

MANCHESTER SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

COLLABORATOR
Waymarking C.I.C.

TEAM

Hannah Lam
Hui-Ting, Hsu
Yi-Cheng, Tai
Oliver Le Marquand

SKILLS

Model making
Hand drawing
Planting
SketchUp
Photoshop
InDesign

Visit msa.ac.uk for more information



AGENDA

Join our team as we lead a collaborative project to design an outdoor flexible space to bring people together in this community led project.

Team

Hsu, Hui-Ting (M Arch 01)

Lam, Hannah (M Arch 01)

Oliver Le Marquand (M Arch 01)

Tai, Yi-Cheng (M Arch 01)

Emilia Stanhope (BA 01)

Jessica Haldane (BA 01)

Shreya Goyal (BA 01)

Alice Austin-Fell (BA 01)

Molly Anne Kenwright (BA 02)

Yan Hei Ashlie Ho (BA 02)

Asim Choudhry (BA 02)

Laura-Elena Popa (BA 02)

Ron Aladjem (BA 02)

Partners

Waymarking works with communities to shape and influence how their neighbourhoods are developing, through community-led planning, regeneration and economic development.

Waymarking is led by director Sarah Spanton, who has a background in the arts and creative sectors, which is fused with urban design and community-led regeneration techniques to create bespoke place-based capacity building programmes. Recent and current projects include: supporting community business development in Gipton, Leeds (commissioned by Space2, Leeds) and Manningham, Bradford (commissioned by Power to Change), community-led healthier neighbourhood programmes in Woodhouse Park Manchester (commissioned by MCRactive). These co-designed and co-produced programmes have included supporting communities to: undertake their own research into health in their neighbourhoods; staff and participant training on setting up community businesses and on neighbourhood economic resilience, including setting up inspirational study visits. Community members working with Waymarking, find and amplify their voices, develop agency and realise their potential power as a group, and lead on local regeneration where they live and work.

Agenda

Seeds of Joy

Waymarking C.I.C. is working in partnership with community garden leaders in Miles Platting in East Manchester on a project called Seeds of Joy (SOJ). SOJ is a place-based community regeneration programme in the disadvantaged area of Miles Platting, connecting/enhancing green spaces for health and wellbeing. It supports local residents on low incomes to get involved in community gardening, for physical and mental health, to grow food to eat, to enjoy nature and socialise in an outdoor community space.

Our team, 'Seeds of Joy', lead a collaborative project with Waymarking C.I.C. to design an outdoor flexible space to bring people together in this community led project.

We will be leading a series of workshops to come up with design and this will lead to final presentations and if, successful, idea implementation.

SITE INTRODUCTION

SITE VISIT

On the second day of the project, our group went to Miles Platting to visit the site and meet with the client, Sarah Spanton, for the first time. The students explored the garden and collected photographs and notes that would aid in their design process.



CONVERSATION WITH THE CLIENT

After the site visit, the client invited residents from the area and other gardeners to speak to the students about what they wanted from the project. This was an important opportunity as the students were able to ask specific questions that would impact their design process. The key information was that the design needed to be adaptable and must be cost-effective because it would only be possible through crowdfunding. The client also explained the importance of recycling and reusing materials already found in the garden.



COMMUNITY PLANTING

In the afternoon, we were invited by the client to take part in a two-hour community planting session, which took part in the garden directly next to the site. The students split up into smaller teams which focused on digging, planting and watering. This was another opportunity for the students to immerse themselves in the garden and to speak to the people who would be directly impacted by this project.



GROUP SELECTION

We got the students to work together to create a physical site model at 1:200 scale. They worked very efficiently and finished in a single afternoon which was faster than we anticipated.

In our timetable we planned to put the students into pairs for the first week to come up with initial ideas and then we would form larger groups in the second week. However, due to absences and the fact that people still had studio extensions, we decided to form two larger groups from the start of the project to make the workload more manageable. Each group had both first and second years to ensure there was a balance in skills and experience.

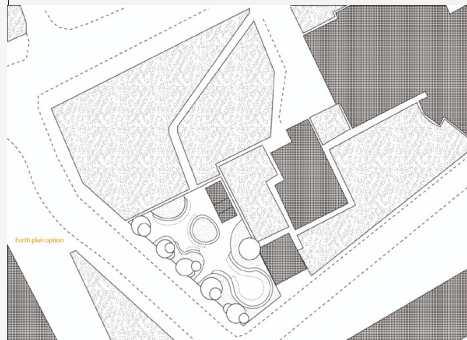
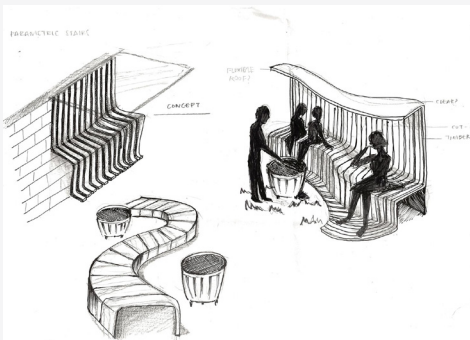
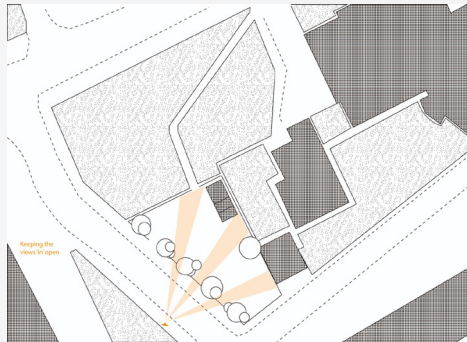
Group A - Shreya, Jess, Ashleigh and Laura

Group B - Ron, Molly, Emilia and Alice



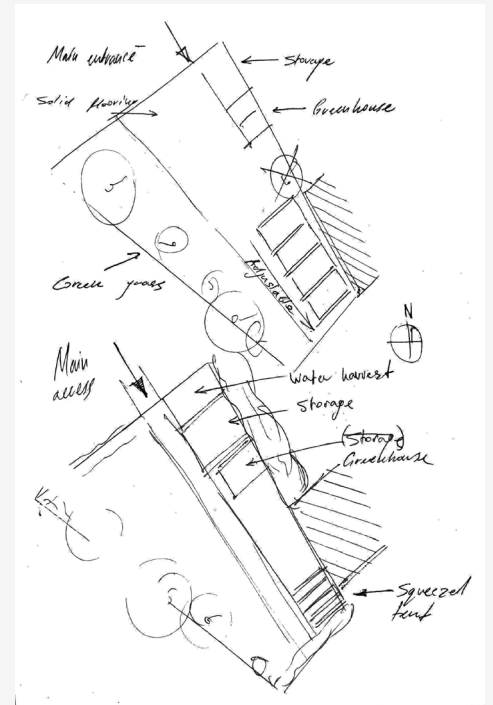
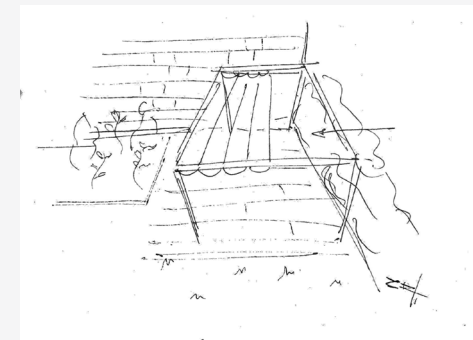
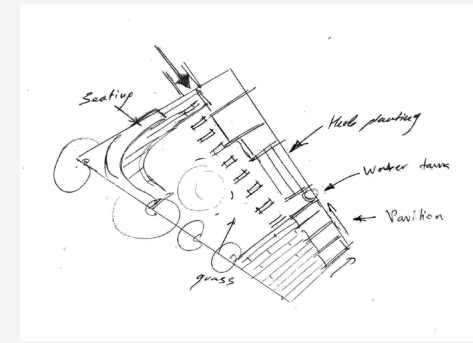
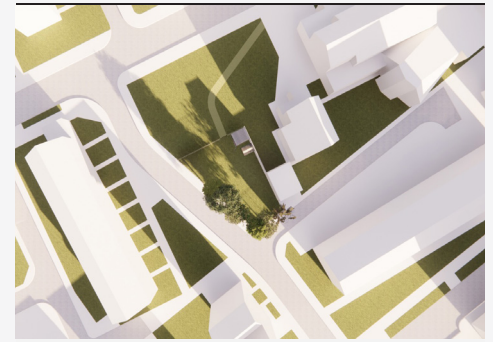
Group A - Concept Development

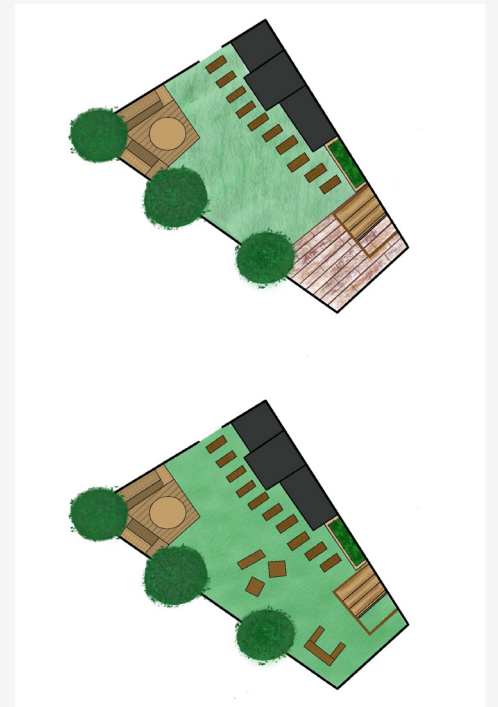
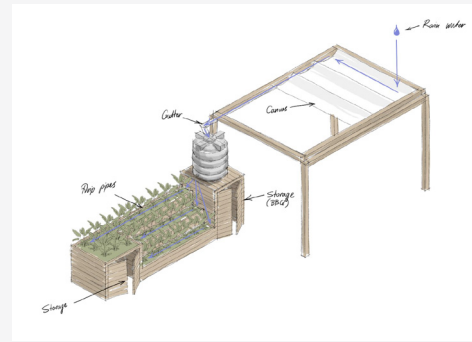
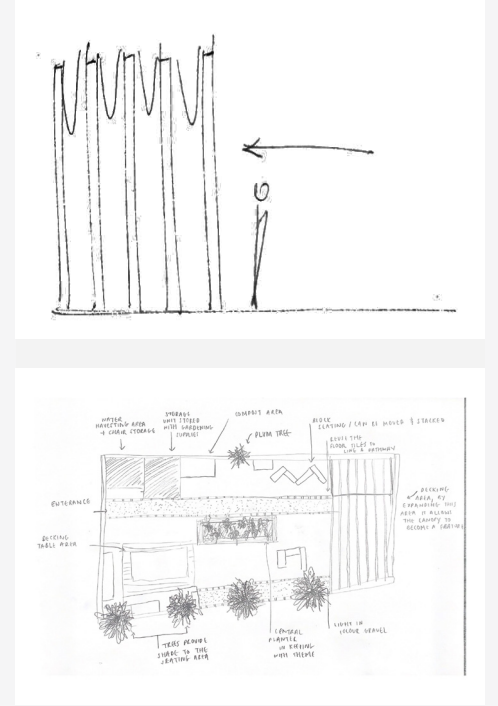
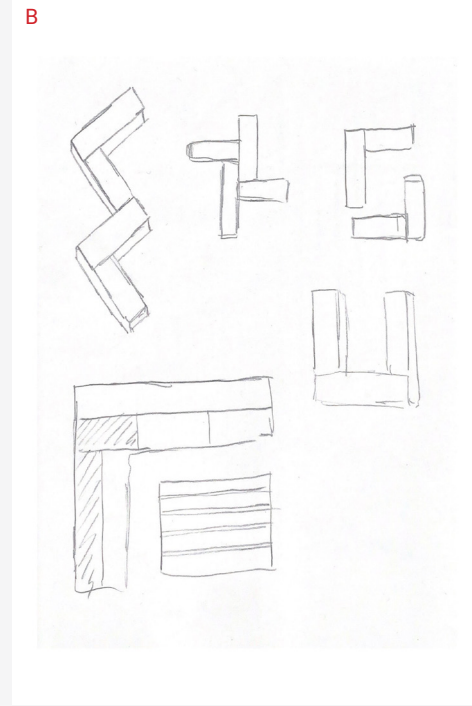
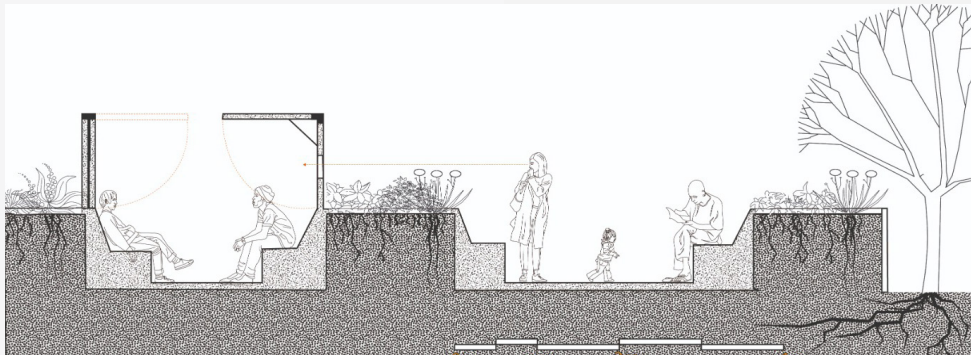
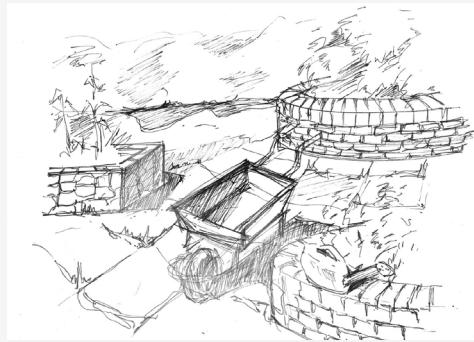
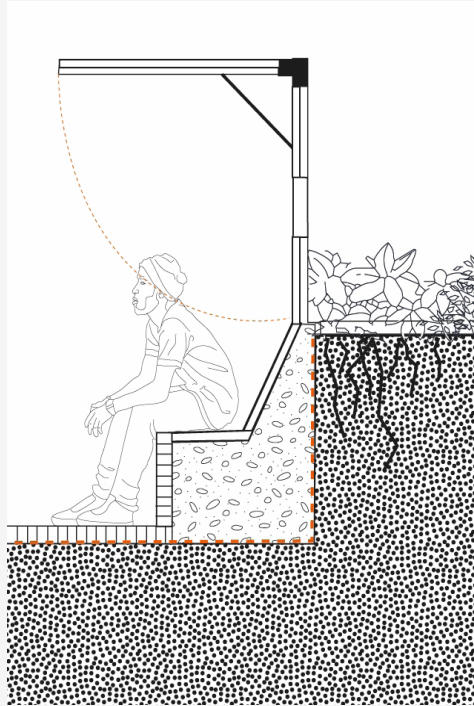
By visiting the site and having conversations with the community gardeners, group A came to understand that the clients wanted a space that could reflect the community's history and be a flexible space for people of all ages. Their initial idea was to use the existing elements of our site and the neighbouring Hollands Street Community Gardens and incorporate them into the design. Introducing transparency in the view into the garden and including seating spaces were two very important factors that they considered in their development as our clients wanted to provide a safe and accessible space to the community. Using materials such as timber which would blend with the plants and brick which would reflect the industrial history, their design is an organic design that produces explorable pathways for the people.

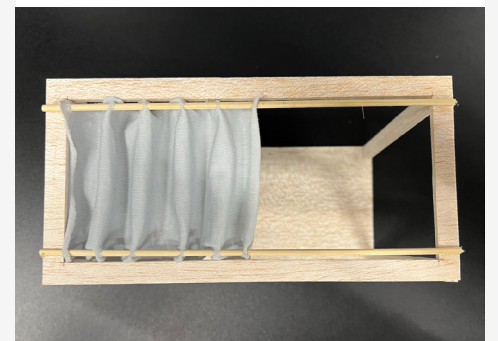
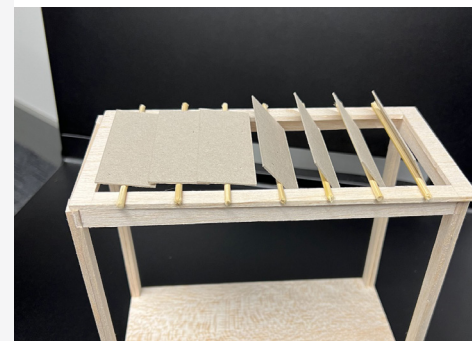
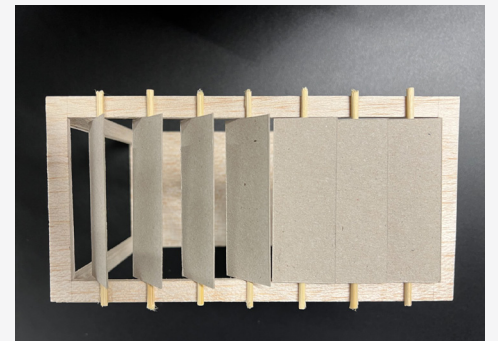
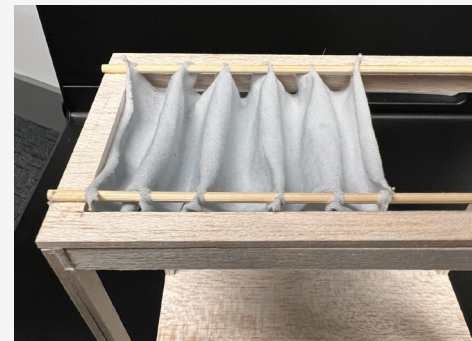
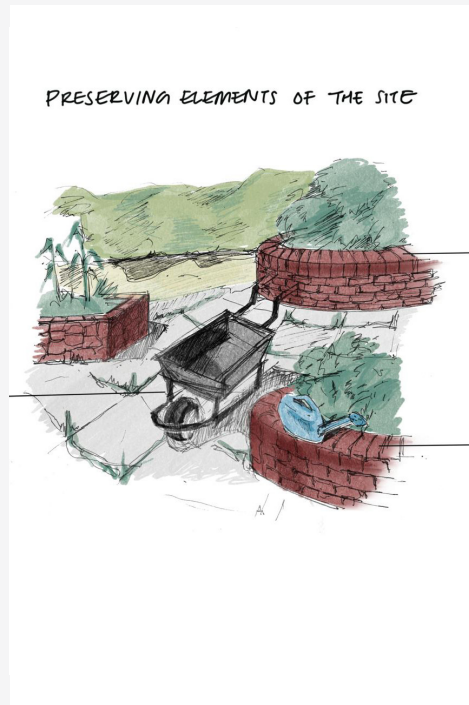
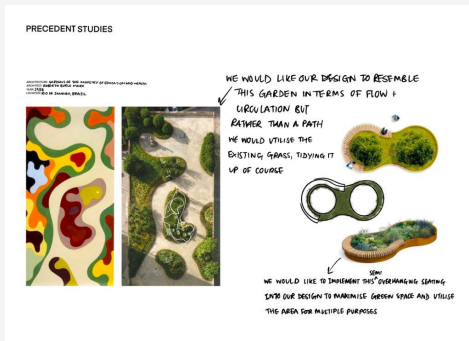
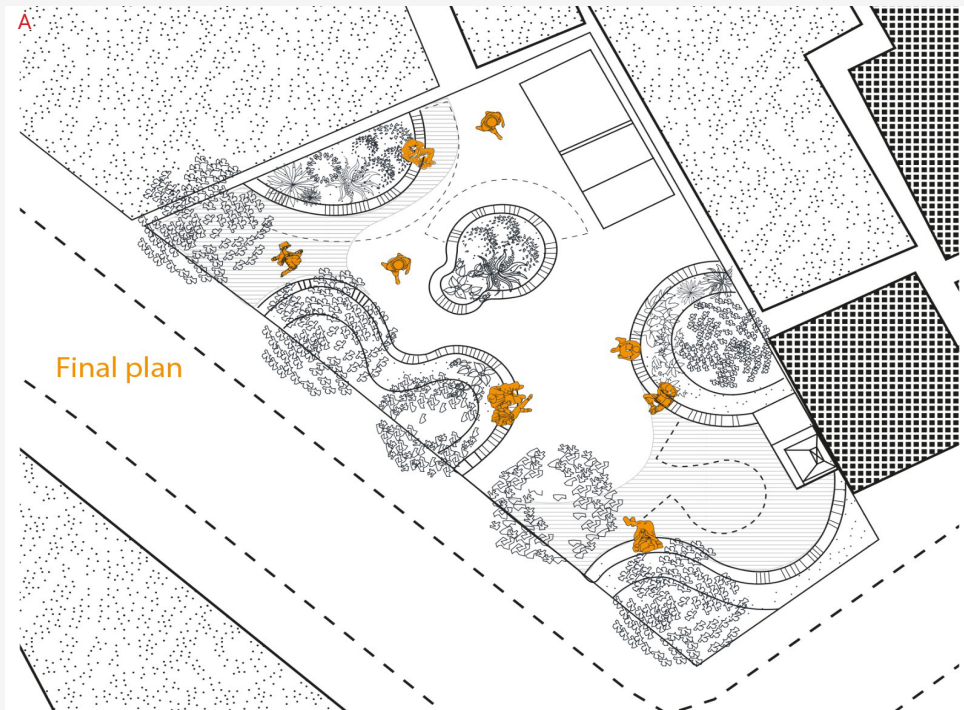


Group B - Concept Development

When group B first visited the site, their main thought was that they needed to utilise the areas that receive the most sunlight. Following this, they did a solar analysis that helped gain clearer ideas of the best areas on the site. This then aided them when placing their initial idea of a retractable canopy on the site. Using this as their main idea, they worked around the canopy and created the rest of the features that would be placed in the garden. They began thinking about features such as decking, planters and pathway placement, trying to preserve as many as the initial site features as possible. These ideas all arose by wanting a design that was simple to build, meaning that not only would the owners of the garden be able to take part in the construction process but also the community.







Group A - Client Presentation

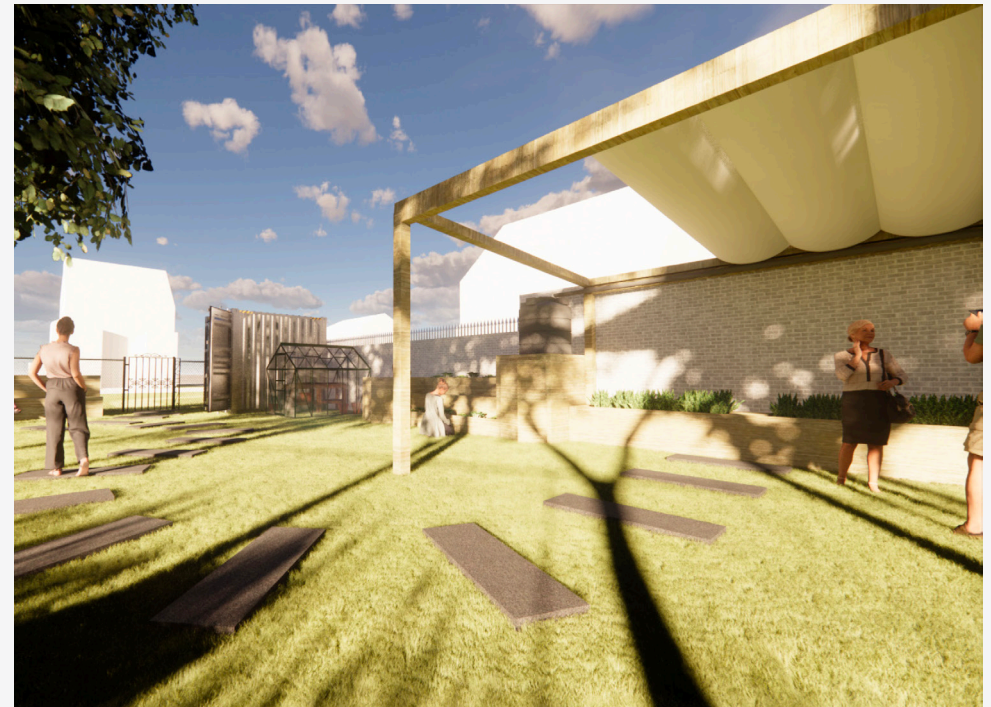
We went back to Miles Platting to meet with the client and the community gardeners to propose both of the group's design concepts at the end of the second week.

Group A presented their process as well as final renders, which resulted in our client's appreciation, even asking when it was being built! They generated iterations for the clients to choose from, including varying designs with different costs and materials. The client particularly liked the integration of seating spaces with the flower beds and the inclusion of a pizza oven. The clients also appreciated their consideration of materiality and provided cheaper alternatives to cater to their financial situation.



Group B - Client Presentation

Group B presented their scheme next and they received positive feedback. The client appreciated how they had made a simple, easy and cheap design. They also loved the aspect that the community would be able to take part in the construction process due to the simplicity. Group B provided multiple iterations for the garden that removed certain aspects to preserve the cost. Their final proposal had no decked areas but they also provided the alternative with it included which the client particularly appreciated because they were able to visualise the garden in many different ways. The presentation was a brilliant opportunity for the students to explain their ideas and communicate them clearly to the client, which positively concluded the two-week project.



ABOUT

Each year the MSA LIVE programme unites M Arch. year 01 with B Arch. year 01 and 02 and M Land. Arch 01 in mixed-year teams to undertake live projects with external partners to create social impact.

LIVE PROJECTS

All MSA LIVE projects are live. A live project is where an educational organisation and an external partner develop a brief, timescale, and outcome for their mutual benefit.

SOCIAL IMPACT

All MSA LIVE projects have social impact. Social impact is the effect an organization's actions have on the well-being of a community. Our agendas are set by our external collaborators.

EXTERNAL PARTNERS

MSA LIVE projects work with many organisations: charities, community groups, social enterprises, community interest companies, researchers, practitioners and educators.

STUDENT-LED

Our MSA masters students take the lead in the project conception, brief development, delivery and co-ordination of a small project. Other cohorts joined for an eventful 2 weeks of activities at the end of the academic year.

KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

Working in teams within and across year groups and courses; MSA students participate in peer to peer learning. In addition, collaborators, participants and students engage in the transfer of tangible and intellectual property, expertise, learning and skills.

LARGE SCALE

This year approximately 550 students from 4 cohorts in MSA have worked on 35 projects with partners.

QUESTIONS

For questions about MSA LIVE please contact the MSA LIVE team:

msalive@mmu.ac.uk

BLOG

live.msa.ac.uk/2022

SOCIAL

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WEBSITE

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