

'Including Nature and Biodiversity in the design, construction and management of our urban (and rural) areas.'

Irish Green Building Council

8 March 2023

Landscape architecture – practical use of science

Design and Implementation of Nature-based Solutions and their role in adaptation and mitigation of the effects of Climate Change – Perspectives of a landscape architect and natural scientist

Tony Williams

Principal Landscape Architect
Transport Infrastructure Ireland

PhD Candidate.

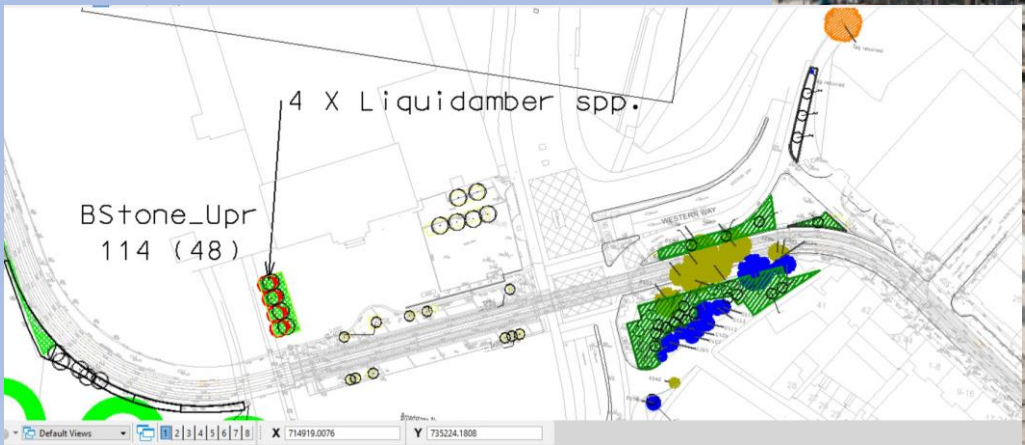
School of Natural Science, Trinity College Dublin.



An aerial photograph of a multi-lane highway interchange. The highway runs diagonally from the top right to the bottom left. A semi-transparent grey rectangular box is overlaid across the center of the image, containing the text 'The Landscape and Infrastructure'. The surrounding area includes residential houses, green lawns, and parking lots. A thin blue horizontal line is visible across the middle of the image, passing through the text box.

The Landscape and Infrastructure

Light Rail Landscape Strategy Both hard and soft landscape



Tony Williams TCD
williaa4@tcd.ie
www.connectingnature.eu

Promoting Biodiversity (as part of our normal activities) Promoting nature

- Luas Cross City project as an example of integrating the natural world , and making a more Biodiverse ecosystem (more of everything in the urban / peri-urban and rural settings)
- Engineering and planning the interventions is crucial to ensuring successful outcomes
- Work on the details. How will it be done ? and who will do it ? Include this in contracts (but carefully)
- The following is an example from Luas Cross City (Tramway Construction in Dublin)



An example of multidisciplinary elements Tree Pit design and Construction Luas Cross City

Existing and Proposed Trees –
Strategy developed

Landscape Architects:

Tony Williams (TII) Laura Flynn and Eimear Fox.
Fergal Parlon – (Brady,Shipman,Martin)

Utility Engineer:

Michelle Merne (TII)

Arborists:

Planning Stage-Ciarán Keating (for TII)
Enabling Works (for GMC) -Felim Sheridan
Infrastructure Works (for TII) –Felim Sheridan
Infrastructure Works (for SSJV) –John Morgan
Environmental Co-ordinator – Colin Wilson

And the design and site team (mostly engineers)

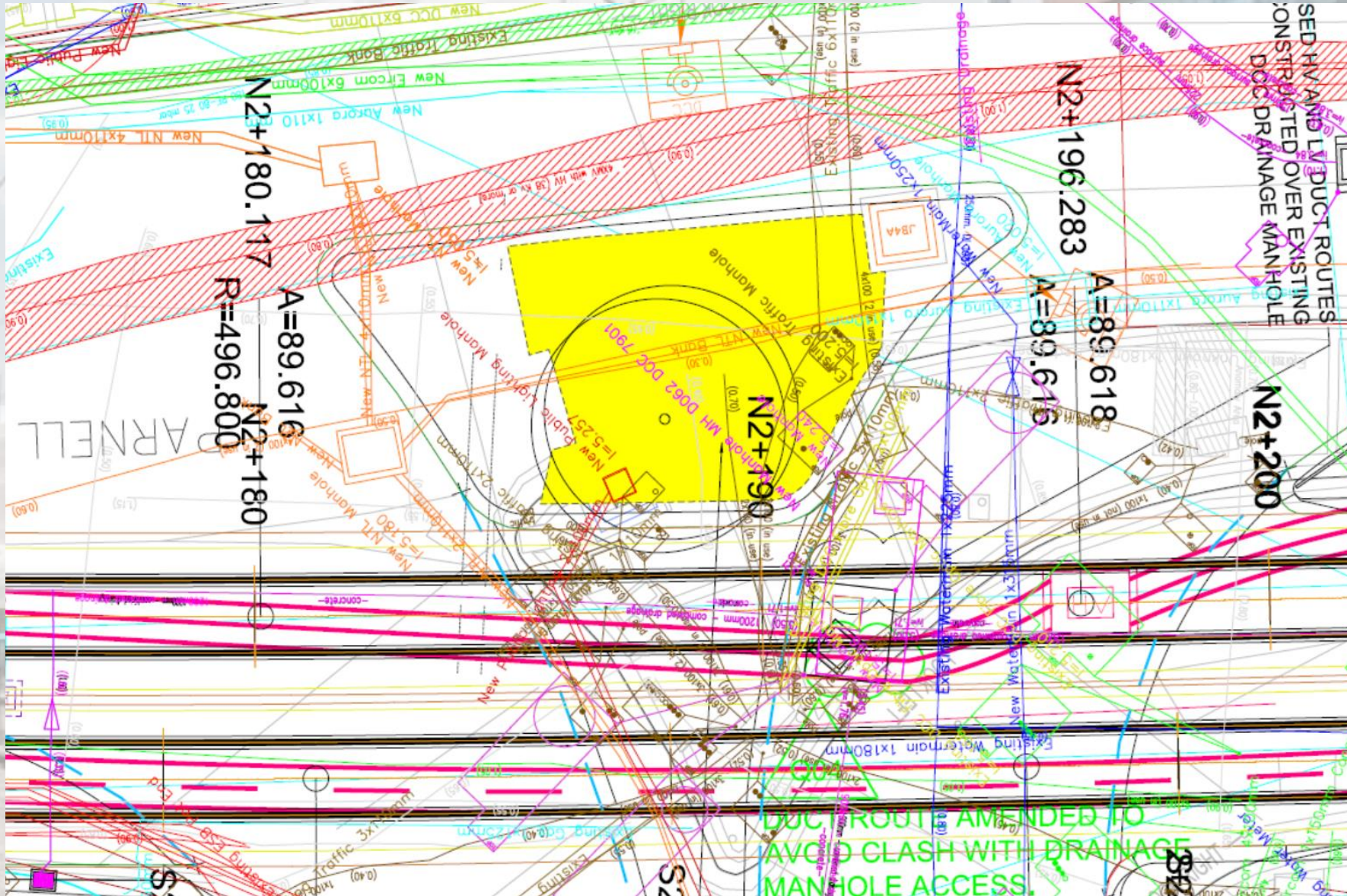


**LUAS Cross City (LCC)
DAWSON STREET, Dublin, Ireland (Éire)**

STREETSCAPE ELEMENTS

Example of complexity /simplicity

Utilities and Tree Pits – Design in Unison







Dawson Street – Existing London Planes to be retained



Existing Trees – Strategy Not without its difficulties

- Challenge to adjust utility layouts in order to avoid impacting existing street trees
- Each trees footprint varies and needs to be designed for its unique position within the new streetscape and kerb lines
- Full arboricultural advice obtained to allow individual street tree details be developed.
- Trees removed only when necessary
- Requirement for aftercare and monitoring
- Hand over to city and operator

LCC (BXD)

Trees - existing



LCC (BXD)
DAWSON STREET

Tree Planting - proposed

New Trees

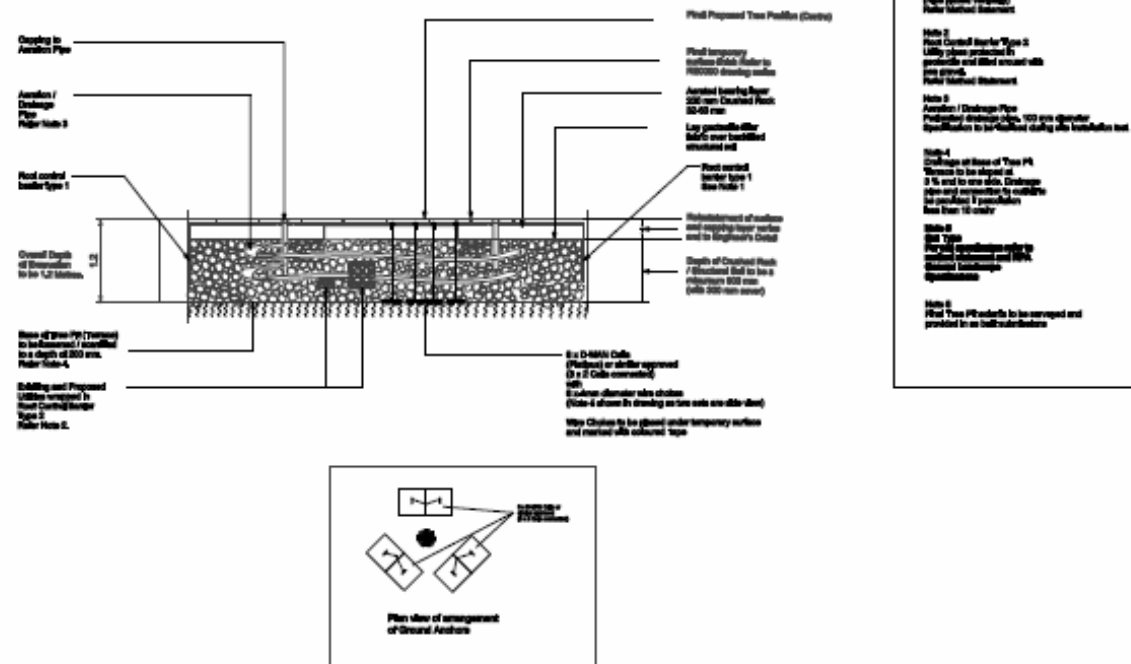
- Challenge to adjust utility layouts in order to fit new street trees
- Tree grille proposed with infill to match surrounding paving
- Structural soils used as part of build up
- London Plane tree type used to match existing
- But not always.
- We are aiming to increase the range of species used

Luas Cross City

Urban Design Strategy

Tree Pit Construction

Tree Pit Construction Using Crushed Rock as Sub Base Phase 1 Utility Diversions



Contractor: GMC Utilities
Arborist : Felim Sheridan

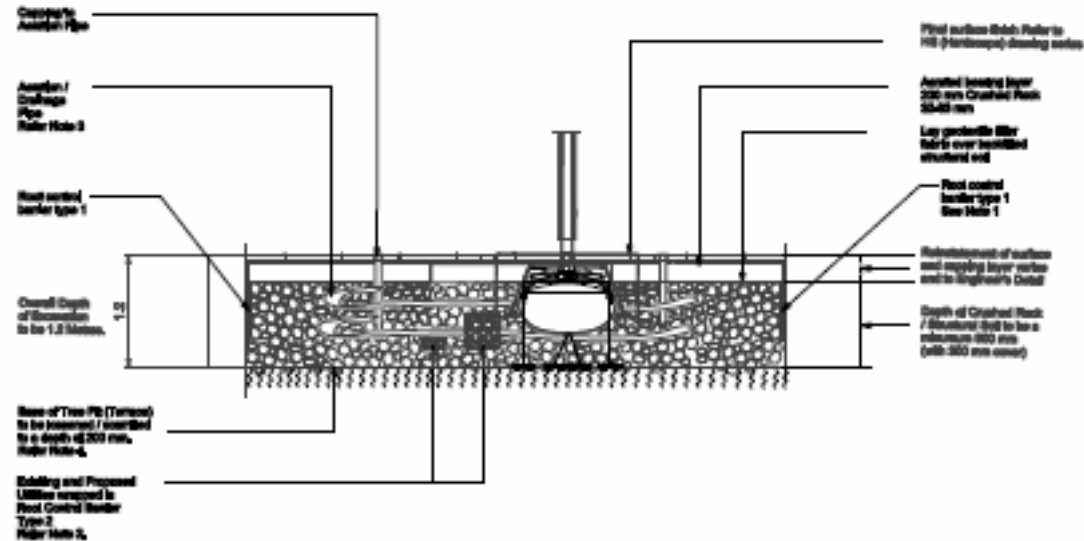
Based on Stockholm Tree Pit Design – Orjan Stahl et al.

Luas Cross City

Urban Design Strategy

Tree Pit Construction

Phase 2 Main Infrastructure Works



Contractor: Sisk Steconfer J.V.

Arborist : Felim Sheridan

Arborist : John Morgan

Ecologist : Colin Wilson

Landscape Architect : Fergal Parlon

Based on Stockholm Tree Pit Design – Orjan Stahl et al.

Luas Cross City

Urban Design Strategy

Tree Pit Construction

Utilities incorporated at Design Stage

Examples of O Connell Street Tree Pit Construction.

Pre Planting



Luas Cross City

Urban Design Strategy

Tree Pit Construction

Utilities incorporated at Design Stage

Examples of O Connell Street Tree Pit Construction.

Pre Planting



Luas Cross City

Urban Design Strategy

Tree Pit Construction

Construction Challenges

Ireland



During and post Construction

Tony Williams

Luas Cross City

Urban Design Strategy

Tree Pit Construction



January 2017

Final surfacing complete

O Connell GPO Tramstop

Pre Planting

Luas Cross City

Urban Design Strategy

Tree Pit Construction



Continuing Research in TII

Blue Green Infrastructure and Nature-based Solutions

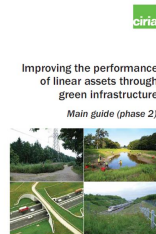


Delivering green infrastructure along linear assets

Scoping study (phase 1)



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Current Research with CIRIA includes

Green Infrastructure for Linear Assets

- Phase 1 scoping
- Phase 2 Guidance published in 2022

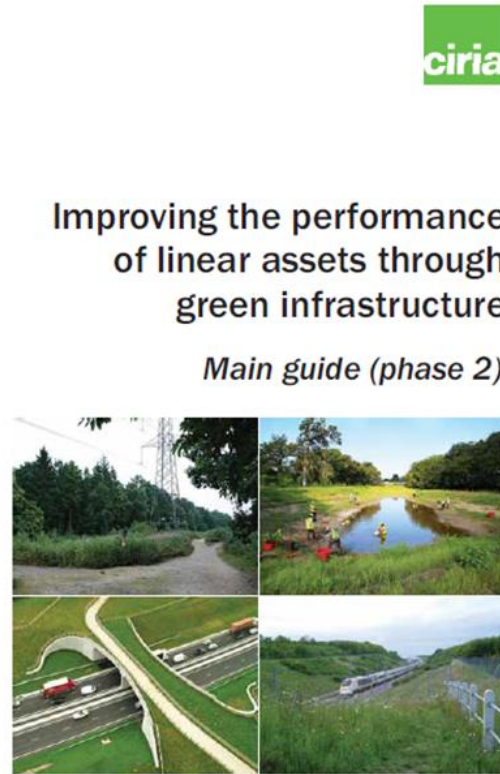
Part 1 Delivering GI Assets along linear Infrastructure

Part 2 Improving the performance of linear assets through green infrastructure

Tony Williams

Continuing Research in TII

Blue Green Infrastructure and Nature-based Solutions



Current Research with CIRIA includes

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Part 1 Delivering GI Assets along linear Infrastructure

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Continuing Research in TII

Blue Green Infrastructure and Nature-based Solutions



 MEMBER AREA

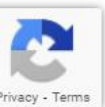
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Research and Innovation

Transnational Research Programme

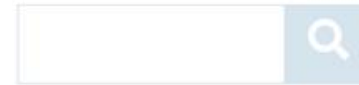
The CEDR Transnational Research Programme (TRP) operates through a series of annual transnational calls on topics that address the needs of European road authorities. The aim is to produce research results that can be implemented by CEDR members and contribute to a safe, sustainable and efficient road network across Europe. It is funded by CEDR members on a voluntary basis. Participation is open to any legal entity, though all consortia must be led by a legal entity from a European country.

tony williams



Continuing Research in TII

Blue Green Infrastructure and Nature-based Solutions



MEMBER AREA


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Research and Innovation

- Ongoing Research on construction and mitigation strategies.
- TII as a funding partner and driver of innovation (e.g circular economy)
- <https://www.cedr.eu/research-and-innovation>
- research with European and partners worldwide

on a voluntary basis. Participation is open to any legal entity, though all consortia must be led by a legal entity from a European country.

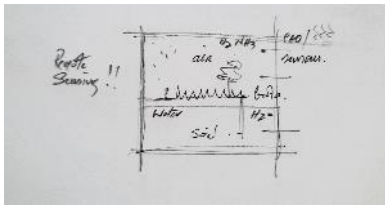
Tony Williams



Projects in a global sense, expressed locally

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Image Landsat / Copernicus

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Image IBCAO
Image Landsat / Copernicus
Image U.S. Geological Survey



Requirements for life

What to measure ?Air, Water and nutrients (soil/plants/biota)



Projectsin the global landscape Expressed locally



IFLA (Global) are involved in developing policies at global (and local) level



An approach to ecosystem management as part of ensuring a multidisciplinary approach (starting with Landscape Architects and Traditional Architects)



The aim is the delivery of the principles of BGI into the implementation of all projects.....and its translation into specifications and standards is needed.



Indigenous Ecosystem Corridors and Nodes A joint project of the UIA and the IFLA

IEC+N

Linking people and the landscape

<https://www.iflaworld.com/indigenous-ecosystem-corridors-and-nodes>

Website in development



4 JULY 2022

VALE ALLAN RODGER LFRAIA



Indigenous Ecosystem Corridors and Nodes
A joint project of the UIA and the IFLA

Born in 1935, Allan Rodger studied at the Universities of Dundee and Durham, practised architecture in London, and taught at the Universities of Edinburgh and St Andrews. He was appointed Chair of Architecture at the University of Melbourne from 1974 until retirement in 1996, including periods when he served as Dean and Head of Department.

Allan was a pioneer in ecological thinking, and an early proponent for fundamental changes in architectural thinking to address the challenges of climate change (when it was still labelled the 'greenhouse effect'). This intellectual passion extended from community-based design and the importance of local knowledge, to the larger scale of what he termed the 'agro-urban system'. He was deeply involved in programs of self-help housing in Victoria and was a Foundation Director of the CERES Project in Brunswick.

At the global scale he was active in UN-Habitat, International Union of Architects (UIA) and the Commonwealth Human Ecology Council. Allan remained very active in International conversations on climate change, and was co-convenor in 2020 of a joint, International Union of Architects (UIA) and International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) project on Indigenous Ecosystem Corridors and Nodes within peri-urban rural, regional and transcontinental systems.



Photographer: University of Melbourne Archives

Projects ...in the global landscape

Expressed locally

IEC+N

Current Project under IFLA / UIA umbrella and addressing 17 UN SDGs (Start up and

Concept)

Phase 1. Setting the structures in place utilising existing GO, NGO and community resources. Planned as community Led under Aarhus structures and assisted by the professional institutes.

- Linking 'living Melbourne' with 'Dublin Bay UNESCO Biosphere'

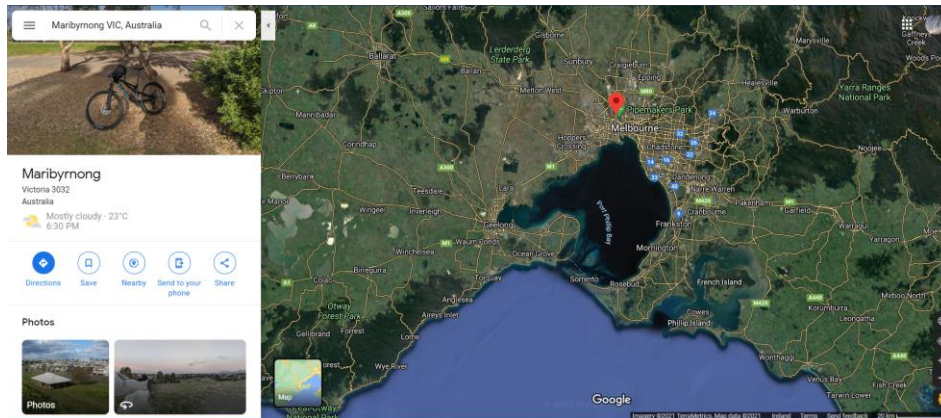
Living Melbourne - The Urban Forest

One million, 1,000,000 plus trees planted and ecosystem restoration as the 'norm'



Living Melbourne: our metropolitan urban forest

Launched 5 June 2019 – World Environment Day



Aarhus Convention. <https://unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/pp/documents/cep43e.pdf>

Projects ...in the global landscape
Expressed locally

Dublin Bay



BITHSFÉIR
Chuan Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin Bay
BIOSPHERE

<https://www.dublinbaybiosphere.ie/>



Bull Island, Dublin Bay.

An Island that grew due to the port development (since 1821) and a place for nature and walking.

UNESCO biosphere as the basis for a cooperative effort
By local government and citizens Professions,

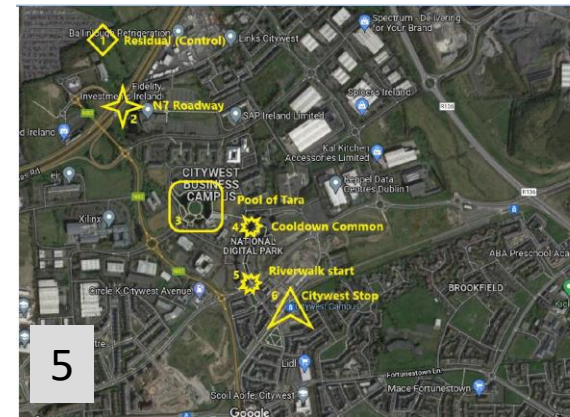
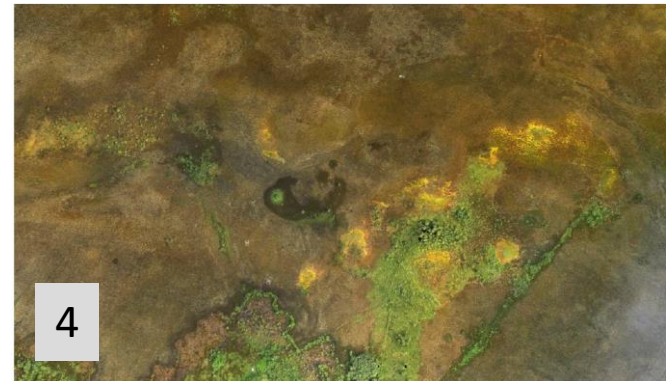
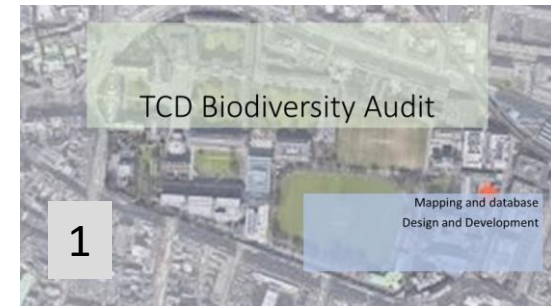


- Sites (Primary, secondary and tertiary data)

Field Sites

The grey is the built environment (buildings, roads, footpaths), the blue are areas of water and the green, the vegetation.

1	TCD Campus (continually occupied since pre 5 th century)
2	Bull Island (b.1821)(UNESCO Biosphere)
3	Pollardstown Fen (Water table and mosses / Vertigo spp) (Ph >7)
4	Clara Bog (Water table and variable regeneration, Ph < 7)
5	N7 / Citywest Campus / Luas Stop

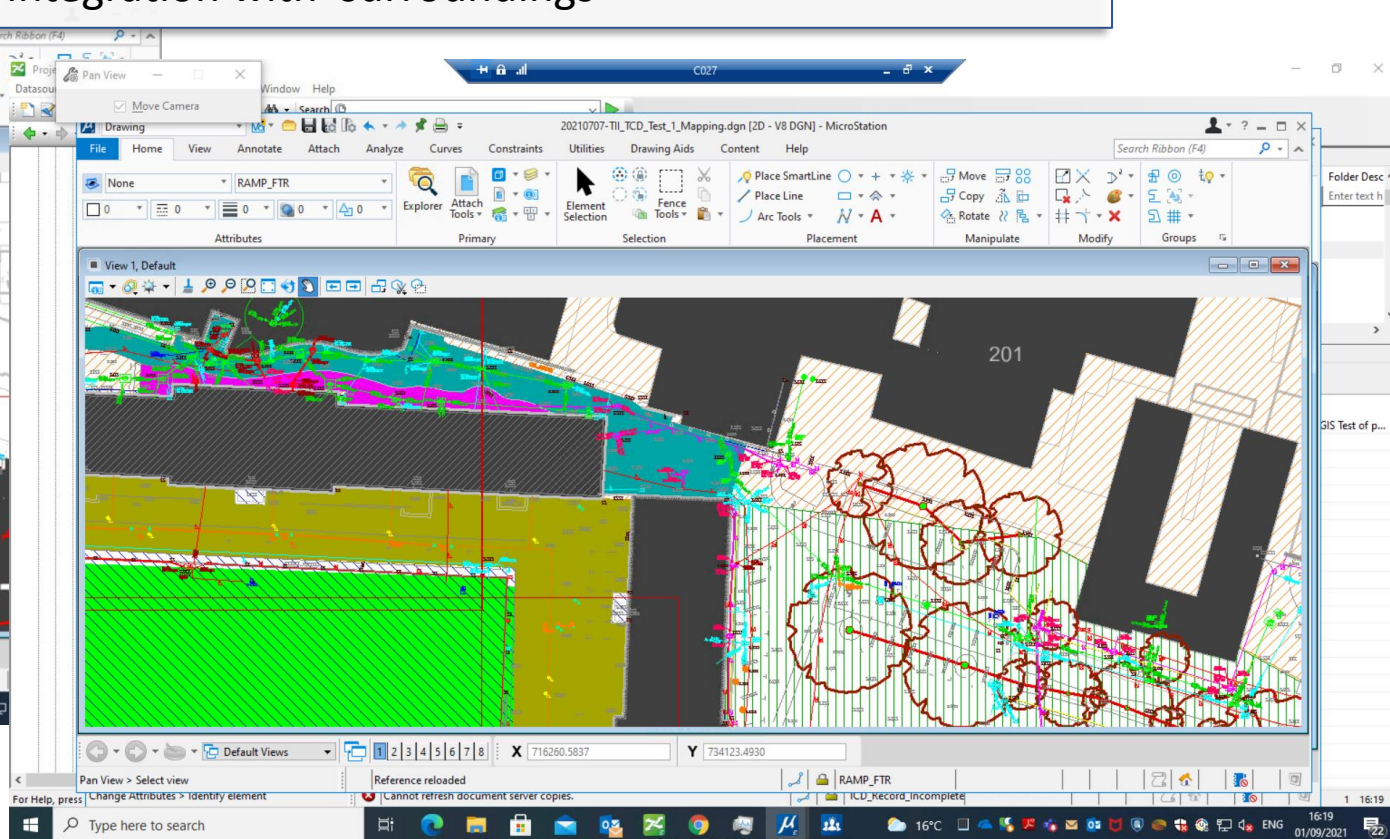
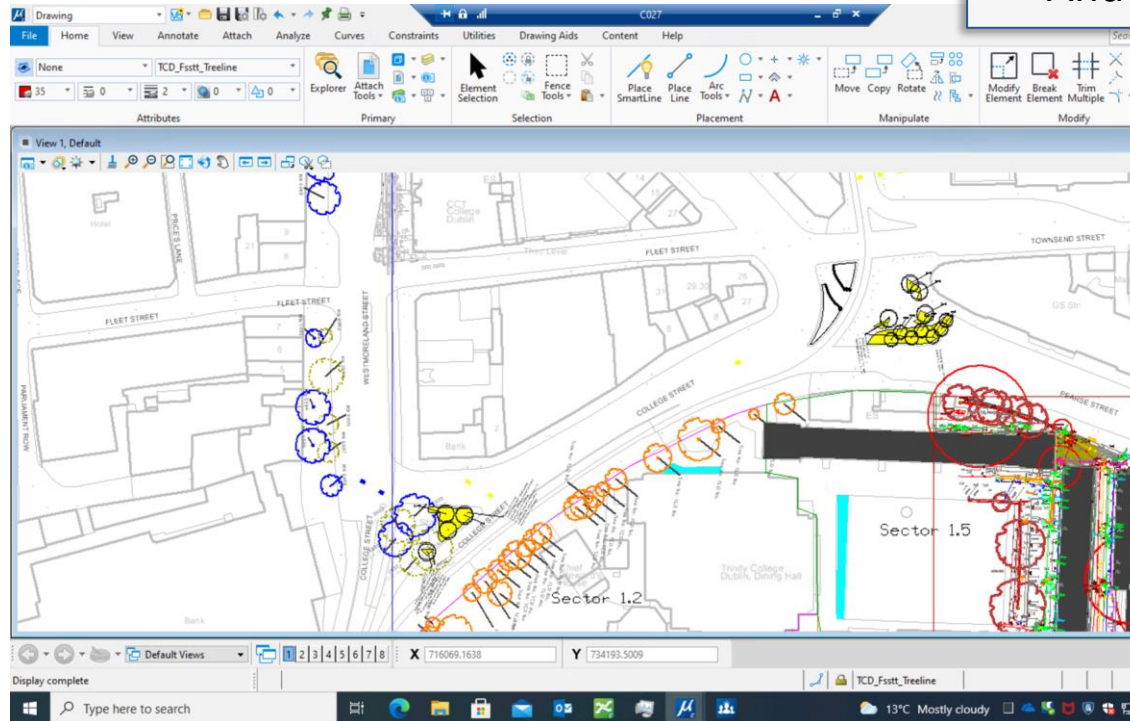


Field Sites

Ecological Fossitt Designations
and more.....

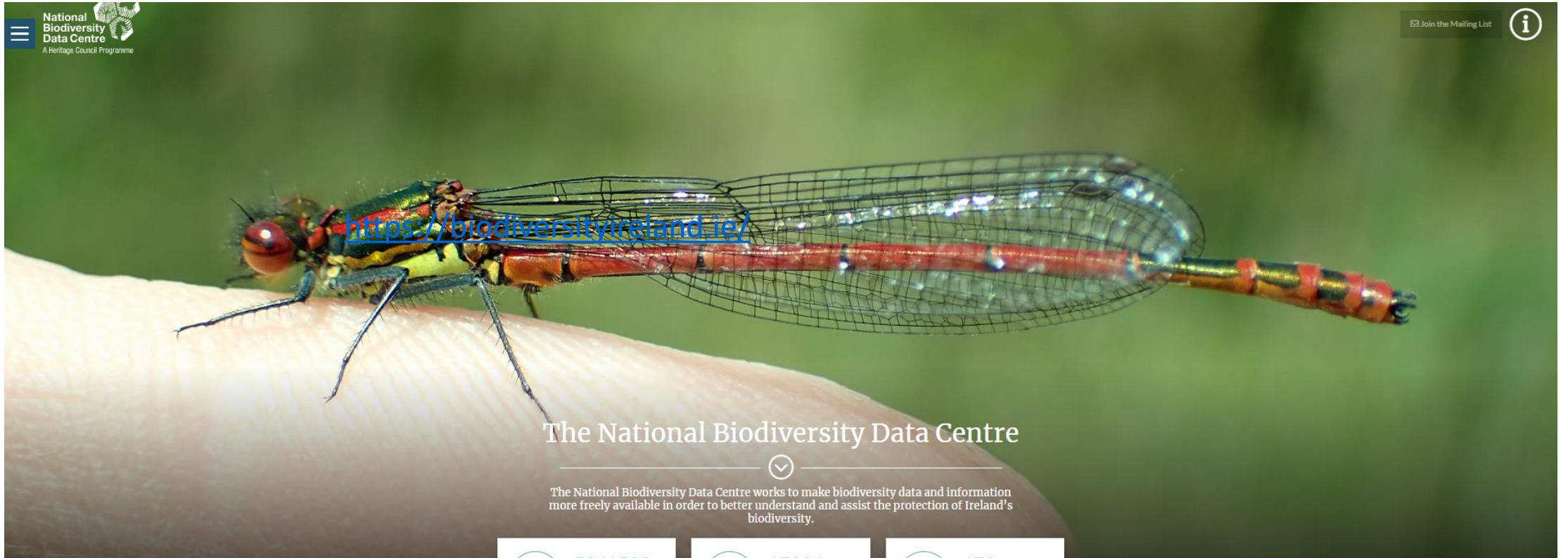
Current research phase

- exploration and sub categorization of the Campus based on Fossitt (a scheme for ecological assemblages)
- analysis of the interaction of areas in 4D (3D plus time) e.g. Tree line WL2 in combination with Artificial surfaces
- Further definitions and analysis of zoobotanical assemblages
- And integration with 'surroundings'



Collect, Analyse and use the data

for your locality






National Biodiversity Data Centre
A Heritage Council Programme

<https://biodiversityireland.ie/>

Join the Mailing List

The National Biodiversity Data Centre

The National Biodiversity Data Centre works to make biodiversity data and information more freely available in order to better understand and assist the protection of Ireland's biodiversity.

 5941539 RECORDS	 17326 SPECIES	 172 DATASETS
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<https://biodiversityireland.ie/>

Climate Change



IFLA
CLIMATE ACTION COMMITMENT



IFLA
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS



ADVANCING THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (UN SDGS).



ADVOCATING FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE AND SOCIAL WELLBEING



ATTAINING GLOBAL NET ZERO CARBON EMISSIONS BY 2040.



LEARNING FROM CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS.



ENHANCING CAPACITY AND RESILIENCE OF LIVABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES.



GALVANIZING CLIMATE LEADERSHIP.

• AS A GLOBAL PROFESSION, WE COMMIT TO:

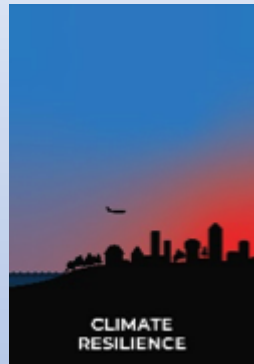


ADVANCING THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (UN SDGS). Through each of the 77 nations represented by the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA), landscape architects within our member associations accelerate our work to repair global ecosystems.

williaa4@tcd.ie
www.connectingnature.eu



ATTAINING GLOBAL NET ZERO CARBON EMISSIONS BY 2040. We will dramatically reduce operational and embodied carbon emissions produced by our work, harness the unique capacity of landscapes to draw down carbon dioxide, and advocate for clean and multi-modal transport systems.



ENHANCING CAPACITY AND RESILIENCE OF LIVABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES. Implementing green infrastructure approaches, landscape architects will work to mitigate urban heat island effect, and reduce the risks associated with fire, drought, and flood.



ADVOCATING FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE AND SOCIAL WELLBEING. Landscape architects will increase support for equity and equality, food security and the right to clean water and happiness for all.



LEARNING FROM CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS. We commit to respecting and working with indigenous cultural land management knowledge to mitigate climate change impacts and continue work towards reconciliation.



GALVANIZING CLIMATE LEADERSHIP. Landscape architects are uniquely placed to galvanize and lead a built environment response to this crisis. We will continue to collaborate with clients, suppliers, and allied professions to champion climate positive design.



ENHANCING CAPACITY AND RESILIENCE OF LIVABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES.

Implementing green infrastructure approaches, landscape architects will work to mitigate urban heat island effect, and reduce the risks associated with fire, drought, and flood.

4 key topics

1. Inspiring change
2. Celebrating Action
3. Building Partnerships
4. Preparing the next generation(s)

- Regions adopt this global plan and 'make it their own'
- Make regional changes
- Begin local and regional activities through the members (associations and individuals)
- Integrate between regions and working groups open dialogue.
- Use of on line collaboration (file sharing and meetings)



Link to SDGs

A Landscape Architecture Guide to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals



<https://www.iflaworld.com/a-landscape-architecture-guide-to-the-17-sustainable-development-goals>

Entrained Carbon

<https://climatepositivedesign.com/>

climatepositive
design

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**Design for Our Future.
Be Climate Positive.**

Tony Williams TCD
williaa4@tcd.ie
www.connectingnature.eu

Landscape Observatories



The Harbour Leenane
James Humbert Craig

Landscape Observatories

Landscape Observatory of Ireland



Date	Version	By
April 25 th 2015	Initial Draft	Tony Williams (TW)
July 2015	Developed Draft	TW
July 2015	Revision	Mansil Miller (MM)/ TW
September 2015	Version F for circulation and comment within ILI and LNI	TW
October 2015	Version G Amended Version for General Circulation and Comment	TW
September 2017	Version H for circulation	TW
October 2017	Version K. Minor Corrections	TW

¹ Image from Google Maps

10th COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONFERENCE ON THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

Report

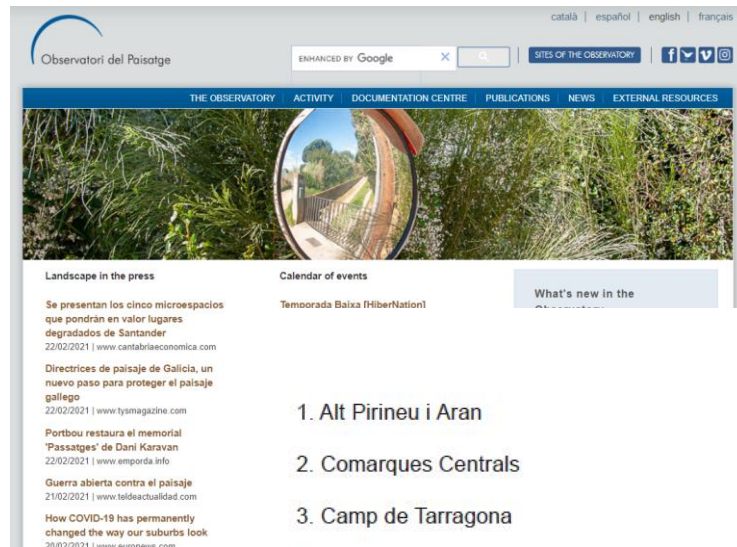
“A review of integrated approaches for landscape monitoring”

Council of Europe
Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg
6-7 May 2019

<https://rm.coe.int/council-of-europe-european-landscape-convention-10th-council-of-europe/1680968476>

Landscape Observatories

- Catalonia as an example of a functioning landscape observatory > 20 years
- <http://www.catpaisatge.net/eng/index.php>



1. Alt Pirineu i Aran
2. Comarques Centrals
3. Camp de Tarragona
4. Terres de Lleida
5. Regió Metropolitana de Barcelona
6. Comarques Gironines
7. Terres de l'Ebre



Fig. 1.2: Àmbits territorials d'aplicació dels catàlegs de paisatge.



ACTIVITY OF THE OBSERVATORY Landscape Catalogues

The 8 catalogues What they are Search

Check the contents of the catalogues by clicking the links below or using the landscape search engine.

	Penedès IN PROGRESS	
	Comarques Centrals APPROVED IN JULY 2016 * PUBLISHED IN 2019	
	Regió Metropolitana de Barcelona APPROVED IN DECEMBER 2014 * PUBLISHED IN 2017	
	Alt Pirineu i Aran APPROVED IN APRIL 2013 *	
	Comarques Gironines APPROVED IN NOVEMBER 2010 * PUBLISHED IN 2014	
	Terres de l'Ebre APPROVED IN JULY 2010 * PUBLISHED IN 2013	
	Camp de Tarragona APPROVED IN MAY 2010 * PUBLISHED IN 2012	
	Terres de Lleida APPROVED IN AUGUST 2008 * PUBLISHED IN 2010	

Ongoing 2023)

- Continued development of standards and specifications
 - ❖ Design
 - ❖ Construction
 - ❖ Maintenance
- Ensuring multidisciplinary design with professional input, local and national governance and citizen science 'at the heart'.
- Mapping and recording our landscapes (land, sea, town scapes)

Knowing our landscape

Outputs and implementation

- Informing the design of mitigation strategies for proposed projects / projects under development on the transport systems in general (rural, peri-urban and urban)
- Informing transport projects in planning
- Informing landscape policies in general
- Identification of additional research to inform the design, construction and maintenance of motorway, national routes and interchanges.

Easy steps

- Allow weeds to grow. (Untidy is good for nature)
- Ensure maintenance and establishment of green infrastructure (incl. watering) in contracts
- Ensure standards and specifications reflect the 'biodiversity and climate emergency)





Go Raibh Maith Agat

Thank You

A Connemara Landscape Paul Henry