



Wester Inch Public Art Project
Art on the Edge

In Full Bloom

by Martin Heron

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Thank you to the groups, schools and residents who contributed, hosted workshops, presentations and discussions that informed the final artworks:

Wester Inch Community Association
Bathgate Academy
Saint Kentigerns
Bathgate Historic Conservation Society
Quill Poetry Group
Boghall Drop in & Resource Centre
Bathgate Womens Group
Boghall Primary School

A very special thanks to the staff and pupils of **Simpson Primary School** for the support and inspiration that has made this such a successful project.

Many thanks to the Community Arts Service at West Lothian Council esp our Arts Officer, Camille Archer as well as our Wester Inch residents steering group: Andrew Prise, Joanne Napier Mairead Morrison Mitchell.

This and other creative arts projects only happen in our communities due to the foresight and dedication of these teams of people.

This project was supported by West Lothian Council Community Arts-Public Art Strategy Group, Persimmon Homes & Taylor Wimpey.

Thanks also to the fabrication & installation team, Art Fabrications, who made it possible to realise such an ambitious sculptural project in steel.

Wester Inch Public Art Project Art on the Edge

Artist's Brief:

'As part of the support for the emerging community of Wester Inch Village, a public art project has been identified for several key sites within the new development.

The content and themes of the artworks are to be developed in cooperation with the local community through creating consultation, arts participation and education opportunities with the Wester Inch Community Association and its appropriate sub groups or other interested parties.

This is an opportunity for an artist to work in depth with a newly emerging community within West Lothian and create works of distinction to inspire civic pride.'

In response to this brief a number of ways to engage with local people were devised. The aims were to explore what it means to live in Wester Inch, what is at the heart of this new emerging community and its importance in the history of Bathgate.

Three key sites were identified and a permanent sculptural artwork was designed for each location.

Work began at the Wester Inch Summer Fayre September 2011 and was completed September 2012.

Activity Boxes: Working with Wax

Beginning at the Wester Inch Summer Fayre small activity boxes containing a piece of modeling wax and an activity sheet were offered to residents of Wester Inch and pupils of Simpson Primary School.

The aim or challenge was to make something with the wax, complete the activity sheet and return it to the artist via Simpson Primary School.

There was a great response to this part of the project with some beautiful creations that gave an interesting insight to the people of Wester Inch.



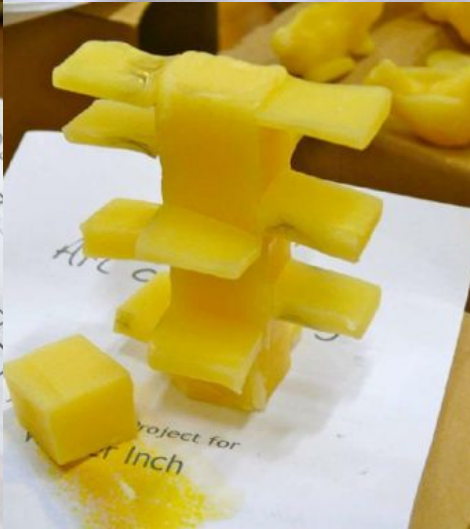


a somulus cat



Why did you choose to make that object?

I chose it because
I love it and it
was a really hard
challenge for me and
my dad.



Sandcasting Workshops

The sandcasting workshops were a way for the participants to learn a creative technique. It allowed the artist to skill share while offering the opportunity for the individual to capture a moment in time.

The aim of these workshops was to add to the research process and inform participants about the project.

This also enabled participants to make and take home a small sculptural work.





The Big Draw

The Big Draw Weekend - October 2011

Wester Inch Residents and pupils from Simpson Primary School were invited to take part in a weekend of outdoor and indoor drawing activities.





Storyspinner

Storyspinner is a project working with children of all ages to generate original, interactive stories over a series of six sessions. Each Storyspinner project is unique and is designed to offer starting points for future creative work in school. The possibilities are limitless.

Working with pupils at Simpson Primary School and set on a fictitious island this work generated an exciting adventure that explored Wester Inch.





GRIFFIN MAIL

POST CARD
YOUR MESSAGE TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE

OTTERWISE RETAIL

Dear Storyspinner,

I am about to enter the jungle on the floating island, I am exhausted because I have been pushing my magical shopping trolley around the island, thankfully I can't run out of food and water because my trolley can magically refill itself! Thank goodness! Gosh, Guess what I heard earlier today a waracac rabbling noise! It was quite suspicious indeed. I hope I will be safe in the jungle, maybe I will find something!

Yours Faithfully
David Williamson

The Storyspinner
Tall Towers
Realms Otherwise

Trapped in a place
where time has no meaning
Sir Cycle-Lot hears a faint voice
calling out across the ages.



Site Markings

Site marking and exploration with Wester Inch residents.

Coloured ribbon was attached to poles and woven into fences exploring the possibilities of temporary interventions as well as giving opportunity to discuss locations for the permanent artworks.





Wax Workshops

Following the success of the activity boxes, a number of workshop sessions that focused on modelling with wax were held at Simpson Primary School.

Pupils were able to generate some ideas that would influence the artworks.

Further workshops were held with local community groups.

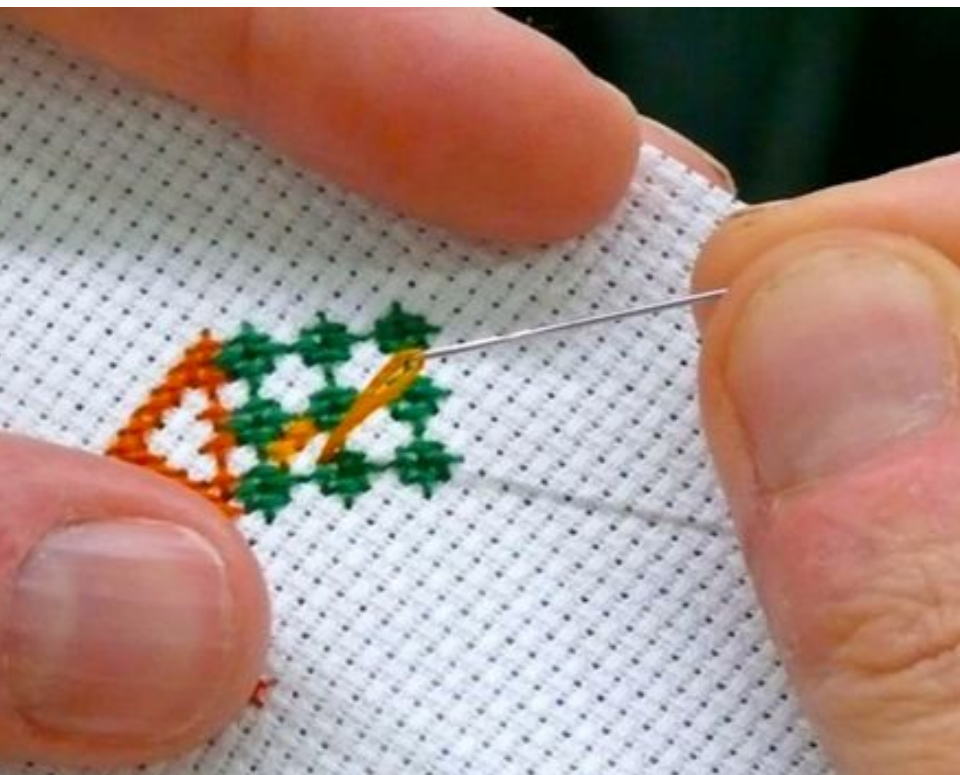




Cross-Stitch Workshops

Joanne Napier, a steering group member, held cross-stitch workshops both at the New Partnership Centre in Bathgate as well as evening sessions at Simpson Primary School.

Wester Inch residents were invited to participate, learn a new skill and discuss ideas for the project. Joanne went on to devise cross-stitch patterns based on the final artworks. These designs can be found later in this book and are there for you to have a go.





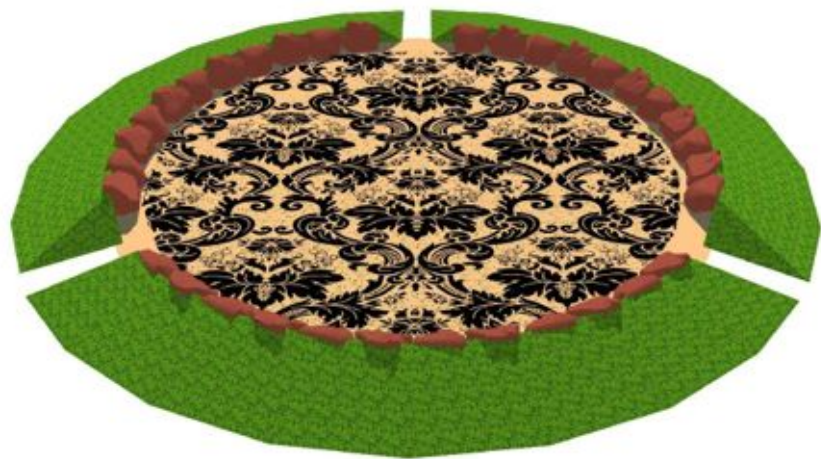
Initial Concepts

Developing designs for any site can be a major undertaking and Wester Inch was no exception. Bathgate and the surrounding area is steeped in history which has impacted both locally and nationally.

A number of directions could be explored from farming, steel, glass, textiles and manufacturing industries as well as the more recent impact of the Leyland factory on the area.

However it was to be the residents themselves, their hopes, aspirations and sense of place that influenced the final direction of the works.





In Full Bloom

The sculptures have been influenced by the research and community engagement work carried out during Art on the Edge, Wester Inch Public Art Project.

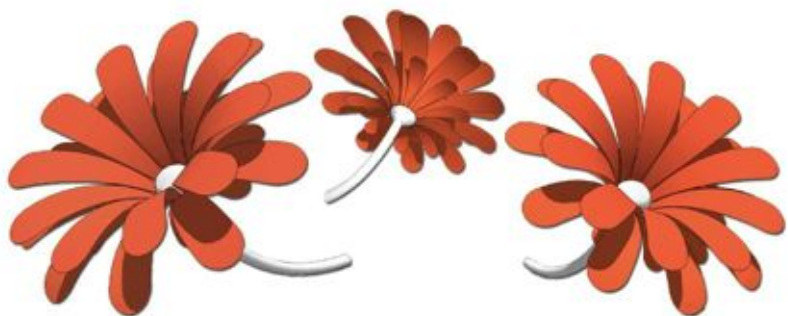
Three sites were chosen to locate artworks that took inspiration from the area's history, industry, people and their sense of place.

A recurring theme took shape throughout the project, that of a community that is aware of and appreciates the heritage of the area but that wanted to reflect a new era in Bathgate's history.

The artworks take the form of flowers, a recurring form often produced in the practical workshops during the early stages of the project.

The petals are formed in Cor-ten Steel reflecting the heavy industrial history whereas the stems, leaves and stamen are constructed in Stainless Steel giving a contemporary feel to the work.

The artwork is a metaphor, it echoes the delicate nature of industries that impact on our lives while encapsulating the aspirations of a blossoming community within Wester Inch.



Production Stage

Following planning approval production could commence.

The work was carried out with a fabrication company specialising in working with artists on large scale public art projects.









Installation: September 2012

The three sites were prepared with concrete foundations laid.

One week later the works were delivered to each site and installed.





In Full Bloom

Rose





In Full Bloom

Daisies





In Full Bloom

Hibiscus & Lily





Cross-Stitch patterns of the artworks by Joanne Napier

Daisy

Grid Size: 50W x 43H
Design Area: 3.29" x 2.93" (46 x 41 stitches)

Legend:

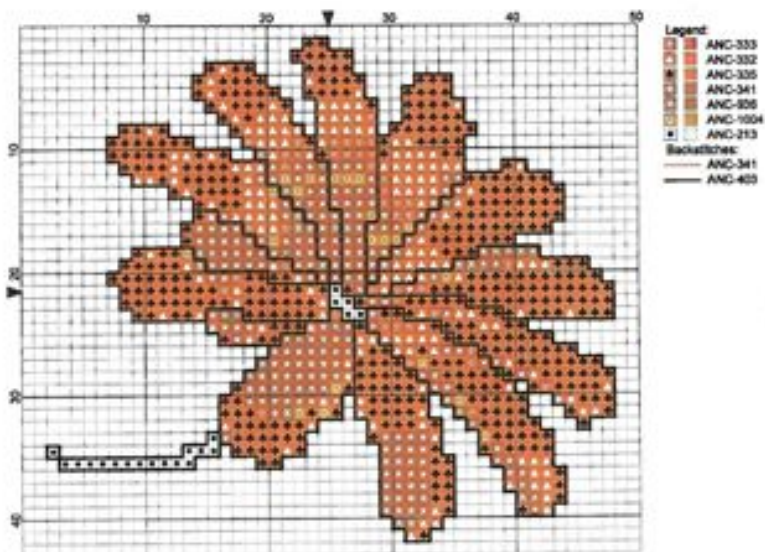
 [2] ANC 333 Blaze - med lt	 [2] ANC 341 Terra Cotta - dk	 [2] ANC 213 Juniper - vy lt
 [2] ANC 332 Blaze - lt	 [2] ANC 836 Fawn - vy dk	
 [2] ANC 335 Blaze - dk	 [2] ANC 1004 Apricot - vy dk	

Backstitch Lines:
 ANC-341 Terra Cotta - dk
 ANC-403 Black

How to stitch your flower:

1. Find the centre of the fabric by folding it in half both horizontally and vertically. Follow the arrows on the side of the chart to find its centre and start stitching from here working outwards.
2. Work cross stitch over one block of the fabric using two strands of stranded cotton.
3. Add the backstitch using one strand of cotton.






Daisy



Hibiscus

Author: Joanne E Napier
Grid Size: 50W x 39H
Design Area: 2.50" x 2.43" (40 x 34 stitches)

Legend:

 [2] ANC 326 Apricot - dk  [2] ANC 333 Blaze - med R  [2] ANC 213 Juniper - vy R
 [2] ANC 332 Blaze - S  [2] ANC 341 Terra Cotta - dk

Backstitch Lines:

— ANC-403 Black

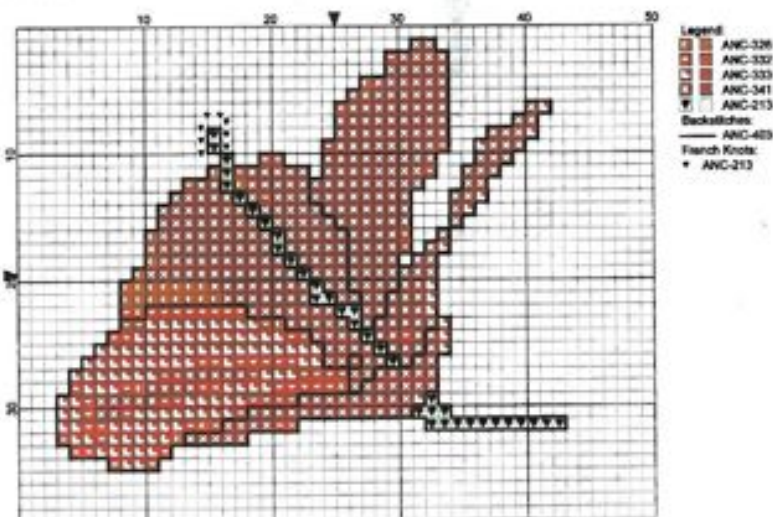
French Knots:

• ANC-213 Juniper - vy R

How to stitch your flower.

1. Find the centre of the fabric by folding it in half both horizontally and vertically. Follow the arrows on the side of the chart to find its centre and start stitching from here working outwards.
2. Work cross stitch over one block of the fabric using two strands of stranded cotton.
3. Add the backstitch using one strand of cotton.
4. Add french knots using one strand of cotton.

Hibiscus



Lily

Grid Size: 47W x 53H
Design Area: 3.07" x 3.36" (43 x 47 stitches)

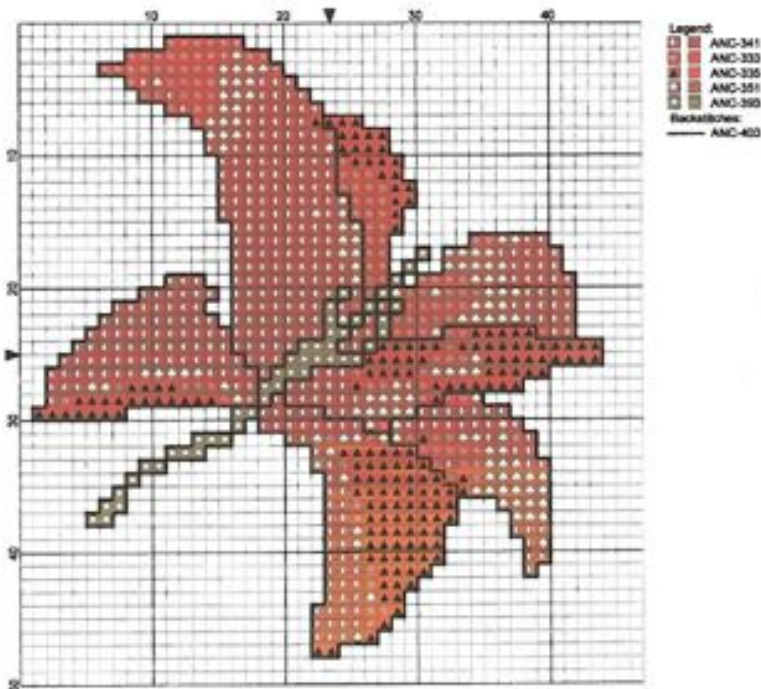
Legend:
■ (2) ANC 341 Terra Cotta - dk ■ (2) ANC 335 Blaze - dk ■ (2) ANC 350 Linen - dk
■ (2) ANC 333 Blaze - med dk ■ (2) ANC 351 Bark - med dk

Backstitch Lines:
— ANC-400 Black

How to stitch your flower.

1. Find the centre of the fabric by folding it in half both horizontally and vertically. Follow the arrows on the side of the chart to find its centre and start stitching from here working outwards.
2. Work cross stitch over one block of the fabric using two strands of stranded cotton.
3. Add the backstitch using one strand of cotton.

Lily



Rose

Grid Size: 50W x 48H
Design Area: 3.20" x 3.07" (46 x 43 stitches)

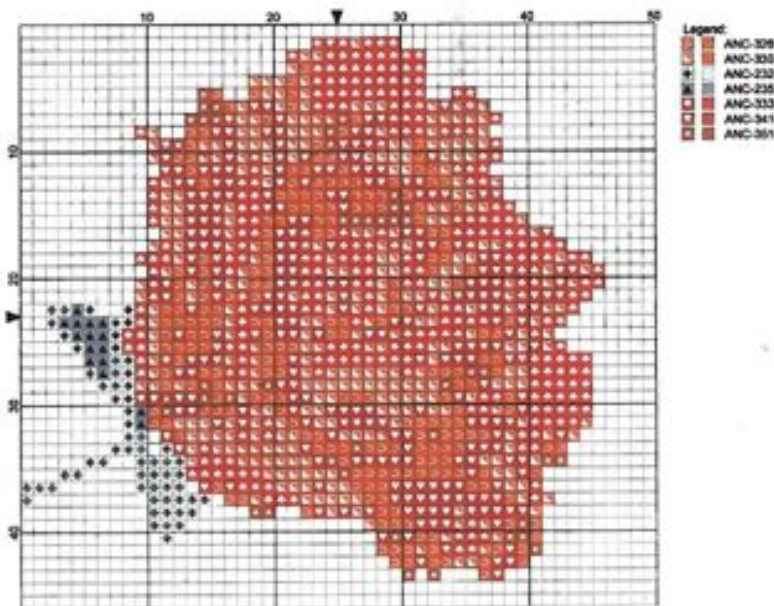
Legend:

	(2) ANC 326	Apricot - dk		(2) ANC 336	Charcoal Gray - med		(2) ANC 351	Bark - med dk
	(2) ANC 330	Salmon - dk		(2) ANC 333	Blaze - med l			
	(2) ANC 232	Rose Gray - med		(2) ANC 341	Terra Cotta - dk			

How to stitch your flower.

1. Find the centre of the fabric by folding it in half both horizontally and vertically. Follow the arrows on the side of the chart to find its centre and start stitching from here working outwards.
2. Work cross stitch over one block of the fabric using two strands of stranded cotton.

Rose by



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