SOUTHBANK LEEDS SPATIAL It is centred around the Georgian Park Square which is one of the few green spaces North of The Headrow and is home to a number of in the city. The district has grown out towards the West of the city. Large corperations wonderful victorian buildings. It is also the location of such as The Bank of England can be found here. the City Gallery and Town Hall. Home to Leeds' major shopping attrations, including two large shopping centres. Most streets are connected from Briggate which is the main shopping street. Other landmarks include the Corn Exchange and Kirkgate The area was historically the city. Now it has been rezoned as a mixed-use urban renewal area south of the railway. The new HS2 station will border this

Our site is situated on the southbank of the River Aire in close proximity to two crossing points for both

It is around a 10 minute walk from the main shopping district and around 5 minutes from the train station. As we vistited the site on multiple occasions, we observed that most pedestrians and

attraction to make them pause in the space.

vehicles and pedestrians

area which makes it prime

THE CIVIC OUARTER

THE CALLS

THE VICTORIAN DISTRICT

THE FINANCIAL QUARTER

SOUTHBANK REGENERTAION AREA

for investment and

development.

More and more people are visiting the city due to large investments in retail and the transport links that the station provides. However the South side of the river is neglected from tourism, maps of the city don't show below the river which means no one really visits the area.

In response to this issue, local governments are developing the area with a new regeneration scheme. Once this is complete, 35,000 more jobs will be available, which will boost the local economy. More jobs means will make the area more appealing for residential development.

It was once the centre of the industrial revolution in Leeds and was home to multiple mills and factories, but insdustry started to decline as the 21st century was approaching. The River Aire was the main core of the industrial power in the city as it was a place to transport products on barges.

The Southbank played a big part in helping with war efforts as they manufactured war ammunition and accessories. With the war and the 20th century coming to an end, so did many businesses on the South side as other workforces abroad were cheaper. This lead to a decrease in demand and leaving the south bank area as a fairly uninhabited place.

Is the site a SPACE or a PLACE?

We believe the site is a space, not a place for people. The neglected condition that the site is currently in doesn't provide safe areas for users to stop and enjoy, at present they simply use the space as a cut-through or cycling/jogging routes. The car park is in very close proximity to other buildings and blocks sunlight to the areas below and creates a strong sense of enclosure, but once it has been demolished it will create a more open and comfortable place.

Calls is just north of e River Aire. The area saw a decline after most industry moved out of the city centre towrads Holbeck and Kirkstall. In 1985 Leeds City Council regenerated this area into mixed-use area. Many f the old industrial buildings were converted

The sense of

enclosure is

between the

multistorey car

park and the river

wall. It creates an

unpleasant and

dark space and

brings about a

sense of unease

Cross section showing the reality of the

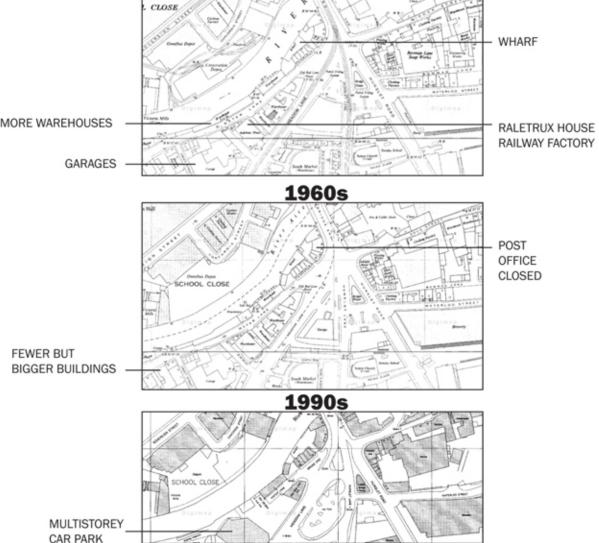
High sense of enclosure: no space to enjoy,

site with the multistorey car park.

highest in the area

intomodern flats and These are the areas that Leeds City Council are focussing on in order to integrate commercial buildings. spaces south of the River to the North. Our site is located here which makes it a

MILLS ALONG RIVER The space isn't used as a place to stop and enjoy, most people were rushing through as their is no real CHURCH AND SUNDAY





with only a few shrub species such as Buddleia often left unkept to become over Prunus laurocerasus

part of a green corridor connecting existing green spaces and the River Aire, creating habitat and helping to increase the biodiversity of both flora and fauna within the

Sun Path in the month of Feburary:

Morning - Few pedestrians

Midday - Increased number of pedestrians

the site this is a prominent

view, showcasing Victorian

architecture and a local

of the site is next to the

Asda HQ Car Park

The River Aire runs next to our

for it yet in relation to our site.

There is on the other hand a pro-

posed footpath which will lead

people from the south bank of

leeds through to the city centre.

These two buildings are split

into two, with ground floor being

being resiential. The left building

comercial and the floors above

was considerbly more run down

looking letting agency's and an

right which has modern

off-licence.

compared to the building on the

site and has a breadth of history. However, there is no direct use

enclosure as it's bound by high-

Cross section showing what the space

This building is soley residen-

tial and looks over the River

Aire. The building is tall, and looks in better condition com

buildings on our site.

pared to the other surrounding

will look like once the car park is

rise apartments and the pub

very exposed to the traffic.

View down the River when

stood on the Leeds Bridge

axi boats often travel down the River

adavntage of in the future

which is an attraction that should be taken

Once the car park is gone it will leave a much bigger

have no protection from traffic which is a challenge

that will need to be considered during the design.

building. It often cuts off the

sun making the path which

a large exposed area.

his is Meadow Lane, the main

road which runs through the site

which is also very busy especially

during the period of rush hour.

goes around it very gloomy.

This building will however be

knocked down which will leave

area that people can use and enjoy. Although they will

With the removal of the existing ASDA car park the space will be predominantly South facing meaning it will be exposed to sunlight for much of the day. This gives the site potential to be a PLACE where people can sit and stay rather than quickly passing through the SPACE.

Overall the number of pedestrians was lowest at night

(19:00pm) and heighest at midday (12:30pm), although the

number of pedestrians throught a whole day was still relitively

low compared with the rest of the city.

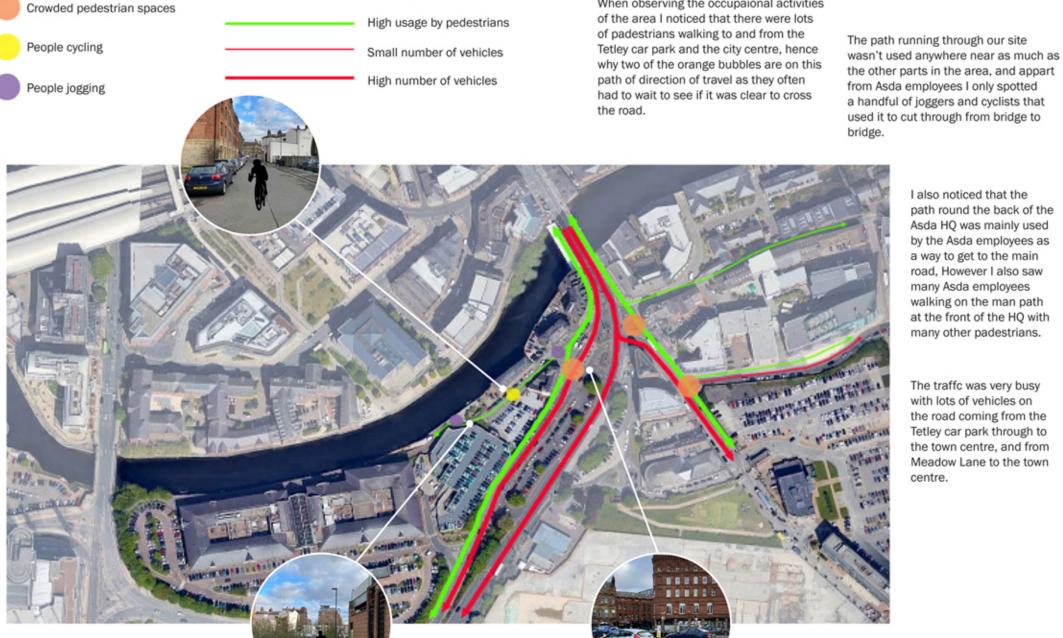
WATER USER ! LONGEHENTS GIVER NIRE

Midday Sunlight on the south Shade cast by northfacing facing buildings. (12:33pm Febu- buildings at midday. (12:33pm

> Number of pedestrians in the Morning Number of pedestrians at Midday

Number of pedestrians at Night

OCCUPATIONAL When observing the occupaional activities



Low usage by pedestrians

Relaxed feelings but keeping aware This area of the site gave off a less safe feeling Water Lane is not the most pleasant than any other part of the site, possibly because Tense emotion/Less relaxed street to walk down, the building facades it was more secluded. There were clear signs of rise high above and it creates an enclosed homelessness and drug use. Walking through, No feeling of safety space. There is little street lighting which you feel quite uneasy and can imagine that famicauses the street to feel unsafe, lys with young children would not be comfortable especially at night.

When first walking into the siteyou notice the row of businesses, but then your eye is drawn upward to the residential buildings above, and you notice the neglected, amlost abandoned condition of them. It provokes a sense of uncertainty.

Relaxed feel/Welcoming

The pub gave off a very english feel and envokes a sense of nostalgia as you can see that it has been around for years. It gives character to the space which isn't found anywhere else in the site.