



GLOBAL NEWS  
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 £1.00  
**SHEEP, BREXIT & THE CLIMATE CRISIS**



**DESIGN BRIEF**

A croft is a unit of agricultural land; averaging about 5 hectares, that is used to raise animals and grow vegetables. Crofts are part of a community of crofts, also known as a township. This community share common land which was traditionally used for pasture, peat cutting and water collection. As far as agricultural practices go, they are key drivers in acknowledging and respecting the intrinsic relationship between human and non-humans. They promote low impact, rotational agricultural practices, sustainable land management and biodiversity & habitats enhancement that work in cycles and rhythms. However, crofting today faces significant threats. Like many rural areas in the Highlands, Clachtoll and Stoer are facing depopulation, ageing population, environmental pressures and financial instability. These threats are brought about by a reliance on governmental subsidies and the growing impact of the human caused climate emergency.

How can we work with the traditional model of crofting to create a new resilient model that in Clachtoll and Stoer that can sustain the land for future generations?

Country / City	United Kingdom/ Scotland/ Edinburgh
University / School	University of Edinburgh, ESALA - Edinburgh School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture
Academic year	2019-2020
Title of the project	More-Than-Human-Futures
Authors	Anna Wallace Reid



## TECHNICAL DOSSIER

Title of the project	More-Than-Human-Futures
Authors	Anna Wallace Reid
Title of the course	Landscape Architecture Portfolio 3 & 4
Academic year	2019-2020
Teaching Staff	Elinor Scarth and Anaïs Chanon (Studio Unit leaders), Elinor Scarth (Course Organiser and Programme Director)
Department/Section/Program of belonging	Edinburgh School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture/Postgraduate MLA programme
University/School	University of Edinburgh



Written statement, short description of the project in English, no more than 250 words

For too long humans have acted on the dominant Western premise that we are superior to our environment. This in turn has played a substantial part in the ecological devastation of our planet. As landscape architects we must ensure that to sustain the global biosphere, the intrinsic links between human and non-humans are questioned and challenged.

This body of work merges two projects to consider ways in which human occupation and more-than-human action can be built into the landscape stewardship and design in the Scottish Highlands. The project applies this way of thinking to the crofting (small scale agriculture and land tenure) communities of Clachtoll and Stoer in Scotland. Initial exploratory work considers the intrinsic links between humans and non-humans before imagining how a more-than-human relationship, which focuses on socio-ecological values, might manifest. This relationship evolves into a more-than-human stewardship and design model which is applied across the crofting township. Croft boundaries become green corridors and places for social exchange. Sheep become camera stewards who experiment with non-human storytelling as a form of public engagement, and overgrazed land diversifies to provided social and ecological benefits for all species. Together the project highlights the importance of a community who socially and ecologically collaborate to sustain the land for future generations.

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# CLIMATE CHANGE AGAIN

11th International Biennial Landscape Barcelona

Barcelona September 2020  
SCHOOL PRIZE

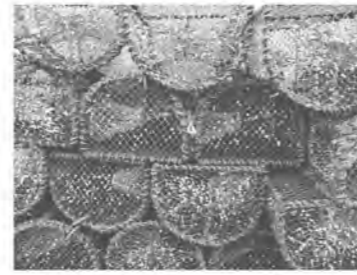




# FOOD, SHELTER, WATER



Build a shelter. 38 sticks, 1 fallen log, 6 pieces of bark



Lobster bisque slurp

Initial exploratory work takes the form of three words that draw inspiration from the historical entanglement of human and non-human entities. Participants were invited to respond directly to a place and time while thinking about the words 'Shelter, Food, Water'. The response took the form of engagement and reflection within the landscape, with each response documented through a single photograph and line of text.



Thirsty, the river fills me up



Wood sorrel tastes like apple skin



What is a winkle and how do you eat it?



Carrageen snacking



Rowan jelly or a bird's berry



Taking shelter like the polar bears once did

'The futures of earth's creatures (including humans) lie not in fortifying the utopian space-time of pristine wilderness, but on the inside, where the everyday worlds of people, plants and animals are already in the process of being mixed up'  
(Peter Hoeg quoted by Whatmore, 2002)



## CYCLES AND RHYTHMS OF CROFTING

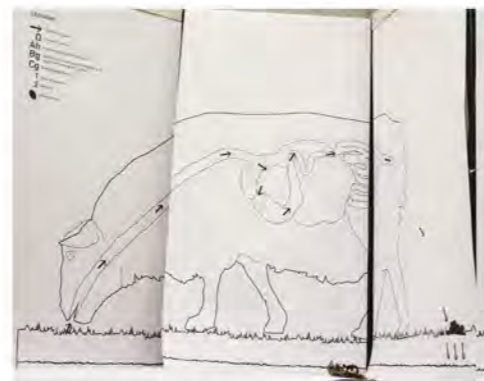
Landscapes are defined, and changed, by the entities that inhabit and occupy them. These occupations can be momentary or last for months, years, decades or generations. We must consider the cycles and rhythms of the natural landscape and the entities involved if we wish to design with future socio-ecological resilience in mind.





# SPECULATIVE MAPPING AND MORE-THAN-HUMAN STEWARDSHIP

Speculative mapping allowed me to consider how the landscape may evolve into a space for co-creation and co-stewardship over time. The process used ink stamped symbols and sections to mark the actions and actants involved, before mapping their ability to co-create a sustainable agricultural model that worked alongside the cycles and rhythms of the natural landscape. More-than-human stewardship became a significant method in ensuring that any future developments sustained the land for both human and non-human entities, and highlighted the vital importance of human and non-human interconnectedness as the community evolved over time.



## Human and Non-Human Rights Act 2019

An Act to give further effect to rights and freedoms guaranteed under the European Convention on Human and Non-Human Rights; to make provision with respect to holders of certain judicial offices who become judges of the European Court of Human and Non-Human Rights; and for connected purposes.  
[9th November 2019]



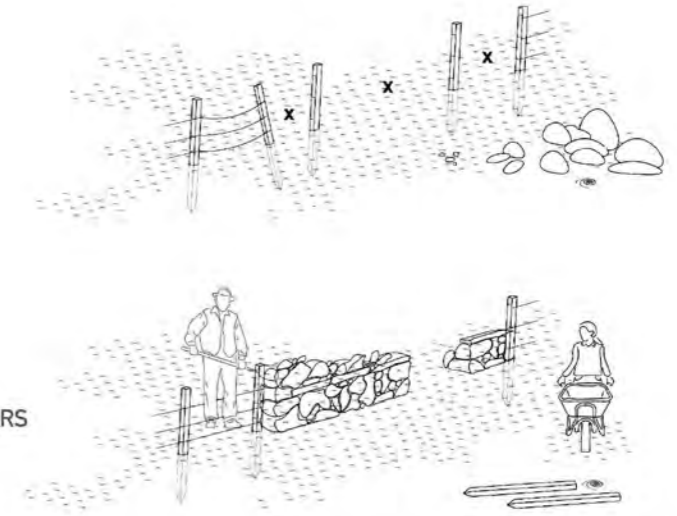
## BOUNDARIES AS GREEN CORRIDORS AND PLACES FOR SOCIAL EXCHANGE

The croft boundary marks the 'exclusive space' within a township. What might these look like as a place for social action and common dialogue? Could traditional and contemporary techniques and materials, new management and planting be merged with an understanding of the non-human socio-ecological outputs be applied to the boundary?

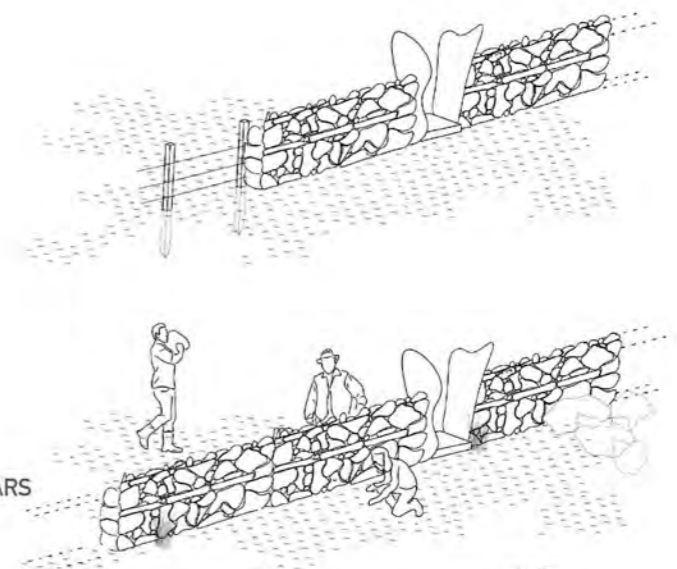
0 YEARS



1 YEARS



2 YEARS



30 YEARS

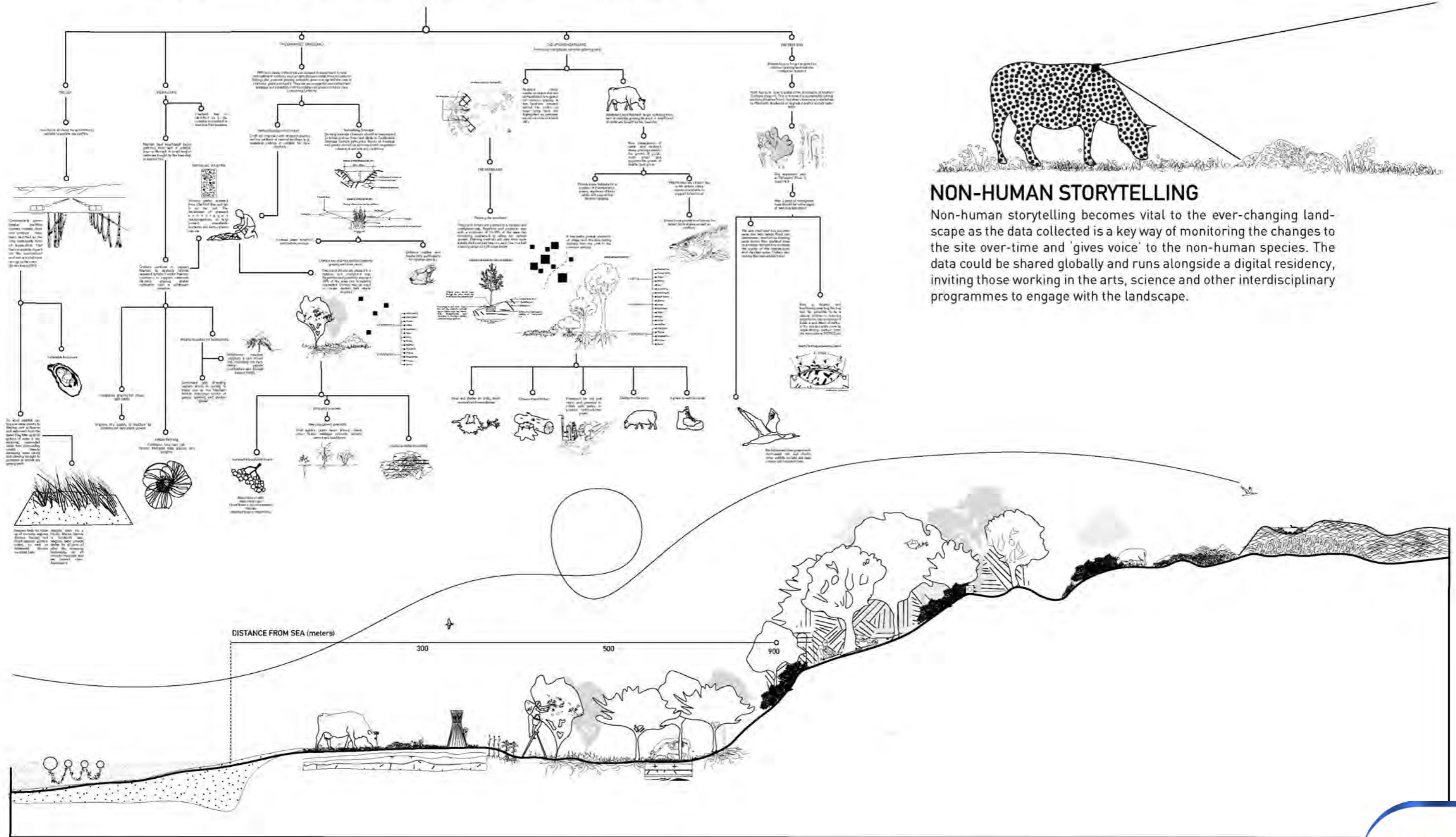






# MORE-THAN-HUMAN CROFTING

Previously, the township had been determined by subsidies and livestock movement. New spatial organisation demonstrated how a township can diversify to support a variety of habitats and biodiversity while still working within a productive agricultural model. Areas of common grazing land diversify to become agroforests grown from local seed. These work to support crofters through timber and fruit and provide food and shelter for small mammals. Sheep numbers are reduced to allow the peat bog to regenerate and become a carbon sequestration sink and thriving breeding ground for wader birds.



## NON-HUMAN STORYTELLING

Non-human storytelling becomes vital to the ever-changing landscape as the data collected is a key way of monitoring the changes to the site over-time and 'gives voice' to the non-human species. The data could be shared globally and runs alongside a digital residency, inviting those working in the arts, science and other interdisciplinary programmes to engage with the landscape.

**SEA**  
Sustainable aquaculture and clean coastlines

**MACHAIR**  
Light cattle grazing, hay growing, rotational crop farming and insect rich meadow

**ENHANCED GRASSLAND**  
Agropasture, orchard, and sheep grazing ground

**WOODLAND**  
agroforest, recreational, hydro-electric power and wildlife haven

**UPLAND HEATHLAND**  
Rotational grazing and brown trout breeding ground

**RESTORED PEAT BOG**  
carbon sequestration, water regulation and red-throated divergence migration spot