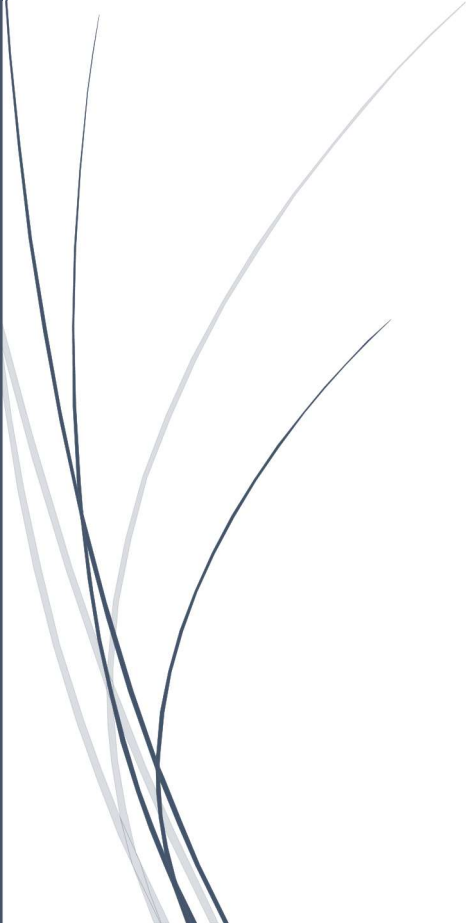


A dark blue vertical bar runs down the left side of the page. A blue arrow points to the right from this bar, containing the date 5/2/2023.

5/2/2023

Aesthetics

Springfield Designs – Swansea
Pedestrian Bridge

Several thin, curved lines in dark blue and light grey originate from the bottom left and sweep upwards and to the right.

RICHARD MURRAY

SPRINGFIELD DESIGNS LTD

WORK UNDERTAKEN BY RICHARD MURRAY WILL BE HIGHLIGHTED

YELLOW

Contents

Introduction	2
Brief.....	2
Brief Requirements	2
Aesthetics.....	3
Illumination	3
Land Mark Feature & Inspired by Industrial Heritage of the city	4
Conclusion.....	5
Reference List.....	6

Introduction

The term aesthetics as defined by Roger. S & Munro. T (2023) is the physiological study of beauty and taste. When applied to a building this means how the building is perceived by members of the public or users which would utilise the building, also how the building or feature flows into the natural character of the landscape, or the buildings around it if in a built up environment. The term aesthetics is where we get the term 'an ugly building', or a where a structure would stick out, or look out of place with it's surroundings, in this case these could be said to have low aesthetics.

It is however also important to note that sometimes the building wants to have a certain level of aesthetics appeal, or to stand out in the crowd. A land mark feature should not blend into its surroundings, as it needs to be an symbol which is seen, not missed. As such the requirements of the brief are important when discussing the aesthetics appeal of the proposal.

Brief

The brief provided by the client is shown below;

To meet the desired access requirements of the pedestrian traffic anticipated within the new development, your company is required to provide road access at the Langdon road roundabout (adjacent to Beacon Health Centre) to the Prince of Wales Dock, and a pedestrian foot bridge crossing this dock from the plot site A14B to the plot B5. This bridge should be innovative in aesthetic and a landmark structure, it is also required to be have a design inspired by the industrial heritage of the city.

It is also required that this footbridge is illuminated at nightfall. You are also required to provide walkway-linked moorings for the berthing of 60 motorboats on the eastern side of this bridge, within the Prince of Wales dock.

Brief Requirements

As such from the brief above the main aesthetics qualities that need to be met could be listed as below;

- Illumination
- Land Mark Feature
- Inspired by Industrial Heritage of the city

Aesthetics

The aesthetics of the project will be met by the below;

Illumination

This will be provided by including Solar Lights to provide illumination to the moorings, these in turn will be mounted on 76.1mm steel posts which will be bolted to the bridge where possible. These will ensure that the moorings are illuminated at night with a low level light, and increases to usable levels when required. (See figure 1 for proposed lanterns).

Defender



Figure 1 - Acrospire Defender (no date)

Meanwhile inside the bridge illumination will be provided by the inclusion of lights installed along the handrails, (see figure 2). These will be mains powered and provide adequate lighting, this in turn linked with the Perspex material will provide full illumination of the bridge during night-time hours.

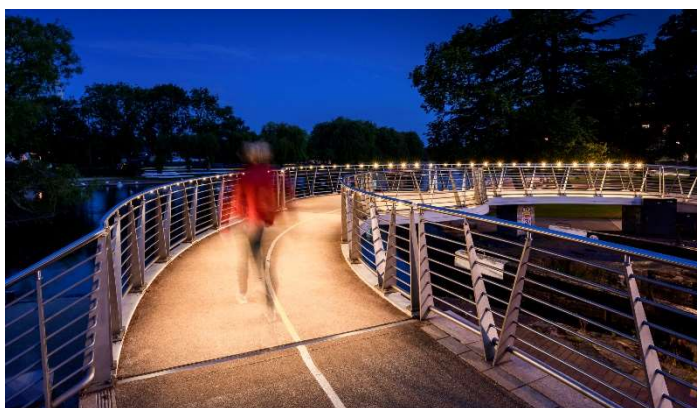


Figure 2- Acrospire Hand Rail (no date)



Figure 3- Acrospire Hand Rail (no date)

These will both provide adequate illumination and ensure that the bridge is seen and illuminated for users utilising the bridge.

Land Mark Feature & Inspired by Industrial Heritage of the city

These go hand in hand in the development process, as each will have a large effect on the other.

Firstly in order for the pedestrian bridge to be a land mark, the definition of a land mark must first be identified. A land mark is a building or feature which is noticed easily and allows for the user to define their location from it, an example of famous landmarks would be Big Ben, or the Eiffel Tower. However the aesthetic quality of the construction is that the bridge must also be linked to the industrial heritage of Swansea, which means its Copper Works.

In order to ensure that these 2 processes are followed, it is proposed that the cladding of the bridge or appearance of any steel work be coloured copper, this in turn would match the existing Copper developments currently being developed throughout Swansea as shown in BBC (2022).

Meanwhile the landmark feature would be served by the copper appearance, as well as by utilising a unique feature. This feature as outlined in the concept design would be one of the below;

- Tilt Bridge
- Vertical Lift Bridge

Both of the above proposals would create a landmark structure which would be instantly identifiable as Swansea, in part due to fact that these types of bridges are not widely utilised due to their construction, but by utilising the copper appearance.

As the client has elected to develop a Vertical Lift bridge, additional measures would be felt to be included in the design or further accentuate the industrial nature of the proposal. As such by incorporating 'cogs' into the design, this would produce a bridge with similarities to a Truss, however would produce a tube effect when coupled with the Perspex, furthermore by widening the cogs in succession, then decreasing the width once the user is past the half way point, this would provide an organic appearance to the bridge which in turn would only further accentuate the visual appearance, and beauty of the proposed design.

Conclusion

In conclusion by utilising the above features, this would in turn allow the bridge to fulfil the aesthetic element of the brief by ensuring that the bridge met the below requirements of the brief;

- Illumination
 - Provided by Dedicated Lights along the moorings and by utilisation of handrail lights
- Land Mark Feature
 - By utilising a unique lifting system
- Inspired by Industrial Heritage of the city
 - By utilising the copper appearance within the design and by further utilising cogs and by changing the width and scope of their construction to produce a more organic flow

As such from the designers perspective, the above would satisfy the aesthetic element of the design, however it is important to note, that aesthetics as indicated before is the reaction to the building or item in relation to its physical beauty, as such because beauty is individual and unique to everyone, it is impossible to ensure that everyone will appreciate that proposals, some will in turn feel (much like the Copr developed shown in BBC (2022)) that the development is ugly. As such beauty, or in this case aesthetic is in the eye of the beholder. For visualisations of the completed pedestrian bridge please see plans PED1-SPR-DR-C-0017-S1 & PED1-SPR-DR-C-0018-S1

Reference List

Roger. S & Munro. T (2023) *Aesthetics* (Available at; <https://www.britannica.com/topic/aesthetics>) (Accessed; 2/5/2023)

Acrospire Defender (no date) Solar Lighting Defender. (Available at: <https://acrospire.co/products/solar-lighting/defender/>) (Accessed 2/5/2023)

Acrospire Hand Rail (no date) RailLight Affordable Handrail Lighting. (Available at; <https://acrospire.co/products/raillight-handrail-lighting/>) (Accessed 2/5/2023)

BBC (2022) Swansea: £135m Copr Bay district opens to the public. (Available at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-60604290>) (Accessed 2/5/2023)