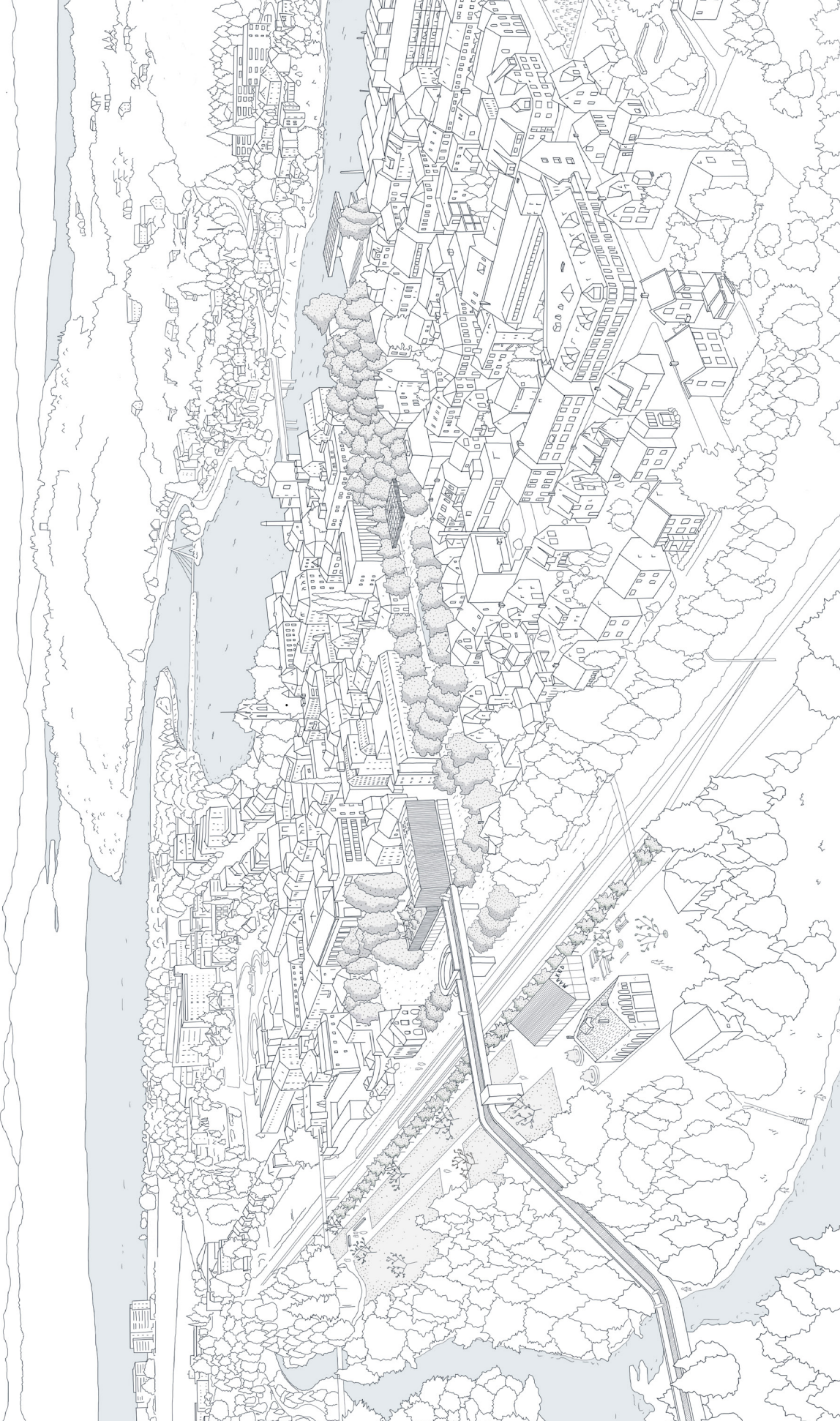


# Levanger

LS\* Levanger  
Linking Squares



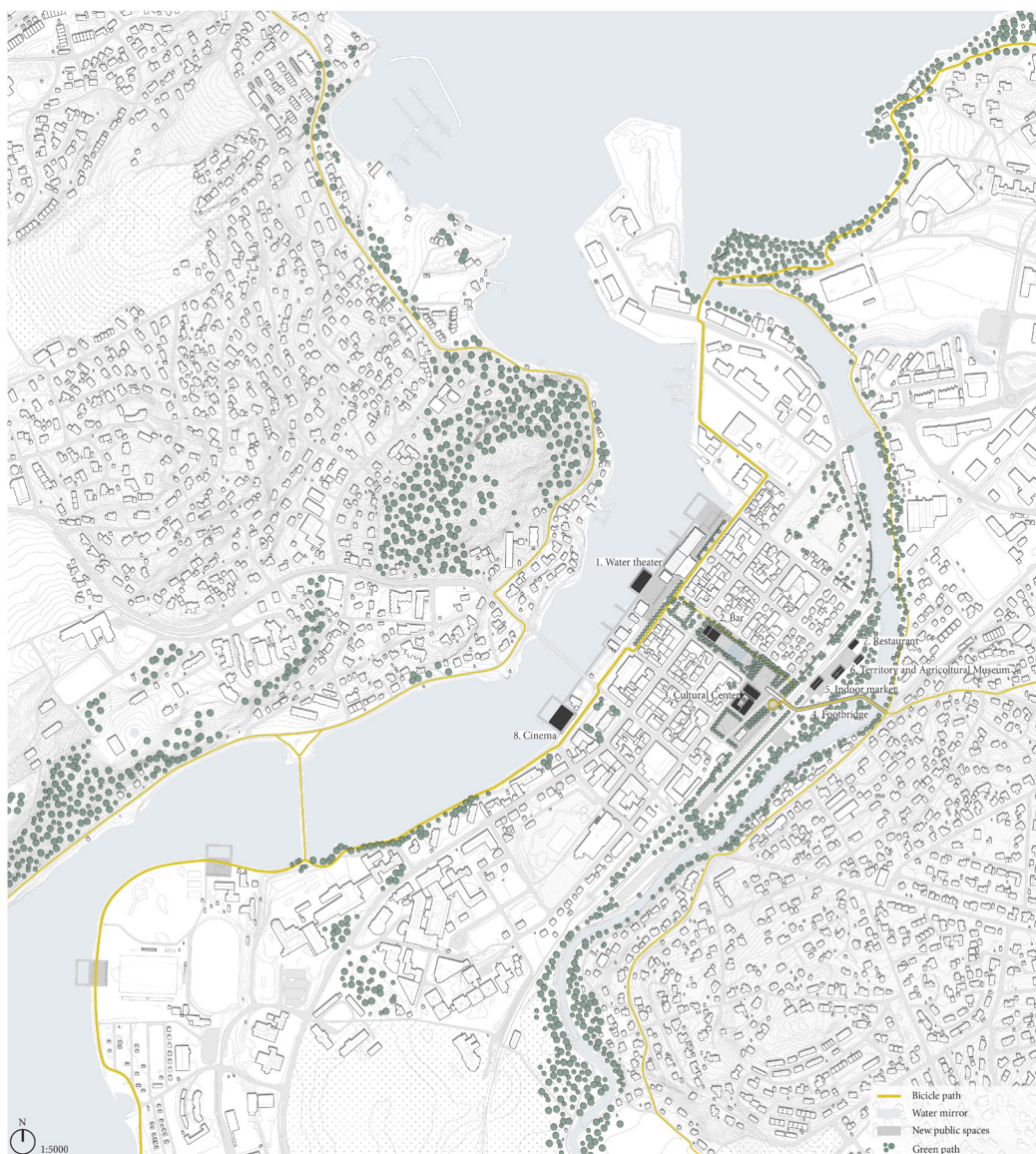
## The territorial scale

Levanger is a city suspended between the Trondheimsfjorden and the countryside.

Urban countryside is a battleground for demographic, economic, ecological, legal and political challenges. For several years, in Europe, there has been a reversal of the trend with respect to the post-war flow that brought people from the countryside to the cities. In this context, the city of Levanger can become a new pole of attraction at the regional level.

The relationship between city and countryside is the fulcrum of our project, “Linking Squares”. It aims to find a connection between these two elements while respecting the existing territorial and urban fabric, enhancing sustainable mobility. On a regional scale, we believe it is of particular importance to connect the city of Levanger with the Eurovelo 3 cycle path which currently stops in Trondheim, just 80 km from the historic center, with the aim of attracting a new eco-sustainable tourist flow. On an urban scale, the cycle path together with the improvement of the public transportation, will make it possible to decongest the center from the intensive use of the car and it will be easier to connect the university to the north and the sports fields to the south. The historic center between Tordenskjolds gate and Sverres gate, historical heritage thanks to the value of its wooden architecture, will be inaccessible to non-residents vehicles in order to create a place suitable for pedestrians. Non-residents drivers will be conveyed along the railway, passing behind the station, without ever crossing the center.

The fulcrum of this pedestrian center will be the axis that starts from Levangersundet and reaches the river. The idea is to create a unique and homogeneous sequence of squares never crossed by a driveway except at the level of the Kirkegata.





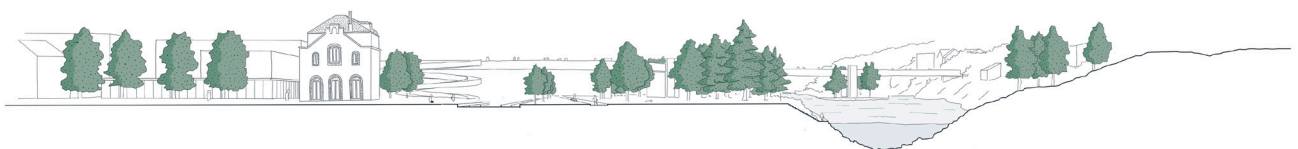
## Linking squares

This organic succession of intimate, protected places with different vocations creates a unique system capable of revitalizing the entire city and making it once again the cultural and commercial center it once was. From a square overlooking the water, designed as a theater, to the library square, passing through the Torvet meeting place designed as a gathering place, the park extends to the other side of the city, crossing the river and arriving in Bruborg.

A pedestrian walkway starts from the library square, which in an elegant way blends in with the forest and reaches the areas now almost abandoned beyond the railway.

The buildings in this area, which straddles the original historical fabric and a fabric composed mainly of single-family houses, will be redeveloped giving life to a new market, a museum and a series of restaurants, activities that can give new life to the economic and social fabric of the cities.

The park is part of this context and aims to be the link for a transition between two elements that do not communicate with each other.



## The Library and Cultural Center

Particular attention was paid to the Levanger cultural center and library. Where the Levanger library stood, the new civic center of the city was born.

The new building aims not only to be a place for reading but above all an emblematic place of culture within the city.

The ambition is to create a place for exchange, learning and conviviality, an urban reference point where people meet to exchange opinions, read, and feel an integral part of a community.

The civic center overlooks both the station square and the linear park and from the urban point of view it develops as a nerve center in the city fabric becoming the pivot, between the station and the linear park, around which the Levanger of the future will rise.

The building with its patios is inspired by the courtyard buildings typical of Levanger's cultural heritage.

As a civic center where people meet and share knowledge and information, public space is at the core of the library's design. At the entrance level on the ground floor, there is a large open space with a press kiosk and access points to an auditorium with 150 seats, an exhibition space and a restaurant with an outdoor terrace on linear park. The first floor contains a large variety of work and reading spaces with physical and digital books placed side-by-side in the bookshelves. The digital extension of the physical collections, integrated within the bookshelves, is one of the new multimedia features of the library. The north side of the building is occupied by a space for children, as well as offices and logistics. The archive and special historical collections are stored in safe and dry conditions in the concrete basement, protected from the surrounding water.

On the top floor are the spaces for the community, the auditorium, the classrooms dedicated to training.

The digital façade of these two volumes, composed of adjustable and energetically autonomous LEDs thanks to the photovoltaic panels on the roof, characterizes the building with the intention of making it, together with the walkway, a visual reference point within the urban landscape.

