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Monograph

Title: Public Art Strategies

Creators: Hollinshead, R., Farley, R. and Keating, E. Grit & Pearl


Version: Accepted version (Roseberry Park Hospital, Middlesbrough)

http://nectar.northampton.ac.uk/6073/
ROSEBERRY PARK: ART COMMISSIONING

RICHARD HOLLINSHEAD  GRIT & PEARL LLP
This commissioning plan outlines 20 potential art commissions for the Roseberry Park development. After discussions with the staff team and design professionals, the focus within the plan is on four key aims:

- navigation and way-marking
- humanising the spaces
- developing interest and engagement
- opportunities for creative expression

Underpinning these aims is a commitment to commissioning artworks with **therapeutic value** and the capability to retain their relevance and long-term interest. There is a general emphasis on **nature** imagery and on an element of **humour**.

The eighteen proposed artworks vary in materials, scale and themes, but when viewed collectively offer a balanced programme of benefit to a wide range of patients. The artworks are spread throughout the site and between user groups, adding much needed visual interest to the hospital environment.

Most offer opportunities for the engagement with patients and staff during their creation.
ROSEBERRY PARK: ART COMMISSIONING OUTLINE PROJECTS

- ‘FINDING YOUR FEET’ POETRY
- EARTH SPIRAL (RESIDENTIAL PLAZA)
- COMPOUND WALLS (RESIDENTIAL PLAZA)
- REMINISCENCE WALL (MULTI FAITH)
- DAY ROOMS GLAZING
- CAFE GLAZING

- ‘FINDING YOUR FEET’ POETRY
- REMINISCENCE WALL (MULTI FAITH)
- DAY ROOMS GLAZING
- ‘FORENSIC WALK’ SCULPTURES
- ‘CHAPEL’ COURTYARD
- VISTAMATIC WINDOWS
- ROSEBERRY PARK WALLPAPER
- COURTYARD BIRD BOXES
- MULTI–FAITH ROOMS
- RECEPTION CEILING AREA

- WANDER CORRIDOR & COURTYARD (OLDER ADULTS)
- VISTAMATIC WINDOWS
- ‘ART CART’ (BEDROOMS)
- ROSEBERRY PARK WALLPAPER
- COURTYARD BIRD BOXES
- MULTI–FAITH ROOMS
- PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT (FORENSIC WOMEN’S DAY ROOM)
- RECEPTION CEILING AREA

- closed forensic
- open adult

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8)

(9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18)

(18) SEATING, ART BOXES & FRAMES

furniture budget
PROJECT 1: ‘FINDING YOUR FEET’

LOCATION: THROUGHOUT THE SITE
‘FINDING YOUR FEET’

for the visitor or newcomer...

Navigation around the large site is a key design issue. Two poetry pieces lead the visitor and patient from the car park, across the entrance plaza, through the main entrances and to the doorways of the individual units.

The poetry adds interest and diversity to the spaces through which it travels, creating stopping spaces and conversation points – a valuable resource for informal therapy sessions

for the patient...

the first word of each poem will be the name of the hospital…
‘FINDING YOUR FEET’

The poem starts with the agreed **name** of the hospital, stood upright like a totem pole at the threshold of the car park. The poem then crosses the flooring of the main plaza, with words such as **rest** breaking the surface to form seats.
Crossing through the internal entrance areas, words such as *exhibit* point to the function of the individual spaces, before entering into the residential plazas. At this point the poem divides to have different endings as the *entrance features* for each unit.

The final words of each poem stand upright like a totem pole, becoming the agreed *name* for each building and acting as signage.
PROJECT 2: ‘EARTH SPIRAL’

LOCATION: RESIDENTIAL PLAZA
The outline landscaping plan shows a spiral motif in the centre of the main Residential Plaza. Using surplus spoil and topsoil from the levelling of the site, the proposal is to translate that spiral into a three-dimensional earthform. Planted with a wildflower meadow mix and accessible by a gently sloping path, the form offers a unique character and...

As with the ‘Finding Your Feet’ poetry piece, the artwork adds interest and diversity to the Residential Plaza. creating stopping spaces and conversation points – a valuable resource for informal therapy sessions
‘EARTH SPIRAL’

Raised to the same height as the surrounding buildings, the earthform becomes the only place within the site that allows wide views across the city and the surrounding countryside.

artist – designed seating on the flat top offers a place for solitude, relaxation or conversation.
‘EARTH SPIRAL’

An alternative site for a major earthwork would be the park space across from the new entrance point.
PROJECT 3: ‘COMPOUND WALLS’
LOCATION: RESIDENTIAL PLAZA
The rendered walls of each building that fronts onto Residential Plaza create the canvas that acts as a backdrop for all activity in the plaza, and could be enhanced by the addition of colour, pattern and structures at discrete areas around the main entrances.
Patterns in the render could be picked up in the landscaping and additional structures.
A screen is installed in each multi-faith room. A patient, either wearing or carrying an object, enters the room and images unique and pertinent to them is automatically displayed on the screen. For some this will be religious imagery appropriate to their prayer activity. For others it will be personal imagery – artworks they like or have made, images from magazines, photos of family etc.

Each object will be designed by a jewellery maker, and will contain a small device which communicates with the screen. On a nearby staff-controlled computer you will be able to drop images, video clips and other content into the folder for that object. Each patient or staff member that wants one can have a folder.
PROJECT 5: DAY ROOMS GLAZING

LOCATION: DAY ROOMS THROUGHOUT, UPPER WINDOWS

Glass for the upper windows of each day room.
A commission for part of the café’s glazing, allowing uninterrupted views from the café to the parkland, but adding interest and some sun screening to the upper areas of the glass.
PROJECT 7: SCULPTURE SHELVES

locations: around the forensic shared activities building
PROJECT 8: SCULPTURE COURTYARD (OLD CHAPEL)

locations: open-access courtyard, forensic

Blending architectural features salvaged from the old chapel with newly carved pieces to create a unique installation in one of the main patient courtyards.
PROJECT 9: WANDER ROUTE

locations: older adults corridor and courtyard

A series of small-scale objects with strong tactile and sensory qualities, installed in the courtyard and corridor of the older adults unit.

The artist for this project would work especially closely with the landscape designer to ensure the space worked as a whole.
PROJECT 10: CONSTRUCTABLE SCULPTURE COURTYARD

locations: two secure courtyards, forensic

A set of sculptural objects designed to be easily assembled into a variety of constructions within a secure courtyard, allowing long-term patients to reconfigure the sculpture on a regular basis as a managed therapeutic activity.
The horizontal stripes of the Vistmatic windows are functional but unimaginative and un-engaging. The proposal is to replace these stripes with a colourful patterned design, whilst retaining the necessary function of the windows.
For long-term patients in Forensic the ‘art-cart’ offers the opportunity to personalise their bedroom space by choosing an artwork from the Hospital’s collection of artists’ prints or, of course, their own artwork.
‘ART CART’
A specially commissioned wallpaper – unique to St Luke’s not just as a ‘limited edition’, but by working with a designer to create a design about the old St Luke’s, the new build, the patients and the staff.

The wallpaper would be produced as a short print run to be used in small areas throughout the hospital.
PROJECT 14: BIRD BOXES

locations: one unique bird box in each courtyard

Designed by a sculptor, the bird-boxes will bring humour and interest to each courtyard, as well as encouraging wildlife.
PROJECT 15: MULTI-FAITH SPACES GLAZING & INTERIOR

locations: two multi-faith spaces

artists—glass to the main window.
The women’s day room is one of the few gender-specific spaces at St Luke’s. Working with a professional photographer, patients would develop a set of professional quality images for this space.

The examples shown, taken at the Sunderland Empire theatre, were created by an untrained women’s group in a similar project.
PROJECT 17: RECEPTION CEILING AREAS

locations: two reception areas

A sculptural installation on the ceiling of the reception areas and ‘easy street’.
PROJECT 18: FURNITURE

locations: any courtyard or public space

Display Cases for patients’ art and for the Art Cart project

Replacing some of the standard benches specified for the courtyards and public spaces, one-of-a-kind sculptural seating creates interest and variety.
Following a period of consultation with the three Design Action Teams; individual consultants, clinicians and staff; the carer/user group and the architects and design team, the nineteen longlisted projects outlined in this report were presented to the Ad>ance Project Team on the 3rd October 2007.

The proposals were well received, with the general consensus was that all the projects had real merit and would be welcomed if funding permitted.

- “a lot of them look good”
- “I would like to have all the proposals!”
- “I would be happy to see the rest – funds allowing”

The proposals presented to the Ad>ance Project Team are in excess of the available arts budget of £310,000 – offering choice to the project team – and team members were asked to ‘vote’ for their favourite five and least favourite three projects.

Sixteen members of the team responded, with a further five not taking up the opportunity to vote on the projects. The results were collated and are as follows:

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**Respondents**

Andy Airey  
Penni Bamford  
Wayne Cairns  
Paul Cartmell  
Sandra Goody  
Lorraine Harland  
Sarah Hookes  
John Kerr  
Pauline King  
Dr Nick Land  
Claire Learman  
Kirsty Lowe  
Paul Newton  
John Ord  
Linda Parsons  
Sarah Seegoolam

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**Non-Respondents**

Dr Angus Bell  
Beverley Brown  
Paul Ellis  
Joanna Forster Adams  
David Stephenson

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**ROSEBERRY PARK: PROJECT SELECTION**
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In the light of this feedback an outline budget has been prepared for each of the ten projects which achieved a positive score, and discussions about the technical specifications held with main project contacts John Kerr and John Ord.

Additional fundraising is one of the key roles of the arts consultant, who is working to a target of raising an additional £100,000 to achieve an overall budget of £410,000. With close budget control it was felt that the ten projects were achievable within the projected £410,000, and possibly one or more of the three reserve projects.

The 'Art Cart' was the sixth most popular project, but will not be commissioned immediately as the furniture budget has yet to be fully resolved. High quality, robust and functional hinged/lockable frames will cost around the same amount as the artists’ prints proposed to fill them. Once the furniture budget has been refined we shall check whether the cost of the frames can be made affordable. In the interim a sample frame will be made to give people a good appreciation of their appearance and the future potential of the project.

The project that came twelfth – *sculptural installations to the ceilings of the reception areas* – cannot be delivered within the budget. However the necessary infrastructure will be installed in the false ceilings and outline proposals commissioned from artists in case further funding becomes available or other projects become unviable.
Agreeing the project list is the first of several major milestones in the commissioning process, which will have the following stages:

**technical spec.**
Draft a technical specification and scope of works for the main contractor Laing O’Rourke, and seek a detailed quotation for the infrastructure works required by the artworks (e.g. lighting cabling, steelwork, concrete foundations).

**Gantt Chart**
Integrate the art commissions into the overall construction timeline.

**fundraising**
Identify funding sources and make applications to Charitable Trusts, Statutory Bodies, Regional Development Agencies and the Private Sector.

**commission the artists**
Identify working groups for each of the commissions. The make-up of each group will vary between commissions, and might include senior clinicians, service users, ward managers and ‘front of house’ staff. Dependant on the project these groups might be involved in the selection of artists, agreeing the Artist’s Brief, developing research workshops and drafting interpretation material.