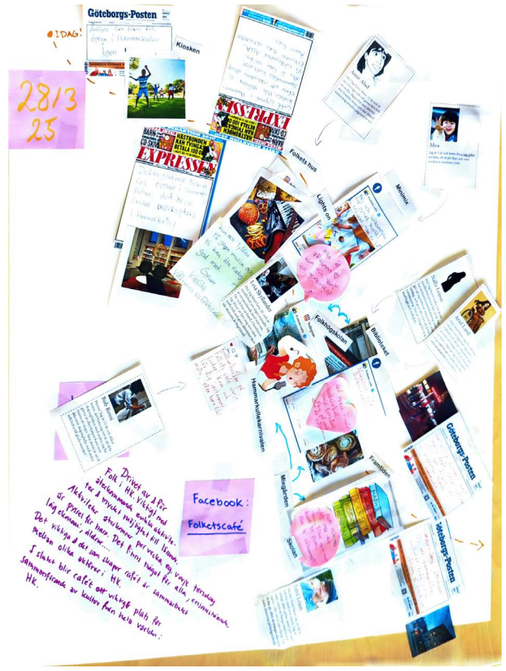


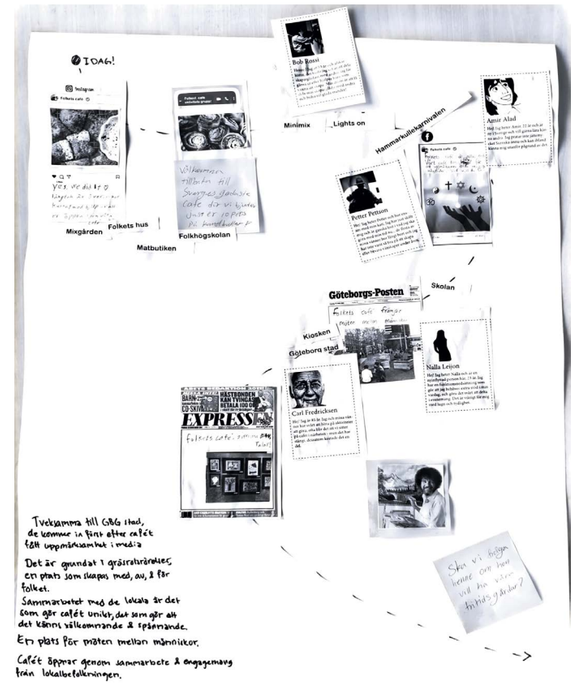


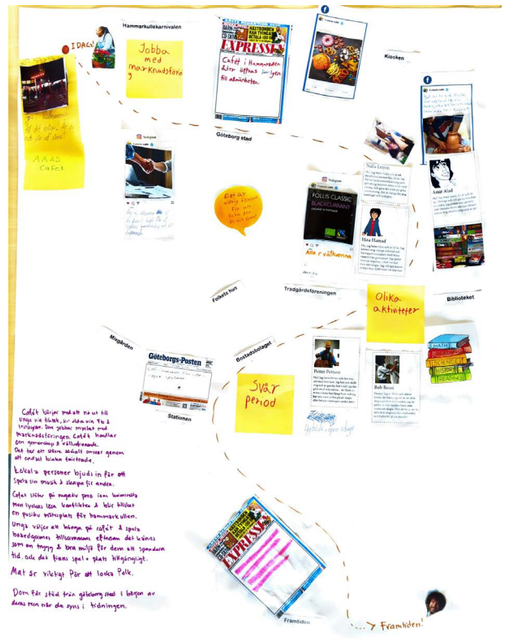


Materials printed for workshop 02

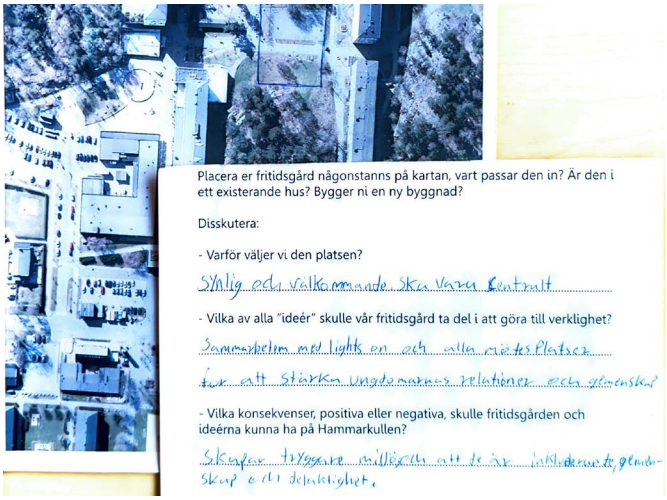
Produced materials, workshop 02







Produced materials, workshop 02



Placera er fritidsgård någonstanns på kartan, vart passar den in? Är den i ett existerande hus? Bygger ni en ny byggnad?

Disskutera:

- Varför väljer vi den platsen?

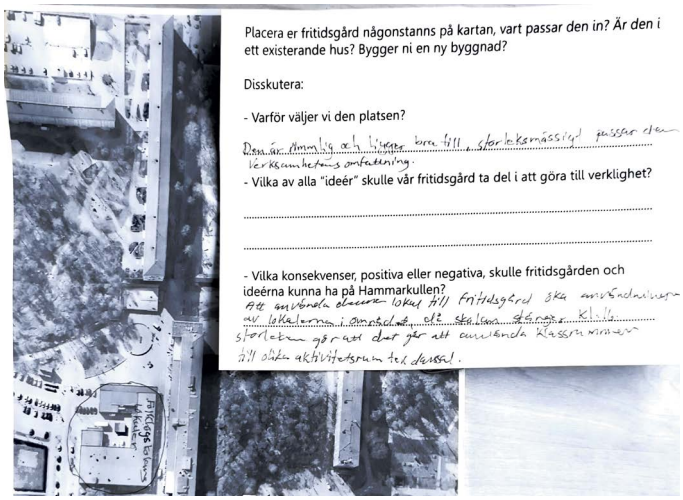
Synlig och välkommande. Ska vara centralt

- Vilka av alla "ideér" skulle vår fritidsgård ta del i att göra till verklighet?

Samarbeten med lights on och allen mötesplatser för att stärka ungdomarnas relationer och gemenskap

- Vilka konsekvenser, positiva eller negativa, skulle fritidsgården och ideérna kunna ha på Hammarkullen?

Skapar trygghet i miljön och att de är lättillgängligt, gemenskap och delaktighet.



Placera er fritidsgård någonstanns på kartan, vart passar den in? Är den i ett existerande hus? Bygger ni en ny byggnad?

Disskutera:

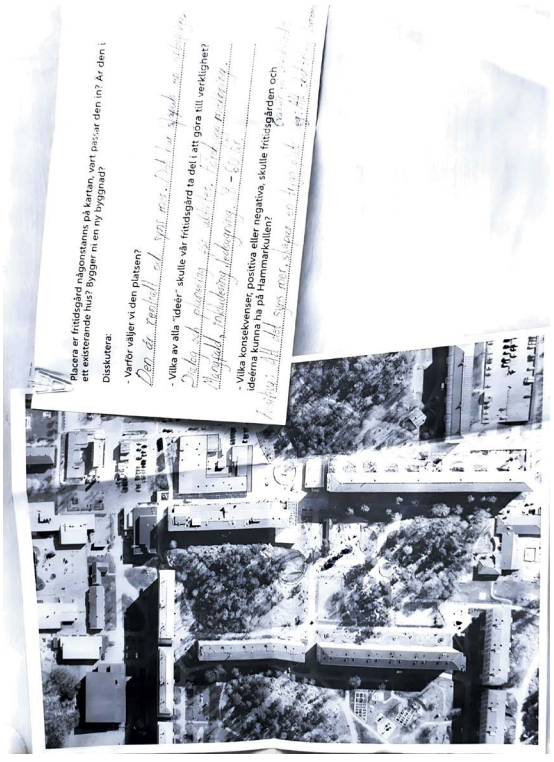
- Varför väljer vi den platsen?

Den är tillgänglig och lättåtkomlig. Storleksmässigt passar den verksamhetens omfattning.

- Vilka av alla "ideér" skulle vår fritidsgård ta del i att göra till verklighet?

- Vilka konsekvenser, positiva eller negativa, skulle fritidsgården och ideérna kunna ha på Hammarkullen?

Att använda dessa lokaler till fritidsgård ska användningen av lokalerna i området, att skolan stänger klubb storleken gör att det går att använda klassrummen till olika aktivitetsrum tex dessa!.



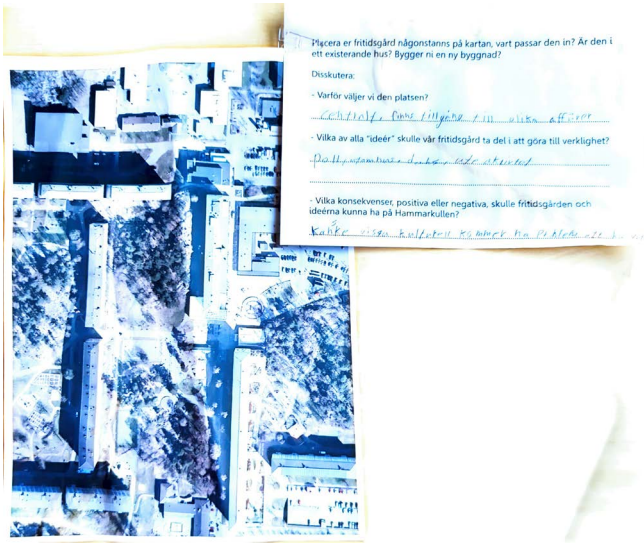
Placera er fritidsgård någonstanns på kartan, vart passar den in? Är den i ett existerande hus? Bygger ni en ny byggnad?

Disskutera:

- Varför väljer vi den platsen?

- Vilka av alla "ideér" skulle vår fritidsgård ta del i att göra till verklighet?

- Vilka konsekvenser, positiva eller negativa, skulle fritidsgården och ideérna kunna ha på Hammarkullen?



Placera er fritidsgård någonstanns på kartan, vart passar den in? Är den i ett existerande hus? Bygger ni en ny byggnad?

Disskutera:

- Varför väljer vi den platsen?

- Vilka av alla "ideér" skulle vår fritidsgård ta del i att göra till verklighet?

- Vilka konsekvenser, positiva eller negativa, skulle fritidsgården och ideérna kunna ha på Hammarkullen?

Produced materials, workshop 02