

Light Wells Inspired by Bakers' Kilns Jut Out of Agricultural Grounds

Jutting out of a landscape of swaying wheat, Kornets Hus, or House of Grain, makes a dramatic impression on its surroundings. As its name suggests, this cultural information center focuses on the region's rich food and farming culture, and the importance of grain for human civilization. The client, Jørn Ussing Larsen, has been cultivating cereals for almost five decades. He requested that the building houses a 6,5000-square-foot (600-square-meter) visitor center and exhibition space arranged around a bread oven. Reiulf Ramstad Arkitekter drew inspiration from the surrounding landscape—including its wind-polished trees and dark brown soil—and the region's agricultural history. "We were very fascinated by the local architectural vernacular of weather-beaten barns and old farmhouses and could look in any direction to find great sources of inspiration," say the architects.

The angular brick volumes create peaks around two brick light wells, which take inspiration from bakers' kilns and become a determining feature at either end of the structure. Inside, large windows frame views of the vast fields of wheat to the west, and light streams into the building down pale Scandinavian-style wood-paneled walls.

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