

# A PLAN FOR ZURICH (2)

Studio Sergison  
Spring Semester 2018

A Plan for Zurich, 2  
Enge/Wiedikon/Friesenberg

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## Introduction

Over the course of the semester we will continue to work in Zurich, the largest city in Switzerland. This is the second part of a six-semester research project that aims to produce an urban plan for Zurich as the cumulative result of six separate area studies. In this instance we will focus on the Enge, Wiedikon and Friesenberg areas of Zurich.

Several years ago the Department of Urbanism and Architecture for the municipality of Zurich announced that the future development of the city would prioritise densification within the existing urban area and limit the expansion of building on agricultural land. This was endorsed by in a public vote. The result of this strategy will ensure that denser, more compact urban growth is promoted. For a city that is well served by public transport, has a refined public realm and generally experienced well planned urban growth in the past, this ambition seems a logical response to the need to absorb a growing population and deal with the pressures it exerts on housing and other public services.

This is the context we will be operating in. Concrete proposals should be developed for sites designated for future densification and development. Projects should offer credible options and will take the form of realistic proposals based on current building regulations.

A commission of experts has been assembled to support you in developing project proposals, and your work will contribute to a wider discussion on the future of Zurich.

p 4  
Aerial view of Enge, Wiedikon  
and Friesenberg

Our ambition to develop a plan for the city of Zurich is an academic exercise in the sense that it will have no legally enforceable planning status, but is nevertheless intended to generate realistic design proposals as a form of propositional planning and to demonstrate that the largest city in Switzerland can absorb the growing pressure on housing without resorting to an expansion of its current territorial limits.

Our work will address questions relating to the evolving image of the city and the strategies it might adopt for densification.

Each semester will focus on a specific neighbourhood, and situations where it is realistic to consider densification and re-building. Naturally, this leaves out the historical centre and nineteenth century neighbourhoods that are already reasonably dense and protected by planning regulations.

At the beginning of the semester a 1:1000 model of the area under study will be constructed and used as a tool for assessing urban strategies.

As in previous semesters, we will survey existing buildings carefully. We hope that, by accurately recording older existing examples, it will be possible to offer contemporary solutions rooted in place and in local building culture.

In addition to a study trip to Zurich, which will take place at the beginning of the semester, we will travel to Glasgow, another European city that has a similar urban and architectural character to the district of Zurich we will be focusing on.

We will rely on a panel of experts – architects, planners and people with experience of building and commissioning buildings in Zurich to assist us in our work. Irina Davidovici will give a lecture on themes connected to the work of the semester.

In addition to the studio reviews and programmed critical appraisal of projects, a number of lectures will be organised to address relevant themes.

On completion of the six-semester programme, the studio will organise an exhibition in Zurich and produce a book documenting the range of proposals developed.



p 7  
A courtyard in Zurich Enge

### Enge

Enge lies on the shore of lake Zurich and close to the city center. In the nineteenth century wealthy Zurich residents built their city villas on the Moränenhügel, which runs along the lake to the former Hürlimann brewery. Some of these neo-classical country houses, such as the Rietberg, are now open to the public as museums.

Industrial settlements, on the other hand, are confined to the outer edge of the neighborhood, the Sihl. In the more central urban areas, generous residential developments for the Zurich middle and upper classes were built on a rectangular street grid.

Only 5% of the apartments in Enge are owned by not-for-profit building cooperatives. These settlements were developed after the construction of the Seebahn, the lakeside railway line and Enge station were built.

A spectacular public promenade is being built through part of the municipality of Enge, connecting it to the lake for the first time.

### Wiedikon

The first documented mention of Wiedikon dates from the year 889. It was an independent municipality until it was incorporated into the city of Zurich in 1894. Together with the former municipality of Aussersihl, Wiedikon then formed Stadtkreis 3. The Bühlhügel divides the Wiedikon district into two very different areas; the area towards the city centre is densely built up with perimeter block buildings dating back to the nineteenth century, while more recent garden city quarters lie on slopes of the Uetliberg.

Wiedikon was traditionally a working class neighborhood. Today it is a dense and mixed urban area, with numerous employment opportunities and above average supply of retail.

In Wiedikon, municipal and housing cooperatives own 10% of housing stock, such as the Berowisa colony, one of the first subsidized housing projects built in 1911.



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1  
Zurich main station around 1907,  
from the historical archive of the  
City of Zurich



3

3  
Schmiege Wiedikon around 1950,  
from the historical archive of the  
City of Zurich

## Friesenberg

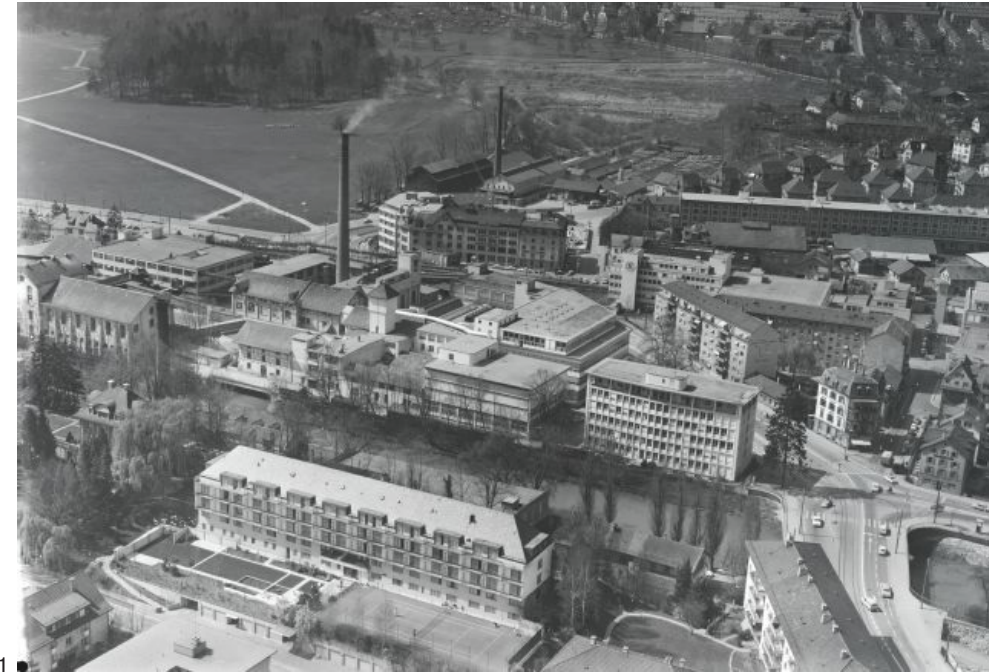
Friesenberg lies on the gentle slopes at the foot of the Uetliberg. The name Friesenberg derives from the Knights of Vriesenberch, who inhabited the castle on the Goldbrunnegg in the thirteenth century.

Friesenberg is a garden city and a pioneering settlement of social housing, which shaped the neighborhood like no other: around 70% of the apartments are owned by housing cooperatives, by the city or other foundations.

As early as 1896, the city of Zurich acquired 22 hectares of land in Friesenberg to build a workers' colony. This was the start of an ongoing land policy that made social housing in Zurich possible in the first place.

From 1880, a construction boom covered the undeveloped areas of Sihlfeld (Werd and Hard in Aussersihl, as well as lower Wiedikon), which was developed all the way to the Sihlfeld cemetery up until about 1910. After the First World War, Friesenberg became Zurich's first Garden City neighbourhood, characterized by large green areas and colonies of row house. After 1950, denser housing developments and even some high-rise buildings were added. The largest property developer is the Familienheim Genossenschaft Zürich (FGZ, Zurich family home cooperative), which owns 2200 apartments in the district.

A second wave of construction took place in the area after 1950, and by the 1970's the entire area was completely built over. From 2000 to 2004, the FGZ led a district regeneration project, in which the city of Zurich and renowned architectural firms participated. At that time, the Binz industrial and commercial quarter was also developed.



1

1  
A paper factory on the Sihl  
around 1925,  
from the historical archive of the  
City of Zurich

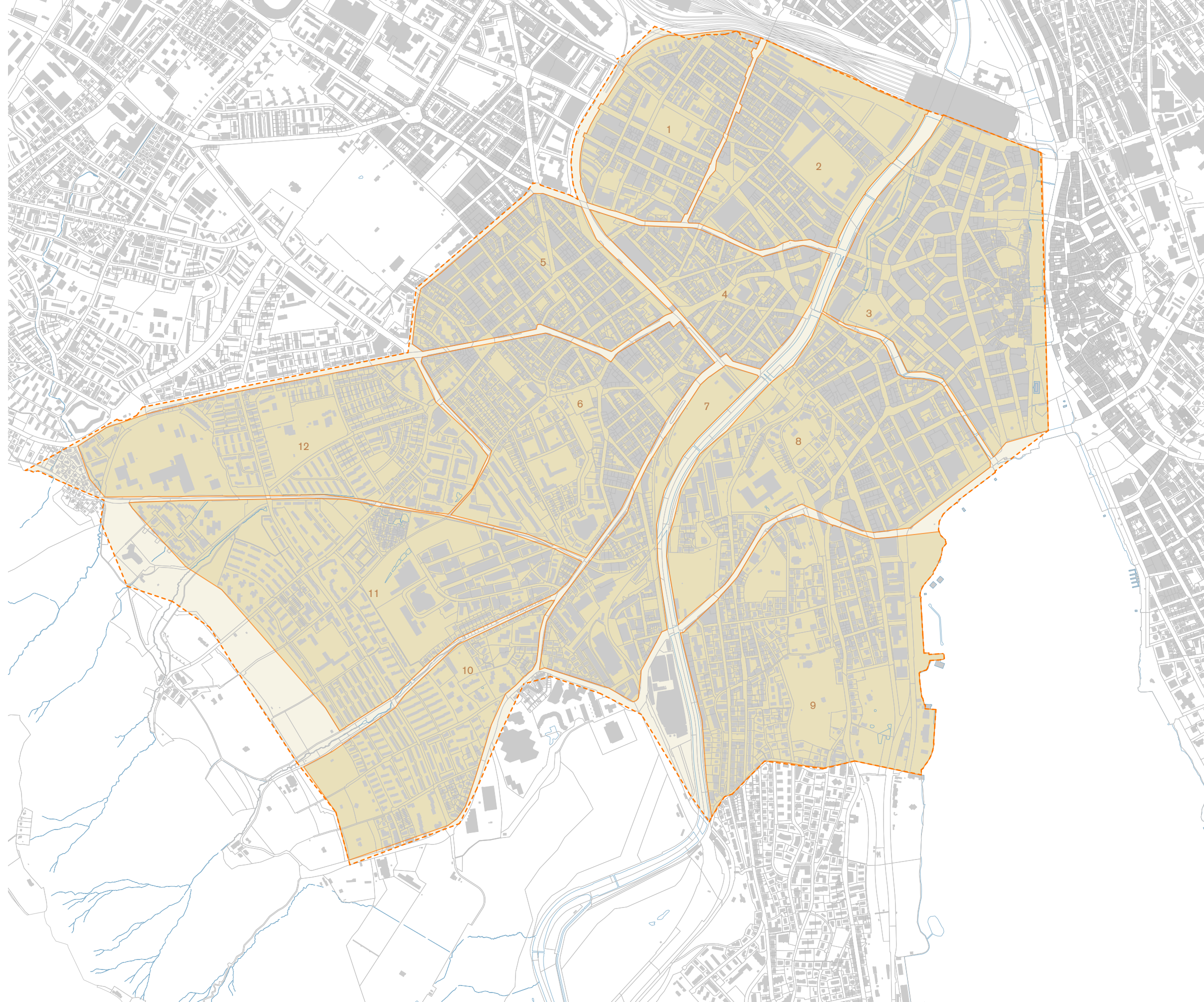
p 12-13  
Zweierstrasse, Enge  
around 1908,  
from the historical archive of the  
City of Zurich





# Project sites

- 1 Bäckeranlage
- 2 Kasernenareal
- 3 Bahnhofstrasse
- 4 Werd
- 5 Kalkbreite
- 6 Alt-Wiedikon
- 7 Sihlhölzli
- 8 Enge
- 9 Rieterpark
- 10 Albisgüetli
- 11 Friesenberg
- 12 Triemli





1-7  
Enge, Wiedikon and Friesenberg  
as found



1-2  
Enge, Wiedikon and Friesenberg  
as found

p 18  
Train station at Enge





First exercise: Survey

We believe that invention is a necessary ambition in architecture, but that it rarely emerges by spontaneous intuition. Generally, architects succeed in developing truly unique proposals only after many years of study and reflection. Indeed, it is questionable whether true originality can actually be achieved, given the wealth of precedents in the history of architecture.

To assist you in understanding the task you are attending to this semester we would like you to undertake a survey of an notable building in Zurich.

Your work should consider the organisation of the plan of the building and particular attention should be given to the facade, describing it clearly and analytically, with diagrams where necessary. The facade of the building should be drawn at 1:100.

This exercise requires you to look carefully and communicate your observations in a clear and understandable manner. The work you are undertaking at this stage should inform the projects you develop later in the semester and will contribute to a collective piece of research that will inspire and inform the development of other students' projects.

A lecture will be offered to introduce this exercise.



1

1  
Housing project, Gutstrasse,  
2009-2014  
Peter Märkli

2  
Housing project, Gutstrasse,  
2017  
Luke Peppard



2

Survey buildings



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2



3



4



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12

1 Ersatzneubauten Triemli, 2011  
von Ballmoos Krucker

2 Schulhaus im Birch, 2004  
Peter Märkli

3 Villa Wesendonck, Museum  
Rietberg, 1850  
Leonhard Zeugheer

4 Stadthaus Schöneggstrasse  
2008,  
Hausenstein La Roche Schedler

5 Wohnsiedlung Hardau 1978,  
Max P. Kollbrunner

6 Kantonale Verwaltung Walche,  
1935  
Werner und Otto Pfister

7 Familienheim-Genossenschaft  
Zürich, 1923  
Fritz Reiber  
remodelled by  
Paul Peter Lehmann 1998

8 Hohes Haus West 2013  
Loeliger Strub

9 Bullingerhof, 1930  
Karl Kundig, Heinrich Oetiker

10 Werkbundsiedlung Neubühl, 1932  
various architects

11 Maaghof West, 2013  
Diener & Diener Architekten

12 Wohnsiedlung Glaubten III, 1969  
Robert and Bernhard Winkler



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21



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16



17



23



23

13 Kolonie Letter 1/2/3, 1923  
Gottlieb Leuenberger  
and Pietro Giumini

14 Wohn- und Geschäftshaus Hohl-  
strasse, 2005  
Peter Märkli

15 Baugenossenschaft Oberstrass,  
1931  
Otto Gschwind

16 Wohnüberbauung Limmat West,  
2002  
Kuhn Fischer Partner

17 Schulhaus Weinberg, 1891  
unknown architects  
remodelled by Horisberger Wa-  
gen 2011

18 Mehrfamilienhaus  
Weststrasse 60, 1908  
unknown architects



18



24

19 Siedlung Rütihof, 1997  
Metron AG

20 Siedlung Sonnenhalde I/II, 1931  
Paul Schumacher, Hans Merkli

21 Wohnsiedlung Riedtli, 1919  
Friedrich Wilhelm Fissler,  
Friedrich Hirsbrunner

22 Schulhaus Rämibühl, 1970  
Eduard Neuenchwander

23 Villa Schoenberg, 1856  
Otto Wesendonck

24 Hallenbad City Zurich, 1941  
Hermann Herter, Robert Maillart  
remodeled by Ernst Niklaus  
Fausch Partner 2012

The second component of the work to be undertaken this semester requires you to develop a strategy plan. This can be understood as an urban planning exercise and should result in a clear and appropriate strategy for developing the site you have been invited to study. The principal tool to assist you in this exercise will be a 1:1000 model. This will be produced collectively and will encompass the areas of Zurich under study. Plans and other drawings should be produced to represent and communicate this work.

To begin with, you will be invited to develop collectively a strategy plan for the entire area you will be studying. This should consider heritage and building preservation, public realm and include a strategy for public spaces. You should consider movement, and the distribution of non-residential uses, educational needs, medical facilities and other public functions, as well as work spaces. This exercise should also take into account neighbouring site conditions and the place Enge, Wiedikon, and Friesenberg occupy within the city as a whole. This work should be understood as an iterative process and collectively developed research should inform the studies of the specific site or urban block you are allocated.

We ask you to begin by exploring various options for the location of new buildings and develop a strategy for building use that takes into account the wider needs of the neighbourhood. This should take the form of an appraisal that begins to develop an idea of the project you will be working on throughout the semester. Once this task is completed you should be able to argue the case for how the site should be developed. It is important that you take into account the various planning codes that affect the site you are working on. These include density and height restrictions, permitted uses and any protected buildings on the site. Your work should also be sensitive to the ideas and proposals of colleagues working in neighbouring sites and should be developed in parallel with their own proposals.

A lecture will be offered to introduce this exercise.



p 29  
Project model with sites in  
Zurich,  
from 'A Plan for Zurich 1'  
Autumn Semester 2017



### Third exercise: Building concept

The next exercise requires you to develop a clearer concept for the new buildings you are proposing for the site. This should be understood as a typological exercise.

You should be able to explain how your buildings address the planning codes and conform to the wider strategy the studio has developed for the neighbourhood. It is important to consider how any new building would sit in relation to existing buildings and what relationships with these are proposed.

At this stage the presentation of your ideas should prioritise the study of plans and the organisation of the different uses or building programmes. When working on this, it is helpful to ask yourself how the building might be inhabited and how flexible it might be. Also consider how it might serve a variety of uses and functions.

You are expected to produce drawings and models at different scales, depending on what aspects of a project they are exploring, and while priority should be given to the plan, you will also need to produce sections, elevations and sketch models. You should build on the lessons learnt in the first exercise and draw upon the precedents visited in our study trip to Zurich.

A lecture will be offered to introduce this exercise. At this stage in the semester your work will be subject to an intermediate review.

1  
James Irving, Koch Areal,  
Project model from  
'A Plan for Zurich 1'  
Autumn Semester 2017



You will now need to focus on the overall appearance of the building. The plans you have developed will need to be adjusted to include a clear volumetric idea and the organisation of the facades.

You need to explain why your project appears as it does and what it says about adjacent buildings and local building traditions.

Priority will be given to model making to assist this stage of the work. Models should be produced quickly to explore options, and then adjusted and remade as necessary. We are interested in using models as a way of describing the atmosphere of streets and spaces, and photography will be used to explore their atmospheric potential.

A lecture will be offered to introduce this exercise.



p 33  
Tan Hai Jie, Gleisfeld,  
Project model from  
'A Plan for Zurich 1'  
Autumn Semester 2017

As a convincing set of ideas for your buildings emerge, you will need to produce a careful set of drawings at appropriate scales.

A landscape plan at scale 1:200 should describe landscape surfaces, hard and soft elements and a general approach to the public realm. This should be complemented by the 1:1000 model revised to include your project.

The main piece of work will be the final version of a model at an appropriate scale. This should be made giving careful consideration to the choice of materials and should be accompanied by plans, sections and elevations produced at a scale of 1:200 or 1:100.

Finally, you should produce a .pdf or Powerpoint presentation. This is an important tool for presenting your project and should explain the development of your work and the strategy you propose, drawing upon references where appropriate.



p 33  
Final reviews  
Autumn semester 2017  
with Maria Conen, David Ganzoni  
and Patrick Gmür

Date	Event	Details	Assignments
22 February	Studio introduction		
23-25 February	Symposium in Zurich	Spring semester studio presentation by Jonathan Sergison (JS) An introduction to Zurich, with Anna Schindler Introduction to survey exercise (JS) Site visit, 23-24 September	Survey and site visit
1-2 March	Review	Survey drawings presentation Introduction to strategy plan (JS) Introduction to the 1:1000 site model (MSB and JW)	1:1000 site model
8-9 March	Tutorial	Collective discussions on strategy plan and initial ideas for all areas of study	1:1000 site model Drawings explaining strategy
15-16 March	Review	Strategy plan presentation Urban concepts 1:1000 Models 1:1000	1:1000 site model Drawings as appropriate to explain strategy
22-23 March	Tutorial	Building concepts Review of model 1:500 plans, sections and elevations	1:1000 site model 1:500 plans, sections, elevations
29-30 March	Tutorial	Building concepts Review of model 1:500 plans, sections and elevations	1:500 site plans 1:200 site model 1:200 plans, sections, elevations
5-6 April	Easter break		
12-13 April	Intermediate review	Project reviews with guest critics	All previously produced material PDF 1:1000 model 1:200 plans, sections, elevations
19-20 April	Study trip	Detailed programme to be issued	
26-27 April	Review	Revisions to material produced for intermediate reviews	1:200 site model 1:200 plans, sections and elevations 1:1000 site model

Date	Event	Details	Assignments
3-4 May	Tutorial	Review of facades	1:100 / 1:50 facades 1:100 plans, sections, elevations
10-11 May	Review	Revisions to all plans, sections elevations	1:100 / 1:50 facades 1:200 plans, sections, elevations for hand-in
17-18 May	Mandatory hand-in of all drawings	Hand-in of plans, sections elevations	1:100 / 1:50 facades 1:200 plans, sections, elevations Model
24-25 May	Tutorial	Model to an appropriate scale	Model
30 May	Final review		PDF presentation 1:1000 site model 1:200 ground floor plan 1:100 plans, sections and facades Exterior perspectives (from models) Others materials as appropriate

**L'Architettura della città**

Aldo Rossi, Marsilio, Padova 1966

**Das Haus und die Stadt / The house and the City**

Diener & Diener, Städtebauliche Arbeiten / Urban Studies

Roger Diener, Martin Steinmann, Birkhäuser, 1995

**Dichte / Density**

Archithese, Niggli Verlag, 2011

**Forme forte**

Martin Steinmann, Birkhäuser, 2003

**The seduction of place: the city in the twenty-first century**

Joseph Rykwert, Weidenfeld & Nicholson, 2004

**Papers 3**

Jonathan Sergison and Stephen Bates, Luzern: Quart Verlag, 2016

**Critical Regionalism: modern architecture and cultural identity**

Kenneth Frampton in Modern architecture. A critical history, Thames & Hudson (1980) 2007

**Die Stadt im 20. Jahrhundert: Visionen, Entwürfe, Gebautes**

Vittorio Magnago Lampugnani, Wagenbach Verlag, Berlin, 2010

**Mehr als Wohnen, Genossenschaftlich Planen. Ein Modellfall aus Zürich**

Margrit Hugentobler, Andreas Hofer, Pia Simmendinger (Hrsg.), Birkhäuser Verlag, Basel, 2016

**Mehr als Wohnen - Gemeinnütziger Wohnungsbau in Zürich 1907-2007**

gta Verlag, Zürich, 2007

**Bauen und Wohnen in Gemeinschaft**

Annette Becker, Laura Kienbaum, Kristien Ring, Peter Cachola Schmal (Hg. / Eds.), Birkhäuser Verlag, Basel, 2015

**Zürich - für eine neue Planungspraxis**

Archithese, Niggli Verlag, 2015

**Wohnen in Zürich - Reflexionen & Beispiele 1998-2006**

Axel Simon (Hrsg.), Niggli AG, 2006

**Building Zurich: Conceptual Urbanism**

Angelus Eisinger, Iris Reuther, Franz Eberhard, Regula Lüscher, Birkhäuser Verlag, Zürich, 2007

**Urbanity and Density in 20th-Century Urban Design**

Wolfgang Sonne, Berlin: Dom 2017

**Zürich Als Industriestadt**

Hans-Peter Bärtschi, Zürich: Schweizerische Verkehrszentrale, 1980

**INSA Inventar der neueren Schweizer Architektur 1850–1920**

Nr. 10, Winterthur, Zürich, Zug. Hg. von der Gesellschaft für Schweizerische Kunstgeschichte, Orell Füssli, Bern 1992

**Zurich Housing Development 1995–2015**

Heinz Wirz, Christoph Wieser, Quart Verlag, Luzern 2017

**Wohngenossenschaften in Zürich**

Dominique Boudet, Park Books, Zürich 2017

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