Create Value : Inspire Change

Delivering Buildings for sustainable societies
Arkitrek
Conserving nature through design & education
Borneo Rainforest Lodge (Deluxe River-view Chalet), Danum Valley, Sabah 2008

Photo courtesy of Borneo Rainforest Lodge
Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre (Visitor Centre), Sepilok, Sabah
Trekking Camp, Danum Valley Field Centre

Built in 2004, by a team of volunteers from Raleigh International, this simple trekking camp is the sort of design response that would be well suited to a camp at Bukit Gumantung.

The main construction material is local timber, reducing the amount of material being carried into the site to a little cement for foundation posts, a durable roofing material and water tanks for rainwater collection.

The building fits beautifully into the forest setting, the roof opening in gables to give heightened views of the forest.
Land protection

Sustainable energy supply

Water catchment protection

Sustainable livelihoods
Requirements
Requirements
Engagement

Peer-lead learning experience
Engagement

Facilitation during the induction, the design process and construction
Engagement

Formative learning
- Clear need for the project
- Contribution
- Engage all members of community
• Record all contributions & expectations
• Declare all accounts at the end
Results

Stabilised Earth Bag Construction
Results

Lime: Oil palm waste biocomposite
Results

Leech Field
Results

Land protection

Sustainable energy supply

Water catchment protection

Sustainable livelihoods
Results

Meaningful Employment
Results

Reliance
Results

Environmental Awareness
Results

Cultural Exchange
“The project heightened my sense of spacial perception and awareness in comparison to just designing through drawings in the office. I have realised that even small differences in dimensions can make a large difference to how it feels to inhabit a space.”

Anna Nicholls, 2012
"This truly has changed my perception of architecture. I didn't think it would, and I'm not one for radical shifts in my thinking. However, being back with people that are so passionate about design is infectious.

The greatest thing about the camp is that I have rediscovered my love for architecture and I am going to work very hard to let this inform all my work back in Scotland."

David Arnott, Camp Participant May 2011
"If I’m honest, I’d say I’d personally accomplished more in the last 6 months than I have in the previous 3 years. This experience forced me to tap back into a fountain of basic knowledge and for the first time in a long time, I was able to undertake a project that aided the development of a community in need, rather than purely for the financial gain of a commercial body"

Phillip Bongomin, on a career-break with Arkitrek in 2013/2014
“I have learnt to be a more responsible architect, moving towards the path of being a master builder instead of an armchair architect.

Through this program, I have learnt everything from design to quantity surveying, land surveying, understanding the site constraint and build dynamic in construction and also communication with clients and contractors.

I have also become more confident to explore detailing and materials.”

Low Tzu Peng, 2013
“I wasn’t sure what I wanted from architecture in my 3rd year, but Arkitrek gave me focus and a direction that has helped revive my passion for architecture. Since I returned to university for my Part II, I have had 2 newspaper articles and an international magazine publish the work I did in Borneo. Along with a new way of designing that has provided me with the best grades I have ever had at university.”

Rory Thor Dickens, Arkitrek Camp 2013 Participant.
7 Lessons in (design/build) Architecture