



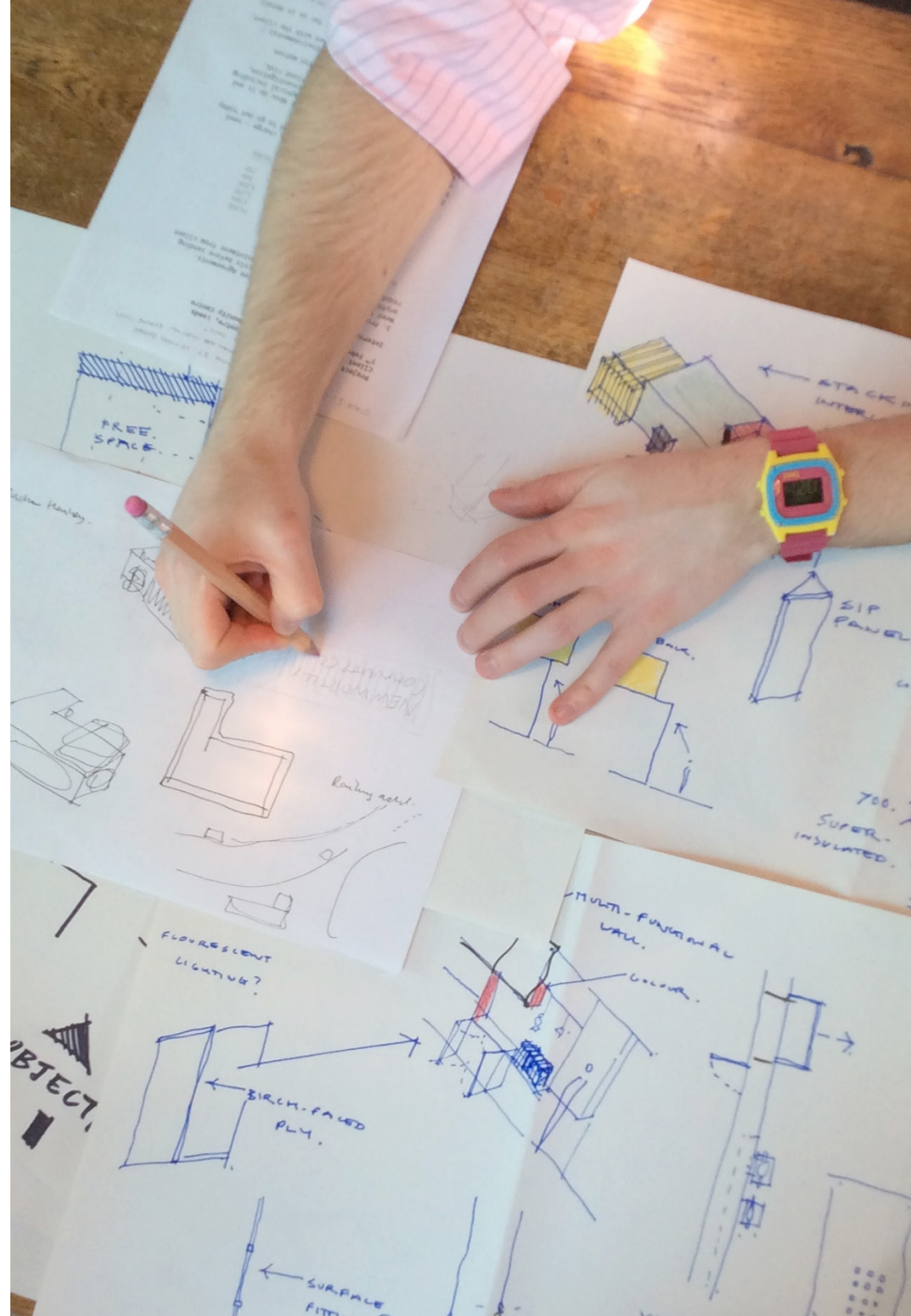
Project  
Office

Vol 2

Project Office is a design and research collaboration of staff and students. It is an architecture consultancy concerned with ethical, social and resilient architecture and design. We work with like-minded communities, organisations and individuals.

## / ABOUT US

Project Office is co-directed by Craig Stott and Simon Warren, senior lecturers in Architecture. We have undertaken diverse projects within the Leeds City region, and we are now beginning to develop projects that broaden our scope nationally and overseas. We offer a full architectural service that includes feasibility studies, design guides and design advocacy, fabrication and construction. Project Office is unique in that we utilise the power of student led design and research to provide concept proposals for organisations such as charities and community associations who are unable to afford standard architectural consultancy. Student participants are always paid for their time, either financially (working directly for Project Office) or through the University currency of 'credits' awarded towards their degree. The Project Office approach equips students with a fantastic pedagogic experience relating to real world complexities through the vehicle of live projects, whilst simultaneously supporting the needs of socially conscious organisations.





## / A FORCE FOR GOOD

As Awan, Schneider and Till in *Spatial Agency* reflect ‘If you ask a potential architecture student why they want to study architecture, the most common response is along the lines of “I want to design buildings and make the world a better place”’. If architects are meant to ‘do good’, isn’t this something we should uphold as a desirable professional virtue. For most, the world is a precarious place and now more than ever architects are well placed to make a difference to the lives of people.

The overarching pedagogical value of live projects is their potential impact as a *force for good*. Live projects equip students to make informed choices about the kind of architect they would like to be; particularly in raising the issues of their position regarding social responsibility.

For many students, perhaps in part because of their induction to design-studio, thoughts of social responsibility remain disconnected or at least dormant. They are taught that the focus is mostly on the ‘self’, the figurehead designer, and this is perpetuated by the architecture journals and websites they readily absorb. This, as we know, is not the reality in a world wrestling with global imperatives of climate change, energy depletion, increasing population and an ever increasing divide between rich and poor.

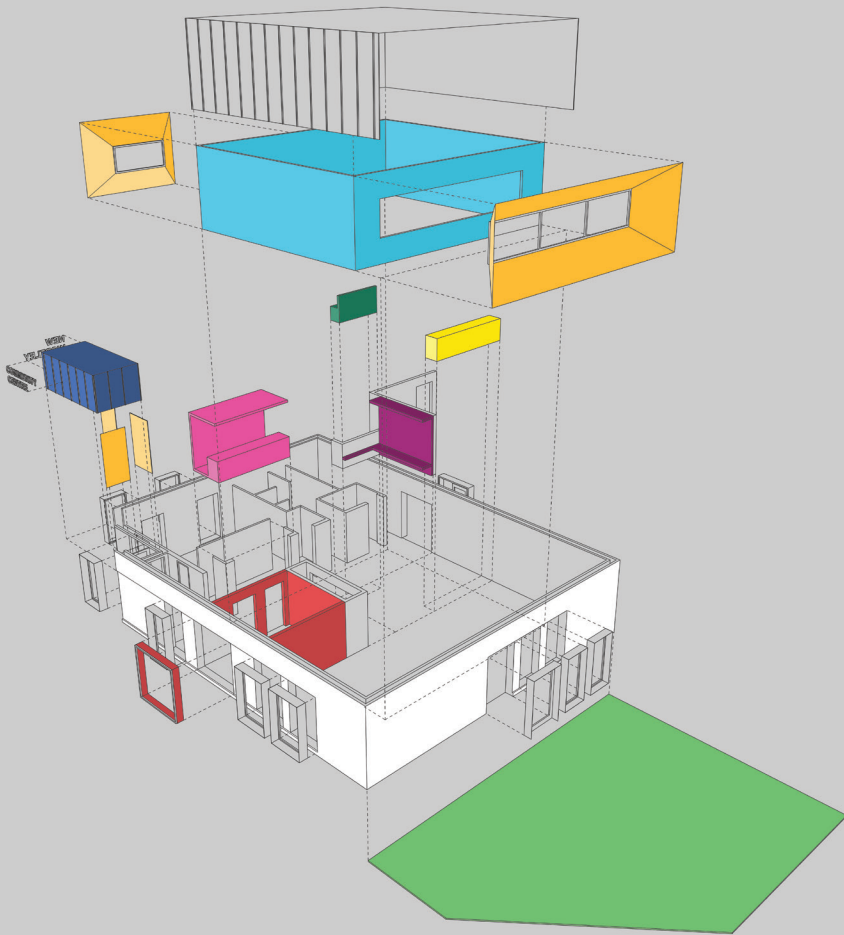
Finally, live projects achieve straightforward meaningful contributions (physical or otherwise) to our communities and built environment. In every school of architecture the one resource we have in abundance is the student, this can be harnessed as a force for good. I would suggest that if all our schools of architecture carried out live projects then we could create a beneficial legacy in the wider community, the upshot could be that that this also has a positive impact on the public perception of our profession.

Simon Warren

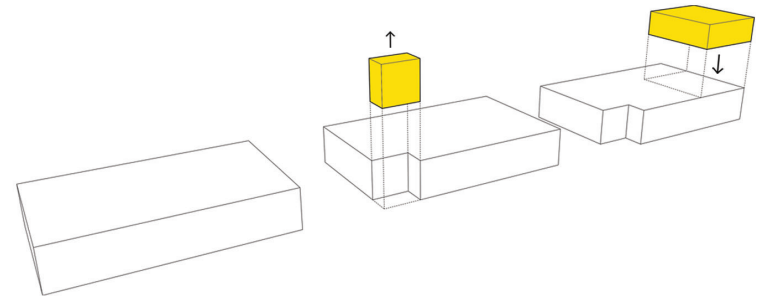
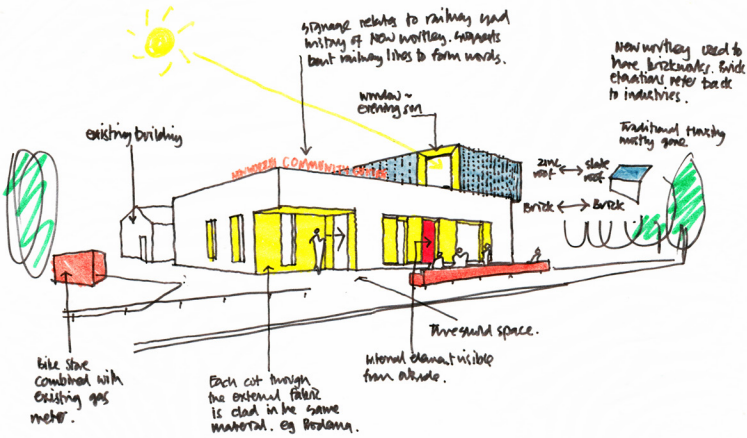
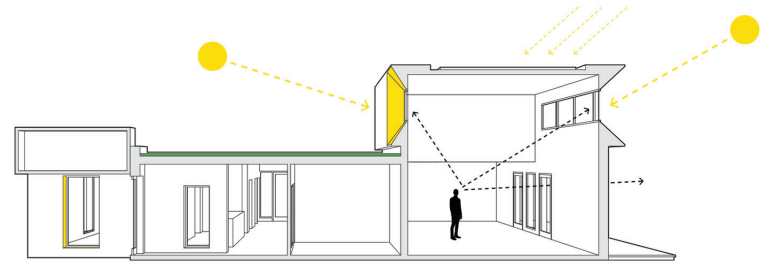
Warren, S. (2014). *The Fareshare Project*, West Yorkshire, UK. In: H. Harriss and L. Widder, ed., *Architecture Live Projects: Pedagogy into Practice*, 1st ed. London: Routledge.



# / NEW WORTLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE



New Wortley Community Centre is a thriving community centre in Leeds. The project is for a new multi-purpose building that will enable the centre to expand its reach and sustain itself in the future. The existing building will be transformed into a well-being centre in a future phase.



New Wortley Community Centre is a sustainable new building in a disadvantaged area of Leeds. Project Office worked with New Wortley Community Association to secure more than £800,000 of grant funding from Big Lottery to design and construct the building. The construction phase began in August 2015 and will be completed in Spring 2016. Throughout the design stages of the project students and academics, from the School of Art, Architecture and Design provided consultancy and design services. Our collaborative approach produced an exemplar method of working, broadly termed *co-design*, and this resulted in an inspiring, distinctive, thoughtful and durable building.

The project has developed following Vahagn Mkrtchyan's winning submission for the in-house design competition in 2010. We recognise Leeds Beckett University's students immense contribution in helping to raise the funding and for all the architectural and design input at the various stages of the project. Students from a range of design courses will be involved in the implementation of some of the building's elements during its construction.



New Wortley Community Centre on site - September 2015





New Wortley Community Centre



# / PROJECTS SO FAR



01/ FareShare



02/ Arc Light\_Orwin House



03/ BasementArts Project



04/ Old Chapel Studios



05/ House of Hope Haiti



06/ Garden Gate Hunslet



07/ Hunslet Urban Framework



08/ The Orangery\_Beam



09/ Bardsey Scout Hut

Further details of these projects can be found in Project Office Vol 1.

Sketch by Christina Vafeiadi - BA(Hons) Architecture



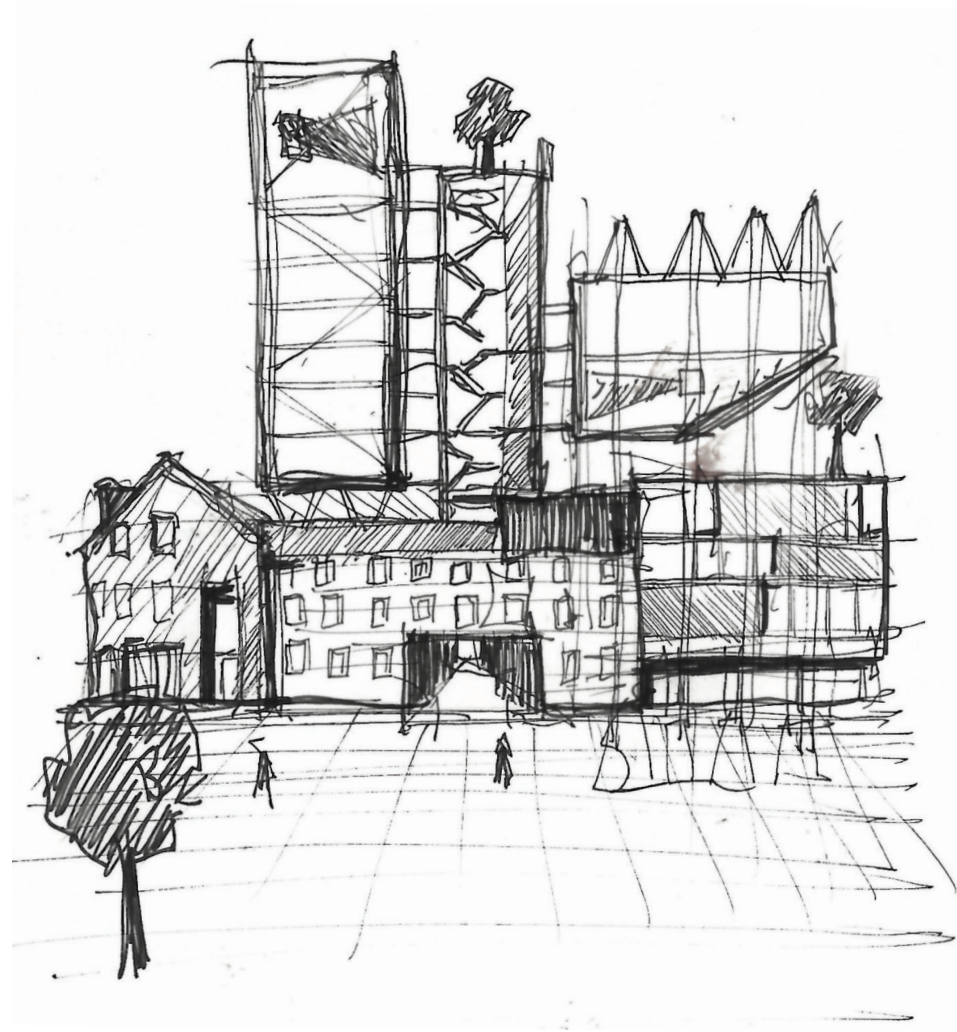
## / NUNBURNHOLME

Nunburnholme is a small village in rural East Yorkshire with a population of approximately 200 and a rich history including the first nunnery to be closed by Henry VIII and the founding of The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds by Reverend Francis Orpen Morris. At present the villagers have no shared amenity, other than the church.

BA2 students were tasked with fulfilling the aspirations of Nunburnholme Village Group; the vision is to create a building and surrounding environment that can serve as a magnet and a fulcrum to unite, enrich, and sustain the vibrancy of the village and surrounding communities. A building that is sensitive to the land of the Yorkshire Wolds it will inhabit, and evocative of the history and nature of the area.

# / FILM SCHOOL

The proposal for a new Film, Music & Performing Arts School for Leeds Beckett University is at this stage only a hypothetical project but it has a purpose, to develop and inform the school's staff and students ability and capacity to engage with an actual relocation project in the future. Three unique 'design guides' have been produced by three teams of postgraduate architecture students.



Sketch by Christopher Newbold - MArch





## / MORLEY NEWLANDS PLAYSCAPE

The Playscape is a live project collaboration between Morley Newlands Primary School and Leeds Beckett University.

The project was designed and built by students from the Art, Architecture & Design School.

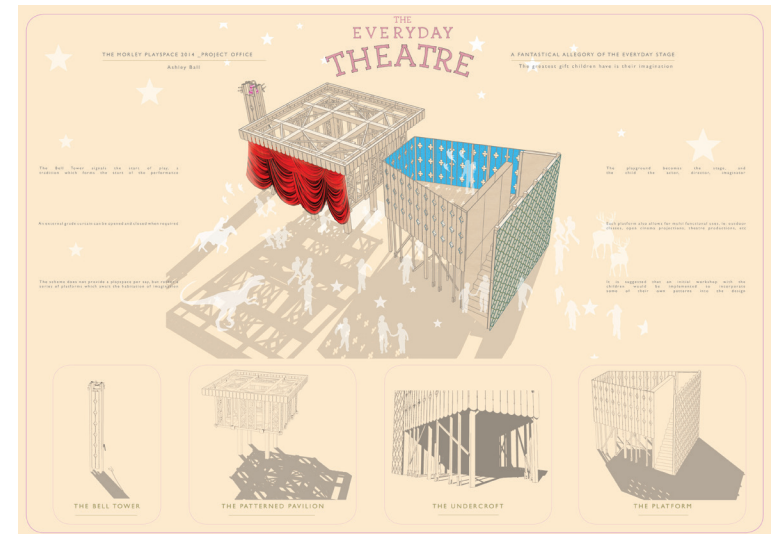




Primary school pupils and architecture students worked together in the classroom to create the Design Guide for a 'playscape' of imaginative play and learning. This was used as the brief for an ideas competition, open to the school of architecture's alumni.

Two winning entries of Bradley Spencer and Ashley Ball were selected by the school and imaginatively combined, developed, detailed and hand-crafted on site by a team of architecture students. The playscape has three discrete elements; a theatre space, secret garden and bell tower, all predominantly constructed from European oak, pine decking and marine plywood.

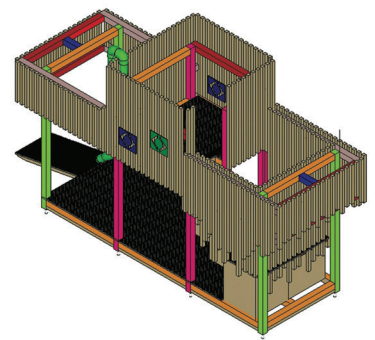
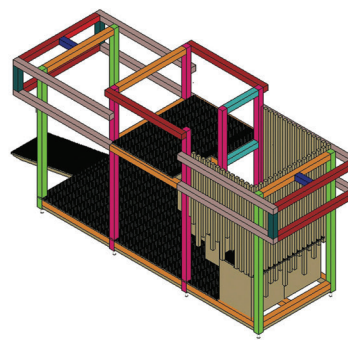
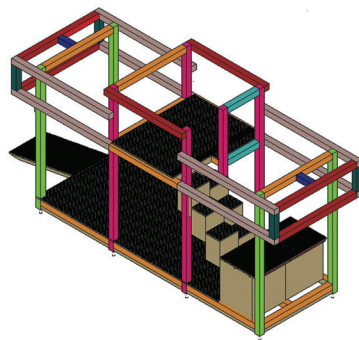
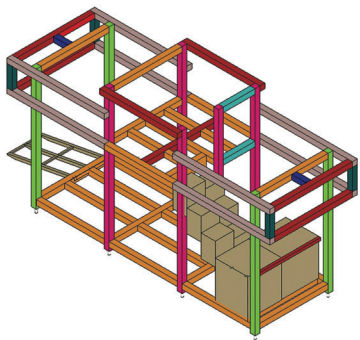
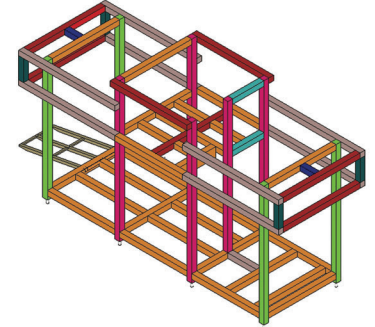
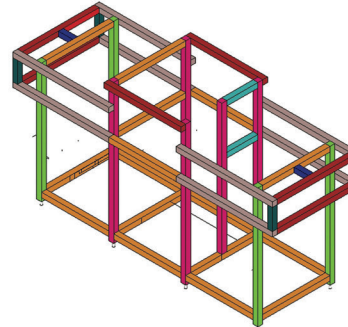
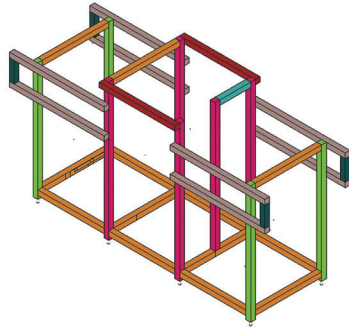
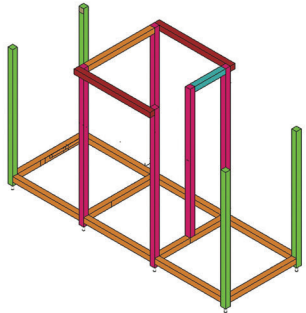
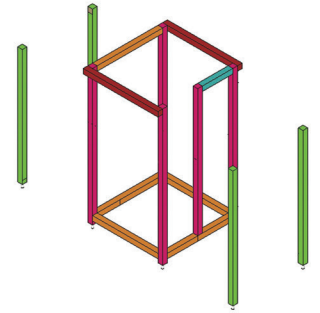
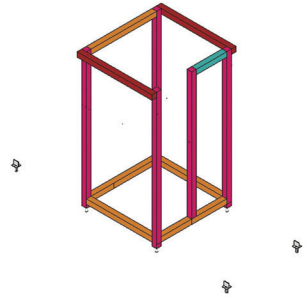
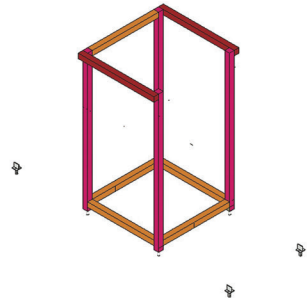
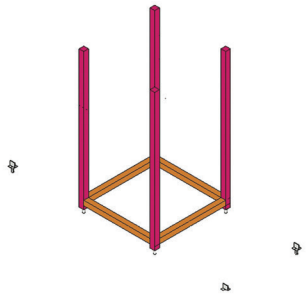
In total some 40 students participated; gaining real life experience of brief writing, design of concept, construction detailing, and 'on-site' assembly. The live project exposed students to a design methodology that puts team working and collaboration at the heart of the creative experience.



Competition Entry by Ashley Ball



Construction Sequence of Theatre Space





# / WHO WE ARE

## SIMON WARREN

Co-Director of the Project Office

I am interested in the role of the Architect. How do Architects practice with ethical grace and respond to climate change and energy depletion imperatives? How do Architects use their skills to make a difference to the lives of more people? By thinking about the strategic urban design of the city and understanding the resources within communities the city can become more adaptive, resilient, egalitarian and coherent. I am currently working towards a PhD, the working title is 'Live Project Pedagogy - Architecture in the Making'.

## CRAIG STOTT

Co-Director of the Project Office

My desire is to develop resilient communities through the instigation of zero waste and carbon positive closed loop design processes. The notion draws inspiration from our surroundings to drive architectural responses that are ecologically, economically and socially sustainable for everyone. Known as ecological urbanism, this holistic approach enables us to create socially inclusive environments to the benefit of all.

## PROJECT OFFICE STAFF 2013-2015

Andrew Pye / Part 2 Architectural Assistant / Architect  
Paul Hansell / Part 2 Architectural Assistant  
Graham Davey / Part 1 Architectural Assistant  
Abdul Zafar / Architectural Technology Student  
Hamid Islam / Architectural Technology Student  
Kevin Wade / Architectural Technology Student  
Liam Pyman / Architectural Technology Student

# / PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

## STUDENTS

Adesina Adebauke  
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Ryan Ainsley  
Spencer Alex  
Ben Alexander  
Beatriz Arbex  
Joshua Arthur  
Nushoor Al-Mahoozi  
Vanessa Baer  
Ashley Ball  
Heaven Belay  
Sam Bedford  
Rachel Berry  
Scott Bingham  
Jacob Bojcun  
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Marilia Cavalcanti  
Farias  
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Duncan Colf  
Josemar Da Costa  
Asma Dauleh  
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Patury  
Carolina De Bastiani  
Grubert  
Luiza De Melo  
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Oliver Dykes  
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Tom Eddison  
Patricia Escano  
Amy Featherstone  
Petrus Fernandes  
Chris Foster  
Freddie Garside  
Zahra Haghajati  
Lylyan Hamodi  
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Sarah Harvey  
Maria Herminia  
Robyn Holden  
Nick Husband  
Lana Ismail  
Joshua Jenje  
Mathew Kan

Tony Kengah  
Howard Kent  
Ana Paula Kouzak  
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Oliveira  
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Nils Schmidt-Hansen  
Matt Shepherd  
Bradley Spencer  
Victoria Tainty  
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Arpeeta Thakur  
Andrew Thompson  
Max Timms  
Rebecca Turner  
Paul Unett  
Christina Vafeiadi  
Zachariah Wall  
Ziemann Wendt  
Anastasia Whitehead  
Stephanie Wilding  
Vinicius Wolff Suda

## TUTORS

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Juha Kaapa  
Dr Maria Theodorou  
Craig Stott  
Simon Warren

## ORGANISATIONS

Big Lottery  
Leeds Beckett  
University

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AGM Safety Ltd  
Preston Barber  
Wates Construction  
Guy Harnett  
Michael Wadsworth

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Professor Alan Simson  
Adrian Appleyard  
Alan Stoyles  
LoneStar  
Peter Dixon  
Andrew Raby  
Leeds Beckett  
University Film,  
Music & Performing  
Arts School  
Janet Mulcrone

## CLIENTS

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