

Design statement

2020 is an unforgettable year. With the global outbreak of coronavirus, people can only live and work at home, and the contact between people is no longer frequent. In addition, global climate change and the upcoming cop26 in Glasgow remind us that cities must respond accordingly.

The creation of new green space is a great challenge for big cities. Glasgow, a large industrial city with high population density, has many impervious surfaces in the downtown area, so the demand for green space in the urban center is urgent. Of course, this is not only for human considerations, but also for more than human considerations. It is to mitigate global climate change and to increase ecological connectivity. Woodland will be an excellent choice for that. In addition to minimizing flooding, erosion and siltation, regulating humidity and microclimate and other green spaces provide identifiable and valuable environmental services, cities can also increase biodiversity, increase green corridors, parks and protected areas, and urban citizens will have more opportunities to keep in touch with the natural landscape

The focus of this semester is that transforming the vacant land into woodland. Glasgow was called "The Second City of the Empire." However, with the change of industrial structure, which produced a large number vacant and derelict land. These abandoned industrial buildings and equipment represent the past of the city. Reasonable transformation of these sites, equipment, and some heritages to give new meaning and cultural connotation saves resources and preserves the precious historical memory of the city. The transformation and utilization of abandoned land can effectively promote the economic development of surrounding areas and create ecological, economic, and social value.

When I analyzed the green space system in Glasgow, I found few woodand on both sides of the River Clyde. That means both sides of the riverbank will be the best choice for creating new woodland. Finally, three pieces of vacant land near Govan dock are selected as the starting point of creating urban woodland and forming a coherent ecosystem. Here, it is necessary to put forward the most critical concept: Wood Wide Web. It means that trees are related and connected in mature woodland. They pollinate each other from the ground, and the mother trees transmit nutrients, sugar, and water to the young trees, deadening and diseased trees also signal young trees from underground. In addition, mycorrhizal intergrowth occurred between trees. In short, the mother tree is quite important for building a new woodland. All new woodland needs to rely on the existing mature woodland. Therefore, we need to use mature woodland parks as a catalyst to connect them with new woodland, creating a connection between the ground and the underground, and promoting the formation of new woodland. Finally, the existing green land and vacant land will form a complete urban woodland system.

Beside for more than human, the demand of human also needs to be considered. Because of covid-19, people's demand for open space has become emergency. Therefore, these places must meet people's daily activities. Also, people can feel closer to nature by adding some hydrophilic platforms, In the future, Glasgow will be a city full of high-quality green space and also contribute to the mitigation of world climate change, also the existing green land and vacant land will form a complete urban woodland system.