A Flagship for River Swimming

Definition:
1. an islet, especially in a river or near a mainland.
2. a piece of flat ground by a river which is submerged in times of flood.

Also sounds like...
holm is sometimes confused with hom and home.

With the pollution of rivers, lakes, and streams in England among the worst in Europe (Cockburn, 2021) we are, as George Monbiot stresses, living amongst a ‘national pollution crisis’ (Armstrong; Rivercyde, 2021). Damming reports reveal that no improvement has been made in the quality of our rivers since 2016 (Salvidge, 2020). However, concerning statistics show that only 60% of swimmers are worried about pollution and getting ill (Outdoor Swimmer, 2021) highlighting the lack of awareness and the dangers posed to unknowing wild swimmers.

The way holm...
A centre to improve the quality of nature and peoples wellbeing through EcoTherapy

holm is inspired by the rising popularity of people taking the plunge in rivers and lakes across the country offering a community led location to learn, swim and socialise where swimmers can safely enjoy the benefits with reconnecting with nature.

We hope that through this new hive of activity on the river, pressures will be applied on the industrial polluters to clean up their act.

The rise of Wild Swimming and Water Pollution of rivers in the UK

The pandemic has left us with a greater appreciation of our natural world and the need to protect it. Through taking advantage of the increasing popularity of wild swimming and the focus on mental and physical wellbeing moving forward holm can offer a safe space to swim outdoors and bring awareness on the pollution of our rivers to inspire a movement of change.

Our Wellness Roadmap
We believe in a world where humans and nature live in harmony. We help nature to thrive, providing homes for wildlife and improving biodiversity and in return, nature helps us providing natural resources to improve our physical and mental wellbeing. To achieve this we developed our 4 step strategy for whole-person wellness...

1. REUSE OF EXISTING BUILDING STOCK
2. ALLOWING NATURE + COMMUNITIES TO RECLAIM THE SPACE
3. TRIGGER SOCIAL ACTION TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY
4. IMPROVE MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH

Can design help protect and preserve ourselves and the earth’s natural resources?
Exploring sustainable Tourism in the context of ‘Wild Swimming’ and how we can design for whole-person wellness
Greenholme Mills
Burley In Wharfedale, Yorkshire

Located on the outskirts of Burley in Wharfedale between the towns of Ilkley and Otley in Yorkshire, Greenholme Mills is a historic cotton spinning mill that was at one point one of the largest water powered textile mills in the country. For my project I have selected the Northern Mill as it has great historical links to water with the Goit running under this part of the mill and also has good visual links to the River Wharfe from inside.

Site Positives

Proximity to River
This was the key factor in choosing the site and means I have been able to explore the land to water customer journey.

Safe realistic location
The site is away from the town centre and local sewage works, providing a safer location than the ones currently used.

Rich history
The mills hold much value in the local community and to the history of the British textile industry and this has informed my design.

To The River Wharfe...

When selecting a suitable holm site we looked at the local river network and sources of pollution that may harm members of our family and the nature we hope to attract to our space as a safe place for both to coexist and live in harmony.

Original Site Drawings

Rediscovering Historic Waterways

In the diagram on the left and map to the right both explore how the goit historically passed under the Mills powering the cotton spinning machinery. This is what we feel makes Greenholme Mills particularly exciting as a location for our holm flagship location as it offers both the river and the historical goit to swim in.

What If... My design uncovered site history?

If my design uncovered site history then this means over half my site won't require heating!

My Site Response

Strategy 1: Uncovering & re-introducing the historical ‘goit’

Through uncovering the historical Goit I will reconnect the site with it’s former use as a cotton spinning mill to improve community connections and interactions with water.

Strategy 2: ‘Re-Rooting’ nature as a major inhabitant of my site

Improving biodiversity and allowing nature to inhabit and reclaim my site promoting natural recovery and human wellness by creating transitional indoor and outdoor spaces. This means over half my site won’t require heating!
Our Framework for Swimming & Living

Sustainability is what our brand is built upon, considering it as part of every decision we make. We also understand the importance and power of communities to come together to make the world a better place and we are here to help them and provide a platform to elevate their voices. We acknowledge the importance of sustainably sourced materials and the impact energy-efficient design can have on the carbon footprint of our sites. In addition to this we hold ourselves to a series of strict standards we have developed from industry leading frameworks such as WELL.

1. Benched seating in circulation courtyard.
2. Accessible toilet.
3. Lift.
4. Unisex toilets.
5. Locker storage.
7. Shower rooms.
8. Step-free access to Goit.
9. Side stair access to Goit.
10. Main Goit access.
11. Lifeguard station.
12. The Water Frame.
15. Flood level.
16. Ice plunge pool.
17. Steam room.
19. Floating yoga / multifunctional.
20. Riverside activity space.

Plan Key

- 1st Floor - Learn
- 2nd Floor - Explore
- Basement Floor - Swim
- Ground Floor - Socialise
- 1st Floor - Learn

User Profiles

**Back-Pain Brandon - Wellbeing**

Brandon is a regular at Ilkley Moor Medical Practice. When he’s not there, you can find him baking cakes and patisseries in the Betty’s kitchen.

His job is back-breaking stuff, the doc recommends he steers clear of the OxyContin and goes to holm for wild swimming EcoTherapy instead! The doc also wrote in his patient notes that he thinks Brandon will meet more interesting folk in the water than in the surgery waiting room.

**Grandma Grylls - Adventure**

Beryl (AKA Mrs Grylls) lives life to the full, now she’s retired from Yorkshire Tea’s tea taster department, she spends her days rambling the Yorkshire countryside. You’ll probably find her on Ilkley Moor sauntering like the Bear Grylls of the North!

Beryl’s proper excited to pop down to the river centre every morning, she hopes she can make some like-minded friends to go walking with in the future.

Customer Journey

The holm wellness journey...

What if... my customer journey reflected the journey of a river from source to mouth?

User & Planning

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- 2nd Floor - Explore
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The Water Frame Design

The Water Frame acts as a bridge between the functional areas such as the changing rooms and showers to the water experiences and River Wharfe Beyond. Its design looks back into the site's previous use as a cotton spinning mill, taking inspiration from one of the revolutionary pieces of machinery of the time Greenholme Mills was in operation.

The Water Frame designed by Richard Arkwright was run by waterpower and replaced traditional methods of spinning cotton by hand allowing for the first time to be able to spin 96 threads at any one time. As seen in the image below water frames were used at Greenholme after being first used in 1765, this machinery would have been extremely popular and widely used during Greenholme's years of operation.

Water Frame Construction

1. Steel U-Bear
2. Cotton Spool inspired hooks
3. 8mm Stainless Steel rigging cable
4. Existing Columns
5. Reclaimed Copper Piping
6. Timber base rails
7. Reclaimed Industrial Iron Turnbuckles
8. Timber Base
9. Steel I Girder Beams
10. Supporting Posts
11. Timber Joists
12. Steel PFC Cross Beams

Technical Design

Technical Details from Section

i. Detail of void ballustrading
   - Q-Railing Easy Glass Prime: Top Mount F Railing System 6962
   - 10mm Thermal Expansion Allowance
   - Anchor
   - 42.4mm diameter Cap Rail

ii. Golf Edging
   - 1:60 Sloped surface for water runoff
   - Built Up 20mm Bullnose Pool Edging
   - Pool Edge Profile with Finger Grip Channel

iii. Tiling Detail
   - Bisazza Begonia Whiteless GlassTiles 20x20x4
   - Adhesive
   - 3mm Tanking
   - Hempcrete
   - Fillet
Material Statement

Creating a holmy atmosphere with an emphasis on sustainability and sense of place with local materials and suppliers.

The materials palette for Holm primarily takes inspiration from the main driver of the project which is the river. This gives a strong colour palette of greens, blues and browns meaning that the interiors and visual identity of holm sites can remain consistent as the initiative grows.

Secondary to this, geographical and historical aspects of site play a major role in the scheme for the site with reclaimed timber planks and local stone from Lancashire and Yorkshire. Materials are carefully chosen to minimise environmental impact and carbon footprint such as recycled found plastic fabric and natural limestone paint.

Supplier Spotlight: Camira Fabrics

Camira Fabrics - Founded in Yorkshire in 1974 ranges ‘Oceanic’ and ‘Quest’ use recycled water polluting plastics found in waterways to develop their fabrics. These will be used for all upholstery and soft furnishings.

My branding colours will reflect the pollution levels of the rivers across the country, as pollution levels improve my branding will reflect this by moving to brighter colours such as ‘Inflatable Yellow’ and ‘Blue Serge’. However, if pollution levels are high the branding would turn much darker using colours such as ‘Blackwater’, ‘Sea Green’ or ‘Murky Water’.

GREENHOLME GREEN
Limited edition heritage colour retrieved from historical tiles as seen in our flagship location at Greenholme Mills, Yorkshire.

BLACKWATER
Inspired by the foul waste waters and sewage that can often be released into watercourses during storm overflows.

SEA GREEN
Sea Green explores the deep green tones of deep bodies of water.

MURKY WATERS
This colour is intentionally ‘murky’ combining grey and green hues to give the impression of polluted water.

BLUE SERGE
Heritage colour inspired by the blue serge fabric produced at Greenholme Mills often used for military and police uniforms until the 1960’s.

INFLATABLE YELLOW
Colours of inflatables and flotation devices used both professionally and for leisure in pools, rivers, lakes and seas.

GREY WATER
Relatively clean waste water that can easily and sustainably be reused and recycled.

WHITE WATER
Inspired by whitewater rapids commonly found on rivers across the country.

A holm for Nature

01 Bauwerk Lime Paint Casablanca: Suitable for both internally and externally, mould resistant and naturally antibacterial. 02 Traditional Stone Honed Paving Colour matched to existing stone on site. 03 Traditional Stone: Local Rosendale Sandstone. Used to define flooring that goes below basement level to add depth and legibility to the scheme. 04 Domus Meld Porcelain Tile - Lux finish DMUD: Used to clad natural stone walls for visual effect and to protect from extensive water damage over time. 05 Camira Fabrics: Mussel QUE04 (62) Whet QUE88: Founded in Yorkshire A made using recycled water polluting plastic. 07 Pipework - reclaimed copper piping used for handrails or decorative elements. 08 Bisazza Sagome Whites: - shading blend 20x20mm Glass Mosaic Tiles. Used to bring colour into the Goit and indicate depth. 09 Domus Venetian Porcelain Terrazzo DSAV 07: Reflective of the colours and forms typically found in rivers.

Reflecting the colours of riverwater through a rich palette of blue and green hues combining site location and heritage.

A mix of period and modern lighting to add atmosphere to the scheme and forms to link to the sites former use as a cotton spinning Mill.