

Wooden Arctic Hotel in Kemijärvi

Arctic Wood Building and Circular Economy Forum, Kemi, Finland May 23. - 24. May 2018

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Toni Yli-Suvanto Architects - a short introduction

Toni Yli-Suvanto - background

- 2007 - Toni Yli-Suvanto Architects, Helsinki
- 2003 - 2007 Studio Toni Yli-Suvanto, London
- 2001 - 2002 Eger Architects, London
- 1999 - 2001 David Chipperfield Architects, London
- 1996 - 1999 ETH Zürich
- 1996 - 1997 Struhk+Partner Architekten, Braunschweig
- 1995 - 1996 Hannover University
- 1992 - 1995 Oulu University





Awards and honours

2018 Invitation to the Venice Architecture Biennale:
Time Space Existence

2016 Architect of the Year, Build Global Awards,
Build Magazine

2016 Shortlisted to design Administrative Office of
the President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

2014 Winner of an open international competition, 3rd prize
Ecological Engineering Centre, Detroit, MI, USA

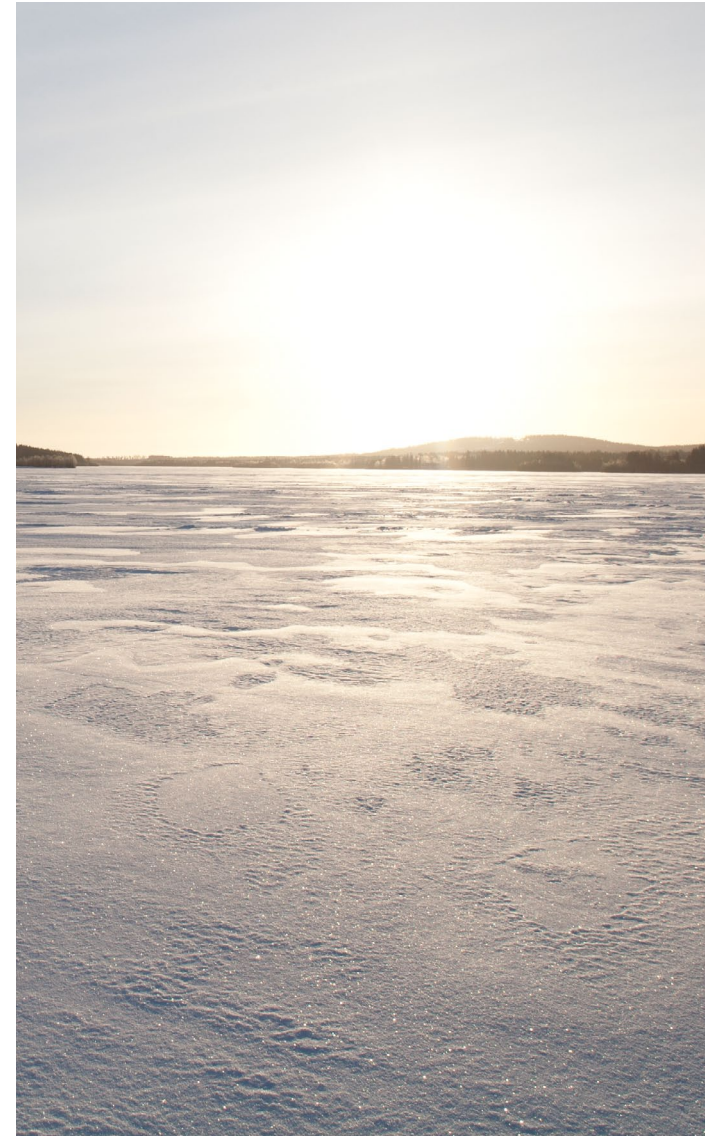
2013 Winner of an open international competition, honorary
mention, Vertical Farm Skyscraper, Seoul South Korea.

2008 Best Build Project of the Year, Children's Centre
London Planning Awards (Associate at Eger Architects)

The potential of a wooden hotel building in arctic Kemijärvi

The potential of enhancing the nature experience in the arctic

- encouraging nature activities in different seasons
- providing opportunities for arctic culinary experiences
- experiencing the silence, darkness, brightness, the northern lights
- enhancing the presence of the arctic landscape views
- providing a safe “nest” from the “wilderness”

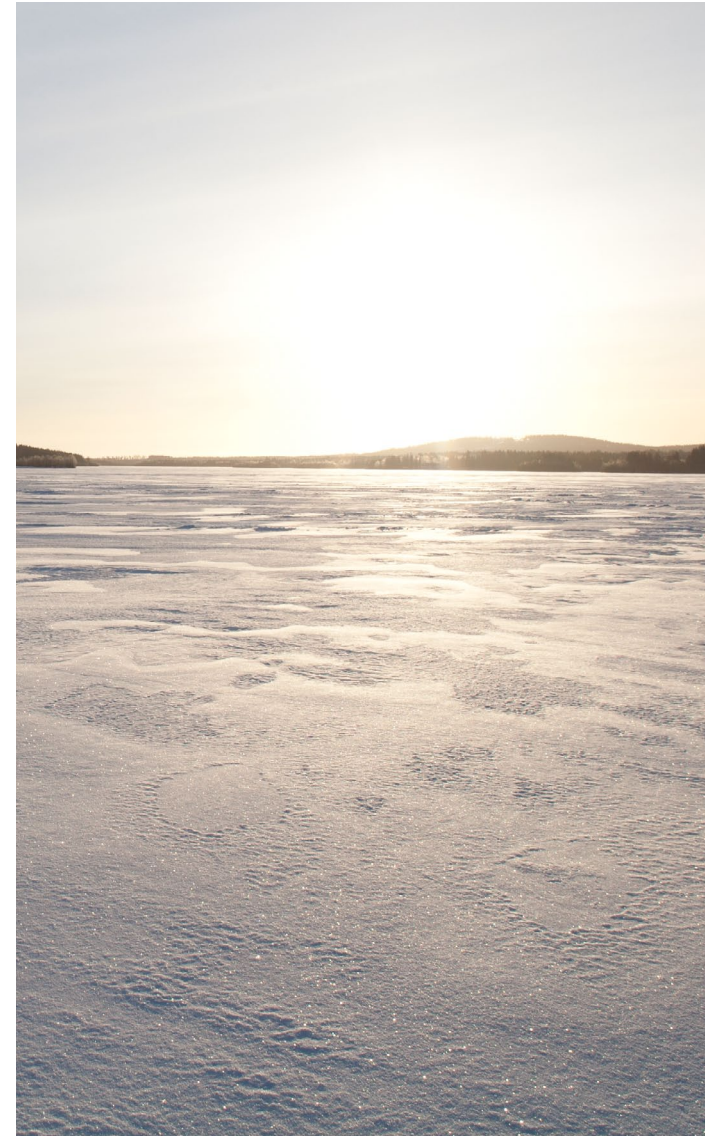


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The potential of reflecting the values of international travellers in built environment

- ecological consciousness
- non-toxic and natural materials
- clean and comfortable indoor air
- personal wellbeing
- transparency and honesty



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The potential of enhancing the city landscape for the residents

- complementing the existing functional context
- creating stronger local identity through common architectural language
- reflecting the cultural history of the city in architecture
- creating a new public window to the global audience of the city of Kemijärvi
- a landmark for a new phase in economical and urban development



Lessons from the cultural history for contemporary urban development in the arctic

Getting along with limited economic means and the close relationship with nature and natural materials are imbedded in arctic cultural history. The concept is attractive to contemporary international tourism and is in tune with the rising values caused by global megatrends. This is an opportunity for the arctic urban development.



View from Isokylä to the southwest. The collection of Kemijärvi Kotiseutumuseo.

Urban intimacy

- the human scale of building mass
- the human scale of public areas
- cover from harsh weather
- economically sustainable

Intimacy of public space

- scales of pedestrian network
- density and short distances
- public / semi-public / private spaces
- encouraging social interaction

Use of local resources

- local wood
- local food
- local energy

Every day circular economy

- reuse of wood construction
- repair and reuse of tools
- reuse of nutrients



The Kemijärvi village centre by the end of 19th century. Photo Matti Heikinheimo. The collection of Kemijärvi Kotiseutumuseo.



A log depot in Peurasuvanto. The collections of Kemijärvi Kotiseutumuseo.

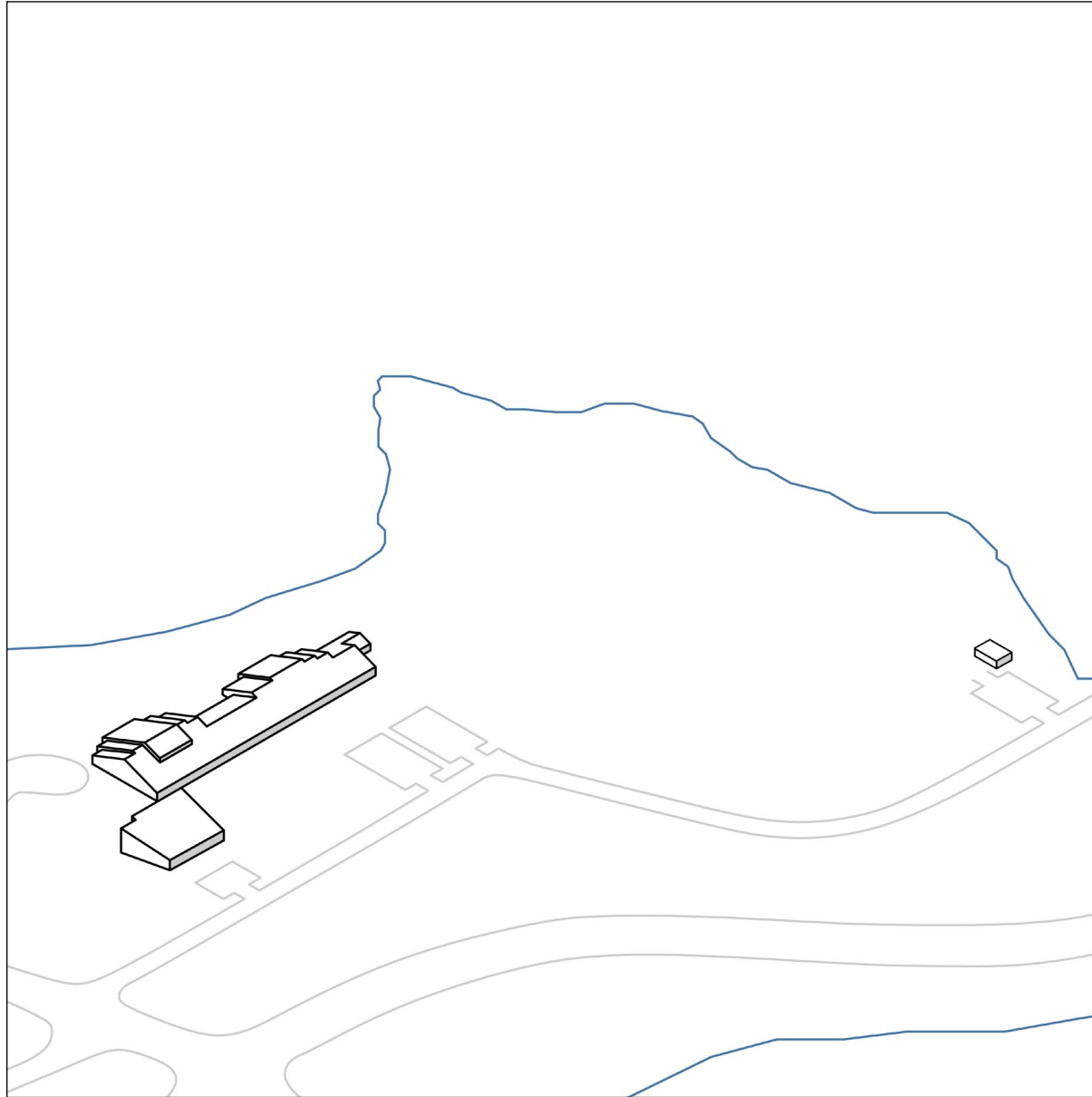
The versatile presence of wood

- the vast boreal forests
- use of wood in built environment
- use of wood in every day life
- industrial use of wood
- source of income and wellbeing
- yet the potential in urban space is not used

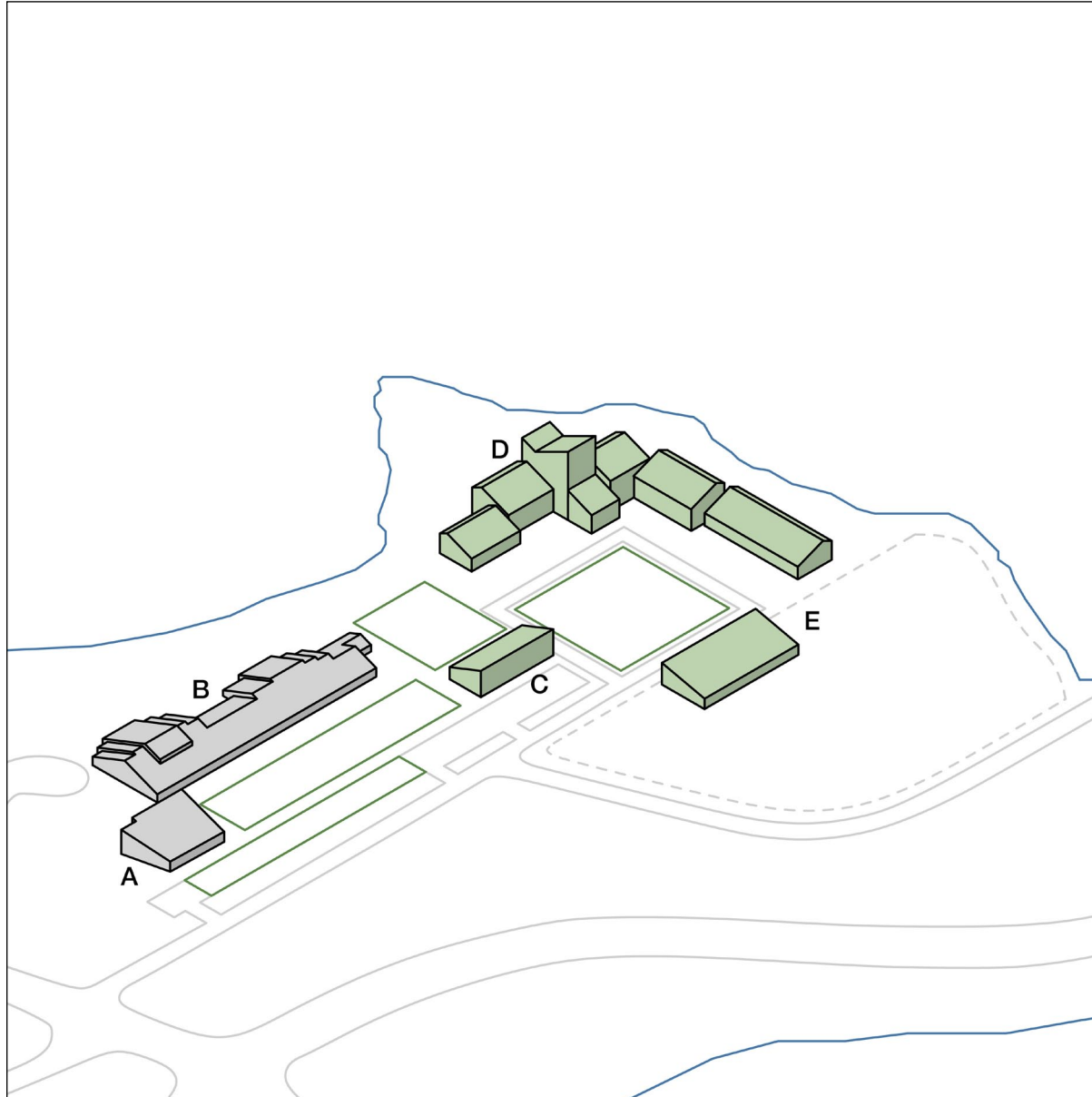
The site characteristics and the conceptual design ideas



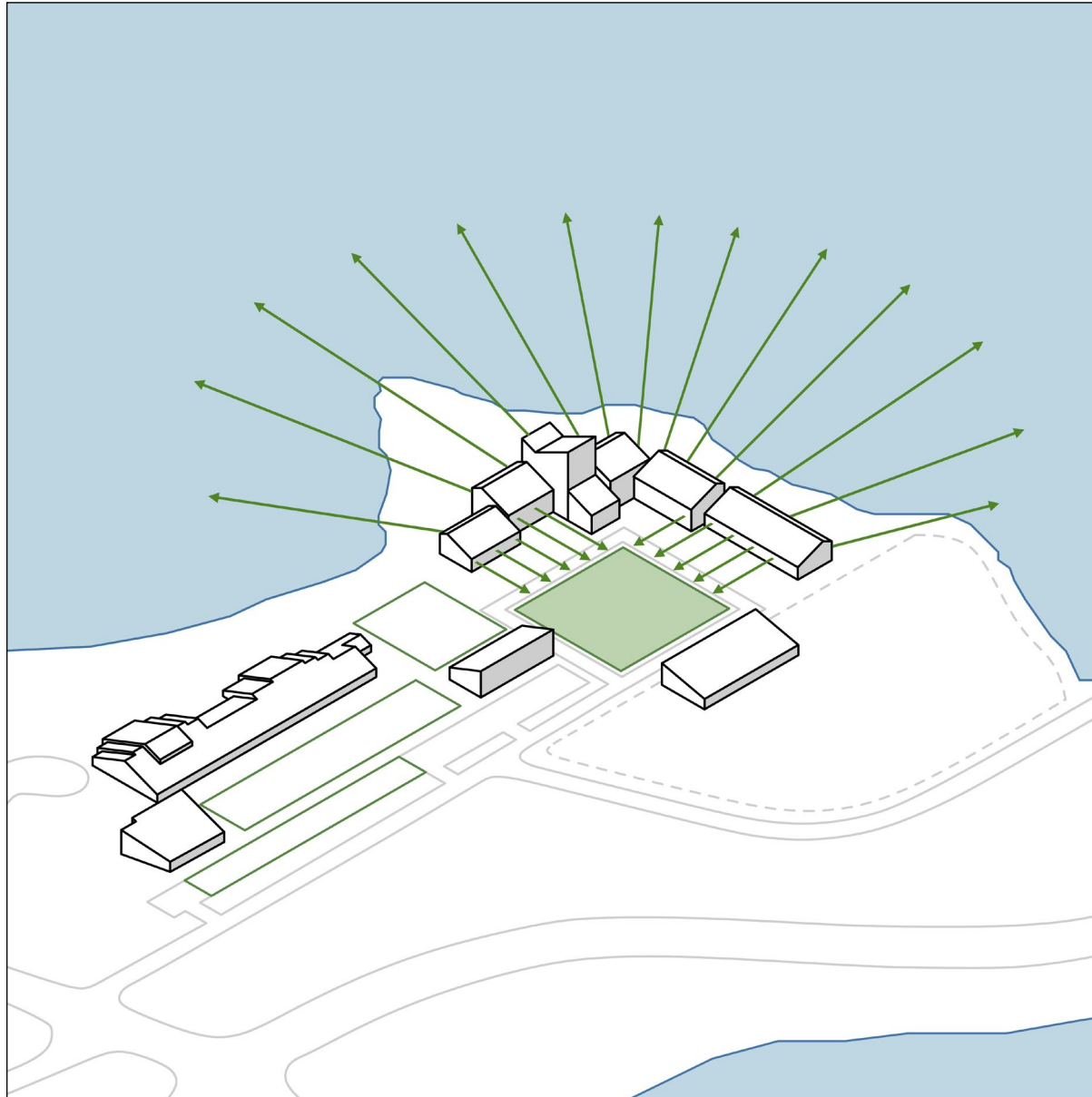
The site between the lake landscape and the city centre.



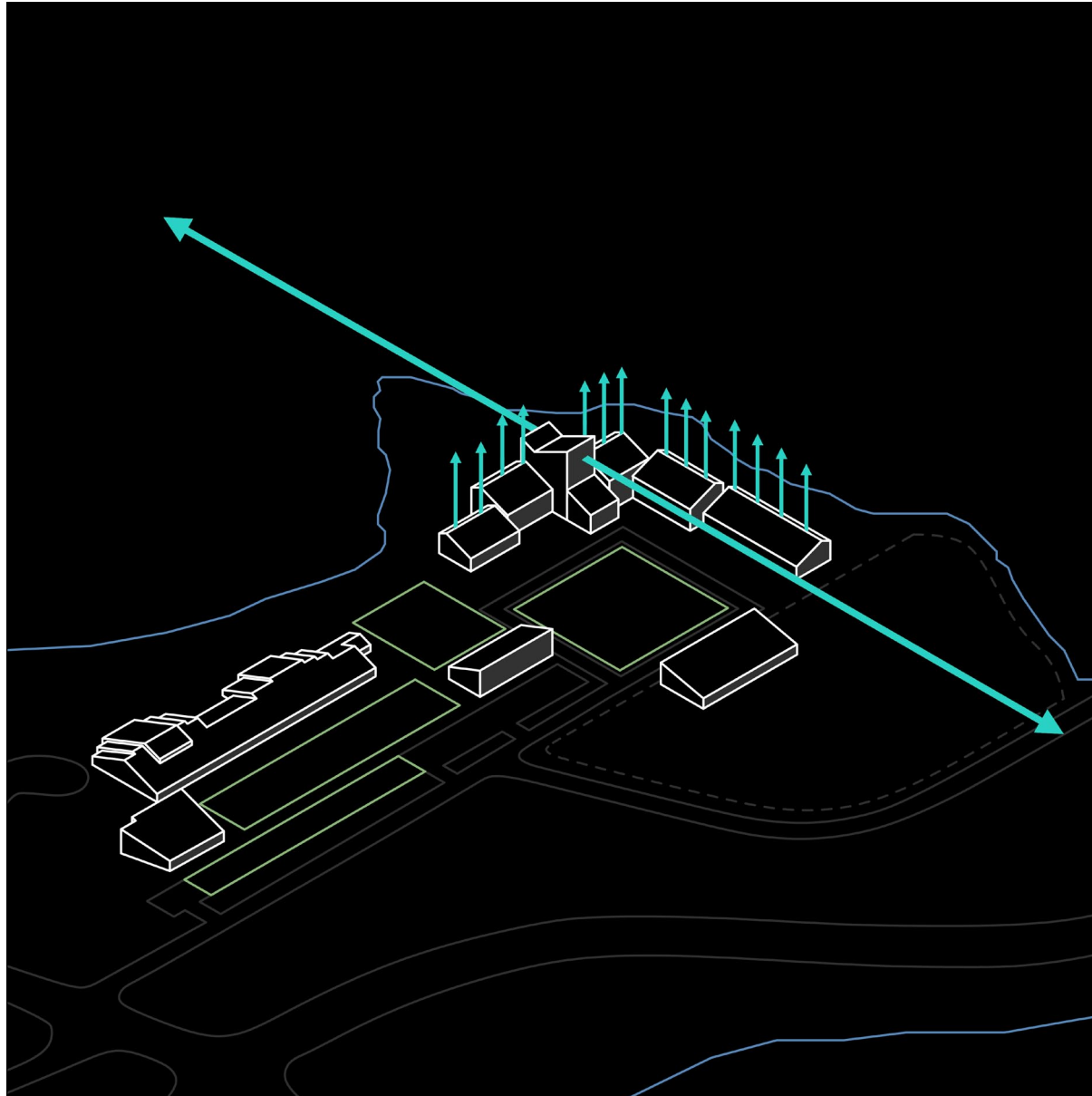
The existing urban situation in Hietaniemi, Kemijärvi.



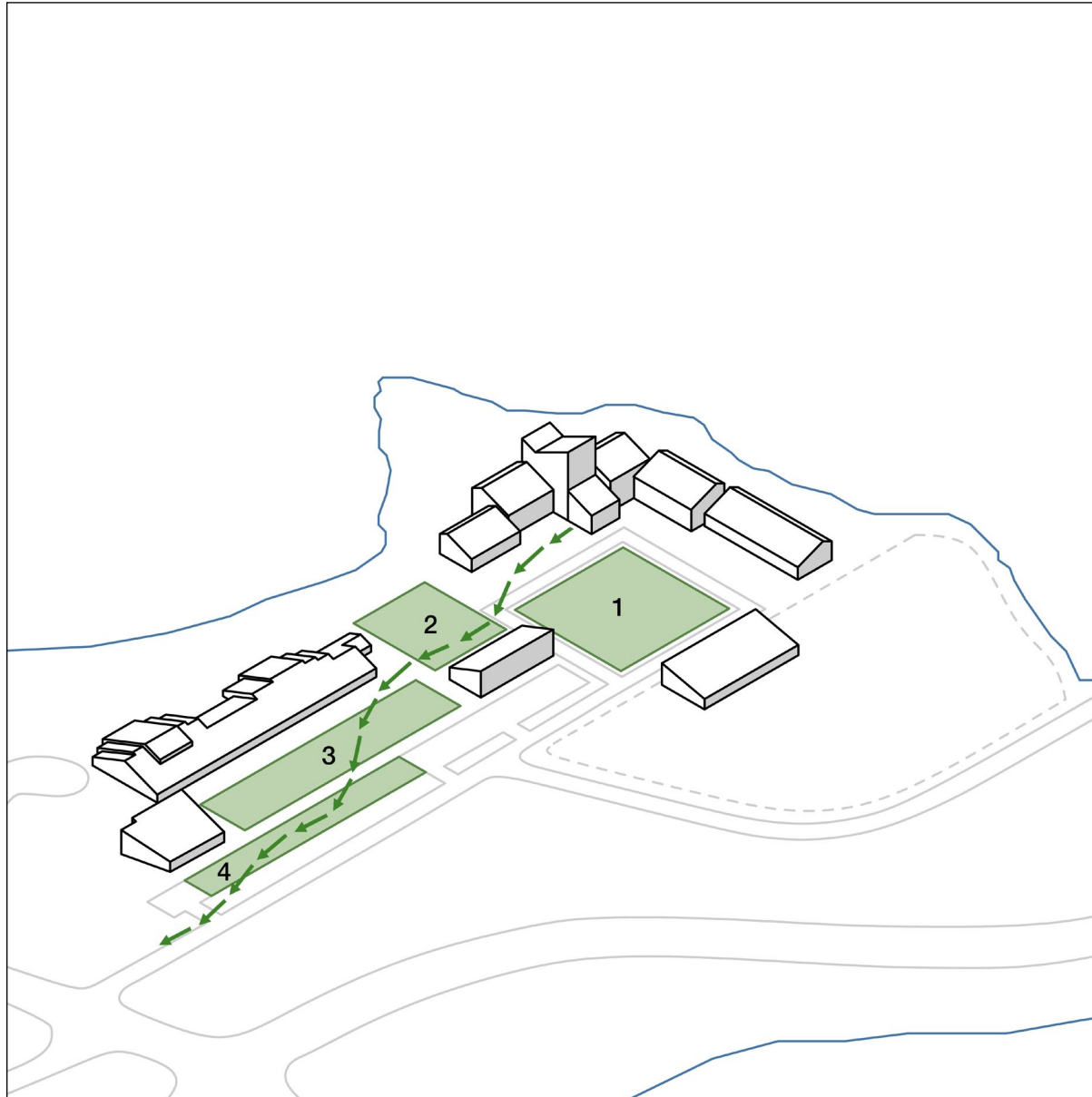
The sequence of public parks and buildings as a functional urban matrix.



Opening the interiors into the lake landscape and the artic pine park.



Experiencing the northern lights, the midnight sun, and the greater lake landscape.



A sequence of artic theme parks create an axis between the hotel and city centre.

A preliminary vision of the hotel and Hietaniemi



The new urban composition for music, culture, art and tourism.



A new landmark for sustainable urban development surrounded by all year round touristic nature activities.



User focused wooden articulation of the hotel facades. Solid wood of the building grows back in the forests of Finland within a minute.



The arctic landscape opens up into the interiors. Solid wood balances the daily heat and humidity variations and creates warm and calming atmosphere.



Thank you!

www.toniylisuvanto.com