

“NEW HABITATS, NEW BEAUTIES” SPECULATIONS FOR TALLINN 2019

No one can define beauty in simple terms, nevertheless, we know that its experience is often identified with certain qualities. Mathematicians—who, unlike architects, never stopped believing in the role of beauty—knowingly, and comfortably list surprise, significance, clarity, profundity, or ambiguity, as some of its characteristics, and they point out that when order takes over disorder, ‘all falls into place.’ This pleasing moment is something that architects are familiar with too and it is a well-known step towards beauty.

In our time, *beauty* is not a singular idea, as plurality prevails, hence we are looking for new architectural beauties.

SITE

The site for the 2019 Vision Competition is made up of the east side of Kopli, a portion of Kalamaja, and areas adjacent to the railway lands that will, in the near future, become an important new part of Tallinn. The nearby urban area is both local and global in outlook and we wish this duality to transpire through the proposals. We seek to escape the bland globalisation of standard developer architecture and find new concepts in keeping with the alternative lifestyles of the inhabitants of Kalamaja.

The scale of the site has been chosen to allow attention to detail as well as to provoke ideas at an urban scale.

The exact limit of the competition area is marked on the .dwg drawing and .pdf file found in the competition package.

SITE



Photos by Tõnu Tunnel

BRIEF

The task is to create a neighbourhood of shared and private habitats to live and work in. Indoor and outdoor places for people of all ages to learn, play and grow.

The aspiration is for the innovative design of dynamic and beautiful architecture where digital gains are augmented by human judgment and cognitive intuition. A goal is to consider the shared eco-system, enhancing relationships between people, flora and fauna, exploring the relationship between the organic and inorganic and considering indoors as outdoors.

We seek a widening of the palette of emotional involvement and the creation of new architectures informed by contemporary, diverse experiences of beauty, which encompass the requirements of ecology and society, as with all good architecture such parameters cannot be compromised.

Whilst not compulsory, we are excited by the possibilities of collaborative design and encourage entries by teams that include members from different practices working together, while each keeping their own language, tools and methods - though being aware of the design produced by their colleagues, reflecting and hopefully responding at key stages in the design process.

PRIZES

First prize 4000 euros
Second prize 2000 euros
Third prize 1000 euros
+ five honourable mentions.

Winning and selected projects will be exhibited as part of TAB 2019.
All project entries will be published on the web page of TAB 2019.

JURY

Kjetil Traedal Thorsen
architect, Founding Partner
Snøhetta, Oslo

Endrik Mänd, architect
Chief Architect of Tallinn

Margit Mutso, architect
Eek & Mutso Architects,
Tallinn

Adviser
Dr Yael Reisner, architect
TAB 2019 Head Curator

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The competition language is English
2 A1 boards mounted on 5mm foam board
3 marketing/presentation images at a resolution of 4266 × 3200px
(36 × 27 cm in 300 dpi) in a lossless format
300-word summary text explaining the proposals

METHOD OF ENTRY

The competition is anonymous.

It is an open call one-stage competition, and all architects and students of architecture, are welcome to participate. Jury members and their family, relatives and business partners are not eligible to participate.

Entries must be identified by a project code or motto only, which should be at least 8 alphanumeric characters long and which must not infer the name of the project author(s).

The form of submission is via both digital upload and post in closed envelope.

Competition entries shall be submitted in digital format as a .zip or .rar folder (max 2GB) through the following WeTransfer link: <https://wetransfer.com/?to=vision@tab.ee&msg=vision>

Folders and files must be named using the following convention:

- Folder: TAB_2019_Vision_Competition_ + project code
- Boards: project code + boards.pdf
- Images: project code + image_1.png
- Summary: project code + summary.txt

A1 boards should be mounted onto 5mm foam board and sent, together with a sealed envelope **marked externally only with the project code** and containing the names and contact details of the author(s), to the following address:

Eesti Arhitektuurikeskus
Põhja pst 27A
10415
Tallinn
ESTONIA

TIMEFRAME

Digital submissions AND the hard copies must be received by 23:59 EET (21:59 GMT) on **16 January 2019**. Entries that are not DIFOT (Delivered In-Full, On-Time) will not be considered.

The winning project codes will be announced by the **end of January 2019**. Winning authors will be announced in September 2019 during the award ceremony at TAB 2019.

Q&As

Questions are to be submitted via email to vision@tab.ee by 15 December 2018
Q&As will be published on the competition page.

COMPETITION SITE DOCUMENTATION

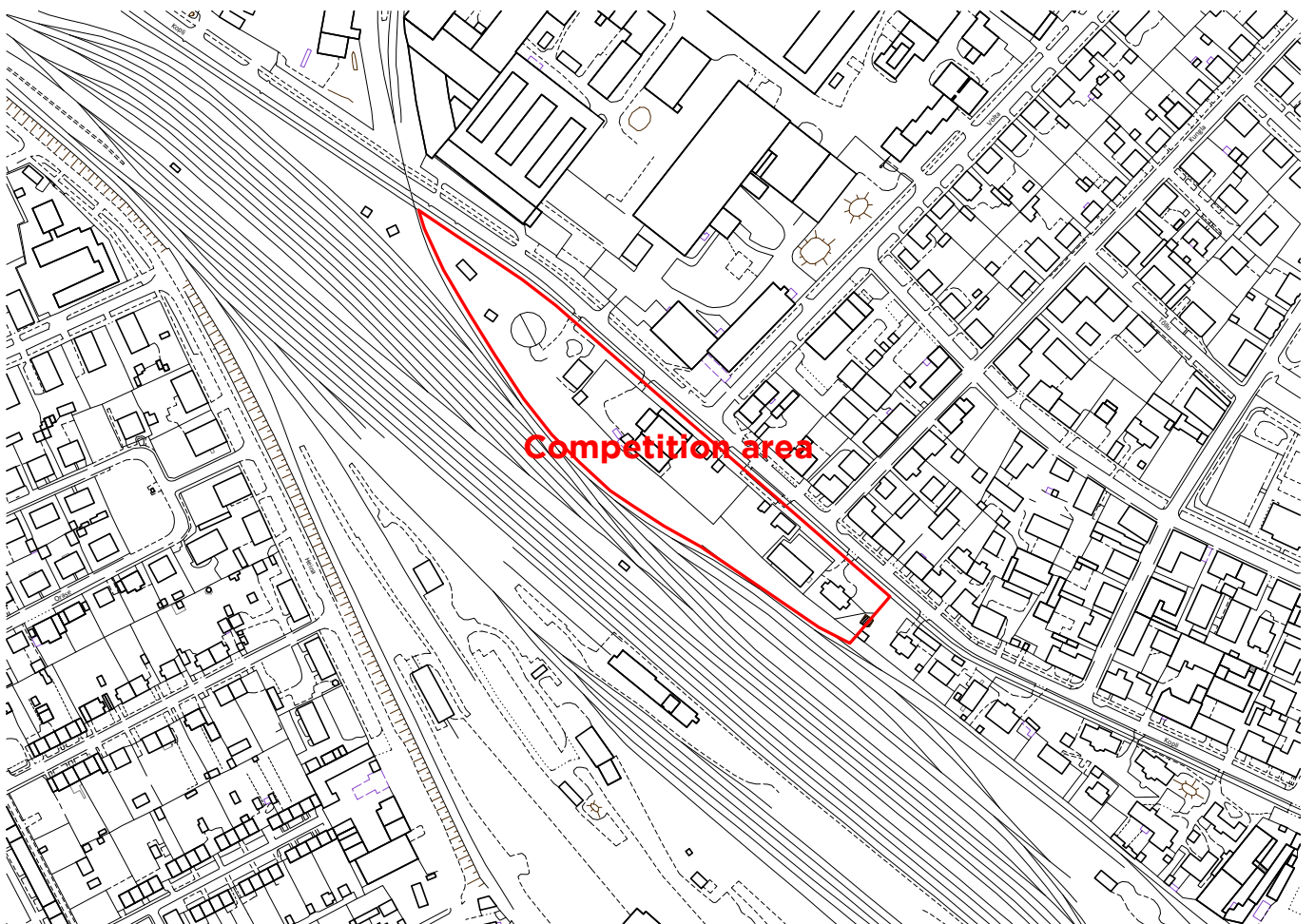
- DWG plan of the urban area including the site
- PDF drawing showing the competition area
- Uncompressed drone footage of the competition site and surroundings
- Aerial and street level views of the site
- PDF of the Vision Competition Brief

SITE LOCATION

The site is situated in between Kalamaja (in the North-East) and Pelgulinna (in the South-West) districts, which both have become very popular living areas for young citizens and young families. On one edge of the competition site there is mainly wooden housing from the beginning of the 20th century and on other edge is bordered by Kopli cargo railway tracks.

The competition area includes plots on Kopli street 17 (partly), 17A, 19, 21, 23, 23A, 23B, 23C and partly Tallinn-Kopli Cargo Station area.

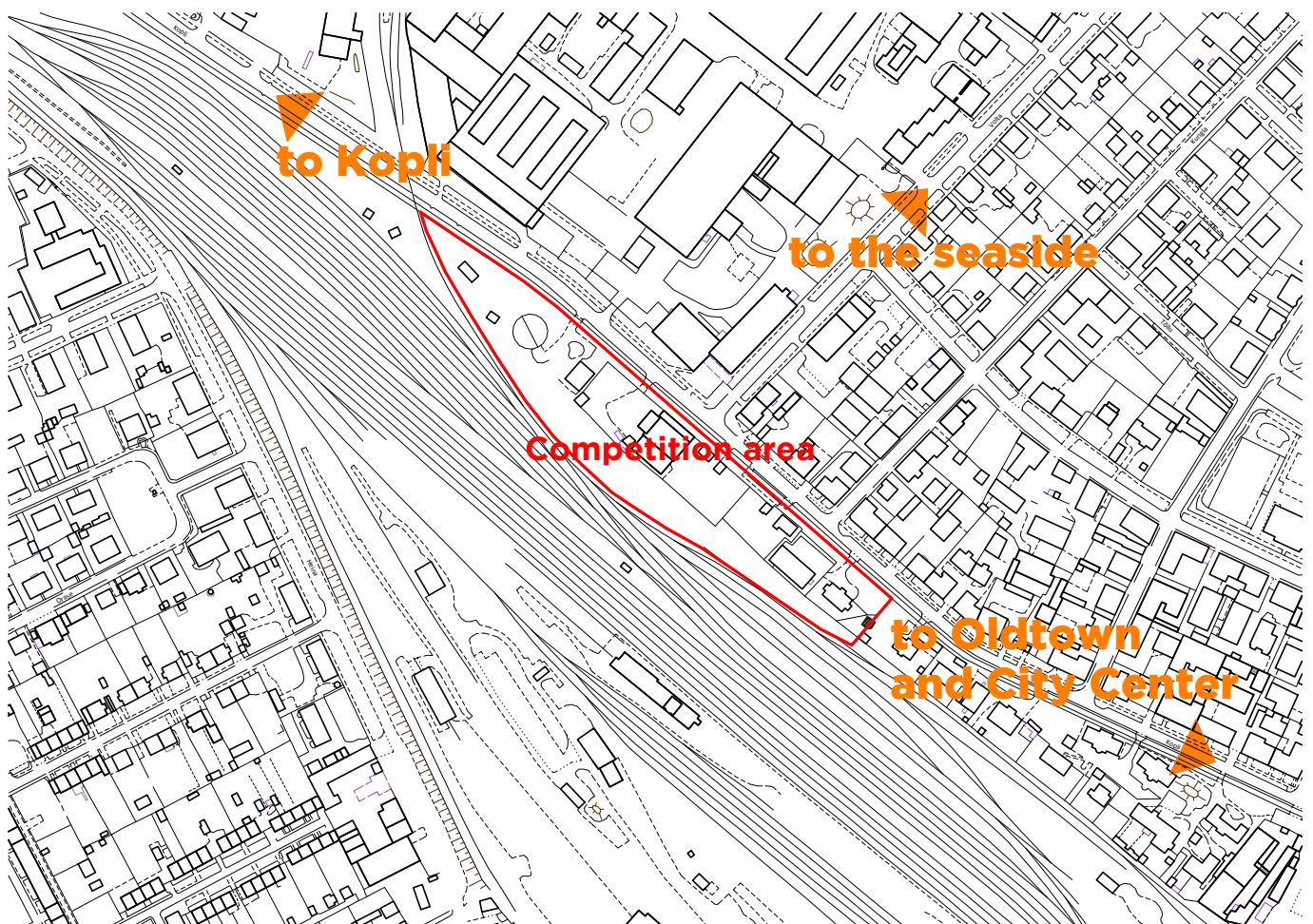
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DESCRIPTION OF THE EXISTING SITUATION

Kalamaja could be considered as one of the most vibrant areas in Tallinn, as it is in close proximity to Oldtown and to the seaside area, is still quite green and consists mainly of colorful wooden housing. The industry and ports are moving further from Kalamaja and the housing market is currently booming there.

Kopli street is the main connection between Kopli peninsula and the city center. The street is a rather green alley with a tramway running parallel to the road. To the southwest there are the railway lands of Kopli cargo station opposite the wooden housing areas and to the northeast large office and industry buildings such as Kopli street 68 where there is furniture production and Kopli 70A which used to be Tallinn's Machine Factory and now accommodates various offices and companies.

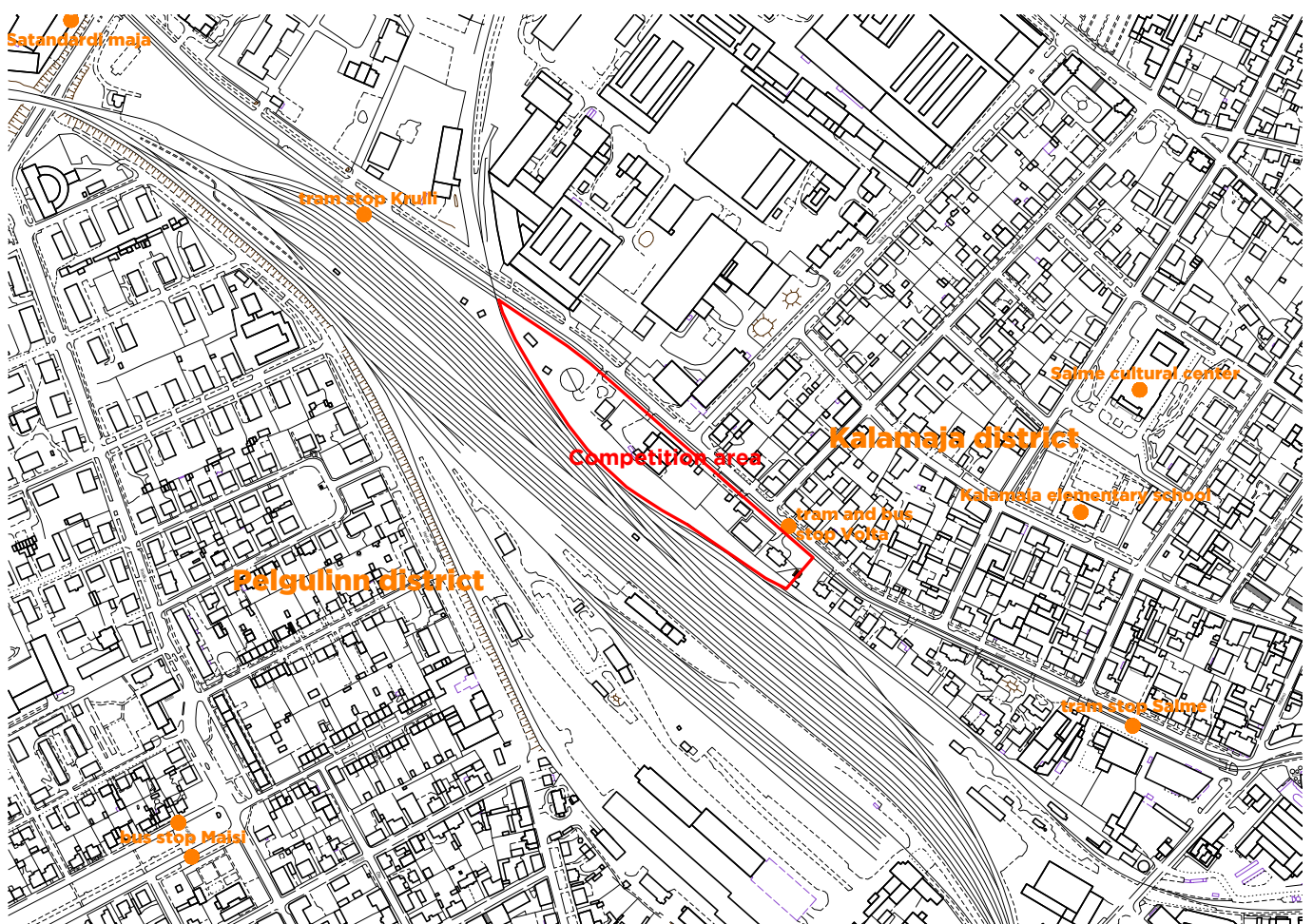


HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Kalamaja (which translates literally as “Fish House”) dates back to the 14th century and it is one of the oldest suburban and downtown areas of Tallinn. Its proximity to the sea and the ports made it a district for fishermen and merchants as well as for sailors. The area used to be a place for the cultural exchange and fusion, it is described as a cheerful place with some pubs and a fish market in the area.

There was a plan to build a cargo station to the area already in early 20th century and the land was partly filled for that purpose. The building of the cargo station started in 1933 and was completed in 1938 together with the warehouses and offices located at Telliskivi 57B. During the Soviet occupation Kopli and Kalamaja area was slightly criminal due to the Soviet military barracks located on the Kopli peninsula.

Telliskivi creative city has occupied Telliskivi street and former Kalinin’s factory for electrical engineering since 2007. Everything started from flea markets, music festival and creative people’s studios, who started to occupy these buildings bit by bit. Telliskivi is now home to entrepreneurs and about 250 companies of varying size. This is likely to have a strong influence on the area of Kopli cargo station.



FUTURE PLANS FOR THE AREA

The future comprehensive plan for the area foresees removal of the cargo station and railway. One constraint on the complete removal is the ship factory located at the tip of Kopli peninsula. As with the areas around the main railway station, Balti Jaam and at Telliskivi where Creative City has expanded in recent years, there are housing and business planned for this area.

TRAFFIC AND LIMITATIONS

The comprehensive plan made for the area recommends preserving and extending the connection of Kungla and Volta streets over the competition area. The connection will be important for traffic circulation, to connect pedestrian and bicycle paths. The aim is to connect two districts: Kalamaja area to Pelgulinn and preferably to extend existing roads. There is a possibility to propose a bridge over the railways or for the railway to be sunk below the road.

