



[COLLECTIVE LIVING]

DIPLOMA FS 2021 THEMA A - ADAPTATIVE INFRASTRUCTURE IN TRIEMLIFUSSWEG LAURA BÜCHI

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This proposal explores an alternative type of tenure that works collectively with tenants and wildlife coexisting, equally participating in the maintenance of the soil we cultivate, the air we breath, biodiversity and the beauty of our walks.

This project will focus on one of the buildings *Im Strähler* and how its infrastructures and the landscape along the Triemlifussweg are adapted and renovated to suit this new form of housing.



[PROLOGUE]

When thinking about a tenure that works collectively several questions come to mind: Firstly what does a person need to feel comfortable? What can be shared and what should be personal?

I visited and held conversations with the people in a variety of different living circumstances. Ranging from nuns in a convent, squatters in an abandoned building, to ten tenants of *Im Strähler*. Through these interactions I found that the needs of individuals with regards to their living situation greatly vary. For example:

Some like to have the toilet for themselves, some don't mind communal toilets. Some like to have their mattress on a frame, some like to have their mattress on the floor. Some like to keep their clothes in wardrobes, some like them exhibited.

In the convent I visited I was allowed to interview one of the nuns. She told me she only needs four dresses in her wardrobe: one for the week, one for the weekend, one for winter and one for summer. She has only one private room, her bedroom, that has a cold water sink, which she ensured me was enough to clean herself. Before the installation of a radiator, the only source of heat was a tiles stove in neighboring room, so she had to open the double doors wide to let the heat in, thus transgressing her privacy.

I spoke with squatters who were convinced that living with the natural climate of the seasons is healthier for the body and the environment, that in this way your body becomes stronger and more adaptable. One squatter told me: «Sure, having to leave the warmth of the truck to go to the toilet can be annoying in the winter, but it's a minimal effort compared to the values gained from living in a community.»

All the visits have guided my understanding of what is required as a baseline for individuals to live comfortably and meaningfully. The renovation of the existing building aims to propose an alternative, where the answer to the housing demand is not about how to build more but how to live differently.

















[INTERVIEWS]







IM STRÄHLER 25, FLOOR 7















MR ROLAND, LIVING ONLY DURING THE WEEK IN ZURICH, TRAVELLING FROM GERMANY

IM STRÄHLER 25, FLOOR 2



MR ROLAND, LIVING ONLY DURING THE WEEK IN ZURICH, TRAVELLING FROM GERMANY









IM STRÄHLER 25, FLOOR 5







MR DAVID, MEDICAL STUDENT



KLOSTER FAHR



KLOSTER FAHR



KLOSTER FAHR



KOCH AREAL



TEA FABRIC



HARDAU



SEEBAHNSTRASSE 225



SEEBAHNSTRASSE 225







If pollarding and coppicing are nowadays forgotten practices, before the beginning of 20th century, any person living in a forested part of the world would have known what pollard and coppice means. Self renewing wood and its cutting was the foundation of culture, homes and poetry for ten thousand years.

The principle of coppicing is simple: when cutting trunks low in the winter, they will sprout again in Spring. New branches will emerge from the base. This is a response from the tree to anything that wound him, bet it a fire, strong wind or a cut. Between each coppice, there needs to be enough time between the cuts to allow the wood to recover. Each species grow back at a different speed.¹

With the mix between young and open and older closed canopy stages, coppice forests are "hotspots of biodiversity"²

The young, open phase of the coppice cycle is beneficial for species that rely on light. The grass is higher and becomes an ideal habitat for small mammals. On the other hand, the dense stands of older canopy limit the development of ground vegetation but provide a good habitat for birds.³

1. Sprout Land, William Bryant Logan, 2019, W.W Norton & Company, p.12

2. Silvicultural Guidelines for European Coppice Forests, EuroCoppice, 2013-2017



[LANDSCAPE]





[BEGLEITFACH ASSIGNMENT]

324 years in the future

PELLETS FROM COPPICE

In this proposal, a productive landscape is re-introduced. The wood produced with coppicing and pollarding supports the pellet heating systems.

In order to heat all cores of the buildings, the estimated amount of pellet is 50 tonnes per year which means coppicing approximately 4000 trees a year. The coppice woodland is planted partly in Triemlifussweg, partly in Uetliberg and is managed as a communally. The tree is cut in the winter, when the tree is dormant, and the wood is then dried outside over the summer.

Three kind of trees are planted across Triemlifussweg and Uetliberg: *Alder*: good for fire wood *Chestnut*: good quality of wood for furniture and firewood, and also edible nuts. Elderberry: flowers that attract pollinating insects, also a source of food and the wood can be used for mulch.

So that enough wood is cut each year to support the system and to enable the trees to recover from each cut, zones of woodland are cut in rotation. As coppicing reduces the tree to the ground, the landscape changes over through time.

Each species of tree grows at a different rate, therefore an appropriate cutting cycle is decided for each: Elderberries are cut every 5 years, Chestnut every 6 years and Alder every 7 years.



[LANDSCAPE & HEATING SYSTEM]





wood drying outside over summer
once dried, the wood is transformed into pellets
a. crushing, mixing, b. pelletizing system, c. pellets cooling system
pellet storage room

4. stove

[LANDSCAPE & HEATING SYSTEM]


















pizza oven, secondary heat source
bed with adjustable height,
on staircase, some steps are wide enough to sit on
a.
b. handle to open and close top part of adjustable panels,



























Michael ALBERT, PARECON - Life After Capitalism, 2003 Pier Vittorio AURELI, A Room Against Ownership, 2014 Chelsea Hotel, BBC Arena, 1981 Teresa CASTRO, The Mediated Plant, 2019 Sam JACOB, Money: Time: Space, 2014 Donna J. HARAWAY, Staying with the Trouble, 2016 Peter KROPOTKIN, Mutual Aid: A Factor of Evolution, 1902 Hannes MEYER, Co op Zimmer, 1926 Walter SEGAL, Walter's Way, Lewisham, 1970 Jack SELF, Real Estates: Life Without Debt, 2014

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