



# LANDMARKS

The Design Commission for Wales invites you to join us on Friday 20th November in Cardiff for our **Landmarks** Symposium...

...a day exploring the relationship between the natural resources of the Welsh landscape and human intervention...

...and considering implications for planning, policy and infrastructure

[www.dcfw.org](http://www.dcfw.org)    @designcfw    #Landmarks



# LANDMARKS

## Symposium

20th November 2015

DCFW, Mount Stuart Square, Cardiff

**Landmarks** is the Design Commission for Wales' autumn 2015 exhibition and events which explore the relationship between the natural resources of the Welsh landscape and human intervention, informing and inspiring a future for design in the landscape.

The **Landmarks** Symposium takes place in Cardiff on Friday 20th November 2015. It will be an opportunity to further consider and debate the issues raised at the Landmarks conference and to explore the implications for planning, policy and infrastructure design.

The symposium follows the **Landmarks** Conference which took place on 9th October 2015 at Ruthin Craft Centre. Aerial photographer, Alex MacLean shared images from his aerial survey of Wales conducted exclusively for **Landmarks**, revealing how mankind has shaped the Welsh landscape.

The **Landmarks** Exhibition, opened at Ruthin Craft Centre on 25th September 2015, and open to the public until January 2016, has been originated and curated by the Design Commission for Wales to be accessible to a wide audience. The exhibition features the work of designers who creatively and critically highlight the value of good design interventions in the Welsh landscape.

A **Landmarks** Publication, produced in conjunction with the events and exhibition, acts as a lasting reference to the complex issues and challenges of working with the Welsh landscape. It includes a series of illustrated essays by design professionals, academics and artists alongside excerpts from the exhibition. All symposium delegates will receive a copy.

**Landmarks** considers a wide variety of issues including energy, sustainability, rural housing, industry, infrastructure, economy, tourism, biodiversity, climate change, transport, well-being, design, planning, landscape, conservation and innovation.

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## Tickets

**The Landmarks Symposium in Cardiff is a free to attend, but places are limited. Please book your place on Eventbrite via our website [www.dcfw.org/landmarks-symposium/](http://www.dcfw.org/landmarks-symposium/)**

If you have any queries about Landmarks, please contact us by emailing [connect@dcfw.org](mailto:connect@dcfw.org) or calling 029 2045 1964

## About Landmarks

With its magnificent mountains, verdant valleys and characterful coastline, Wales is renowned for the beauty of its natural landscape. Yet, over centuries, it has been transformed by the designs of mankind. Farming, industry, transport, energy, wars, religion and tourism have all left their marks on the Welsh landscape in the form of field boundaries, deforestation, roads, canals, quarries, mines, power stations, factories, monuments, pylons, wind turbines and the like.

In the past, people used and adapted their local surroundings out of necessity to provide food, fuel, shelter and communication. Today, our romantic attachment to the 'natural' landscape means that we tend to focus on conservation and preservation, deeming any significant new interventions negative. The Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) process is intended to assist decision making. But does it encourage valuable good design or restrict us to camouflage and mitigation in practice?

Demands on the landscape - historic conservation, habitat enhancement, improved transport connections, renewable energy, economic farming, jobs, culture and communities, health and well-being, water management, communication infrastructure and attractive tourism - are often in conflict. There are many issues which must be considered by the designers, planners and decision-makers shaping the Welsh landscape.

Through the exhibition, conference, symposium and publication, the Design Commission for Wales seeks to dig deeper into the relationship between natural resources and human intervention, informing and inspiring a future for design in our landscape.

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## Symposium Programme

20th November 2015 at DCFW, Cardiff

- 10.00 Registration & Refreshments
- 10.30 **Welcome, Introduction & Conference Summary**  
— Carole-Anne Davies, Chief Executive, DCFW  
— Amanda Spence, Design Advisor, DCFW
- 11.30 **A National Vision**  
— Alister Kratt, LDA Design  
— Structured discussion
- 12.15 Refreshment Break
- 12.30 **Large-Scale Landscapes**  
— Late Dame Sylvia Crowe (1901-1997) - 'Wood & Water' recorded talk and slides  
— Structured discussion
- 13.15 Lunch & Landmarks Strategy Exploration Workshop
- 15.00 **The Landscape of Infrastructure**  
— Toby Blunt, Foster + Partners  
— Structured discussion
- 15.45 Refreshment Break
- 16.00 **The 'So What?' Session**  
— Feedback, debate, expert panel. implications...
- 17.00 **Summary & Closing Remarks**

Note: To enhance discussion and debate, we will be using electronic media to receive comments and questions and to structure these sessions.

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## Speaker Profiles

### **Alister Kratt, Board Director, LDA Design**

Alister is Board Director specialising in large, multidisciplinary projects and development in sensitive contexts. He leads Energy and Infrastructure teams with expertise in nuclear, wave and tidal, EfW and port sectors. He also leads Development and Regeneration teams with particular experience in university and mixed use development. He is responsible for LDA Design's professional services with particular emphasis on EIA and Contextual Planning and Assessment. Alister is a landscape architect and masterplanner with significant experience in project leadership including DCO projects.

<http://www.lda-design.co.uk/>

### **(Late) Dame Sylvia Crowe (1901-1997), Landscape Architect**

Landscape architect and writer, Sylvia Crowe was involved in promoting landscape architecture in the UK and internationally through her work and her involvement with the Institute of Landscape Architects (ILA) and the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA). One of the most remarkable characteristics of her work is that she handled landscapes of hugely diverse scales, from small garden details to hundreds of acres of new towns, forestry and reservoir margins. With each project she always showed acute awareness of context. Through her work she persuaded interdisciplinary teams to recognise the significance of views, landform and local character in determining the location and impact of new interventions in the landscape.

Wood and Water concentrates on the landscape design of forests and reservoirs, showing several of her projects and discussing the related problems she has encountered. "We are trying", she says, "to make again a land which people can enjoy, a land, too, where wild life can flourish". This talk was recorded in 1988.

### **Toby Blunt, Deputy Head of Studio, Foster + Partners**

Toby Blunt joined Foster + Partners in 1995, became an associate partner in 2004 and was promoted to partner in 2006. For five years he was based in Berlin, Singapore and Malaysia, working closely with teams on site for a wide range of projects including the redevelopment of the Reichstag, New German Parliament, in Berlin. More recently he has led teams for a number of large projects in the Middle East including The Index, Dubai; Al Raha Beach Development in Abu Dhabi and the new Zayed National Museum in Abu Dhabi.

<http://www.fosterandpartners.com/>

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## Venue

[www.dcfw.org](http://www.dcfw.org)

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The venue is a 5-10 minute walk from Cardiff Bay train station and bus stops. There is limited parking on Mount Stuart Square or multi-storey car parks at Mermaid Quay and Pierhead Street.

## Communications

In the run-up, on the day and following the symposium we will be communicating **Landmarks** issues using Twitter. Please follow us @designcfw and join the conversation using #Landmarks

Images from the **Landmarks** Exhibition and Conference in Ruthin can be seen on our Pinterest board:  
[www.pinterest.com/desgincfw/landmarks/](http://www.pinterest.com/desgincfw/landmarks/)

Contact DCFW for further details:  
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