

NEB in the everyday work of an architecture office

11th June 2025, Gdansk

Carl Bäckstrand, deputy CEO

White Arkitekter





**Our mission is to enable sustainable life
through the art of architecture**

ARCHITECTURE FOR A SUSTAINABLE LIFE

Our vision is that by 2030 all our architecture will be regenerative and climate neutral through design excellence

SARA CULTURAL CENTRE, SKELLEFTEÅ

white

White in Brief 2024

525 employees

56%
women

44%
men

78%
of employees are co-owners

655,000,000
SEK turnover

320
tonnes CO₂e
emissions
(347 tonnes 2023)

0.74
tonnes CO₂e
emissions per FTE
(0.67 l/FTE 2023)

77%
lower CO₂e emissions
than in 2018

32% of building design projects have climate goals (energy and/or materials)

23% of building design projects have a bearing timber frame (23% 2023)

40% of all projects involve recycling (excl. urban design)

75% of interior design projects include reuse

67% of projects focus on climate risks (urban and landscape planning)

95%
of our trips within Sweden are made by train

84%
of projects are linked to the global SDGs

We have worked in

14

different countries in 2024

Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Kenya, Latvia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States.

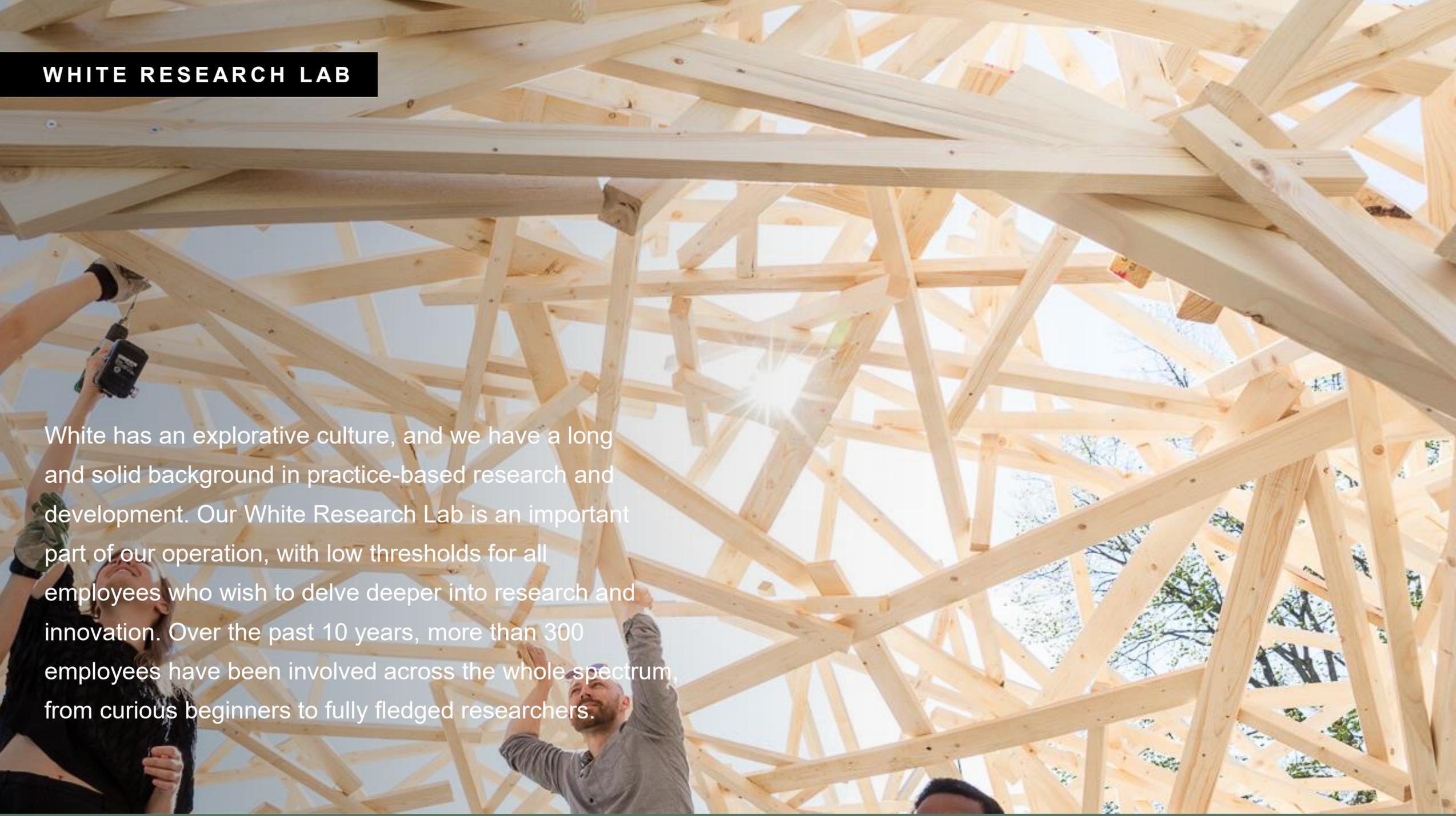


73 years of Community Involvement and Collaboration

White Arkitekter was founded in Gothenburg in 1951 by Sidney White with the aim of improving society through architecture. His legacy lives on in our ambition to contribute to a more sustainable world. The ideals of collective thinking and employee ownership are as strong as ever, and today we are one of Scandinavia's leading architectural practices.

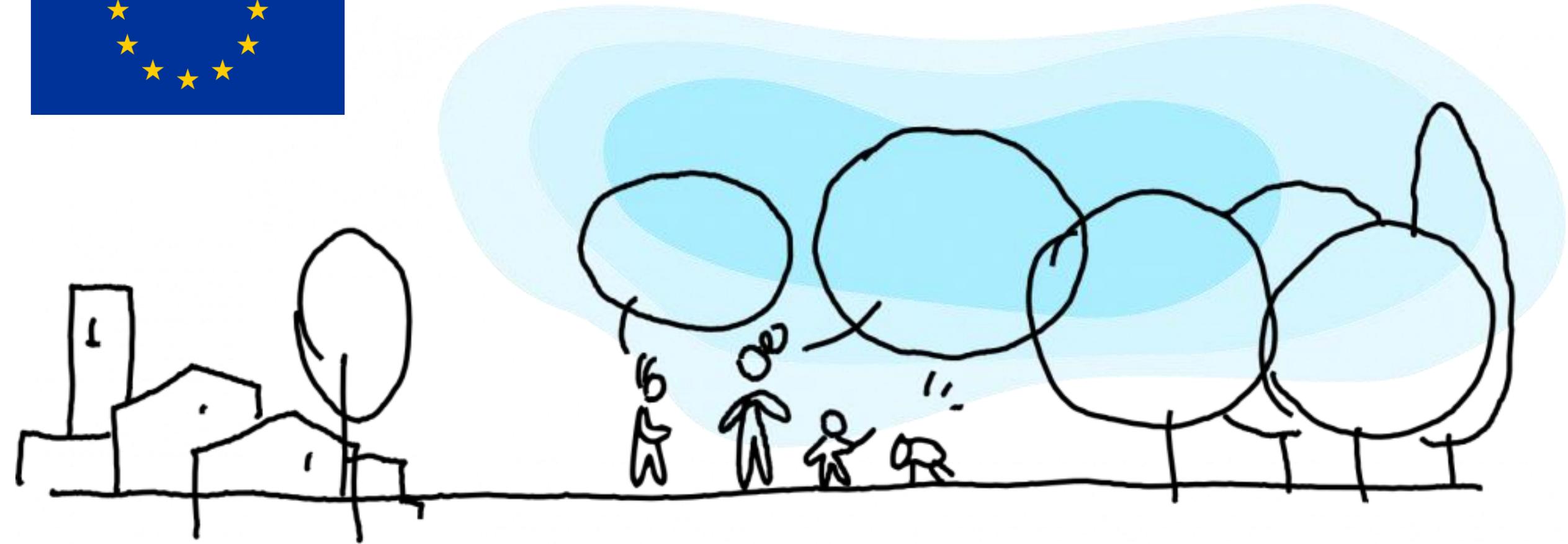


White's very first project, Baronbackarna in Örebro, is the result of a competition won in 1950. The young architects Sidney White and Per-Axel Ekholm won with a proposal with the motto 'You can play in our yard'. The focus was on social engagement in people's everyday lives and the belief that the world can be changed!

A low-angle, upward-looking photograph of a complex wooden truss roof structure under construction. The beams are light-colored wood, creating a dense, geometric pattern against a bright sky. Sunlight filters through the center of the structure, creating a lens flare. In the lower-left and lower-center, the arms and heads of construction workers are visible, some reaching up to work on the beams. One worker on the left is using a power drill. The overall scene conveys a sense of active, hands-on work and structural complexity.

WHITE RESEARCH LAB

White has an explorative culture, and we have a long and solid background in practice-based research and development. Our White Research Lab is an important part of our operation, with low thresholds for all employees who wish to delve deeper into research and innovation. Over the past 10 years, more than 300 employees have been involved across the whole spectrum, from curious beginners to fully fledged researchers.



New European Bauhaus
beautiful | sustainable | together

Sustainability as our Driving Force

For us, sustainability means creating cities and communities that are equitable, safe and inclusive, and that improve people's health and quality of life.

It requires that development takes place within the limits of the planet, respecting the earth's resources, nature and climate. We believe that together we can create long-term value in our projects, for society and for our planet.

Our Roadmap sets out how we will and can contribute to achieving the global goals and our vision of climate-positive future. Read it on our website.



An aerial photograph of a city built on a hillside. In the foreground, there's a modern building with a green roof and colorful walls (orange, yellow, green, blue). A tall, brick chimney stands prominently in the center. To the right, several multi-story buildings are under construction, with yellow cranes visible. The background shows more residential buildings and a rocky hillside with some greenery.

Digitalisation for a Sustainable Society

According to the World Economic Forum, 70% of the Sustainable Development Goals can be achieved through increased digitalisation. Digital analytics and modelling can help reduce energy demand, lower climate emissions, enable circular material flows and more.

We offer digitalisation services that create new opportunities and value for clients and projects. This could be bringing unique project ideas to life through computational design, or streamlining processes through BIM and smarter information management.

Research, Development and Innovation

White's culture of research is key to developing our architecture, our people, our offering and contributing to the transition to a more sustainable society. Through the White Research Lab, we build knowledge and conduct practical research, development and innovation in close collaboration with clients, academia and other partners.

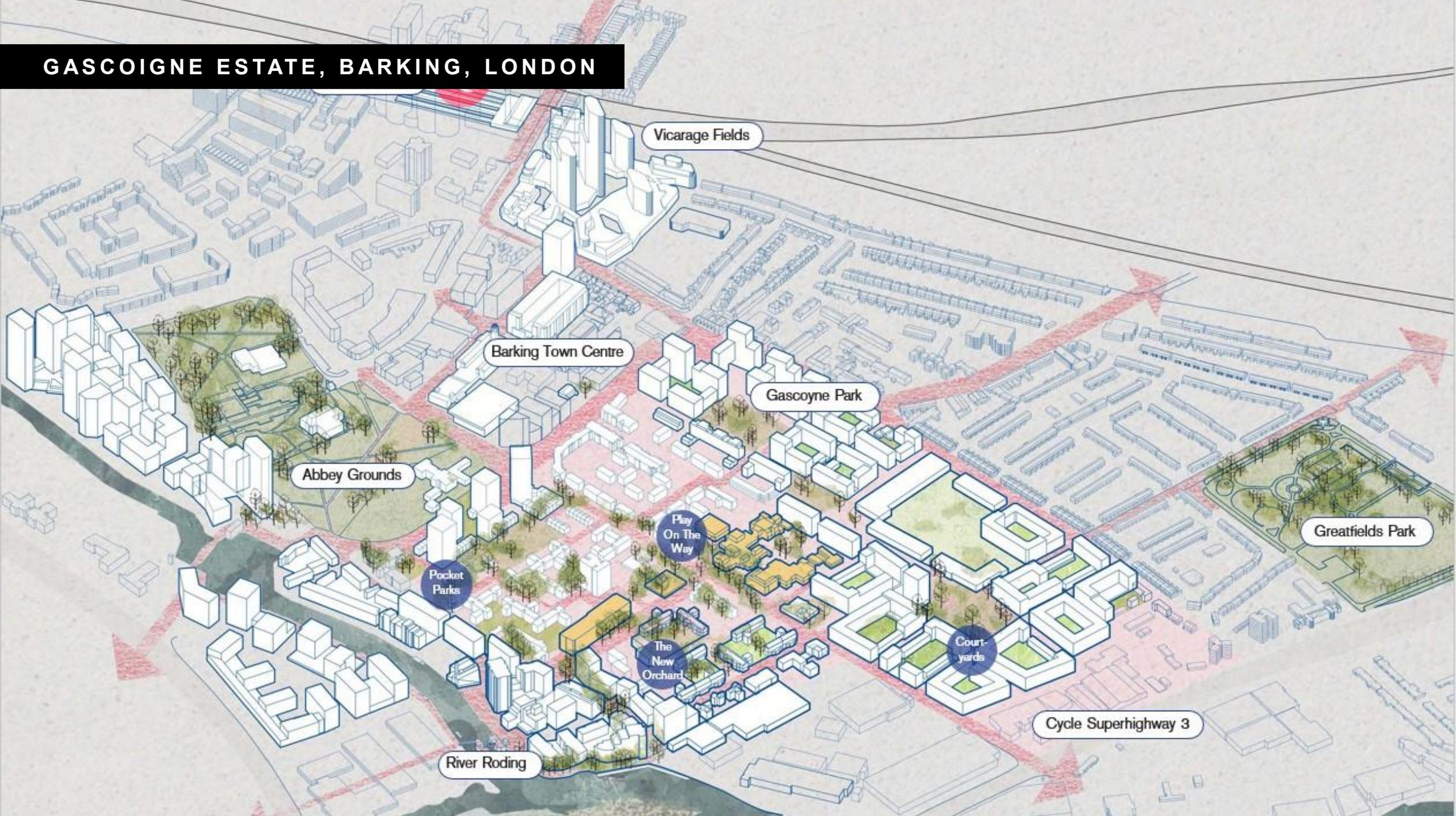
INFRASTRUCTURE OF YESTERDAY



THE NEW SLUSSEN – CLIMATE ADAPTATION, FLOOD PREVENTION & PUBLIC REALM



GASCOIGNE ESTATE, BARKING, LONDON





CRISPE HOUSE

THE CHALLENGES

Lowest Life Expectancy



Healthy life expectancy

K&C M 84, F 88 yrs

B&D M 73, F 81 yrs

Lowest Incomes



Avg £29K

London £42k

UK £34.5k

High Unemployment



B&D 7%

London 4.4%

UK 3.6%

Long waiting list



7000 people

600 free pa

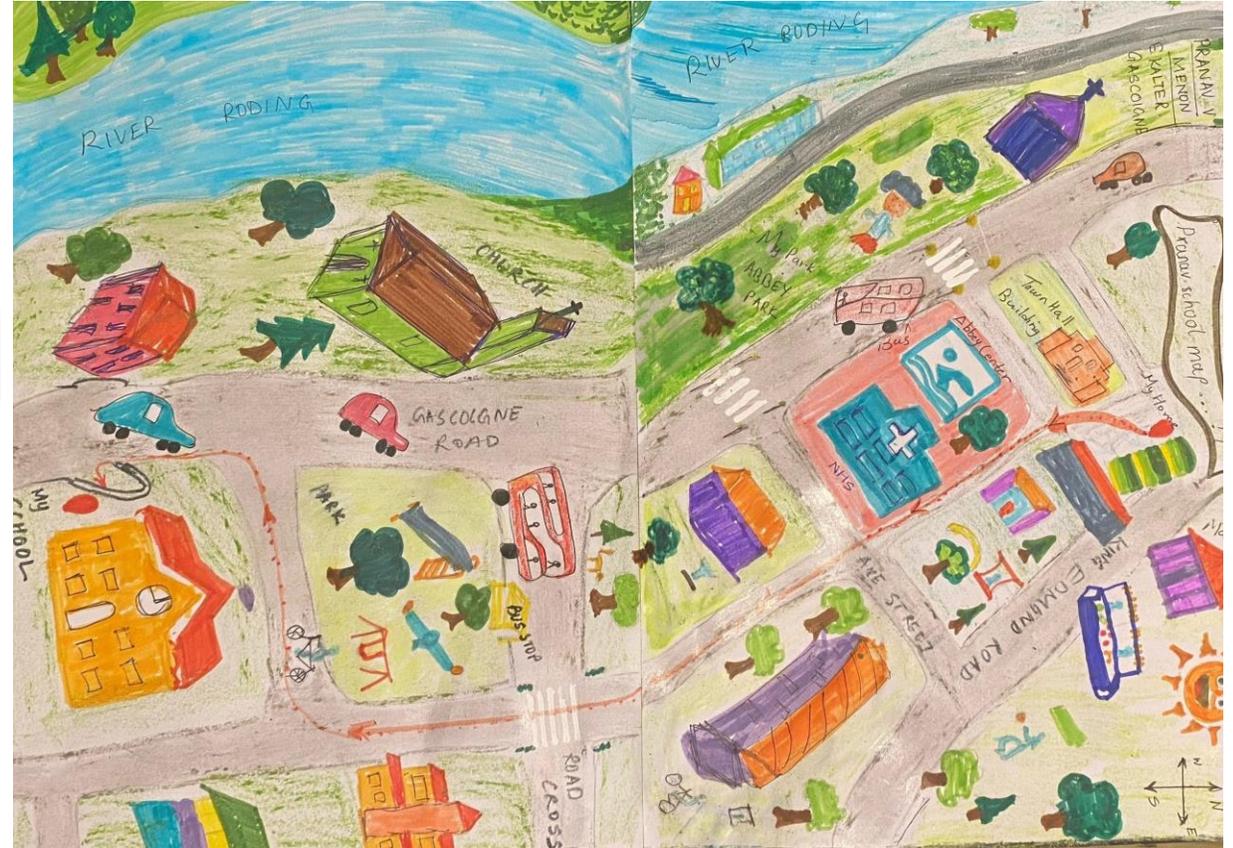
10+ years waiting list

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Places for Girls workshop with students from **Greatfields School** at the heart of the Gascoigne Estate

A drawing from primary school engagement for the Big Picture Placemaking Strategy





BUILDING A NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD



white



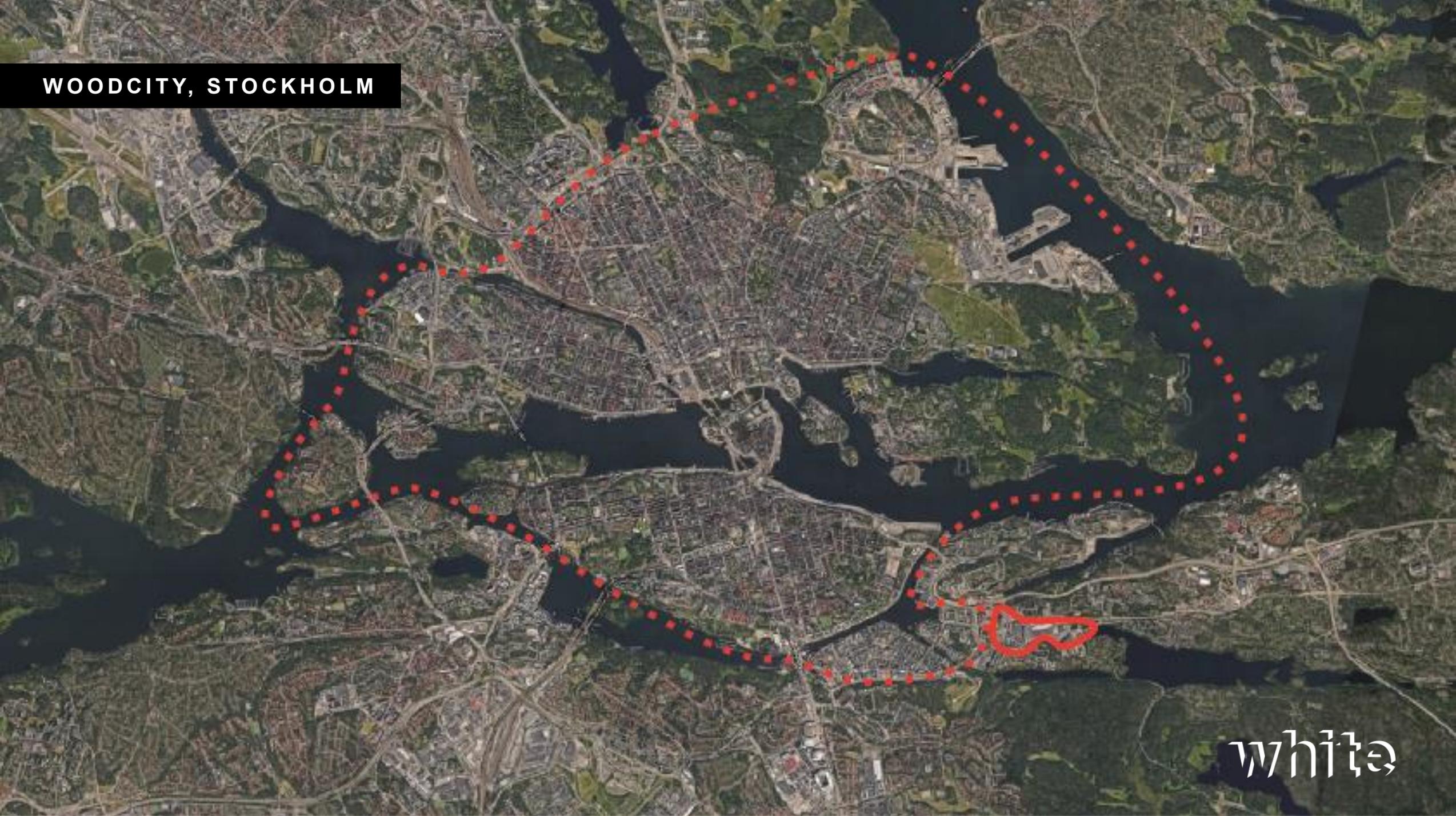
GASCOIGNE WEST PHASE 2, LONDON

NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS PRINCIPLES INTERNATIONALLY



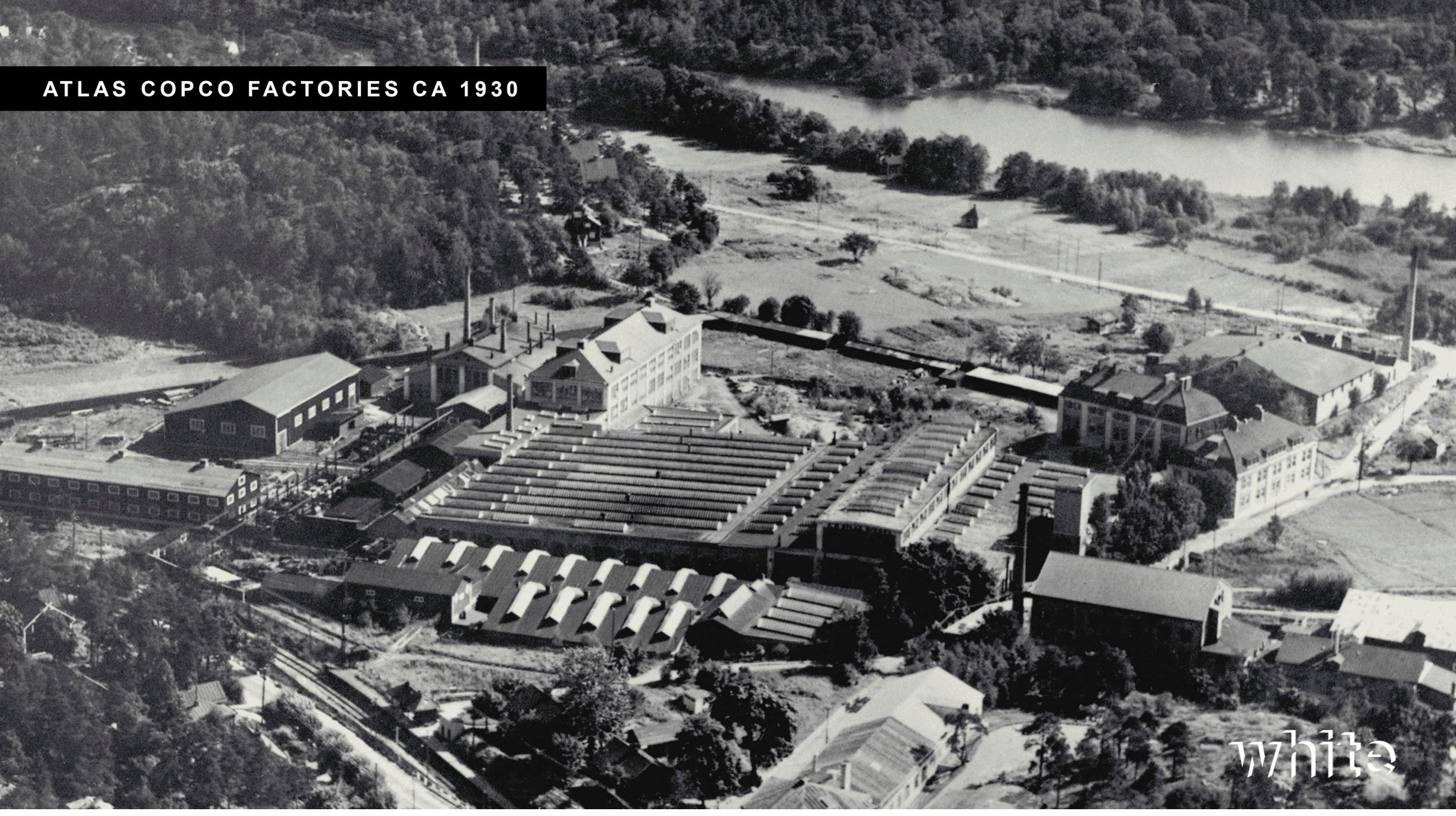
GASCOIGNE WEST PHASE 2, LONDON

WOODCITY, STOCKHOLM



white

ATLAS COPCO FACTORIES CA 1930



white

ON TOP OF THE MINE





INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE



TIMBER CONSTRUCTION

TRACES OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

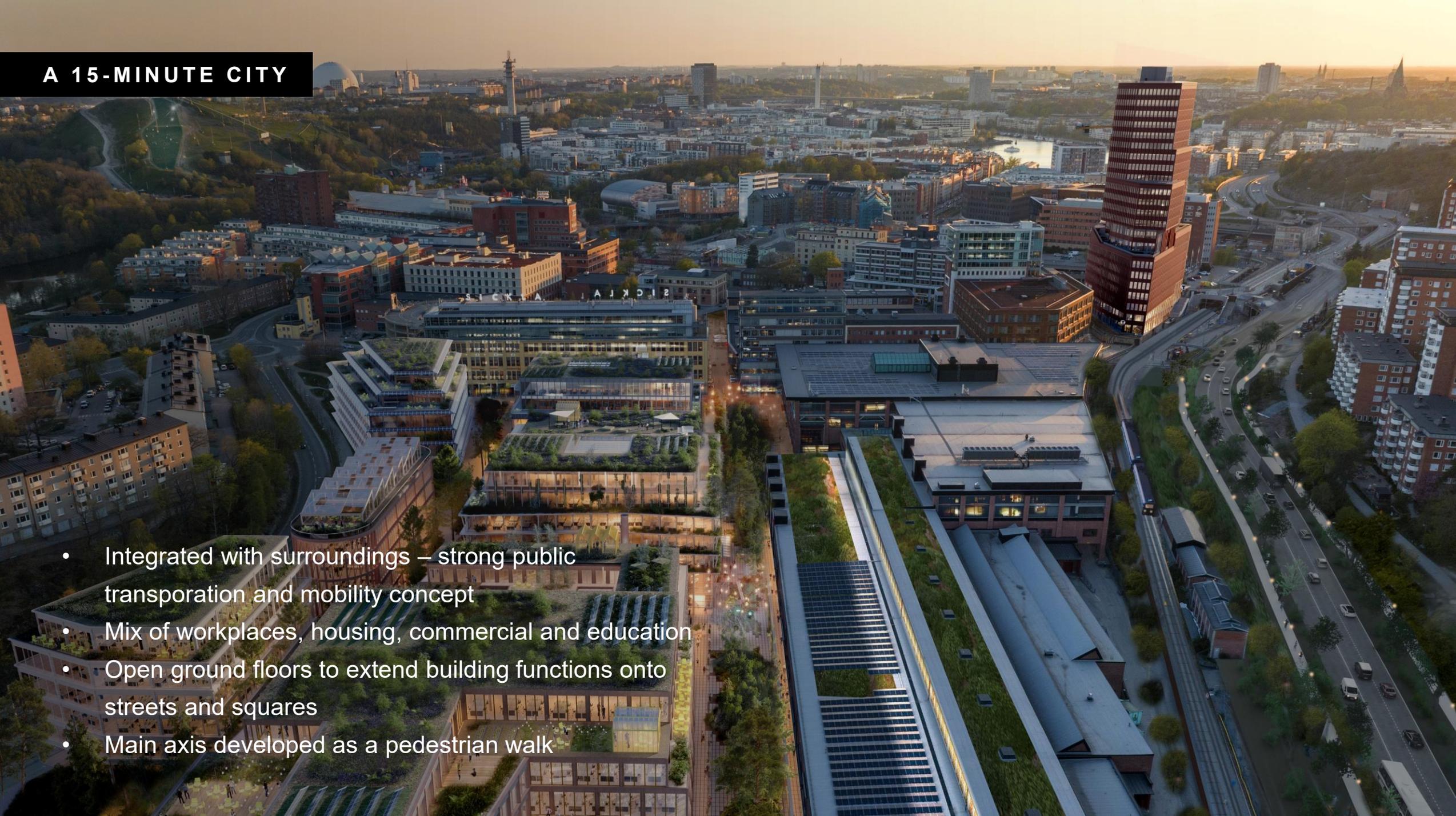
RAW MATERIAL

PRODUCT



A 15-MINUTE CITY

- Integrated with surroundings – strong public transportation and mobility concept
- Mix of workplaces, housing, commercial and education
- Open ground floors to extend building functions onto streets and squares
- Main axis developed as a pedestrian walk



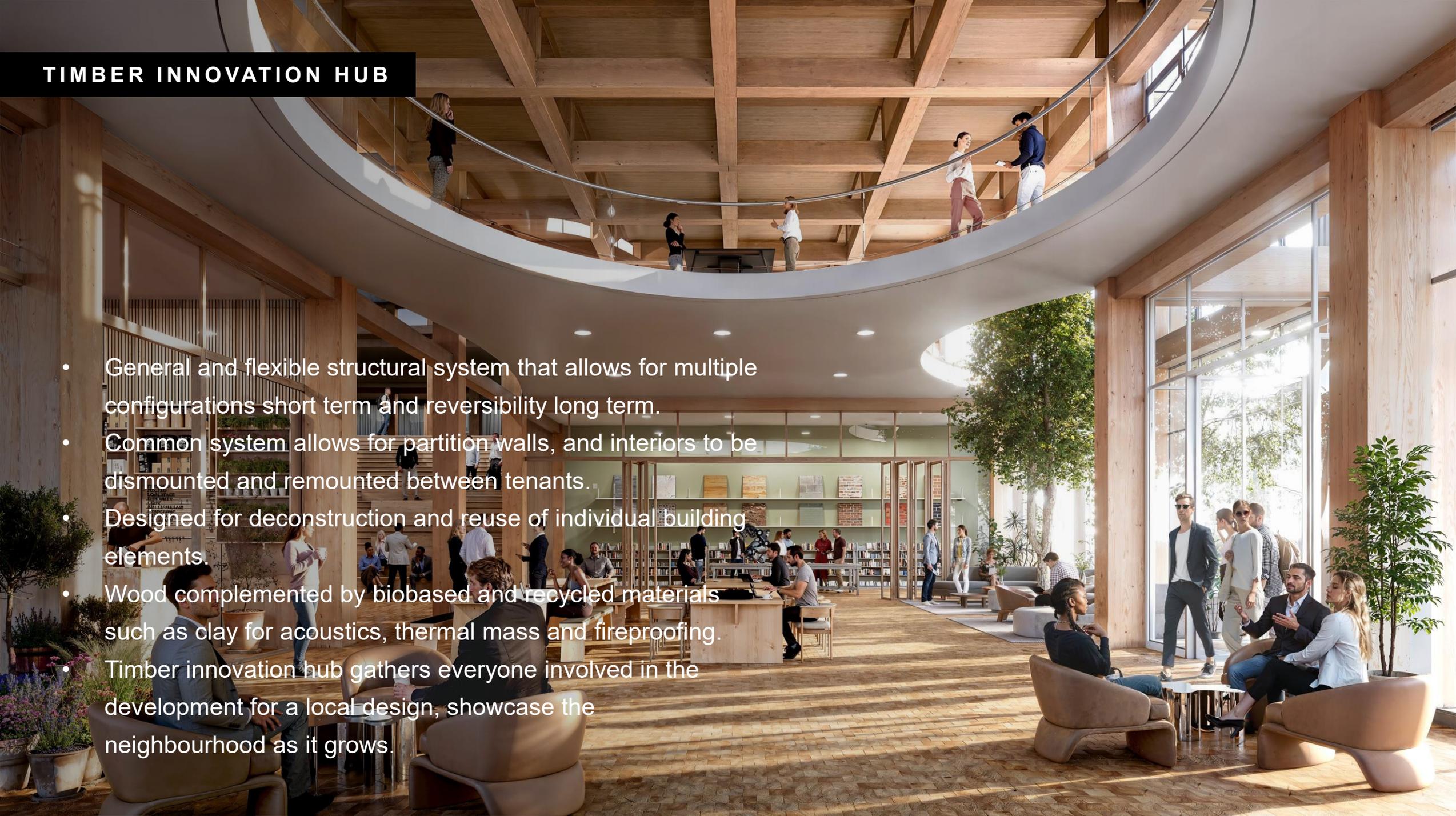
AN URBAN FOREST

- Surfaces on ground, facades, terraces and roofs used to maximize green productive surface and fulfill the definition of a forest.
- Greenery designed to provide climate mitigation
- Ecosystem services for a social and ecological neighbourhood
- Biomass stores CO₂, cleanses air and stores rain water
- Recycled materials to obtain mass balance and reduce emissions.
- Strong connection to recreational sports areas in Nacka Nature Reserve and Kyrkviken.



TIMBER INNOVATION HUB

- General and flexible structural system that allows for multiple configurations short term and reversibility long term.
- Common system allows for partition walls, and interiors to be dismantled and remounted between tenants.
- Designed for deconstruction and reuse of individual building elements.
- Wood complemented by biobased and recycled materials such as clay for acoustics, thermal mass and fireproofing.
- Timber innovation hub gathers everyone involved in the development for a local design, showcase the neighbourhood as it grows.



FOREST MANAGEMENT AND PRODUCTION



FABRICATION STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION





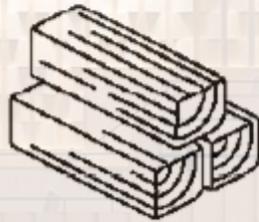
Total emissions, 50 years

5631 ton CO₂-e

Total balancing, 50 years

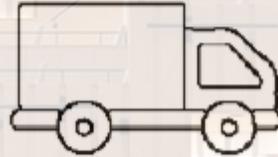
10190 ton CO₂-e

Materials (A1-A3)



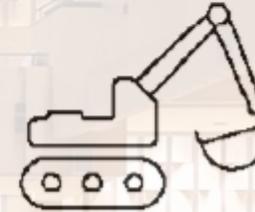
3550 ton CO₂e

Transportation (A4)



25 ton CO₂e

Construction process (A5)



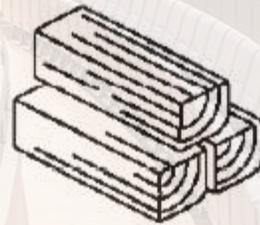
520 ton CO₂e

Operational energy (B6)



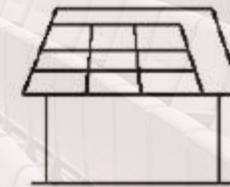
1540 ton CO₂e

Carbon sequestration



-9095 ton CO₂e

PV



-1095 ton CO₂e



Thank you

ARCHITECTURE FOR A SUSTAINABLE LIFE

@whitearkitekter
whitearkitekter.com

white