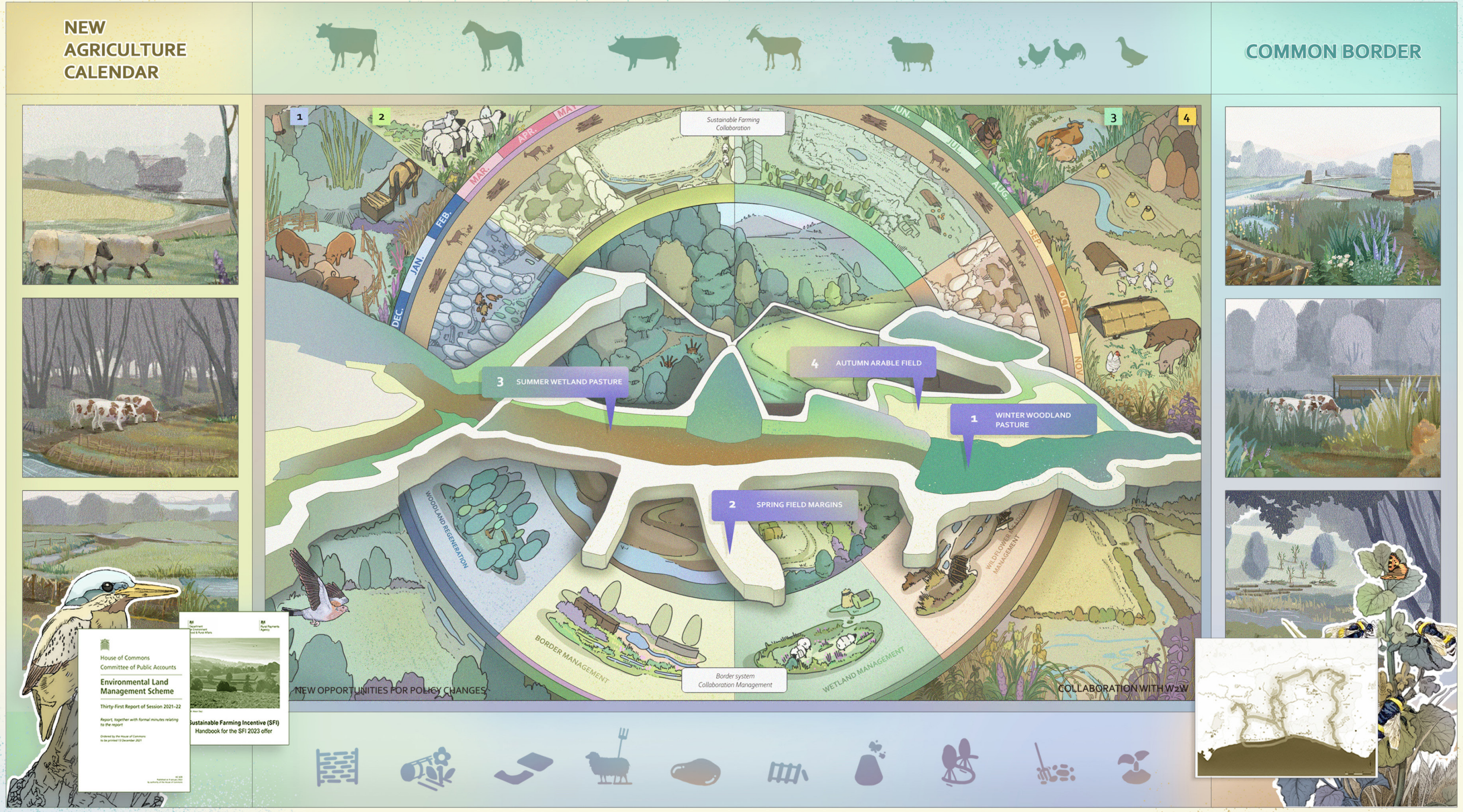




Please provide a 250-word text explaining the selection criteria used to choose the five projects representing the school in the Ribas Piera Award. Detail the aspects evaluated, such as conceptual quality, innovation, thematic relevance, technical resolution, or any other criteria considered in the selection process with a single image, characteristic of the academic process, to accompany the text

The projects put forward by the Bartlett School of Architecture's Landscape department for the Ribas Piera Award have been selected on the basis on their achievement of academic excellence in the major design projects undertaken on the MLA Year 2 and MA programmes. These projects are assessed on 4 main criteria: Observant Analysis, Intellectual Ambition, Design Development and Communication. Students are expected to demonstrate design skills that develop through experimentation and speculative design research towards forming an original approach to Landscape Architecture. The five projects selected all represent highly ambitious and personal design approaches.



Country/City London, United Kingdom

University / School Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL

Academic year MLA Y2

Title of the project Common Border: Collaboration Farming Landscape

Authors Mingpei Liu

TECHNICAL DOSSIER

Title of the project	Common Border: Collaboration Farming Landscape
Authors	Mingpei Liu
Title of the course	Landscape Architecture MLA
Academic year	MLA Year 2
Teaching Staff	Doug Miller and Katya Larina
Department / Section / Program of belonging	Landscape Architecture
University / School	Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL



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

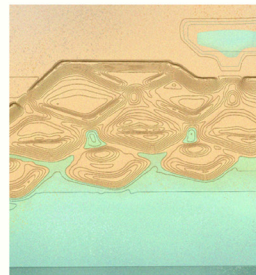
In a seemingly ordinary rural landscape, how does the landscape acquire meaning? In the past century, advances in agricultural technology and productivity have transformed Sussex’s landscape. The removal of hedgerows, deforestation, monocropping, and farmland expansion have severely impacted the environment. These changes, worsened by the climate crisis, threaten biodiversity, increase flooding, and contribute to agricultural pollution and groundwater depletion.

Common Border seeks to redefine shared agricultural boundaries in Sussex, integrating them as part of a holistic solution. Rather than merely hedges or drainage systems, these boundaries are envisioned as multifunctional spaces, extending at least 2m inward, incorporating field margins, drainage, and hedgerows as zones for biodiversity conservation. The design reimagines them as public spaces with ecological value and potential for sustainable farming collaboration landscape. In the early stages, these zones can act as buffers against seasonal flooding. Over time, they will provide shared spaces for agricultural cooperation, resource exchange, and livestock movement.

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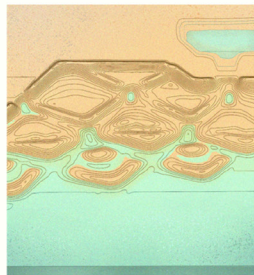
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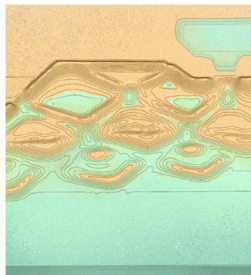
For the most part, the area is open to free passage for livestock as well as humans. Livestock behaviour is limited by the view presented by the plant design

EARLY FLOOD SEASON



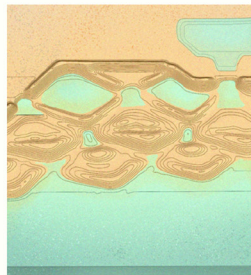
During the pre-rainy season, mainly Block 1 is filled with water, creating an isolated area that is conducive to wildlife habitat undisturbed by human activities

THE PEAK PERIOD OF A FLOOD



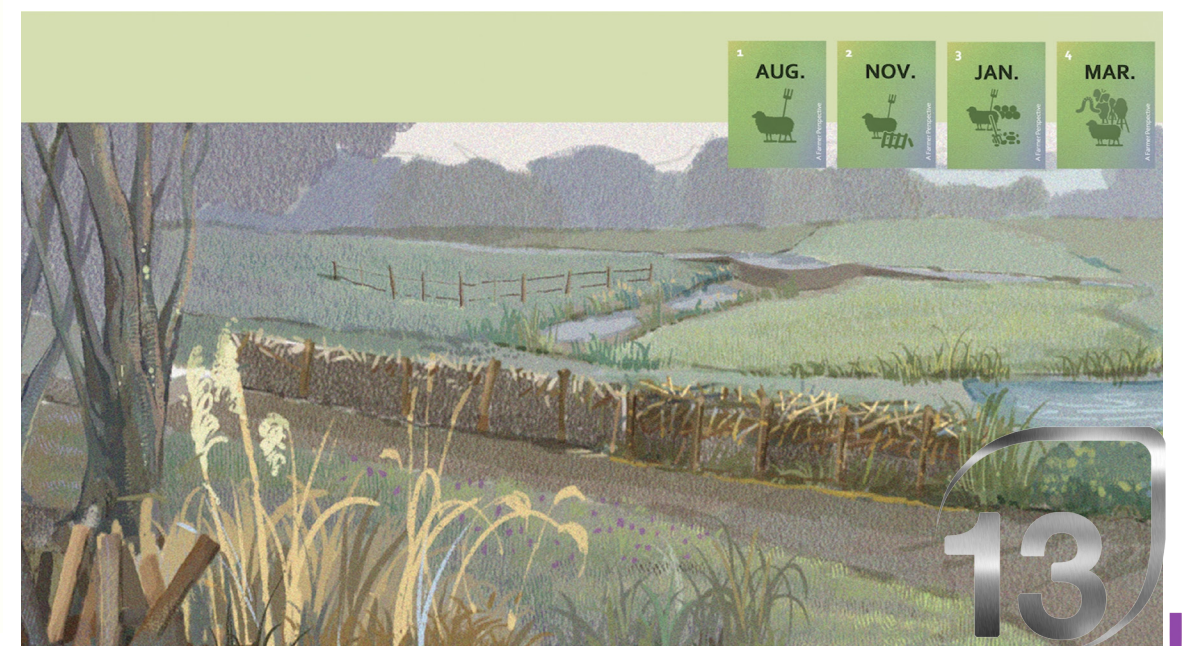
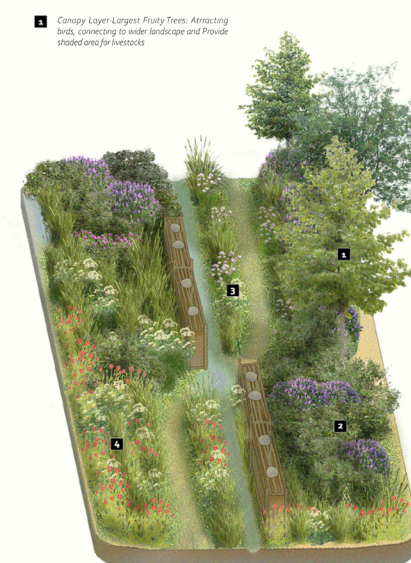
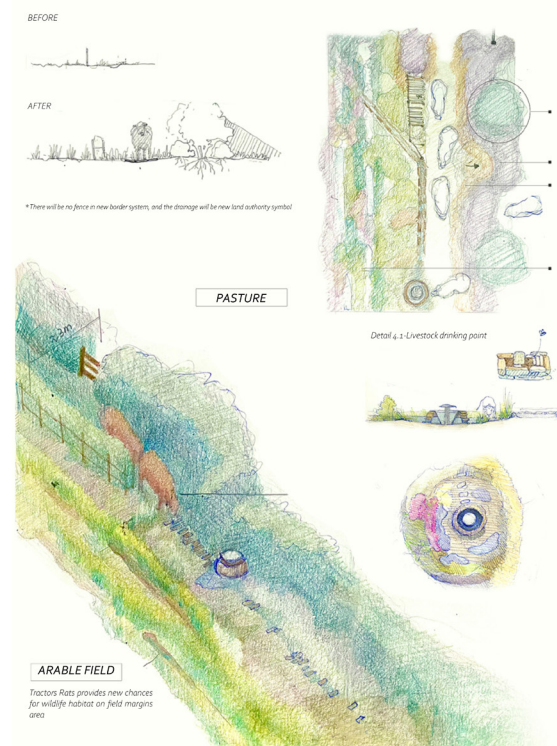
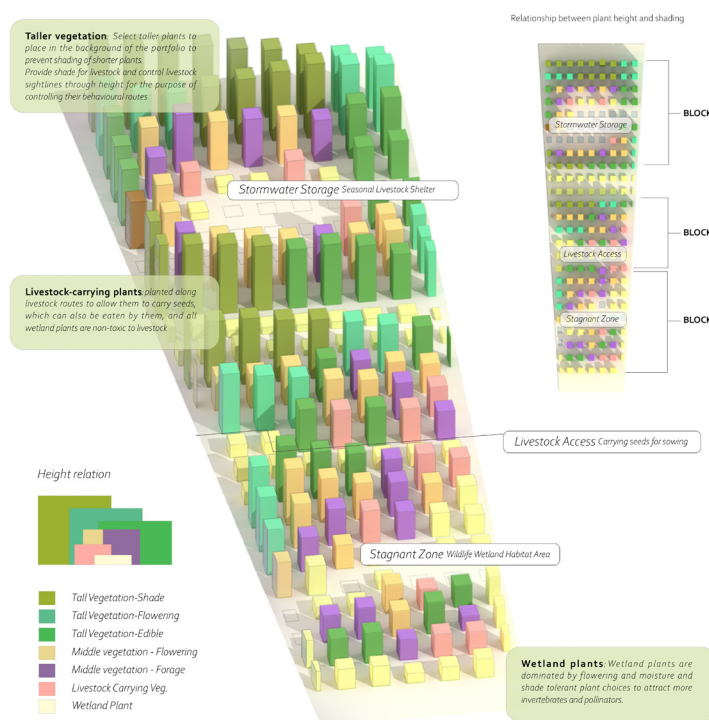
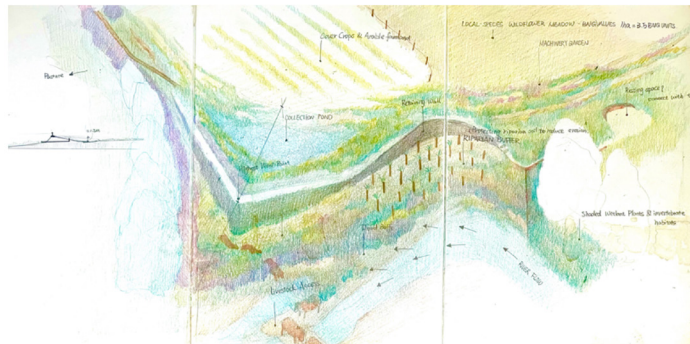
All three blocks are full of water in times of flood, and most of the water can be retained to create wetland habitats when floodwaters subside, ensuring the survival of a wide variety of wildlife river ecosystems before significant human alteration or infrastructure development occurs. This approach aims to

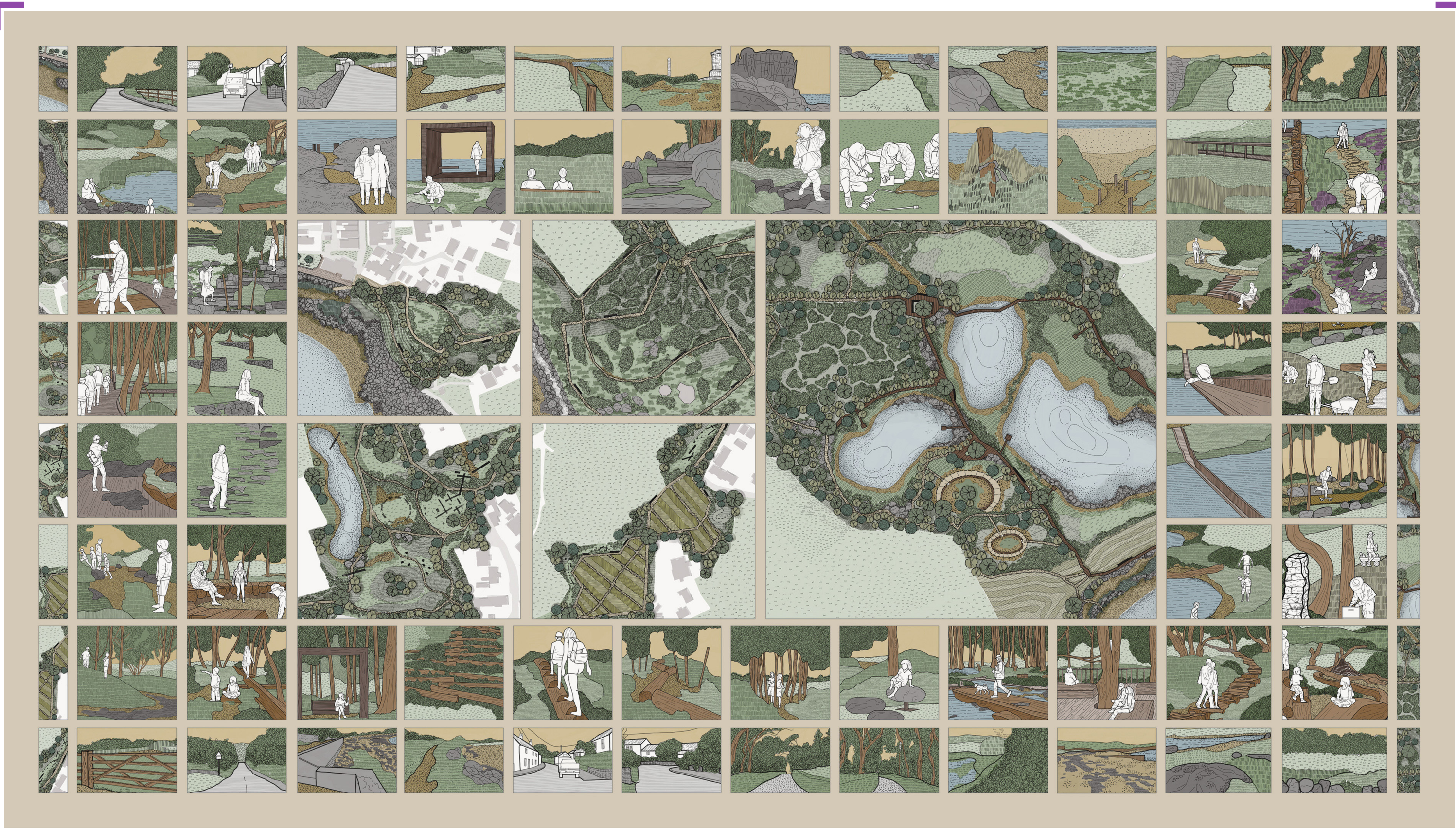
AFTER A HEAVY RAINSTORM



Block 3 creates a rainwater harvesting area by constructing the edge of the pond with soil excavated from Block 1 and shallowly excavating the centre. This area relieves the river during the rainy season and receives runoff from steeply sloped woods and agricultural fields, where it collects to form a detention pond, natural and unaltered state, mimicking conditions prior to human intervention.

A Main Management Route with Retention Pond





Country/City

London, United Kingdom

University / School

Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL

Academic year

MLA Year 2

Title of the project

Tides of Heritage: A Journey Through the Scilly Landscape

Authors

Aditi Nair

Title of the project	Tides of Heritage: A Journey Through the Scilly Landscape
Authors	Aditi Nair
Title of the course	Landscape Architecture MLA
Academic year	MLA Year 2
Teaching Staff	Laurence Blackwell-Thale and Peter Davies
Department / Section / Program of belonging	Landscape Architecture
University / School	Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL



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

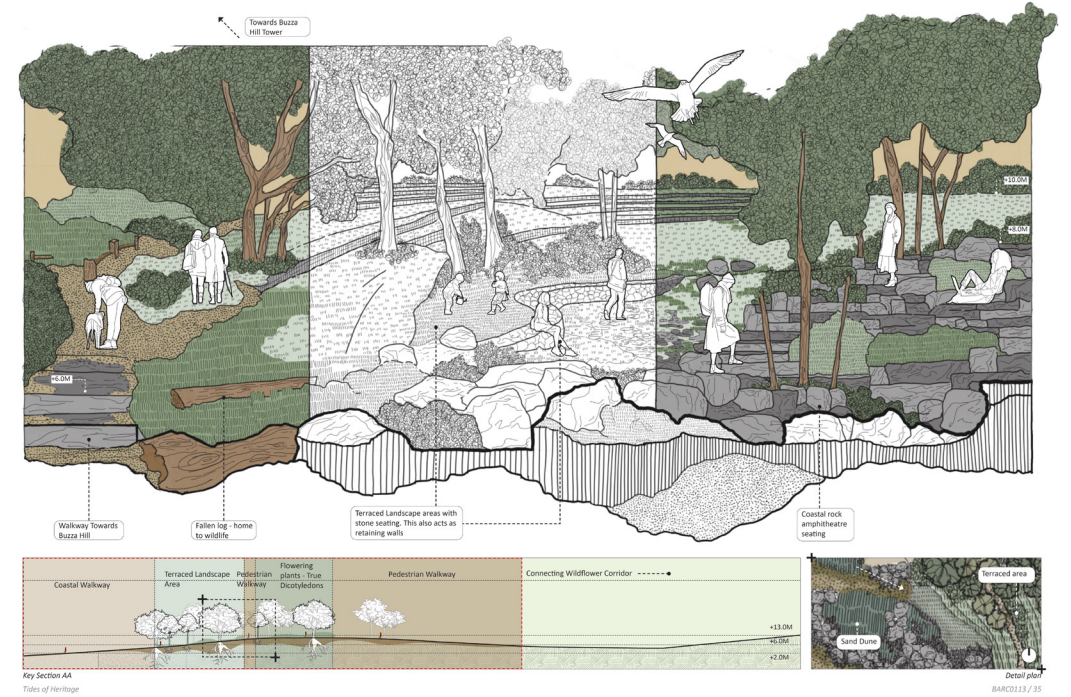
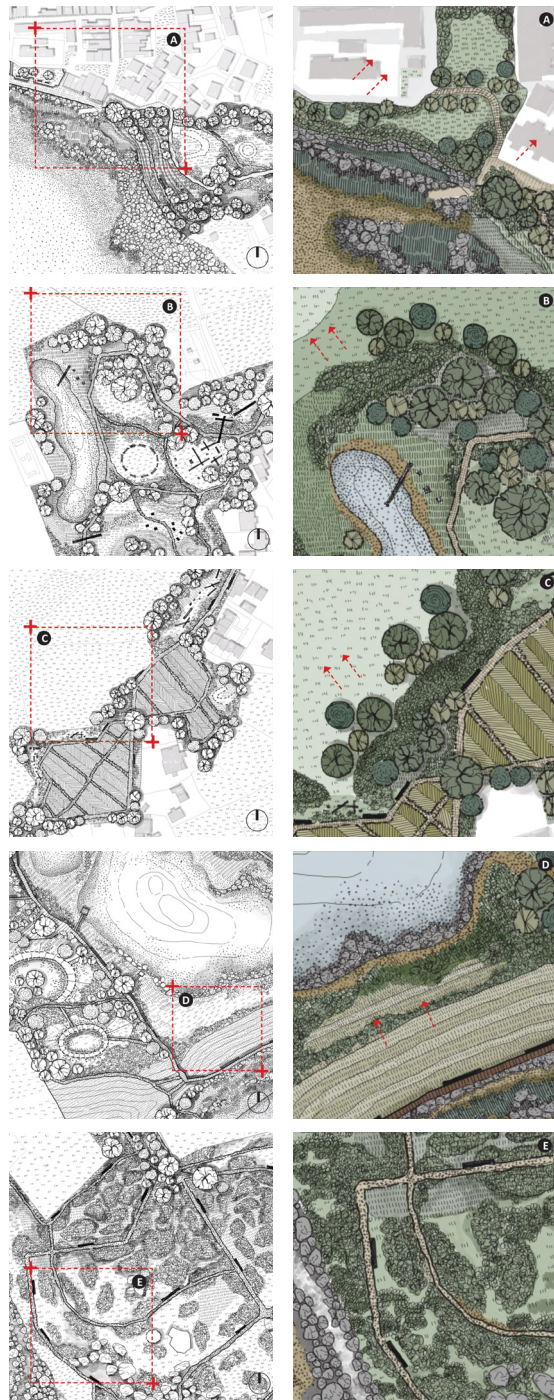
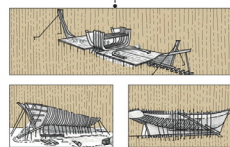
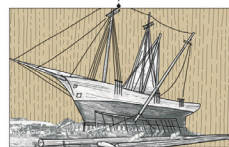
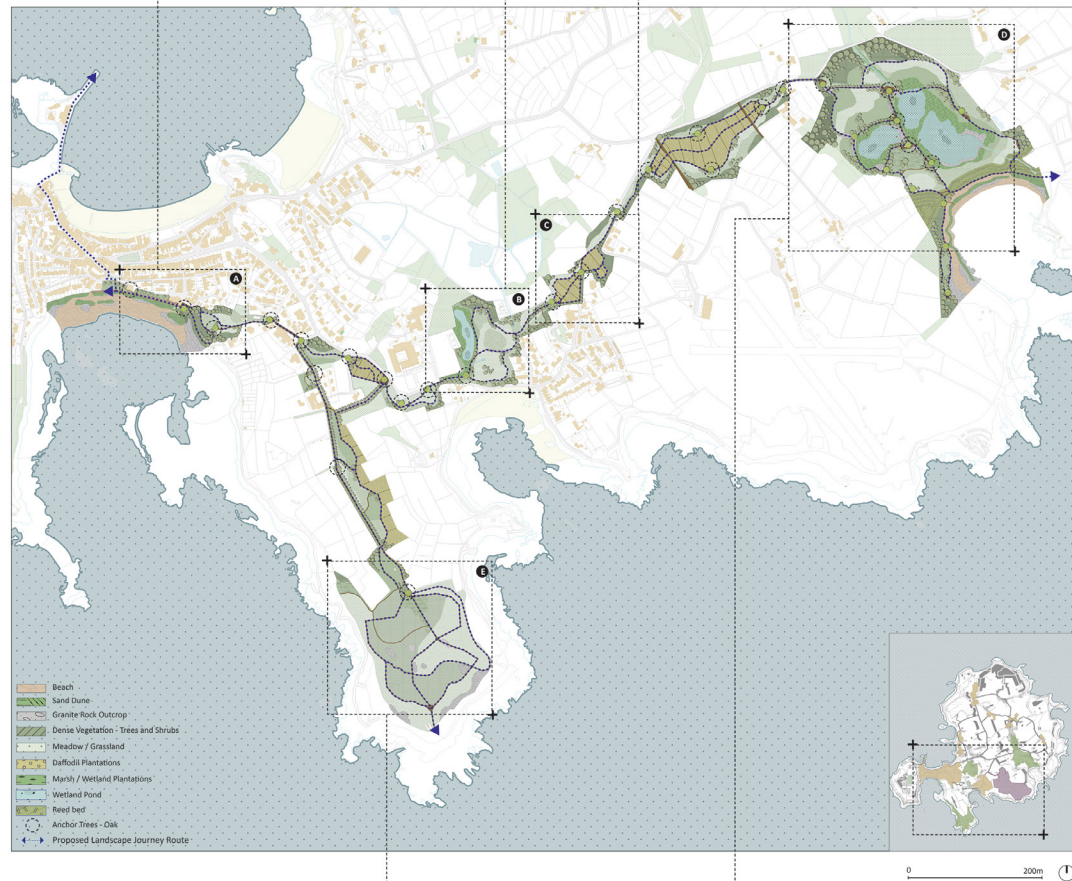
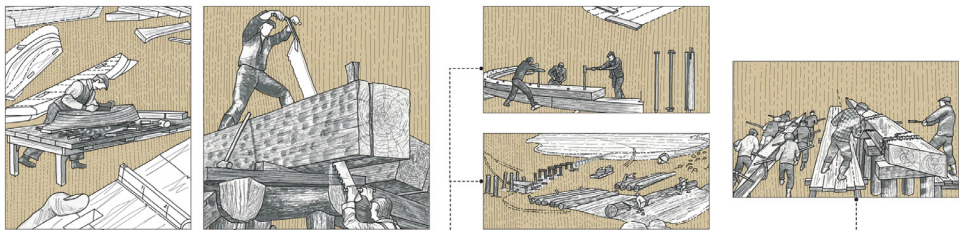
The Isles of Scilly boast a rich maritime heritage shaped by coastal culture and environmental adaptation. Its landscape and history have been continuously moulded by nature and resilient communities. Tides of Heritage honours Scilly's maritime traditions while addressing modern environmental challenges, particularly rising sea levels.

Central to this design proposal is a deep respect for Scilly's shipbuilding tradition, serving as the metaphorical and literal foundation of the design. Visitors embark on an immersive journey through the landscape, capturing the essence of maritime craftsmanship and exploration. The shipbuilding culture is intricately woven into the fabric of the landscape, enriching the visitor experience with historical and cultural symbolism. By integrating historical narratives, ecological resilience, and coastal adaptation strategies, the project aims to create a cohesive landscape connecting various elements, evoking Scilly's maritime spirit while fostering a deep appreciation for its natural beauty and cultural importance. This approach strengthens community bonds, ensuring Scilly's heritage and natural beauty are preserved and celebrated.

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Country/City London, United Kingdom

University / School Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL

Academic year MLA Y2

Title of the project Oasis Reclaim

Authors Ruichao Yang



Title of the project	Oasis Reclaim
Authors	Ruichao Yang
Title of the course	Landscape Architecture MLA
Academic year	MLA Year 2
Teaching Staff	Cannon Ivers and Alexandru Malaescu
Department / Section / Program of belonging	Landscape Architecture
University / School	Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL

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

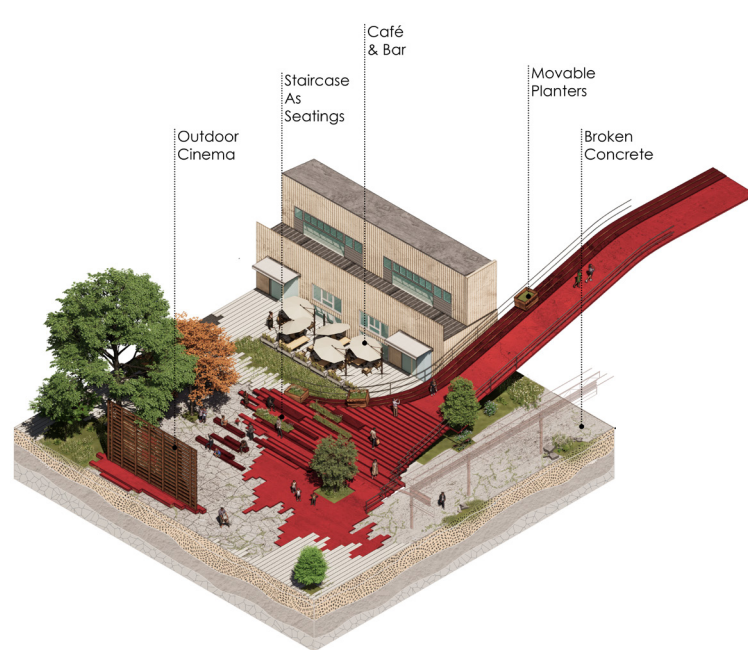
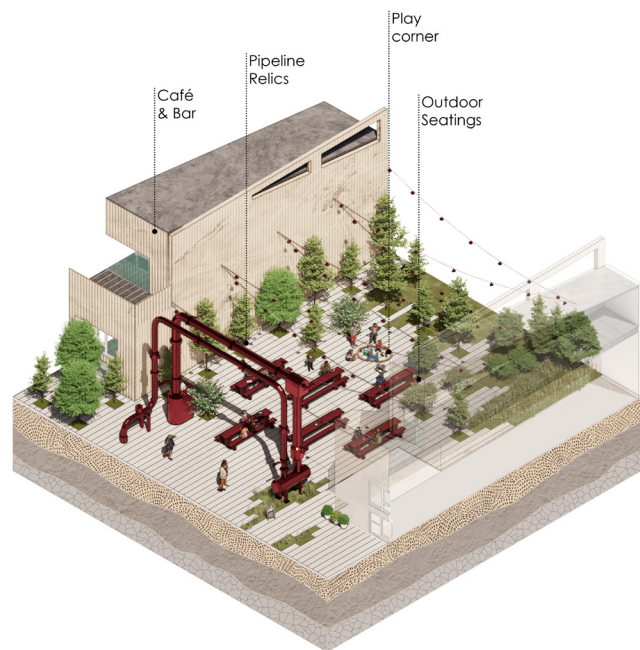
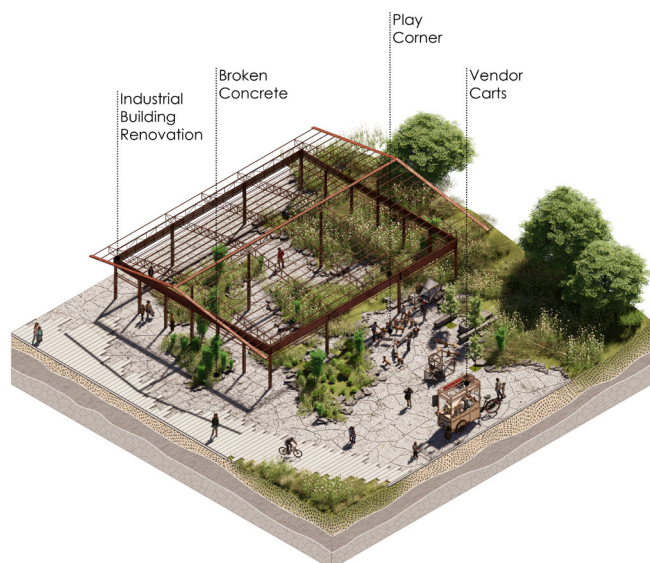
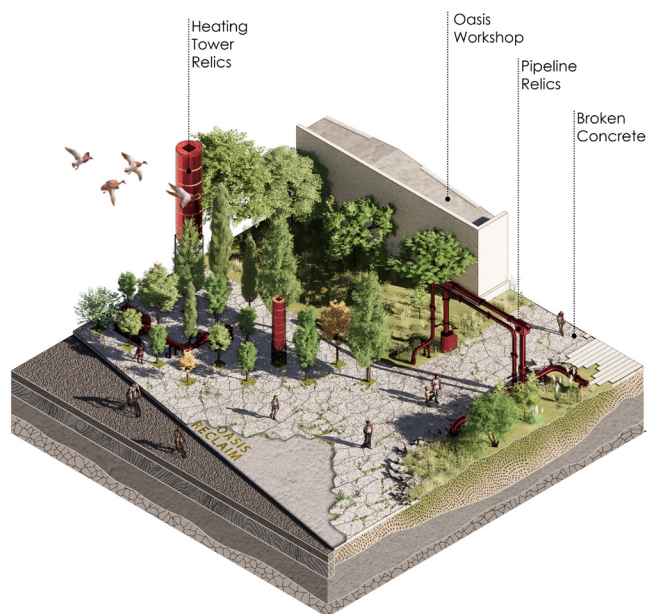
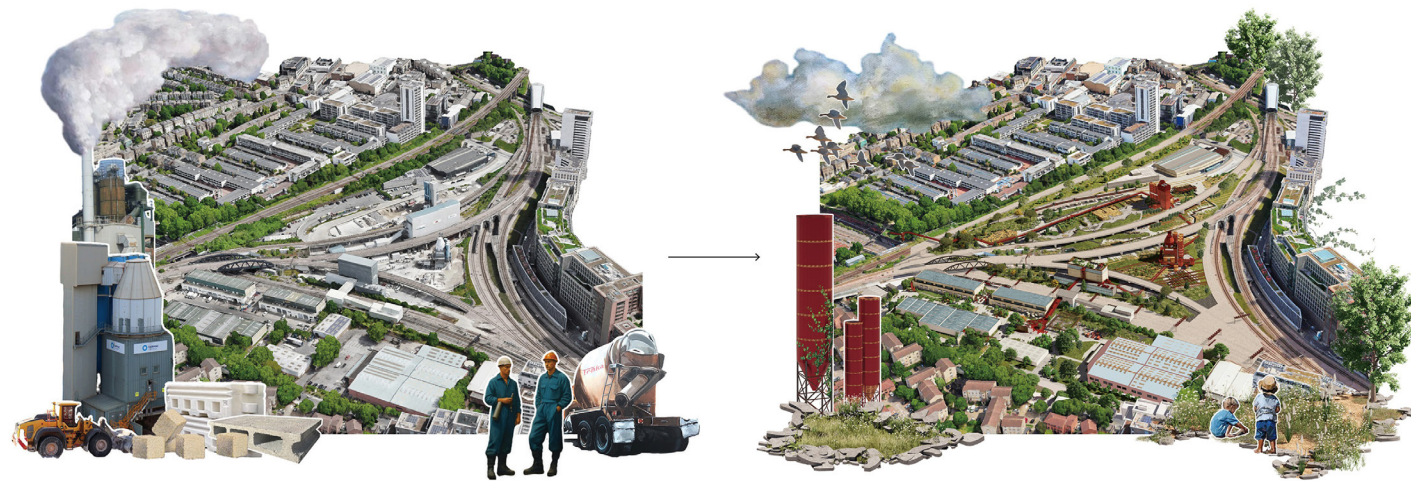
Located by the canal and at the intersection of numerous railways, Kings Cross has borne witness to the city’s evolution over the past two centuries. However, since the 1980s traditional industries ceased to drive the area’s growth, pushing Kings Cross into a period of transition.

This prompts the question of how to redevelop a post-industrial site, especially as industry gradually withdraws from the heart of London. The landscape should not only focus on high-value, high-density land but also explore alternative approaches beyond the typical commercial and gentrified paradigms. To revitalise the site, Oasis Reclaim explores ways to work with nature and time, allowing natural processes to reclaim the area through assisted and spontaneous restoration. By creating an initial environment for ecological succession and guiding its progression, a dynamic, long-term landscape project will be established. This approach seeks to incorporate industrial remnants while respecting natural processes, aiming to find a new balance between the city, memory, people, and nature in this urban oasis.

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Country/City London, United Kingdom

University / School Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL

Academic year MA Year 1

Title of the project A London Eel Matrix

Authors Frankie Smith-Morris



Title of the project	A London Eel Matrix
Authors	Frankie Smith-Morris
Title of the course	Landscape Architecture MA
Academic year	MA Year 1
Teaching Staff	Doug Miller and Katya Larina
Department / Section / Program of belonging	Landscape Architecture
University / School	Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL

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

The European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) is critical to the health of Britain’s rivers. Historically, eels made up to 50% of fish biomass in freshwater systems, contributing to marine, coastal, brackish, freshwater and riparian eco-systems across their 20-year lifespan as both predator and prey. In addition to their ecological significance, the eel has been imbued in the development of English cultures as early as the 10th Century, shaping society from the daily habits of riparian cultures to international trade relations.

Today, however, continued patterns of environmental degradation, overfishing, and the continued movement of urban cultures away from river systems, have left the European eel on the brink of extinction. This project uses a case study of The Ravensbourne River in southeast London to design a system of ecological conservation of the European eel. The broader outcome of this work aims to assist ongoing, though often isolated, community attempts to restore the river’s fragmented ecologies, conceptualising how historic practices of the movement of eels can benefit local ecologies and cultures.

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Country/City	London, United Kingdom
University / School	Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL
Academic year	MLA Y2
Title of the project	Shalescapes of West Lothian: Reclaiming an Industrial Heritage
Authors	Alice Carrington-Windo



Title of the project	Shalescapes of West Lothian: Reclaiming an Industrial Heritage
Authors	Alice Carrington-Windo
Title of the course	Landscape Architecture MA
Academic year	MLA Year 2
Teaching Staff	Tom Budd, Hannah Corlett and Lyn Poon
Department / Section / Program of belonging	Landscape Architecture
University / School	Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL

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

This project explores the historic shale oil industry of West Lothian, Scotland, which produced roughly 75 million barrels of oil and 500 billion cubic feet of gas between 1856 and 1962; marking the site where fossil fuels were first extracted from the earth on an industrial scale. Traces of the industry are still visible across this post-extraction landscape in the form of spoil heaps or ‘bings’. Once seen as a blight, these huge landforms are now recognised for their biodiversity; remote islands providing refuge to flora and fauna amidst a predominantly urban and agricultural landscape.

The project focuses on the village of Winchburgh, which is currently undergoing significant expansion. The design aims to challenge the proposed development, highlighting West Lothian’s rich ecological and cultural heritage. The bings are retained as a refuge from encroaching development, while simultaneously making them – and the shale they consist of – an integral part of the expanding village. Using material re-use and planting strategies, the design foregrounds local resources and extant ecological processes to develop a proposal that is unequivocally led by the landscape in which it exists.

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