STUDIO HOUSING IN AKERSVEIEN,
- new development in a historical context

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INTRODUCTION

The theme for the diploma is living quality and the potential for densification of Bergfjerdingen - a diverse, historical environment in central Oslo. And how a historical environment can inspire and inform new architecture.

Oslo is in growth, with a need for an increase in new dwellings. There is potential for densification of central areas by utilizing empty or low density sites. Through studying the overall structure and the elements the environment is built from, a new interpretation can be made and result in architecture rooted in place and a coherent development of the area.

The typologies builds on the history of creatives working and living in the area, by combining familydwelling and studio space. The combination gives possibility for play with heights of spaces. The project consists of three townhouses, an apartment house and a small gallery/workshop space.
Initial findings of potential sites inside ring 2.
The site is located in sentral Oslo.
The site is located in an area called Bergfjerdigen, in the St. Hanshaugen district of central Oslo. The site is a fragmented, irregular perimeter block bordering Damstredet, Akersveien and Dops gate.

The area has a character of great diversity in colors, materiality, geometry and organization of buildings. The steep terrain and old roads has determined the organization and offers more light and view to the dense settlement. There are two main building types, small wooden or brick houses and masonry apartment buildings. The wooden buildings are close together, characterized by organic development with many expansions. There are very few gardens or outdoor space left and the public streets and paths passes right next to the houses. The apartment buildings follows a more organized system of the "bygård", but shows a large variety of geometry.

The site has potential for several interventions and I will examine the block as a whole and before deciding on one intervention.
Existing buildings
Initial ideas

- Area to work with. Can more space be shared?
- Work with spaces of varied size and shapes.
- Can the block be more accessible? More lateral movement.
- Empty walls possible to attach new buildings.
The main strategies investigated are utilising gable walls, completing the block and repainting the corner. The last strategies turned out to give most possibility for densification without impairing living quality for existing dwellings.