TANGIBLE - INTANGIBLE HERITAGE(S) – DESIGN, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CRITIQUES ON THE PAST, PRESENT AND THE FUTURE

• Paper / Proposal Title:
Making a base map for an Ecotopian Derry-Londonderry through the examination of the existing and historical built fabric

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• University or Company Affiliation:
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• Presentation Method. I would like to:
  i. present in person (with a paper)

• Abstract (300 words):
Visions of ecological utopias or ecotopias are useful tools in the quest for an ecologically responsible future. They can help to engender public debate, while providing inspiration to motivate people. However, for such visions to have maximum impact on a geographically defined group of people, they should include context specific historical references and use a setting with which the target audience have familiarity. In this paper, I examine the historical development of Derry-Londonderry, Northern Ireland, with a view to extracting motifs and references from the built environment, and the broader landscape, to be used in the creation of an ecological vision for this city. Existing ecological utopias from both literature and paper architecture are examined. How these works of fiction use historical reference to create convincing alternative realities are analysed. This analysis offers a lens with which to
view the historical development and the existing context of Derry-Londonderry. Apt
references from its built environment, on which to build a context specific and fictional
ecological future for this city, are noted. These references are then used to develop
and alternative base map for an ecotopian Derry-Londonderry.

• Author(s) Biography (200 words each):

Nuala Flood is a lecturer in architecture at the School of the Natural and Built
Environment, at Queen’s University Belfast, where she co-ordinates and teaches design
studio, architectural technology, environmental design and architectural humanities
modules. Her research examines how place-based ecological urbanism and codesign
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