

BADEPARKEN FOLKEBIBLIOTEK

ANALYSIS

FARRISVANNET

BØKESKOGEN

BADEPARKEN

SUBURBS

TORGET

THE HARBOR

HERREGÅRDEN

HERREGÅRDEN





Architecture

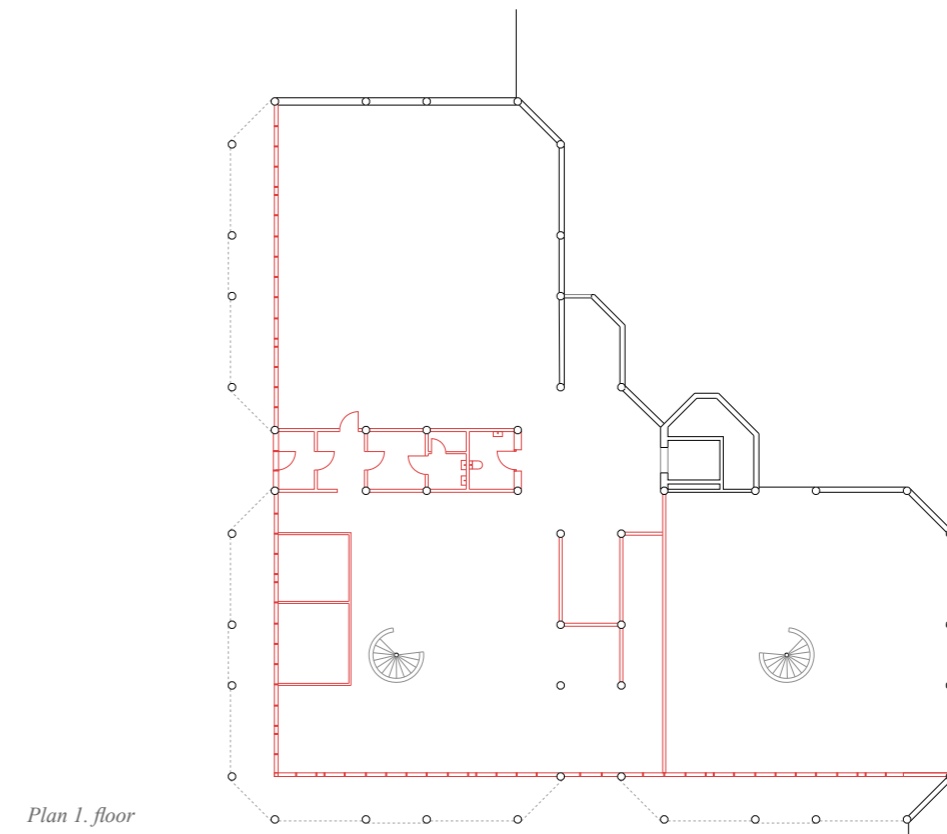
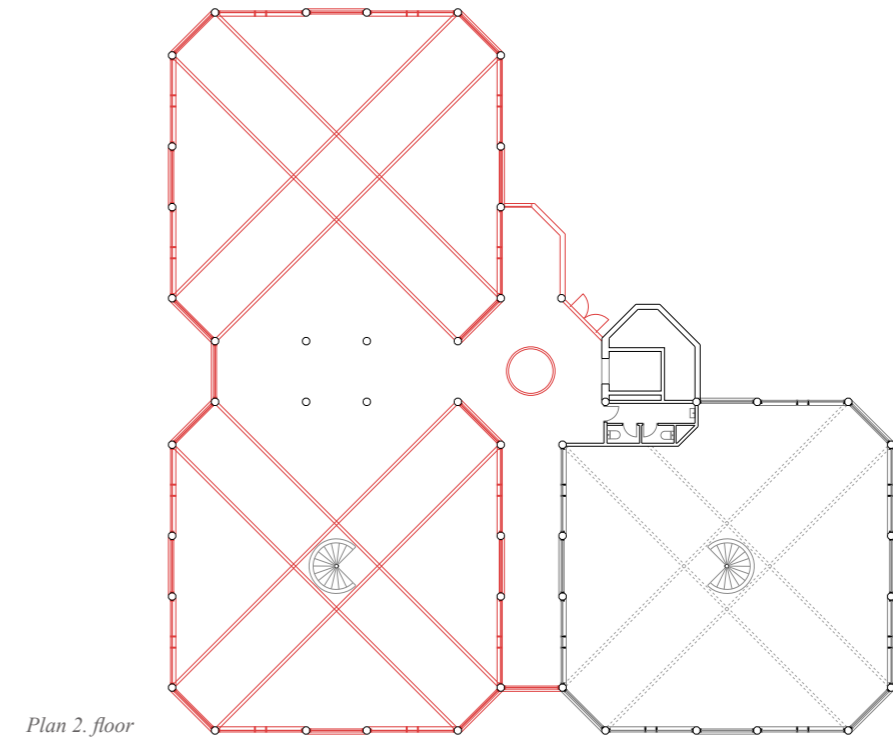
The library was built in 1984, designed by the Norwegian office PAM Melby. The building consists of three equal pavilions placed in axis with Nansetgata. The upper levels have an open skylit space. Shelves are placed in the walls. The lower level has a low ceiling height of 2.6 meters. Library functions are placed in the upper part while storage and staff is placed in the lower part. The total area of the library was 1800 m2.

Access

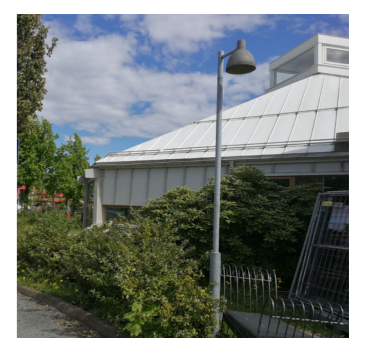
The main entrance faces the park. This means that you have to walk up and into Badeparken before entering. There were no entrances from the street

Fire

The library burned down in November 2019, Two of the clovers burned down, while the east pavillion was mostly unharmed. The concrete construction survived, but at the time of the pre-diploma, it was unclear if the construction would be ok because water damage.



sa



BADEPARKEN





Larvik Bad

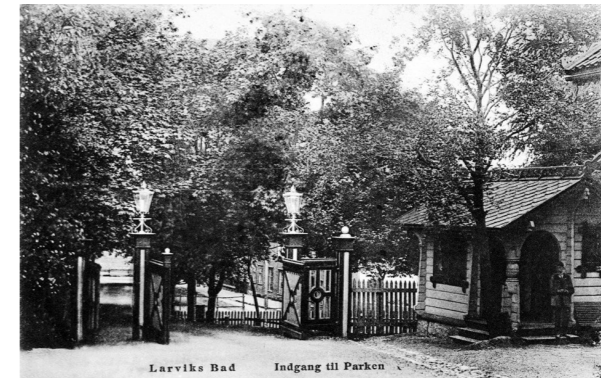
It is called Badeparking, or in English the bathing park, because in the 1920s there was a bathing house situated on the site. Larvik is known for its mineral water source used for health benefits. Larvik bath had several different locations before it landed on Badeparken. Today a modern facility is situated by the harbor. By todays reckoning, it wasnt a bath in the traditional sense, but rather a treatment center or a resort. Various small compartement spaces where you could recieve massages and treatments. Also included a large dining hall, weight lifting,

The facility was owned by the Treschow family and it was reserved for the aristocracy. Access was limited and a manned gate controlled who could enter

The site was chosen because of its location near the Bøkeskogen so that one could take recreational walks through the forest.

The buildings on the site were transported from the former bath, throughout the years the appearance of the facility changed as buildings were replaced, rebuilt and added.

Torn down 1971 vacant





Badeparken arial photo 60s



Badeparken based on map form 1927

FOLKEBIBLIOTEKET AS A CONTEXTUAL TYPOLOGY

Folkebibliotek directly translates to "library of the people"

In 1902 the first public library reform in Norway was introduced. "Folkebiblioteket"s role in society was to contribute to democracy and free speech by giving access to information to all and be an arena for open and informed public conversation. The library was introduced as a right for every Norwegian and the next century saw an increase of public libraries.

What is interesting is how the first public libraries relate to their neighbors. Grunerløkka bibliotek is an example of this. The building connects to its context different ways. The area is organized in a grid with courtyard blocks. Sometimes the grid becomes a park. The library is placed as a pavillion in one of these parks. This enables the program to spill out into the park. The visitor can lend a book and sit in the park and read. Events organized by the library can take place outside. The facade of the building is modest like its neighbours, but a large roof distinguishes it as a public building.



Grunerløkka folkebibliotek = Block house + Pavillion + Park



Park



Block house



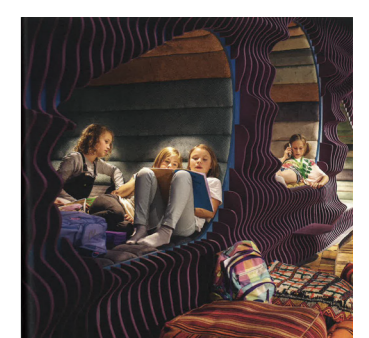
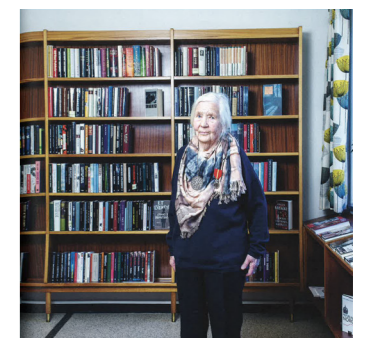
Pavillion

THIRD PLACE

Cultural and social changes have redefined the role of the traditional library. Loneliness is an increasing problem. Internett is widening the threshold to meet in person or even leave you home. The corona-crisis can be seen as a simulation of how stale our life will be in a completely digital world. Our society is increasingly multi-cultural and the distance between poor and rich is increasing. The library is a counter to this.

Library researcher Ragnar Audunson describes the library as the 'third place; a low-intensity place where you can meet a complex set of values and people. While high-intensity places like home, work, and interest organizations often seem affirmative, library diversity can be challenging.¹ In this way, the library can play an important role in democracy; as an arena for exchanging views and as a meeting place for various groups in society.

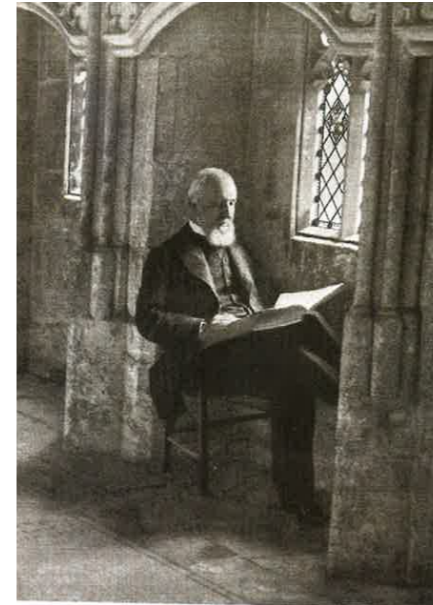
The idea of the library as a social meeting place expands the possibility of programs that can be incorporated. Equipment rental, maker space, meeting rooms and media are examples of this.



THE LIBRARY AND THE GARDEN

The theme of the library in a park appears in different ways throughout history. The reading carrel was first invented in the medieval monastery. It is simple niche in the wall that allows a monk to read in the light with a view out to the garden. In china, fragile religious texts were stored in libraries, often in connection with cultivated gardens. Using the peaceful garden as a place to relax the mind before reading. The garden can, in pure programatic terms, be seen as the ideal situation to read in.

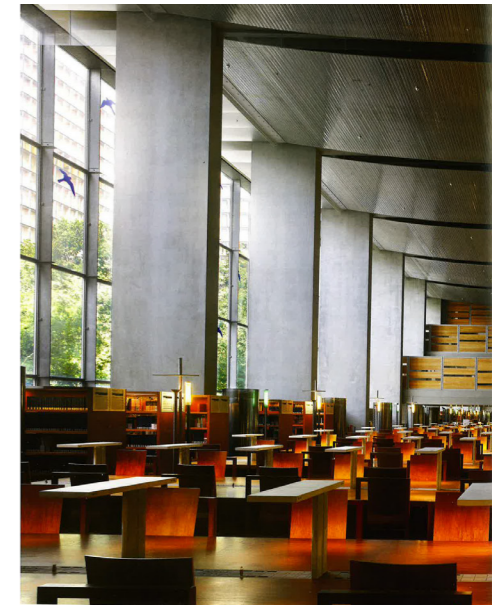
Modern architecture has discussed this idea in many ways. Aaltos libraries are often landscapes in themselves, with sunken pits for reading. In Bibliotheque National, Paris, grown trees were sunken into the ground to create a hidden garden in an urban setting.



BOOK CARRELS, c. 1400
Gloucester Cathedral, United Kingdom



TIANYI CHAMBER, c.1561
Ningbo, China



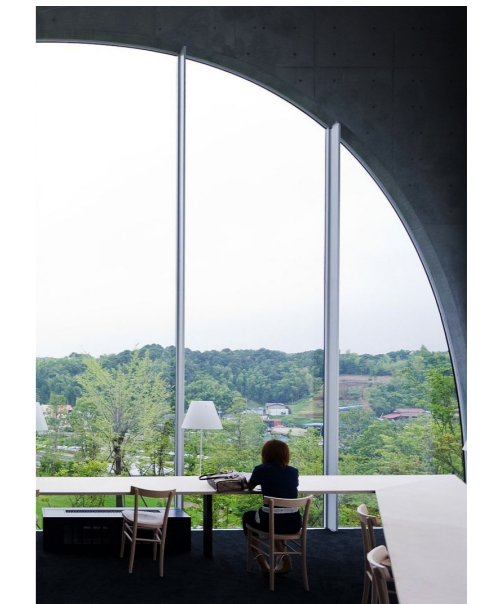
BIBLIOTHEQUE NATIONALE, 1996
Paris, France



PHILLIPS EXETER ACADEMY LIBRARY, 1971
Exeter, United States



SEINAJOKI PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1965
Seinajoki, Finland



TAMA ART UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, 2007
Tokyo, Japan

BUILDINGS IN LARVIK BY YEAR



New developments in Larvik do not relate to existing contextual structures, but rather economic opportunism.

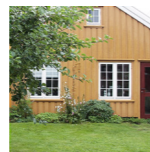
2020



1970



1940



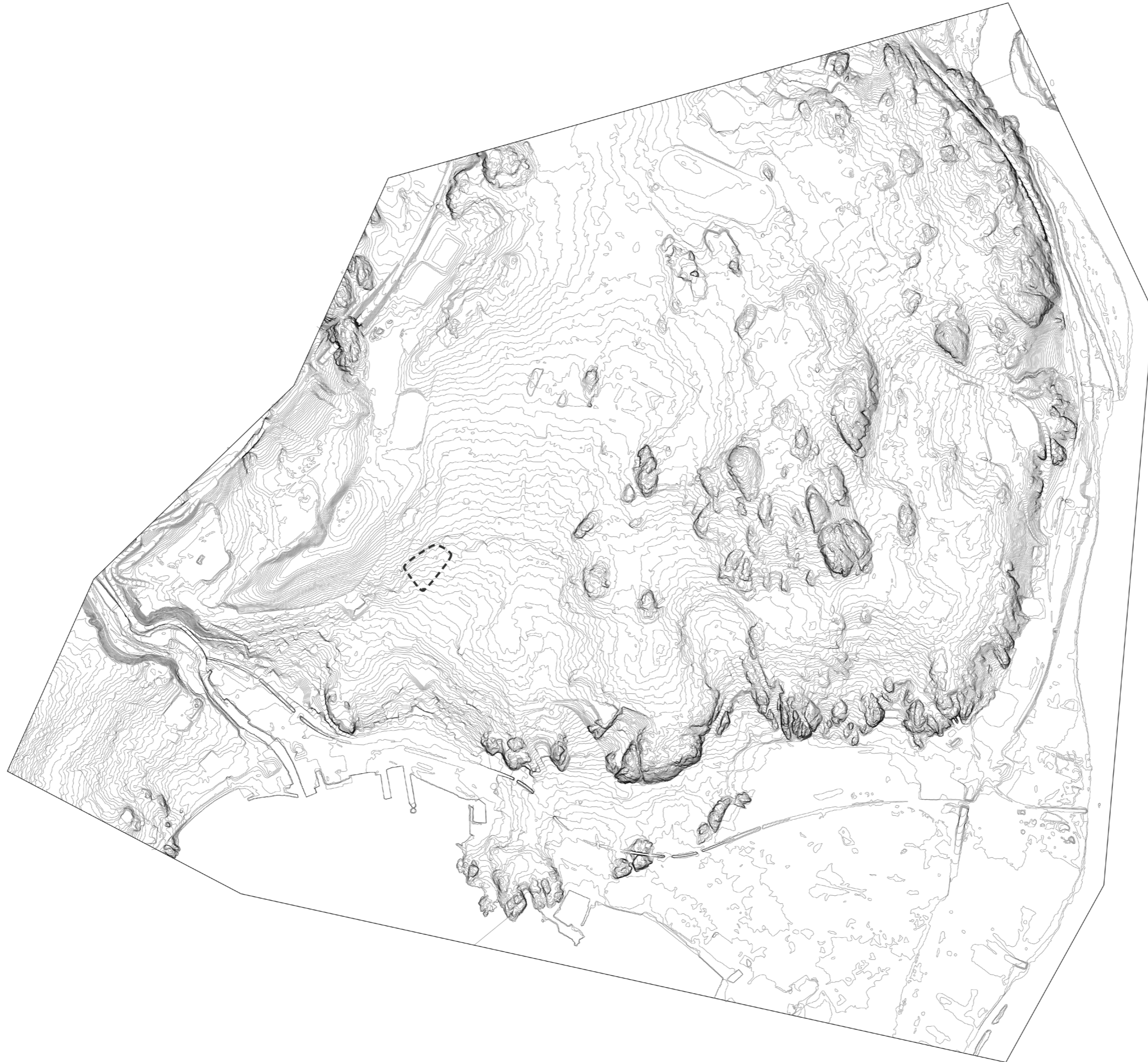
1900



1800



TERRAIN (large)



THE HOUSE (large)



VEGETATION (large)

