



Deposited via The University of Sheffield.

White Rose Research Online URL for this paper:

<https://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/id/eprint/240893/>

Version: Published Version

Article:

Doucet, I. and Gauger, B. (2026) "A New Area of Knowing:" women advance an urban renovation agenda in Gothenburg. *Architecture and Culture*. ISSN: 2050-7828

<https://doi.org/10.1080/20507828.2026.2617737>

Reuse

This article is distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs (CC BY-NC-ND) licence. This licence only allows you to download this work and share it with others as long as you credit the authors, but you can't change the article in any way or use it commercially. More information and the full terms of the licence here: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/>

Takedown

If you consider content in White Rose Research Online to be in breach of UK law, please notify us by emailing eprints@whiterose.ac.uk including the URL of the record and the reason for the withdrawal request.



"A New Area of Knowing:" Women Advance an Urban Renovation Agenda in Gothenburg

Isabelle Doucet & Bri Gauger

To cite this article: Isabelle Doucet & Bri Gauger (21 Apr 2026): "A New Area of Knowing:" Women Advance an Urban Renovation Agenda in Gothenburg, *Architecture and Culture*, DOI: [10.1080/20507828.2026.2617737](https://doi.org/10.1080/20507828.2026.2617737)

To link to this article: <https://doi.org/10.1080/20507828.2026.2617737>



© 2026 The Author(s). Published by Informa UK Limited, trading as Taylor & Francis Group



Published online: 21 Apr 2026.



Submit your article to this journal [↗](#)



Article views: 85



View related articles [↗](#)



View Crossmark data [↗](#)

ARCHITECTURE AND CULTURE

Isabelle Doucet

University of Sheffield,
Sheffield, UK
i.doucet@sheffield.ac.uk

Bri Gauger

Chalmers University of
Technology, Gothenburg,
Sweden
bri.gauger@chalmers.se

*(formerly at Chalmers
University of Technology).
§Both authors contributed
equally to this article.

Keywords: architecture
education, Sweden, 1970s,
oral history, grassroots action



pp. 1–33
DOI:10.1080/20507828.2026.
2617737

No potential conflict of
interest was reported by
the author.

© 2026 The Author(s).
Published by Informa UK
Limited, trading as Taylor &
Francis Group
This is an Open Access article
distributed under the terms of
the Creative Commons
Attribution-NonCommercial-
NoDerivatives License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>), which permits
non-commercial re-use,
distribution, and reproduction in
any medium, provided the
original work is properly cited,
and is not altered, transformed,
or built upon in any way. The
terms on which this article has
been published allow the
posting of the Accepted
Manuscript in a repository by
the author(s) or with their
consent.

“A New Area of Knowing:” Women Advance an Urban Renovation Agenda in Gothenburg Isabelle Doucet*§ and Bri Gauger[§]

ABSTRACT As educators, researchers, designers, civil servants, and also in other capacities, several women who graduated in architecture from Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg, Sweden in the 1960s and 1970s became key players in the struggles against large-scale urban renewal programs, promoting a more socially and environmentally driven approach to the city. Drawing from oral history research we carried out in 2021–2023, this article argues that the individual and collective achievements of these women point to a situated way of working that sheds fresh light on how the professions of the built environment adopted new roles, and how they straddled resistance to as well as reliance on welfare state provisioning, how they radically opened up the inclusion of residents and experts outside architecture in urban renewal processes. The article also discusses the role of the university in these women’s work. Telling their stories is important because, despite their significant contributions, many of these women have remained largely absent from historical accounts of the period.

Introduction

In 1977, a group of teachers, researchers, and students at the School of Architecture at Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg, Sweden, embarked on an exciting urban renovation initiative in an area of the city called Lindholmen. Located on the "other" side of the river, on the large island of Hisingen, home to Gothenburg's port and industrial activities, Lindholmen had become an area of little development interest, "a nowhere."¹ Stigmatized by social problems and physical neglect after the shipyards closed, it was not considered a priority and was deemed of little value to the city planning authorities.² Residents who had either remained in the area (not always by choice) or had moved there in search of cheap accommodation (such as students) benefited from this lack of interest because they were able to purchase homes from the municipality at reasonable prices. Under the guidance of Birgitta Holmdahl, an architect, teacher, and housing researcher at Chalmers with an expertise in self-build, a number of local architects and students began to plan the work of restoring the neighborhood together with the residents.³ From a local office in the area they did inventory work, measured old houses, and went on to suggest renovations and modernizations. They summarized their work in reports which were presented to the Gothenburg Planning Office. The residents cleaned up the houses themselves and started to renovate them with the help from the local office. Through this approach, all these residents were able to stay in the neighborhood.⁴ The cautious and painstaking renovation work in Lindholmen was symptomatic of broader efforts in the city to resist urban renewal through demolition (Figure 1).

Together with more visible initiatives in central Gothenburg neighborhoods, the case of Lindholmen shows how women architects played a central role in developing alternatives to top-down, government-driven urban renewal projects in Gothenburg in the 1970s. In response to the efforts to modernize the inner city through neighborhood demolition and new large scale transport infrastructures, and against the backdrop of the ongoing construction of mass housing schemes in the suburbs through Sweden's Million Program (*Miljonprogrammet*) to build a million new homes over a ten-year period, local groups pushed for renovation rather than wholesale renewal, and merged this agenda with grassroots activism. In doing so, they informed novel ways for producing knowledge about the built environment and the co-production of space (Figure 2).

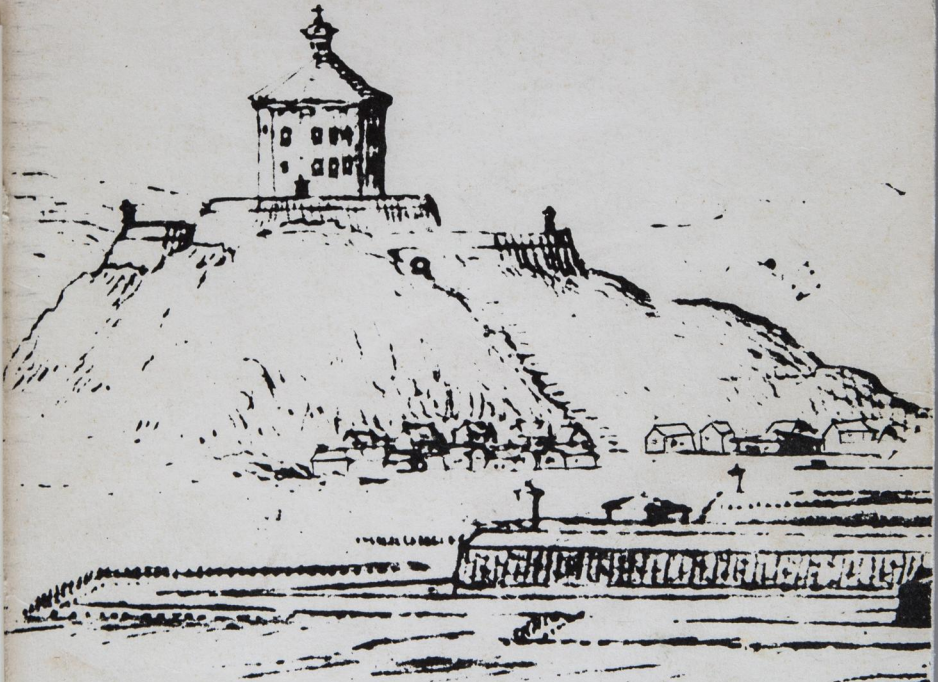
This paper brings into focus the role of women in these actions by foregrounding the experiences of women who graduated from Chalmers School of Architecture in the 1960s and 70s. Their stories bring important insights into the workings of the fight for the right to the city.⁵ For example, we show that this struggle was manifest not only in ensuring the existence of specific types of spaces (e.g. open green spaces, urban parks, public squares, or housing), but also in the right to co-constitute those spaces as both physical and social environments. We also show how their actions demonstrate new ways of working in the professions of the built environment and in local action groups, as, like Holmdahl (who



Figure 1

Four reports by staff and students from Chalmers School of Architecture showing the work of inventory, design, and renovation in the Lindholmen area of Gothenburg: Anon, 1977, *Fyra Trähus På Lindholmen* (cover drawings by students); Anon, 1979, *En Plan För Lindholmen* (cover lino print by Birgitta Holmdahl); Bergström, Holmdahl, and Jakobsson, 1980, *Känner Du Lindholmen* (cover painting by Lolo Jakobsson); and Holmdahl, 1988, *Att Förnya På Lindholmens Villkor* (lino print by Birgitta Holmdahl). Used with permission from Birgitta Holmdahl.

Lönnroth



HAGA - BEBYGGELSEHISTORISK UTREDNING

GÖTEBORGS HISTORISKA MUSEUM 1972

GUDRUN LÖNNROTH

Figure 2

Building inventory with proposal for conservation in Haga, one of Gothenburg's neighborhoods well-known for its resistance to government-led wholesale redevelopment schemes. Lönnroth, 1972, *Haga - Bebyggelsehistorisk Utredning*. Used with permission from Gudrun Lönnroth.

still lives in the Lindholmen area today) they committed themselves to the cause both personally and as professionals. Rather than a mere struggle for the preservation of the historic city – to which inner-city pressure groups of the 1970s risk being delimited – our study reveals how the conservation campaigns went hand in hand with local grassroots activism and married calls for more democratic planning through co-production with calls for more ecological ways of living.⁶

The women we interviewed for this study were active in local neighborhoods and were also researchers and teachers at Chalmers. The university offered a good place for women to work during the period we studied. When employment opportunities shrank during an economic downturn, the university remained a relatively reliable employer. And as mothers, women could benefit from the possibility of flexible schedules. Many women, moreover, received funding to support their research that allowed them to follow their passions and focus on in-depth studies of buildings.⁷ Engaging with the stories of women involved in the urban struggle helps us to understand how their actions demonstrate criticism of the top-down state planning of the Million Program and of urban renewal plans, at the same time as their work was supported by public funding and institutions, not least the university. The state seems to have been deemed both a villain for perpetuating state-led technocratic planning and a facilitator, funding research that enabled renovation projects.⁸ While the women who feature in our study, whether as educators, researchers, designers, civil servants, or in other capacities, did not declare themselves to be activists, we however do consider them as agents of change toward a more humane, inclusive, and co-produced built environment and society.

Despite their important contributions, these women have remained largely absent from historical accounts of the period. We highlight their roles in the urban struggle in Gothenburg in five sections. First, we introduce the historiographical approaches adopted in this paper. Next, we discuss the rediscovery of the historic city as an antidote to the urban renewal schemes that dominated much of urban planning into the 1970s – as we have seen in the Lindholmen example. In the third part we focus on the role of the university as a catalyst for developing research and action in support of urban renovation rather than full scale renewal. In the fourth, we discuss the way in which architectural education at Chalmers was at the same time undergoing pedagogical changes that would prove to be conducive to such an agenda. We conclude by theorizing a “situated way of working” that we recognize in both the individual and collective achievements of the women involved in advancing an urban renovation agenda at Chalmers and in Gothenburg.

Foregrounding Women's Stories

Women have been conspicuously and persistently absent from the narrative of architecture and other built environment fields, and we adopt

gender as a category of analysis by which to critique the traditional male canon.⁹ We employ oral history as a method with a successful tradition of bringing to light the contributions of marginalized groups that have been left out of the archive and historical narrative, in order to provide "counter-narratives of architecture" that can also resist the (re)creation of other monolithic categories.¹⁰ Such a social history project necessitates unraveling the solo architect archetype by giving emphasis to collective and collaborative outputs and ways of working, an aim that we share with many of the contributions to this special issue.¹¹ It also highlights the need to expand the range of roles and practices that constitute architecture, highlighting the diverse roles through which women have made impact on the built environment.¹² In Sweden, for example, it has been noted that public agencies' expanding role in the built environment, starting in the 1950s and 1960s, gave women a better chance of stable employment in the public sector – many women architecture graduates worked for the housing board or in planning agencies.¹³ Reclaiming the diverse ways in which women shaped the built environment, as practicing architects in design offices but also in other capacities, illuminates the various ways in which architects contributed to society.

To trace women with these connections to Chalmers, we initially gathered names from a short history of the school, from the one publication that compiles the work of contemporary women architects in Sweden, and by word-of-mouth from colleagues at Chalmers.¹⁴ Next, we delved into archival materials from the architecture department for the period, taking note of women who graduated from Chalmers architecture during the 1960s and 1970s who had also been active in research and education. We compiled our initial shortlist by triangulating people who had both been referred by word-of-mouth to the research project *and* who appeared in the archive, but then expanded the interviewee pool with women from the archive who fitted the triangulation of Chalmers graduate, active in research and/or education, and who had participated in grassroots actions related to heritage and conservation. Although we did not exclude those working in design offices, we focused from the start on finding women architecture graduates who adopted alternative roles beyond conventional professional practice.

In this paper we work with eleven interviews we conducted between March 2022 and March 2023, most often in the women's homes and offices but with a few interviews taking place at Chalmers.¹⁵ Our interviewees occupied diverse professional roles related to the built environment, ranging from working for municipalities in housing and landscape planning, working in museums, working at universities in pedagogy and educational development, and starting their own practices or working in cooperative offices. While our interviewees differed from each other in terms of age and personal background, and are only a few amongst many more women active during that time, they all maintained a commitment to moving beyond critique in order to contribute to changing

realities on the ground and shining a light on the important role of the built environment and its agency in social change.¹⁶

While we encouraged interviewees to tell their stories in an open-ended fashion, attentive to the oral history method of allowing the narrators to choose for themselves which experiences are most important to their own sense of the past, we directed interviewees toward several points particularly relevant to the research project: their education at Chalmers and their professional life and career.¹⁷ We also encouraged them to speak about personal networks, career trajectories chosen and not chosen, and asked them to reflect on the connections (where present) to local and broader societal shifts. Despite all the interviewees being native Swedish speakers, we conducted the interviews in English because we are not fluent in Swedish. We mitigated this limitation by encouraging narrators to speak in Swedish when it was more comfortable for them and by engaging a bi-lingual transcription service that aided with translation when necessary, though the extracts from interviews that we include here are from conversations held in English and reproduced verbatim. The language aspect also forced us to be attentive to the interpersonal aspect of oral history, in which dual subjectivities are present and are accounted for in the interviews themselves and the subsequent analysis.¹⁸

The Rediscovery of the Historic City at the Heart of the Welfare State

During the 1970s, many cities in Europe and North America witnessed growing grassroots struggles against the dominant demolish-and-renew credo, paired with a rediscovery of the historic city as a socially cohesive and sustainable living place worthy of careful renovation and rehabilitation. The dominant “obsolescence” paradigm gradually gave way to a “sustainability” paradigm during this period.¹⁹ In Sweden these developments occurred against the backdrop of the Million Program, a cornerstone of the Swedish welfare state which was intended to produce a million units of housing between 1965 and 1975.²⁰ They also occurred against the backdrop of intensive modernization plans for city centers which often included planning policies that encouraged the demolition of existing, aging housing stock, such as the well-known *City 67* plan for Stockholm.²¹ While new housing projects were primarily located in the Swedish suburbs, urban renewal operations like *City 67* affected the historic urban cores by means of large traffic infrastructure projects, shopping malls, and multistory car parks resulting in the destruction, or the threat thereof, of many inner-city neighborhoods.²² Public criticism of wholesale urban renewal in Sweden intensified in the late 1960s, leveraged against both the Million Program and the devastations of the historic city fabric, and protests intensified during the 1970s. Some protests went so far as to call for parts of the newly built Million Program housing schemes to be demolished.²³ Discussions in the popular press prompted a change in how people perceived the older areas of their cities,

particularly when they were compared to the bomb-damaged cities in other European countries. As Solveig Schulz, a Chalmers researcher and teacher in the 1970s with a specialization in renovation, put it, "We did not have a war. But ... we tear down our houses still."²⁴

In Sweden and elsewhere, architects were being called out for their part in processes that proved destructive to the historic fabric and for representing cultural and political elites rather than the wider population.²⁵ These critiques, especially after the student protests of May '68, came from within architecture and urban planning as well as from outside, as the built environment professions went through a period of critical self-reflection.²⁶ Questions were raised regarding the political agency and responsibility of architects and urban planners, asking for whom they advocated, and regarding the environmental and social imprint of their work.²⁷ Debates about the role of the architect led to an interrogation of architecture's modes and tools of practice. This in turn informed all kinds of expanded spatial practices, including participatory and user-driven design in response to the adverse effects of technocratic planning principles,²⁸ and countercultural architectures reacting to the environmental impact of consumerist society.²⁹ We show here how the discussion was heightened in the context of the struggle to preserve inner city, often socio-economically vulnerable neighborhoods, whereby grassroots community groups organized against inequality and fought to safeguard access to urban housing.

In Sweden as elsewhere, the activism of the 1970s included various forms of resistance, among them countercultural groups, environmental activists, feminist groups, community workers and urban renovation activists.³⁰ Not damaged by war, but struggling to house its growing urban population, Sweden had carried out large-scale housing production through top-down planning in the postwar period, strongly driven by social welfare ambitions.³¹ As in the US or elsewhere in Europe, as articles in this issue by Iris Karamouzi Giannakopoulou and Maria Novas Ferradàs make clear, housing was an important part of social welfare policy in the postwar period, albeit with different approaches in different places. Swedish activists of the 1970s called "for a new model of 'qualitative society', which would replace the allegedly 'quantitative' model of social democratic regulation, bureaucracy, and expertise," a model that strove for "more equality and direct democracy."³²

In Gothenburg, the debates over housing provision and urban renewal were linked to historic preservation and focused predominantly, though not solely, on urban heritage.³³ In 1965–1967 an inventory of old buildings was carried out by the City Museum, the results of which were presented in an exhibition called "Demolish or Preserve" (*Rivas eller Bevaras*) that triggered debates as to which heritage should be preserved. There was widespread, well-organized, and highly visible resistance to demolitions in traditionally working-class Gothenburg neighborhoods such as Landala, where buildings of the historically significant "governor's houses" (*landshövdingehus*) type were

concentrated.³⁴ In part because of Landala's close proximity to the Chalmers campus, protests came from both the inhabitants and from students at Chalmers. A conference called "Urban Renewal – Restoration" (*Stadsförnyelse – Restaurering*) with many participants took place at Chalmers between 14 and 19 December 1968.³⁵

All the women we spoke with were engaged during their spare time in their local communities, whether by simply participating in meetings or, in some cases, engaging in direct action, sit-ins, and occupations of buildings. The Haga neighborhood, where the anti-demolition actions have been widely studied, is perhaps the most well-known, but our interviewees underscored how widespread the actions were across the city: in Linnégatan, Gårdsten, Majorna, Masthugget, Olskroken, Landala, Annedal, and Olivedal, among others.³⁶ A city-wide network formed to stage resistance against the demolition proposals in these local neighborhoods, and these self-organized groups shared information and tactics among themselves and also at times with international collaborators.³⁷ While the struggle to preserve Gothenburg's nineteenth- and early twentieth-century working-class neighborhoods was not equally successful everywhere (in fact, most such neighborhoods were torn down), it made a strong impact on architectural education and research at Chalmers which also informed new ways of working in the profession.

Urban Renovation Reaches the University

During the 1970s the architecture school at Chalmers grew into a research hub focusing on Gothenburg's traditionally working-class neighborhoods. In no small part, this shift was spearheaded by women graduates of the school, who made Chalmers a platform from which to leverage local-scale actions and advance societal commitments. As research funding opportunities and university reforms created an increased number of Ph.D. and project assistant positions, new agendas for renovation and conservation were incorporated not just in research but also in education, with direct impact from and on the local Gothenburg context. The relative openness of the university structure during this period allowed for a great deal of agency, and those with an interest in preserving working-class neighborhoods and the social fabric could explore these topics with the financial and institutional backing of Chalmers. Freedom regarding research topics also allowed the women we interviewed to influence the development of the education offered, enabling them to institute new methods of knowledge production and dissemination throughout the architecture school.

Our conversations with women who graduated from and worked at Chalmers provide more detail about the way in which urban renovation agendas reached the university. Grassroots political commitments among the student body and some faculty members already contributed to the activist atmosphere of Chalmers School of Architecture in the late 1960s. This spirit was particularly concentrated in the architecture history

section where Professor Elias Cornell gave charismatic lectures and contributed to the revolutionary ethos of the department, which included various leftist factions. Institutionally and at times ideologically supported by their professor, many of Cornell's students (amongst them the first cohorts in which women were well-represented) took upon themselves the task of incorporating critique of the widespread demolition of inner-city neighborhoods into the research and education programs of the school. Until the late 1960s, a mindset focused on wholesale urban renewal had dominated architectural education. While by 1970 protests against demolition were not necessarily central to the study of architecture at Chalmers, they quickly shifted the tone in the department. Birgitta Holmdahl remembers that

conservation was not at all involved in our studies ... At my third year we got the task to renovate Landala [a traditionally working-class area near to the Chalmers campus in Johanneberg]. And the program said it ... all should be wiped out, except the old brown houses ... I think it's fascinating that we didn't criticize it, we were young students there in 1965. No, we accepted it ... Because just one or two years later we would have been outraged.³⁸

The 1960 formation of Byggsforskningsrådet (BFR – the Swedish National Council for Building Research) provided an important resource for funding research on construction and community planning. Researchers at Chalmers found they were able to leverage this funding toward socially relevant work that supported local struggles. It was not uncommon for architecture graduates to be involved in research and related teaching even if they were not doctoral students; increased project funding brought the possibility for them to work at Chalmers as project assistants and coordinators. At the same time, it was becoming more common to create doctoral research positions to fulfill specific research tasks; at Chalmers, a doctoral student board was initiated in 1969 as a result of doctoral studies reform.³⁹ The growing doctoral student body and researchers and teachers who interacted with this group used the doctoral curriculum as a platform from which to influence the content of architectural education. However, while the doctoral students were leading a foray into new research topics and methods at Chalmers and renovation was present in parts of the curriculum during the late 1960s and early 1970s, our interviewees gave a sense that the vibrant activities around this new agenda were not immediately incorporated throughout the design teaching, much of which remained focused on wholesale urban renewal approaches.

Degree students' involvement in neighborhood projects may not have been a substantial part of the curriculum early on, but some students did connect their architecture studies to topics of urban

renovation and local neighborhood work. Solveig Schulz, for whom these concerns permeated her personal life, was ahead of the curve when in 1966 she became one of the first at Chalmers to do her exam work on the topic of appraisal, maintenance and renovation of older areas.⁴⁰ Other women we interviewed were spurred by role models and funding opportunities. Gudrun Lönnroth, who completed her architecture degree in 1964 and went on to become a conservation architect for Gothenburg Municipality and the Gothenburg City Museum, recalled that while her education did not contain any practical projects regarding renovation, the fact that one of her teachers, Ursula Larsson, had been engaging with “old buildings” already in the early 1960s, inspired her and other students to consider these questions.⁴¹ Siv Carlsson, who later started her own architecture office, and Helena Westholm, who has worked in cooperative design offices for her entire career, were others who took the initiative to work on course and exam projects related to the reuse of old buildings.⁴² Westholm was able to pursue her reuse studies in Copenhagen after graduation, thanks to the fact that BFR funded travel and research scholarships for individuals in addition to research projects connected to Chalmers.⁴³ Later, Westholm was awarded a further BFR scholarship to travel to Canada and the United States, this time to study collective housing, another popular topic emerging at Chalmers and across the Nordic region at the time.⁴⁴ These funding opportunities, which emphasized interdisciplinary and transnational approaches, were often advertised in the weekly newsletter of Chalmers’ architecture section A-NYTT, and gave students the freedom to work on projects and topics related to their personal interests (Figure 3).⁴⁵

However, the subject of rebuilding was not always deemed attractive among students. As Ulla Antonsson, a 1981 graduate who went on to work at the large firm of White Arkitekter and would later also teach at Chalmers, recalled: “It was low status to work with these [topics].”⁴⁶ Solveig Schulz remembers that her classmates responded to her choice of exam topic by saying “You are crazy. You won’t get any job after this.”⁴⁷ Despite receiving these types of messages, the women we interviewed chose to pursue their own commitments and societal agendas through the various roles they held within and beyond Chalmers. Chalmers provided a springboard for them, allowing their concerns to become instituted within the Gothenburg (and Swedish) context through a combination of their research, teaching, and professional practice.

The economic downturn in the building and construction industries, which in Sweden occurred during the late 1960s and 1970s, reduced conventional possibilities for architecture graduates’ employment.⁴⁸ Many found work in the public sector rather than architecture offices, where huge job losses had occurred.⁴⁹ Public planning administrations – at municipal, regional (*länsstyrelser*), and state levels – proved attractive, perhaps especially so to politically

engaged graduates. The new national plan (*riksplan*) of 1970 required municipalities to integrate nature into their plans, making the public sector appealing also to environmentally concerned architects.⁵⁰ Areas of policy making and planning, rather than design, came to be seen as particularly relevant for those supporting a move away from urban demolition and renewal toward democratic planning and those interested in working with local communities.⁵¹ Having been blamed for destroying



Figure 3
Three examples of student work (*examensarbete*) dedicated to historic analysis and renovation: Carlsson, 1979, *Kollektivhus i Haga*; Carlsson, Näslund, and Svensson, n.d., *Bastholmen – Kommunens Öga Mot Väster*; Westholm, 1975, *Framtid För HT-Kvarteret*. Used with permission from Siv Carlsson.

the social and physical fabric of historic inner cities, could urban planning become a practice that might engender change?

Because the Chalmers doctoral program in architecture was new and lacked clear structures, the students who occupied the growing number of doctoral and research assistant positions in the 1970s used their freedom to bring a renovation agenda into the school. Lena Falkheden, a lecturer and researcher at Chalmers who specializes in ecology and sustainability, remembers that “it was quite open and quite eclectic when it came to choice of topics and choice of method.”⁵² Significantly, a doctoral position was not only a research position, but also a chance to be involved in the school through teaching and curriculum development. Both Falkheden and Lena Jarlöv, whose practical and research career has focused on cooperative housing and ecological perspectives, recalled the experimental and malleable nature of architecture education at Chalmers. Jarlöv told us how doctoral students took responsibility for much of the teaching and could “kind of do what they wanted,” thus experimenting with a great deal of freedom: “We made the education, so we could suggest and we could do lots of things.”⁵³ Falkheden, who was still a student in the 1970s, remembered: “they gave us as students a lot of responsibility and really believed that we could make inventories and analysis.”⁵⁴ Beyond simply carrying out the day-to-day teaching, these doctoral students held roles in the institution that allowed them to decide on project sites for courses, designing study tours, and serving on the board for the school.⁵⁵ Some were involved directly in the 1974 reorganization of the curriculum, as was Solveig Schulz even before she started her doctoral studies.

For the women we interviewed, Chalmers was an appealing place to work not only because of the increased availability of funding for research related to historic buildings, or thanks to the freedoms to shape research and teaching agendas, but also because it provided an opportunity to balance the demands of being a professional woman at the time. Women experienced sexism in architecture workplaces, as an anecdote shared by Helena Westholm illustrates. Westholm was working in a cooperative architecture firm, EFEM, where salaries were equal and decisions taken by consensus. Despite the flat hierarchy of the office, she told us how she would answer the phone there and sometimes the caller would ask to be put through to “an architect.” When she replied “Yes, I’m an architect,” they would say “Can I talk to one of your men?”⁵⁶

In addition to gender discrimination in the architecture and building sectors, many of the women we spoke to had children either prior to or during their master’s education at Chalmers in the late 1960s. Support for working mothers such as the state provision of childcare or parental leave were not yet widely available in Sweden and women relied on their extended families, arrangements with partners, and sometimes private nannies for the ability to complete their studies. Once they entered the job market, Chalmers provided these women an opportunity

to balance family duties with a career, while traditional architecture offices did not offer that option. Birgitta Holmdahl received a job offer from White Arkitekter, one of Sweden's leading architecture offices, after completing her exams in 1967, but her reaction was: "I can't work full time, I have children at home." A part-time assistant position working in the School of Architecture at Chalmers was an appealing alternative: "That was perfect for me. Then I could be with my children and take care of the household ... but still not ... totally lose contact with the profession." Even though the job was "just being a help at the school ... planning excursions with the students, planning programs for their exercises ... pulling up all the drawings before the examinations and so on ... that was okay ... I worked there every day, four hours a day, so it was perfect."⁵⁷ Inga Alander also started working in the architecture school and had a similar experience before eventually taking her pedagogical expertise to a job in the central Chalmers administration: "You couldn't go out and struggle in an office and having children at the same time. It was something that could suit you, you would be free. Your work time was a bit free."⁵⁸ Their position as mothers increased the appeal of working in research and education and influenced many to gain employment at Chalmers architecture after graduating with their architecture degrees. Although some, like Holmdahl, may have downplayed the importance of this flexible, possibly part-time work as "just being a help," in fact the women in these positions had incredible impact on and through Chalmers' School of Architecture.

Change Is Here: Project-Oriented Learning and New Tools

The women we interviewed were key players in executing the shift to project-oriented learning, and their experience with local neighborhood engagement made them particularly well-placed to develop, deliver, and institutionalize the model at Chalmers. The new educational format focused first on getting to know a community well, talking with residents and other stakeholders, in order to identify problems and answer larger questions about how architecture fits into society and where architecture meets the reality of everyday life.⁵⁹ In this section, we outline how project-based education connected teaching and learning, research, and action, and how Chalmers provided a platform from which to advance new research methods, new forms of knowledge production, and new ways of working with and on the built environment.

The 1974 reorganization of architectural education at Chalmers brought a new orientation to pedagogy and study subjects, institutionalizing some of the community-based endeavors that some students and teachers had begun to engage with in the wake of 1968. The architecture courses, which had previously been based on subjects, lectures, and exams chosen by the teacher, shifted to problem-based studies engaged with specific projects in their local contexts.⁶⁰ Courses started from a particular site that would be studied for the whole year; students spent the first semester working in

project groups “trying to get to know the community, the built environment, the people, the way of making a living.”⁶¹ In this way, Falkheden recalls, “it was the society as a whole, and societal and urban planning, that was the topic.”⁶² It was not until the second semester that students were involved with identifying more specific building design or urban design projects in the setting. Pedagogical hierarchies and expectations changed as well. Rather than being expected to have all the answers, teachers took on more of a guidance role as they accompanied their assigned group of students through the duration of that year’s project.⁶³

At Chalmers, opportunities for exchanging ideas, strengthening popular education, and learning about new approaches to the built environment were made possible through the activities of the *Centrum för Byggnadskultur* (Centre for Building Culture), an organization with which many of our interviewees were involved from the start (and some are still today).⁶⁴ CfB was founded in 1975 by Boris Schönbeck and Jonas Göransson, two of Elias Cornell’s students who had been particularly instrumental in engaging Chalmers’ architectural faculty in urban renewal struggles. CfB’s purpose – creating bridges between professionals and laypeople, and between the university and the rest of the city – is clear in the School of Architecture newsletter’s announcement of the CfB’s first constituent meeting: “... the conference ‘Urban Transformation – Cultural Development’ a year ago decided to form CFB. The aim was to have a forum where laypeople and professionals from Chalmers and the University who are interested in and affected by building culture can jointly address the issues of building culture.”⁶⁵

CfB held conferences and public exhibitions, produced research reports, and continued the courses focused on historic building traditions and restoration that had been associated with Chalmers’ architecture history section (*institutionen för arkitekturhistoria*) since the late 1960s. It also provided employment for students and researchers as project assistants. For example, Solveig Schulz was recruited by Schönbeck to “start an education program for people out in the city about renovation.”⁶⁶ CfB offered evening and weekend courses targeting architects, art historians, people working in municipalities, and other built environment professionals, since its members believed firmly that teaching connected to society should not remain locked within the boundaries of the university.⁶⁷ The work in the Lindholmen area, discussed at the start of this paper, as well as the deep engagement in many other Gothenburg neighborhoods, demonstrated the need for a more “practical” form of teaching and to involve residents. It seemed equally important to build connections between different skills as well as to retrain oneself as a professional in line with new societal priorities. The renovation courses were important for developing “a new area of knowing,” according to Schulz, as the group researched old techniques and how to mix the old with the new.⁶⁸ CfB was not only an important site for sharing knowledge about research, however. It also provided an institutional platform which leveraged

Chalmers' institutional legitimacy to raise awareness of conservation issues with the public and support local movement activism.

Chalmers School of Architecture thus gained a reputation for fostering politically active discussions that were focused on broader societal questions. This led some of the women we interviewed to pursue doctoral studies at the school. Lena Falkheden, for example, initially saw herself as more interested in environmental and equality issues and in the organization of society than in architectural design, yet in 1977 she decided to pursue an architectural degree at Chalmers because a friend described the school as having "a lot of... political discussions ... discussions about what kind of society ... people would like to live in ... He spoke very highly about the education and especially the atmosphere of open discussions and critical approach ... focused on societal development at large ..."⁶⁹ The focus on critical thinking was at the heart also of the shift toward project-oriented learning at the school; it encouraged students to focus on identifying the core problems, Falkheden argues, "because before you could find that, you couldn't start finding some good answers."⁷⁰

While the women we spoke with worked to shift Chalmers' architectural education to a local approach, they adopted and developed a broad variety of tools to study and shape the built environment. Several interrelated forms of knowledge production and dissemination characterized the work during this time, including the building inventory, local offices in neighborhoods, interview techniques, methods for making architectural proposals and projects, and the production of reports.

Making an "inventory" of an existing building, block, or neighborhood became an important tool for carefully understanding the existing built environment that could serve as a basis for deciding what needed to be preserved.⁷¹ Used for the purposes of conservation practices, heritage studies, and as a basis for exhibitions bringing historical knowledge to a wider public, such as the 1967 *Rivas eller Bevaras* (Demolish or Preserve) exhibition, the inventory method typically involved an in-depth study of a building, including its history, architectural features, current state and needs for repair. As Gudrun Lönnroth, who was working in the office for Building Care at the City Museum, recalled, "You get to know the houses when you investigate them ... I sat ... amongst all those drawings ... all those great pictures up in an attic ... You get very close to it of course and a good understanding of what it is."⁷² Lönnroth added: "When the first inventory of old buildings was carried out in the 1960s the documentation only included the buildings. When visiting areas where demolition was planned, we met people who were frightened ... and we really understood what they thought about the demolition of their homes. Some years later, methods to get inhabitants' viewpoints were tested, for example in the project *Bebyggelsehistoriska undersökningar i Västra Sverige 1973* (Building History Surveys in Western Sweden 1973)."⁷³ She realized what was being lost to demolition, not only from an architectural point of view, but also from the perspective of lived experience.

The inventory method was enabled by and also a product of a local offices approach, which Lena Falkheden described as method for “talking to people and trying to make alternative plans for buildings.”⁷⁴ Local offices employed interdisciplinary teams including architects, historians, craftspeople, ethnologists, and/or restoration specialists, all of whom could help with both the analysis of historical buildings and their careful renovation and transformation. The offices operated in specific city districts with proximity and easy access to neighborhood residents. As we have seen in the case of Lindholmen, restoration work could occur through grassroots activities and self-help actions, with architects working on the ground with residents and even sometimes themselves living in the neighborhoods (Figures 4 and 5).⁷⁵

Another example of a renovation research project directly connected to the school that involved a local office took place in the Kommendantsängen neighborhood of Gothenburg. Launched in the early 1970s, it prioritized residents’ participation and integrated knowledge from outside traditional architecture paradigms.⁷⁶ The office brought together architects, an ethnologist and an art historian to do “characterization” work, seeking to “find possibilities” to keep



Figure 4

Conviviality as part of local neighborhood renovation efforts in Lindholmen. The caption reads: “every year, coffee is served to the public on a Sunday in May when the lilacs are in bloom” (*Varje år serveras kaffe för allmänheten en söndag i maj när syrenerna blommar*), in Holmdahl, 1988, *Att Förnya På Lindholmens Villkor*. Used with permission from Birgitta Holmdahl.

Kommendantsängen from being demolished.⁷⁷ The work included exploring and documenting all types of assets through ethnological interviews, conversations with residents, studying historical archives and information from planning authority meetings, building technology inspections, and historical surveys from the perspectives of art, architecture, and economy, as well as paying attention to legal issues. Importantly, the office was open to residents, with whom the project intended to "develop trust-filled cooperation ... in addition to the formally established contacts," so that "residents have the opportunity to penetrate the possibilities and limitations of the planning work" and influence their own situation.⁷⁸ The Kommendantsängen project, which the authors described as an "inquiry into municipal democracy" through practical work for neighborhood renewal, employed many of the Chalmers women who played leading roles in renovation research, including at least four of our interviewees (Figures 6 and 7).⁷⁹

As an integral part of local office work and inventory methods, interviews were seen as a common and necessary way to gain insights in the needs of residents. Solveig Schulz remembers combining words,

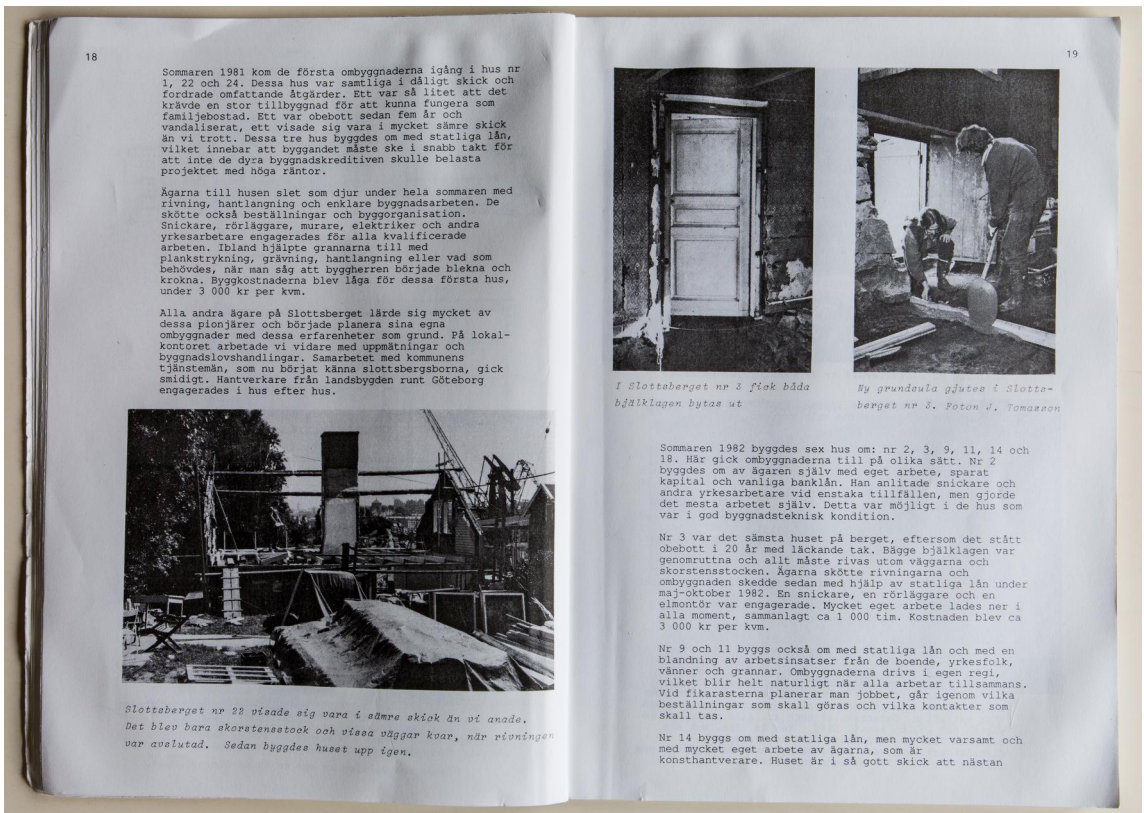


Figure 5

Holmdahl, 1988, *Att Förnya På Lindholmens Villkor*, 18–19. Double-page spread showing the hands-on work of self-build in the Lindholmen area: analysis of the state of the buildings, stripping back and removing unusable parts, followed by renovation works. Used with permission from Birgitta Holmdahl.

drawings, and interviewing people not only to describe the situation but also to ask, “what did we learn and what are we going to do instead?”⁸⁰ While interview methods served the purpose of gaining residents’ insights in neighborhoods fighting urban renewal, they also took hold in a much broader range of settings. Lena Falkheden used interviews as part of an approach to sustainable urban development that starts with the local area; Lena Jarlöv discovered, through interviews, that men and women had very different perspectives on the benefits of holiday homes (*fritidshus* in Swedish);⁸¹ and Lisbeth Birgersson incorporated interviews in her research on the reuse of older industrial buildings as a way of articulating and emphasizing their socio-economic and historical value.⁸² Some of the women we spoke with for this study also introduced interviews and consultations as a part of their work in the city planning department to find ways to improve living spaces in the Million Program housing schemes.⁸³

This in-depth and embedded approach to working with and in communities characterized the renovation work coming out of Chalmers in the 1970s and 1980s, as did the production and public dissemination



Figure 6

Poster advertising an initial public meeting to discuss the future of the Kommendantsängen neighborhood, included in Göransson, 1976, *Vad Händer Med Kommendantsängen?* (What is Happening to Kommendantsängen?), 116–117. Göransson's report dedicates an entire chapter to this meeting. Used with permission from Jonas Göransson.

"A New Area of Knowing:"
Women Advance an Urban
Renovation Agenda in
Gothenburg
Isabelle Doucet and
Bri Gauger

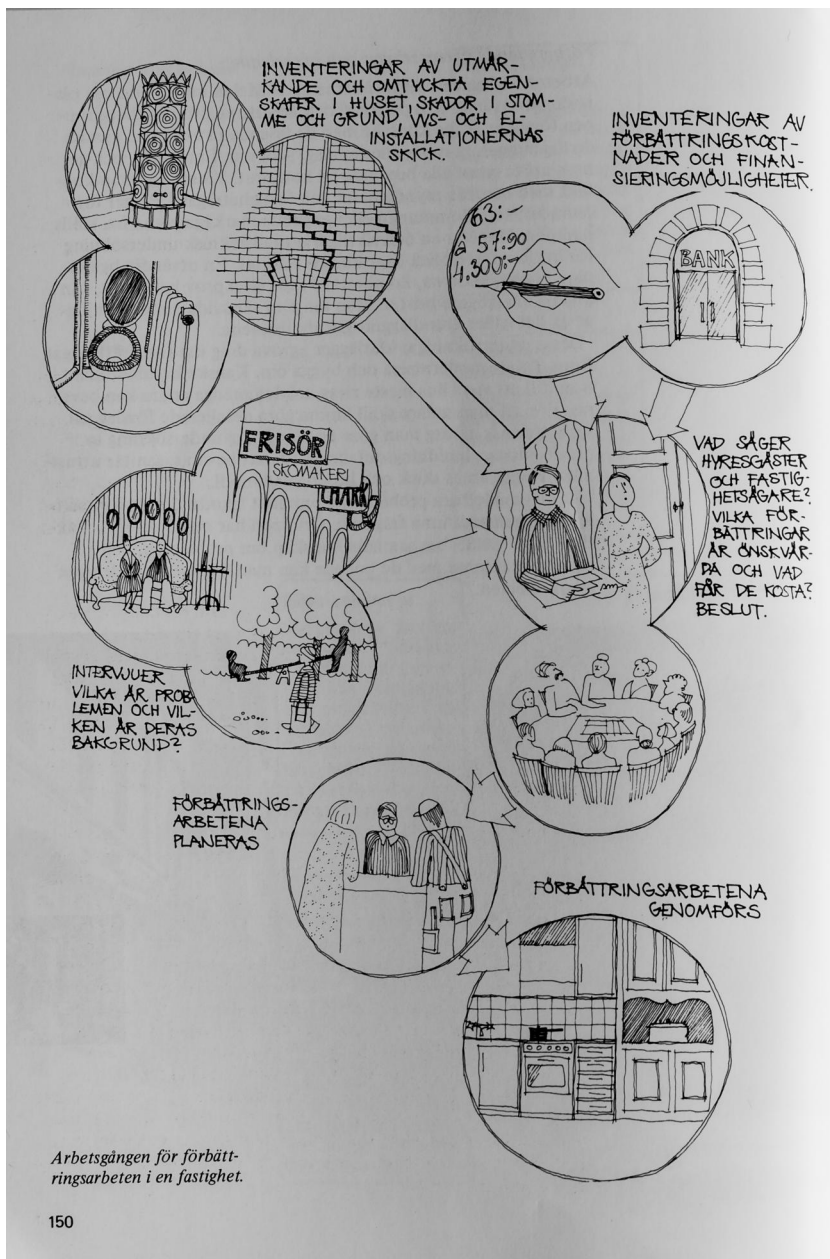


Figure 7

Drawing showing the importance of the different tools for gathering local knowledge as the basis for the urban renovation process and serving as input for discussions with residents: inventories (*inventeringar*), interviews (*intervjuer*), and costing/financing. Published in Göransson, 1976. *Vad Händer Med Kommendantsängen?* (150). Used with permission from Jonas Göransson.

of reports, booklets, and exhibitions. The reports that our interviewees produced, for example, highlighted user participation in planning in resource-poor areas, documentation and valuation efforts for renovating leisure housing in coastal villages, and reuse of defunct factory sites.⁸⁴ The reports were often funded by the State Council for Building Research

(*Statens råd för byggnadsforskning*) and/or produced under the auspices of CfB and the Gothenburg Historical Museum. Inventory-based reports included documentation of technical and sometimes also historical aspects to investigate and make a case for what was worth preserving.⁸⁵ Our interviewees also helped to curate exhibitions about technology and to trigger awareness around environmental issues.⁸⁶

While adopting these novel tools and knowledge production methods, the women we spoke with merged the values they had as individuals with those they held as aspiring professionals. For architects who chose the path of environmental design, personal and professional ethics intertwined even more explicitly. Lena Falkheden commented to us that theoretical knowledge tends to be valued more than practical knowledge. For her, emotions also play a role: “to be able to make big changes, you really must be sort of touched on your heart.”⁸⁷ In collaborative efforts, too, such as in collective housing arrangements or cooperative offices, the personal and professional often merged. In collective housing initiatives (and housing more generally speaking), ways of living were given more importance than architecture. The ambition, as Lisbeth Birgersson explained, was “to create life, not create investment.”⁸⁸ Even those women who worked within conventional design offices, such as Helena Westholm (EFEM) and Ulla Antonsson (White Arkitekter), would make their own social and environmental ethics count in their professional practice. Antonsson told us how, in contrast to the rather bleak image that some tutors at Chalmers had sketched of the critical agency of architects – “you can’t do anything as an architect, it’s the big companies and the politicians” – she felt empowered working in practice. “We have power in our drawings,” she declared.⁸⁹ Lena Jarlöv also observed that architects had an important role to play even if she herself at times felt embarrassed to be one: “I’m an architect, sometimes I have difficulties to say that ... a very silly group ... but ... I will defend the right to be an architect, and work with people and nature ...”⁹⁰ Some women chose to work in cooperative design offices and to also live in collective living arrangements.

The new tools developed during this time accompanied and helped to implement the shift from urban renewal to urban renovation that we observed in the practices of the women we interviewed. The practices adopted by those women were symptomatic of new ways of knowing and new ways of working in architecture – through research *and* action, research *and* teaching – and of new ways of intertwining the personal and professional. Taken together, we observe that an undercurrent runs through all these activities, namely, what we, in our concluding section, call a “situated way of working.”

Situated Ways of Working

In the context of grassroots activities against wholesale urban renewal, the rise of research culture and access to funding, the development of new tools such as interviews and inventories, and the freedom to

influence education, women were key players in shifting the architectural education at Chalmers from urban renewal to a conservation and renovation approach. By the mid-1970s, it was common for students to engage with questions of renovation and reuse, and to work on old buildings – on “historically and socially interesting areas ... old areas.”⁹¹ And by the mid-1980s, architectural education at Chalmers was “quite focused on preservation and rebuilding of the existing environment ... The built environment as a mirror of society in different ways and how people make a living and power relations.”⁹²

We recognize a “situated way of working” in the individual and collective achievements of the women involved in urban renovation in the context of Chalmers and Gothenburg. We refer not simply to their localized work in neighborhoods, but also, more broadly understood, to how they situated, and regularly re-situated, themselves in the world through their actions. This way of working often intertwined personal and professional work and offered ways of knowing and working in architecture across research, teaching, and action. We believe that a focus on their productive quest for agency in the (co-)production of the built environment sheds a fresh light on how, throughout the 1970s, the professions of the built environment adopted new roles beyond the “conventional” task of designing buildings, straddled resistance to with reliance on welfare state provision, and radically opened up the production and shaping of space so as to allow the inclusion of users and residents, as well as other professionals and experts outside architecture.

A situated way of working points to how the women we interviewed focused on local work directly with residents, worked with what is there already rather than what could be imposed (in contrast to urban renewal), developed deeper knowledge about the existing built environment by drawing from many skills and knowledges, and formulated suitable tools for integrating and disseminating knowledge. Many of these tools were able to flourish thanks to connections with the university. Situated ways of working and knowing moreover encouraged new roles for the architect beyond that of the designer of buildings, and promoted new ways of working – together – on urban questions. In Lindholmen, for example, architects including Birgitta Holmdahl enrolled in local conservation efforts that served self-help building, and some architects made a point of themselves living in the neighborhoods they studied, rather than “just” designing them.⁹³ Several of the women we spoke with explicitly expressed the importance of seeing their own living arrangements as part of their work as architects. Helena Westholm described this well: “you should not just work, work, work but also be part of the community and society.”⁹⁴

The women we interviewed, working from the specific social, political and cultural circumstances in Gothenburg and Sweden, envisioned, tested, and successfully implemented a broad range of roles for architects, opening new ways to organize themselves and their work as professionals. In doing so they were drivers for change and agents in

the development of the city of Gothenburg as much as in architecture research and education.

Isabelle Doucet is a professor at the School of Architecture and Landscape, University of Sheffield, UK. Her current research centers on women in architecture after 1968, the portrayal of women in architecture as role models, and environmental storytelling. Previously she was based at Chalmers University of Technology where she founded and led the Women in Architecture after 1968 research project, from which this paper draws. Her books include *The Practice Turn in Architecture. Brussels after 1968* (2015) and *Activism at Home. Architects Dwelling between Politics, Esthetics, and Resistance*, co-edited with Janina Gosseye (2021). Isabelle is a member of the steering committee of the Architectural Humanities Research Association (AHRA).

Bri Gauger is a postdoctoral researcher in gender and the built environment at Chalmers University of Technology. Bri's research focuses on knowledge production in architecture and urban planning, social movement activism, and institutional change. She specializes in women's oral history and feminist historiography. Her Ph.D. dissertation, *Urban Planning and its Feminist Histories*, traced the lineage of feminist thought and activism in the planning academy from the 1960s to the present, exploring how cultural and institutional practices shaped the meanings of feminism in the discipline. Bri's current project examines the development and circulation of a feminist agenda for architecture and urban planning across the Nordic countries during the 1980s and 1990s.

ORCID

Isabelle Doucet  <http://orcid.org/0000-0001-9711-7050>

Bri Gauger  <http://orcid.org/0000-0002-5571-1964>

Acknowledgements

The research for this paper was generously supported by the Gender Initiative for Excellence at Chalmers University of Technology. We would especially like to thank the women we discuss in this study for their conversations with us. Since the start of this project, Claes Caldenby has shared many contacts and insights. Anonymous reviewers, as well as this thematic issue's editors and other authors, have provided most valuable feedback.

Funding

This work was supported by Stiftelsen Chalmers tekniska högskola.

"A New Area of Knowing:"
Women Advance an Urban
Renovation Agenda in
Gothenburg
Isabelle Doucet and
Bri Gauger

1. Birgitta Holmdahl, in discussion with the authors, September 21, 2022, Gothenburg.
2. Ibid.
3. Student work related to the project was published as a booklet: Anon. *Fyra Trähus På Lindholmen: Projektarbete i A2 H.T. -77* [Four Timber Houses in Lindholmen: Project Work A2 Autumn Term 1977]. An example of later proposals developed by students at Chalmers: Anon. *En Plan För Lindholmen: Ett Projektarbete Utfört På Avdelningen För Bostadsplanering CTH* [A Plan for Lindholmen: Project Work Carried Out by the Division of Housing Planning CTH], unpublished student work, 1979.
4. Email conversations with Birgitta Holmdahl, following the discussion with the authors.
5. Widely used to describe grassroots actions and the rights of residents to take part in the shaping of cities, the "right to the city" refers to Henri Lefebvre's 1968 book *Le Droit à la ville* (Paris: Anthropos, 1968).
6. We should not trivialize the success of preservation campaigns. In Lindholmen, for example, the work would eventually gain formal recognition – "a breakthrough, you could say" – when the neighborhood was declared an Area of National Heritage Interest. Birgitta Holmdahl, in discussion with the authors. Holmdahl places this recognition ca. 1987.
7. While this may suggest that activism was funded, it seems actually that education, research and action were successfully integrated, and that research was possible with limited financial resources, as Lisbeth Birgersson reminded us (email conversation following a discussion with the authors, October 26, 2022, Lykke).
8. This ambivalent position vis-à-vis the role of the state was also described in the context of preservation, which "went from being the beneficiary of the welfare state to becoming the flashpoint of dissent against the bureaucratic administration of urban life" (Thordis Arrhenius and Jorge Otero-Pailos, "The Scandinavian Welfare State and Preservation," *Future Anterior: Journal of Historic Preservation, History, Theory, and Criticism* 7, no. 2 (2010): vi–vii).
9. Despina Stratigakos, "Unforgetting Women Architects: From the Pritzker to Wikipedia," *Places Journal* (April 2016). Available online: <https://doi.org/10.22269/130603> (accessed September 29, 2023); Jane Rendell, "Introduction: 'Gender, Space, Architecture,'" in *Gender Space Architecture: An Interdisciplinary Introduction*, ed. Jane Rendell, Iain Borden and Barbara Penner (London: Routledge, 2000).
10. Karen Burns and Lori Brown, "Telling Transnational Histories of Women in Architecture, 1960–2015," *Architectural Histories* 8, no. 1 (2020): 1. See also Karen Burns, "Oral History as Activism: The Public Politics of Spoken Memory," in *Speaking of Buildings: Oral History in Architectural Research*, ed. Janina Gosseye, Naomi Stead and Deborah van der Plaats (New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 2019), 118–134; Janina Gosseye, "A Short History of Silence: The Epistemological Politics of Architectural Historiography," in *Speaking of Buildings*, 9–22.
11. Torsten Lange and Lucia C. Pérez-Moreno, "Architectural Historiography and Fourth Wave Feminism," *Architectural Histories* 8, no. 1 (2020); Andrea Jeanne Merrett, "Scholarship as Activism: Doris Cole's and Susana Torre's Pioneering Feminism in Architectural History," *Field: A Free Journal for Architecture* 7, no. 1 (2017); Jennie Rosenberg Bendsen, Svava Riesto and Henriette Steiner, *Untold Stories: On Women, Gender and Architecture in Denmark* (Copenhagen: Strandberg Publishing, 2023).
12. Isabelle Doucet, "Entangled Histories: Architecture, Women, 1968," in *Arkdes Research Symposium on Architectural History*, ed. Christina Pech and Mikael Andersson (Stockholm: The Swedish Centre for Architecture and Design, 2018); Burns, "Oral History as Activism"; Lynne Walker, "Women and

- Architecture,” in *Gender Space Architecture: An Interdisciplinary Introduction*, eds. Jane Rendell, Iain Borden, and Barbara Penner (London: Routledge, 1989/200), 244–257; Svava Riesto, “Creating Alternatives: Stories about Participation, Collaboration and Gender in Architecture, the 1960s and 70s,” *The Journal of Architecture* 28, no. 3 (2023); Susan Hendler and Julia Markovich, “I Was the Only Woman:” *Women and Planning in Canada* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2017).
13. Elsa Hultqvist, “Kvinnliga Arkitekter – Presentation Och Jämförelse” [Female Architects – Presentation and Comparison] (Thesis, Stockholms Universitet, 1989).
 14. Claes Caldenby, “Arkitektur På Chalmers 1856-2016” [Architecture at Chalmers 1856-2016] in *Chalmers School of Architecture Yearbook 2016*, ed. Tabita Nilsson, Lotta Särnbratt and Fredrik Nilsson (Gothenburg: Chalmers, 2016); Gunilla Lundahl, ed. *Kvinnorum: Porträtt Av Arkitekter* [Women's Room: Portraits of Architects] (Stockholm: ArkitekturMuseet, 1991).
 15. During this project we carried out a total of 14 interviews.
 16. Helena Mattsson, “Shifting Gender and Acting out History: Is There a Swedish Postmodern-Feminist Architecture?” in *Feminist Futures of Spatial Practice: Materialism, Activism, Dialogues, Pedagogies, Projections*, ed. Meike Schalk, Thérèse Kristiansson, and Ramia Mazé (Baunach: AADR – Art Architecture Design Research, 2017); Riesto, “Creating Alternatives.”
 17. Kathryn Anderson and Dana C. Jack, “Learning to Listen: Interview Techniques and Analyses,” in *Women's Words: The Feminist Practice of Oral History*, ed. Sherna Berger Gluck and Daphne Patai (New York: Routledge, 1991), 11–26.
 18. Naomi Stead, “Architectural Affections: On Some Modes of Conversation in Architecture, towards a Disciplinary Theorisation of Oral History,” *Fabrications: The Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, Australia and New Zealand* 24, no. 2 (2014); Anderson and Jack, “Learning to Listen.”
 19. Daniel M. Abramson, *Obsolescence: An Architectural History* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2016).
 20. Jennifer S. Mack, “New Swedes in the New Town,” in *Use Matters: An Alternative History of Architecture*, ed. Kenny Cupers (Abingdon, UK: Routledge, 2013); Irene Molina, “Planning for Patriarchy? Gender Equality in the Swedish Modern Built Environment,” in *The Routledge Companion to Modernity, Space and Gender*, ed. Alexandra Staub (New York: Routledge, 2018); Thomas Hall and Sonja Vidén, “The Million Homes Programme: A Review of the Great Swedish Planning Project,” *Planning Perspectives* 20, no. 3 (2005); Thomas Hall, ed. *Planning and Urban Growth in the Nordic Countries* (London: E & FN Spon, 1991).
 21. See, for instance, Thordis Arrhenius, “Preservation and Protest: Counterculture and Heritage in 1970s Sweden,” *Future Anterior: Journal of Historic Preservation, History, Theory and Criticism* 7, no. 2 (2010).
 22. Ibid.
 23. Both Birgitta Holmdahl and Claes Caldenby (in separate discussions with the authors) recalled a provocative piece published by a leading critic in the daily newspaper *Dagens Nyheter*. Helena Mattsson writes about how, in 1968, “the inauguration of the Stockholm suburb Skärholmen had prompted a storm of debate about the built environment of the welfare state.” See Helena Mattsson, *Architecture and Retrenchment: Neoliberalization of the Swedish Model across Aesthetics and Space, 1968-1994* (Bloomsbury Visual Arts, 2023), 19. Mattsson refers to Jennifer Mack, “Hello Consumer! Skärholmen Centre from the Million Program to the Mall,” in *Shopping Towns Europe: Commercial Collectivity and the Architecture of the Shopping Centre, 1945–1975*, ed. Janina Gosseye and Tom Avermaete (London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2017), 122–137.
 24. Solveig Schulz, in discussion with the authors, March 29, 2022, Gothenburg.
 25. During the 1970s, there was widespread critique of the wholesale urban renewal credo in many cities across Europe and

- North America, critique which revalidated the historic city and its close-knit communities.
26. See, for instance, Tahl Kaminer, *The Efficacy of Architecture: Political Contestation and Agency* (New York: Routledge, 2017); Felicity Scott, *Architecture or Techno-Utopia: Politics after Modernism* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2007); June Manning Thomas, "Socially Responsible Practice: The Battle to Reshape the American Institute of Planners," *Journal of Planning History* 18 no. 4 (2019); Lily M. Hoffman, *The Politics of Knowledge: Activist Movements in Medicine and Planning* (Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 1989).
 27. Paul Davidoff, "Advocacy and Pluralism in Planning," in *Readings in Planning Theory*, ed. Susan S. Fainstein and Scott Campbell, 3rd ed. (Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012 [1965]). 544–555; Giancarlo De Carlo, "Architecture's Public," in *Architecture and Participation*, ed. Peter Blundell Jones, Doina Petrescu, and Jeremy Till (Abingdon: Spon Press, 2005), 3–22.
 28. Blundell-Jones, Petrescu, and Till, eds., *Architecture and Participation*; Kenny Cupers, ed., *Use Matters: An Alternative History of Architecture* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2013).
 29. Andrew Blauvelt and Walker Art Center, *Hippie Modernism. The Struggle for Utopia* (Minneapolis, MN: Walker Art Center, 2015); Felicity Scott, *Outlaw territories. Environments of Insecurity/ Architectures of Counterinsurgency* (New York, NY: Zone Books, 2016).
 30. Helena Mattsson, "Revisiting Swedish Postmodernism: Gendered Architecture and Other Stories," *Konsthistorisk Tidskrift/Journal of Art History* 85, no. 1 (2016); Mattsson, *Architecture and Retrenchment*; Kjell Östberg, "Sweden and the Long '1968': Break or Continuity?," *Scandinavian Journal of History* 33, no. 4 (2008).
 31. Relocations occurred from the countryside into cities as well as from countries outside Sweden that had been affected by the postwar reshuffling of power. See Neil Kent, *A Concise History of Sweden* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2008), 252–253.
 32. Mattsson, *Architecture and Retrenchment*, 14. This shift from a presumed more collectively oriented "Scandinavian" welfare state model characterized by "decommodification" towards a more individualistic and market driven societal model should be questioned, considering that Swedish social democracy had, from the outset, "developed a way to balance socialist and liberal politics," 8. Mattsson is referring to the notion of "decommodification" set out in Gøsta Esping-Andersen's analysis – see Gøsta Esping-Andersen, *The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism* (Cambridge, UK: Polity Press, 2013).
 33. Our interviewees spoke about how in Gothenburg and Sweden as a whole, there was also a strong push for the preservation of industrial heritage and the protection of natural, coastal, and rural sites.
 34. Gudrun Lönnroth, in discussion with the authors, October 17, 2022, Gothenburg.
 35. Gudrun Lönnroth, email conversation following discussion with the authors.
 36. Lena Tegnér, "Haga: En Lång Historia" [Haga: A Long History], *Arkitektur* no. 8 (1977); Hans Andersson et al., *Varför Revs Inte Hela Haga? Om Bevarande Av En Stadsdel i Göteborg* [Why Is All of Haga Not Demolished? On the Preservation of a City District in Gothenburg], report nr. 2009:64; Anne Ighe, "Empty Space, Open Space. Claiming, Reaching and Remembering Common Ground in Urban Squats. Haga in the 1980s," *Partecipazione & Conflitto* 13, no. 3 (2020); Håkan Thörn, "Governing Movements in Urban Space," in *Transformations of the Swedish Welfare State: From Social Engineering to Governance?* ed. Bengt Larsson, Martin Letell, and Håkan Thörn (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012); Ingrid Martins Holmberg, *På Stadens Yta: Om Historiseringen Av Haga* [On the City's Surface: About the Historization of Haga] (Gothenburg, Stockholm: Makadam Förlag, 2006); Håkan Thörn, "Proletarians, Proggers and Punks: Folkhemmet, Haga and a Hundred Years

- of Social Movements,” in *(Re)Searching Gothenburg: Essays on a Changing City*, ed. Helena Holgersson, Catharina Thörn, Håkan Thörn, and Mattias Wahlström (Gothenburg: Glänta Produktion, 2010).
37. Håkan Thörn, *Stad i Rörelse: Stadsomvandlingen Och Striderna Om Haga Och Christiania* [City in Motion: Urban Transformation and the Battles for Haga and Christiania] (Gothenburg: Bokförlaget Atlas, 2013).
 38. Birgitta Holmdahl, in discussion with the authors.
 39. Caldenby, “Arkitektur På Chalmers 1856-2016.”
 40. Bengt Lundström, Solveig Schulz, and Sirje Spuhll, *Bostadsbebyggelse i Göteborg: Slottsberget, Annedal, Bagargården. Examensarbete i Arkitektur Och Arkitekturhistoria* [Housing Development in Gothenburg: Slottsberget, Annedal, Bagargården. Degree Project in Architecture and Architectural History], unpublished project report, 1966.
 41. Gudrun Lönnroth, in discussion with the authors. Ursula Larsson, *Landshövdingehusen i Göteborg: En Studie i Klassbosättning* [The Governor's Houses in Gothenburg: A Study in Class Settlement], report, 1973; Ursula Larsson, *Landshövdingehusens Göteborg* (Stockholm: Liber Förlag, 1979). In this paper we use the term “old buildings” when referring to historical buildings, following the terminology used by many of the women we spoke with.
 42. Siv Carlsson, in discussion with the authors, March 28, 2023, Gothenburg; Helena Westholm, *Framtid För HT-Kvarteret. Examensarbete i Arkitekturens Teori Och Historia* [Future for the HT-Quarter. Degree project in Architectural Theory and History], unpublished course essay, 1975; Siv Carlsson, Ruth Näslund and Anne Svensson. *Bastholmen – Kommunens Öga Mot Väster, Projektarbete A3 CTH*77* [Bastholmen – The Municipality's Eye Towards the West. Project Work A3 CTH, 1977]; Siv Carlsson, *Kollektivhus i Haga* (Gothenburg: Chalmers Tekniska Högskolan, 1979).
 43. Helena Westholm, *Exempel På Återanvändning Av Byggnader i Danmark, Holland, England, Frankrike* [Examples Of Reuse of Buildings in Denmark, The Netherlands, England, France], unpublished report, 1979.
 44. Claes Caldenby and Åsa Walldén, *Kollektivhuset Stacken* [Collective House Stacken] (Gothenburg: Bokförlaget Korpen, 1984); Lars Ågren, *Kollektivhuset Stacken: Dagbok Från Husets Tillkomst Och Första Verksamhetsår* [The Collective House Stacken: Diary From the House's Inception and First Year of Operation] (Sektionen för arkitektur, Chalmers University of Technology, 1984); Helena Westholm, in discussion with the authors, April 13, 2022, Gothenburg.
 45. A-Sektionsnytt [Architecture Section's News], no. 20/1973 (September 6, 1973); A-Sektionsnytt [Architecture Section's News], no. 21/1974 (October 3, 1974); A-Sektionsnytt [Architecture Section's News], no. 27/1974 (November 14, 1974). Chalmers archive box SE 5 folder 1.
 46. Ulla Antonsson, in discussion with the authors, 19 April 2022, Gothenburg.
 47. Solveig Schulz, in discussion with the authors.
 48. While in Europe the oil crisis of 1973 is often cited as a major factor in the shrinking of the economy and construction sector leading to diminished opportunities for architects to build, several of the women we spoke with highlighted the year 1967 as a key moment in Sweden, when, after the building heydays of the Million Programme, state policies shifted towards building less, resulting in many layoffs in architecture offices.
 49. Solveig Schulz, in discussion with the authors.
 50. Malin Häggdahl, in discussion with the authors, April 13, 2022, Gothenburg.
 51. Ibid.
 52. Lena Falkheden, in discussion with the authors, August 23, 2022, Dingle.
 53. Lena Jarlöv, in discussion with the authors, August 23, 2022, Hamburgsund.
 54. Lena Falkheden, in discussion with the authors.
 55. Ibid.
 56. Helena Westholm, in discussion with the authors.

57. Birgitta Holmdahl, in discussion with the authors.
58. Inga Alander, in discussion with the authors, August 29, 2022, Gothenburg.
59. Ibid.
60. Lena Falkheden, in discussion with the authors. Claes Caldenby (in discussion with the authors, September 9, 2022, Gothenburg) observed how the research into and teaching about local situations was also part of a wider international trend in the early 1970s inspired by the so-called "Roskilde Model" for education (referring to the Danish University of Roskilde) starting from work in groups, interviewing local people, and other kinds of bottom-up work.
61. Lena Falkheden, in discussion with the authors.
62. Ibid.
63. Ibid.
64. *Byggnadskultur* can be translated as "building culture" or "built heritage."
65. *A-Sektionsnytt* [Architecture Section's News], no. 5/1975 (February 13, 1975). Chalmers archive box SE 5 folder 1 (translated by the authors).
66. Solveig Schulz, in discussion with the authors.
67. Ibid. The CfB courses built on the longer tradition of popular public education courses associated with the architecture history section of Chalmers since the late 60s.
68. Solveig Schulz, in discussion with the authors.
69. Lena Falkheden, in discussion with the authors.
70. Ibid.
71. Birgitta Holmdahl, in discussion with the authors.
72. Gudrun Lönnroth, in discussion with the authors.
73. Gudrun Lönnroth, email conversation following discussion with the authors.
74. Lena Falkheden, in discussion with the authors.
75. This was the case, for example, with work in the neighborhood of Kommendantsängen. See Jonas Göransson, *Vad Händer Med Kommendantsängen? Ett Experiment Med Varsam Stadsdelsförnyelse* [What Happens to Kommendantsängen? An Experiment With Cautious Neighborhood Renewal] (Statens råd för byggnadsforskning, 1976). Göransson writes: "It is required that those who participate in the planning work from the outside participate in the life of the district, partly to learn the assets that exist, partly to get to know the consequences of the forces that affect the district from the outside ... to be able to propose measures that give the area ... a safer future," 15 (translated by the authors).
76. Göransson, *Vad Händer Med Kommendantsängen?*
77. Solveig Schulz, in discussion with the authors.
78. Göransson, *Vad Händer Med Kommendantsängen?*
79. Ibid.
80. Solveig Schulz, in discussion with the authors.
81. Lena Jarlöv, in discussion with the authors. It is a common Swedish/Scandinavian practice to have a *fritidshus* or holiday home (usually small, with minimal conveniences) to which one escapes with the family from the city for the weekend and/or over summer holidays. From the conversation with Lena Jarlöv we understood that men felt it provided a nice break, but for women it often felt like extra work as they had to maintain two households and move the family between them.
82. Lisbeth Birgersson, *Att Bygga Mening Och Rum: Om Processer För Utveckling Av Verksamhetsmiljöer* [Building Meaning and Space: On Processes for Developing Business Environments] (PhD diss., Chalmers University of Technology, 1996). One important example is the reuse of the Nääs spinning mill for new enterprises (Lisbeth Birgersson, email conversation following a discussion with the authors, October 26, 2022, Lykke).
83. Lena Falkheden, in discussion with the authors; Solveig Schulz, in discussion with the authors.
84. Hans Grönlund and Helena Westholm, *När de Boende Skulle Planera: Erfarenheter Från Några Bostadsområden* [When Residents Should Plan: Experiences From Some Residential Areas], report nr. 1980: 112.; Hans Bjur, et al., *Hållsviksprojektet* –

- Upprustning Och Omvandling Av Fritidsbebyggelse: Dokumentation Och Värdering* [The Hällsvik Project – Refurbishment And Conversion Of Leisure Development: Documentation And Valuation], report nr. 1983:65; Helge Berglund, et al., *Historien Om Nääs Företagscenter: En Nedlagd Fabrik Återanvänd* [The Story of Nääs Business Center: A Disused Factory Repurposed], report nr. 1988:63.
85. Birgitta Holmdahl, *Att Förnya På Lindholmens Villkor: Ett Experiment Med Självbyggeri Vid Ombyggnad* [Innovating on Lindholmen's Terms: An Experiment with Self-Building During Remodeling], project report nr. 1988:4; Petter Bergström, Birgitta Holmdahl, and Lolo Jakobsson, *Känner Du Lindholmen: En Stadsdel Som Har Mycket Att Berätta* [Do You Know Lindholmen: A District That Has a Lot to Tell], unpublished project report, 1980; Lena Falkheden and Boris Schönbeck, *Kontakt För Ombyggnad: Dokumentation Av "Kontakt- Och Forskardag Kring Ombyggnad" 18 December 1980* [Contact For Rebuilding: Documentation of "Contact And Research Day About Rebuilding"]; Anon. *Fyra Trähus På Lindholmen*; Gudrun Lönnroth, *Haga – Bebyggelsehistorisk Utredning* [Haga – Building History Investigation] (Gothenburg: Göteborgs historiska museum, 1972); Gudrun Lönnroth, *Vasastaden, Lorensberg i Göteborg*, report nr. 1973:4; Gudrun Lönnroth and Jonas Göransson, *Tanum: Förundersökning* [Tanum: Preliminary Investigation], report nr. 1973:5.
 86. Inga Alander, in discussion with the authors; Malin Häggdahl, in discussion with the authors.
 87. Lena Falkheden, in discussion with the authors.
 88. Lisbeth Birgersson, in discussion with the authors, October 26, 2022, Lykke.
 89. Ulla Antonsson, in discussion with the authors.
 90. Lena Jarlöv, in discussion with the authors.
 91. Solveig Schulz, in discussion with the authors.
 92. Lena Falkheden, in discussion with the authors. Claes Caldenby (discussion with the authors) recalled: "I think that Chalmers during the period from the late 1960s to the early 1970s was for a long time a very special institution ... in its interest in social sustainability, participatory planning and conservation ..."
 93. Birgitta Holmdahl, in discussion with the authors.
 94. Helena Westholm, in discussion with the authors.

References

- Abramson, Daniel M. 2016. *Obsolescence: an Architectural History*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.
- Ågren, Lars. 1984. *Kollektivhuset Stacken: Dagbok Från Husets Tillkomst Och Första Verksamhetsår* [The Collective House Stacken: Diary from the House's Inception and First Year of Operation]. Sektionen för arkitektur. Gothenburg: Chalmers University of Technology.
- Anderson, Kathryn and Jack, Dana C. 1991. "Learning to Listen: Interview Techniques and Analyses." In *Women's Words: The Feminist Practice of Oral History*, edited by Sherna Berger Gluck and Daphne Patai, 11–26. New York, NY: Routledge.
- Andersson, Hans, Stina Ejderoth-Linden, Lena Tengné, Ulf Gyllenhammar, Gudrun Lönnroth, and Lennart Nilsson. 2009. *Varför Revs Inte Hela Haga? Om Bevarande Av En Stadsdel i Göteborg* [Why Is All of Haga Not Demolished? On the Preservation of a City District in Gothenburg]. Gothenburg: Länsstyrelsen Västra Götalands Län, Kulturmiljöenheten, report nr. 2009:64.
- Anon. 1977. *Fyra Trähus På Lindholmen: Projektarbete i A2 H.T. –77* [Four Timber Houses in Lindholmen: Project Work A2 Autumn Term 1977]. Gothenburg: Chalmers Tekniska Högskolan.
- Anon. 1979. *En Plan För Lindholmen: Ett Projektarbete Utfört På Avdelningen För Bostadsplanering CTH* [A Plan for

"A New Area of Knowing:"
Women Advance an Urban
Renovation Agenda in
Gothenburg
Isabelle Doucet and
Bri Gauger

- Lindholmen: Project Work Carried Out by the Division of Housing Planning CTH], unpublished student work. June.
- Arrhenius, Thordis. 2010. "Preservation and Protest: Counterculture and Heritage in 1970s Sweden." *Future Anterior: Journal of Historic Preservation, History, Theory and Criticism* 7, no. 2: 106–123. doi:[10.1353/fta.2010.0018](https://doi.org/10.1353/fta.2010.0018)
 - Arrhenius, Thordis, and Jorge Otero-Pailos. 2010. "The Scandinavian Welfare State and Preservation." *Future Anterior: Journal of Historic Preservation, History, Theory, and Criticism* 7, no. 2: iii–vii.
 - A-Sektionsnytt [Architecture Section's News], no. 20/1973 (September 6, 1973). Chalmers archive box SE 5 folder 1.
 - A-Sektionsnytt [Architecture Section's News], no. 21/1974 (October 3, 1974). Chalmers archive box SE 5 folder 1.
 - A-Sektionsnytt [Architecture Section's News], no. 27/1974 (November 14, 1974). Chalmers archive box SE 5 folder 1.
 - A-Sektionsnytt [Architecture Section's News], no. 5/1975 (February 13, 1975). Chalmers archive box SE 5 folder 1.
 - Berglund, Helge, Lisbeth Birgersson, Bengt Gustavsson, Lena Jarlöv, Joen Sachs, Maja Stina Theodorsson, Torgny Törsäter, Trad Wigglesworth, and Bo Öhrström. 1988. *Historien Om Nääs Företagscenter: En Nedlagd Fabrik Återanvänd* [The Story of Nääs Business Center: A Disused Factory Reused]. Byggforskningsrådet, Statens råd för byggnadsforskning, report nr. 1988:63.
 - Bergström, Petter, Birgitta Holmdahl, and Lolo Jakobsson. 1980. *Känner Du Lindholmen: En Stadsdel Som Har Mycket Att Berätta* [Do You Know Lindholmen: A District That Has a Lot to Tell], Chalmers Avdelning för Bostadsplanering, unpublished project report. February.
 - Birgersson, Lisbeth. 1996. *Att Bygga Mening Och Rum: Om Processer För Utveckling Av Verksamhetsmiljöer* [Building Meaning and Space: On Processes for Developing Business Environments]. PhD diss., Chalmers University of Technology.
 - Blauvelt, Andrew, and Walker Art Center. 2015. *Hippie Modernism. The Struggle for Utopia*. Minneapolis, MN: Walker Art Center.
 - Blundell-Jones, Peter, Doina Petrescu, and Jeremy Till, eds. 2005. *Architecture and Participation*. Abingdon: Spon Press.
 - Bjur, Hans, Conny Jerer, Björn Malbert, and Helena Westholm. 1983. *Hällsviksprojektet – Upprustning Och Omvandling Av Fritidsbebyggelse: Dokumentation Och Värdering* [The Hällsvik Project – Refurbishment and Conversion of Leisure Development: Documentation and Valuation], Stockholm: Byggforskningsrådet, Statens råd för byggnadsforskning, report nr. 1983:65.
 - Burns, Karen. 2019. "Oral History as Activism: The Public Politics of Spoken Memory." In *Speaking of Buildings: Oral History in Architectural Research*, edited by Janina Gosseye, Naomi Stead, and Deborah van der Plaats, 118–134. New York, NY: Princeton Architectural Press.
 - Burns, Karen, and Lori Brown. 2020. "Telling Transnational Histories of Women in Architecture, 1960–2015." *Architectural Histories* 8, no. 1. doi:[10.5334/ah.403](https://doi.org/10.5334/ah.403)
 - Caldenby, Claes. 2016. "Arkitektur På Chalmers 1856–2016." In *Chalmers School of Architecture Yearbook 2016*, edited by Tabita Nilsson, Lotta Särnbratt and Fredrik Nilsson, 12–31. Gothenburg: Chalmers Tekniska Högskolan.
 - Caldenby, Claes, and Åsa Walldén. 1984. *Kollektivhuset Stacken*. Göteborg: Bokförlaget Korpen.
 - Carlsson, Siv. 1979. *Kollektivhus i Haga*. Gothenburg: Chalmers Tekniska Högskolan.
 - Carlsson, Siv, Ruth Näslund and Anne Svensson. n.d. *Bastholmen – Kommunens Öga Mot Väster, Projektarbete A3 CTH*77* [Bastholmen – The Municipality's Eye Towards the West. Project Work A3 CTH, 1977]. Uppsats: 340. Gothenburg: Chalmers Tekniska Högskolan.
 - Cupers, Kenny, ed. 2013. *Use Matters: An Alternative History of Architecture*. Abingdon: Routledge.
 - Davidoff, Paul. [1965] 2012. "Advocacy and Pluralism in Planning." In *Readings in Planning Theory*, edited by Susan S. Fainstein and Scott Campbell, 3rd ed., 544–555. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell.
 - De Carlo, Giancarlo. 2005 [1970]. "Architecture's Public." In *Architecture and Participation*, edited by Peter Blundell

- Jones, Doina Petrescu, and Jeremy Till, 3–22. Abingdon: Spon Press. Originally published as “Il Pubblico Dell’architettura/ Legitimizing Architecture,” *Parametro* 5 (1970), 4–11.
- Doucet, Isabelle. 2018. “Entangled Histories: Architecture, Women, 1968.” In *Arkdes Research Symposium on Architectural History*, edited by Christina Pech and Mikael Andersson, 116–125. Stockholm: The Swedish Centre for Architecture and Design.
 - Falkheden, Lena, and Boris Schönbeck. 1981. *Kontakt För Ombyggnad: Dokumentation Av “Kontakt- Och Forskardag Kring Ombyggnad” 18 December 1980* [Contact for Rebuilding: Documentation of “Contact and Research Day About Rebuilding”]. Gothenburg: Centrum för byggnadskultur.
 - Gosseye, Janina. 2019. “A Short History of Silence: The Epistemological Politics of Architectural Historiography.” In *Speaking of Buildings: Oral History in Architectural Research*, edited by Janina Gosseye, Naomi Stead and Deborah van der Plaats, 9–22. New York, NY: Princeton Architectural Press.
 - Grönlund, Hans, and Helena Westholm. 1980. *När de Boende Skulle Planera: Erfarenheter Från Några Bostadsområden* [When Residents Should Plan: Experiences from some Residential Areas], Stockholm: Byggforskningsrådet, Statens råd för byggnadsforskning report nr. 1980:112.
 - Göransson, Jonas. 1976. *Vad Händer Med Kommendantsängen? Ett Experiment Med Varsam Stadsdelsförnyelse* [What Happens to Kommendantsängen? An Experiment with Cautious Neighborhood Renewal]. Gothenburg: Statens råd för byggnadsforskning.
 - Hall, Thomas, ed. 1991. *Planning and Urban Growth in the Nordic Countries*. London: E & FN Spon.
 - Hall, Thomas, and Sonja Vidén. 2005. “The Million Homes Programme: A Review of the Great Swedish Planning Project.” *Planning Perspectives* 20, no. 3: 301–328. doi:[10.1080/02665430500130233](https://doi.org/10.1080/02665430500130233)
 - Hendler, Susan, and Julia Markovich. 2017. *“I Was the Only Woman:” Women and Planning in Canada*. Vancouver: UBC Press.
 - Hoffman, Lily M. 1989. *The Politics of Knowledge: Activist Movements in Medicine and Planning*. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press.
 - Holmberg, Ingrid Martins. 2006. *På Stadens Yta: Om Historiseringen Av Haga* [On the City’s Surface: About the Historization of Haga]. Gothenburg: Makadam Förlag.
 - Holmdahl, Birgitta. 1988. *Att Förnya På Lindholmens Villkor: Ett Experiment Med Självbyggeri Vid Ombyggnad* [Innovating on Lindholmen’s Terms: An Experiment with Self-Building During Remodeling]. Avdelningen För Bostadsplanering, Arkitektursektionen, Chalmers Tekniska Högskola, project report nr. 1988:4.
 - Hultqvist, Elsa. 1989. “Kvinnliga Arkitekter – Presentation Och Jämförelse. [Female Architects –1 Presentation and Comparison].” Thesis, Institutionen för konstvetenskap, Stockholms Universitet.
 - Ighe, Anne. 2020. “Empty Space, Open Space. Claiming, Reaching and Remembering Common Ground in Urban Squats. Haga in the 1980s.” *Partecipazione & Conflitto* 13, no. 3: 1374–1389.
 - Kaminer, Tahl. 2017. *The Efficacy of Architecture: Political Contestation and Agency*. New York, NY: Routledge.
 - Kent, Neil. 2008. *A Concise History of Sweden*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.
 - Lange, Torsten, and Lucia C. Pérez-Moreno. 2020. “Architectural Historiography and Fourth Wave Feminism.” *Architectural Histories* 8, no. 1. doi:[10.5334/ah.563](https://doi.org/10.5334/ah.563)
 - Larsson, Ursula. 1973. *Landshövdingehusen i Göteborg: En Studie i Klassbosättning* [The Governor’s Houses in Gothenburg: A Study in Class Settlement]. Gothenburg: Chalmers Tekniska Högskola, report.
 - Larsson, Ursula. 1979. *Landshövdingehusens Göteborg*. Stockholm: Liber Förlag.
 - Lundahl, Gunilla, ed. 1991. *Kvinnorum: Porträtt Av Arkitekter* [Women’s Room: Portraits of Architects]. Stockholm: ArkitekturMuseet.
 - Lundström, Bengt, Solveig Schulz, and Sirje Spuhll. 1966. *Bostadsbebyggelse i Göteborg: Slottsberget, Annedal, Bagargården*.

"A New Area of Knowing:"
Women Advance an Urban
Renovation Agenda in
Gothenburg
Isabelle Doucet and
Bri Gauger

- Examensarbete i Arkitektur Och Arkitekturhistoria* [Housing development in Gothenburg: Slottsberget, Annedal, Bagargården. Degree project in Architecture and Architectural History]. Chalmers tekniska högskola, unpublished project report.
- Lönnroth, Gudrun. 1972. *Haga – Bebyggelsehistorisk Utredning* [Haga – Building History Investigation]. Gothenburg: Göteborgs historiska museum.
 - Lönnroth, Gudrun and Jonas Göransson. 1973. *Tanum: Förundersökning* [Tanum: Preliminary Investigation]. Bebyggelsehistoriska Undersökningar i Västsverige, Göteborg, report nr. 1973:5.
 - Lönnroth, Gudrun. 1973. *Vasastaden, Lorensberg i Göteborg*. Bebyggelsehistoriska Undersökningar i Västsverige, Göteborg, report nr. 1973:4.
 - Mack, Jennifer S. 2013. "New Swedes in the New Town." In *Use Matters: An Alternative History of Architecture*, edited by Kenny Cupers, 121–137. Abingdon: Routledge.
 - Mattsson, Helena. 2016. "Revisiting Swedish Postmodernism: Gendered Architecture and Other Stories." *Konsthistorisk Tidskrift/Journal of Art History* 85, no. 1: 109–125. doi:[10.1080/00233609.2015.1116605](https://doi.org/10.1080/00233609.2015.1116605)
 - Mattsson, Helena. 2017. "Shifting Gender and Acting out History: Is There a Swedish Postmodern-Feminist Architecture?" In *Feminist Futures of Spatial Practice: Materialism, Activism, Dialogues, Pedagogies, Projections*, edited by Meike Schalk, Thérèse Kristiansson, and Ramia Mazé, 289–298. Baunach: AADR – Art Architecture Design Research.
 - Mattsson, Helena. 2023. *Architecture and Retrenchment: Neoliberalization of the Swedish Model across Aesthetics and Space, 1968-1994*. London: Bloomsbury Visual Arts.
 - Merrett, Andrea Jeanne. 2017. "Scholarship as Activism: Doris Cole's and Susana Torre's Pioneering Feminism in Architectural History." *Field: A Free Journal for Architecture* 7, no. 1: 79–88.
 - Molina, Irene. 2018. "Planning for Patriarchy? Gender Equality in the Swedish Modern Built Environment." In *The Routledge Companion to Modernity, Space and Gender*, edited by Alexandra Staub, 26–40. New York, NY: Routledge.
 - Östberg, Kjell. 2008. "Sweden and the Long '1968': Break or Continuity?" *Scandinavian Journal of History* 33, no. 4: 339–352. doi:[10.1080/03468750802472554](https://doi.org/10.1080/03468750802472554)
 - Rendell, Jane. 2000. "Introduction: 'Gender, Space, Architecture.'" In *Gender Space Architecture: An Interdisciplinary Introduction*, edited by Jane Rendell, Iain Borden and Barbara Penner, 225–239. London: Routledge.
 - Riesto, Svava. 2023. "Creating Alternatives: Stories about Participation, Collaboration and Gender in Architecture, the 1960s and 70s." *The Journal of Architecture* 28, no. 3: 354–382. doi:[10.1080/13602365.2023.2199310](https://doi.org/10.1080/13602365.2023.2199310)
 - Rosenberg Bendsen, Jennie, Svava Riesto, and Henriette Steiner. 2023. *Untold Stories: On Women, Gender and Architecture in Denmark*. Copenhagen: Strandberg Publishing.
 - Schulz, Solveig. 1989. *Med hänsyn till bostädernas värden: ett arkitekturideal utvecklas och prövas vid ombyggnad – Göteborg 1968-1984* [Respecting Architectural Values in Housing Renovation – Gothenburg 1968-1984]. Gothenburg: Chalmers Library Print Collection.
 - Scott, Felicity. 2007. *Architecture or Techno-Utopia: Politics after Modernism*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
 - Scott, Felicity. 2016. *Outlaw territories. Environments of Insecurity/Architectures of Counterinsurgency*. New York, NY: Zone Books.
 - Stead, Naomi. 2014. "Architectural Affections: On Some Modes of Conversation in Architecture, Towards a Disciplinary Theorisation of Oral History." *Fabrications: The Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, Australia and New Zealand* 24, no. 2: 156–177. doi:[10.1080/10331867.2014.961230](https://doi.org/10.1080/10331867.2014.961230)
 - Stratigakos, Despina. 2016. "Unforgetting Women Architects: From the Pritzker to Wikipedia." *Places Journal*, April. doi:[10.22269/130603](https://doi.org/10.22269/130603)
 - Tengnér, Lena. 1977. "Haga: En Lång Historia. [Haga: A Long History]." *Arkitektur* no. 8: 8–18.
 - Thomas, June Manning. 2019. "Socially Responsible Practice: The Battle to Reshape the American Institute of Planners." *Journal of Planning History*, 18

- no. 4: 258–281. doi:[10.1177/1538513218786007](https://doi.org/10.1177/1538513218786007)
- Thörn, Håkan. 2010. “Proletarians, Proggers and Punks: Folkhemmet, Haga and a Hundred Years of Social Movements.” In *(Re)Searching Gothenburg: Essays on a Changing City*, edited by Helena Holgersson, Catharina Thörn, Håkan Thörn, and Mattias Wahlström, 35–42. Gothenburg: Glänta Produktion.
 - Thörn, Håkan. 2012. “Governing Movements in Urban Space.” In *Transformations of the Swedish Welfare State: From Social Engineering to Governance?*, edited by Bengt Larsson, Martin Letell, and Håkan Thörn, 199–214. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
 - Thörn, Håkan. 2013. *Stad i Rörelse: Stadsomvandlingen Och Striderna Om Haga Och Christiania* [City in Motion: Urban Transformation and the Battles for Haga and Christiania]. Gothenburg: Bokförlaget Atlas.
 - Walker, Lynne. 1989/2000. “Women and Architecture.” In *Gender Space Architecture: An Interdisciplinary Introduction*, edited by Jane Rendell, Iain Borden, and Barbara Penner, 244–257. London: Routledge.
 - Westholm, Helena. 1979. *Exempel På Återanvändning Av Byggnader i Danmark, Holland, England, Frankrike* [Examples of Reuse of Buildings in Denmark, The Netherlands, England, France]. Unpublished report.
 - Westholm, Helena. 1975. *Framtid För HT-Kvarteret. Examensarbete i Arkitekturens Teori Och Historia* [Future of the HT-Quarter. Degree project in Architectural Theory and History]. Chalmers tekniska högskola, unpublished course essay.