

# Swedish Experiences on Modern Methods of Construction

## Helena Lidelöv

- Passionate about off-site, prefabrication, timber engineering, problem solving, innovation
- M.Sc. in Civil Eng, Ph.D. in Timber Eng and Ass.Prof. in Industrialised Construction
- 15 years of teaching building technology, structural engineering, computer-aided design
- 10 years working at Lindbäcks Bygg, Sweden's largest producer of timber-framed modules intended for multi-storey apartment buildings
- Frequent public speaker on modular and industrialisation of construction – visited USA, Japan, NZ, Australia, Scotland, Finland, Canada to study modular production, learn, and teach
- Strong view that Modern Methods of Construction support:
  - Production logic
  - Integration of trades
  - Supply Chain cohesion



Project development



Design < 32 weeks



Production ≈ 4 weeks



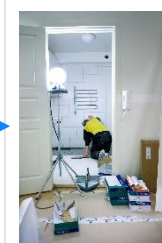
Transport 0-800 miles



Assembly ≈ 4 weeks



Completion  
≈ 6 months



Walls - floor- ceiling



Elements assembled



Assembly of modules



Completion of modules



Output 14 modules per 8h  
Install 165 windows weekly  
Use 8,000 m<sup>3</sup> of lumber annually  
Employ 550 people  
3,000 modules per year  
60,000 m<sup>2</sup> per year



90% of single-family homes are prefabricated

60-70% of multi-family homes have some prefabricated elements

10% of multi-family homes are modular

Million Homes programme =>  
Design-build contracts  
Standardised urban developments  
Large scale expansion

Standardisation  
Material suppliers  
National code

Modernism  
Simple designs

Template designs  
Sawmills  
First house factories

Urbanisation  
Housing shortage  
Health issue

Housing shortage  
Market orientation  
Sustainability focus

Housing surplus  
Energy focus

Crisis  
Deregulation

1910

1920

1930

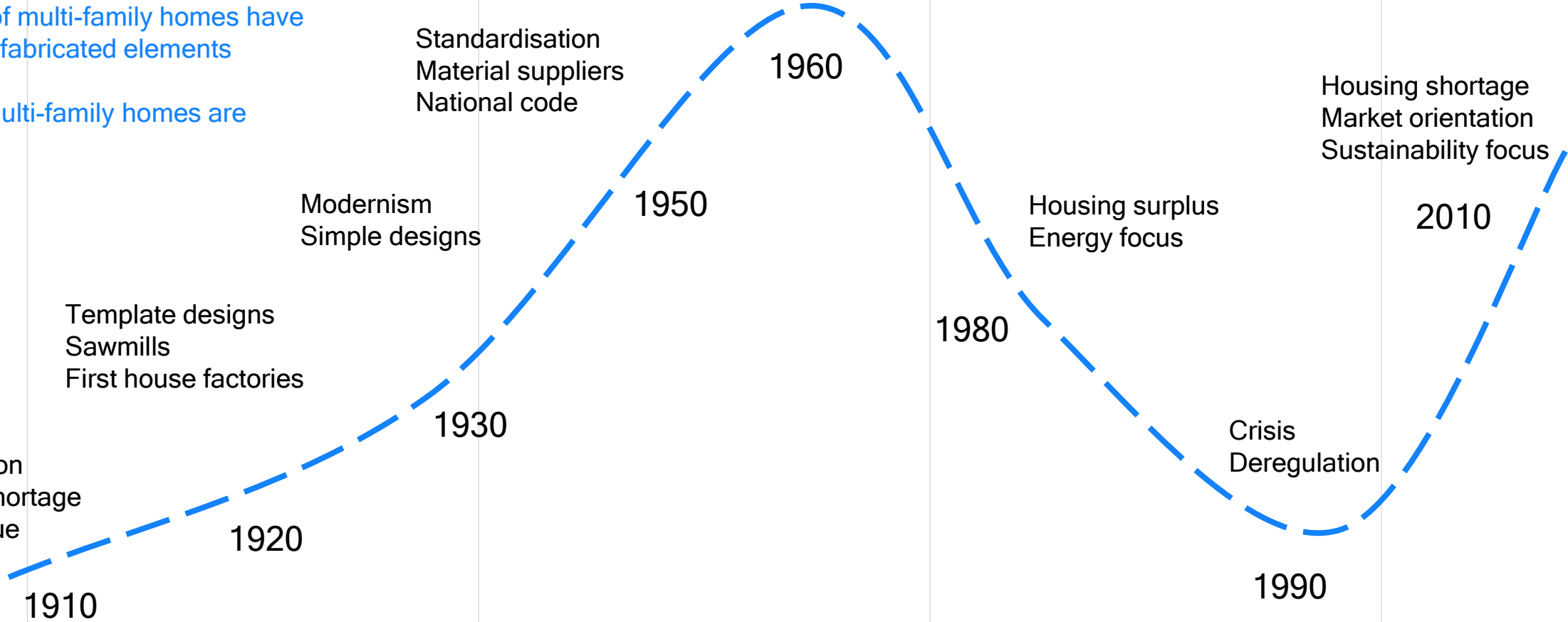
1950

1960

1980

1990

2010



Apart from construction skills with all the normal trades, such as:

- carpenters
- plumbers
- joiners
- electricians
- painters

... MMC also entices:

- logistics professionals
- factory specialists
- Lean consultants
- computer programmers

... and feeds precision and innovation in the supply chain:

- framing with high tolerances
- standard size windows, doors, and sheathing
- bathroom appliances
- surface materials

Project development



Design < 32 weeks



Production ≈ 4 weeks



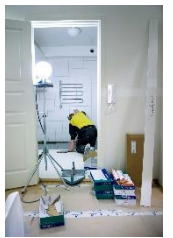
Transport 0-800 miles



Assembly ≈ 4 weeks



Completion  
≈ 6 months



Optimize for production



More work on site

Design error



Stop on assembly line

+ Increases  
moisture safety

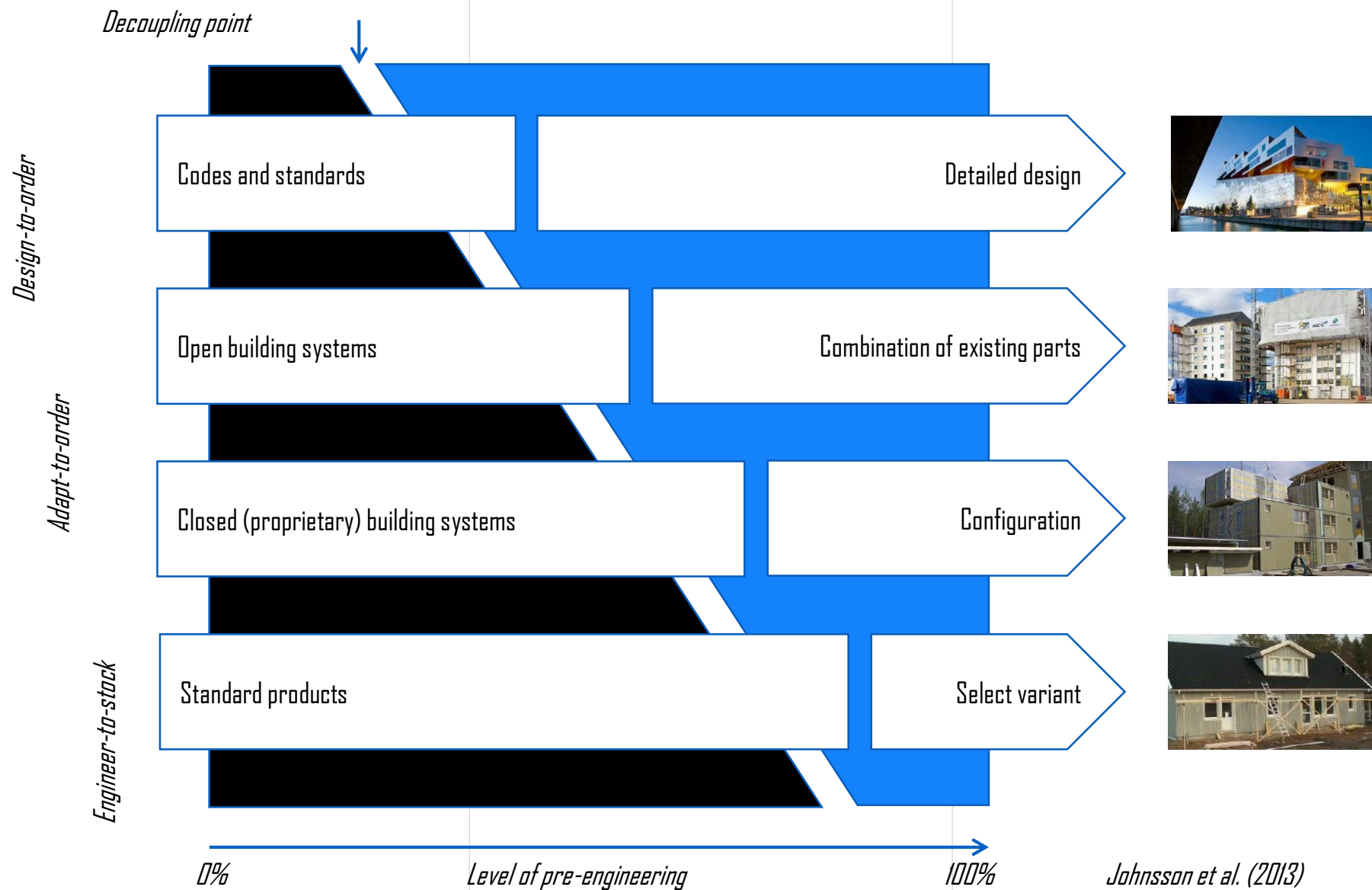
- Increases design  
time and complexity

- Increases cost in  
purchasing

+ Decreases tact  
time by 2-4 hours



Does not affect transportation,  
assembly or completion



**Tack!**

**(Swedish for Thank you!)**

---