

Jubilee Gardens

Thornas

Heathnerwick

Studio

and Use

Conspirators

Dan Pearson

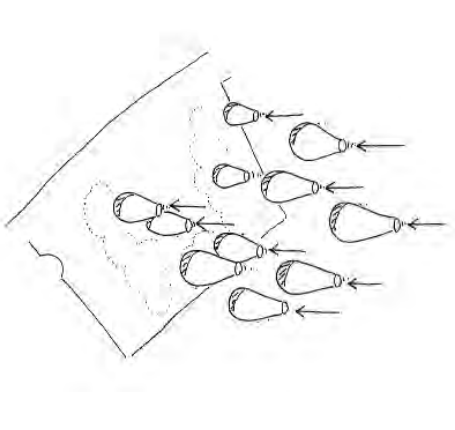
Studio

JUBILEE GARDENS

AT THE MOMENT, IT'S NOT A GARDEN AND THERE CERTAINLY AIN'T NO JUBILATION.

FIRST AND FOREMOST, JUBILEE GARDENS SHOULD BE A WORLD-CLASS GARDEN, LUSH, GREEN AND BEAUTIFULLY PLANTED.

IT MUST FEEL JUBILANT. A VENUE FOR EVENTS, A PLACE FOR PLAY AND RELAXATION AND A SAFE ENVIRONMENT TO ENJOY ALL THE SPACE, SMELLS AND VISIONS A GARDEN CAN OFFER.



Currently as a team, we don't have all the answers. Not yet. For that we'll need more discussions, meetings with the stakeholder group and consultation with the local community. But what we're presenting in this document is an idea.

IT'S MODULAR AND IT'S FLEXIBLE AND WE BELIEVE COULD MEET EVERYONE'S NEEDS.

BUT WHAT ARE THESE STRANGE FORMS?

They're gardens and play spaces and stages and paths. You could say they are dishes or parcels or baskets... but quite simply they're Grow Bags - they might even be the biggest in the world!

These grow bags have been dropped onto the site, landing with a thud, opening to create blank canvases of soil ready for their content to be planted. Each bag will tilt towards the centre of the garden creating a series of gently sloping palettes that can be viewed from across the site.

We're currently exploring the possibility of making our Grow Bags out of an extraordinary form of stainless steel mesh, but they could be made timber or concrete or brickwork. Whatever we use, we believe they will bring an exciting materiality to the site.

WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT IS THE ROLE THESE FORMS WILL PLAY.

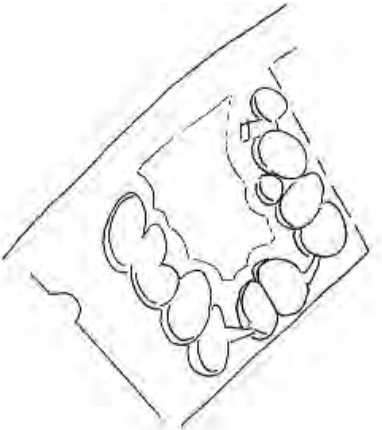
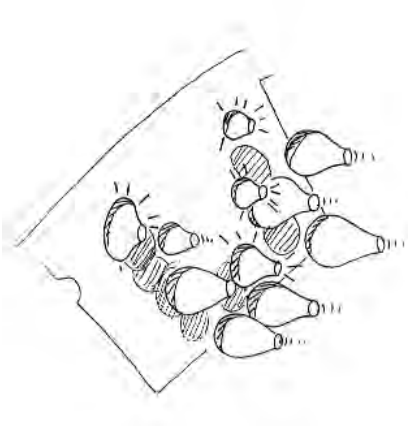
The majority will be dedicated to creating extraordinary green spaces. These will be sewn with clusters of grasses, handsome trees and beds of scented flowers. Some will be hard surfaced to provide flexible performance spaces. Others will be planted with play equipment for children.

Steps and ramps will provide full access to a meandering pathway that will entwine itself into the grow bags. Even at access points onto Belvedere Road, the pathway remains uninterrupted as bridges squeeze their rigid forms between the bags of plants.

These grow bags form a backdrop to the heart of the gardens, a large green open space.

They will form the boundaries to the site, nudging together into a 'C' shape, opening on to Queen's Walk to enjoy views over the river.

They will give the Jubilee Gardens its identity and encourage pedestrian movement around the site. Their presence will replace the windswept expanse with a protective three-dimensionality - an extraordinary horticultural collective.



Real gardens

These structures form a necessary boundary to the car park and also a more controlled route along the North of the site at the queuing area to the London Eye. They will help define the site and prevent the lawn becoming the main thoroughfare or cut through.

OUR DESIGN SHOWS TWELVE FORMS, BUT IT COULD BE EIGHT... OR TEN.

The grow bags will encircle an expanse of turf. It won't be planted, it won't be broken up with paths, or water features, or play areas... **JUST PURE UNADULTERATED OPEN SPACE.**

Surrounding our lawn will be a simple resin-bounded peashingle walkway. It won't look extraordinary, but it plays an important role in the functionality of the gardens. It will divide the lawn from the planters and provide an access route for pedestrians. It will also form a practical and robust route around the gardens from Belvedere Road through to Queen's Walk for management of events (on either the lawn or hard surfaced grow bags) and general servicing of the site.

The edges of the walkway gently curve upwards to meet the grow bags. This curve will provide a navigation cue

for those with visual impairments and stop litter collecting around the bags.

Every part of the garden will be accessible, generous and welcoming. But it will also be a place of extremes and juxtaposition. Robust surfaces will sit alongside delicate planting. Beds of elegant flowers and grasses will flank practical paving. Simple inclined surfaces will lead visitors from the plainest of planting (an expanse of turf) to a sensory garden where people can touch, smell and hear their surroundings.





Planting currently unseen in British public parks

This unique concept calls for innovative planting design of a type that is currently unseen in British public parks. Dan Pearson Studio will create high quality ornamental garden spaces overflowing with bold sweeps of naturalistic planting, massed grasses, playful formal elements and intense, brilliant colour.

Each module will have its own character and mood of planting. Some will suggest activity, others tranquility, but sweeps of coloured planting will be used to make the high points of the season.

A 'NATURAL' AMPHITHEATRE WITH TRANSLUCENT WALLS

Trees will create an elevated backdrop to the gardens, softening the feet of the nearby buildings and creating a protective feeling of enclosure. This accumulation of planters will form an accidental amphitheatre for the events and occasions that will take place in the gardens.

This is an exposed site, so careful selection of plants is going to be crucial. But foliage, bark, flowers and grasses will all be selected for their texture, colour, form and scent. This garden will be a sensual experience.

DAZZLING DISPLAYS, SWEEPS OF GRASSES, SWATHES OF WILLOW

Planting will emphasise year round use. The trees flanking both sides of the park will be chosen to give displays of blossom in spring, fiery foliage and berries in autumn and bark in winter.

SEASONAL VARIETY

SPRING: Dazzling displays of massed bulbs will be visible from the river and the London Eye.

SUMMER: Subtly graded palettes will move through the gardens, punctuated with daring colour combinations to enliven and excite.

AUTUMN: Deep reds of foliage will be complimented with the oranges and russets of large sweeps of grasses.

WINTER: Tree shapes will provide dramatic silhouettes, along with textured bark and coloured stems.

Swathes of willow, dogwood and winter flowering shrubs will provide much-needed colour to cheer the winter months.

The movement and sound of sweeps of ornamental grasses will give the gardens a dynamic quality, while the rustling noise will act as an aural buffer in a busy urban environment.

THAT'S A LOT OF PLANTING....HOW ARE IT GOING TO BE MAINTAINED?

Once established, the planting will create sustainable naturalistic communities that will need minimal maintenance. However, the regime and aesthetic for this kind of planting is removed from the typical 'municipal' maintenance and will require a new skill base. This could be taken up by local community groups or gardening clubs to reinforce ownership of the gardens.

A 24 HOUR SPACE

We are very aware that provision of a safe environment will be crucial to make the gardens a success. This has been focal in our thinking.

We want to create interesting structures, but can't have tricky corners for someone to hide behind.

We want to create vistas and height, but don't want to block sight lines.

We want a 24-hour space, but not one that needs 24-hour security patrol.

SO HOW ARE WE GOING TO ACHIEVE IT?

AND THEN THERE WAS LIGHT!

Lighting will play a major role in our design. It will frame the site and define its boundaries, it will encircle our grow bags, showing off their texture and curves, it will separate the flat from the inclined land, it will bathe the trees, enhancing their stature and we'll use it to open up every possible nook and cranny.

Lighting will be the key to creating a welcoming self-policing environment. A mixture of simple unpretentious lighting and extra specialist lighting products will create ambience as well as making the site safe. Our design will give the feeling of openness both day and night - even when parts of it are closed.

OUR DESIGN IS MODULAR. It lends itself to adaptation and at night, we'll stop access to some of our grow bags so they retain their magical and special quality. They will still be lit and still be visible, but providing limited access to our special planting pods will enhance their sustainability, keeping them cleaner and greener for longer.

An everyday cafe with an extraordinary view

Our design introduces a simply designed café building on to the site - a location for everyone, regardless of income, to be able to enjoy a cup of tea in *their* garden.

We want it to be simple, because the enjoyment doesn't need to come from the design of the café building. The enjoyment comes from its relationship with the rest of the garden.

It will be nestled between the cleavage of our grow bags - overlooking the central lawn and beyond that, the Thames and one of the most famous views of London.

Its position, just off Queen's Walk, makes it an appealing stop off point for passers-by and whether they choose to sit inside or out, visitors are guaranteed stunning views of the Thames and up to the London Eye. The café will join our bustling planters and visitors will be able to walk over its rooftop towards a gently elevated viewpoint.

In practical terms, its location means it can be serviced from the back via Hungerford Car Park.

PLEASE SIT ON THE GRASS...

There will be plenty of lawn to enjoy and in the warmer months we expect that many people will sit out in the central garden space.

But there will also be seating - and again its location in the gardens will be flexible.

Dedicated seating will be integrated into our grow bags. They are custom made for this purpose. Seating will wedge itself between the point where our grow bags and the raised edge of our garden paving meet. It can be located anywhere along the edge of the walkway and will provide solid practical seating with a hint of playfulness. The bags themselves will also be planted with seating, encouraging people to stop and sit a while to soak up the sounds and smells of the planting.



WE'RE NOT AFRAID OF CONSULTATION. But we appreciate that this is a complex project and that there are a number of stakeholders and user groups each with their own passionate opinions on the future of the gardens.

We also appreciate that strong effective consultation will hold the key to the success of the project.

Recently Thomas Heatherwick Studio undertook a consultation-led project in a busy and vibrant district in central Hong Kong. It involved quantitative and qualitative research, working with a documentary filmmaker and culminated with a citywide forum attended by almost 400 people.

Like Jubilee Gardens, the space was a place of relaxation and recreation for much of the local community. And like Jubilee Gardens, a variety of different user groups feel strongly about its future - and many have conflicting views.

But unlike Jubilee Gardens, we had to travel 2,000 miles to consult with this community.

JUBILEE GARDENS IS ON OUR DOORSTEP - IT'S PRACTICALLY OUR FRONT GARDEN

OUR PRIMARY OBJECTIVES WILL BE

TO GET WORKING IN THREE-DIMENSIONS. We'll work up large-scale models to convey our design concept and help visualisation of our suggested design.

TO SET UP ON SITE. We'll set up on site and get people talking. We'll provide access to the models, and to us, and begin gathering feedback and of course answering questions.

TO ESTABLISH DIRECT CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION. It's helpful to hand out questionnaires, but it's not enough. We will run a series of public forums inviting all user groups and stakeholders to input into the design's development.

Land Use Consultants and Thomas Heatherwick Studio will use their experience to establish and facilitate the consultation element of the programme...but we'll all be listening.

Methodology and management

The team is comprised of three main consultants who take overall responsibility for design and implementation of the redevelopment of Jubilee Gardens. Their work will be supported by at least two specialist consultants who will take on specific construction and delivery responsibilities as part of the overall team.

We have allocated our responsibilities as follows:

LEAD CONSULTANTS

Thomas Heatherwick Studio: Lead Designer and Architect

Dan Pearson Studio: Garden Design and Horticulture

Land Use Consultants: Implementation and Planning Application

SUPPORT CONSULTANTS

SKM Anthony Hunts: Civil and Structural Engineers

Faber Maunsell: Planning Supervisor

Project delivery and programme management will be shared between the three main consultants and each will take responsibility for specifically defined stages of the programme. Land Use Consultants will co-ordinate and oversee the overall programme timeline, also taking responsibility for co-ordinating implementation.

Thomas Heatherwick Studio will lead the design in full and will be supported by key team members as appropriate. Thomas Heatherwick Studio is also the architect for the building and will retain overall responsibility for this element of the project.

CONSTRUCTION:

Land Use Consultants will take on overall responsibility for delivery and co-ordination of construction whilst retaining a close working relationship with Thomas Heatherwick Studio to ensure design integrity.

The café building will remain the responsibility of Thomas Heatherwick Studio throughout the programme and its team will work closely with SKM Anthony Hunts to deliver this element of the design.

Dan Pearson Studio may undertake some of the physical implementation of key planting, with contractors being employed to deliver the remainder of the hard and soft landscaping work.

COMMUNICATION:

As lead consultant, all communication with the client will be channelled through Thomas Heatherwick Studio. However, this can be adapted during some technical landscape and delivery stages where it will be appropriate for the main line of communication to run through Land Use Consultants.

Throughout the project, Thomas Heatherwick Studio will manage all elements of project publicity and dissemination of information about the design philosophy in conjunction with the client's PR representatives.

We will work to agree a delivery programme with the client from the very outset. We will use this time to allocate appropriate resources to ensure delivery targets are met. Fortnightly meetings will form the backbone of client and team communications and programme management. During these meetings, target dates, programme progress and resource allocation can be discussed and where necessary amended.

THOMAS HEATHERWICK STUDIO

LED BY

THOMAS HEATHERWICK MA (RCA) FRSA SFRCA RDI

Thomas Heatherwick trained in three-dimensional design at Manchester Metropolitan University and the Royal College of Art, founding Thomas Heatherwick Studio in 1994. Thomas is a Senior Fellow and external examiner at the Royal College of Art and was recently chosen to become a Royal Designer for Industry. He has served on numerous judging and advisory panels and has given lectures, tutorials and talks at the Royal Institute of British Architects, Bartlett School of Architecture and the Science Museum in London. Thomas was recently named by *The Observer* as one of 80 people who will shape our lives in the 21st century.

WARREN PARKER ARCHITECT (ARBV)

Warren Parker joined Thomas Heatherwick Studio from Grimshaw Architects Australian office where he worked for three years as a Design and Package Architect. His project experience includes transportation, sports facilities, hospitality and education. Whilst at Grimshaw's, Warren undertook a

number of major transportation projects including work on the £140m Spencer Street Station transport interchange in Melbourne.

In 2003, Warren was invited to undertake design research in Industrial Design (MA) at Melbourne's R.M.I.T under full academic sponsorship and in 2004 joined the University as a lecturer in industrial design.

At Thomas Heatherwick Studio Warren is leading a retail development in New York and designs for a series of prefabricated second homes for a brownfield site in the UK.

LAND USE CONSULTANTS

LED BY

DOMINIC COLE BA DIPLA MLI FHORT

A Principal of Land Use Consultants since 1992, Dominic is a landscape architect with 22 years experience. He joined LUC in 1982 and has worked on a wide range of projects including historic landscapes, contemporary schemes and contract supervision of on-site projects.

Dominic has worked on almost fifty historic landscape projects and is lead landscape architect for the Eden Project. Dominic

has lectured on both Landscape Architecture and Historic Landscape work at Greenwich University, the Architectural Association and the University of Manchester. Dominic has been Chairman of Council of the Garden History Society and is also a Fellow of The Institute of Horticulture and on the Council of the Landscape Institute.

DAN PEARSON STUDIO

LED BY

DAN PEARSON WISLEY CERT. (HONS) KEW DIP. (HONS)

Dan Pearson trained in horticulture at the Royal Horticultural Society's Wisley College and The Royal Botanic Gardens Kew. He founded his garden design practice in 1987. Since then he has completed a wide range of domestic and international commissions for domestic, public and commercial clients.

Dan is a weekly gardening columnist for *The Daily Telegraph*, joint author with Sir Terence Conran of *The Essential Garden Book* and author of *The Garden: A Year At Home Farm*. He has presented television series for BBC 2, Channel 4 and Channel 5 and has designed four award-winning Chelsea show gardens.

The design team

JOHN LIBERT

John Libert originally trained in fine art at Winchester School of Art and North East London Polytechnic before pursuing a career in the music industry. He re-trained as a garden designer at the University of Greenwich graduating in 2002 with a First Class Honours degree. He has since lectured at Greenwich on the garden design degree course.

John has contributed to the Dan Pearson Studio with his design and computer skills and has worked on and managed projects ranging from new landscaping for Guy's Hospital's Memorial Courtyard, a sculpture garden for the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art and a 200 acre sustainable country estate with architects Feilden Clegg Bradley.

SKM ANTHONY HUNTS

MARTIN JONES Incorporated Engineer, Associate Member of ICE

Martin Jones worked initially for Midlands Electricity and Severn Trent Water before joining Anthony Hunt Associates. With the latter he worked mainly on water supply and

sewerage projects including concrete reservoir structures, trunk main installations and pumping stations throughout Gloucestershire and the South West Midlands.

Martin's areas of experience include earthworks design, highway and traffic engineering, storm and foul drainage design, car parks and general infrastructure works associated with both commercial and public sector projects. Working with landscape architects on prestigious landscape designs is a particular expertise, which has been developed on a number of recent appointments including two of the flagship Millennium projects.

FABER MAUNSELL

PETER LIPSCOMB MAPS HNSE

Peter is Associate Director responsible for Health and Safety and CDM matters in the South East Region.

He joined Faber Maunsell in 1968 as Senior Draughtsman within the structural engineering department. Following the introduction of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 1994 Peter was appointed to be part of the new Health and Safety Group.

Peter's major project experience includes the refurbishment of Broadcasting House for the BBC, fit out of No 1 St James's Square for Ericsson and the extension to Clementine Churchill Hospital in Harrow.

Peter has been a member of the Planning Supervisor team since 1995 and is a member of the Hertfordshire Centre for Building Studies Civil Engineering Liaison Panel.

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