

# FÖRÜNN Å FÖRÜNN

*[over and over again]*

*Exploring possibilities with timber buildings designed for disassemble*

*Sara Bergås & Ida Lundgren*

Examiner: Krystyna Pietrzyk

Supervisor: John Helmfridsson

Department of Architecture & Civil Engineering

Chalmers University of Technology



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**CHALMERS**

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Master Thesis Spring 2020

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Supervisor: John Helmfridsson

Chalmers University of Technology  
Department of Architecture & Civil Engineering  
Architecture and Planning Beyond Sustainability

## AUTHORS

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### IDA & SARA

Our interest in sustainable solutions within architecture has been with us during our whole education. We have previous experience from investigating material life cycles, unconventional materials, traditional building techniques, wooden structures, and more. We are both from the northern part of Sweden, which has had a big influence on our interest in building with wood. The north is cov-

ered in spruce and pine, making it a big part of the region's identity.

The name förünn å förünn comes from the northern language of our home regions and means over and over again. The soon to be forgotten language is still spoken by parts of the older generation. The project name reflects our aim to keep building material in a material loop and use it over and over again.

# ABSTRACT

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Today, the building industry is forced to face large transformations to be able to reach the sustainable development goals set by Agenda 2030. This includes reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, waste, and introduce a circular use of materials. Habits of sending large quantities of usable building material to landfills are simply not acceptable in a time of climate crisis. There are in fact several ways to retain the value of a material, by repairing, reusing and recycling, etc.

The purpose of this thesis is to challenge the conventional way of building by exploring the possibil-

ities, and presenting practical ideas, on how to design for disassembly. A theoretical comparison of different prefabrication levels, timber building systems, and joints will indicate which buildings methods are able to prolong the lifespan of a building and its materials.

The case study housing-project of the thesis is part of a larger collaboration, together with RISE, Kiruna bostäder AB and LTU, made for the initiative Kiruna Sustainability Centre. The project is situated in the new city centre of Kiruna – a city in the middle of a great urban transformation.

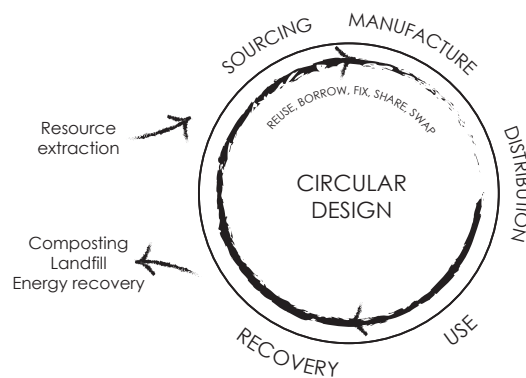


Figure 1. Circular economy diagram, with modification

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Appendix 1 - Calculations

Appendix 2 - Interviews

01.

# BACKGROUND

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Traditionally, materials are found in linear production lines, which means that after the first use, the materials are used for energy recovery or end up at landfills. This behaviour is highly resource-intensive and causes negative effects on the climate. In a circular system, materials are preserved by element reuse or material recycling.

Societies need to reduce the number of resources they harvest and use things more carefully and smart. Reducing the use of resources is a global challenge that needs to be considered in all working fields. Within architecture, designing for disassembly and reusing building materials are ways to contribute to a more resource preserving practice.

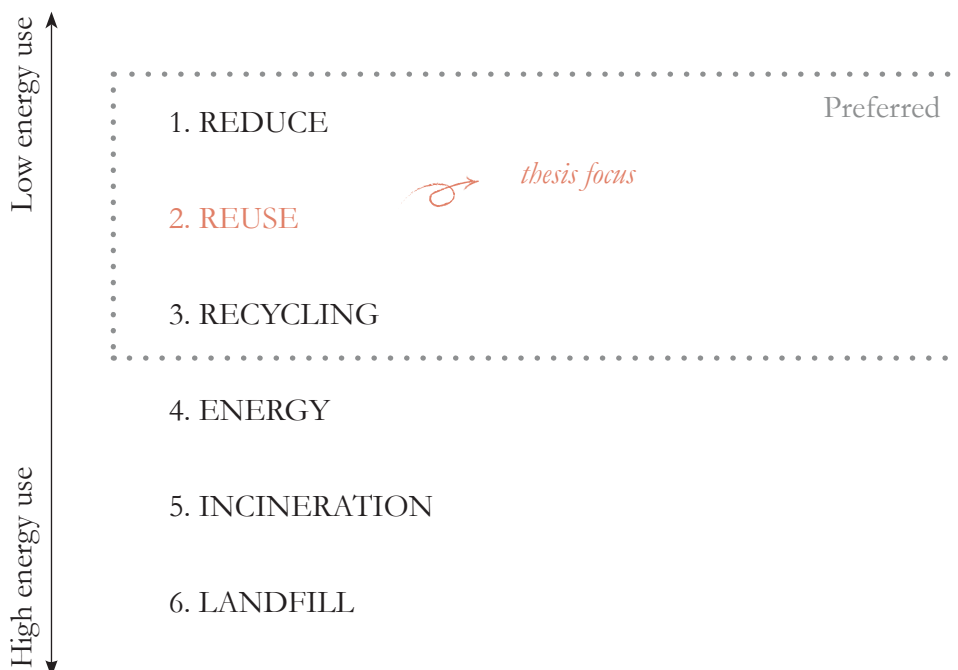


Figure 2. Lansink's Ladder, with modification

## AIM

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The thesis aim is to promote design that enables reuse of virgin building material. Thereby, the material can be used more efficiently and become a part of a circular economy. Within the structure of the thesis, we will present a theoretical comparison of different timber building

methods, to conclude which method is most suitable when designing for disassembly. Further, our finding will be tested in a large scale housing project in Kiruna. The thesis means to influence not only architects but also self-builders, investors, and the industry.

## THESIS QUESTIONS

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*How can we build and design with timber to promote reuse of building materials?*

*Which timber building methods are most suitable to use when designing for disassembly?*

## METHOD

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A research for design method is used throughout the thesis, where Design for disassembly has been a guiding strategy. The basis for the theoretical part, chapter one and two, derives from literature studies and interviews with different actors within the timber building industry. Factors in the comparisons have been estimated by the authors of the thesis, after consultations and literature studies. The Swedish building

sector's environmental calculation tool, BM1.0, have been used for the life cycle analysis, in order to find the Global Warming Potential (GWP) for each building system. The design project is a collaboration with several stakeholders. The evaluation of the theoretical comparison, as well as the project-specific demands, have influenced the chosen building methods.

## DELIMITATIONS

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Timber has been the chosen material for the structural part, and no other material has been investigated. Virgin timber has been used to be able to focus on disassembly methods, thus, eliminate time spent on mapping and evaluating reused material. Due to the case study projects expected life length of +50 years, reuse of materials with

a shorter expected life length have not been planned for. This includes fixed interiors, installations and exterior claddings. All challenges with reuse of building material haven't been solved within the thesis, such as transport and storage. Main joints of the building have been investigated and are designed to support a reuse concept.



Picture 1 and 2. Demolition site, Handelshögskolan in central Gothenburg, source: authors

## THE SITUATION TODAY

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In Sweden, the building sector stands for 31% of the total waste produced (Boverket, 2019). Buildings that are being torn down long before their technical life length has expired are contributing to the high volumes of waste. The average life length of multi-family dwellings demolished between 1999 and 2018, was 55 years (SCB, 2018, Appendix 1).

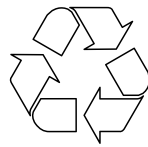
According to C. Wikström and K. Gren at Miljörivarna, the increased charge on leaving unsorted material has caused the sorting and recycling of material to improve (personal communication, February 20,

2020). Today, 50% of all construction waste is considered recycled (Boverket, 2019), this is measured in weight, not in value. Concrete is typically recycled into road fill, reducing its value significantly. Concrete crushed into road fill has an average value of five euro per ton, a value 50 times lower than that of a new concrete element (Guldager Jensen & Sommer, p. 3, 2016). According to Guldager Jensen and Sommer (2016), almost all building waste today is being downcycled to the lowest value possible.



*31%*

Of the total waste produced originates from the building sector



*50 %*

Waste recycled by the building sector



*55 years*

The average life length of dwellings



Picture 3. Restauration after a fire in Öjeby church village, source: authors

# REUSED STRUCTURES

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## - HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE -

### LOGS & JOINTS

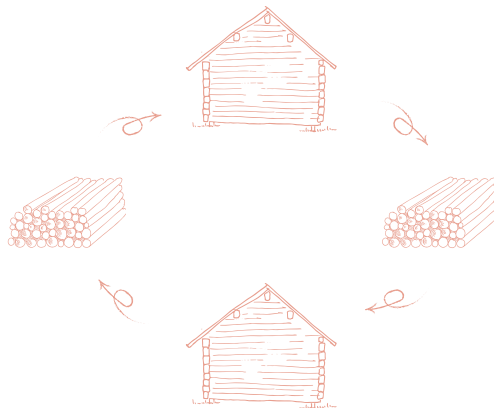
In the past, when people constructed buildings for themselves, it seems they thought of reusing existing material to a greater extent. Well protected structures, made with high-quality massive wood, and joints for disassembly, have enabled old structures to be reused.

### NOMADS

The nomadic lifestyle has created a need for building structures to be easily disassembled. The material needs to be brought along when travelling through vast areas.

### WHY BUILDINGS MOVED

Societal and technical developments could force buildings to be moved, such as the legislative change of how the land was divided (swe: Storskifte, Laga skifte). Buildings were either reused as it was, though at a new location or reused as parts in new construction (I. Sjölund, personal communication, February 18, 2020, Appendix 2).



# REUSED STRUCTURES

## - POTENTIAL GAINS -

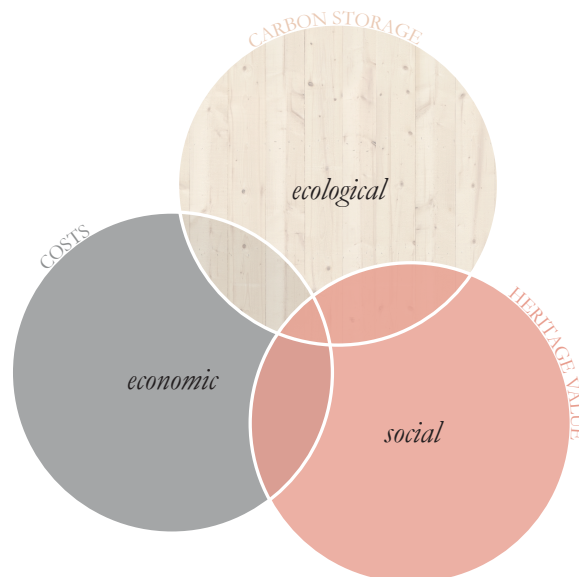
### HERITAGE VALUE

Social values can be gained from using reused material, as it can contribute to a connection to past lived lives, and preserve architectural identity. It can also increase the sense of contributing to sustainable alternatives, both for the users, workers and commissioners involved.

### CARBON STORAGE

CO<sub>2</sub> stored in buildings works as a carbon sink, and the longer it stays in the building, the better, as it keeps

the CO<sub>2</sub> from being released to the atmosphere. From the production of the outer wall of our case study building, 32 tons CO<sub>2</sub> is emitted (Appendix 1). If reuse of the existing building material replaces a possible demolition followed by new construction, an equal amount of CO<sub>2</sub> is instead stored in the building. Though, the facade and the wind stopper boards may need to be changed after 50 years, which will give 7 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emission (Appendix 1).



# REUSED STRUCTURES

## - POTENTIAL GAINS -

### COST

In a circular economy, buildings can be seen as material banks, thus contributing to economical gains, when sold back to the market. In these calculations, the economical differences of demolishing a building, compared to disassembling it, is displayed. The case study project of the thesis has been used as a reference project to calculate costs and values. All costs and values are represented in today's pricing. However, the cost for demolition, disassembling and material values, are likely to increase during the building's life (Appendix 1).

*\*When calculating the disassembly cost, the cost for machines 5% and workers salary 24%, have been used, to illustrate the assembling of the building, but in reverse. This number might be too high since the dismantling does not require as much precision work and thus, is faster.*

*\*\*The material value has been calculated as 34 % of the building cost.*

|                                       |                    |              |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Production cost/ apartment area       | SEK/m <sup>2</sup> | 37 861       |
| Total area                            | m <sup>2</sup>     | 3331         |
| Building cost                         | SEK                | 125,8 M      |
| Demolition cost                       | SEK/m <sup>2</sup> | 600          |
| Total demolition cost                 | SEK                | <b>1,9 M</b> |
| Disassembly cost                      | SEK                | 36,5* M      |
| Material value                        | SEK                | 42,8** M     |
| Material net profit                   | SEK                | <b>6,3 M</b> |
| Difference demolition and disassembly | SEK                | 8,2 M        |

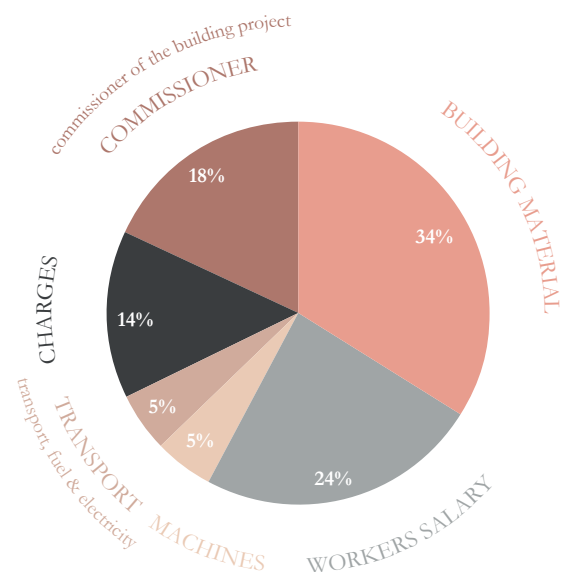


Figure 3. Division of building costs, data from SCB, 2020

# REUSED STRUCTURES

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## - CHALLENGES -

### STORAGE

A new building project can rarely find all the material needed from an ongoing demolition project close by. The building process often spans over several years, making it difficult to harvest material from another building directly. Therefore, when a building is demolished, the building material needs to be stored before it can find future use. Today, there are only a hand-full of actors on the market that store and trade second-hand building material.

### ECONOMICS

According to Valter Samuelsson, (personal communication, February 16, 2020), who is a retailer of second-hand material, it is hard to sell things with little or no antiquity values, making them decline material from the last decades. For builders today, the cost of dismantling a building compared to demolishing it, is often very high. This is due

to the fact that buildings today are not built to be reused, making it a time-consuming process.

*“It’s an economically hopeless business” - Valter Samuelsson*

### TRANSPORTATION

The building material to be reused needs to be transported, normally on a truck. This puts some limitations on how big and fragile the building, or building pieces, can be.

### ENSURE QUALITY

All new products are tested and described before being released to the market. This lets the buyer know, for example, how toxic or tolerable a product is, before putting it to use. For used building material, this quality assurance can be a complicated and expensive process, making reuse of material an economic venture.

# DESIGNING FOR DISASSEMBLY

---

## - INTRODUCTION -

Designing for disassembly enables products to be taken apart into its individual components so that they can be reassembled, reused and recycled to new products of similar value. It is a necessity when moving into a circular economy as it ensures that the produced material stays in a closed material cycle.

There are some common rules to follow when designing for disassembly. For example, when two materials are joint together the connection has to be visible and reversible to ensure easy deconstruction

in the future. It is also important to choose materials of high quality, that can be used for a long period of time.

By following these rules, the building becomes easy to refurbish and repair thereby, lowering the maintenance cost. It also contributes to a quick construction process. Last but not least, the building can be used as a future material bank, which is a profit not only for it's owner, but also the environment. (Guldager Jensen & Sommer, p. 41-42, 2016)

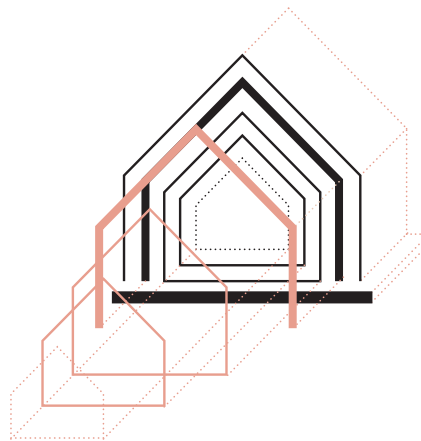


Figure 4. Shearing layers, with modification

# DESIGNING FOR DISASSEMBLY

## - SHEARING LAYERS -

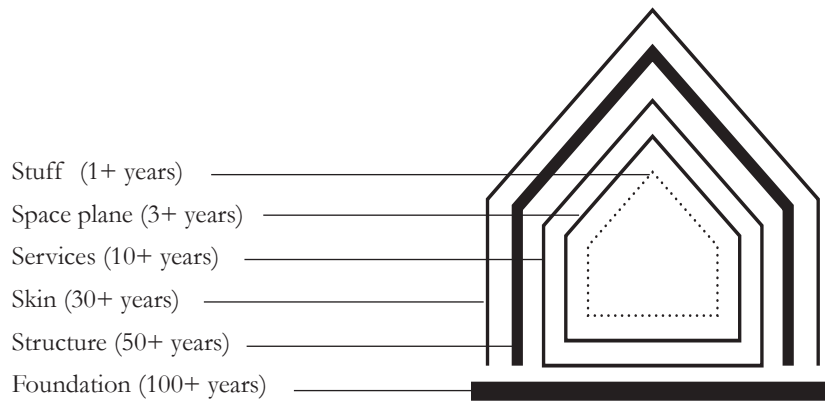
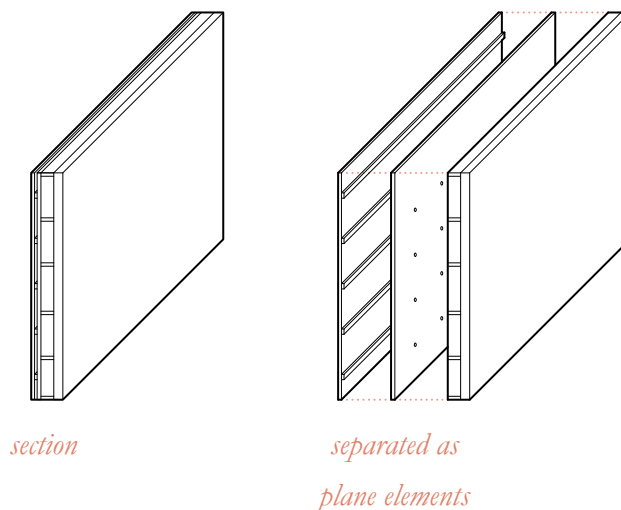


Figure 5. Shearing layers by Stewart Brand.

In 1995 Stewart Brand first described the different shearing layers of a building, divided by their estimated life length. When a building undergoes renovation, is rebuilt or has to be torn down, the different

shearing layers have different capacity to be reused. By planning for easy separation of the layers, each layer can be reused to its full capacity. This method has been implemented for the case study project.



# DESIGNING FOR DISASSEMBLY

---

## - STRATEGIES -

### FUTURE ADAPTABILITY

- Use standard dimensions
- Design high floor to ceiling height
- Use a low number of customized pieces
- Simplify material types
- Ease future transport logistics
- Design separable building layers for changing needs and maintenance

### EASY REUSE

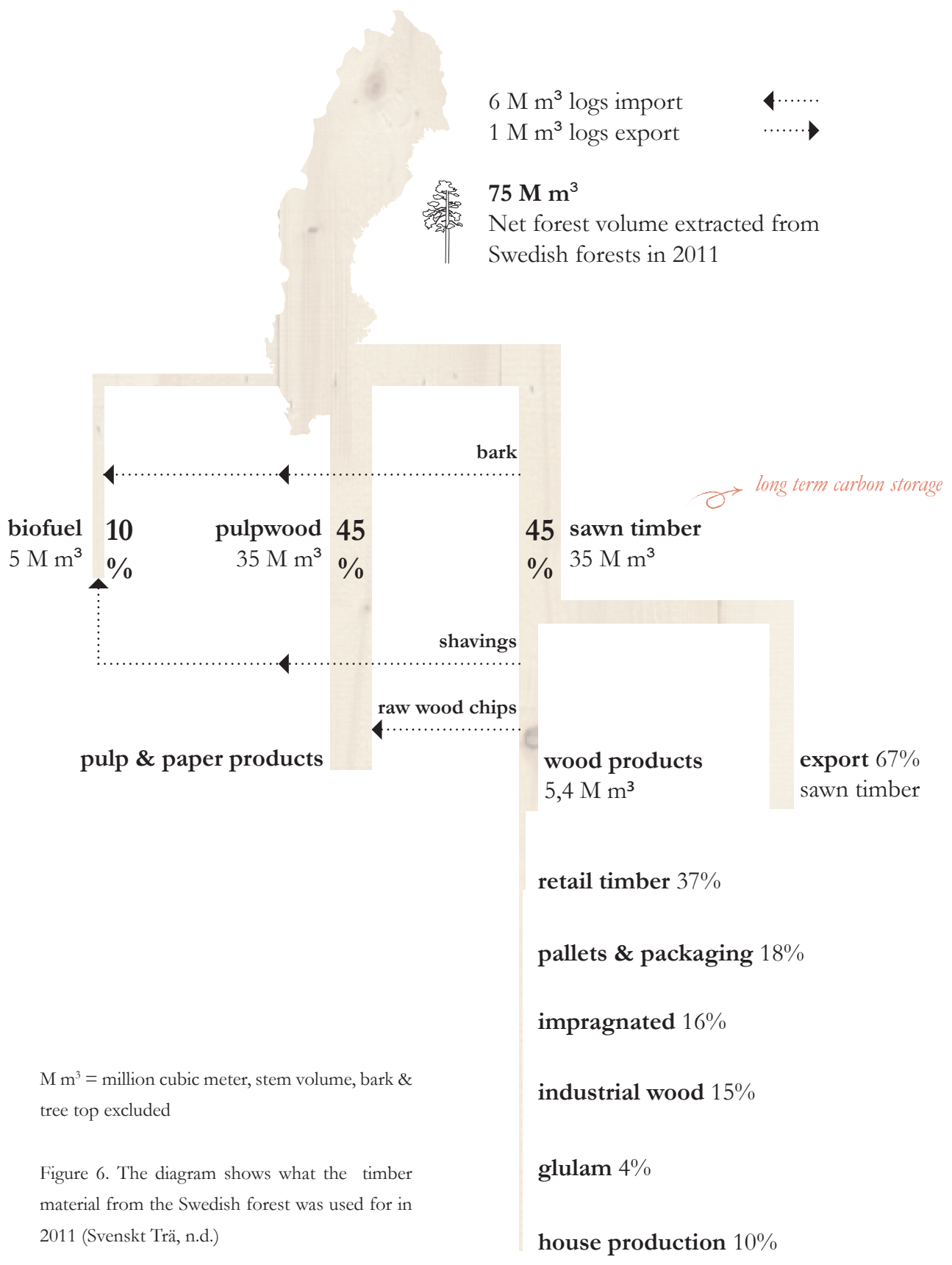
- Use accessible, tolerable and mechanical joints
- Use high-quality material, with a long expected lifespan
- Plan for easy separation of building layers
- Tag material with ID number
- Save instructive documentation

### INTERIOR ENVIRONMENT

- Use healthy, non-toxic materials
- Plan for good indoor climate
- Visualise timber

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- Use renewable energy during production and transport
- Minimize building's embodied energy
- Design for durable aesthetics



M m<sup>3</sup> = million cubic meter, stem volume, bark & tree top excluded

Figure 6. The diagram shows what the timber material from the Swedish forest was used for in 2011 (Svenskt Trä, n.d.)

# WOOD

---

## - SUSTAINABILITY -

Thanks to photosynthesis, trees, and other organisms capture carbon from CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere and give back oxygen (Skogforsk, 2019). The Swedish forest captures approximately 40 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> each year (Naturvårdsverket, 2019, A), this can be compared to the 60 million ton CO<sub>2</sub> Sweden emit each year (Naturvårdsverket, 2019, B). The amount CO<sub>2</sub> stored in one m<sup>3</sup> of wood during its lifetime (density 480 kg/m<sup>3</sup>) is around 0,9 tons (Van der Lugt, 2012). It is important to understand that only when the global area of forests, and the total volume of wood in the built environment, are increasing, there will be extra carbon sequestration (Van der Lugt, 2012).

*1,5 seconds*

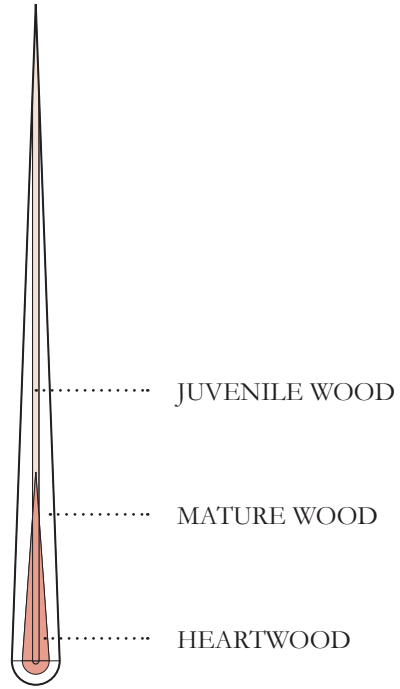
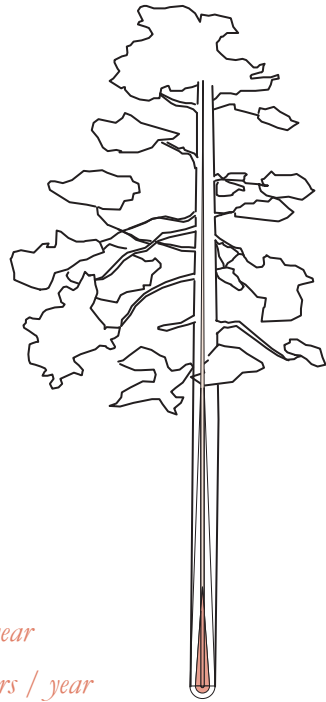
Time for the Swedish forest to regrow the material used in a house (Appendix 1)

A research done by Esbjörnsson & Magnusson (2014) shows how the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions during manufacturing is almost 40% lower in structures made of timber, compared to concrete structures. It also describes that a big part of the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from a conventional timber construction originates from plastics, gypsum, and mineral wool. By eliminating the use of these materials the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions can be reduced by 63% in the timber construction.

10% of Sweden's wood products are used for house production, and more than half of the amount of the sawn timber is exported. (Svenskt Trä, n.d.). Meaning, there is great potential for using more timber within the country.

*40 %*

less CO<sub>2</sub> in timber structures compared to concrete structures



*Total length*

*Spruce: < 40 m*

*Pine: < 30 m*

*Length growth*

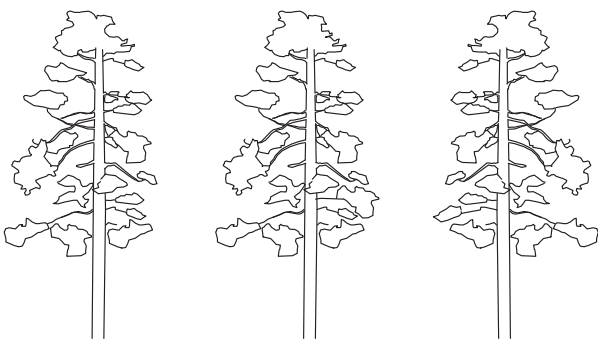
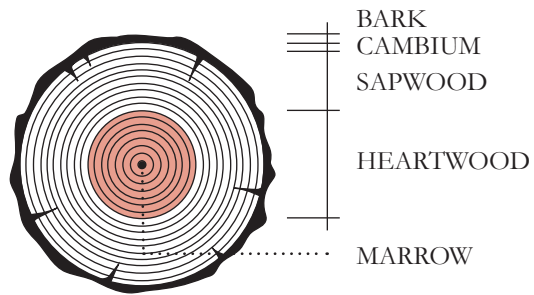
*Young tree: > 500 mm / year*

*Mature tree: a few decimeters / year*

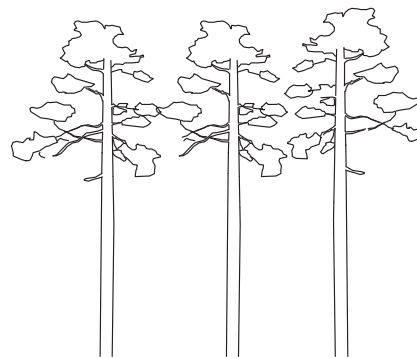
*Diameter growth*

*Young tree: < 10 mm / year*

*Mature tree: 2-3 mm / year*



*tree in a sparse stock*  
*- robust branches*



*trees in a dense stock*  
*- less branches*

# WOOD

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## - CHARACTERISTICS -

### STEM STRUCTURE

The wood of the stem is divided into the outer sapwood and the inner heartwood. Water with nutrients from the ground are transported through the sapwood. As the tree ages, the older inner part of the sapwood fills with oils, gums, resins, and tannins. When the cells die, the sapwood has converted into heartwood (Berlyn, Everett, & Weber, 2020). This part of the log holds natural protection abilities and is of vital importance when using timber as a structural element; it will endure longer (I. Sjölund, personal communication, February 18, 2020). On the outside of the wood you find the cambium, which is the growth layer of the stem. It produces new wood cells inwards, and new bark cells outwards (Träguiden, 2017). Between the outer bark and the cambium, nutrients from the photosynthesis are transported (Berlyn, Everett, & Weber, 2020).

### ANNUAL RINGS

The annual rings are defined by the springwood and summerwood. The springwood is visible as the brighter part of the annual ring compared to the darker summerwood. The colour is due to the density differences between the two, where summerwood is the denser one. The proportion of summerwood in the annual ring can affect the total density of a specific tree (Träguiden, 2017).

### GROWTH & WOOD QUALITY

Trees in a sparse stock grow more robust branches, whilst the tree in a dense stock can grow more, but thinner branches, or in some cases no branches at all in the lower parts. The first 10-20 annual rings, closest to the marrow, compose the so-called juvenile wood. This part of the stem has lower strength and shrinks longitudinally (Träguiden, 2017).



Picture 4. Felling area, Granträsk - Nyby, Lycksele, 1921. Source: SLU, Skogsbibliotekets bildarkiv



Picture 5. River filled with timber, Sveg, 1916. Source: Ljusnans flottningsförenings arkiv

# WOOD

---

## - IDENTITY -

### HISTORY OF THE FORESTRY

Sweden is a country with 68 % of its total area covered in forest (Skogskunskap, 2017). During the middle ages, the population in Sweden was sparse, and the impact these people did on the forest was low. For a long time, the forest was seen as an infinite resource and was expected to manage itself. In the 1700s, people started to talk about the need for forest management. For most people, timber was used as building material and firewood, whilst entrepreneurs used it as charcoal to fuel their ironworks. During the 1800s, sawmills, and paper and pulp industries, were established along the northern coastline. Timber was harvested from the inland forests and transported on the rivers to the coast. It wasn't until the 1960's peo-

ple started demonstrating against the unsustainable forestry in Sweden. At that time the industry used chemical pesticides and the clear-felled forest areas had expanded, which led to protests. At the end of the 1900s, Swedish forestry started to handle questions about biological diversity and sustainable regrowth of the forest stock. (Skogshistoriska sällskapet, 2020)

### WOOD HERITAGE

The large heritage of timber constructions in Sweden is not merely preserved as memories, but a lot of the structures can be seen and touched today. At Vänga church in Borås, there have been findings of constructive timber material that dates back to the 1000s. (Svenska Kyrkan, 2020).

68%

of Sweden's surface is  
covered in wood

02.

# BUILDING WITH TIMBER

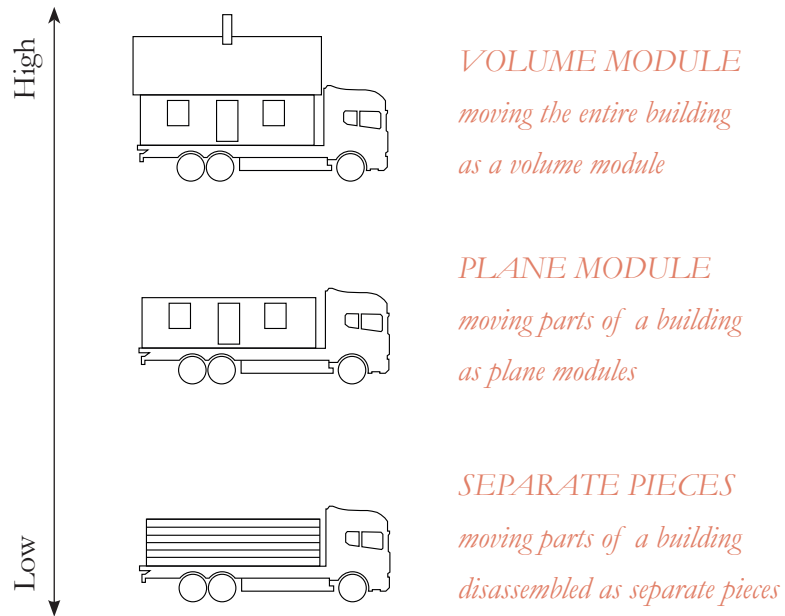
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This chapter consists of a theoretical comparison, divided into three different areas: prefabrication levels, building systems, and joints. A presentation of the specific area is followed by an in-depth comparison. The comparison aims to inform which building method is most suitable to use when designing for disassembly. The factors included in the comparison concerns reusability, environmental impact and plausibility within the Swedish building context.

The first area describes the pros and cons of different levels of prefabrication, which determines if the

building is constructed on-site, or at a factory. In the second area, different building systems are explained, focusing on wall constructions. Last but not least is the comparison of different joints, including wooden joints and metal joints.

The estimated performances of the different building methods have been made after conversations with different actors in the building sector and through literature studies. Calculations and interviews regarding the estimations can be found in Appendix 1 & 2.

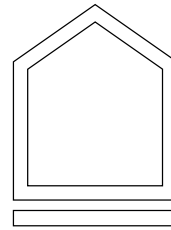


# PREFABRICATION LEVELS

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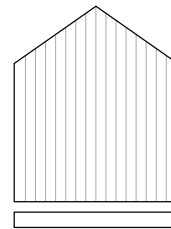
## VOLUME MODULE

A weather-tight building volume that is prefabricated, often with ventilation, electricity, interior fixtures and claddings. The volumes are transported to the building site, where they can be stacked to create a finished building.



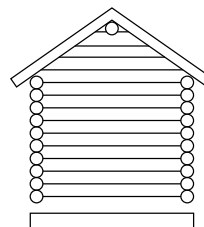
## PLANE MODULE

A prefabricated solid wall, slab or roof element, that can be load-bearing and to some extent insulating. The plane modules need to be assembled to form a protecting shell against the weather.



## SEPARATE PIECES

A building system with separate load-bearing pieces. Often complemented with insulation and facade to get a weather-tight shell. More time consuming than the other methods.



| <i>REUSE FACTOR:</i>                  | Volume | Plane  | Separate |
|---------------------------------------|--------|--------|----------|
|                                       | module | module | pieces   |
| Prefabrication Level<br>(P L)         | high   | medium | low      |
| Assembly/Disassembly<br>Time (A/D T)  | good   | ok     | poor     |
| Architectural Expression<br>(A E)     | poor   | good   | good     |
| Future Design Adaptability<br>(F D A) | poor   | ok     | good     |
| Transportation<br>(T)                 | ok     | ok     | good     |
| Long estimated Lifespan<br>(L L)      | poor   | good   | good     |
| Large Building Scale<br>(B S)         | good   | ok     | poor     |
| Cost<br>(C)                           | low    | medium | high     |

*our choice*

-  *preferred*
-  *ok to use*
-  *least preferred*

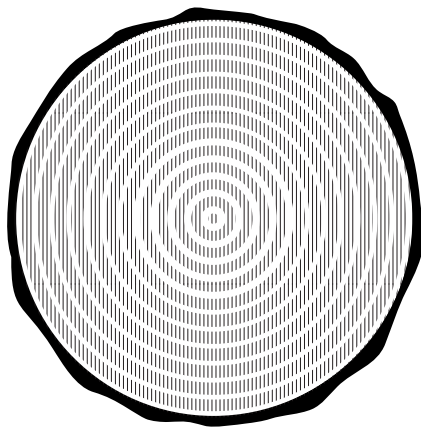
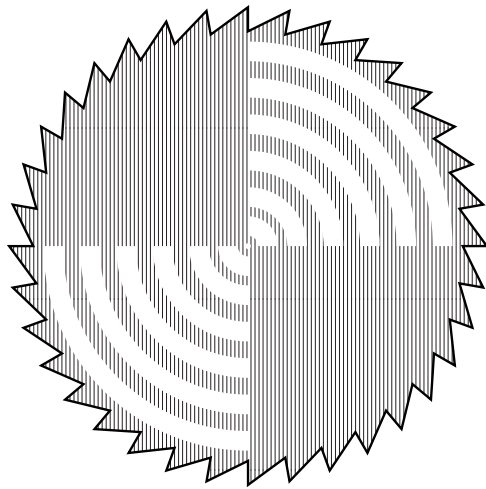
# COMPARISON

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## - PREFABRICATION LEVELS -

### *COMMENT:*

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| P L   | The more that is constructed at a factory before the assembling on-site, the higher the prefabrication level.   |
| A/D T | A fast on-site construction gives shorter assembly/disassembly time, as well as lower building costs.   |
| A E   | Small building elements have the ability to create a larger diversity of architectural expression. Large and similar building elements can be found as repetitive.  |
| F D A | Building codes change over time, the longer time between a buildings reuse the harder it is to predict.   |
| T     | Larger modules may require specialised transportation, which can affect the cost and is hard to transport to a tricky site. Similar pieces can be stacked efficiently, which is helpful when it comes to logistics. |
| L L   | With a long life span, the factor of future design adaptability becomes important to consider, since the function, building regulations, and living habits, may change over time.                                   |
| B S   | Large building scale projects are sensitive to the cost of on-site constructions. In small building scale projects, the assembly/disassembly time becomes of less importance.                                       |
| C     | Today, the cost is probably the most important factor to consider when designing for disassembly. Due to the increasing charge for labour, the disassembly time has to be short.                                    |



# BUILDING SYSTEMS

---

When building with timber, there are multiple systems and techniques that can be used. This comparison will include seven different ways of constructing with timber, and present a typical wall section of each building system. The building

systems included are a mix of old traditional techniques, conventional methods, and newer systems on the market. All building systems have been adjusted to a low U-value of 0,15, to make the comparison easier.

## *Volume module:*

Stud frame

## *Plane module:*

Cross laminated timber

IsoTimber

## *Plane module/ separate pieces:*

Glulam post & beam

Stud frame

## *Separate pieces:*

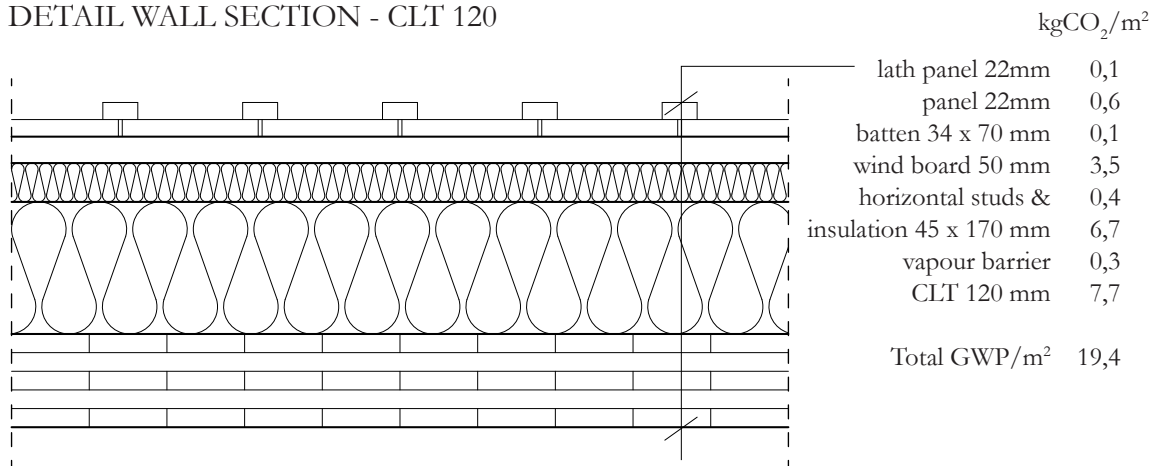
Log construction

Bosum building system

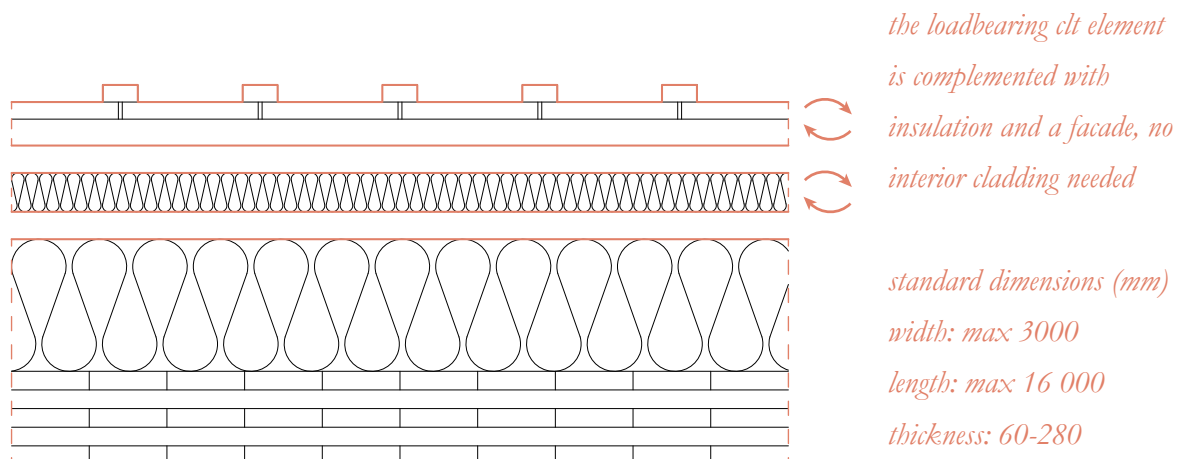


Picture 6. From Martinson's production line of cross laminated timber, Bygdsiljum, source: authors

DETAIL WALL SECTION - CLT 120



PLANE MODULES SEPARATED FOR TRANSPORT



# CROSS LAMINATED TIMBER

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## - PLANE MODULE -

### BUILDING TECHNIQUE

Cross-laminated timber (CLT) is a wooden element, that is premade in a factory using computer numerical control (CNC), which ensures a high precision product, ready-made with customized adaptations. This makes the building element easy to assemble into a weather-tight shell. The material can also be adjusted with tools on site. CLT is most commonly manufactured as plane modules, but can also be made as a volume at the factory (Martinsons, n. d.).

### MANUFACTURING

CLT consists of massive timber planks, that are glued together with every other layer placed perpendicular to the previous layer. The combined timber elements create large span rigid plates that can be cut with holes for windows, doors and other adaptations to enable fast erection on site. Cut out pieces are used to fuel the manufacturing. The

CLT elements typically require lower quality wood than compared to wood used in Glulam (L. Lundberg, personal communication, February 19, 2020).

### PRODUCT PROPERTIES

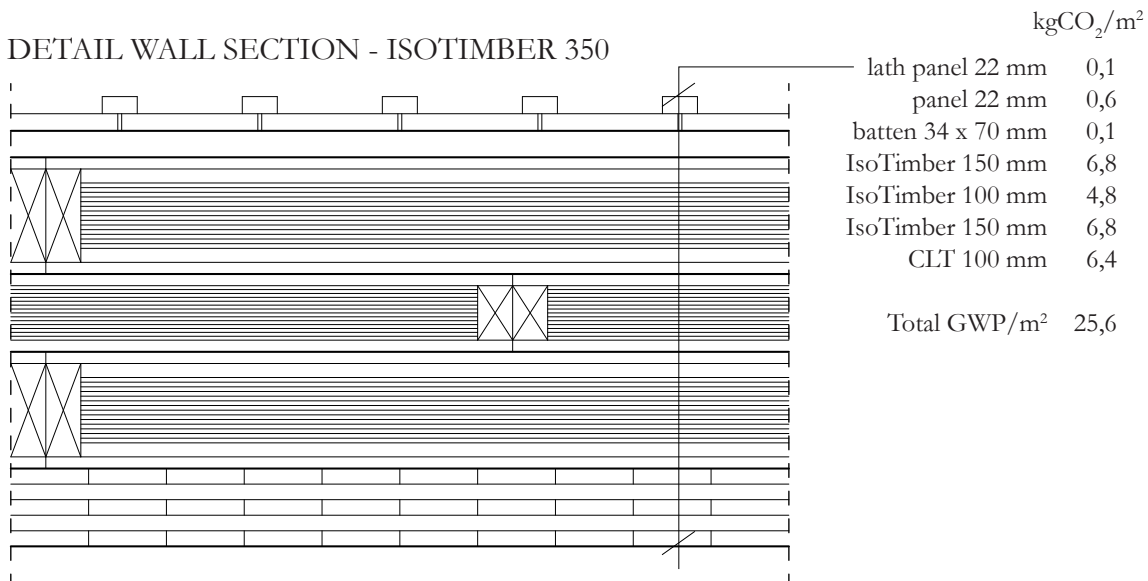
Thanks to the cross lamination, the product can tolerate heavy loads and offer large spans. The CLT element remains rigid even when exposed to moisture. Timber has a relatively low density compared to other structural building materials, such as concrete. Therefore, taller buildings requires to be anchored down, due to the uplifting force caused by wind. Thanks to the hygroscopic properties, the material contributes to a comfortable indoor climate (Martinsons, n. d.).

### USE

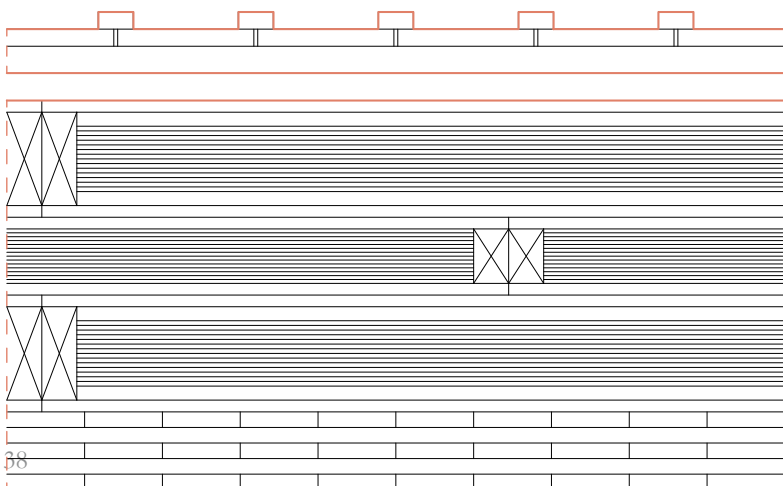
The rigid plate enables CLT to be used for walls, slabs and roofs. The CLT can be left exposed to the interior, thereby, eliminating the use of plasterboards.



Picture 7. IsoTimber wall section, source: IsoTimber



PLANE MODULES SEPARATED FOR TRANSPORT



*standard plane (mm)*

*width: 1200*

*length: 2400*

*thickness: 60, 100, or 150*

*the building blocks are layered to create different thicknesses, which affects both the load bearing as well as the insulating ability*

# ISOTIMBER

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## - PLANE MODULE -

### BUILDING TECHNIQUE

IsoTimber has a pending patent for its building technique. The factory-made elements are quick to form a weather-protected shell. The elements can be assembled at the specific site at any time of the year (IsoTimber Holding AB, 2017).

### MANUFACTURING

IsoTimber consists of stacked timber planks that are milled with small air pockets creating a load-bearing and insulating building material. The milled timber elements are held together with glue and plywood boards. Holes for windows, doors and other adaptations are made directly in the production line. Cut out pieces are puzzled into wall elements, thereby, significantly reducing waste. Today the timber is harvested in Piteå and later transported to Hammerdal, Jämtland county, where manufacturing takes place, which is close to their main

factory in Östersund (IsoTimber Holding AB, 2017).

### PRODUCT PROPERTIES

The large number of air pockets give the block's its good thermal insulation value. Similar to other massive timber constructions the hygroscopic properties of the material contributes to a comfortable indoor climate. Tests have shown that the product remains rigid even during a fire. To achieve the same insulation values in solid wood, the wall thickness has to be doubled (IsoTimber Holding AB, 2017).

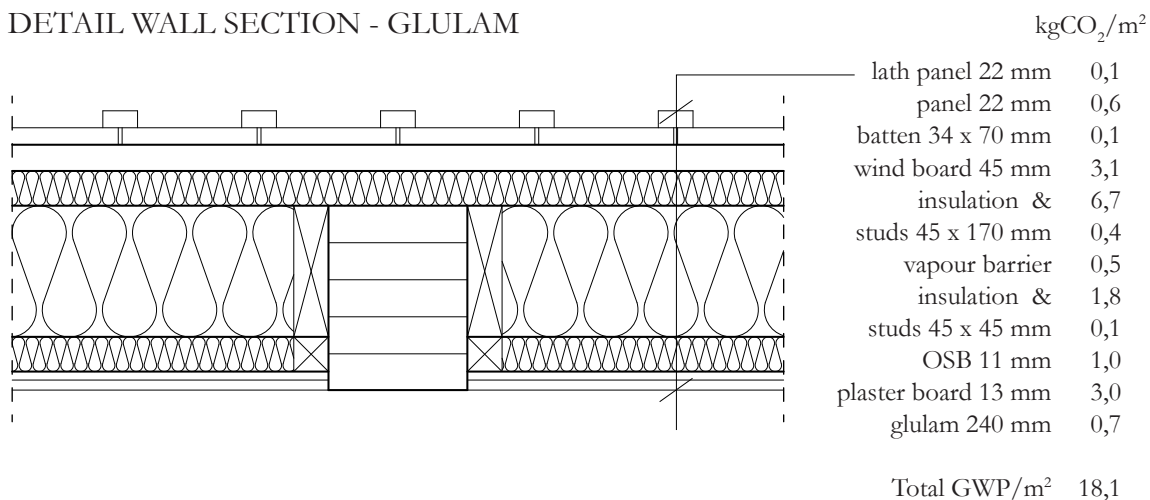
### USE

Mainly used for outer and inner walls, and can carry the load of a two-story building. To be able to build higher, the IsoTimber needs to be constructed with an added layer of a load-bearing structure, preferably a CLT element (IsoTimber Holding AB, 2017).

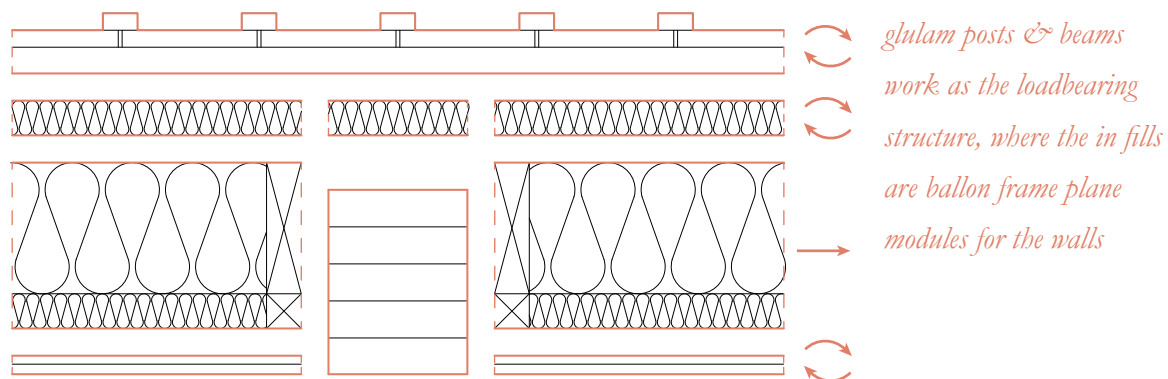


Picture 8. Glulam beams from Martinsson factory in Bygdsiljum, source: authors

### DETAIL WALL SECTION - GLULAM



### PLANE MODULES SEPARATED FOR TRANSPORT



# GLULAM POST & BEAM

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## - PLANE MODULE/SEPARATE PIECES -

### BUILDING TECHNIQUE

The glulam post and beam is used as the load-bearing part of a structure and has done so for a hundred years. The gaps between the posts need to be filled in order to get a weather-tight shell. The joints can be constructed in various ways.

### MANUFACTURING

Glulam consists of massive timber planks, glued together, creating a strong building element. The post or beam is manufactured at the sawmill, from tree to finished product. It can be manufactured in both straight and curved forms. In Sweden, fir is used for manufacturing, but other tree species are available internationally (Martinsons, n. d.).

### PRODUCT PROPERTIES

Glulam is an effective product as it can take great loads and is very strong in relation to its weight. The material is stable in its form and doesn't turn and curve after time. A correctly dimensioned building element can be fire resistant for a long period of time, as the timber burns, but very slowly.

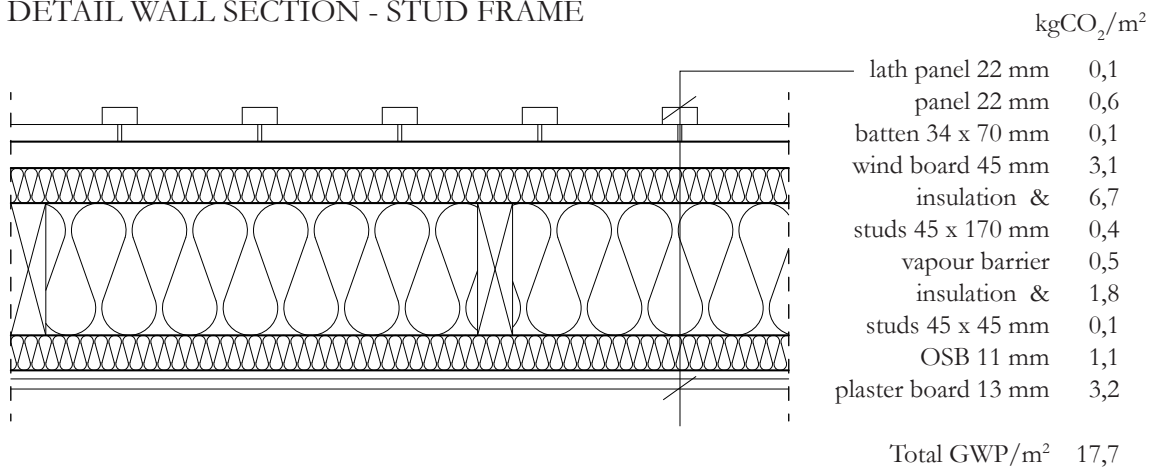
### USE

Glulam can be used in small and big buildings, in walls, slabs and roofs to handle great loads over long spans. It is also frequently used as the load-bearing structure in bridges (Träguiden, 2018)

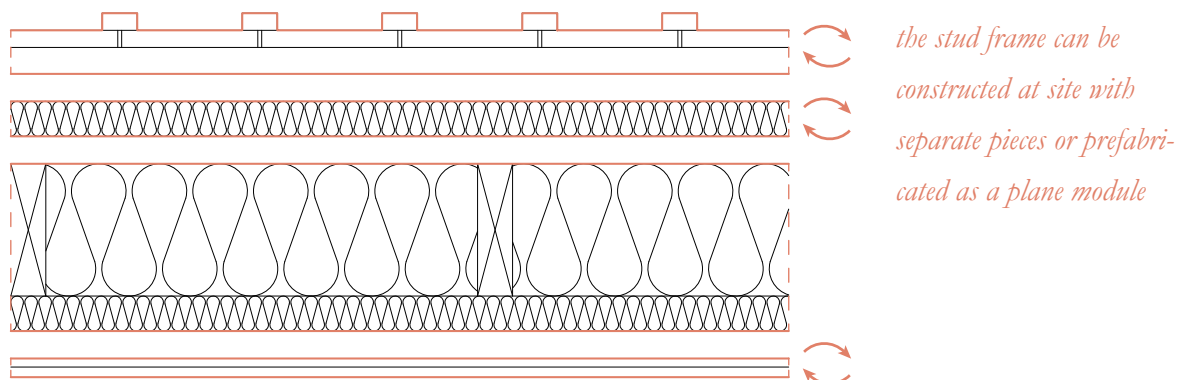


Picture 9. Stud frame timber structure, source: OCH Thermé.

### DETAIL WALL SECTION - STUD FRAME



### PLANE MODULES SEPARATED FOR TRANSPORT



# STUD FRAME

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## - PLANE MODULE/SEPARATE PIECES -

### BUILDING TECHNIQUE

The building system of the Stud frame derives from the traditional timber framing, but instead of using massive timber for pillars, construction timber is used. The studs are most commonly placed with a fixed centre distance of 600 or 450 mm, except where doors, windows or other openings will be placed. An insulating material is put between the studs, and OSB or plasterboards, cover the insulation. If it is an outer wall, it is fronted with a facade material (Träguiden, 2019).

### MANUFACTURING

Standard dimensions of construction timber are sawn at the sawmill and transported to retail stores, where it is bought for each specific project. The thickness of the studs must be at a minimum 45 mm, in stabilising walls, while the width can vary from 95-220 mm. The load-bearing and insulating con-

structing are sealed with OSB and/or plasterboards. Typically, the stud frame is constructed with separate pieces at site (Träguiden, 2019).

### PRODUCT PROPERTIES

The stud frame is a relatively easy and well-known building system in the Swedish context. It is a high performed wall, achieving all basic demands, with a low amount of constructive material, making the construction lightweight. When used as a plane module, the length of the wall is only limited by transport as the manufacturing has no technical limits. Installations, such as electricity and plumbing, are easy to hide inside the structural wall (Träguiden, 2019).

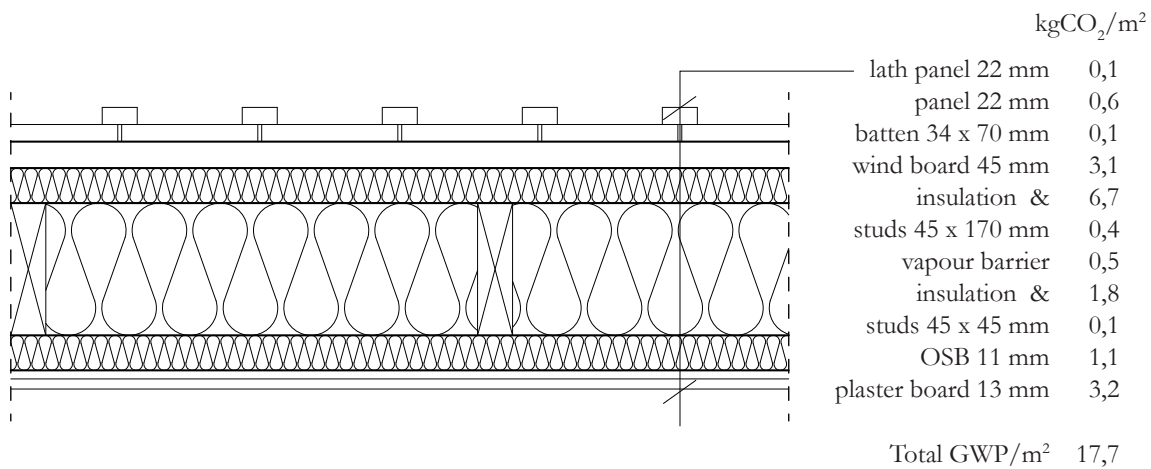
### USE

A stud frame structure can be used as both outer and inner walls; in smaller buildings as well as complement in larger structures.

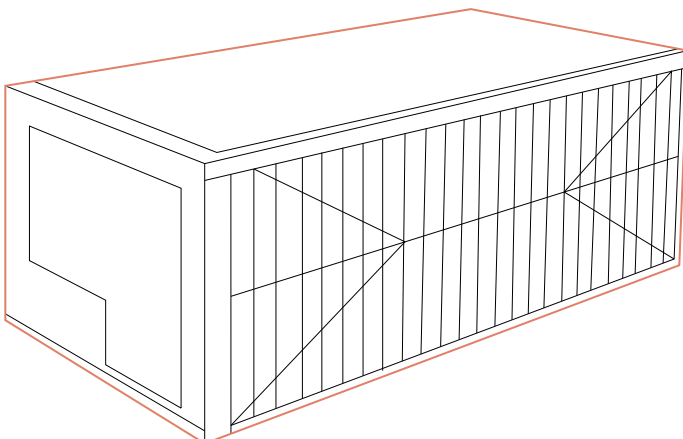


Picture 10. Volume modules in the production line at Lindbäck's factory, source: Lindbäck's Bygg AB

#### DETAIL WALL SECTION - BALLON FRAME



#### VOLUME MODULE READY FOR TRANSPORT



*The volume module manufacturer Lindbäck's buy all timber cut in the correct dimensions, which gives them low timber waste at the factory*

# STUD FRAME

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## - VOLUME MODULE -

### BUILDING TECHNIQUE

A volume module is a prefabricated building system. The load-bearing body can be made in various materials. In Sweden, the most common building system is the stud frame, but cross-laminated timber can also be used. The volume modules are stacked next to, and upon each other, to form a complete building. For a smaller building, one volume can be enough. The volume modules can be completed at the factory with slabs, walls, ceiling and fixed interiors (Lindbäcks, n. d.).

### MANUFACTURING

Building material is transported to the factory for assembly, before being transported as a module to the building site. The modules can be manufactured as followed: Project development - investigation, planning and purchasing -

production at the factory - production at the site - delivery to client - service and management (Lindbäcks, n. d.).

### PRODUCT PROPERTIES

Large structures become easier, faster and cheaper to build when using volume modules. In some cases these are positive qualities for a project. Having a volume module using timber to compete with similar products, but which uses concrete is good for the market and for actors to have the possibility to choose sustainable alternatives (Lindbäcks, n. d.).

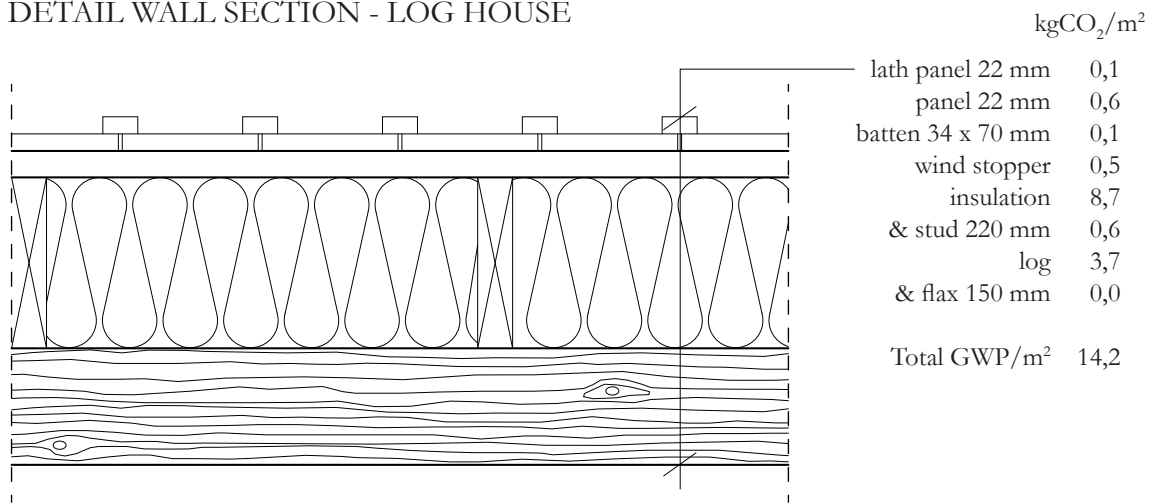
### USE

Volume modules can be used as parts of a larger volume, but a villa or a smaller structure can also be prefabricated as a volume module.

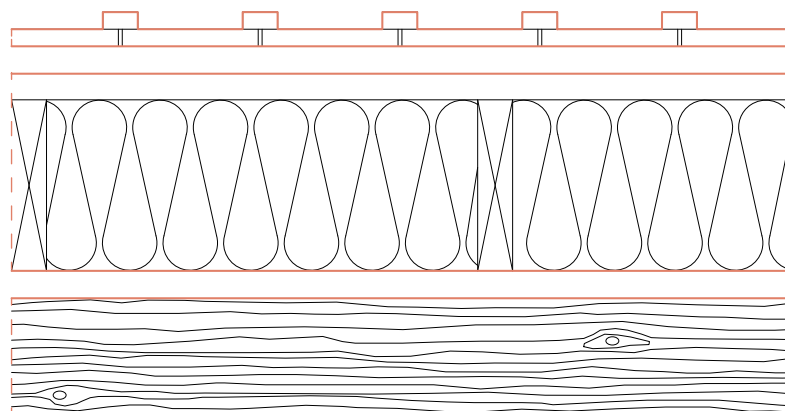


Picture 11. Two common corner joints found in the church village of Öjebyn, Piteå, source: authors

### DETAIL WALL SECTION - LOG HOUSE



### SEPARATED FOR TRANSPORT



↻ the log can be 150 mm in diameter if you add insulation and a facade. If no insulation is wanted, the massive log needs to be 250 mm in diameter, to achieve similar insulating properties

# LOG CONSTRUCTION

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## - SEPARATE PIECES -

### BUILDING TECHNIQUE

The technique uses horizontal logs, stacked upon each other, where the corner joints are stabilising the structure. Dowels are put in drilled holes between two logs, preventing the logs from separating. When stabilising the logs in an opening, such as a window or a door, a track is cut out (swe: gât) to make room for a T-shaped plank (swe: svärd) (Af Malmborg & Månsson, 2016). It's highly important to air tighten between the logs to prevent drafts. On each layer, either moss or flax is used to create an airtight structure (Gudmundsson, 2001).

### MANUFACTURING

The tree needs to be grown in a dense forest stock and for a long time in order to ensure high-quality timber, with a big amount of heartwood. After the material has been transported to the building site, a log carpenter shapes the log

with a traditional broad-axe. If the timber is shaped in forehand with a chainsaw, the carpenter finishes the shaping with the axe. After that, all joints are sawn and/or carved out from each log (I. Sjölund, personal communication, February 18, 2020).

### PRODUCT PROPERTIES

This technique is proven to endure for a long time, if it is well protected. Massive wood has the capability to slowly store and release heat. The assembly technique, using only the logs with shaped corners and dowels, are easy to disassemble and reuse again. The log technique is also a building and architectural heritage in the north (I. Sjölund, personal communication, February 18, 2020).

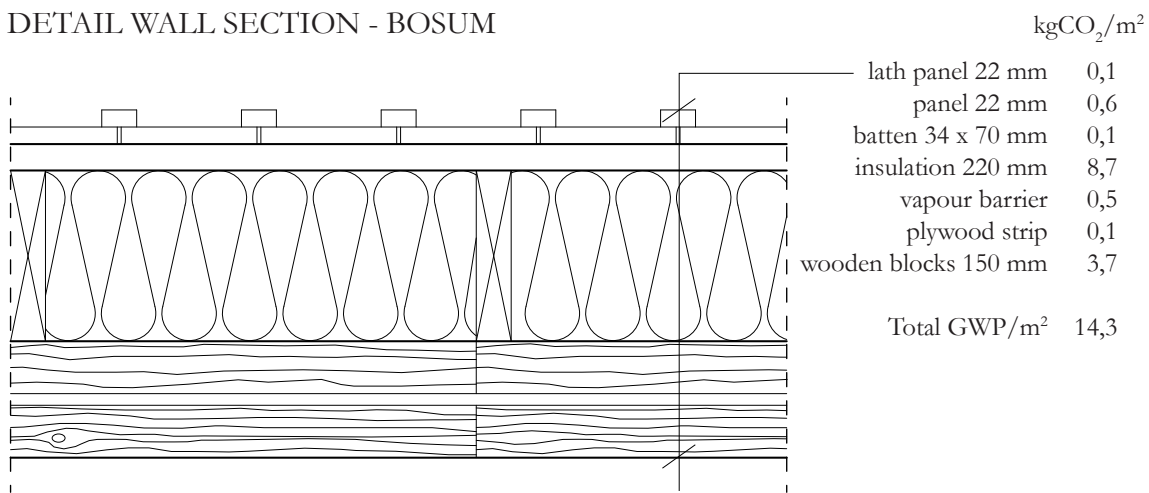
### USE

The technique is used for load-bearing walls, mostly seen in barns, farm buildings, and private housing.

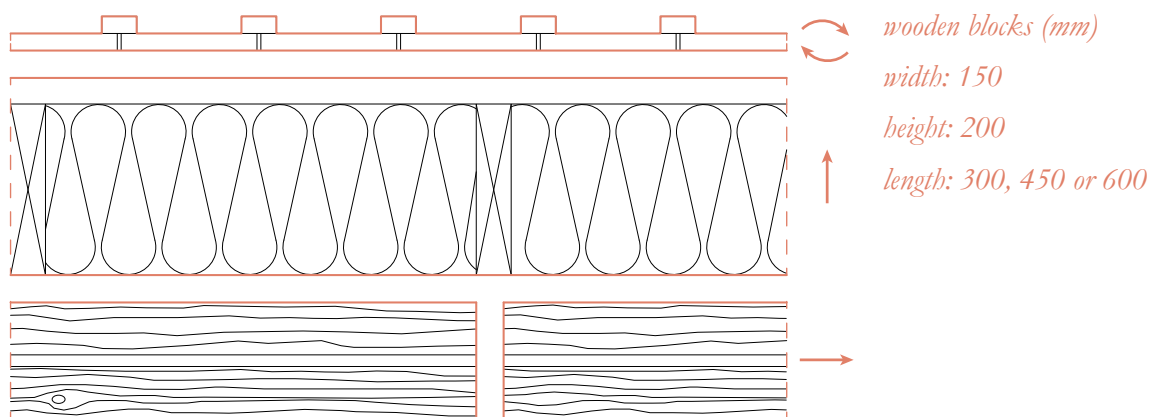


Picture 12. Bosum building system, assembling at building site, source: Bosum AB

DETAIL WALL SECTION - BOSUM



SEPARATED FOR TRANSPORT



# BOSUM BUILDING SYSTEM

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- SEPARATE PIECES -

## BUILDING TECHNIQUE

Bosum building system consists of massive wooden blocks, put together with plywood strips. Heartwood from pinewood is used for the blocks. It is typically supplemented with 100-145 mm cellulose insulation, a vapour barrier and a facade material. Two floors is the maximum building height (P. Malmberg, personal communication February 4, 2020).

## MANUFACTURING

The massive wood blocks are produced at the sawmill in Ballingslöv, Hässleholm, Skåne, where they are dimensioned and milled with cuts (P. Malmberg, personal communication February 4, 2020). The blocks leave the sawmill with 18 % moisture content, compared to the normal moisture content of 16%. Bosum building system is similar to the log construction but with more connecting pieces, thus the sealing

is solved with a plastic vapour barrier and insulation (Bosum, n. d.).


## PRODUCT PROPERTIES

Heartwood is hard, durable and does not absorb as much moisture as sapwood does. It contains a lot of natural impregnation agents and can thereby resist decay and provide good fire resistance (Berlyn, Everett, & Weber, 2020). There is no set life length for the house. If management is done correctly the company refers to old timber buildings from 1200. The plywood strip isn't needed structurally when the construction is built and completed. Its function is to steer the woodblock during the assembly (P. Malmberg, personal communication February 4, 2020).

## USE

Used in small houses, as both outer and inner walls.

*our choice*



| FACTOR:   | CLT    | Iso-Timber | Stud frame | Log    | Glulam | Bosum  |
|---|--------|------------|------------|--------|--------|--------|
| GWP<br><i>kg CO<sub>2</sub>/m<sup>2</sup></i>                   | +19,4  | +25,6      | +17,7      | +14,2  | +18,1  | +14,3  |
| Carbon Sequestration*<br><i>kg CO<sub>2</sub>/m<sup>2</sup></i> | -72,5  | -213,8     | -21,4      | -86,2  | -35,9  | -86,2  |
| Cost (C)  | medium | high       | low        | medium | medium | medium |
| Thickness (TH)<br><i>mm</i>                                     | 418    | 578        | 362        | 449    | 362    | 448    |
| U-value (U)<br><i>W/m<sup>2</sup>K</i>                          | 0,15   | 0,15       | 0,15       | 0,15   | 0,15   | 0,15   |
| Specialized Pieces<br>(S P)                                     | high   | medium     | medium     | medium | medium | low    |
| Separation<br>Building Layers<br>(S B L)                        | good   | good       | poor       | good   | ok     | good   |
| Number of<br>Materials**<br>(N M)                               | 3      | 1          | 5          | 4      | 5      | 3      |
| Waste During<br>Manufacturing<br>(W D M)                        | medium | low        | medium     | medium | medium | medium |
| Visible interior<br>Timber<br>(V T)                             | yes    | yes&no     | no         | yes    | no     | yes    |

-  preferred
-  ok to use
-  least preferred

*\* 1 kg wood stores ~ 1,875 kg CO<sub>2</sub> (Van der Lugt, 2012), 50 % can be counted as long term storage (J. Helmfridsson, personal communication, April 29, 2020)*

*\*\* nails & screws not included, wood facade in all examples*

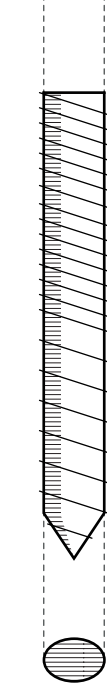
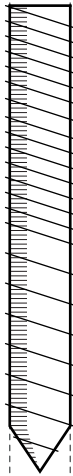
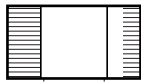
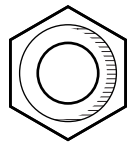
# COMPARISON

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## - BUILDING SYSTEM -

### COMMENT:

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| GWP               | The Global Warming Potential (GWP) looks to greenhouse gases and how they affect global warming.  |
| CO <sub>2</sub> S | Carbon Sequestration refers to how much CO <sub>2</sub> is stored in the wood in each building system. IsoTimber stores the most CO <sub>2</sub> , due to its high amount of timber in its structure.   |
| C                 | IsoTimber and Bosum are not yet conventional building systems, which can have some impact on the cost. CLT has become a useful alternative when building large scale projects, even though Lindbäck's and the stud frame is still unbeatable when it comes to the lowest costs. |
| TH                | The stud frame is material-efficient and highly insulating, even in thinner dimensions. The thickness of the wall is especially important to consider when m <sup>2</sup> are scarce, as it affects the rentable area of the project.   |
| U                 | A fixed U-value have been chosen to be able to compare the performance of the different building systems. This causes GWP, carbon sequestration and thickness to vary.  |
| S P               | A low number of specialized pieces gives a higher future design adaptability. Both CLT and IsoTimber have fixed holes for openings while Bosum building system has almost no specialized pieces.  |
| S B L             | In a stud frame, plasterboards are often used together with wallpaper or paint as interior cladding. This layer is hard to separate without damaging it.  |
| N M               | Reducing the number of materials used in a building will help the separation and sorting process at the end of the building's life.   |
| W D M             | Log and Bosum have the least waste of wood during manufacturing. Waste from plastics and insulation are often produced when assembling a wall, since IsoTimber has wood as insulation and no vapour barrier the waste is lower.   |
| V T               | By exposing the timber structure, plasterboards and paints, which have a big environmental impact, can be excluded. High amounts of visible interior timber require sprinklers. A structure with IsoTimber can have visible timber when CLT is added.                           |



# JOINTS

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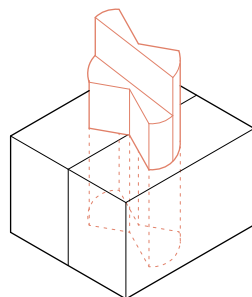
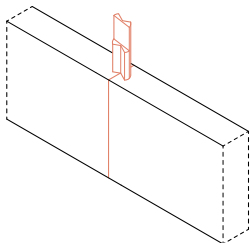
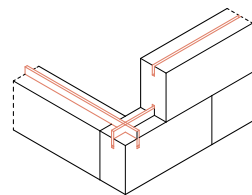
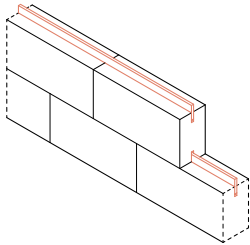
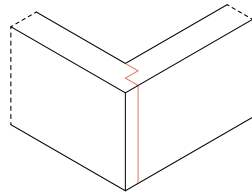
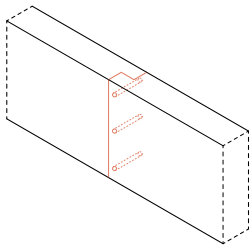
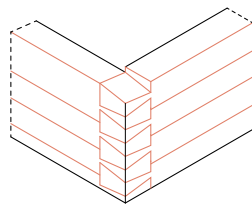
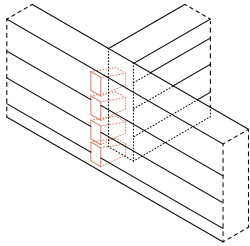
Joints are commonly considered ugly, therefore, they are often hidden in different ways. This includes covering with paint, wall fillers, boards etc. However, in this comparison, we will not evaluate the aesthetics of each joint. When designing for disassembly access to the building's joints is a necessity, regardless of its looks. Choosing a high performing joint is a crucial factor when designing for disassembly. If a joint complicates the dis-

sembly, the building components, and even the joint itself, may take damage, causing the components to be sawn into pieces or broken apart. With wrong joints in place, a disassembly can become costly or even impossible to implement.

Several joints, both based on wood and metal, will be presented. The chosen joints are compared by its reversibility, strength, self instructiveness, and more.

# WOODEN JOINTS

## - JOINTS -



### DOVETAIL

Traditionally used in log structures and furniture design due to its high stability for outward pressing forces. In Swedish called a *laxknut*. (I. Sjölund, personal communication, February 18, 2020, see Appendix 2)

### TIMBER DOWEL

A timber dowel can be used in combination with a half and half cut of the connecting material.

### BOSUM BUILDING SYSTEM

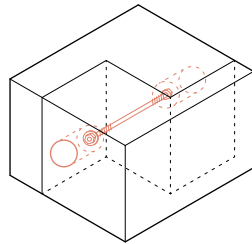
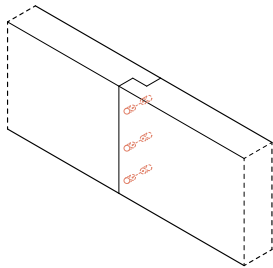
Smaller pieces of logs that are held together by plywood strips. No extra screws or metal are needed. Assembled together as lego pieces. (Bosum, n.d.)

### X-FIX WOOD-WOOD CONNECTOR

Inspired by the dovetail, this new product only uses wood as joints. The joint is assembled from above. The same kind of joint is used for the corner. (Timbertools, 2020)

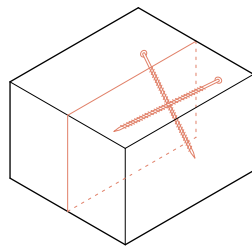
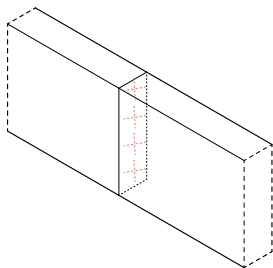
# METAL JOINTS

## - JOINTS -



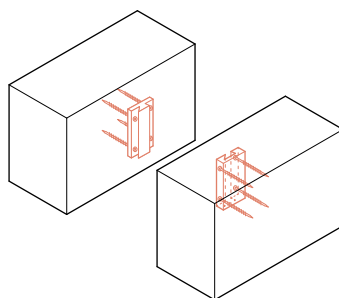
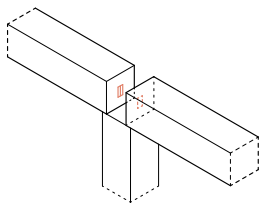
### BOLT

The bolt has either a threaded or unthreaded cylindrical body. It is commonly used together with nuts for joining pieces together. (Wikipedia, 2020)



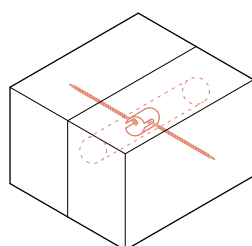
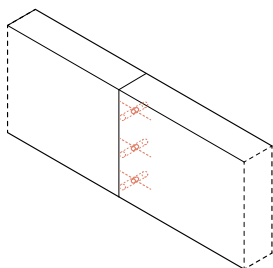
### SCREW

In combination with other joints or just as it is, the screw is a fast, strong, and conventional joint when working with timber. (Gustafsson, 2017)



### HOOK JOINT

A hooking system where the fittings are screwed onto Glulam beams after which the panels can be mounted together. High precision is required. (Gustafsson, 2017)



### STEEL SLEEVE

The screws are mounted at the factory, only the sleeve is added at the building site in order to assemble the construction. (Gustafsson, 2017)

*our choice*

| <i>FACTOR:</i>                    | <b>Dove-tail</b> | <b>Timber dowel</b> | <b>Bosum</b> | <b>X-fix</b> | <b>Bolt</b> | <b>Screw</b>   | <b>Hook joint</b> | <b>Steel sleeve</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Pre-Processing (P)                | high             | medium              | medium       | high         | medium      | low            | high              | high                |
| Assembly Time (A T)               | high             | high                | low          | high         | low         | low            | low               | low                 |
| Equipment Needed (E N)            | specialized      | basic               | basic        | basic        | basic       | standard today | none              | basic               |
| Strength/Joint (S / J)            | ok               | poor                | good         | good         | good        | good           | ok                | ok                  |
| Self Instructive (S I)            | good             | good                | ok           | poor         | good        | ok             | poor              | ok                  |
| Reversability (R)                 | good             | ok                  | good         | poor         | good        | ok*            | good              | poor                |
| Condition after Disassembly (C D) | good             | poor                | poor         | poor         | good        | poor           | good              | poor                |
| Conventional (C)                  | no               | no                  | no           | no           | yes         | yes            | medium            | medium              |

-  *preferred*
-  *ok to use*
-  *least preferred*

*\*hard to reverse if the screw is for example, painted over, or screwed in too deep*

# COMPARISON

---

## - JOINTS -

*COMMENT:*

- P High required pre-processing can lead to waste of materials, as holes or cuts needs to be made in the building element to fit the joint. However, it can also lead to short assembly time on site.
- A T Short assembly and disassembly time gives lower cost.
- E N Advanced tools should be avoided to ensure that a disassemble is possible in the future. Standardized tools and dimensions of today don't necessary remain standard in the future.
- S / J A low number of joints is preferred in order to get a fast, and thereby low cost assembling/disassembling.
- S I How to disassemble should be easy to understand and visible. Joints that are hidden within the structure require clear instructions.
- R The materials joint together, and the joint itself, must not be harmed when deconstructing.
- C D Over time, the building's movements can cause joints to be deformed. Therefore, some joints must have parts replaced.
- C Some joints are not widely used in today's Swedish building industry, for several reasons.

# EVALUATION

---

## PREFABRICATION LEVEL

Depending on the project, the three prefabrication levels, volume module, plane module and separate pieces, have different advantages.

When choosing a prefabrication level, one thing to consider is building regulations, that will inevitably change over time. As the dimensions of a building built with **separable pieces** are a bit flexible, they are the least affected by this. However, the separate pieces have a severe disadvantage in assembly and disassembly time, making it hard to implement in larger projects. On the other hand, as the pieces can be moved without a crane, it can be a favourable option for self-builders.

**Volume modules** have fixed dimensions in all directions, thus, making them vulnerable to changing regulations. On the other hand, they can be erected in a short amount of time. This combina-

tion makes the volume module a perfect fit for projects with a short time horizon, as in the case for temporary building permits. Compared to the other prefabrication levels, the volume module can appear rigid and repetitive in its aesthetic, making it less attractive.

**Plane modules** are somewhere in the middle, not too rigid in its dimensions and can be disassembled in an acceptable amount of time. The plane module performs good or ok, in almost all factors used in the comparison, and can therefore favourably be used in most building projects, with both large and small building scales.

## BUILDING SYSTEMS

The choice of prefabrication level has a direct impact on the number of building systems to choose from. The most conventional building system today, the **stud frame**, it is highly material efficient, making

## EVALUATION

---

it thin and cheap, even when low U-values are required. However, the material from the stud frame may be hard to reuse as the different building layers are hard to separate, and the layers with plasterboards and OSB are easily damaged during disassembly. Furthermore, the studs can be deformed over time when the **Glulam** structure is paired with a stud frame infill it is affected by the same disadvantages. Glulam paired with durable plane modules, such as glass panels, can be a better option.

**CLT** and **IsoTimber** are manufactured and constructed as plane modules, which enables easy separation of the building layers and ensure a fast disassembly time, which is a key aspect to consider. CLT has the advantage of being a bit thinner and cheaper than IsoTimber. The **Log construction** and **Bosum building system** both have a low environmental impact and the load-bearing structure is easy

to separate from the other building layers. The log construction is known to be easy to reuse. Since Bosum is new to the market the reuse of its structure is still to be tested. Both constructions have limits in scale and economy. All massive timber structures, except IsoTimber, can have visible interior timber.

### JOINTS

Most important when choosing joints suitable for disassembly, is choosing reversible and self-instructive alternatives. Which turned out not be the case for most **wooden joints**. When examining different reference projects, that have been designed for disassembly, the **bolt** is frequently used. Looking at the comparison, it's easy to see why, since it has almost no weaknesses. The **screw** is the most conventional joint used today, it is fast, strong and requires no pre-processing. Sadly it is hard to reuse the same screw after disassembly, as the building's movements cause it to deform.

03.

# PROJECT FRAMEWORK

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This chapter will present the context for the case study project. It contains an introduction of the chosen prefabrication level, building system, and joints, that is used in the case study project. As well as details of connections between walls, slabs, roof, foundation and additional building elements. The theoretical comparison has acted as a guiding tool to shape the project.

The expected life length of the case study project, before it will be disassembled, have been set to +50 years. This is adapted according to the average life length of multi-family dwellings, of 55 years (Appendix 1). The long estimated life length causes a need for high-quality solutions and materials, to ensure a secondary use. The material is estimated to be sold to a second-hand retailer or directly to a new developer after disassembly.

*+50 years*

Estimated life length of project



Picture 13. Church of Kiruna, source: Fredric Alm

## CASE STUDY

---

### CASE STUDY

The case study project is a proposal for a sustainable multi-family housing block on-site no. 91, in the new city centre of Kiruna. The project has been limited to solve one building volume on the site. It is designed to meet the developer and master plan requirements, together with solutions that support a reuse concept.

### COLLABORATION

The thesis is part of a larger collaboration together with RISE, Kiruna bostäder AB and LTU, made for the initiative Kiruna Sustainability Centre. The collaboration will result in a building designed for disassembly (this thesis), circular procurement documents and life cycle analysis (RISE), a generative design (LTU), and greenery strategies (RISE), for the site 91 in Kiruna.



CHALMERS



Research Institutes  
of Sweden

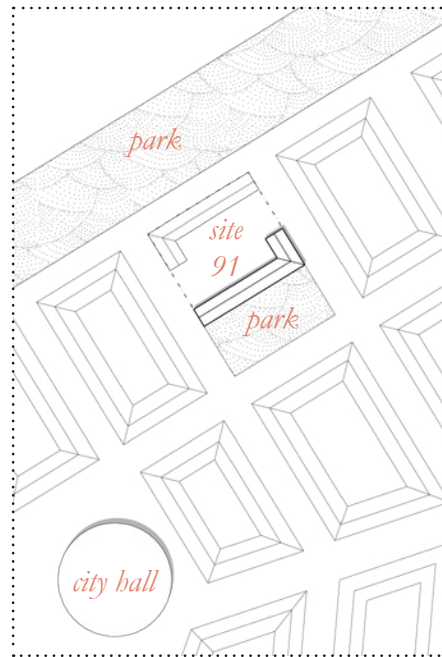
**KIRUNA**  
**BOSTÄDER**



# SITE

## - NEW CENTRE IN KIRUNA -

Kiruna is a town undergoing a great urban transformation. The mine located close to the city will expand towards the current city centre. Therefore, a relocation of the city has started and will continue over many years to come. Some existing buildings will, and have been, moved, whilst a lot of new constructions will be added. Our building is located one block away from the new city hall, sandwiched between two parks.



Picture 14. Kiruna town, source: Lantmäteriet

## CHOSEN METHOD

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### - PREFABRICATION LEVEL -

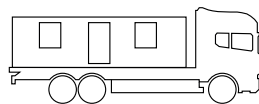
A couple of things have to be considered when choosing prefabrication levels. For starters the expected life length of the project, which in this case is set to 50 years. After that, it will be disassembled and reused at another location.

In the case study project, it is suitable to work with plane modules, since the building is a four-storey multi-family house, it is large in scale. Inspired by the Shearing layers, one plane module will contain several separable layers to make the management of the building easier throughout the years.

The plane module holds a lot of advantages when it comes to design for disassembly. Fast assembly time at

the building site gives plane modules lower cost, compared to separate pieces. As it simplifies the disassembly, it can make the decision of choosing a disassembly rather than a demolition easier. Compared to volume modules, working with plane modules will give more architectural freedom when designing spaces.

Even though the plane module is the chosen level of prefabrication, we've chosen to work with the bathrooms as volume modules, and the facade will be assembled as separate pieces. The different prefabrication levels hold different qualities, therefore, it is important to evaluate and choose a suitable method for each specific part of a project.



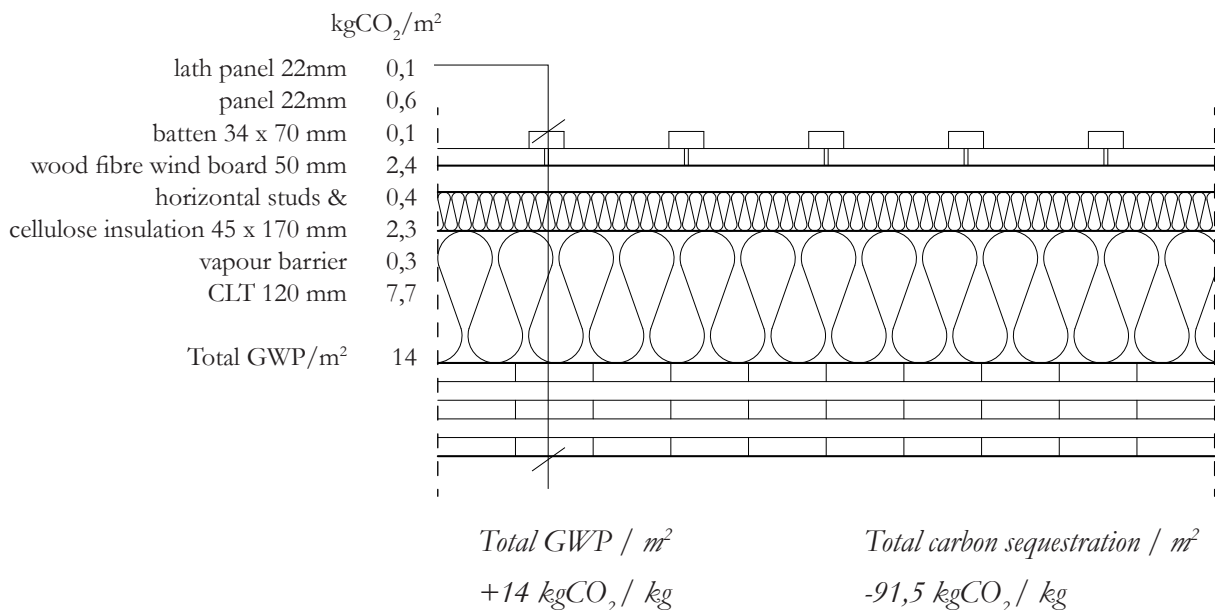
# CHOSEN METHOD

## - BUILDING SYSTEM -

As for the building system of the project, it is suitable to work with CLT panels to meet the design for disassembly goal. The CLT panels are manufactured as plane modules, have massive wood thermal qualities, and store a lot of CO<sub>2</sub>. Its load-bearing capacity makes it suitable for a four-storey building. Adding a sprinkler system makes it possible to have visible interior timber. This makes the layers of the wall easier so separate since no plasterboard is needed.

The wall section has been modified to lower the GWP, replacing the mineral wool to cellulose-based insulation instead. The CLT comes to the building site, where remaining layers are added. When disassembling, the facade and roof cladding is taken apart, whilst the studs stay on the CLT panel. If the insulation needs to be changed after 50 years, this can be done, otherwise, it stay on and are reused.

### MODIFIED CLT WALL



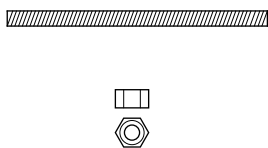
# CHOSEN METHOD

## - JOINTS -

For the project, it is suitable to work with bolts and dowels to meet the design for disassembly goal. These traditional joints hold low complexity, are easy to reverse and understand. Even though steel consumes a high amount of energy during manufacturing, all chosen joints are in steel. This is due to its high strength, which will lower the number of joints, and will live longer, compared to wooden joints.

A steel dowel is fixed on top of the wall in order to connect to the load-bearing points at the overlying slab. Threaded bolts and nuts will connect walls and slabs. Where no bolt can go right through the CLT, a screw pin will be used. At one end, it works as an ordinary screw for wood, and at the other, as a threaded bolt. To stabilize further, and to minimize damage to the timber, angled and flat irons will be used.

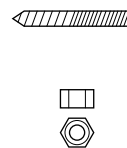
BOLTS



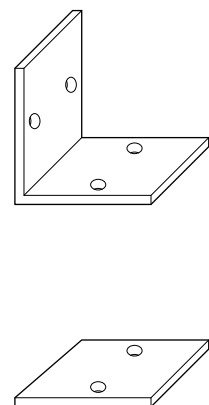
DOWEL

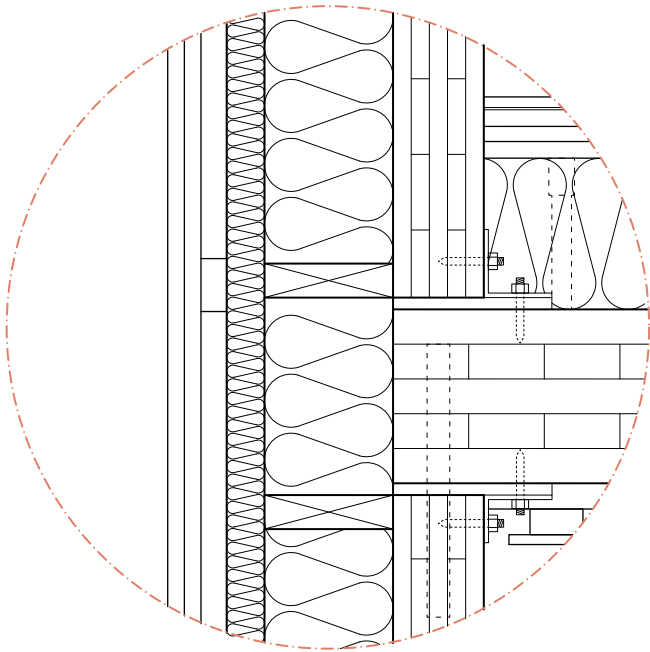


SCREW PINS

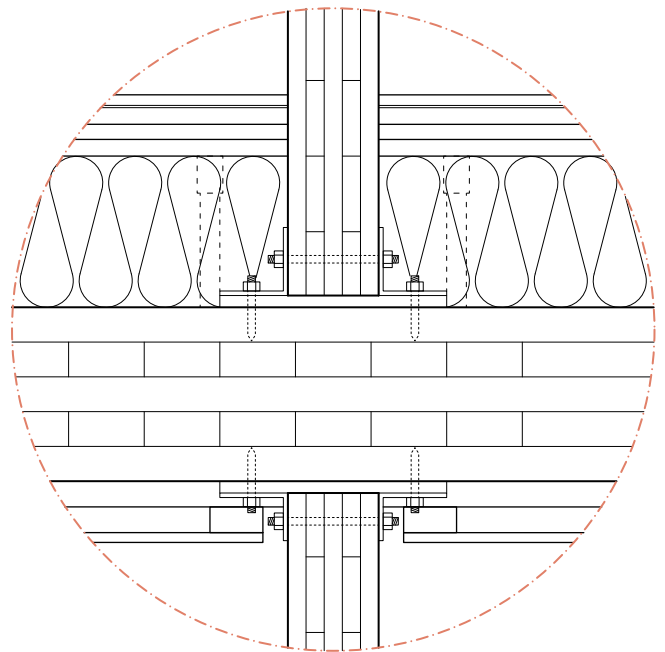


ANGLED & FLAT IRON

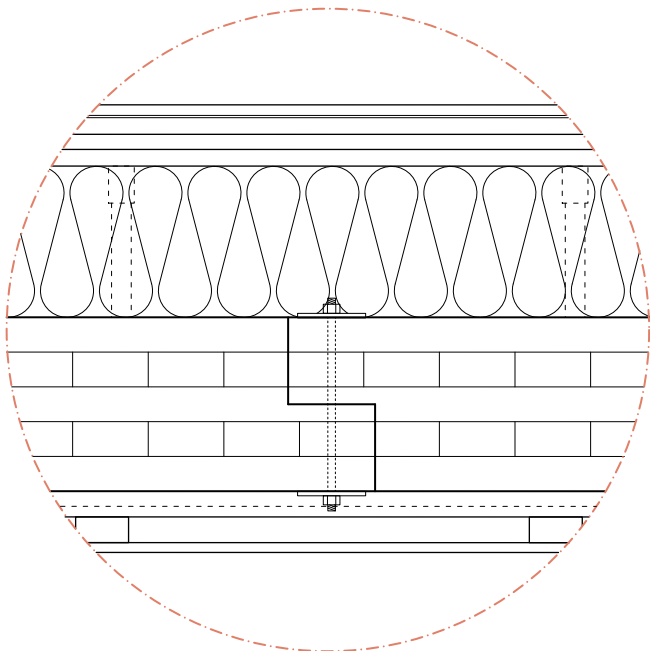




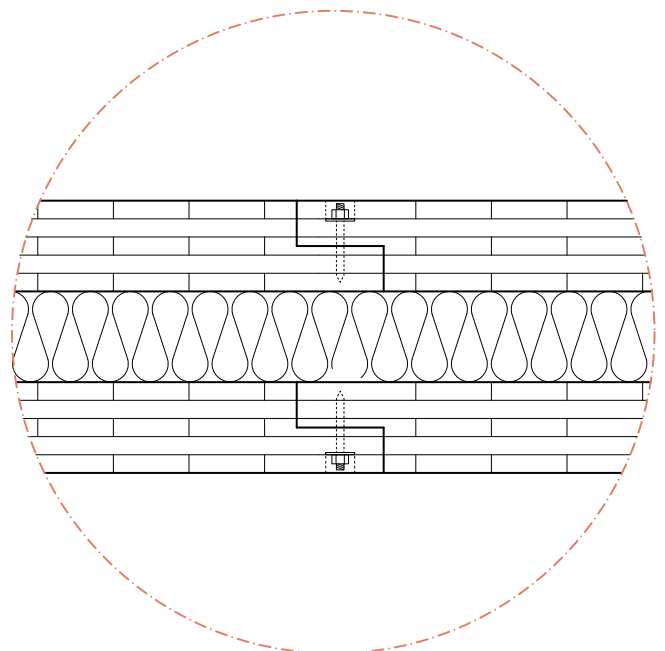
*Slab - outer wall*  
*Scale 1:10*



*Slab - interior wall*  
*Scale 1:10*



*Slab - slab*  
*Scale 1:10*

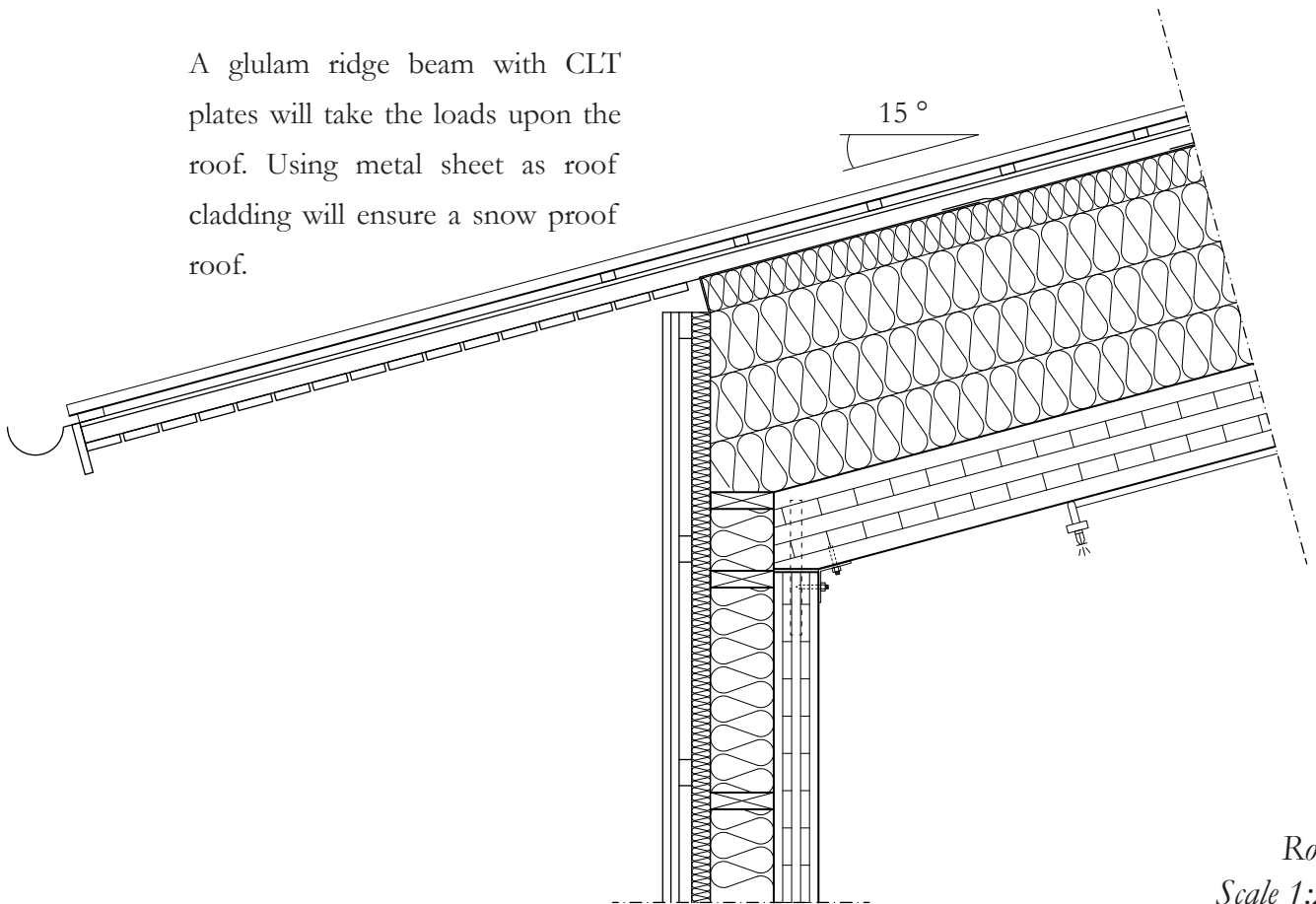


*Wall - wall*  
*Scale 1:10*

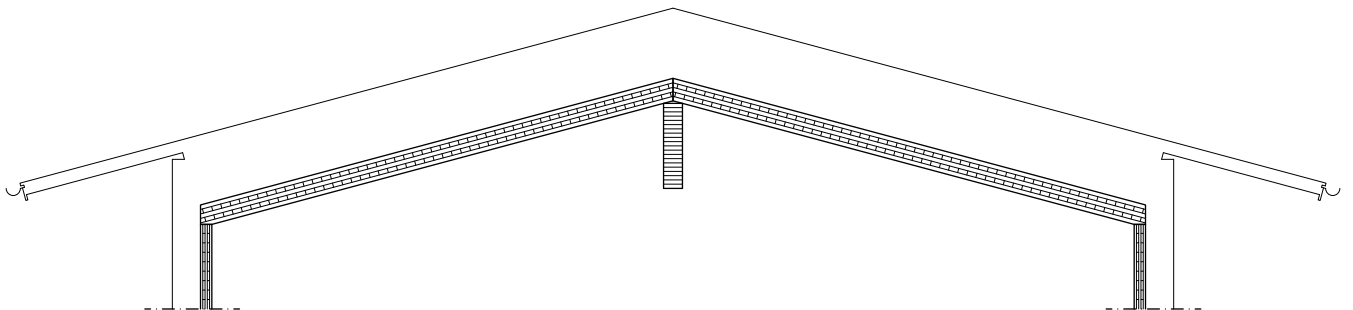
## CHOSEN METHOD

- ROOF -

A glulam ridge beam with CLT plates will take the loads upon the roof. Using metal sheet as roof cladding will ensure a snow proof roof.



*Roof*  
*Scale 1:20*

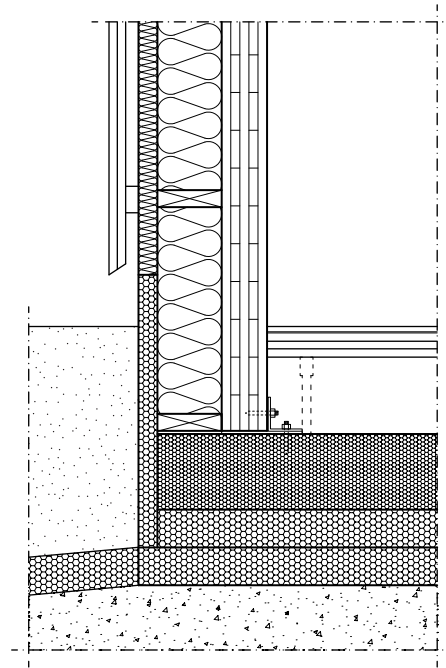


*Glulam ridge beam*  
*Scale 1:80*

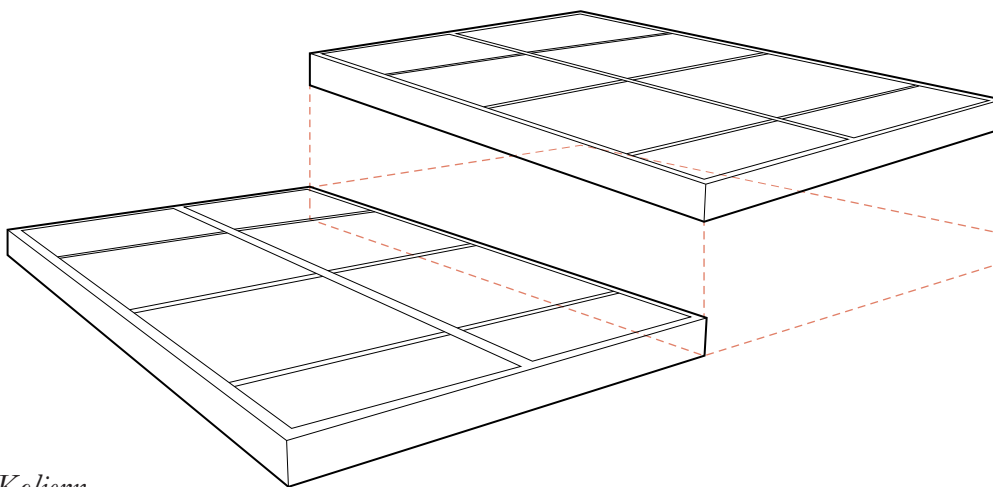
# CHOSEN METHOD

## - FOUNDATION -

Koljern® is a load-bearing composite product with foam glass and light metal beams. It is made from recycled glass, has lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions during manufacturing than concrete, and weighs 90 % less than the traditional concrete slab foundation. It requires no drying time since the product holds no moisture, which enables an immediate start of constructing the rest of the building. (Koljern, n.d.) The plates can be customized to specific projects. The plates below are illustrated as 2 x 4 m.



*Foundation*  
*Scale 1:20*



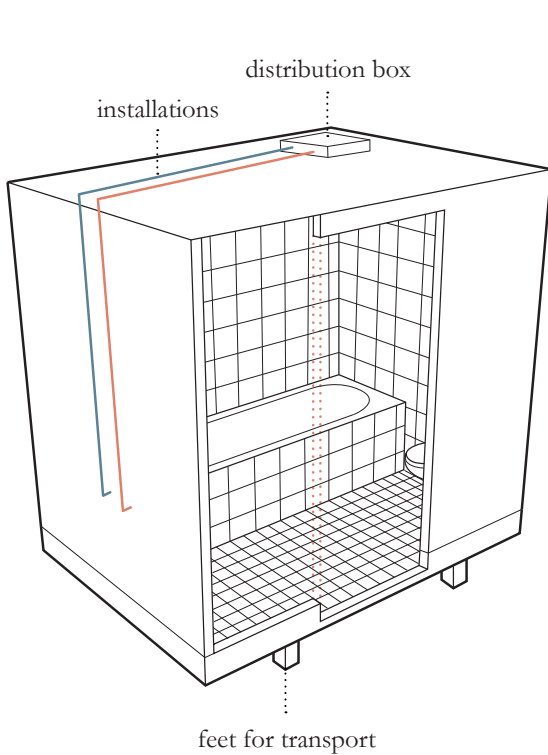
*Koljern*

# CHOSEN METHOD

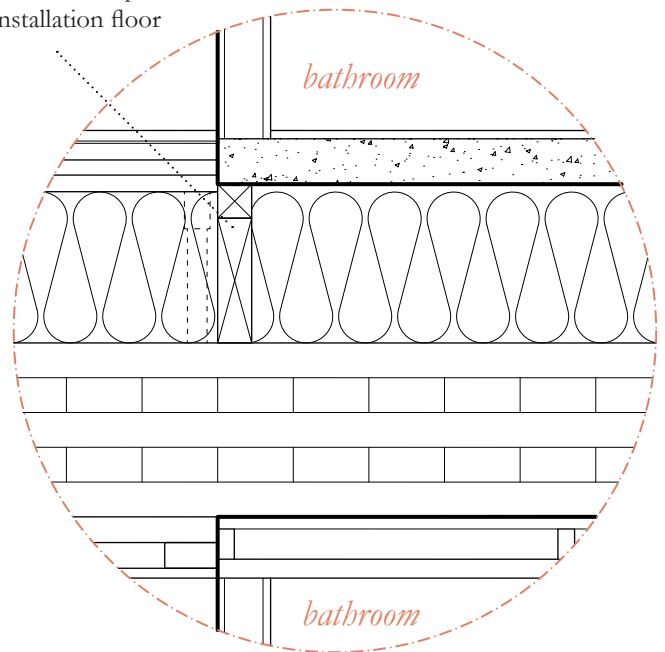
## - BATHROOM MODULE -

Even though the plane module is the chosen level of prefabrication, we've chosen to work with the bathrooms as volume modules. Interior claddings are complicated to disassemble and reuse, but when you have a volume module prepared with everything needed, this can be reused as a whole in the future.

This is an example of prefabricated bathroom modules from Part Construction AB, amongst several manufacturers. When using such a module in a project, you reduce the construction time on site, lower the project costs, and get simpler logistics. The requirements needed for a bathroom are maintained.



studs in order to raise up to level with installation floor



*Bathroom - slab*  
*Scale 1:10*

04.

# DESIGN PROPOSAL

---

The building's location close to the city core has caused a need for public use, therefore, the bottom floor is largely dedicated to commercial functions. Since Kiruna is a city with dramatic light conditions, the apartments have been designed to achieve high levels of daylight. This is reflected in the building's width of 10 m, which is thinner than in a normal housing project, thus, minimizing dark areas in the apartment core.

All apartments, except the studio apartment, have windows towards different directions. The smaller apartments have increased accessibility and will be rented by seniors. On the top floor, all residents share a common sauna and winter garden with views over the city park. After the building's first use at site 91, the building can be disassembled according to the disassembly plan.

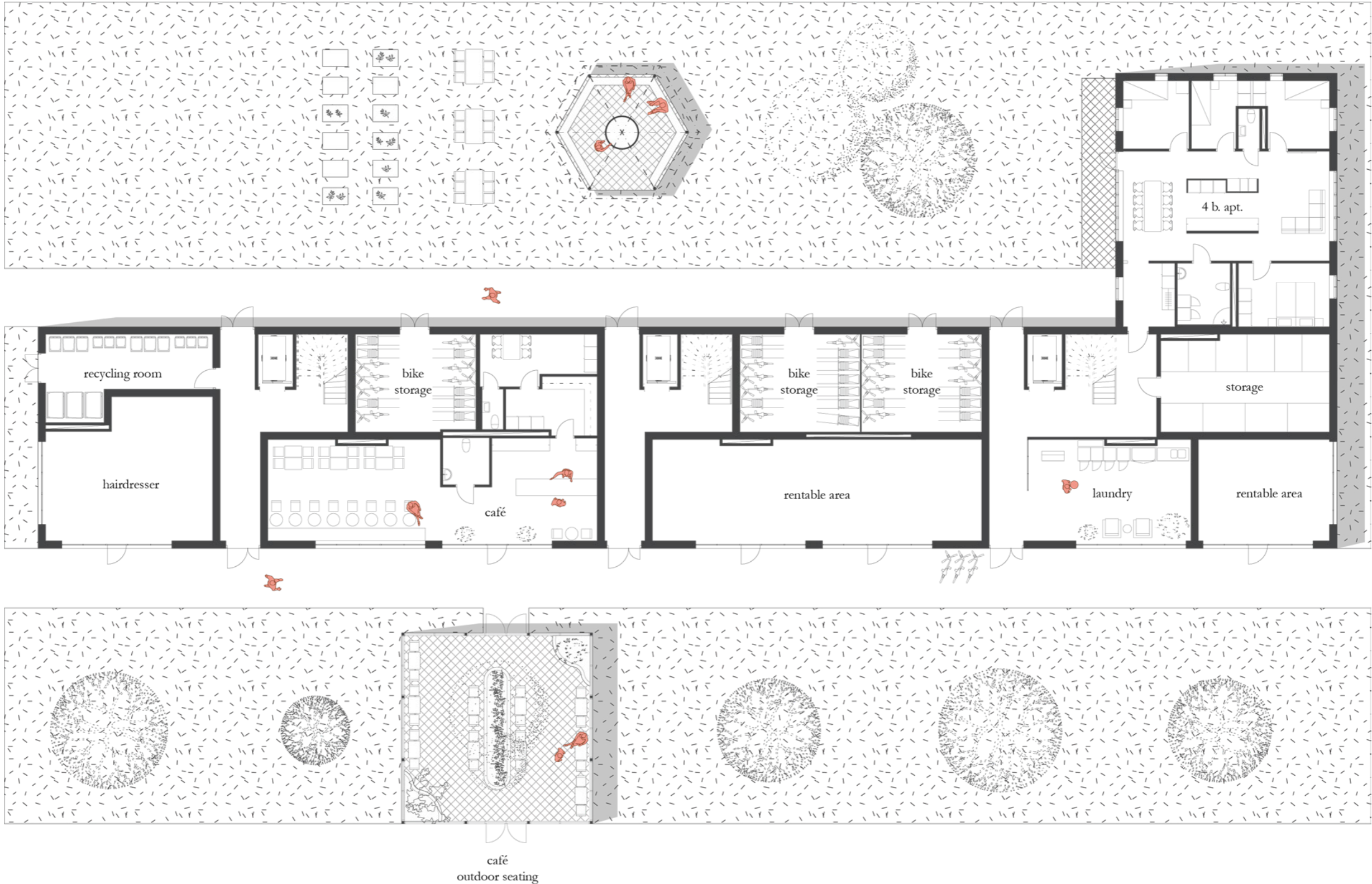
# VIEW

- ELEVATION -



# ENTRANCE FLOOR

- SCALE 1:200 -



# VIEW

- APARTMENT -



# STANDARD FLOOR

- SCALE 1:200 -



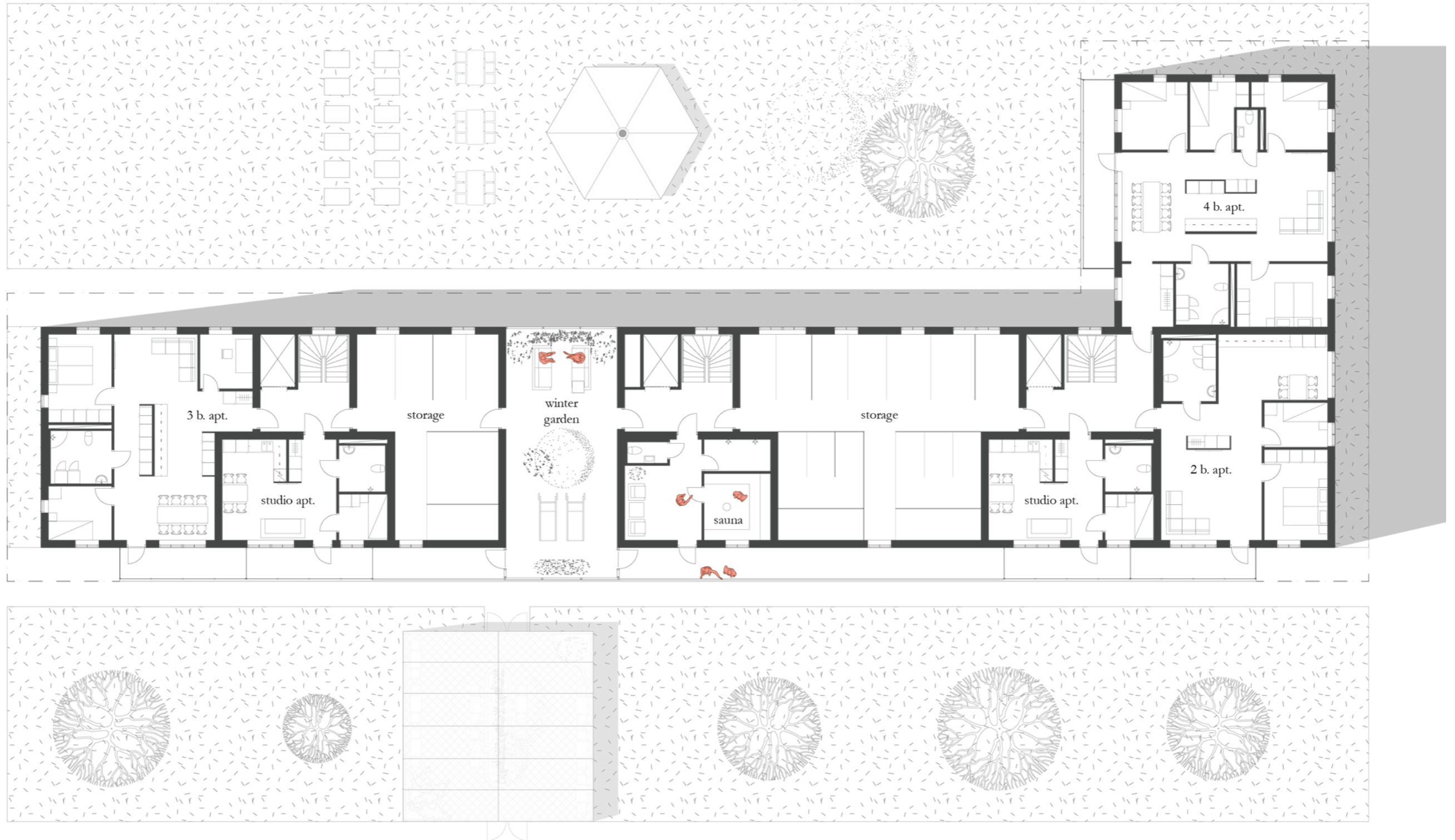
# VIEW

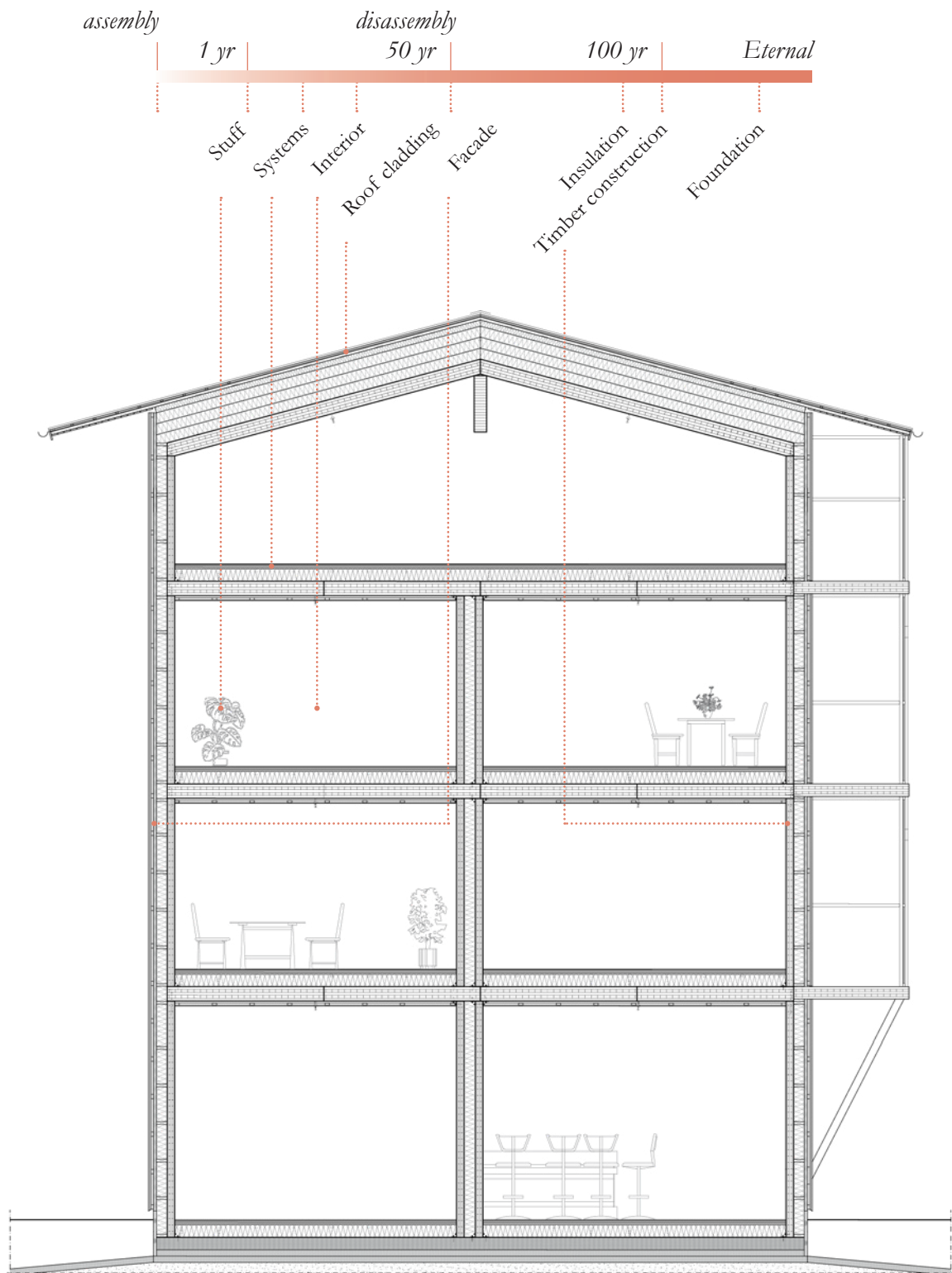
- WINTER GARDEN -



# TOP FLOOR

- SCALE 1:200 -





## BUILDING LAYERS

---

Similar to the layers identified in Shearing layers, the case study project holds building layers with different lifespans. By sorting them accordingly, it becomes easier to know which layers are eligible for reuse in 50 years. Building layers with similar estimated lifespans can become part of the same plane module, thereby, reducing the number of layers that needs to be separated during dismantling.

Stuff owned by residents is estimated to stay in the building from days up to years. Depending on if a room is commercial or part of a home, the interior layout may change every third or up to thirty years. During this phase, interior claddings, fixtures, walls and openings may be altered. After 50 years, when the building will be disassembled and moved, systems, facade

and roof claddings that are in poor condition, can be replaced. Layers that have gone through a renovation earlier, and are in good condition, can be kept.

Insulation made out of mineral wool can typically last 100 years. The expected life length for the cellulose-based insulation used in the case study project is generally lower. As the insulation has a potential of lasting longer than 50 years, it can become part of the same plane module as the timber structure. Historically, the life length of a well-protected timber structure can be over 100 years. However, 100 years is the life length that is typically used in calculations (Guldager Jensen & Sommer, p. 79, 2016). The foundation in Koljern is made out of crushed glass and can theoretically last forever.

## DECONTAMINATION

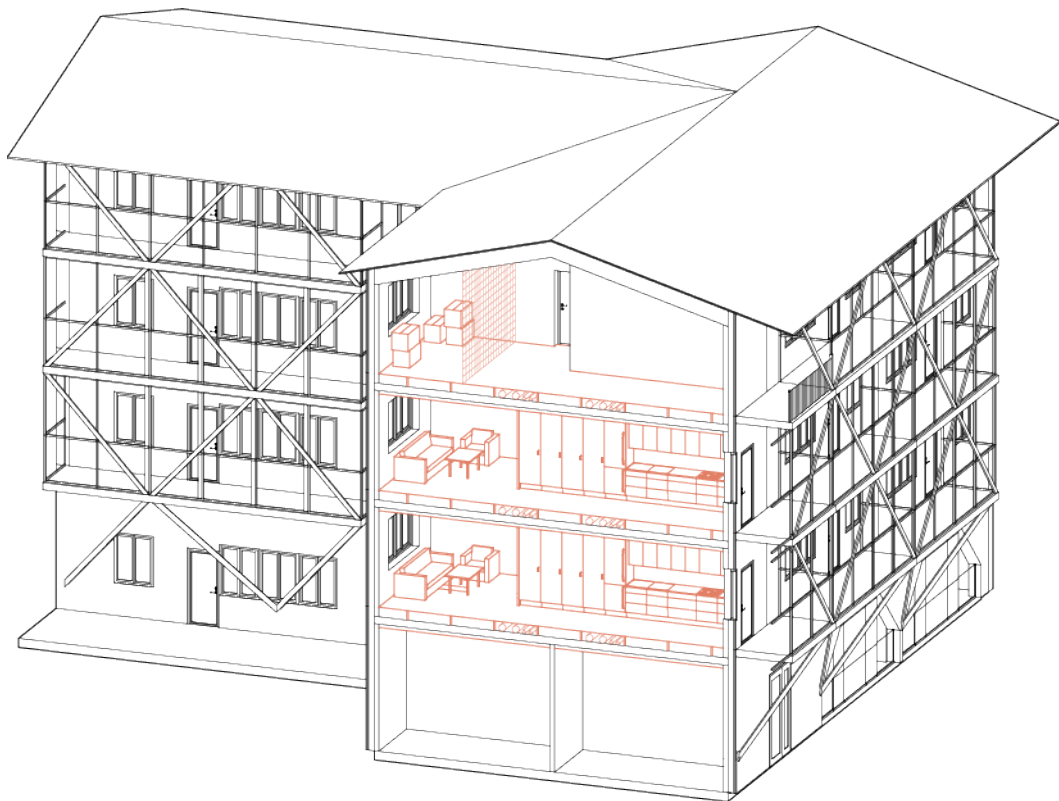
1. evaluate building materials
2. check for toxics, if any
3. remove contaminations

## FIXED INTERIORS

1. evaluate condition of fixed interiors, such as stoves, casework etc.
2. material recycle or relocate

## INSTALLATIONS

1. evaluate condition of installations, such as ventilation, plumbing and electrics
2. material recycle or relocate



# DISASSEMBLY PLAN

---

## - PREPARATION -

Due to the building's expected life length of +50 years, reuse of materials with a shorter expected life length have not been planned for. This includes fixed interiors, installations and exterior claddings. Therefore, these materials will be removed in advance. The disassembly of the remaining structure will be conducted floor by floor, with the exception of the outer shell.

### DISASSEMBLY ORDER

|                  |   |                        |
|------------------|---|------------------------|
| Decontamination  | } | <i>preparation</i>     |
| Fixed interiors  |   |                        |
| Installations    |   |                        |
| Roof cladding    | } | <i>outer shell</i>     |
| Winter garden    |   |                        |
| Balconies        |   |                        |
| Structural roof  | } | <i>top floor</i>       |
| Interior walls   |   |                        |
| Bathroom modules |   |                        |
| Exterior walls   |   |                        |
| Slabs            | } | <i>standard floor</i>  |
| Interior walls   |   |                        |
| Bathroom modules |   |                        |
| Exterior walls   |   |                        |
| Stairs           | } | <i>entrance floor</i>  |
| Slabs            |   |                        |
| Interior walls   |   |                        |
| Bathroom modules | } | <i>reestablishment</i> |
| Exterior walls   |   |                        |
| Stairs           |   |                        |
| Foundation       | } |                        |
| Relocation       |   |                        |
| Material recycle |   |                        |
| Reconstruct      | } |                        |

## ROOF CLADDING

1. take off the metal sheet
2. break open the laths and planks
3. take away the interior cladding and the insulation
4. sort the material for recycling

## WINTER GARDEN

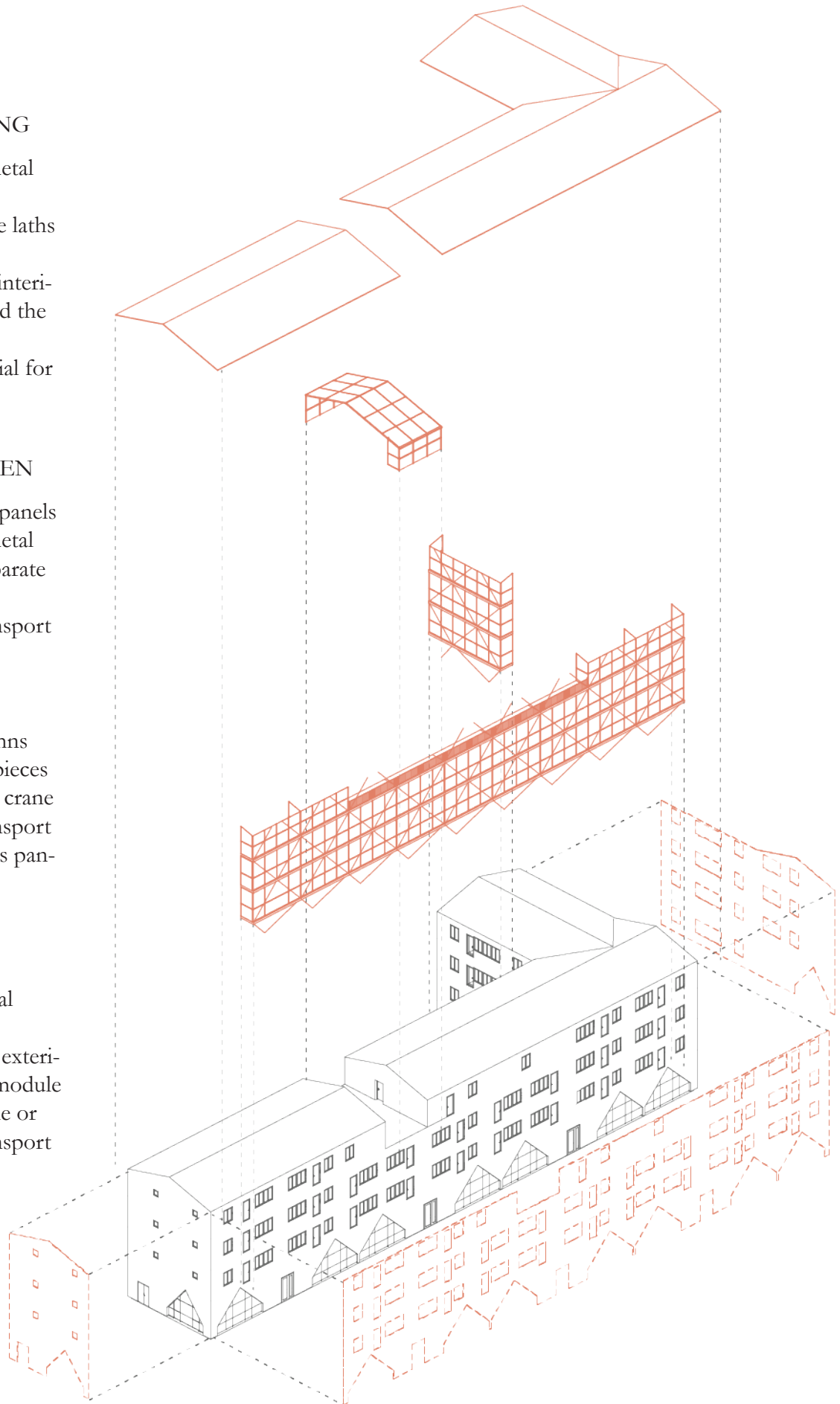
1. separate glass panels
2. deconstruct metal frame into separate pieces
3. secure for transport

## BALCONIES

1. separate columns into separate pieces
2. lift down with crane
3. secure for transport
4. repeat for glass panels and slabs

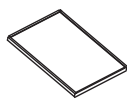
## FACADE

1. inspect material condition
2. separate from exterior wall plane module
3. material recycle or secure for transport

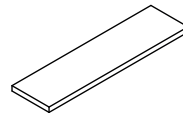


# DISASSEMBLY PLAN

- OUTER SHELL -



Winter garden glass  
panel  
1,5xX m  
31 pieces



Slab  
1,5x12 m  
18 pieces



Balcony glass panel  
1,5x3 m  
138 pieces



Structural column  
3,4 m  
84 pieces

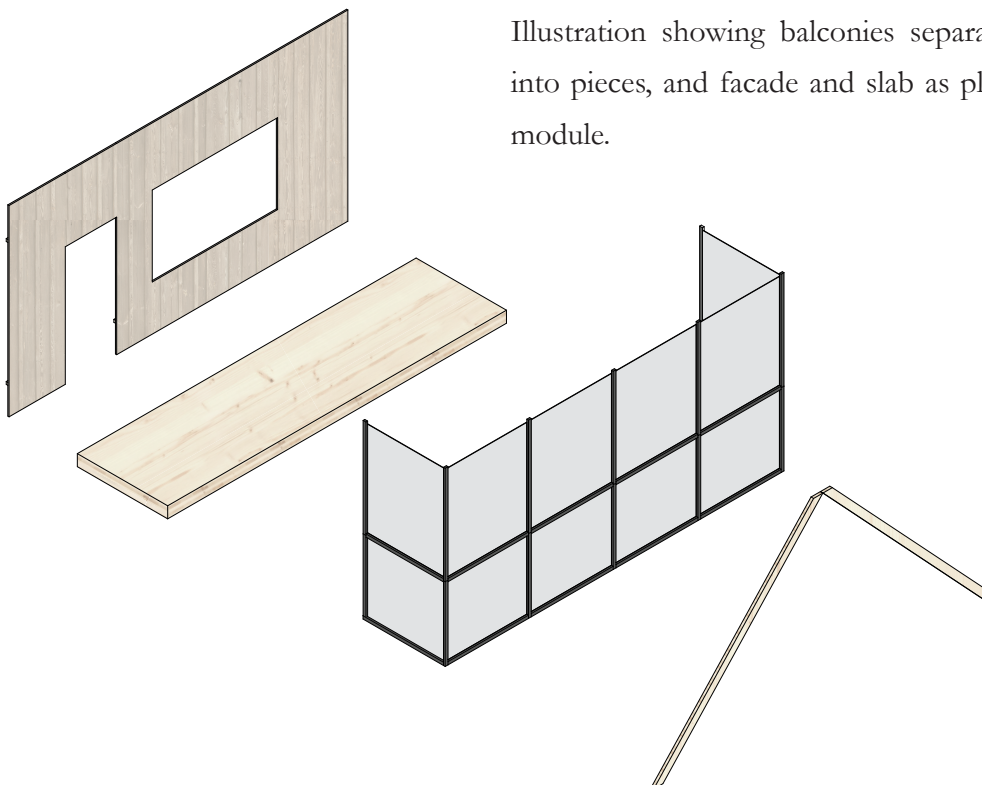


Illustration showing balconies separated into pieces, and facade and slab as plane module.

## STRUCTURAL ROOF

1. separate roof plane modules vertically and horizontally
2. lift down with a crane
3. secure for transport
4. repeat process for glulam trusses

## INTERIOR WALLS & BATHROOM MODULES

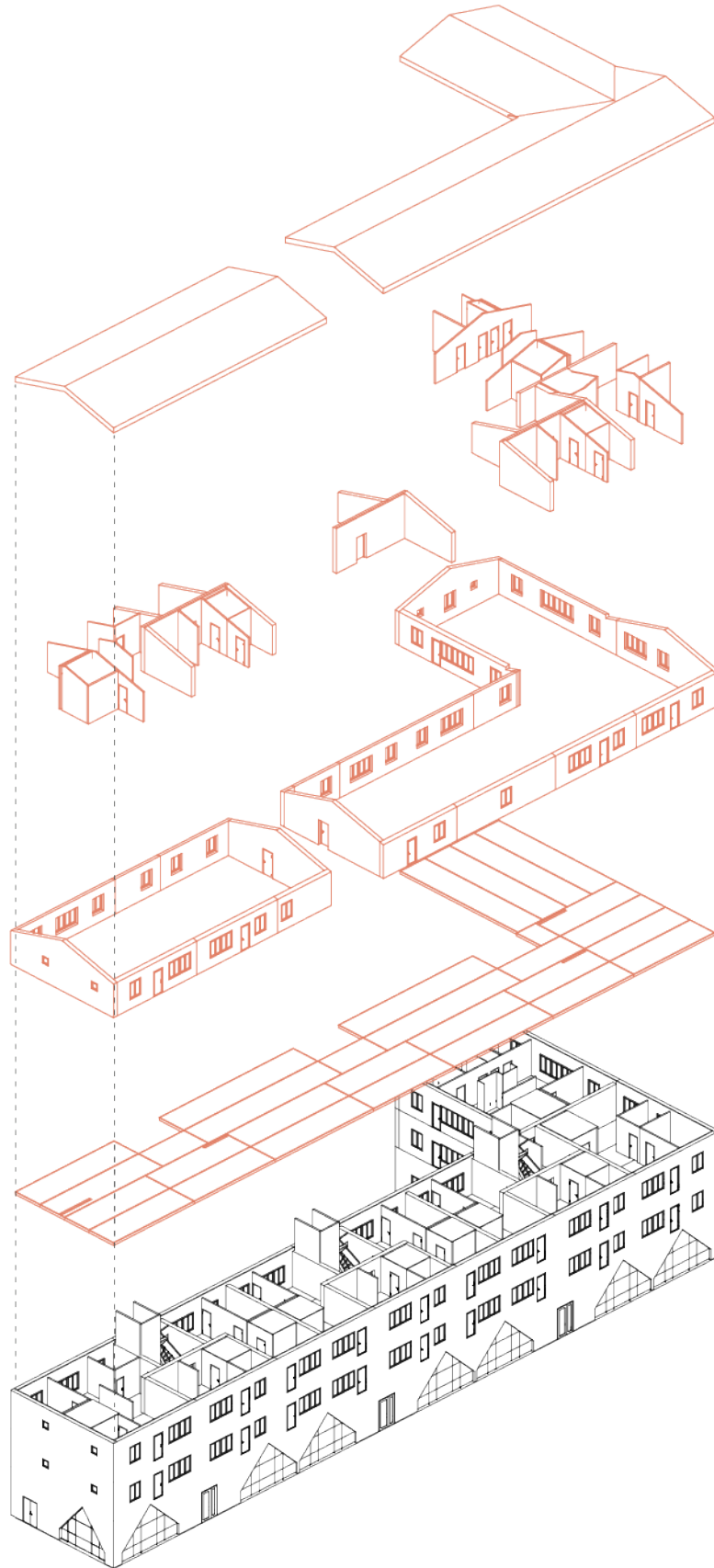
1. separate wall plane modules vertically and horizontally
2. lift down with a crane
3. secure for transport
4. repeat process for bathroom modules

## EXTERIOR WALLS

1. inspect insulation condition
2. material recycle or secure for lift
3. separate wall plane modules vertically and horizontally
4. lift down with a crane
5. secure for transport

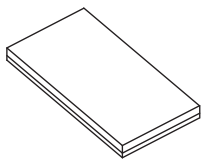
## SLABS

1. separate slab plane modules vertically and horizontally
2. lift down with a crane
3. secure for transport

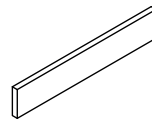


# DISASSEMBLY PLAN

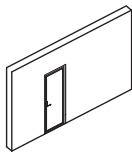
- TOP FLOOR -



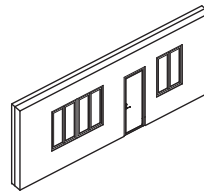
Structural roof  
plane module  
3x5 m  
48 pieces



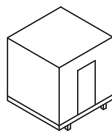
Structural roof  
beam  
0,9x12 m  
6 pieces



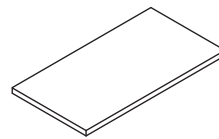
Interior wall  
3xX m  
46 pieces



Exterior wall  
3xX m  
20 pieces



Bathroom module  
7 modules



Slab  
3xX  
30 pieces

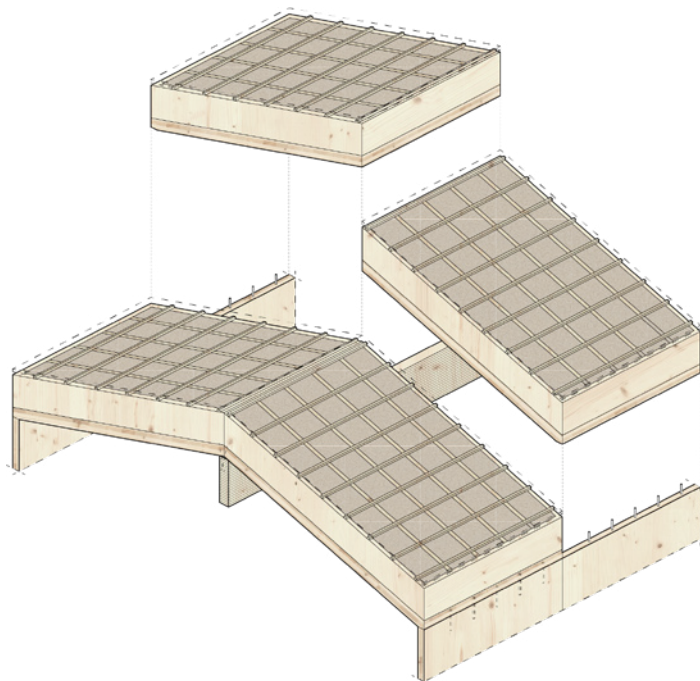


Illustration showing how to separate the structural roof and insulation as a plane module.

## INTERIOR WALLS & BATHROOM MODULES

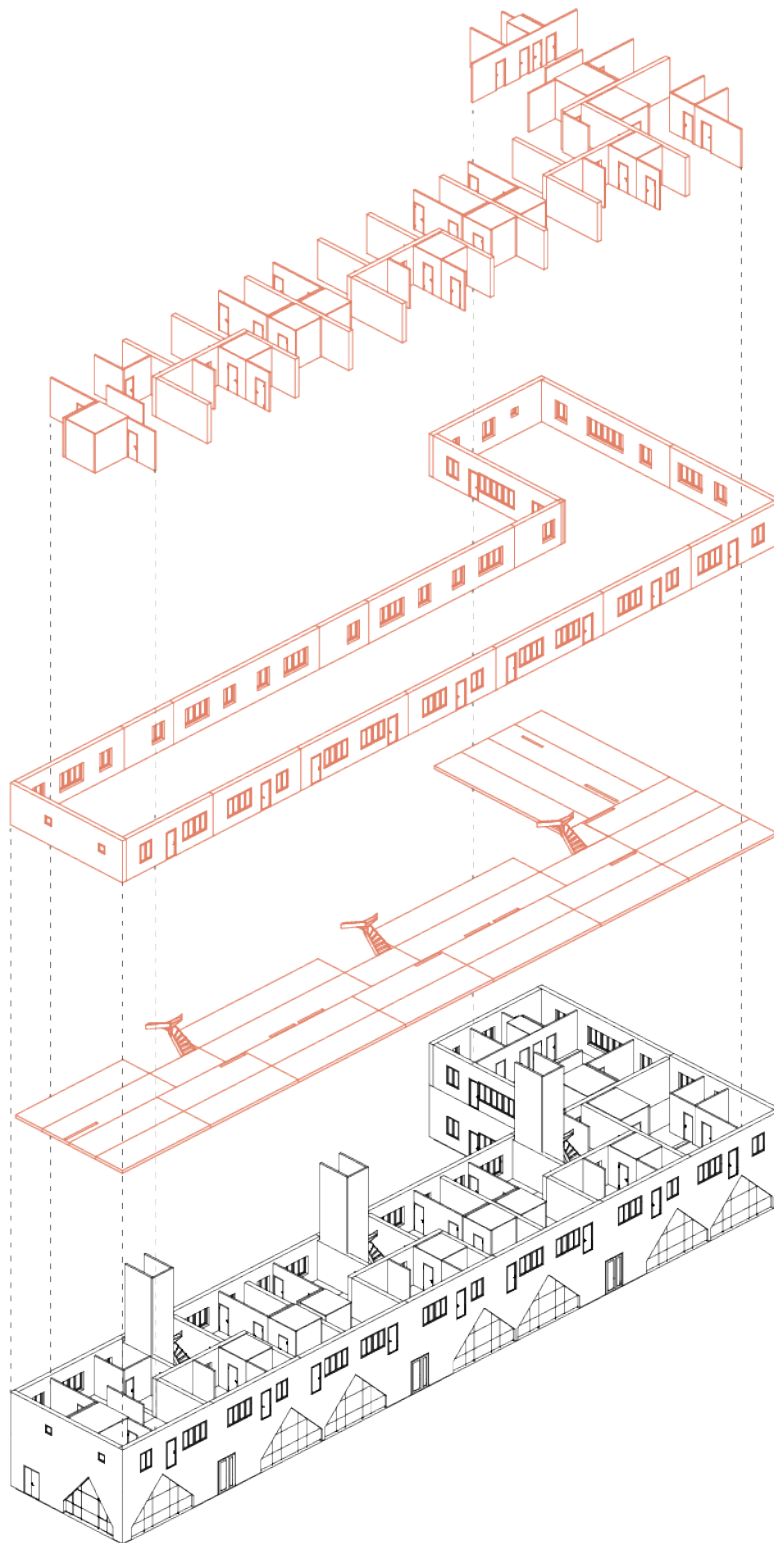
1. separate wall plane modules vertically and horizontally
2. lift down with a crane
3. secure for transport
4. repeat process for bathroom modules

## EXTERIOR WALLS

1. inspect insulation condition
2. material recycle or secure for lift
3. separate wall plane modules (keep doors & windows) vertically and horizontally
4. lift down with a crane
5. secure for transport

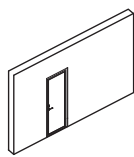
## STAIRS & SLABS

1. separate stair volume modules vertically and horizontally
2. lift down with a crane
3. secure for transport
4. repeat process for slabs

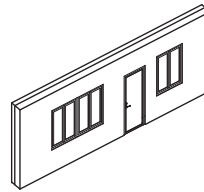


# DISASSEMBLY PLAN

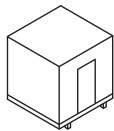
- STANDARD FLOOR -



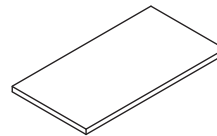
Interior wall  
3xX m  
78 pieces



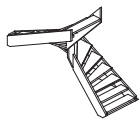
Exterior wall  
3xX m  
18 pieces



Bathroom module  
12 modules



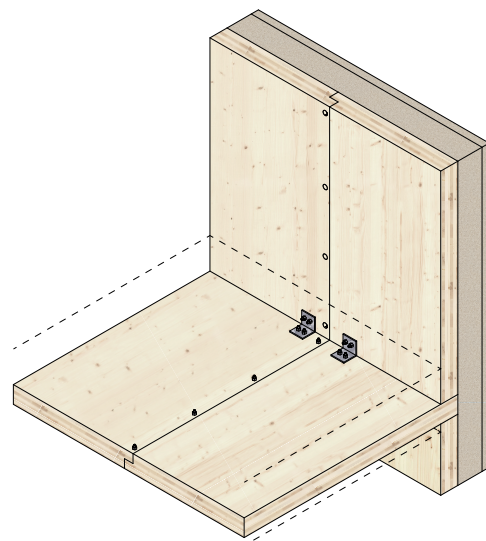
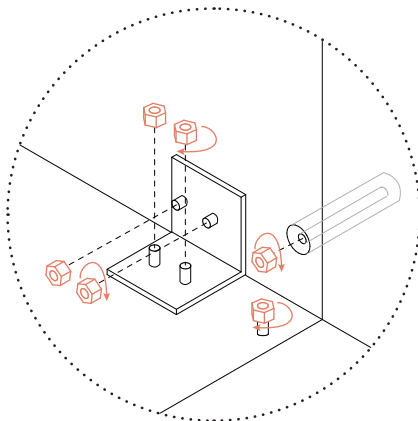
Slab  
3xX m  
30 pieces



Stair  
3 modules

**x2**  
to include all  
standard floors

Illustration showing how to separate wall and slab plane modules vertically and horizontally



## INTERIOR WALLS & BATHROOM MODULES

1. separate wall plane modules vertically and horizontally
2. lift down with a crane
3. secure for transport
4. repeat process for bathroom modules

## EXTERIOR WALLS

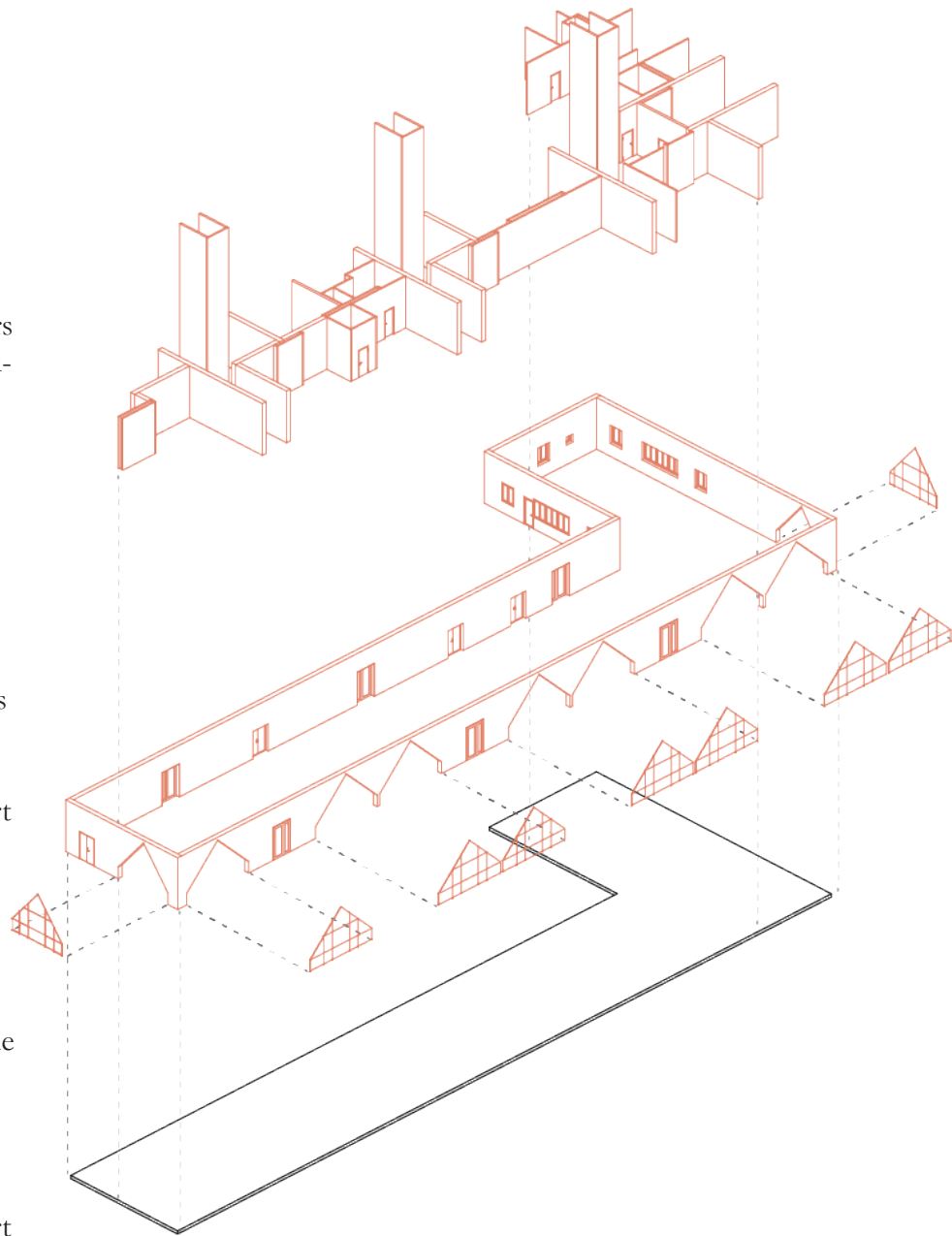
1. inspect insulation condition
2. material recycle or secure for lift
3. separate wall plane modules (keep doors & windows) vertically and horizontally
4. lift down with a crane
5. secure for transport

## STORE FRONT WINDOWS

1. separate glass panels
2. lift down with a crane
3. secure for transport
4. repeat process for slabs

## FOUNDATION

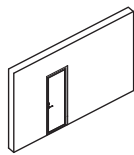
1. separate stair volume modules vertically and horizontally
2. lift down with a crane
3. secure for transport
4. repeat process for slabs



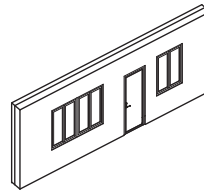
## DISASSEMBLY PLAN

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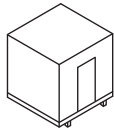
### - ENTRANCE FLOOR -



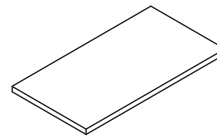
Interior wall  
3xX m  
38 pieces



Exterior wall  
4xX m  
18 pieces



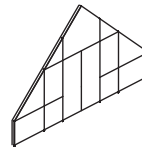
Bathroom module  
3 modules



Foundation  
X pieces



Stair  
3 modules



Storefront window  
9 pieces

## DISASSEMBLY PLAN

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### - REESTABLISHMENT -

After the disassembly is finished it is time to transport the material to a new building site, a second hand retailer or another type of storage. Intermediaries and secondhand

retailers may have increased in 50 years, and become more widely spread throughout the country. The remaining building waste is recycled and the building site is cleared and restored.

05.

# CONCLUSION

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*1. How can we build and design with timber to promote reuse of building materials?*

*2. Which timber building methods are most suitable to use when designing for disassembly?*

1.

We have found that a good way to prepare a building for future reuse of its material, is using the strategy Design for disassembly. The strategy ensures that building methods chosen in an early state are simplifying the disassembling at the end of the buildings life. Furthermore, by identifying that a building consists of several building layers with different life lengths, and ensure that they can be separated, more material can be replaced, reused and recycled in the future.

The thesis promotes reuse of building material by giving a clear overview of which prefabrication levels, building systems, and joints that are suitable to use in a design for disassembly project. Thereby,

demonstrating that the goal of reusable building material is reachable, thus, lowering the threshold for builders, investors and architects, to implement building methods that support a reuse concept.

Despite today's challenges, the thesis shows that there are potential gains from reusing building materials, as the cost of a demolition is more expensive than the dismantling and sale of the building material. This provides motivation for long term owners to step away from the conventional way of building. The thesis also shows that a design for disassembly project doesn't require large or complicated alterations to be realized.

## CONCLUSION

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2.

Depending on the scale and context of the project, as well as the expected life length of the building, different building methods are suitable. By using the comparisons as a guiding tool, all projects can find suitable options. In large, the plane module is the most applicable prefabrication level, while the volume module can be suitable for temporary building permits and the separate pieces can be used in small scale projects.

The choice of prefabrication level will have a direct impact on the number of building systems to choose from. All compared building systems have their own advantages, depending on the context of the project. All systems can be

reused, but the stud frame has its challenges due to its method of fixing the building layers together, making it hard to separate the different materials without damaging it. Limiting the performance to solely reusability the Bosum building system stands out, as it has a low number of specialized pieces and can be reused similarly as a brick.

When choosing joints suitable for disassembly, it is important to choose reversible and self-instructive alternatives. Also, choosing a strong joint will shorten the disassembly time, since the number of joints can be reduced. In our comparison, the bolt and nut stand out as an exceptionally good choice.

# DISCUSSION

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## THE COMPARISON

By evaluating three prefabrication levels: volume module, plane module and separate pieces, we got a good understanding of how the different building systems are affected by their prefabrication level in terms of reusability. In other reports, timber constructions are divided into massive timber structures, post and beam structures and modular systems. However, this division would have classified the log construction, Bosum building system, CLT and IsoTimber, as the same - massive timber structures.

The selection of building systems and joints were made with the expectation that they would be possible to reuse. Additionally, we wanted to include conventional building methods, such as the stud frame. When comparing joints, more conventional options could have been used. Our selection was based on

low environmental impact and what we thought would be easy to reuse, this turned out not to be the case, at least for the wooden joints, hook joint and steel sleeve.

The estimated performance of each building method that was presented in the comparisons, came from assumptions made by the authors and was based on literature studies and interviews. The quality of such a comparison is limited to the sources used, and if using other sources the results may vary. Using Sweden's building sector calculation tool, BM 1.0, where not all materials are included, led to some guesswork, and in some cases replacing a material into a material with similar qualities. Which of course lowers the accuracy of the value presented. The selection of factors also affected the result, for example, all massive timber structures, such as CLT, Isotimber, log construction and

## DISCUSSION

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Bosum building system are affected negatively by limiting the insulating capacity to U-values. The time lag generated by the thermal mass in those structures, contributes to a comfortable indoor climate.

### THE CASE STUDY PROJECT

Working with timber and design for disassembly haven't affected the architecture in the case study project significantly. When comparing the case study project to a conventional timber building, some architecture expressions are prominent. This includes exposing the timber structure to the interior, as well as a generous floor to ceiling height, to ensure that the structure is usable even with changing building regulations.

During the design phase, we tried to limit the number of different dimensions used for the plane mod-

ules. This affected the layout of the apartment negatively to some extent. A question was raised on whether or not to optimize the building for reuse, even if it meant sacrificing other qualities. For our case study project, we decided not to take it that far and focused on creating a project for its first users as much as for its second.

We mention how joints have to be accessible, which can imply that they are visible in a design for disassembly project. However, in the case study project the vertical joints are hidden under the installation roof and floor, while the horizontal joints are found behind the walls separating each apartment, thus, no joints will be visible inside the building.

The typically high effort laid on hiding joints, witness about an aesthetics where smooth surfaces are

# DISCUSSION

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desirable, whereupon wallpaper or paint is commonly used. Choosing wallpapers or paints can be a part of creating a personal home. The wallpaper or paint can stand for identity, tradition and participation.

It would have been fantastic to contextualize the building reassembled in a future project. This would have given us some idea of how the pieces can be put together in a building with a different function or design. This exercise could have altered our first design of the building.

## FUTURE CHALLENGES

Economy, logistics, and quality ensuring are challenges to overcome when promoting reuse of building material, which haven't been solved within this thesis. Changes within the building industry concerning attitudes and norms, is large step to overcome. Pointing at the potential gains to be made and showing that

it is possible to design for reuse of materials, will hopefully contribute to a change in norms, making the building industry transform into a circular economy system.

## SCOPE

The focus of the thesis have been on how to reuse building materials, but preventing materials to become of less value are equally important to ensure a sustainable use. In this case, the affection for a building can have a large influence on whether or not preventive actions against decay are taken. Therefore, aesthetics should not be overlooked, as it may prolong the building's life.

Another urgent matter is to move towards a building industry where regenerative and low energy demanding materials, such as timber, are norm. Planning for disassembly can be considered the next step to reach a sustainable use of materials.

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Picture 7: IsoTimber Holding AB

Picture 9: OCH Thermé. Retrieved 2020.05.05 from <https://www.facebook.com/ochtherme/>

Picture 10: Lindbäcks Bygg AB. Retrieved 2020.05.06 from <https://lindbacks.se/pressmeddelande/lindbacks-gar-samarbete-med-byggbolag-finland/>

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Figure 1: Circular economy diagram. Retrieved 2020.05.31 from <https://www.anthesisgroup.com/procurement-opportunities-in-the-circular-economy/>

Figure 2: Lansink's ladder "the Waste Hierarchy". Retrieved 2020.05.31 from <https://www.recycling.com/wp-content/uploads/waste%20hierarchy/Waste%20Hierarchy%20presentation%20From%20waste%20to%20resource-management.pdf>

Figure 3: Division of building cost. Retrieved 2020.04.30 from <https://www.scb.se/hitta-statistik/statistik-efter-amne/priser-och-konsumtion/byggnadsprisindex-samt-faktorprisindex-for-byggnader/faktorprisindex-for-byggnader-fpi/pong/statistiknyhet/faktorprisindex-for-byggnader-april-2020/>

Figure 5: Shearing layers by Stewart Brand. (1995). *How buildings learn: What happens after They're Built*. London: Penguin Books

Figure 6: Svenskt Trä. (no date). *Från timmer till plankor*. Retrieved 2020-02-06 from <https://www.svensktra.se/trafakta/allmant-om-tra/fran-timmer-till-plankor/>



# APPENDIX 1

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## - CALCULATIONS -

|                          |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| Wall construction        | 2  |
| Global warming potential | 4  |
| Stored CO <sub>2</sub>   | 6  |
| Chosen system            | 7  |
| Demolished building      | 8  |
| Potential gains          | 9  |
| Time to regrow a house   | 10 |

# WALL CONSTRUCTION

- U-VALUE 0,15 -

## 1 STUD FRAME

Heat transfer resistance [m<sup>2</sup>K/W] inner R<sub>si</sub>: 0,13  
outer R<sub>sa</sub>: 0,10

| Section 1             | λ [W/(mK)] | Section 2 (if any) | λ [W/(mK)] | Section 3 (if any) | λ [W/(mK)] | Total width<br>thickness [mm] |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Plaster board      | 0,250      |                    |            |                    |            | 13                            |
| 2. OSB                | 0,130      |                    |            |                    |            | 11                            |
| 3. Insulation         | 0,038      | Studs              | 0,130      |                    |            | 45                            |
| 4. Air stopper        | 1,000      |                    |            |                    |            | 0                             |
| 5. Insulation         | 0,038      | Studs              | 0,130      |                    |            | 170                           |
| 6. Wind stopper board | 0,030      |                    |            |                    |            | 45                            |
| 7. Total wood facade  |            |                    |            | Wood facade        | 0,000      | 78                            |
| 8.                    |            |                    |            |                    |            |                               |
|                       |            | Section 2 percent  |            | Section 3 percent  |            | Sum                           |
|                       |            | 10,0%              |            | 45,0%              |            | 36,2 cm                       |

U-value: 0,152 W/(m<sup>2</sup>K)

## 2 CROSS-LAMINATED TIMBER

Heat transfer resistance [m<sup>2</sup>K/W] inner R<sub>si</sub>: 0,13  
outer R<sub>sa</sub>: 0,10

| Section 1             | λ [W/(mK)] | Section 2 (if any) | λ [W/(mK)] | Section 3 (if any) | λ [W/(mK)] | Total width<br>thickness [mm] |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. CLT                | 0,120      |                    |            |                    |            | 120                           |
| 2. Air stopper        | 0,048      |                    |            |                    |            | 0                             |
| 3. Insulation         | 0,038      | Studs              | 0,130      |                    |            | 170                           |
| 4. Wind stopper board | 0,030      |                    |            |                    |            | 50                            |
| 5. Total wood facade  |            |                    |            | Wood facade        | 0,000      | 78                            |
| 6.                    |            |                    |            |                    |            |                               |
| 7.                    |            |                    |            |                    |            |                               |
| 8.                    |            |                    |            |                    |            |                               |
|                       |            | Section 2 percent  |            | Section 3 percent  |            | Sum                           |
|                       |            | 10,0%              |            | 45,0%              |            | 41,8 cm                       |

U-value: 0,150 W/(m<sup>2</sup>K)

## 3 LOG CONSTRUCTION

Heat transfer resistance [m<sup>2</sup>K/W] inner R<sub>si</sub>: 0,13  
outer R<sub>sa</sub>: 0,10

| Section 1            | λ [W/(mK)] | Section 2 (if any) | λ [W/(mK)] | Section 3 (if any) | λ [W/(mK)] | Total width<br>thickness [mm] |
|----------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Log               | 0,100      |                    |            |                    |            | 150                           |
| 2. Insulation        | 0,038      | Studs              | 0,130      |                    |            | 220                           |
| 3. Wind stopper film | 1,000      |                    |            |                    |            | 0,3                           |
| 4. Total wood facade |            |                    |            | Wood facade        | 0,000      | 78                            |
| 5.                   |            |                    |            |                    |            |                               |
| 6.                   |            |                    |            |                    |            |                               |
| 7.                   |            |                    |            |                    |            |                               |
| 8.                   |            |                    |            |                    |            |                               |
|                      |            | Section 2 percent  |            | Section 3 percent  |            | Sum                           |
|                      |            | 10,0%              |            | 45,0%              |            | 44,8 cm                       |

U-value: 0,153 W/(m<sup>2</sup>K)

## 4 ISOTIMBER

Heat transfer resistance [m<sup>2</sup>K/W] inner R<sub>si</sub> : 0,13  
outer R<sub>sa</sub> : 0,10

| Section 1                    | λ [W/(mK)] | Section 2 (if any) | λ [W/(mK)] | Section 3 (if any) | λ [W/(mK)] | Total width<br>thickness [mm] |
|------------------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. CLT                       | 0,120      |                    |            |                    |            | 100                           |
| 2. IsoTimber (plywood incl.) | 0,075      |                    |            |                    |            | 100                           |
| 3. IsoTimber (plywood incl.) | 0,075      |                    |            |                    |            | 150                           |
| 4. IsoTimber (plywood incl.) | 0,075      |                    |            |                    |            | 150                           |
| 5. Total wood facade         |            |                    |            | Wood facade        | 0,000      | 78                            |
| 6.                           |            |                    |            |                    |            |                               |
| 7.                           |            |                    |            |                    |            |                               |
| 8.                           |            |                    |            |                    |            |                               |
|                              |            | Section 2 percent  |            | Section 3 percent  |            | Sum                           |
|                              |            |                    |            | 45,0%              |            | 57,8 cm                       |
|                              |            |                    |            |                    | U-value:   | 0,156 W/(m <sup>2</sup> K)    |

## 5 GLULAM

Heat transfer resistance [m<sup>2</sup>K/W] inner R<sub>si</sub> : 0,13  
outer R<sub>sa</sub> : 0,10

| Section 1             | λ [W/(mK)] | Section 2 (if any) | λ [W/(mK)] | Section 3 (if any) | λ [W/(mK)] | Total width<br>thickness [mm] |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Plaster board      | 0,250      |                    |            |                    |            | 13                            |
| 2. OSB                | 0,130      |                    |            |                    |            | 11                            |
| 3. Insulation         | 0,038      | Studs              | 0,130      |                    |            | 45                            |
| 4. Air stopper        | 1,000      |                    |            |                    |            | 0,3                           |
| 5. Insulation         | 0,038      | Studs              | 0,130      |                    |            | 170                           |
| 6. Wind stopper board | 0,030      |                    |            |                    |            | 45                            |
| 7. Total wood facade  |            |                    |            | Wood facade        | 0,000      | 78                            |
| 8.                    |            |                    |            |                    |            |                               |
|                       |            | Section 2 percent  |            | Section 3 percent  |            | Sum                           |
|                       |            | 10,0%              |            | 45,0%              |            | 36,2 cm                       |
|                       |            |                    |            |                    | U-value:   | 0,152 W/(m <sup>2</sup> K)    |

## 6 BOSUM

Heat transfer resistance [m<sup>2</sup>K/W] inner R<sub>si</sub> : 0,13  
outer R<sub>sa</sub> : 0,10

| Section 1            | λ [W/(mK)] | Section 2 (if any) | λ [W/(mK)] | Section 3 (if any) | λ [W/(mK)] | Total width<br>thickness [mm] |
|----------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Wooden blocks     | 0,100      |                    |            |                    |            | 150                           |
| 2. Air stopper       | 1,000      |                    |            |                    |            | 0,3                           |
| 3. Insulation        | 0,038      | Studs              | 0,130      |                    |            | 220                           |
| 4. Total wood facade |            |                    |            | Wood facade        | 0,000      | 78                            |
| 5.                   |            |                    |            |                    |            |                               |
| 6.                   |            |                    |            |                    |            |                               |
| 7.                   |            |                    |            |                    |            |                               |
| 8.                   |            |                    |            |                    |            |                               |
|                      |            | Section 2 percent  |            | Section 3 percent  |            | Sum                           |
|                      |            | 10,0%              |            | 45,0%              |            | 44,8 cm                       |
|                      |            |                    |            |                    | U-value:   | 0,153 W/(m <sup>2</sup> K)    |

# GLOBAL WARMING POTENTIAL

## - GWP FOR EACH WALL TYPE -

### 1 STUD FRAME

|                       | Source BM                            | Thickness     | Part of wall | Density      | Material amount  | GWP             | GWP/m2          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                       |                                      | <i>m</i>      |              | <i>kg/m3</i> | <i>kg/1000m2</i> | <i>kgco2/kg</i> | <i>kgco2/m2</i> |
| <b>plaster board</b>  | <i>Gips</i>                          | 0,013         | 1            | 900          | 11700            | 0,2717          | 3,2             |
| <b>OSB</b>            | <i>OSB board OSB 3 MUPF / PMD.</i>   | 0,011         | 1            | 600          | 6600             | 0,167           | 1,1             |
| <b>mineral wool</b>   | <i>Glass wool MW-WF 35</i>           | 0,045         | 0,9          | 35           | 1417,5           | 1,25            | 1,8             |
| <b>lath</b>           | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,045         | 0,1          | 473          | 2128,5           | 0,055           | 0,1             |
| <b>vapour barrier</b> | <i>Plastfolier (IVL LCR)</i>         | 0,0003        | 1            | 910          | 273              | 1,809           | 0,5             |
| <b>mineral wool</b>   | <i>Glass wool MW-WF 35</i>           | 0,17          | 0,9          | 35           | 5355             | 1,25            | 6,7             |
| <b>stud</b>           | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,17          | 0,1          | 473          | 8041             | 0,055           | 0,4             |
| <b>wind board</b>     | <i>ISOVER glasull fasadskiva</i>     | 0,045         | 1            | 60           | 2700             | 1,15            | 3,1             |
| <b>batten</b>         | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,034         | 0,1          | 473          | 1608,2           | 0,055           | 0,1             |
| <b>panel</b>          | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,022         | 1            | 473          | 10406            | 0,055           | 0,6             |
| <b>lath panel</b>     | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,022         | 0,2          | 473          | 2081,2           | 0,055           | 0,1             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>          |                                      | <b>0,3623</b> |              | <b>4905</b>  | <b>52310</b>     | <b>6,17</b>     | <b>17,68</b>    |

### 2 CROSS-LAMINATED TIMBER

|                       | Source BM                            | Thickness     | Part of wall | Densitet     | Material amount  | GWP             | GWP/m2          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                       |                                      | <i>m</i>      |              | <i>kg/m3</i> | <i>kg/1000m2</i> | <i>kgco2/kg</i> | <i>kgco2/m2</i> |
| <b>CLT</b>            | <i>KL-trä</i>                        | 0,12          | 1            | 460          | 55200            | 0,14            | 7,7             |
| <b>vapour barrier</b> | <i>Plastfolier (IVL LCR)</i>         | 0,0002        | 1            | 910          | 182              | 1,809           | 0,3             |
| <b>mineral wool</b>   | <i>Glass wool MW-WF 35</i>           | 0,17          | 0,9          | 35           | 5355             | 1,25            | 6,7             |
| <b>stud</b>           | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,17          | 0,1          | 473          | 8041             | 0,055           | 0,4             |
| <b>wind board</b>     | <i>ISOVER glasull fasadskiva</i>     | 0,05          | 1            | 60           | 3000             | 1,15            | 3,5             |
| <b>batten</b>         | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,034         | 0,1          | 473          | 1608,2           | 0,055           | 0,1             |
| <b>panel</b>          | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,022         | 1            | 473          | 10406            | 0,055           | 0,6             |
| <b>lath panel</b>     | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,022         | 0,2          | 473          | 2081,2           | 0,055           | 0,1             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>          |                                      | <b>0,4182</b> |              | <b>3357</b>  | <b>85873</b>     | <b>4,57</b>     | <b>19,42</b>    |

### 3 LOG CONSTRUCTION

|                          | Source BM                            | Thickness     | Part of wall | Densitet     | Material amount  | GWP             | GWP/m2          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                          |                                      | <i>m</i>      |              | <i>kg/m3</i> | <i>kg/1000m2</i> | <i>kgco2/kg</i> | <i>kgco2/m2</i> |
| <b>log</b>               | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,15          | 0,95         | 473          | 67402,5          | 0,055           | 3,71            |
| <b>flax drev</b>         | <i>Cellulosaisolering</i>            | 0,1           | 0,05         | 30           | 150              | 0,19            | 0,03            |
| <b>mineral wool</b>      | <i>Glass wool MW-WF 35</i>           | 0,22          | 0,9          | 35           | 6930             | 1,25            | 8,66            |
| <b>stud</b>              | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,22          | 0,1          | 473          | 10406            | 0,055           | 0,57            |
| <b>wind stopper film</b> | <i>Plastfolier (IVL LCR)</i>         | 0,0003        | 1            | 910          | 273              | 1,809           | 0,49            |
| <b>batten</b>            | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,034         | 0,1          | 473          | 1608,2           | 0,055           | 0,09            |
| <b>panel</b>             | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,022         | 1            | 473          | 10406            | 0,055           | 0,57            |
| <b>lath panel</b>        | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,022         | 0,2          | 473          | 2081,2           | 0,055           | 0,11            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             |                                      | <b>0,4483</b> |              | <b>3340</b>  | <b>99257</b>     | <b>3,52</b>     | <b>14,24</b>    |

## 4 ISOTIMBER

| Source BM                        | Thickness                            | Part of wall | Densitet     | Material amount  | GWP             | GWP/m2          |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                  | <i>m</i>                             |              | <i>kg/m3</i> | <i>kg/1000m2</i> | <i>kgco2/kg</i> | <i>kgco2/m2</i> |
| <b>CLT</b>                       | <i>KL-trä</i>                        | 1            | 460          | 46000            | 0,14            | 6,4             |
| <b>IsoTimber (plywood excl.)</b> | <i>Glulam + plywood</i>              | 1            | 420          | 36120            | 0,0937          | 3,4             |
| <b>IsoTimber (plywood excl.)</b> | <i>Glulam + plywood</i>              | 1            | 420          | 57120            | 0,0937          | 5,4             |
| <b>IsoTimber (plywood excl.)</b> | <i>Glulam + plywood</i>              | 1            | 420          | 57120            | 0,0937          | 5,4             |
| <b>plywood*</b>                  | <i>Plywood</i>                       | 1            | 500          | 21000            | 0,2042          | 4,3             |
| <b>batten</b>                    | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,1          | 473          | 1608,2           | 0,055           | 0,1             |
| <b>panel</b>                     | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 1            | 473          | 10406            | 0,055           | 0,6             |
| <b>lath panel</b>                | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,2          | 473          | 2081,2           | 0,055           | 0,1             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                     |                                      |              | <b>3639</b>  | <b>231455</b>    | <b>0,7903</b>   | <b>25,59</b>    |

Plywood (mm)      Layers  
7                              6

\* Plywood, 2 layers on each piece of IsoTimber  
Excluded from the IsoTimber piece in the table above  
in order to find the GWP for the plywood

## 5 GLULAM

| Source BM             | Thickness                            | Part of wall | Densitet     | Material amount  | GWP             | GWP/m2          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                       | <i>m</i>                             |              | <i>kg/m3</i> | <i>kg/1000m2</i> | <i>kgco2/kg</i> | <i>kgco2/m2</i> |
| <b>glulam pillar</b>  | <i>Glulam</i>                        | 0,07         | 473          | 7923,223         | 0,0937          | 0,7             |
| <b>plaster board</b>  | <i>Gips</i>                          | 0,93         | 900          | 10881            | 0,2717          | 3,0             |
| <b>OSB</b>            | <i>OSB board OSB 3 MUPF / PMD.</i>   | 0,93         | 600          | 6138             | 0,167           | 1,0             |
| <b>mineral wool</b>   | <i>Glass wool MW-WF 35</i>           | 0,9          | 35           | 1417,5           | 1,25            | 1,8             |
| <b>lath</b>           | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,1          | 473          | 2128,5           | 0,055           | 0,1             |
| <b>vapour barrier</b> | <i>Plastfolier (IVL LCR)</i>         | 1            | 910          | 273              | 1,809           | 0,5             |
| <b>mineral wool</b>   | <i>Glass wool MW-WF 35</i>           | 0,9          | 35           | 5355             | 1,25            | 6,7             |
| <b>stud</b>           | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,1          | 473          | 8041             | 0,055           | 0,4             |
| <b>wind board</b>     | <i>ISOVER glasull fasadskiva</i>     | 1            | 60           | 2700             | 1,15            | 3,1             |
| <b>batten</b>         | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,1          | 473          | 1608,2           | 0,055           | 0,1             |
| <b>panel</b>          | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 1            | 473          | 10406            | 0,055           | 0,6             |
| <b>lath panel</b>     | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,2          | 473          | 2081,2           | 0,055           | 0,1             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>          |                                      |              | <b>5378</b>  | <b>58953</b>     | <b>6,27</b>     | <b>18,12</b>    |

## 6 BOSUM

| Source BM             | Thickness                            | Part of wall | Densitet     | Material amount  | GWP             | GWP/m2          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                       | <i>m</i>                             |              | <i>kg/m3</i> | <i>kg/1000m2</i> | <i>kgco2/kg</i> | <i>kgco2/m2</i> |
| <b>wooden block</b>   | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,95         | 473          | 67402,5          | 0,055           | 3,7             |
| <b>vapour barrier</b> | <i>Plastfolier (IVL LCR)</i>         | 1            | 910          | 273              | 1,809           | 0,5             |
| <b>mineral wool</b>   | <i>Glass wool MW-WF 35</i>           | 0,9          | 35           | 6930             | 1,25            | 8,7             |
| <b>stud</b>           | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,1          | 473          | 10406            | 0,055           | 0,6             |
| <b>batten</b>         | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,1          | 473          | 1608,2           | 0,055           | 0,1             |
| <b>panel</b>          | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 1            | 473          | 10406            | 0,055           | 0,6             |
| <b>lath panel</b>     | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i> | 0,2          | 473          | 2081,2           | 0,055           | 0,1             |
| <b>plywood</b>        | <i>Plywood</i>                       | 0,05         | 500          | 300              | 0,2042          | 0,1             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>          |                                      |              | <b>3810</b>  | <b>99407</b>     | <b>3,54</b>     | <b>14,27</b>    |

# STORED CO<sub>2</sub>

- EACH WALL TYPE -

|                         | <b>Amount timber</b> | <b>Long term storage capacity 50 % *</b> | <b>Storage/m2</b> |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--|-------------------|
|                         | <i>kg/1000m2</i>     | <i>kgco2/kg</i>                          | <i>kgco2/m2</i>   |
| <b>Balloon frame</b>    | 22823,9              | 0,9375                                   | 21,4              |
| <b>CLT</b>              | 77336,4              | 0,9375                                   | 72,5              |
| <b>Log construction</b> | 91903,9              | 0,9375                                   | 86,2              |
| <b>IsoTimber</b>        | 229374,2             | 0,9375                                   | 215,0             |
| <b>Glulam</b>           | 38326,123            | 0,9375                                   | 35,9              |
| <b>Bosum</b>            | 91903,9              | 0,9375                                   | 86,2              |

\* 1 kg wood stores ~ 1,875 kg CO<sub>2</sub> (Van der Lugt, 2012)  
50 % can be counted as long term storage according to J. Helmfridsson  
(personal communication, April 29, 2020)

# CHOSEN SYSTEM

## - CROSS-LAMINATED TIMBER -

The chosen building system for the case study project is cross-laminated timber. Here, the CLT wall is modified, where the mineral wool has been replaced by a cellulose based insulation. This is in order to get a lower GWP value and a higher amount of stored CO<sub>2</sub>.

### GWP

| Source BM                   | Thickness<br><i>m</i>                    | Part of wall | Density<br><i>kg/m3</i> | Material amount<br><i>kg/1000m2</i> | GWP<br><i>kgco2/kg</i> | GWP/m2<br><i>kgco2/m2</i> |
|-----------------------------|--|--------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>CLT</b>                  | <i>KL-trä</i>                            | 1            | 460                     | 55200                               | 0,14                   | 7,7                       |
| <b>vapour barrier</b>       | <i>Plastfolier (IVL LCR)</i>             | 1            | 910                     | 182                                 | 1,809                  | 0,3                       |
| <b>cellulose insulation</b> | <i>Cellulose fiberboard (source IBO)</i> | 0,9          | 80                      | 12240                               | 0,19                   | 2,3                       |
| <b>stud</b>                 | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i>     | 0,1          | 473                     | 8041                                | 0,055                  | 0,4                       |
| <b>wind board</b>           | <i>Wood fiber insulation board</i>       | 1            | 160                     | 8000                                | 0,3                    | 2,4                       |
| <b>batten</b>               | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i>     | 0,1          | 473                     | 1608,2                              | 0,055                  | 0,1                       |
| <b>panel</b>                | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i>     | 1            | 473                     | 10406                               | 0,055                  | 0,6                       |
| <b>lath panel</b>           | <i>Furu/gran, hyvlad &amp; sågad</i>     | 0,2          | 473                     | 2081,2                              | 0,055                  | 0,1                       |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                | <b>0,4182</b>                            |              | <b>3502</b>             | <b>97758</b>                        | <b>2,66</b>            | <b>14,00</b>              |

### STORED CO<sub>2</sub>

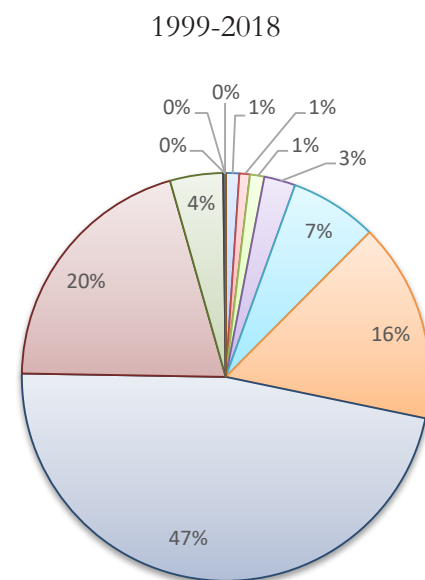
|                       | Amount cellulose<br><i>kg/1000m2</i> | Long term<br>storage capacity 50 %<br><i>kgco2/kg</i> | Total area<br><i>m2</i> | Storage/m2<br><i>kgco2/m2</i> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>CLT outer wall</b> | 97576,4                              | 0,9375  | 2288,0                  | <b>91,5</b>                   |

# DEMOLISHED BUILDING

- CALCULATION OF AVERAGE AGE -

## DEMOLISHED MULTI-FAMILY APARTMENTS IN SWEDEN

| <i>Building year</i> | <i>Building's age when demolished (years)</i> | <i>Amount of buildings between 1999-2018</i> |
|----------------------|---|--|
| before 1901          | >117  | 302  |
| 1901-1920            | 98-117  | 236  |
| 1921-1930            | 88-97   | 322  |
| 1931-1940            | 78-87   | 702  |
| 1941-1950            | 68-77   | 1958   |
| 1951-1960            | 58-67   | 4466   |
| 1961-1970            | 48-57   | 13 287                                       |
| 1971-1980            | 38-47   | 5745   |
| 1981-1990            | 28-37   | 1188   |
| 1991-2000            | 18-27   | 53   |
| 2001-2010            | 8-17  | 4  |
| 2011-                | <8  | 0  |
| <b>Total</b>         |   | <b>28 263</b>                                |



Source: SCB, 2019

| <i>Average building's age when demolished (years)</i> | <i>Amount of buildings demolished between 1999-2018</i> | <i>Sum amount of years (years)</i> | <i>Average age of building when demolished (years)</i> |
|---|---|------------------------------------|--|
| 127,5   | 302   | 38 505                             |  |
| 107,5   | 236   | 25 370                             |  |
| 92,5  | 322   | 29 785                             |  |
| 82,5  | 702   | 57 915                             |  |
| 72,5  | 1958  | 141 955                            |  |
| 62,5  | 4466  | 279 125                            |  |
| 52,5  | 13 287  | 697 567,5                          |  |
| 42,5  | 5745  | 244 162,5                          |  |
| 32,5  | 1188  | 38 610                             |  |
| 22,5  | 53  | 1192,5                             |  |
| 12,5  | 4   | 50                                 |  |
| 2,5   | 0   | 0                                  |  |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>28 263</b>   | <b>1 554 237,5</b>                 | <b>55</b>  |

$$\frac{\text{total sum amount of years}}{\text{total amount of buildings demolished between 1999-2018}} = \text{average age of building when demolished}$$

# POTENTIAL GAINS

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|   |                |                     |
|---|----------------|---------------------|
| <i>Building cost</i>                            |                |                     |
| Building cost/m <sup>2</sup>                    | 37 800*        | SEK/m <sup>2</sup>  |
| Building total m <sup>2</sup>                   | 3331           | m <sup>2</sup>      |
| Total building cost                             | <b>125,8 M</b> | SEK                 |
| <i>Demolition cost</i>                          |                |                     |
| Demolition cost/m <sup>2</sup>                  | 600**          | SEK/ m <sup>2</sup> |
| Building total m <sup>2</sup>                   | 3331           | m <sup>2</sup>      |
| Total demolition cost                           | <b>1,9 M</b>   | SEK                 |
| <i>Dismantling cost</i>                         |                |                     |
| Machines = 5% of total building cost***         | 6,3 M          | SEK                 |
| Workers salary = 24 % of total building cost*** | 30,2 M         | SEK                 |
| Total dismantling cost                          | <b>36,5 M</b>  | SEK                 |
| <i>Material net profit</i>                      |                |                     |
| Material value = 34% of total building cost***  | 42,8 M         | SEK                 |
| Total dismantling cost                          | 36,5 M         | SEK                 |
| Material net profit                             | <b>6,3 M</b>   | SEK                 |
| <i>Profit compared to building cost</i>         |                |                     |
| Total building cost                             | 125,8 M        | SEK                 |
| Material net profit                             | 6,3 M          | SEK                 |
| Profit in percent                               | <b>5</b>       | %                   |

\* SCB, 2018

\*\* Between 500-700 SEK (Jansson Entreprenad, personal communication, March 4, 2020)

\*\*\* SCB, 2020

## TIME TO REGROW A HOUSE

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|  |              |                         |
|--|--------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Forest growth Sweden</i>                            |              |                         |
| Average forest growth, Götaland                        | 8,6*         | m <sup>3</sup> /ha&year |
| Average forest growth, Norrland                        | 3*           | m <sup>3</sup> /ha&year |
| Average forest growth, Sweden                          | 5,8          | m <sup>3</sup> /ha&year |
| Productive forest area                                 | 23 000 000*  | ha                      |
| Total forest growth                                    | 133 400 000  | m <sup>3</sup> /year    |
| Minutes per year                                       | 31 536 000   | seconds / year          |
| Total forest growth per minute                         | <b>4,2</b>   | m <sup>3</sup> /second  |
|  |              |                         |
| <i>Amount of timber in a house (100 m<sup>2</sup>)</i> | <b>6,365</b> | m <sup>3</sup>          |
|  |              |                         |
| <i>Time to regrow a house</i>                          | <b>1,5</b>   | seconds                 |

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| <i>Example house**, dimensions (m)</i> |        |
| Length                                 | 10     |
| Width                                  | 10     |
| Height (excl. gable triangle)          | 3      |
| Gable triangle, height                 | 2      |
| Width, outer wall                      | 0,350  |
| Width, interior wall                   | 0,120  |
| Width, roof                            | 0,400  |
|  |        |
| <i>Total material amount</i>           |        |
| Total Outer wall                       | 49     |
| Total Roof                             | 48,468 |
| Total Interior wall                    | 6,99   |

\* Skogskunskap, 2017.

\*\* Example of a standard house: 100 m<sup>2</sup>, one floor with an attic and a pitched roof, using balloon frame structure.

| <i>Amount of timber in a house (100 m<sup>2</sup>)</i> |  |  |                                      |
|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Timber material</b>                                 | <b>Total material amount (m<sup>3</sup>)</b> | <b>Timber/1m<sup>2</sup>wall (m<sup>3</sup>)</b> | <b>Amount timber (m<sup>3</sup>)</b> |
| Lath panel   |  | 0,011  |                                      |
| Panel  |  | 0,022  |                                      |
| Batten   |  | 0,0034   |                                      |
| Stud   |  | 0,017  |                                      |
| Stud   |  | 0,0045   |                                      |
| OSB  |  | 0,011  |                                      |
| <b>TOTAL Outer wall</b>                                | <b>49</b>                                    | <b>0,0689</b>                                    | <b>3,376</b>                         |
| Tongued and grooved panel                              |  | 0,022  |                                      |
| Lath   |  | 0,0025   |                                      |
| Stud   |  | 0,0195   |                                      |
| Sparse panel   |  | 0,0045   |                                      |
| OSB  |  | 0,011  |                                      |
| <b>TOTAL Roof</b>                                      | <b>48,468</b>                                | <b>0,0595</b>                                    | <b>2,884</b>                         |
| Stud + floor stud                                      |  | 0,015  |                                      |
| <b>TOTAL Interior wall</b>                             | <b>6,99</b>                                  | <b>0,015</b>                                     | <b>0,105</b>                         |
|  |  |  |                                      |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   |  |  | <b>6,365</b>                         |



## APPENDIX 2

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### - INTERVIEWS -

The interviews were designed as conversations, where the answers below are translated notes, from Swedish to English.

|                           |    |
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| Bosumhus                  | 2  |
| Carpenter                 | 4  |
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| Martinsons                | 16 |
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| Traditional log carpenter | 22 |

# BOSUMHUS

PETER MALMBERG

---

- 4 FEBRUARY -

*How high can you build with Bosum Building System?*

- We build maximum 2,5 floors. You can build higher, but then structural calculations need to be made.

*How much insulation do you add to your construction?*

- We add 145 mm. We use a vapour barrier on the outside of the wooden blocks, and with today's standard of ventilation and heating pumps, at least 100 mm added insulation is needed in order to get the dew point (swe: daggpunkt) outside of the vapour barrier.

*How thick would the wooden blocks be in order to skip an added layer of insulation?  
250 mm, as for the case in log houses with no insulation?*

- Theoretically, maybe. But our wall is not as air tight as log constructions, so complemented with a vapour barrier, so it is hard to compare. On the other hand, using no insulation may work since the wood itself can transport moisture, but we have never worked on this line and have instead used cellulose based insulation.

*What is the expected life length of your buildings, the wooden blocks and the plywood strip?*

- We haven't set a life length. But if you handle maintenance so that moisture won't reach the structure, we see that some traditional log houses from 1200 are still intact today. It is all about not letting protective layers not lose its function.

- The plywood strip doesn't hold so much function when the house is assembled. It steers the blocks during assembly. So, if the plywood will age, and the wood in the plywood won't hold together, it doesn't affect the stability of the construction.

*I read on your website that the wooden blocks can be reused in a possible reconstruction.  
That is great!*

Theoretically, a house can be disassembled and reassembled again, but with an economical point of view it may not work if you'll hire labor for this.

*How does the plywood strip look after a disassembly? Is it still functional?*

- We have never tried this, but would without a doubt be exchanged. When it is disassembled it will probably be damaged at several places.

*How does the production work? Before and after the sawmill?*

- Ballingslöv sawmill saws the wooden block and make tracks for the plywood strip. This is sent to the building site and is assembled one week after it has been produced.

*How easy is it to use your building system as a selfbuilder, without any professional help?*

- It depends on what and where to build. If a building shall be constructed in Sweden, with all laws and regulations, we demand either to assemble it ourself or that skilful carpenters are assembling it. We don't want to become associated with buildings getting problems related to an assembly that has gone wrong.

# CARPENTER

MARCUS LUNDGREN

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- 19 FEBRUARY -

*How do you demolish a balloon frame? What takes most of the time?*

- You cut with a reciprocating saw, in the middle horizontally, through the whole wall. Then you break down the wall by hand power.
- Interaction with plumbers, who take away their parts.
- We sort metal, insulation, wood, wood / combustible (plastic, carpets, cables), gypsum, cables.
- Screws go with the wood. There's a 10 % tolerance of mixed material in the sorted material.
- If you want to ease the demolition: theoretically you can use screws instead of nails. But they are over trowelled anyway, which makes it hard to get at the screw.
- It's faster cutting a material in order to get rid of screws/nails, but it makes the material shorter.
- Windows and doors are easiest to reuse today, the damage when disassembling is insignificant. If the frame is screwed on place you just screw the window/door out again. If the component is attached with nails, the nails are sawn off around the frame, then the window/door can be lifted out.
- Glazed tiles are hard to demolish.

*How do you build/demolish a balloon frame, in order to ensure a reuse of it as a plane module?*

- A prefabricated balloon frame you want to reuse as a plane, need to take off its interior cladding (gypsum, wall putty, wallpaper) and be replaced.
- It is hard with prefabricated interior walls, if the installations and pipes are a bit obliquely. A drawing does not always match real life.
- If you broaden the wall och create a layer with installations, it is easier to separate them.
- Today, you would try to saw out the wall with a reciprocating saw. The problem is, you're not allowed to use this kind of saw for too long, due to health risks. And it's hard to saw where the wall meats the floor/roof.
- It is important to plan in an earlier stage to enable a better disassembling: pre made bigger plane panels, which are carried to their places.
- Think of new requirements when it comes to visible joints, that not everything needs to be hidden. Easy reachable joints.

# HUS TILL HUS

## VALTER SAMUELSSON

---

- 26 FEBRUARY -

*Your background?*

- My uncle worked with demolitions, started with timber buildings, where I helped him. Had old houses which have been reused.
- When Agenda 2020 came we saw a brighter future for reuse.
- I worked part time at Alingsås municipality as maintenance planner for 25 years and ran an antique shop in the city.

*Tell us about the background to "Hus till Hus".*

- 1995, we started an educational project when the old brewery was decided to be demolished. We took down the building in 40 weeks and reused as much of the bricks as possible. The rest was stored for a couple of years. Since the brick wall was constructed with lime mortar, a cautious disassembling of the bricks was possible. For the project, we got 60 people (many were at the time unemployed and therefor cheap labor). We worked 20 weeks during the spring and 20 weeks during the autumn. At each semester 30 people was involved. Half of them were disassembling, whilst the other half learned how to read and make drawings.
- The demolition budget: 1,9 million SEK. After five years, profit: 3,2 million SEK (from selling the bricks).
- 1996, the national economic association "Bygg Igen" started.
- 1999, "Hus till hus" started at its present location at Nollbygård. We thought the business would go well but economy halted. Reusing was a little bit too expensive.
- When "Hus till hus" started, the goal was to reuse and sell everything from antiquity to present time. The things from 70's, 80's and 90's was hard to sell. Selling bricks did well, 10 SEK/piece. Costs in the beginning: cleaning machine 150 000 SEK (for cleaning the bricks from mortar) and 1,5 years of employees with salary.

*How is the company "Hus till Hus" working today?*

- 18 employees, 5 working at the building departure. Could easily have 10 more, but hard to implement economically.
- We also have a café at Nollbygård.
- We renovate windows before selling. More and more customers request this.
- Food markets during the summer.

*What do you sell today?*

- Focus on antiquarian material.
- Most things are bought from individuals.
- We sell a lot of windows and doors, stoves, some timber.
- We tangent the interior division. In general, we need to take or buy more than the specific thing we want, when we are picking up things. People can have a pile of things they want to get rid of. Today, reusing is an economically hopeless business.

*From where do the stoves come from?*

- We try to find them locally, but we need to go further away as well. We search the internet to find stoves, and we have contact with sellers and buyers.
- We buy a lot within a 150 km radius. Hard to find within the conurbation of Gothenburg. Easier to find at the countryside. Alingsås is a great location.

*From where does the timber come from?*

- Once: a port warehouse in Gothenburg.
- Timber from slabs.
- Timber from barns.

*Do you sell new products as well? What?*

- Paint and lightings.
- Products from Gysinge.
- New products related and adapted to traditional buildings.

*Are the donators taking contact with you?*

- Yes. They ask when we can come and pick up the things they want to donate. Often they want us to come right away.

*How does the collection of things work?*

- Often, we buy disassembled things from the owner. We try to persuade property owners and carpenters to keep the frame of windows and doors. They often use a reciprocating saw right through the frame instead of around it. The municipality doesn't make demands on how to demolish carefully.
- There are higher demands today on recycling.

*Visions for the future?*

- Planning to build on a plot: facilities for the association. Could be an opportunity to have workplace training.
- Today we are not linked to the municipality. It would have eased our work.
- Want a pilot project which think outside the box.
- Not just sell antiquities. There's a challenge in selling the semi-old things.

*How does the storing work?*

- Slow sale turnover, most things are stored for a long time.
- A lot is stored outside due to lack of space.
- There is no set time limit for the storing, as long as it isn't destroyed.
- We are not taking things contaminated by fungus.

*What is profitable with your business today?*

- Selling old doors, windows, and stoves.
- Others things: christmas, spring and summer markets, and the café. The markets are focusing on local food and handicraft.

*Are things sold with loss?*

- Not unusually. Sometimes we need to give away things we have paid for.

*Obstacles for the reuse business?*

- We can not leave things for free at the recycling center. We need to be selective and think twice, when receiving things we want to sell. "Återbruket" in Gothenburg is part of the municipality, they can leave things for free at the recycling center.
- We would like to have a better collaboration with the municipality.
- Malmö municipality is a role model in how they are collaborating with reuse and recycling business.

*Have you been in contact with the municipality?*

- We have tried to get things in order, to make them think about reuse. After the brewery project in the 90's, they got cut off the municipality. We think the municipality need to lead the way to a more reusing society.
- The communication with the municipality is not ongoing today.
- But the resistance, that once was, is now gone. The biggest resistance have moved away from the municipality.

*Do you work with the website in order to get customers?*

- We haven't got a good website. Some customers are finding us through it.
- We have an instagram account where most of our customers come from.

*Who is buying from you?*

- Customers from the region, mostly. Not as much locals as it could have been. - But stoves can be sent far away, even beyond the borders of Sweden.
- The customers are seldom comparing the second hand products to new products. They want this.

*How do you value the things you sell?*

- Listening to sellers, what do they want?
- A lot of material is given to us. Older/antique material we have to pay for.
- Example: We got ca 5 tons of bricks from Högsbo hospital. We only needed to pay for the transportation, ca 1000 SEK/car transport. One car transport could take 30 tons with uncleaned brick. Ca 20 % from that was usable bricks after cleaning.
- Demolition projects can be bought for a symbolic amount of money. The customer get some money and doesn't need to pay for demolition costs.
- We try to avoid big margins. Around 10% profit or something like that. There can be a lot of expectations and disappointment along the way. We take risks and test prices.

*Do you know other stakeholders working within the same field as you?*

- Folkets bygg, Kristianstad.
- Kvarnas byggnadsvård, Eksjö. Shall close down.

*Do you offer transport of things people have bought?*

- We refer to the service Åkericentralen Alingsås have, if bigger things request a transport.

*Do you help with installation/ assembling?*

- We have good contacts, to whom we refer.
- We talk to customers to use skilful craftsmen for their projects.
- Nääs building preservation center have a register of good craftsmen.

# ISOTIMBER

## HÅVARD JEGERSTEDT

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- 4 FEBRUARY -

*Where is the production of IsoTimber located? In Östersund?*

- Yes, in the close by area. Hammerdal, Jämtland.

*From where is the raw material harvested?*

- From Piteå. Transported to Hammerdal, where the blocks are produced. Studs are sawn into the right dimensions, after which the tracks are milled. The wood chips coming from sawing becomes pellets. The studs and the plywood are pressed together with glue between. It is a kind glue. The emissions test showed that the glue performed ten times better than the requirements from an emissions test.

*What is the expected life length of a house, the wooden element and the plywood layers?*

- 50 years. The oldest house built with IsoTimber is 11 years.

*What risks can be found if air tight material is combined with IsoTimber?*

- Moist in the wall.

*How high can you build with IsoTimber?*

- Two floors, maybe three. It depends on the construction.  
- In buildings higher than two floors, a thinner IsoTimber layer is used, plus 100 mm CLT, which can take extra load.

*How is the plane modules assembled together, and to the foundation and roof?*

- Mounted with long screws.

*What benefits are there by using IsoTimber as the insulating layer?*

- Sustainability: only using wood and a kind glue. The whole wall can be made in one piece, which gives fast assembly time. The structure consists of one component. The use of several material is reduced. The lath behind the facade can be mounted directly onto the IsoTimber.

# ISOTIMBER

JANINA ÖSTLING

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- 2 MARCH -

*What is your background, and roll at IsoTimber?*

- Started working 2015 at IsoTimber. My brother funded IsoTimber, and his idea have grown throughout the years.
- I've thought of working even more with sustainability, but haven't come that far yet. An EPD is next thing to do.

*What collaborations have you had with RISE?*

- A EU funded project about how to build today in order to reuse in the future. 22 stakeholders in seven different countries are involved.
- No finished article yet, but check out the website InFutureWood.
- We are looking at construction in practice, and testing fittings.
- Some question we work with:
  - Shall a whole 10 m wall element be reused, or smaller pieces?
  - How can you easy make changes in openings in existing buildings?

*Tell us more about your future plans concerning reuse.*

- The use and reuse of IsoTimber:
  1. Build and use house number one.
  2. With the same material, rebuild and use house number two.
  3. Make particleboard or floorboard.
  4. Use for energy recovery
- If the glue in IsoTimber can be made without any toxins, the product can be recycled into for example horse bedding. Then, the fourth step, energy recovery, can be skipped, which is preferred.
- The glue is our main goal to develop. This is in the pipeline, together with RISE.
- Today, companies are not that much controlled whether they are really sustainable or not, so everyone can call themselves being sustainable, which can be a problem.

*When we talked with Håvard at IsoTimber, he told us about how the building components are joint together with a long screw. Do you know if that joint is suitable to be reused?*

- That is how it is mounted today.
- The building elements are easy to reuse. Don't know whether the screw can be reused again. Tests need to be made.
- We use different screws depending on the thickness of the wall.

*More about the glue?*

- Today, the glue is 10 times better than the ok level of emissions.
- Started a contact with a professor on glue at RISE. Had an idea of a fossil free and emission free glue.

*Do you use different kinds of joints than the screw?*

- We have a patent application of a fitting: a wedge shaped fitting which hook onto each other. The building elements can then easily be lifted off.

*How do you build with IsoTimber?*

- The standard building element is 1200 x 2400 mm.
- The thickness of the element can be 60, 100, or 150 mm.
- There can be one, two or three layers of building elements, depending on the function of the wall.
- The layers of the elements are screwed imbricated together, where the seams are taped.
- The studs in the outer frame of an element take some loads. The classified wood used for the insulating studs also take some loads.
- Three floors or more need to be complemented with a layer of CLT.

*What are the possibilities vs. challenges when it comes to how you attach the building elements, in order to promote reuse of the element?*

- A vague idea of not using screws, but entirely use timber. An important area to develop - to erase all metal if possible.
- An idea of use unclassified or reused wood for the insulating studs. The building block needs to be tested at the factory.
- Check the level of moist, in order to ensure no mold growth.
- Find ways to identify, classify and test reused timber.
- The studs in the frame can't take all load. Need the insulating studs to take some load as well.
- Easy with timber to change design. More flexible for later adaptations.

# JANSSON ENTREPRENAD

DAVID DURMAZ

---

- 4 MARCH -

*What do you do?*

- We demolish entire buildings as well as parts of buildings.
- We also move whole timber houses; we're known for this in Östergötland. We often use reciprocating saw and split a house and transport as volume modules. Biggest house we've moved was a 40 x 15 m barn. We have also moved heritage labeled houses: one had plaster which we needed to take away, and put on new at the new site.

*Why are buildings demolished today, in general?*

- Population growth or societal development.
- Sometimes wishes concerning a more modern cityscape.

*Why is this part of the School of business in Gothenburg demolished?*

- The School of business shall be rebuilt as a higher building, with four floors instead.
- Foundational work for Västlänken needs to be done as well.
- There is an old oak tree standing on the site, which cannot be damaged. If we do, we will get a fine on 2 million SEK.

*How are the materials managed? How are they sorted?*

- In the current project, the marble flooring shall be disassembled for reuse. A calculation was made in order to get the costs of a careful disassembling: 300 SEK/m<sup>2</sup>, which is cheaper than buying new marble.
- There were also ambitions on reusing the bricks from the wall, but the site in the middle of Gothenburg with houses and traffic all around, makes it hard to demolish and store the bricks in an efficient way. So, it wouldn't been economically profitable to tap the bricks by hand.

*Which material can you sell?*

- We get paid for metal.

*How does the preparatory work look like?*

- First, the customer does an environmental inventory. Jansson Entreprenad can propose a partner they use to use. She use to find the essentials. If a material is found during the demolition that has not been a part of the inventory, this becomes a cost for the demolitioner. The environmental inventory is obligatory in order to get a demolition permit.

*What does a demolition of a house cost, in SEK/m<sup>2</sup>? Differences in timber/concrete?*

- It costs around 500-700 SEK/m<sup>2</sup> to demolish a house, where a timber house is cheaper than one built in concrete. Warehouses and simple facilities can be even cheaper than that.

- The site can be crucial for the price. If there are transport arrival or storage difficulties at the site, the price can be higher.

- A demolition man costs 400 SEK/h.

- The excavator has a cost of 10 000-20 000 SEK if it is within the region Östergötland. It would have cost 50 000 SEK to take it to Gothenburg.

*What is the cost of a demolition of a villa, 100 m<sup>2</sup>? How long does it take?*

- A typical villa with a basement, can cost around 150 000 SEK. Ca 450-500 SEK/m<sup>2</sup>.

- It takes about one week.

*What is the cost of a demolition of a villa, 100 m<sup>2</sup>, if you only take down the facade, roofing, interiors etc and leave the load bearing structure?*

- We doesn't demolish in such a way, but uses machines. But, for 4 workers it would have cost around 40 000 SEK.

*Do you have any comments on our project with the theme "Design for disassembly"?*

- Important to save load bearing walls, which are stabilizing the structure during demolition. Otherwise, the structure needs to be complemented with load bearing support, which takes extra time.

- If you design volume module, it can be good to have double walls, in order to get one wall to one volume and the other wall to another volume.

# MARTINSONS

JONAS AXELSSON, DANIEL WILDED

---

- 5 FEBRUARY -

*Tell us about your rolls at Martinsons.*

Daniel Wilded

- 36 years old. Working with business development at Martinsons. Have worked at the company for 15 years.
- Educated construction engineering, made my thesis at Martinsons, which led to a workplace at the company. Started off with making drawings, developed 3D-programs, worked with selling and CLT, now working as a product manager within CLT, as well as a business developer.

Jonas Axelsson

- 28 years old. Have an education in civil engineering & industrial economics. Second year, chose a technical track, and later on at the masters program, I chose a marketing track.
- Started the career in Uppsala, at a real estate company which was only working with wood. Later on, became project engineer here at Martinsons.

*\*We present our project\**

*Daniels comments on our project:*

- One challenge is that different type of activities in a building gives different demands on the load bearing system, and the fire requirements; large office buildings use larger fire cells, whilst housing use smaller cells. The chosen building method can vary a lot depending on the activity.
- Easy to forget about the technical development when talking about designing for disassembly and comparing it to the log houses. More logical to move a log house before, when no electric cables and other technical systems existed in the wall, which made it easier to move such a house.
- Volume modules have an advantage since all installation systems can stay in the module when disassemble. Lindbäcks, who build with volume modules, spends a lot of time solving ventilation and plumbing systems on site.
- It is not the load bearing structure that is the problem with reuse, but the techniques and economy when disassembling. An example, when a villa was supposed to be moved, it was lifted onto a truck. It was economically and practically preferable. Didn't had to take away installations.

*How does the production of CLT and glulam work?*

- Look at the website Träguiden, they have a step-by-step guide, yearly production etc. Within the timber industry, people are cubic meter fixed, bragging about the amount of timber produced in cubic meter. CLT and glulam are indicated in cubic meter, where Martinson had a production of 50 000 m<sup>3</sup> CLT, and 25 000 m<sup>3</sup> glulam in 2019. Production capacity is quite theoretical, Martinsons talks about what we deliver. Some goes to housing, some to, office buildings, schools, preschools, arenas etc.

*Where does the raw material come from?*

- Average distance to where the material is harvested is 100 km from the factory. Svea Skog and Holmen AB are suppliers, they own a lot of land in the area. Timber loads are exchanged between companies to minimize transport.

*Does Martinsons grow as a company?*

- Yes. 1 billion SEK in revenue 15 years ago. Today, the revenue is 2 billions.

*Does Martinsons grow as a company?*

- Yes. 1 billion SEK in revenue 15 years ago. Today, the revenue is 2 billions.

*Is that due to technical development or an increase in demand on timber products?*

- It is connected. 70% becomes sawn planks.

*What quality rating does the timber used in glulam and CLT have? From which part of the log do you find the material used in glulam and CLT products?*

- Svenskt Trä and Limträhandboken describes this in a good way. The strength of the wood used in glulam is high quality, the best you can get, Rolls Royce. CLT can use slightly lower quality of the wood, like a nice Audi, or Volvo.

- Glulam use 45 mm laminas, which only can be found in the middle of the log.

- CLT's 20-30 mm laminas can be found in the outer part of the log. 40-45 mm laminas are taken from the middle part of the log.

- Both glulam and CLT are dried to a moisture content of 12 %. Ordinary timber building material are dried to 16%.

- When saw out laminas for glulam, you get more waste from the log.

# MARTINSONS

LARS LUNDBERG

.....  
- 19 FEBRUARY -

## *Shortenings:*

CLT = Cross Laminated Timber

MUF glue = Melamine-Urea-Formaldehyde glue

CNC = Computer Numerical Control

## *A walk around the sawmill at Bygdsiljum:*

- Mostly we produce CLT made for 3-4 floor or more.
- We have also delivered CLT for smaller summer houses and similar.
- 60 % of the production goes for export.
- Example of construction design for disassembly: Green Zone in Umeå. Timber structure from the 90's with joints designed for disassembly.
- Waste from the production is used for biofuel at the site or sold.
- The trees used are 70-80 years old. The widest stem is 225 mm.
- The trees are 50 % bought from private owners, and 50 % bought from Holmen (incorporated company) and Sveaskog (state-owned company). The trees are taken from the forests closest to the sawmills.

## *What materials are used in CLT and glulam?*

- Timber and glue.
- CLT, glue: polyethylene glue between the layers, and MUF-glue for the finger joints.
- Glulam, glue: MUF-glue
- For glulam, spruce is used. It has a denser cell structure than the pine.
- There are no requirements on using heartwood.

## *Dimensions CLT:*

|                           |             |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Finished panel length:    | min. 8 m    | max. 16,6 m |
| Finished panel width:     | min. 2,05 m | max. 3,1 m  |
| Finished panel thickness: | min. 60 mm  | max. 280 mm |

*Manufacturing of CLT:*

- 3, 5 or 7 layers
- Only customized panels.
- An ifc-file with information about the specific CLT panel, is used when CNC cutting.

*How do you transport and handle the CLT panels to and on the building site?*

- By truck to the building site.
- On site, a crane is used for putting the panel to its right position.
- The customer wants lesser lifts at the building site, due to the cost of a crane.
- The energy consumption can be extended compared to the numbers used for such calculations, due to the thermal mass capacity solid wood holds.

# MILJÖRIVARNA

CLAES WIKSTRÖM, KENT GREN

---

- 20 FEBRUARY -

*How does the demolition process look like?*

- Inventory. From drawings and complimentary, on site. The municipality can have material inventories you can take part of.
- Smaller demolition: luminaires, fluorescent lamps, carpets, doors, windows and lightweight walls.
- Bigger demolition: cleaned down to the load bearing structure, radiator and pipes for such are taken by the excavator.

*How is the material handled and sorted?*

- All material is sorted.
- Combustible, wood, insulation & glass, concrete, ceramics.
- Concrete is crushed at the site in order to sort the steel reinforcements out. The crushed concrete can be used as filler for ground work.
- Metal waste is valuable.
- We have had demolition flea markets, and sold radiators, lockers, some building material, etc.
- It happens that we're selling a whole structure: steel frame, wooden frame (trusses mostly). Glulam and trusses are easiest to sell. An industrial building in wood is easy to disassemble and sell, since the structure often isn't cladded and hidden.
- We are ISO-certificated, which is an environmental classification and sets certain requirements on our machines, emission levels, oil, diesel, and correct documentation.

*Which materials can you sell?*

- Metal is worth a lot, so we sort out and sell as much we can.
- Individuals and companies buy materials they wish for. It can be anything.
- There's a charge for leaving things at the recycling center. Therefore, we rather find buyers than leave everything at the recycling center.

*Which materials have a potential for reuse? Is there anything you see in the process that can be improved?*

- Today, there's a container for composite materials (swe: deponi mix) which are sorted with fans.
- Composite materials (swe: deponi mix) are expensive to leave at the recycling center. Therefore, we try to sort as much as possible before we go there.
- We can see an increasing interest from customers who want to buy reused building material.
- Once: we found working clothes in a facility we were about to demolish, left in a dressing room. The owners of the building had left them in order to get them thrown away. The clothes were functional and intact, but we had to throw them away, since it is too expensive for us to take care of them and sell them forward.

*What does a demolition of a house cost, in SEK/m<sup>2</sup>? Differences in timber/concrete?*

- Standard villa with balloon frame: 200 000 SEK for demolition. Takes three-four weeks. Add approximately one and a half week if the trusses shall be spared.
- A facility of 60 000 m<sup>2</sup>, one floor, took us 10-12 months.
- Excavator: 900-200 SEK/h.
- One demolition person: 420 SEK + VAT/h
- The machines used are surcharged.
- People doesn't want to pay much for demolition.
- If you only want to demolish the interior of a house, it's getting more expensive. It's not always the drawings match reality.

*Do you demolish only entire buildings?*

- No. Mostly we demolish parts of a building.
- But we also demolish entire buildings.
- Interior demolition happens. Example: Kaplanskolan, Skellefteå.

*Why are buildings demolished today, in general?*

- New standards and requirements.
- New function.
- Sometimes it is cheaper to demolish than renovate a building.
- Time saving.

# RISE - TRÄCENTRUM

KARIN SANDBERG, CARMEN CRISTESCU, GÖRAN BERGGREN

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- 20 FEBRUARY -

*Who works at RISE - Träcentrum?*

- Civil engineers on wood (materiality), engineering physics (metrology), road & water engineering (building).

*What projects do you work with right now?*

- *Fasaden i staden*. The facade in the city. Looking at facade systems in wood.

- *Projects in Kiruna*.

- One aging accommodation.

- Kiruna Sustainable Center, works with sustainability optimization, renovates the identified cultural buildings which are to be moved.

- The demolished materials are moved away fast from the sites, in order to have a clean city during the move. The city has not planned how to reuse the demolished materials.

- *In Future Wood*. An EU project about reusing wood. Started 2019, so nothing published yet. But a website is available: [infuturewood.info](http://infuturewood.info). Stakeholders from Sweden: RISE, IsoTimber, Tekniska verken i Kiruna AB, the sustainability manager from Derome.

- *Wood foundations*. Replace the concrete foundation with a wood alternative. A theoretical pilot study has been made. The next step is to practically test it at a “normal” house.

- *Circularity guide*. Together with CCBuild we made a guide in principles for circularity requirements when making procurements for building projects. Example: “Dags att bygga och riva cirkulärt” for Gothenburg city.

*How is your work connected to the business community?*

- Our task is to contribute to the business community and the development of the society.

- Projects can be funded by the state/municipalities, together with a company, which usually stands for 50 % of the fundings.

*Are there any research on lifespan on products, or reuse?*

- There is on steel. Finland has developed rules and standards for steel.
- Architects in Ireland are working on reuse of wood together with the In Future Wood project.
- Carewood. "A European project to innovatively recapture, reuse and recycle wood products."

*Other things we talked about:*

- There's a crisis on the amount of waste in Sweden, we import waste in order to use for the heating plants.
- Those who demolish gets money for the steel and metal they get. Wood, and in particular impregnated wood, is expensive to throw away.
- There are some actors who deal with second hand building material.
- Kontio. Finnish company making modern and traditional log houses.
- Kompanjonen. They buy and sell reused building material.
- The projects of wood welding that Carmen has been working with.
- Japan has the lowest amount of emissions on glue, due to their strict requirements.
- In Netherlands, there are projects where they use over dimensioned glulam beams in order to enable further reuse and adaptations.

# TRADITIONAL LOG CARPENTER

INGEMAR SJÖLUND

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- 18 FEBRUARY -

## *Your background?*

- My name is Ingemar Sjölund. Born and raised in Arvidsjaur. Early, I learned about the craftsmanship of timber from my father.
- The latest 15-20 years, I've worked with restorations.
- Restoration projects:
  - *Gallejaur culture reserve*. 64 buildings, 54 in timber.
  - *Barn landscape of Norrbotten*. Employed by the county government to restore over 200 barns. The barns were small, and far away from the farm. One farm could own 30-40 barns placed out on the fields. It ended up in a manual for barn restoration. What we did during the renovation: lifted the barn from the ground, changed the bottom log, changed some facade logs, and put on new roof. During the 50's, a front rake for the tractor came, which was wider than the opening of the barn. A lot of openings were broadened in order to fit the tractor - this made the barns losing their stability. Why the barns from Norrbotten have angled walls: the moist hay could dry better when putting it on the cabers on the oblique wall.
  - *Church village of Öjebyn*. Restoration project.
  - *Lappstaden in Arvidsjaur (ongoing)*. Action program for Sami buildings like aitor, kâtor and barns. Inventory of the timber.

## *Which wood qualities are desirable when building with timber?*

- For roof timber: wood with big amount of heartwood.
- The tree is straighter if it has grown in a dense stock.
- To find good quality wood with a big amount of heartwood is hard today in Sweden.
- The tree shall grow in a rocky terrain in order to get a lot of heartwood.
- I prefer to use a tree full of heartwood, that have grown for around 300-500 years.

## *Dimensions of the logs?*

- Width: 150 mm
- 5-6 inch logs are common. Norrbotten farmhouses use 6-inch logs.

*Are there differences in building techniques related to the function of the building?*

- Yes. A barn can be sparsely assembled (swe: glestimring), in order to get the wind dry the hay.
- A dwelling need to be carefully sealed.

*How is the manufacturing of logs today?*

- The logs are sawn at the saw mill, over dimensioned. Shaped with a traditional axe afterwards. If the whole log would have been shaped by hand, and not pre sawn, the costs would have been high.
- A traditional carpenter costs 500-600 SEK/h.
- There are a lot of self-builders within the area, who learn from courses how to build by themselves.

*What do you insulate and seal the construction with?*

- Moss or flax is used for sealing between the logs.
- There are five different useful mosses.
- Moss, pros and cons: the moss is for free, but need to be cleaned. It doesn't rot, and can be green after hundreds of years. When constructing, you need to keep track of the moss, so it doesn't fly away with the wind.
- Flax, pros and cons: the flax is easy to work with, and comes in rolls, like a thick ribbon. More expensive than the moss.
- When synthetic fibre came it was used for sealing. The downside was since the synthetic fibre needs to drip dry it kept the moist when lying between the logs, so the timber could rot. Today it is forbidden to use in horizontal log constructions.

*For what are new log buildings used today?*

- Mostly summer houses or villas.

*Can you tell us about the joints?*

- In Sweden there are 250-300 different joints. 10-12 joints are mostly seen, where the above and below hook joint (swe: över- och underhaksknut) and a version of the dovetail joint (swe: laxknut) are most common.
- Other joints: hidden joint (swe: dold knut), gutter joint (swe: rännknut, used when there is low demands on stability), dogs neck joint (swe: hundhalsknut).
- In one building, different joints can be used, for different purposes.
- Most joints are used with a corner of 90 degrees, where they take the most forces and stabilize the most. The dovetail joint (swe: laxknut) locks itself and can be used in more flat angles. It was commonly used in the so called round mow (swe: rundloge).

*Why was log buildings moved before?*

- It was in the way of something else. One example, the barns on the fields in Norrbotten were moved in order to give space for the new highway E4.
- The legislative change of how land was divided (swe: storskifte and laga skifte) also ended up in division of buildings between people. One barn or other building needed to move to the owners new piece of land.
- During the charcoal era, around 1920's to 1930's, when all kinds of timber was valuable for the industry, they used not only virgin timber, but also logs from timber buildings.
- When the modern round mow (swe: rundloge) replaced the long mow (swe: långloge) in the 1850's, these past constructions needed to get away. Parts of the long mow could be reused in new barns.

*Why are log buildings moved today?*

- If a building shall be moved far away or the building is very big, it can be disassembled for the transport.
- Smaller buildings can be moved as they are.
- If you want to replace some of the logs anyway, it can be worth to disassemble the structure for the transport.

*When did people stop in general construct with this traditional building technique?*

- I know one mow built 1868 in Gallejaur. The guy who constructed it requested 90 SEK to build, he got 100 SEK. A bit into the 1900's people built log buildings. It was when the saw mills were developed further, their sawn wood started to compete with the logs.

*A walk in the church village of Öjebyn:*

- The above and below hook joint is very common. But a few other joints can be found.
- Many houses are covered with facade panels to protect the logs.
- Some heads of the corner joints have been sawn away, in order to get a more modern and straight corner.
- Some buildings have got their corners covered with a corner box (swe: knutlåda), where the heads of the corner joints have been saved.
- Most houses have been moved to this site from somewhere else. They were moved here due to the duty to go to church (swe: kyrkogångsplikt). People needed to have somewhere to sleep over during big fair feasts (christmas, easter, etc.).
- After a fire, four years ago, the whole village could have been gone. But the fire could be stopped and only one building was damaged. Today it is renovated.





**CHALMERS**