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## **Conserving Nature**

Mohd Nazri Saidon

Design towards sustainability becoming an agenda in the 21st century. Thus, many landscape designers stress on its significance in their works. This is due to the fact that landscape planning has become synonym with action to conserve interesting resources of the places. However, it depends on how well do we deal with this valuable resources. Hugh (2010) posits that conservation can be wrapped up into a single sentence: what should be done, in what place, at what time, using what mechanism and for what outcome. Therefore, it is referring to what and how we do to achieve a sustainable way.

The final landscape project (LAN3902) exercise is an ultimate final year student's work for completing their Bachelor of Landscape Architecture programme in University of Putra Malaysia. The work emphasises designing a landscape space towards better conservation and landscape planning. In addition, the objectives of this landscape final project is emphasised on the aspect of assessment, planning, design, and management of landscape area. In order to gain skill and competency, the students' works on landscape design should be acceptable for existing and future landscape environment. With a theme of the conservation landscape, the students were required to take consideration on the existing natural landscape condition and provide creative sustainable approaches for their design solution of the artwork.

To perform this exercise, the students' were to choose a site which is related to their research interest for their study area. This site should have site uniqueness and issues that would stimulate the thinking process during design solution. The students were divided into group known as workbase. There are two major workbase namely (i) urban landscape urban workbase and (ii) natural resources workbase. Each workbase consists of five students and three lecturers as a supervisory committee. The students' task is to prepare, discuss and present their project work processes in a series of panels to justify their final landscape master plan to their committee. Finally, students are to compose a detailed area plan with supportive information to clarify and present their work. In addition, they are to produce a written design report compiling their works thoroughly.

In conclusion, after deliberate screening and selection, five landscape master plans have been selected. These artworks are based on objectives achievement and design solution. These five works have executed fine and believable solutions towards wellness landscape. There were (i) Wellness landscape proposed by Ng Ooi Tee which attempt to reconciling existing development and natural resources into a new Hot Springs design, (ii) Repurposing abandoned railway track by considering historical and existing resources for the betterment of community proposed by Raymond Ling Guang Kowng, (iii) Revitalizing Segget River connectivity deals with reopening Segget River become riverfront prepared by Law Han Wen, (iv) Reconditioning Kampung Bagan by Abdul Faiz Hanis Dolah Mahfut which has initiated a reviving a traditional fishing village , and (v) Timeline- the chronological of Bukit Larut proposed by Tan Jian Shyan which addressing panoramic and scenic advantages in the landscape design. An explanation of the artwork, please refer to next page.

# Jury Review

#### Hulu Tamu Wellness Landscape

#### -Kashino Naohiro

Left- top to right- bottom sequence is loosely amended, and this makes an observer go back and forth at early moment of observation. Otherwise, the development flows effectively. Standing on purely commercial stance, the proposal is feasible. However, sustainability is covered under the cosmetic beauty. Commercially, the presentation is quite attractive, while the topic can be a little out of academic nature. In the meantime, the honesty toward what the designer wish to do should be evaluated. Good presentation with attractive sketches and graphics.

#### -Marek Kozlowski

Good background information regarding the site context including the local cultural traditions and the ownership of land. The presentation provides useful information about the local myths and beliefs. Goals and objectives are well stated with strong emphasis on the culture of the indigenous population. Original and innovative design strategy focusing on exploration zone, therapeutic area and medical area make this project unique. In addition, creative thinking and design and good in-depth analysis of the local conditions show thorough thinking and efforts. Development of innovative design strategies targeting planting, water management system and human movement create a remarkable design solution for the site. Good presentation depicting the intent and motivations of the project.

#### Timeline at Bukit Larut

#### -Muhammad Hijaz Sanusi

The project shows a very good explanation of overall idea and intended objective. A well-defined management strategies and design strategies plus good planning process assist the smooth flow of the design process. The work has displayed a good understanding towards the site by tackling the issues like lacking of activities, poor transportation, poor facilities and the history of the area. The project title "Time Line" is significant to the area as it was a former place for British Residents thus it is a creative idea to blend the 21st, 20th and 19th Century concept/ approach in revitalizing the hill by proposing the modern design like the modern resort and the Z space while not forgetting the nostalgic British Village. Overall, the project displays a very good presentation and graphic.

#### -Norliza Mohd Yusof

The complete study made the subject matters and the design ideas as a good effort. The designer's idea of promoting sustainable structures (viewing towers) within sensitive virgin jungle is another good aspect. However, it would be better to emphasis on the 'borrowed landscape' of the surrounding hilly environment. The site profile possesses beautiful ambiance of hilly and sensitive environment. Thus, it would be more interesting if the designer incorporates all his/her illustration of the said ambiance.

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Livable Linear Railway Track

#### -Kashino Naohiro

The Foundation of Port Dickson should be 1881 rather than 1981, and it is very important to get this right. Well displayed and thorough study, from analysis, zoning, facility distribution and plans. The reason why the designer opts for zone segmentation (of gallery, play area, atrium etc) should be explained. Linear segmentation with scattered facility spots could be another option. Railscape design with beam gate and pillars are innovative. People in the sketches are alive. This project is very well presented with good sequence and quality drawings.

#### -Marek Kozlowski

Goodhistorical background about the locality and the railway line. Good in-depth analysis including identification of the flood prone land. Well stated goals and objectives aimed at improving the physical connectivity and maximising public use of land. The idea of utilizing an abandoned railway line is innovative and timely in line with similar proposals in cities such as Paris and New York. Attention to the principles of ecologically sustainable development (ESD) such as water recycling and energy efficiency are commendable. It is also refreshing and good idea to install a tram connecting to the waterfront. Overall, this project illustrates a good creative design idea, certainly a good contribution in revitalizing and greening an existing urban environment. This is supported by good presentation and careful selection of details and images.

#### Segget River Connectivity

#### -Kashino Naohiro

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How the current river looks like is not displayed and that makes an observer difficult to understand the justification of opening the river. Sequence reading going back and forth could cause confusion for viewer. Uniting the flow with standard paper size may improve the flow of development. The proposal shows good idea and good design. The proposal of interesting irregular water surface shapes becomes more convincing with clear explanation for their design tactics. Overall, this proposal illustrates good presentation with plenty of information.

#### -Marek Kozlowski

The author provides very good background information, statement of problems and issues, very good information about the cultural festivals and events. This follows with good in-depth analysis and well formulated and clear goals and objectives. The design proposal addresses issues such as storm water management, pedestrian and vehicle circulation. The proposal includes informative concept regarding soft and hard scaping elements. This innovative design proposal aimed at greening and pedestrianising an existing central city area is refreshing for this old town centre. The creativity of the design is well supported by a very good in-depth analysis and historical background. Overall, it is well presented, depicting the analytical and design components.

#### Reconditioning Kampung Bagan

#### -Kashino Naohiro

The display shows good flow of process. The inventory should be elaborated for unfamiliar observer to feel the

site and to have better perception. The reason or objective of the project is not clearly stated. The design process shows interesting layers but does not tell an integrated mode of transportation and stopping points. Sustainability, although is one main focus in this proposal, is not practically described. Method of sightseeing and contents of enjoyment should be more attractive for an observer to feel like visiting the place. Good presentation with flowing sequence.

#### -Marek Kozlowski

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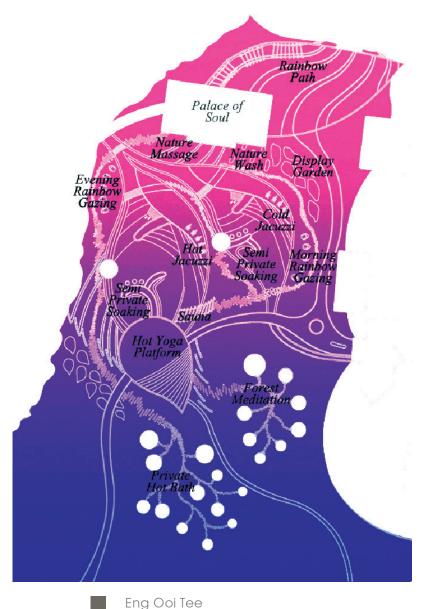
This project provides good historical background and information, good in depth analysis regarding land use, access and vegetation, hydrology and human activity. Well stated goals and objectives and good design approach to recycle, reconnect and reuse. The ESD principles strengthen the innovative approach to design. The design process is well structured. The idea to recreate a fishing village and use elements of sustainable design contributes to creativity and innovative thinking. Overall, the presentation clearly communicates the concept and design details of the project.

### Hulu Tamu Wellness Landscape

Mustafa Kamal Mohd Shariff, Nor Atiah Ismail & Mohd Nazri Saidon

Hulu Tamu Hot Springs is situated in Hulu Selangor, Selangor, Malaysia. The small village of Hulu Tamu tucked neatly among the green hills which are part of the Titiwangsa Range – the backbone of the peninsular. The geothermally heated mineral water gushes out of the veins in the ground. Its therapeutic properties are well acknowledged by the local Malay and Temuan communities as well as occasional visitors who knew of its existence. Over the years the local authorities and a few local entrepreneurs took interest in developing the site with a hot pool and a couple of restaurants serving local cuisine. The landscape design brief for this project was to enhance the hot spring and utilizes its available resources into a wellness spa of international standard. However, at the same time the design needs to respect the local topography and culture and brings benefits to the local community.





Eng Ooi Tee

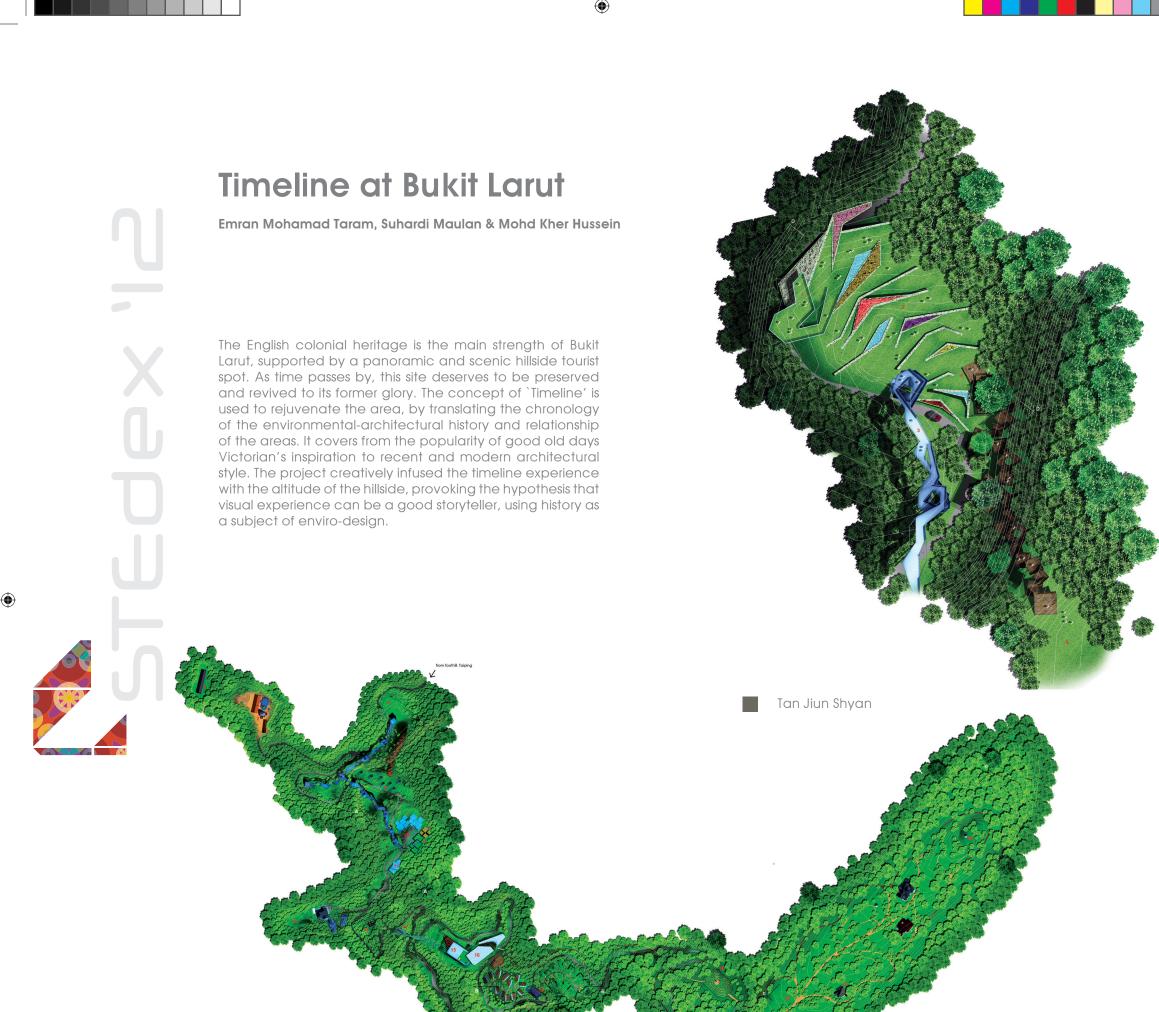
excellent attempt at reconciling existing development and natural resources into a world class health spa facility. Ng Ooi Tee's deep understanding of the site resources has enabled his design to fully utilize the site geothermal uniqueness, topography, hydrology, botany, and culture into a tasteful blend of well crafted artistic delight. Using the indigenous Temuan world genesis as the framework, the design craftily connects various facilities into great story telling of myths and legends. The design caters to various clienteles ranging from day trip visitors who prefer merely to unwind in the pools to those whose therapeutic needs are more clinical and requiring the services of healing professionals. In providing all the services the spa will also conserve and enhance site ecological and cultural resources and improving local economy.

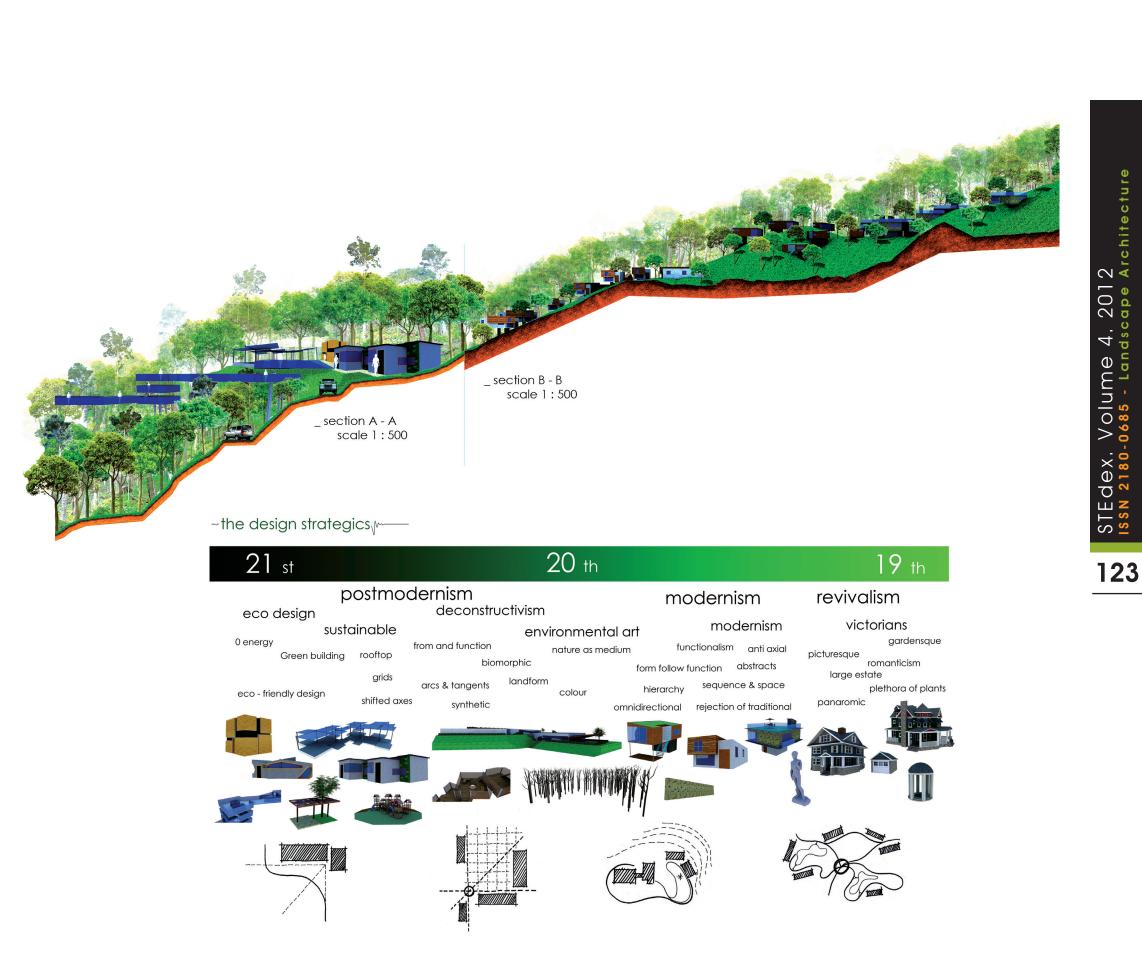
Ng Ooi Tee's Wellness Landscape is an

Ng Ooi Tee's design demonstrated his ability to understand landscape architecture's philosophy of respecting site resources, uniqueness of place, and sensitivity to local communities and culture. Coupled with excellent graphics, this project is an outstanding piece of work.



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### Livable Linear Railway Track

Mohd Nazri Saidon, Mustafa Kamal Mohd Shariff & Nor Atiah Ismail

This project explores the potential benefits of historical railway track to the public use in Port Dickson's town. The aims are to regenerate as well as to preserve the 121 years old historical railway track by transforming the area to become a livable linear park. The design approach is promoting the public's mobility along the park by reutilizing the old track. Thus, landscape architectural elements are designed to be responsive with the existing character and cultural identity to encourage spatial legibility. The plant species proposed are based on their tolerance to salt spray and strong wind such as Casuarina equisetifolia and Terminalia catappa. The eco-plan is proposed to highlight and promote an ecologically sustainable development (ESD) such as proper design for water recycle, green energy and material recycle.



Raymond Ling Guang Kwong









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### **Revitalizing Segget River Connectivity**

Mohd Nazri Saidon, Nor Atiah Ismail & Mustafa Kamal Mohd Shariff

This project highlights a river as the most valuable assets in the town center. The design approach is re-opening a Segget River as riverfront to bring back its significant and unique history. The project aimed to enhance the river surrounding through landscape architectural explanation. The designer is proposing solutions by improving water quality, utilizing open spaces and connecting social and cultural richness. The segmentation zoning is able to incorporate tangible and intangible landscape ensuring peoples' excitement and expressions the river of life. This project is able to give a new greening landmark and image of Johor Bahru city.

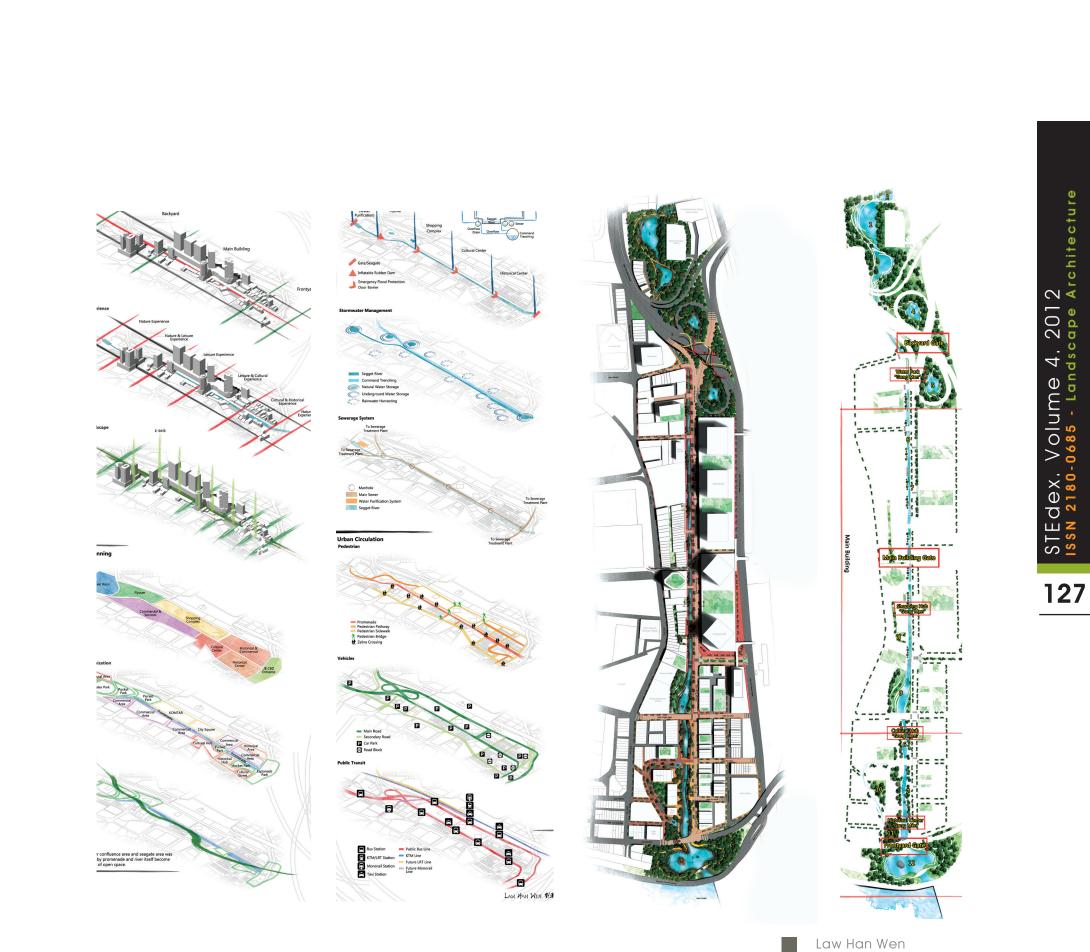








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Law Han Wen

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### **Reconditioning Kampung Bagan**

Mustafa Kamal Mohd Shariff, Mohd Nazri Saidon & Nor Atiah Ismail

Landscape Enhancement of Rumah Bagan aimed at reviving a traditional fishing village into a sustainable settlement, furnishing with modern amenities and yet retaining its traditional charm. Mohd Faiz's project attempted to tackle the current scenario of Kampong Bagan in Bagan Datoh, Perak. It is a small multi-cultural community largely depended on fishing for livelihood. The settlement clings to a precarious existence close to the mouth of the once mighty and historical Perak River. Except for its unique half on land and half on water Bagan House (Rumah Bagan), the village is actually at a cross road of remaining relevant or being swept away by the current of modernization and insignificance. Kampong Bagan was once a significant fishing village inhabited by a group of Chinese immigrants. However, it is now a dismal shadow of its past glory. Current problems faced by the settlement include a severe river bank erosion and sanitary management. Nevertheless, it has a good potential for tourism that could revive the economy of its inhabitants and preserve the unique features of the Rumah Bagan (Bagan House).

Mohd Faiz took the natural and historical resources of the river and the abundance of coconut palms surrounding the site as the main sources of his inspirations to design the rehabilitation and revival of the fishing village. The plan envisioned the participation of the small community in tourism activities as additional sources of income. This includes ferrying tourists and recreationists to several historical spots along the Perak River such as the Beting Beras Basah, to the mangrove forest on the opposite river bank, and also out to sea for recreational fishing trips. To achieve this intention a number of small jetties for boats were proposed. To improve interactions between villagers and visitors, he envisioned a number of small pocket parks in the settlement. An eco-lodge and small chalets are positioned comfortably among the coconut palms to cater for overnight tourists needs. Their designs are inspired by the coconut palms found in abundance on site. The main problems of sanitation and bank erosion were creatively handled by the introduction of a self-helped recycling programme and an ecodeck. His concept of Reuse, Recycle, Reconnect, and Ecologically based (RECO) fits in well in revitalising the settlement through functional and aesthetic solutions.

