

GENERAL INFORMATION

INTRO

Thailand boasts a significant cultural and architectural history that spans thousands of years presently in the process of globalization and urbanization. It is a dynamic and proud country engaged in modernization framed by cultural traditions. The architectural and cultural legacies will be introduced within the framework of dynamic contemporary challenges.

The International Abroad Program – World Heritage Experience is a partnership with faculty members and students from King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang (KMITL) and Heritage ASEAN Research Community (HARC) in Bangkok and the Royal College of Art (RCA) in London. We will embark on a 6 day trip to Sukhothai and Si Satchanalai (approximately 800 miles round trip). The RCA and KMITL will team up to explore several topics, ranging from cultural artifact to the vernacular, urbanism in Si Satchanalai, as well as temples and palaces of Sukhothai, to the hectic pace of urban Bangkok.

ABOUT OTOP INNOVATION CULTURE

One Tambon One Product is a local entrepreneurship stimulus program designed by Thailand's former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra during his 2001-2006 Thai Rak Thai government. The program aimed to support locally made and marketed products of each of Thailand's 7,255 tambons (subdistricts). The significance of innovation in creating and enhancing national competitiveness is widely recognized. National innovation systems provide a sustainable development strategy for promoting innovation in R&D institutions and enterprises. Academic and financial support mechanisms along with knowledge management are considered to be crucial driving factors for innovation management. Thailand Creative & Design Center TCDC was founded in September 2003. This is a Specialize department under the supervision of the Office of Knowledge Management and Development (OKMD) which is a public organization. TCDC has the main propose to create the opportunity for the entire Thai citizen be able to access the knowledge to get the inspiration and innovation. TCDC also collaborate with business sector, SME Entrepreneur, and Designer. There has a purpose to support Thai people to use the design skill to enhance the value of Thai culture and product.

BACKGROUND

ABOUT SUKHOTHAI AND SI SATCHANALAI

Sukhothai is a province in lower Northern Thailand where one of the five UNESCO WHS in Thailand is located. The Historic Town of Sukhothai and Associated Historic Towns includes the Sukhothai Historical Park (which is the main property included in this heritage site listing), the Si Satchanalai Historical Park and the Kamphaeng Phet Historical Park. It was inscribed into the list in 1991 for it's astonishing cultural and historic value since they make up what remains of the three main cities of the Sukhothai Kingdom that was the cradle of Thai civilization in the 13th and 14th century CE.

The workshop will concentrate on two districts in the North of the province – Si Satchanalai and Sawankhalok. Here the cultural legacy can be seen in the everyday lives of the locals, as stories and legends, beliefs and crafts are still a part of life. Inhabitants of this area live in rural communities based on agriculture, as they benefit from rich resources. But as the process of urbanization and globalization sweeps away Thailand, people move from farming based life in the rural area to work in the tertiary sector in the cities. The main poles of attraction are Bangkok and Chiang Mai. Also due to the construction of the intercity motorway, linking Bangkok to Chiang Mai, it is easier for people to move out or commute from the rural areas, but on the contrary, less likely for visitors to stop in smaller settlements.

OBJECTIVES

The program's aim is to exchange knowledge and information in order to keep traditions alive by introducing new middle ground activities for strengthening the rural communities. This is done by creating a bridge between students from various backgrounds and the local community. We will explore design as a means to consolidate their identity.

Our aim is to create landmarks in these rural areas, that work as attractors for activity and establish an identity for the local community. The work is in between land art/ architecture /site-specific installation.

It is an opportunity for students to learn and have a handson experience from different people, like professionals in local techniques, homestay owners and their families, craftsmen, etc. and for the locals to share their knowledge and be exposed to new ideas.

We will experiment and work with bamboo as the main material, using traditional local techniques and innovative design. Bamboo is deeply embedded in Thai tradition, as it is in many countries with plenty of indigenous bamboo species, and the uses range from cooking to construction work. In recent years, with the issue of sustainability, the use of bamboo has gained a new value. This awareness is followed by many bamboo building built in recent years, which makes an appeal to traditional techniques, thus keeping traditions alive.



BACKGROUND

THE HISTORIC TOWN OF SUKHOTHAI AND ASSOCIATED HISTORIC TOWNS

Under royal patronage, Buddhism flourished and many impressive monasteries were constructed of brick covered with carved stucco, illustrating the idealized beauty and the superhuman characteristics (mahapurisalakkhana) of the Lord Buddha and His Teachings. It is from the remains of these religious monuments that today we best know and appreciate the achievements of the people of the Historic Town of Sukhothai and Associated Historic Towns.

The Kingdom of Sukhothai is accredited with the invention and development of many of the unique identifying characteristics of Siamese (Thai) culture, many of them attributed directly to the kingdom's most famous and beloved King Ramkhamhaeng, who is considered the Founding Father of the Thai Nation.

The Sukhothai Kingdom expanded to a large size, and many Monks from Sukhothai, as well as the Mon people, and monks from Laos and Burma traveled to Sri Lanka, which was enjoying its Golden Age, where they studied the Dharma. For this reason, the Sri Langkan Buddhism affected the artistic interpretation of the Sukhothai Era to a great extent. Many Sri Langkan Monks traveled to Thailand to preach the Theravadan form of Buddhism. At first they settled in Nakorn Sri Tammarat, in the South of Thailand, and moved later up to Sukhothai, and even Chiang Mai. The sculptures have many features which show the influence of Sri Lankan Buddhist art; long protruding noses, plump torsos, long caped Civara robes, and rounded long faces.



The lotus bud shape is a chedi typology unique to the Sukhothai civilization. It takes its origin from the Khmer prang tower, a Hindu building that was adapted to the Buddhist symbolism of the lotus flower.



The Ping River courses through the KamphaengPhet Park, comprised of a diverse array of ancient monuments. A common aesthetic runs through the various ruins, which include temples, pagodas and fallen towns, resulting in a beautiful blend of contemporary Sukhothai and Ayutthaya styles. Also noteworthy is the variety of materials used at each site: the eastern bank is home to larger architecture built with laterite in contrast to the smaller, brick-made monuments in the west bank's Nakhon Chum town.



Si Satchanalai, which literally means "City of good people", was founded in 1250 as the second center of the Sukhothai Kingdom and as a residence of the crown prince in the 13th and 14th centuries. While Sukhothai was the administrative seat, Si Satchanalai was the religious center of the kingdom

ABOUT THAI ARCHITECTURE

In Thailand, the view of the world is based on layering and accretion of forms and cultures over time and it was shaped by Theravada Buddhist cosmology, namely a 13thcentury treaty called The Three Worlds, or the Traiphum. This layering is very present in Thai architecture, which can be roughly divided into 3 layers. The first one is of the everyday traditional architecture of the bamboo, wood and preassembled houses on stilts. The second one - the ceremonial architecture of palaces and sumptuous temples with diverse influences. The third is the modern and foreign hybrid architecture, that makes for a lot of the images of Thai cities.

ABOUT BAMBOO IN THAILAND

In Thailand as well as in the entire South-East Asia, bamboo holds a great importance as a prime material that is found everywhere, always available and renewable, and in constant evolution. In recent years, with the issue of sustainability, the use of bamboo has gained a new value. This awareness is followed by many bamboo building built in recent years especially in countries with plenty of indigenous bamboo species.



The growth speed serves as an advantage in terms of sustainability; Bamboo replenishes far faster than hardwood trees. Naturally growth rates vary by species but can reach up to 90 cm per day. It is one of the most resilient plants that withstand all kinds of harsh habitats. In Thailand, there are 17 genera and 72 species recorded. The total area of bamboo forest in Thailand is approximately 454,486 hectares, consisting of a volume of 17.6 million m3 and biodiversity index of 1.737 (Roval Forest Department 2009). In construction, this material is used for houses, fences, and bridges and is part of the landscape of the rice-fields, the fishing communities and the mountain villages. In Thailand it's properties are used for temporary and movable structures, like bridges over the paddy fields that are relocated as the farming activity moves to another place.



Bamboo is also used for its various cooking applications. It is part of the traditional lifestyle in which people make use of the resources they have at hand in all possible ways. Shoots are used for cooking while trunks are used as bowls, cups, utensils, and pots.



BACKGROUND

ABOUT LOY KRATHONG FESTIVAL

16-23 NOVEMBER 2018

History of Loy Krathong

The history of the Loy Krathong Festival is rather obscure. Some people claim that the tradition of Loy Krathong originates in Sukhothai and was first organized by a court lady called Nopphamat. Others believe it was a Brahmanic festival that was adopted by Thai Buddhist to honor the Buddha. Anyway, the ritual of Loy Krathong is about paying respect to the Goddess of the Water showing gratitude for the plentiful use of water and ask for forgiveness in the ensuing pollution. It is also about getting rid of misfortune and bad things that happened in the past and asking for good luck in the future. For this people float a "Krathong" in the river as an offering to the water deity.



The meaning of Loy Krathong

What does Loy Krathong mean? The verb Loy (ลอย) means to float. Krathong has various meanings. In this case, it is a small container or basket made of banana leaves, adorned with flowers, incense, and candles. Loy Krathong means "to float a basket" which is what many people do during the festival. On many rivers or canal locations makeshift bamboo construction or steps are constructed to allow people to approach the water. Near these places, food and drink sellers gather and local people sell their housemade krathongs to revelers. Each year the Loy Krathong Festival features activities at various venues throughout Thailand such as boat races, lantern processions and contests, beauty contests, parades and Krathong contests.



Celebrating Loy Krathong in Sukhothai

As one of the most enchanting of all Thai festivals, Loy Krathong can be a joy to experience wherever you are in Thailand. But there are some locations, such as Sukhothai and Chiang Mai, where the 'Festival of Lights' is extra special. The exact date of Loy Krathong varies each year depending on the full moon. Events in Sukhothai are held over a number of days with a night-time light and sound show to illuminate the ruins. Fireworks and sky lanterns feature alongside the floating of krathongs and the Nopphamat beauty contests.



The area outside the entrance to the Historical Park is lined with food stalls and more vendors line up inside the park making it a popular evening for local families to enjoy the festivities with a picnic. The pathways near the entrance can get crowded in the early evening, but once past that initial bottleneck of people there are wide expanses of grass to spread out and it's an enjoyable atmosphere and suitable for people of all ages. The area in front of Wat Mahathat is the main focus for activities, but one of the more popular areas for local families to float krathongs is on the pond in front of the statue of King Ramkhamhaeng.



Exploring Sukhothai Historical Park

Loy Krathong festivities in Sukhothai commence in the early evening when the sun has gone down which leaves the daytime free for visitors to explore the wonderful Sukhothai Historical Park. It's possible to take tram tours around the park, but the best way to explore the area is to hire a bicycle for the day and take a leisurely ride around the ancient ruins and surrounding countryside. Many hotels in Old Sukhothai provide bicycles for guests or you can hire one outside the entrance to the Historical Park for around 30 Baht. If you are in Sukhothai for at least a few days do make the trip out to the quieter, but equally beautiful, Si Satchanalai Historical Park.



CALENDAR 16 - 25 NOVEMBER

DAY 1 FRIDAY NOV 16	DAY 2 SATURDAY NOV 17	: :	DAY 4 MONDAY NOV 19	DAY 5 TUESDAY NOV 20
	Breakfast provided by accomodation	Breakfast provided by homestays	Breakfast provided by homestays	Breakfast provided by homestays
	06:00 Departure from Bangkok to Sukhothai	Visit to sites Fieldwork	Fieldwork	(Visit to Si Satchanalai Historical Park) Fieldwork
	Lunch at Phitsanulok	Lunch on site	Lunch on site	Lunch on site
	Reception with province governor Visit Wat Phra Si Ratana Mahathat Buddha Chinnaraj Arrival in Sukhothai	Field work 14:00 Celadon Museum work shop: Pottery and Ceramic	Field work 17:00 Sarachit Work Shop: Kite making	Field work 14:00 Muang Bang Khlang Work Shop Bamboo joint techniques
		Dinner	Dinner	17:30 Gala Dinner in Sukhothai
^{18:50} Arrival in Bangkok Accomodation in hotel	17:00 Presentation and lecture 20:00 Walking street market Accomodation in homestays Si Satchanalai-Ban Khao Pattana Sawankhalok-Ban Khon Sung	Free time	Free time (Visit to Si Satchanalai Historical Park)	19:30 Light & Sound Show at Sukhothai Loy Krathong Festival

	DAY 7 THURSDAY NOV 22	DAY 8 FRIDAY NOV 23	DAY 9 SATURDAY NOV 24	:
Breakfast provided by homestays	Breakfast provided by homestays	Breakfast provided by accomodation	Breakfast provided by accomodation	Breakfast provided by accomodation
Fieldwork	Meeting local officials on sites	Free time	10:00 - 22:00 flexible time Meeting, discussion and exhibition at Bangkok Art and Culture Centre 5th floor meeting room	
Lunch on site	Lunch in Sukhothai	Lunch	Lunch	
Field work Visit the sites Final discussions	Return to Bangkok	Exhibition visit of Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Anthropology Centre at Central World Bangkok		Departure from Bangkok
Farewell dinner	Dinner	Celebratory dinner		
Free time	Arrival in Bangkok Accomodation in Bangkok			
		18 Rentral WOrld		

PARTICIPANTS

PROFFESSORS, STAFFAND STUDENTS

The team will consist of 8 students from RCA and 8 students and members of KMITL and HARC, assisted by professors and staff members.

There are 2 worksites located in Si Satchanalai and Sawankhalok Districts, and 2 homestays that will accommodate the teams in each site. The sites are located 20 km apart (25 min by car), and the homestays are located in Ban Tha Chai (10 km to Site 1) and Ban Khon Sung (2 km to Site 2).

We will divide into 2 groups corresponding to each of the 2 workshop sites. The students will be free to choose the site according to their preferences based on the information provided prior to arrival. Each RCA student will pair up with a KMITL/HARC member, and in each of the 2 locations, we will divide into 2 groups

The professors and staff members will stay at Chanalai Resort in Hat Siao, 17km or 25 min and 40km or 37 min to each site, respectively.

RCA

John Stevens

Laurenz Corbinian Reichl Alexander Kane Imran Ilyas Nazerali JianBo Zhao Thea Abigail Peterson Yan Wah Karon Ng Chul Jun Sung Sophia Ppali

KMITL / HARC

Surasak Kangkhao Chaturong Louhapensan Kowit Kwansrisut Supornchai Saengratwatchara Thirarat Srikhongchan Pimon Kaewdang Pornchit Perapatanakul Meonfun Sukmon Supakit Boonyapapong

Peeraporn Kaewnuna Keerstikarn Klaharn Tatiyakorn Putasorn Jutarat Rammoh Calina Bogasiu Patipon Kongklum Natchanika Keatsuwan Nanthapiphat Akkharaphakdeekul

PRACTICAL INFO

CLIMATE

We will be taking advantage of the period of best weather for travelling in Thailand. It is pleasant, with warm days and relatively comfortable evenings. Temperatures range from 20° to 34°, with ocassional short lasting showers.

PACKING

Pack light-weight clothes that cover most of the body, as we will work outdoors in the sun. Natural materials like cotton and linen are recommended. Despite the high temperatures you will notice that Thai people are usually fully dressed in long or mid sleeve and long trousers, both for sun protection and social customs.

For both men and women tank tops or sleeveless tops and shorts are not allowed in temples. In general, for men T-shirts, shirts, shorts and long trousers are recommended.

For women, T-shirts, shirts, mid-lenght skirts and long trousers are recommended.

- You should pack both closed and open shoes. (Flip Flops are very common)
- Caps / Hats / Sunglasses
- Sunscreen / Insect Repellent is recommended but can be bought here
- Rain coat can be bought here

Consider packing a more formal attire (a shirt/dress) for the Exhibition at Central World Bangkok on 23 November.

- Sketchbook / Drawing tools
- Camera
- Travel documentation (Passport, health insurance)

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

This program requires some physical work, as well as walking and spending substantial time in the bus. Everyone will be tired at times, especially on the longer days. For this reason, not only should the participants be in good health, but wear comfortable walking shoes.

COSTS

Accommodations (double occupancy, some with breakfast), mini van transportation and entry fees to historical parks, temples, and palaces are covered in the cost. Each student is responsible for airfare, food, local transportation and incidental expenses. The Excursion will include air-conditioned bus and vans. Overall, it is important to note that travel in Thailand remains relatively quite inexpensive. 1 GBP is aproximately 42.57 THB. Exchange is possible at the airport.

ETIQUETTE & BEHAVIOR

- Thailand is a Buddhist country where the Buddha image is held sacred. Sacrilegious acts are punishable by imprisonment, even if committed by foreign visitors.
- The royal family is held in great respect by Thai people and is protected by lèse-majesté laws which allow for persons responsible for acts of disrespect to be jailed for between 3 to 15 years.

• The traditional Thai greeting, the wai, is generally initiated by the younger of the two people meeting, with the hands pressed together at the chest, usually accompanied with the spoken word "Sawasdee krup" ("hello") for male speakers, and "Sawasdee ka" for female speakers. The elder then responds in the same way. • People are expected to dress respectfully when entering a Buddhist temple. Mini-skirts and shorts are not allowed. Shoes and hats are to be removed before entering the hall of worship. It is not permissible for women to touch a Buddhist monk, or to give objects to or receive objects directly from a monk.

• When entering a Thai house, you are expected to remove your shoes.

• Do not step over a seated person or a person's legs, and never touch a person's head or ruffle the hair. The head is considered sacred.

• Thai people disapprove of public nudity and crass displays of public affection.

USEFUL WORDS

For this program, the English language is all that is required. Learning a few words of Thai, however, would be deeply appreciated by locals. Note that not many people in the area we are going to visit speak English.

Hello/ Goodbye! – Sawadee khrup/ka How are you? – Sa bai dee mai khrup/ka Thank you – khop khun (khrup/ka) Sorry/excuse me – Khor thor khrup/ka Yes – Chai (khrup/ka) No – Mai (khrup/ka) Maybe – Aaj ja (khrup/ka) Where is the restroom– Hong nam yoo tee nai khrup/ka? Never mind/ It's ok- Mai pen rai Not Spicy – Mai phet A little Spicy- phet nit nawy Really Spicy – phet mak Delicious- Aroy

ACCOMMODATION

16-17 Nov Bangkok - Mariya Boutique Residence

17-21 Nov **Sukhothai** - There will be two homestays in each site: Sarachit and Bang Khlang that will accommodate 4 participants each in shared rooms. This will be a great opportunity to emerge in the traditional Thai family way of life, and the communication will be mediated by the local students and staff.

22-25 Nov Bangkok - Mariya Boutique Residence

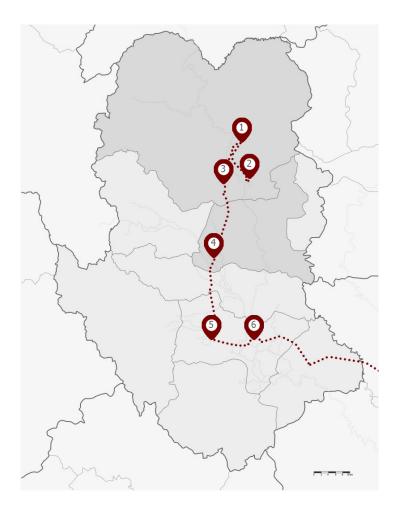
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

17 - 24 NOVEMBER 2018



- 1 Bangkok
- 2 Phitsanulok
- 3 Sukhothai Province
- 4 Kampheng Phet

SUKHOTHAI PROVINCE



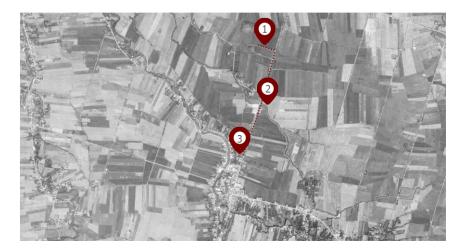
- 1 Chanalai Resort, Hat Siao
- 2 Si Satchanalai Historical Park
- 3 Site 1 Ban Khao Pattana, Sarachit
- 4 Site 2 Ban Khon Sung, Bang Khlang
- 5 Sukhothai Historical Park
- 6 Sukhothai

SITE 1 Si satchanalai District Sarachit Sub-district Ban Khao Pattana Village and Ban Tha Chai



- 1 Site 1
- 2 Homestay 1
- 3 Homestay 2
- 4 Si Satchanalai Historical Park

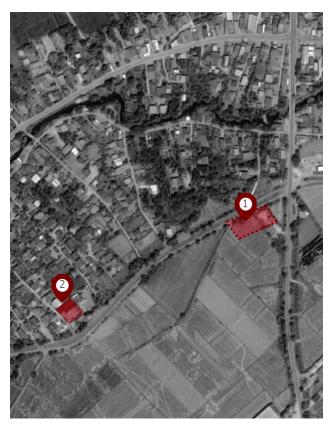
SITE 2 Sawankhalok District Muang Bang Khlang Sub-district Ban Khon Sung Village



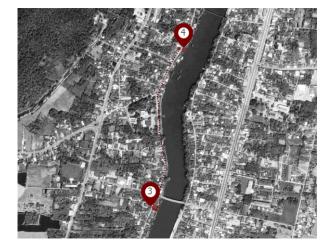
- 1 Site 2
- 2 Homestay 1
- 3 Homestay 2

SITE 1

Si satchanalai District Sarachit Sub-district Ban Khao Pattana Village and Ban Tha Chai



- 1 Work site
- 2 Ban Khao Pattanata Learning Center
- 3 Homestay 1
- 4 Homestay 2



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THE PHRA RUANG KITE THE LEGEND OF BAN KHAO PATTANA

The village of Ban Khao Pattana bears a proud tradition of craftsmanship with strong ties to local culture and history. The legend of the foundation of the place gave birth to the symbol of the region – the Phra Ruang Kite.

The core of cultural activity here is the Ban Khao Pattana Learning center, where visitors are invited to learn about the history and legends of the region,see dance performances, kite contests, as well as learning how to make their own kite. This is where team 1 will work and meet the locals, since the site is in close vicinity. There are legends all across this province dating from the Sukhothai age about a king called Phra Ruang. The story is deeply embedded in the local culture, as it is a source for toponyms and even traditional crafts. The village where we are going to stay recalls the story of his for Kam, the most beautiful woman of the kingdom. The name of the village comes from this story : there came a time when they had a misunderstanding, so the beautiful Kam ran away from Phra Ruang. When he found out he hurried to follow her but in his rush he stumbled and fell. The exact place this happened, called ' Bann saen tor ' (hundred thousand of stumps house) was known because there were a lot of stumps left on the ground. After that, because this is where he fell on his knees, the place became to be known as 'Ban Kho Pattana ' (Kneeling house).

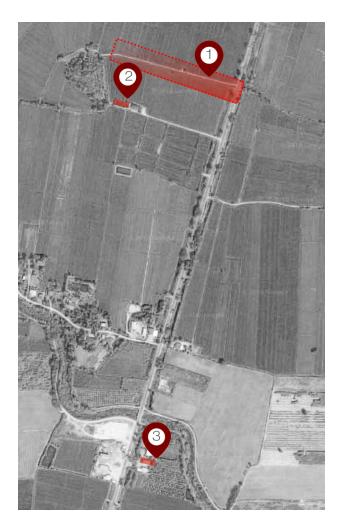




Apart from this legend, there is another one that people keep alive. King Phra Ruang's favourite sport was flying kites. The shape of the kite dating from Sukhothai period is distinctive, unique in Thailand. Nowadays the legend lives on with the villagers who are still crafting these delicate bamboo kites, and organize contests for the community, which are moments of pride and acknowledgement of their heritage. The kite is a symbol of this community and of the whole Sarachit Sub-district.

SITE 2

Sawankhalok District Muang Bang Khlang Sub-district Ban Khon Sung Village



- 1 Work site
- 2 Meeting Place
- 3 Homestays



A SKYWALK OVER THE RICE FIELD

Rice has been an integral part of Thai culture and history for thousands of years, so long that it's believed to predate Buddhism. Rice is even believed to have its own soul which is represented as Mae Posop, the "Rice Mother" or "Rice Goddess". The cycle of life also applies to Mae Posop, as she is born from rice, becomes pregnant (when the rice flowers) before giving birth to more rice, as the saying goes; "rice is life." The belief that rice has a soul highlights its importance in Thai culture and why it is so entangled in everyday life.

Each year on May 5th, Thais celebrate the Royal Ploughing Ceremony, known in Thai as Jarod Pranangkan Raenakwan. The tradition was originally adopted from India and is an ancient ceremony intended to encourage farmers at the beginning of the rice cultivation season. Rice is sacred and treated as such if someone spills rice they will carefully pick it up again, giving it the respect it deserves. Thai culture, beliefs, traditions, customs and values are all established and molded around being a rice civilization.

As legend has it, Muang Bang Khlang was the first stop of King Phra Ruang on his way from Si Satchanalai to Kampheng Phet.

Nowadays, North of the small village of Ban Khon Sung the rice fields spread as far away as the horizon, at the shelter of small mountains floating over the see of green. In this scenery we propose to built a skywalk over the rice field as an integral part of the landscape. The structure, made of bamboo, will span 400m and include various activities, a landmark, stopovers, covered spaces. The design will be flexible, based on on-site impressions, and the local professionals expertise.



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ACTIVITIES / DESIGN PROCESS

The activities are meant to be an open learning process between students and locals. We will learn about the way that crafts and traditions are part of the everyday life of the people of Sukhothai. The planned activities are open to change and will adapt to the situations. It's time to get creative!

We are looking for an open and flexible collaborative design process based on the general guidelines. At site 1 the task is to create kite-like structures as landmarks over the canopy. At site 2 we will build a footbridge over the rice field.

We will have 3 stages :

Before arrival – (Ongoing)

Upon arrival – (Friday 17 Nov) The teams will discuss and establish the details and final design before starting the fieldwork.

At site – (18 Nov – 21 Nov) During the process the design is open to change. We will provide materials and resources.



HARC Info http://harc.asia/beta/ http://harc.asia/beta/project/si%20sut%20group-3.pdf

Bamboo Sustainable Constructions https://worldbamboo.net/wbcx/Sessions/Theme%20Architecture%20Engineering%20Social%20Housing/Uthaipattrakoon,%20Thana.pdf

OTOP innovative Culture http://techmonitor.net/tm/images/b/be/05may_jun_sf4.pdf

Loy Krathong Festival Past event : http://www.sabaithailandmagazine.com/sukhothai-loy-krathong-candle-festival-sukhothai-province-november-1-5/

https://www.findingtheuniverse.com/loi-krathong-in-sukhothai/

History and architecture

https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/574/ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Si_Satchanalai_Historical_Park

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sukhothai_Historical_Park

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kamphaeng_Phet_Historical_Park https://issuu.com/edmbooks/docs/architecture_of_thailand

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