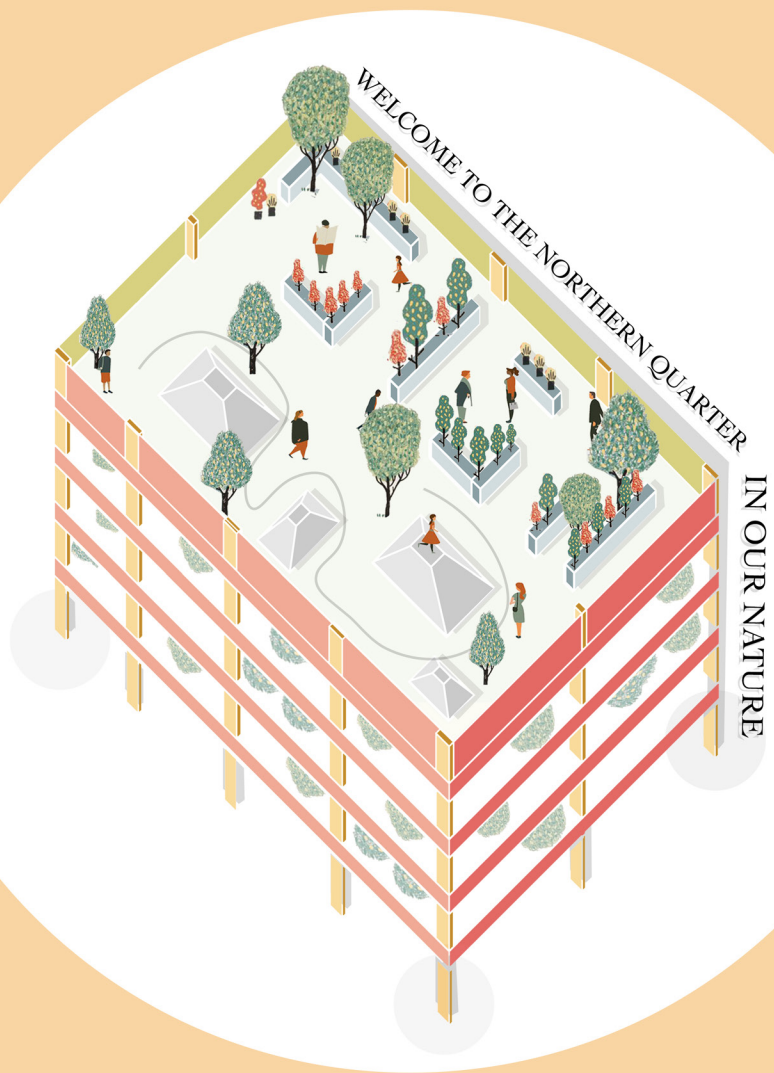


MANCHESTER SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE



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MSA LIVE 22

Team

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Regina Anna Jedrzejek (BA 02)

Ankita Rani (MLA 01)

Partners

The In Our Nature programme has been developed in response to the needs of Manchester's diverse communities. Our aim is to: 'Engage, empower, support, enable and inspire Manchester communities to take action to reduce their CO2 emissions by 50% over five years and increase their resilience to the changing climate, at the same time as helping them to achieve other local priorities'. The programme has been developed by six Core Partners, organisations with experience in developing and delivering local climate change, community and youth projects: Manchester Climate Change Agency (lead), Hubbub, Manchester City Council, the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research at the University of Manchester, Amity CIC and Commonplace.

The aim of the programme is to unlock the potential of Manchester residents and communities in responding to the climate emergency by supporting six In Our Nature Community Groups to take the lead in their communities, deliver a series of local projects and running a city-wide communications campaign. Together we aim to create a tried and tested toolkit of projects that can be scaled across the whole of Manchester and communities across the UK.

National Trust

The National Trust protect and care for places so people and nature can thrive.

The National Lottery Fund

This project is funded by the national lottery community fund.

Agenda

In Our Nature

Our project is part of the In Our Nature Programme, whose goal is to help tackle climate change by greening cities, promoting sustainable living practices, and improving public space. The site of the project was the Tib Street carpark in the heart of the Northern Quarter, a buzzy area within Manchester. In Our Nature plans to transform this disused carpark into a community garden, adding more green space into the city centre. This garden will be used to grow fruits and vegetables to support surrounding restaurants, promoting local produce sourcing, as well as creating allotment spaces for nearby residents.

Alongside the community gardens, the collaborators encouraged us to design a secondary programme to generate more attraction to the site. Giving the team freedom to be imaginative allowed the project to develop in line with the interests of the students who could give input on what they might want to see in this space. Some of the ideas for this include a market street, a food court, an event space, and even a skatepark. This mixture of different programmes provided a challenging but invigorating brief for our team to tackle, with the prospect of the project developing a passion to create a great design.

The aims of this project were to promote awareness and tackle climate change within Manchester by creating a community garden and inner-city green space in the Northern Quarter, whilst also bringing new life to an unloved carpark. Through conversations with our collaborators, our focuses were on assemblage and adaptability of the gardens, safety across the site, and promoting sustainability in the city. The Tib Street carpark roof transformation is an exciting project with many enthusiastic collaborators involved, all sharing the same goals to ultimately make Manchester a greener and more sustainable city.

Join us and let's make the Northern Quarter a greener place.

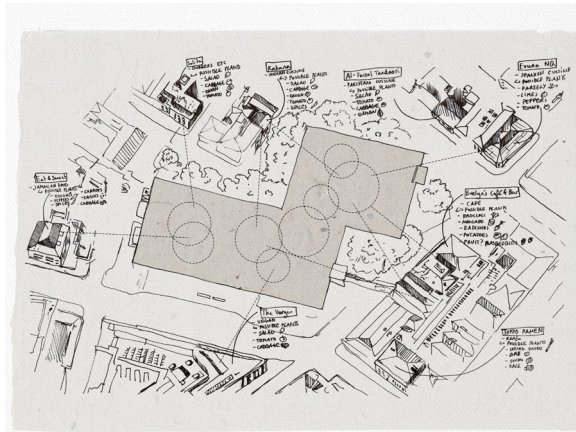
Site Investigation

We began our project by undertaking an analysis of the site. Although our site visit was disrupted by the typical Manchester rain, we began to look at the site and the restaurants and shops that surrounded it. This allowed the team to understand what foods could be grown on the roof of the car park, as well as who might use the site based on the retail outlets nearby.



Site sketch

When we made it to the site, we carried out a full site analysis, taking pictures, drawing sketches, and getting a feel for the space we had to work with. From here, the students created programme collages to show what they could envision in this space, exploring the potential to include skateparks, food markets, and outdoor cinemas.



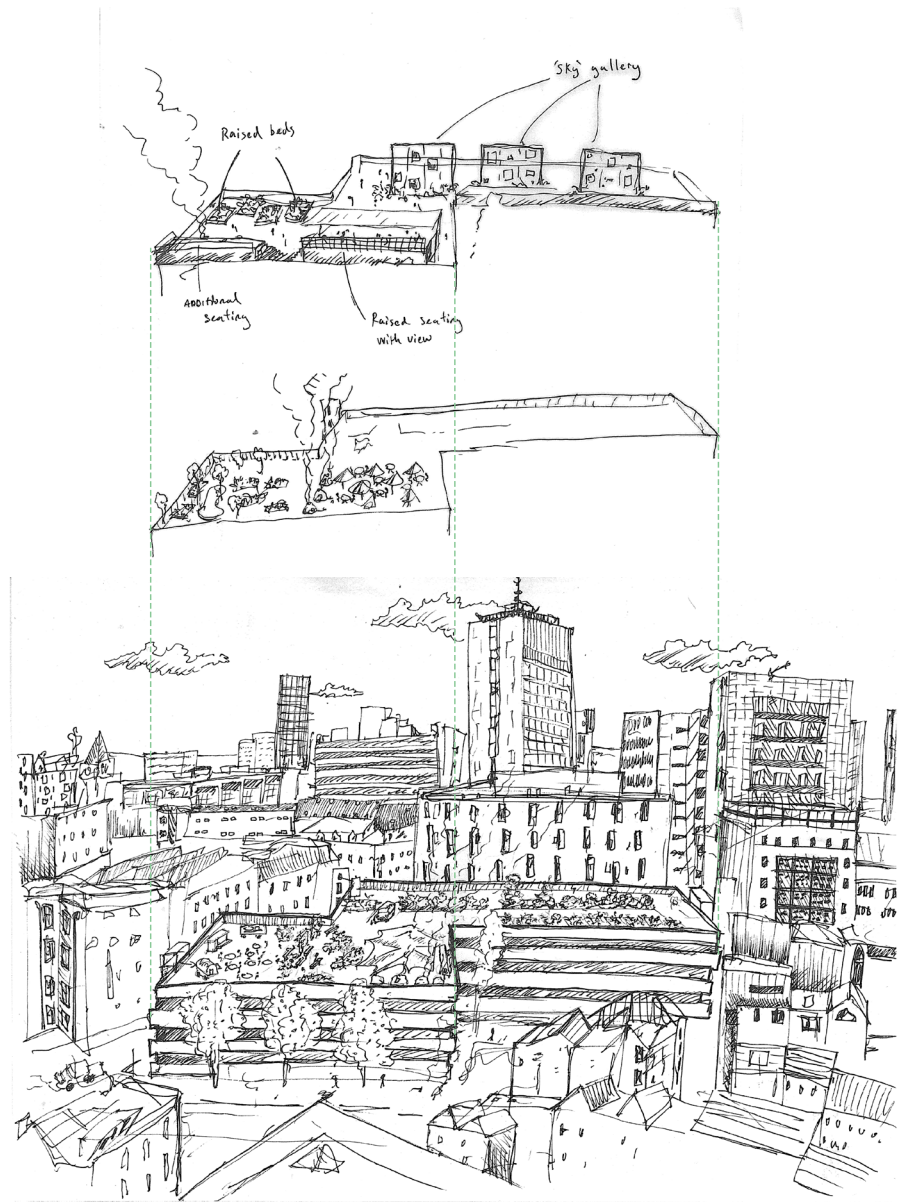
Restaurant mapping

The students then began creating sketch plans for the site, testing different layout options for everyone's ideas. This helped spatially visualise how the project could be laid out across the carpark. After several developments we began working collaboratively, collating everyone's ideas for the project into a well-designed plan, which we could then take forward as a final design. Solidifying the plans also meant that we could begin working into all the individual elements, such as the garden's planters, encouraging the students to work on a micro scale.

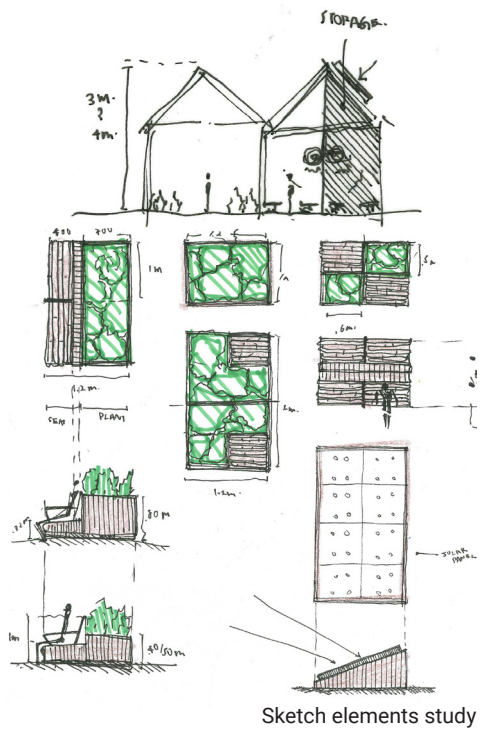
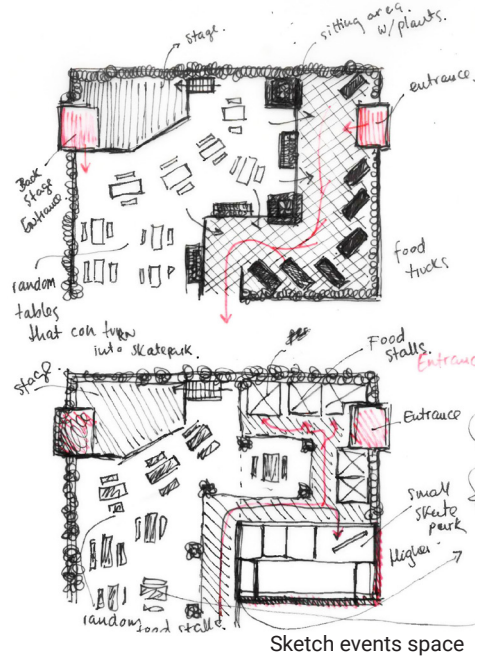
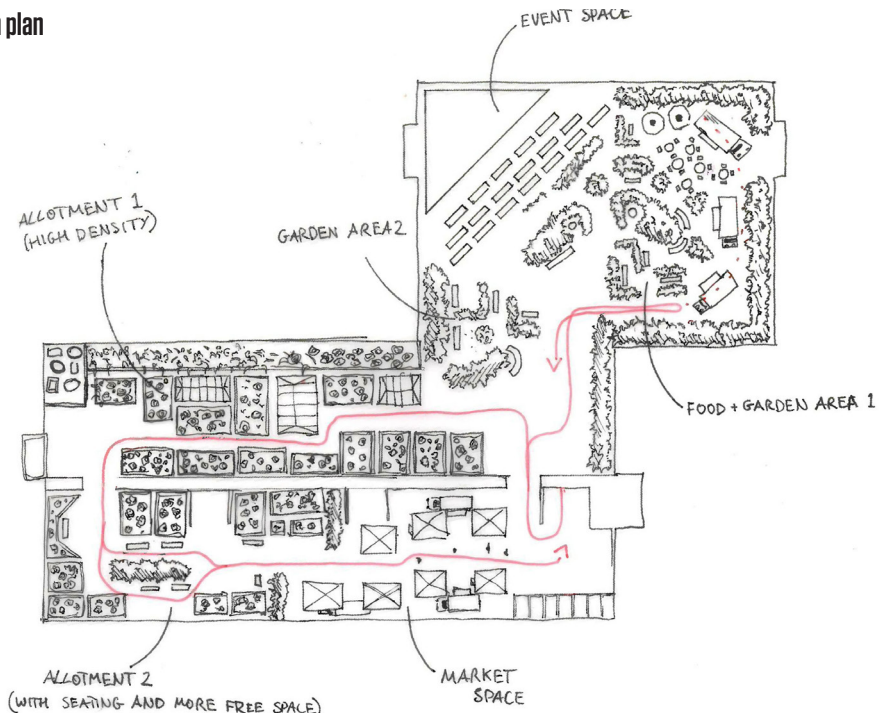


Programme collage

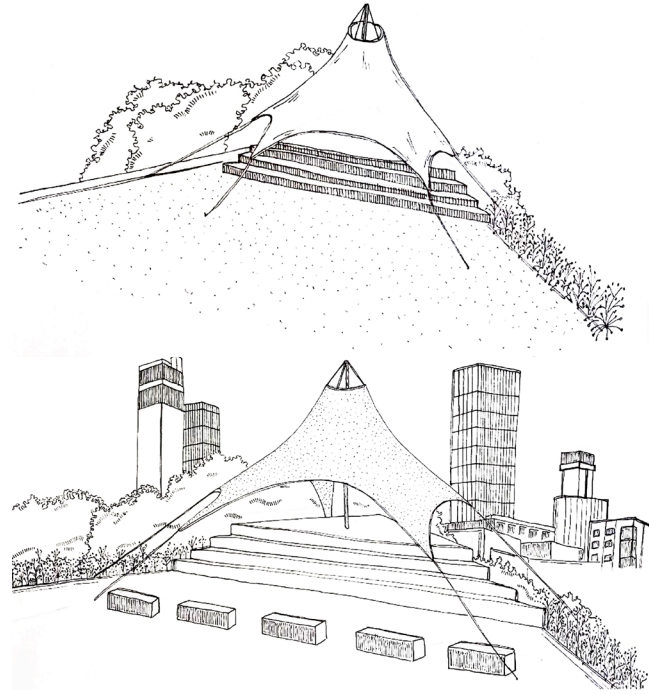
Site sketch



Sketch plan



Event space



Canopy sketch idea

For our secondary programme, the students were really interested in creating a social space that included food trucks and a small event space that could be adapted into a skatepark. The idea of the food created in the garden contributing to the food served on the rooftop really interested everyone and was the initial instigator for this programme, which subsequently lead to the application of a seating area. The students designed this seating area to have temporary seating that could be adapted into a skatepark when necessary, creating a link to Note skate shop on Thomas Street, with more permanent seating through coming through the previously mentioned planters.

As well as the beautiful, moveable planters, the team implemented a stage for the events, designing and modelling a tensile structure to act as a canopy. It was great to see the development of the design from sketch to model to visual, and we can imagine this being a great place for people to sit and enjoy the food.

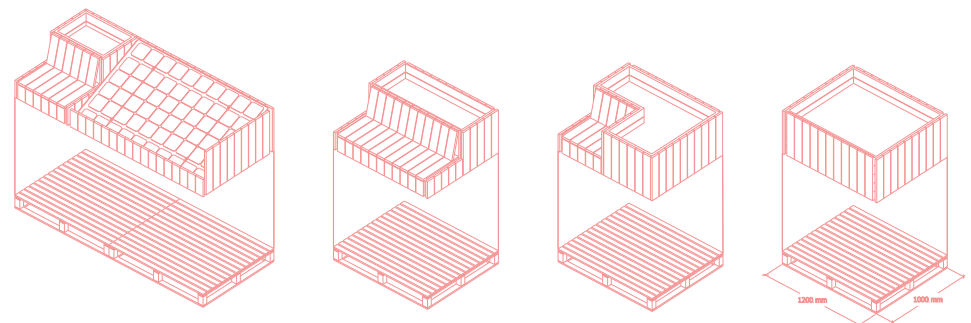


Canopy model



Event space visual

Elements study - Solar panel planters



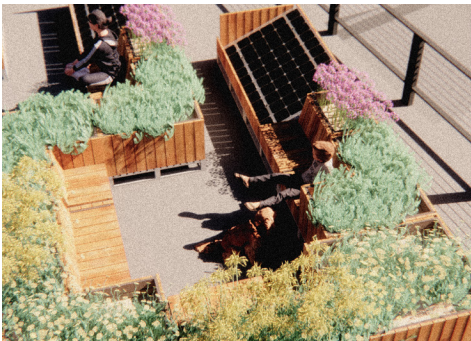
Simple assemblage of seating area



Solar panel integrated into the seating planter arrangement

Planter Design

When discussing the design for the planters with our collaborators, one thing they made clear was that they should be movable. From this our students designed beautiful modular planters based on the dimensions of pallets. This allowed the planters to be picked up and moved by forklift trucks and fit together in different configurations to suit the users. The team began to design seating into the planters to allow people to relax when working and enjoying the community gardens. Furthermore, our students began experimenting with how green technologies could be implemented into the design, looking at solar panels to generate energy that would supply the roof top.

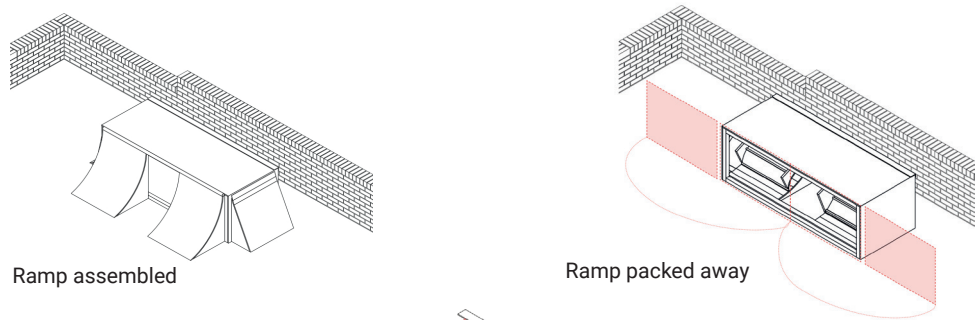


Seating Visual

Adaptable Skate Ramps

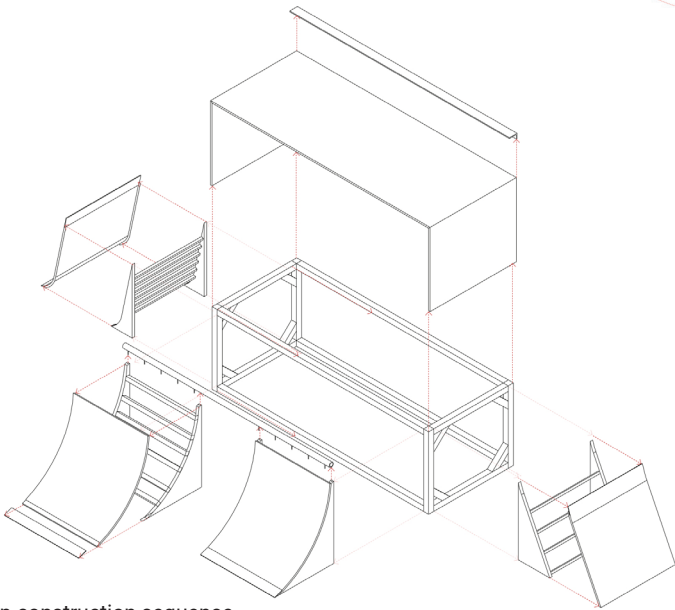
With a skatepark also in everyone's minds, one of our students designed some skate ramps that could be packable to create additional seating throughout the scheme. This adaptability was loved by the clients and allowed the design of the project to be versatile and would help in attracting all demographics of people at all times of the year.

Skate park



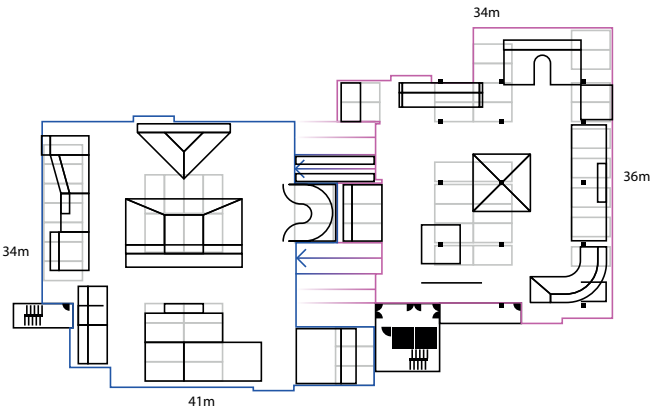
Ramp assembled

Ramp packed away

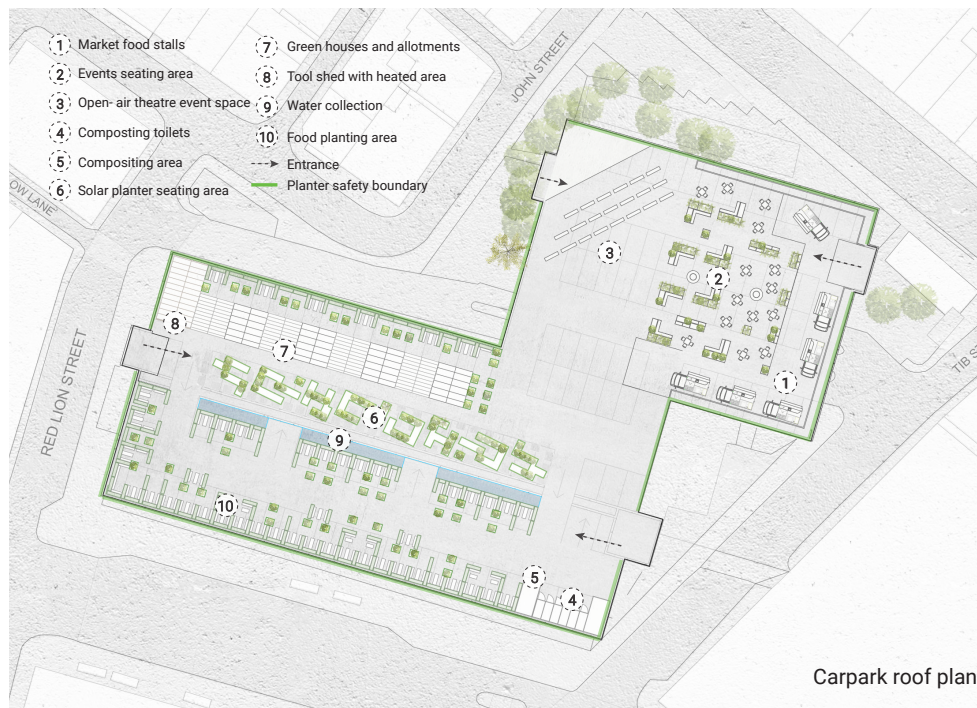


Skateboard ramp construction sequence

2.4mx 4.8m Levels 1 2 10:2

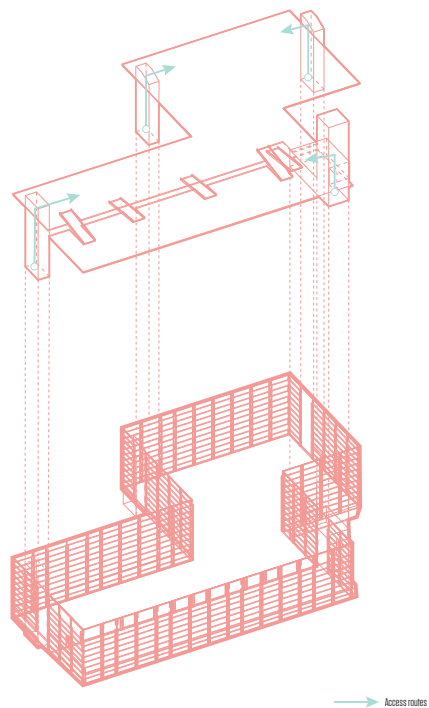


Plan option for the skate park

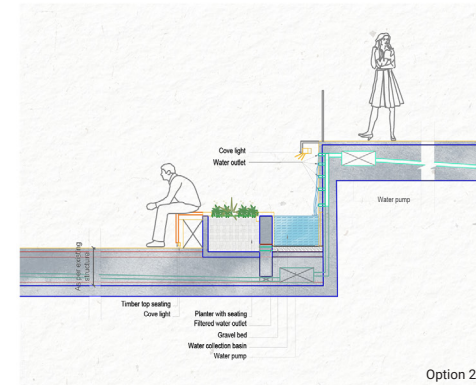
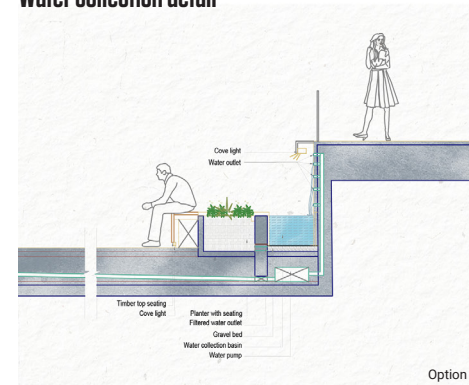


The carpark roof plan consists of a vast community garden that includes greenhouses, allotments, composting area and a tool shed. Also, a changing events space is introduced in the north of the carpark allowing the locals to benefit from the Manchester skyline views. The event space alternates between an open-air events space, skateboard park and market food stalls. Therefore, constantly attracting people to the carpark roof. Sustainability is a vital part of the project with the inclusion of solar panels fixed into the adaptable seating areas and multiple water collection features that are directly connected to the planters for easy irrigation. For the safety aspect, the students have installed a curving green planter boundary with the depth of 1.5m around the whole of the carpark roof.

The planting area (10) comprises of vegetables and fruits that grow best in shaded spaces including various Mediterranean vegetables. These plants will directly benefit the community and local restaurants.



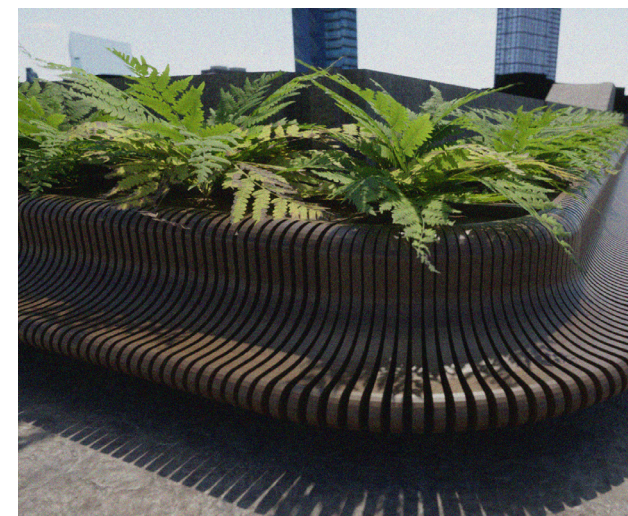
Water collection detail



Green wall



Water collection visual



Planter safety boundary



Carpark roof community garden



Ground floor seating area

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

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