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Food + Wood

“Apple store” in Loughborough
1st LU – ARC Summer School

10-14th September 2018

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Food + Wood

an Apple Store on Loughborough University Campus
a lu-arc summer school

There's a natural link between the physical act of growing and harvesting, contact with the soil and plant, and connecting with your community through feasting celebrating, and marking the seasons. It enhances an individual experience by bringing it into a collective experience. It becomes about celebrating and honoring our relationship to land, food and non-human inhabitants of the land.

Anne-Marie Culhane: Fruit Routes

Design brief

Background

Architects do much more than simply “create spaces” even if that is often how architecture is understood. Buildings do not only shelter people but are also places that can generate and enhance communities. This aspect is as important to our practice as spatial organization, materials and construction issues. In our society, where the position of the architect is constantly changing, increasing mobility has a more and more direct impact on local communities as our society faces new challenges with an aging society, this quality of ‘enhancing and building communities’ as part of the architecture profession is more important than ever before.

Fruit Routes

Fruit Routes Initiative is a platform for community project connecting the university with the local community. The activities mainly focus sustainability and art and try to enhance the engagements between campus and the city. One of their most popular activity is the annual fruit harvest on campus, which ends with a “fruit sale” in autumn, when the apples collected can be picked up for free. The new Apple store will be designed as a focal point of these activities.

Please visit the link to learn more about Fruit Routes (YouTube): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GdWkA8xSG-s>

The Apple Store

The store should be a place to meet, learn, share and explore between students, staff and the wider community – fresh apples and the architecture provide a platform for this outdoor engagement. The store will need to consider how to keep the apples cool and dry – e.g. will they be stored in trays, racks or shelves? How can people easily access, move and inspect the fruit? Other technical considerations include lighting for winter months and making the store mouse/rodent proof.

The store should act as a place where people can access fruit for free, which should be obvious to passers-by. How this is communicated is important, particularly when the store is ‘unmanned’. Does the store have multiple states (open/close) which allows it to service the community in different ways? Can/should a small kitchen be included to make the chutneys that are produced annually from the fruits?

In addition to the initial questions above to provoke design considerations, the scale of the store should be approximately 15m² in total size, but could deviate depending on a convincing and logical rationale.

Summer School Schedule

The Summer School is planned for one week, from 10th (Mon.) until 15th (Fri.) September 2018.

- DAY 0 (Sun): arrival in Loughborough (accommodation in LU Student Lodge)
- DAY 1 (Mon): Morning: Opening Lectures and presentations
9:00-9:30 –Registration
9:30-9:45 – Welcome and Introduction (M. Gutai)
9:45-10:15 – Fruit Routes Initiative and Community project (J. Shields)
10:15-11:45 – Art projects with Loughborough Community Fruit Routes (A-M. Culhane)
10:45-11:15 – “Apple Store project” Introduction of Design Brief (M. Gutai)
11:15-11:45 – Site Visit
11:45-12:00 – Forming of Design Teams
12:00-13:00 – Lunch break
13:00-17:00 – Design work in studio
17:00-18:30 – Presentation of first ideas, discussion
18:30 – Exploring Loughborough
- DAY 2 (Tue): 9:00-12:00 – Design work in studio
12:00-13:00 – Lunch break + lecture: *Nature and Architecture (by A. Nikezic)*
13:00-16:30 – Design work in studio
16:30 – Nottingham city tour (highlights: Nottingham Contemporary, castle, city center)
- DAY 3 (Wed): 9:00-12:00 – Design work in Studio
12:00-13:00 – Lunch break + lecture: *Agent-based design in Architecture (by S. Sugita)*
13:00-18:00 – Design work in studio
18:00-19:30 – Midterm presentation
- DAY 4 (Thu): 9:00-12:00 – Design work in Studio
12:00-13:00 – Lunch break + lecture: *Hybrid material systems in Architecture (by M. Gutai)*
13:00-18:00 – Design work in studio
- DAY 5 (Fri): 9:00-12:00 – Design work in Studio
12:00-13:00 – Lunch break
13:00-18:00 – Design work in studio
18:00-19:30 – Final presentation
20:00- Dinner

Facilities:

Studio: Keith Green Arch. Bld. <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/study-areas/architecture/>

Workshops: Digital Fabrication Lab (3d printing, laser cutting, CNC)

Analogue Workshop (wood, metal, paint works)

Students will have full access to all facilities. The university provides materials and tools for design, prototyping and modelmaking. All facilities are on campus, about 5-10 min walk from accommodation.

Apple Store Site

The site is located near the Pilkington Library, the weather station and student halls on campus (Figure 1). This area is close to the bus stop and is frequently visited by most of the students on their way to the library, to their accommodations or when taking the bus which offers a great opportunity to pick up fruits on the way or while waiting for the bus. This site was chosen for its central location (west-east axis), accessibility and the proximity to the largest apple orchard on campus. The site sits on the south fringe of the campus with a pedestrian access point just to the west of the car park.



Figure 1 Aerial photo of site and surrounding elements

The site is predominately flat and covered with grass (see Figure 2). It has two predominant zones, an area setback from the main University road, behind the weather station and an area that meets the University road – please note the minimum curb condition between the road and the green space.



Figure 2 Site photo illustrating the possible area for the apple store

Google Maps link (with Street View): <https://goo.gl/maps/a3WsrZVECCE2>

Summer School Tutors:

Anne-Marie Culhane

Fruit Routes Project, U.K.

Anne-Marie is artist founder, design and co-ordinator of Fruit Routes/Eat Your Campus project at Loughborough University working closely with the Sustainability Team at Loughborough and supported by the School of the Arts & Transition Loughborough. She co-creates events, performances and long-term projects inviting people into active, enquiring and health-giving relationships with each other and the land. She collaborates across disciplines to engage broad public participation, address specific ecological challenges and catalyze systemic change.

Ana Nikezic

University of Belgrade Faculty of Architecture, Serbia

Ana Nikezic is Vice-Dean for Science and associate professor at University of Belgrade. Her research and publications are mainly focus on the urban form and design implications, like "Formats for urban life" and "Design in the light of climate change". In her teaching work, she concentrates on the relationship between architecture and nature, architecture and urban culture as well as the theme of socially responsible architectural education based on interdisciplinary approach.

Jo Shields

Loughborough University, U.K.

Jo Shields is strategic lead for sustainability at Loughborough University and Project Manager of Fruit Routes. She is a passionate environmentalist and advocate for linking teaching, research and operations on campus.

So Sugita

Hiroshima Institute of Technology, Japan

So Sugita is an Assistant Professor in Computational Design and Digital Fabrication at Hiroshima Institute of Technology and co-founder of Hiroshima Design Lab. He worked on wide range of projects that intertwine architecture, computational design and digital fabrication, like HDL pavilion 2016, HDL pavilion 2017, Game of Space, Gathering and StickMergy.

Matyas Gutai

Loughborough University School of Architecture, Building and Civil Engineering, U.K.

Matyas Gutai is a teacher, practicing architect and a specialist in sustainable architecture and hybrid building material projects like water-glass (Water House) and Algae-wood that explore how material innovations can lead into new spatial qualities and opportunities in architectural design. His research field focuses on Hybrid Architecture, a construction system that can disseminate mass to create an energy-based network of city blocks and communities.

Travelling to Loughborough – useful information

Budget

Participating students are asked to cover their travel expenses (flight, train, accommodation). Participation in the Summer School is for free.

Travel to Loughborough

Flights and closest airports to Loughborough:

EMA (East Midlands Airport) – 20 min by bus

LTN (London-Luton Airport) – 60 min by train (East Midlands Trains)

Other London airports – 60 min by local train/metro + 75 min by train (East Midlands Trains)

BHX (Birmingham) – 80 min by train (East Midlands Trains)

Trains to Loughborough:

From London St Pancras station or from Birmingham: East Midlands Trains

Ticket reservation and booking: <https://www.eastmidlandstrains.co.uk/>

Price of your journey will depend on the type of your ticket (flexible/fixed journey), time of your travel (off-peak/peak) and the time of your purchase (prices are lowest usually when you buy at least 2-3 weeks ahead).

Accommodation

Students are recommended to stay in the University Lodge on campus. All Summer School Students are entitled for a discount rate. You are asked to make reservation by yourself, but make sure that you add: *I am a 'LU-ARC SUMMER SCHOOL' student* to your application to receive the discount rate. (discount rate will be available after 17th July).

All rooms are on “Half board” basis (breakfast and evening meal on workdays, brunch on weekends).

You can make reservation online here:

<http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/accommodation/short-stay/lodge/>

How to book:

- Go to the bottom of the page
- Click “Make an enquiry”
- Fill out the form and add *I am a 'LU-ARC SUMMER SCHOOL' student* in the “additional booking information section”
- After submitting the form, you will receive an email with online instructions for payment to complete your reservation. Please confirm that you received the discount rate: £166.00 (6 nights, 9th-15th September)

You can stay longer in the accommodation if you wish, as long as there are rooms available for your period.

Contact

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