

THE
GIANT
RED PHONEBOX

KIRKINTILLOCH

CONCEPT GUIDE

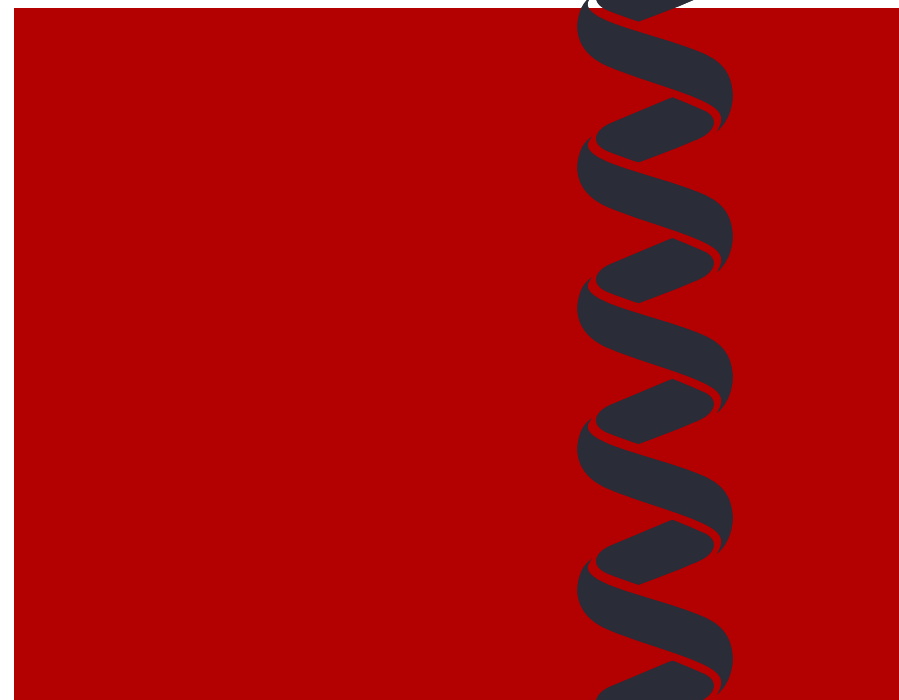


WELCOME

Inspired by the scale and beauty of public sculptures by Andy Scott, such as the Kelpies and the Heavy Horse, a small group of like minded locals aim to bring the same majesty to Kirkintilloch with it's very own towering tribute to the iron founding history of the town.

This guide details the concept behind such a unique proposition and why Kirkintilloch is the ideal place to benefit from an attraction that would not only put the town on the cultural map but also provide a much needed economic and social boost to the area.

To read our full Phase 1 Feasibility Study [click here](#).



WHERE DID 'THE GIANT RED PHONEBOX' COME FROM?

Conceived by local resident John Dickson as a towering tribute to the history and heritage of Kirkintilloch and its foundries, the initial idea of a giant phonebox was entered into Scotland's Towns Partnership 'FutureTown Design Competition' in 2019, where it won first place after capturing imaginations and securing more than half of the public vote with its unique and eye-catching proposal.

Encouraged by such a positive response to what seemed like just 'a crazy idea', John engaged local architects and designers **BATT Architecture Ltd.** to help develop the concept -and bring his vision to life.



With such a rich tapestry of historic treasures to draw from, it's time we showed the world not only what Kirkintilloch has created in the past, but also what it can offer now and in the future!

The Giant Red Phonebox could be the first step in putting Kirkintilloch on the map as a must see tourist destination and cultural hub that could rejuvenate the town and benefit us all!



John Dickson

Creator of The Giant Red Phonebox



WHY KIRKINTILLOCH?

- The home of the Lion Foundry where red telephone boxes were made, giving the community the opportunity to celebrate local history with a dynamic new five star experience the community can both enjoy and take pride in
- Perfectly situated and in easy reach of major cities such as Glasgow and Edinburgh
- Ideal location on the banks of the Forth and Clyde canal providing the opportunity to encourage and help develop sustainable transport options
- A convenient stop on the Scottish tourist trail with the potential to attract both domestic and international visitors bringing a much needed economic boost to the town
- Direct access to The Kelpies, Falkirk Wheel and Helix Park via Forth and Clyde canal
- Direct access to local and national walking and cycle paths such as Jon Muir Way, Thomas Muir Heritage Trail and Strathkelvin Railway Path

IN 2019 SCOTLAND RECEIVED...



3.5 MILLION
OVERSEAS VISITORS



133 MILLION
DAY VISITORS



13.8 MILLION
OVERNIGHT DOMESTIC
VISITORS FROM SCOTLAND
& ELSEWHERE IN THE UK



**TOTAL VISITORS
SPENDING A COMBINED
£11.5 BILLION**

SOURCE:
SCOTTISH
ENTERPRISE

KIRKINTILLOCH'S PAST

Kirkintilloch has a long rich history dating all the way back to mid-2nd century when the Roman Fort, now known as the Antonine Wall, was established in the town.

Kirkintilloch played an important part in the industrial revolution in Scotland with the construction of the Forth and Clyde canal in 1773 and the addition of the Monkland and Kirkintilloch Railway in 1826, transforming the town into a bustling transportation hub servicing many local industries.

Now known as 'The Canal Capital of Scotland', Kirkintilloch is the only town along the Forth and Clyde corridor to have the canal passing through its town centre.

Kirkintilloch's
annual Canal
Festival celebrates
the towns nautical
heritage.

Kirkintilloch's
Antonine Wall was
declared a UNESCO
World Heritage
site in 2008.

KEY INDUSTRIES IN KIRKINTILLOCH'S HISTORY

■ IRON FOUNDING

The Lion and Star Iron Foundries both produced a variety of goods, exporting around the world during the 19th century.

■ TEXTILE

A booming industry growing extensively during the industrial revolution, employing many local women.

■ COAL MINING

Established during the second half of the 19th century including Woodilee Colliery.

■ SHIPBUILDING

The only location in Scotland where ships were built inland, including tugs, ferries, barges and the famous 'Kirky Puffer' steamers.

COMPARATIVE CASE STUDY: THE KELPIES & HELIX PARK, FALKIRK

The Kelpies opened to the public in 2014 quickly becoming one of Scotland's top visitor attractions, welcoming nearly 1 million visitors within it's first year.

The 30 metre steel figures were an important part of the larger regeneration of land outside Falkirk known as Helix Park, helping to boost both domestic and international tourism and aid economic growth.



Local communities and businesses are proud of the Helix and wish to be associated with it.



The Helix has transformed the landscape into a place of delight, with diverse habitats and rich wildlife.



The 'Kelpie effect' helped other sites such as the Falkirk Wheel and the VisitScotland Information Centre at the Falkirk Wheel show a significant rise in numbers

FALKIRK COUNCIL
TOURISM

95%

of visitors to the Helix thought the park was either 'amazing' or 'quite good'.

FALKIRK COUNCIL
TOURISM

Over
500,000
visits to Helix Park
in 2014.

FALKIRK COUNCIL
TOURISM

Sources:
tfn.scot
falkirkherald.co.uk
The Helix Business Plan 2018/19
Falkirk Council

THE LION FOUNDRY

The Lion Foundry is the birthplace of Kirkintilloch's long and successful relationship with the iconic K6 phonebox.

Established on the north bank of the Forth & Clyde Canal in 1885, it cemented its place in local history by not only becoming one of the town's main employers for nearly 100 years but also for producing one of the world's most iconic objects.

Other examples of decorative ironwork produced by the Lion Foundry that can still be found in Kirkintilloch today include the Perry Bandstand and Hudson Fountain, both in Peel Park.

MADE IN KIRKY

Next time you see a K6 phonebox, look on the back for the Lion Foundry plaque and see how far it has travelled from our little town!



THE K6

The K6 is one of the most well known and recognisable objects in modern culture.

Designed by renowned architect Sir Giles Gilbert Scott in 1935, the K6 was the 6th iteration of the red telephone box, specially commissioned to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of George V.

By 1960 there were 60,000 red telephone boxes throughout the UK, becoming much used fixtures in most towns and cities up and down the country.

The K6 was voted by the public into the top ten of British icons in a competition run by the BBC and the Design Museum in 2006.



KEY DATES



142
THE ANTONINE WALL
Fort is established

1211
KIRKINTILLOCH
The Burgh of Kirkintilloch is created

1773
FORTH & CLYDE CANAL
Kirkintilloch becomes a point on the main canal trade route

1826
MONKLAND & KIRKINTILLOCH RAILWAY
Established helping service local industries

1880
SIR GILES GILBERT SCOTT
Born in Hampstead, London

1885
LION FOUNDRY
Established and becomes a limited liability company.

1924
THE K2
Giles Gilbert Scott wins a competition with his iconic design for the K2 Phonebox

1935
THE K6
A 6th iteration of the Red Phonebox is commissioned

THE FUTURE
THE GIANT RED PHONEBOX
A history-making visitor attraction and community hub, paying homage to Kirkintilloch's rich history.



THE VISION

The Giant Red Phonebox is a 57 metre tall version of the iconic K6 phonebox, intended to be both an attractor to the area and a community and cultural hub for local residents.

An initial site has been identified in Luggie Park and as part of the concept, the surrounding area of Luggie Park could be enhanced to offer a complimentary safer and greener recreational area.

A sweeping tree-lined promenade would offer a impressive entrance way to the structure whilst also creating an outdoor leisure area which can feature local farmer's markets, pop-up cafes, yoga and art classes.

Internally the phonebox can house various attractions and services for both the local community and visitors, with flexible spaces and iconic features.

The central highlight would be 'The Kirkintilloch Foundry Experience', an interactive journey through Kirkintilloch's industrial past, showcasing its part in the creation of a world-famous icon.



COMMUNITY FEEDBACK



79%

of people think Luggie Park is a good location for The Giant Red Phonebox.



79%

of people think Luggie Park should be enhanced as part of the project similar to the Helix Park.



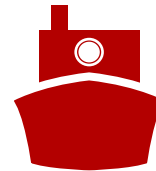
91%

of people would like to see a cafe/restaurant with an amazing view at the top of the building.



70%

of people said walking would be their preferred mode of transport when visiting The Giant Red Phonebox.



81%

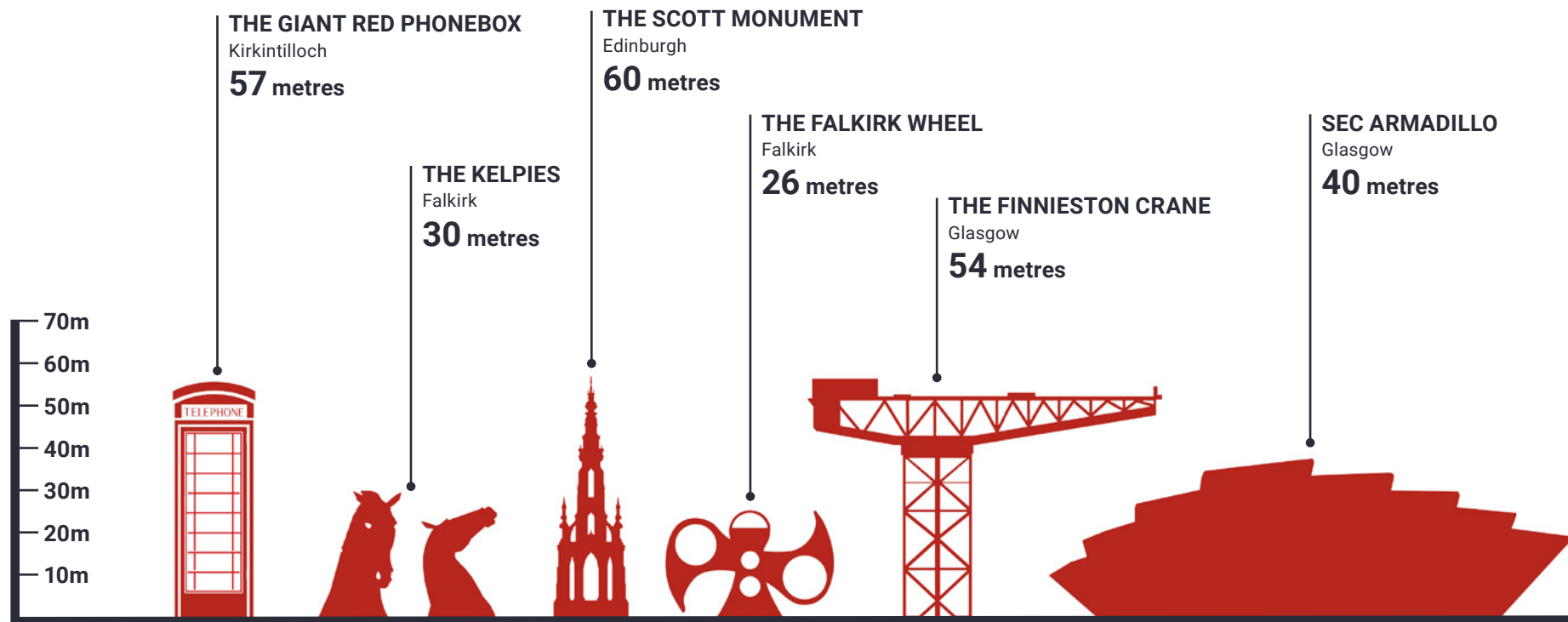
of people think promoting environmentally friendly transport via the canal is a good idea.



70%

of people think sustainability should be an important part of building The Giant Red Phonebox.

HOW BIG?!



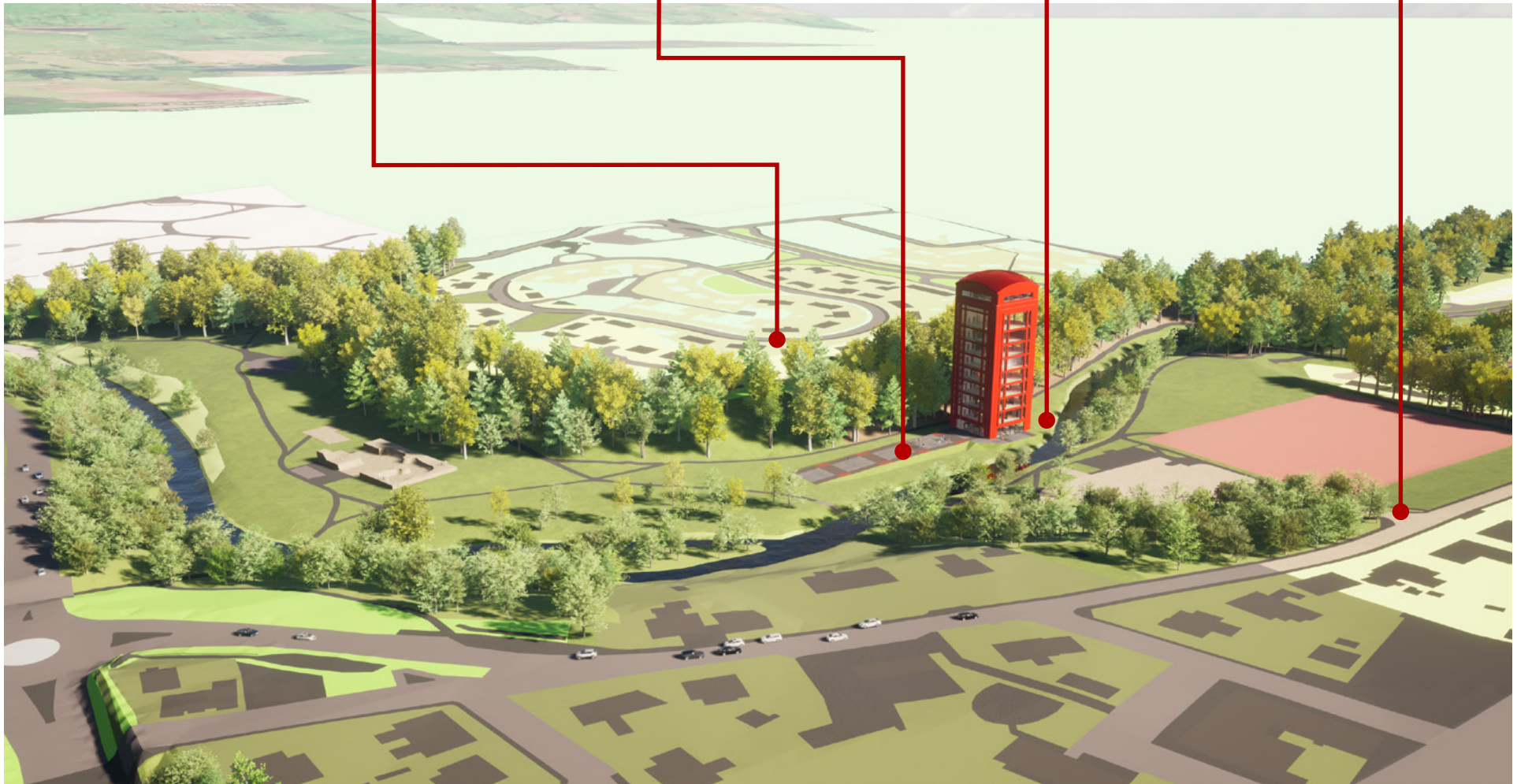
LOCATION

Embankment populated with dense mature trees offsets visual impact of proposal scale.

Sloping promenade dotted with stalls allows access to raised floor level above flood defence height.

A new pavilion with linked bridge access to the ground floor will help transform what has become a distressed site.

Existing vehicular access onto the B8048 Waterside to be re-designed.



KEY SPACES



THE KIRKINTILLOCH FOUNDRY EXPERIENCE

A world-class attraction including a 'working' foundry, letting visitors experience how iron welders worked during the 1900's and safely create their own 'Little Red Phonebox' as a souvenir of their visit.



MUSEUM OF COMMUNICATIONS

An innovative museum would bring to life the world of the phonebox and its place in history, letting visitors see how communication has developed through the years and how it has transformed the world.



THE ROOFTOP OBSERVATORY

A unique bar/restaurant, events space and viewing gallery on the 10th floor will provide unrivalled views of the stunning Campsie Fells and beyond.

ADDITIONAL SPACES

VR SUITE



GIFT SHOP



CAFE



ART GALLERY



BOUTIQUE HOTEL



OUTDOOR CLASSROOM



CINEMA/SCREENING ROOM



SOFT PLAY



CO-WORKING SPACE



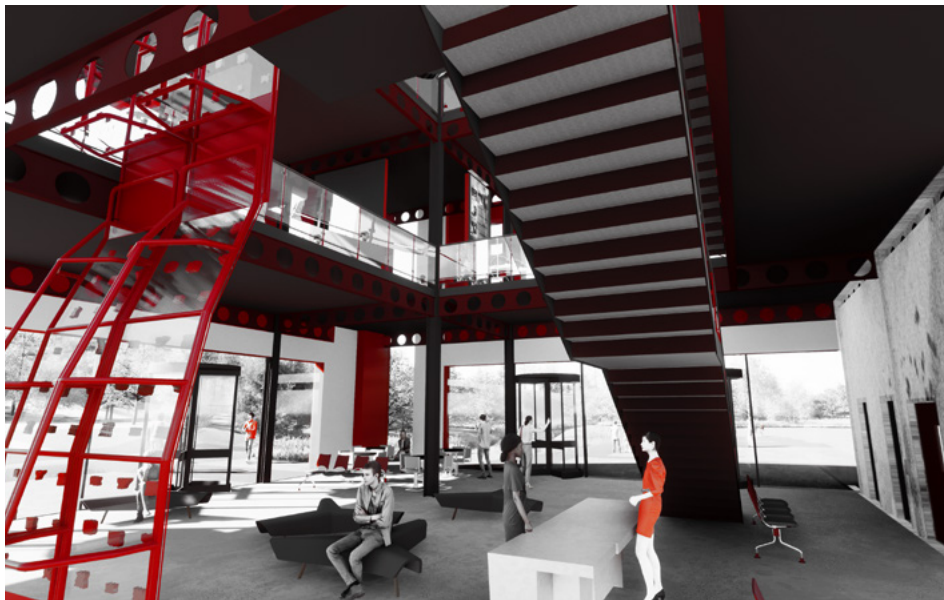
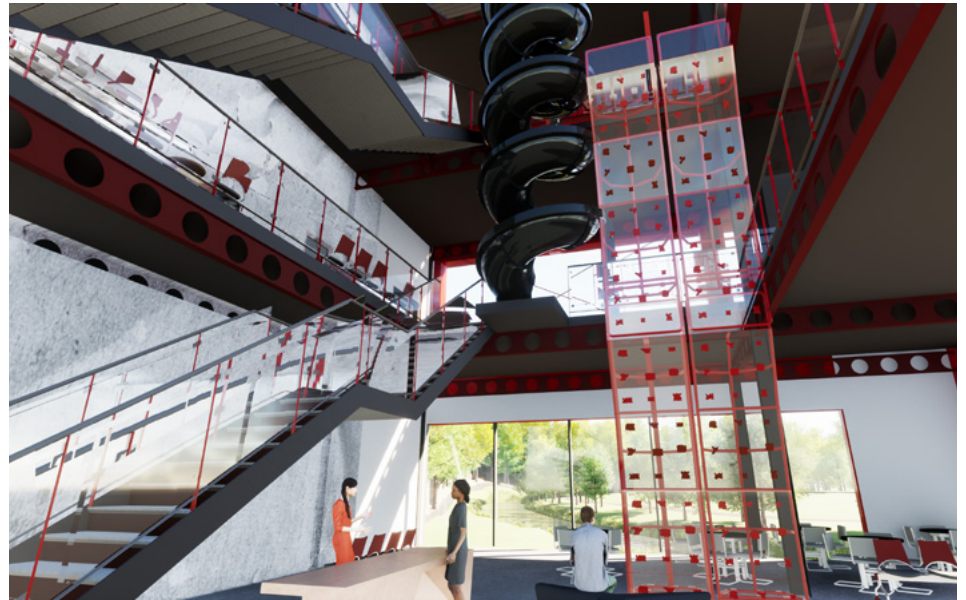
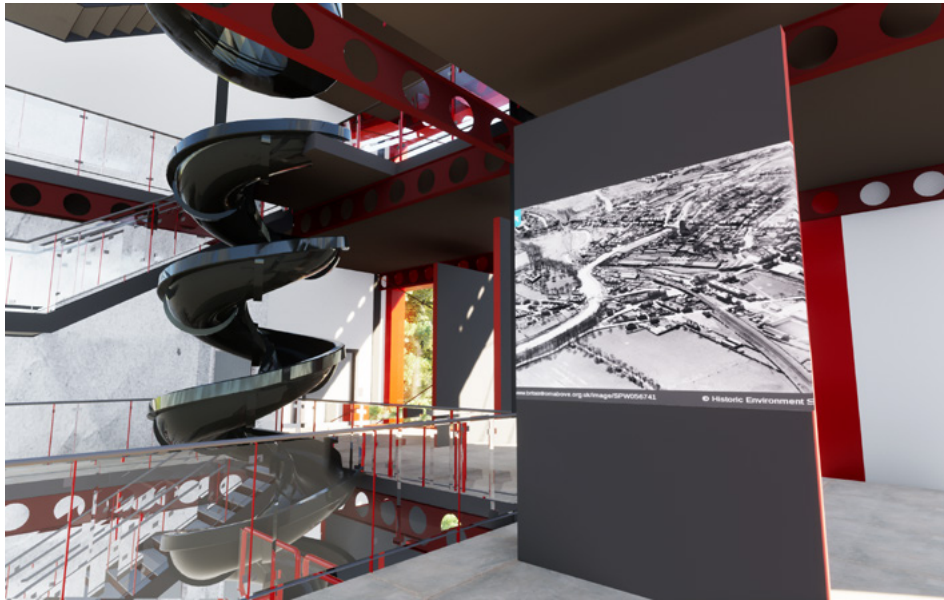
ANIMATION

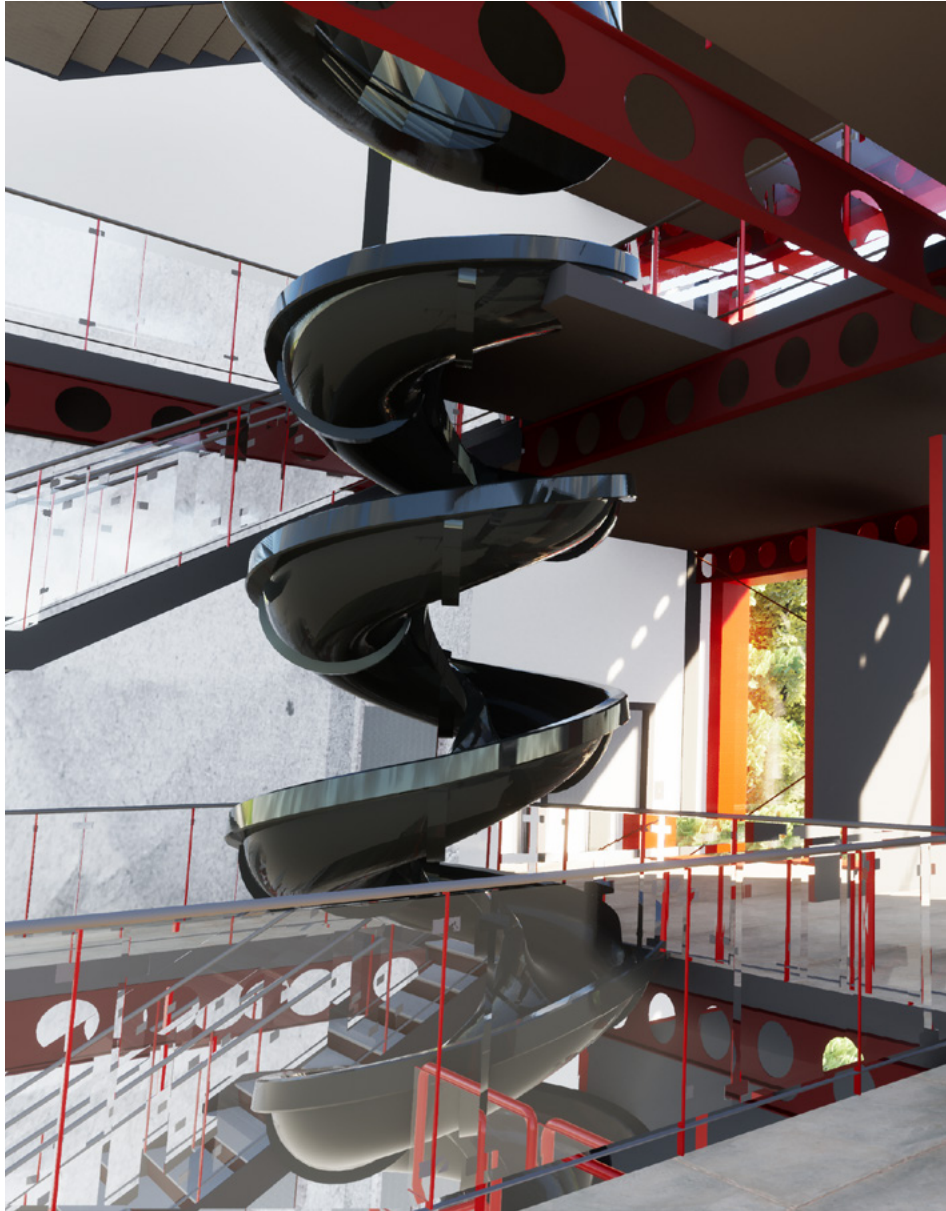


PRESS THE BUTTON ABOVE OR [CLICK HERE](#) TO VIEW OUR ANIMATION









CONTACT

For more information or if you would like to join the **Friends of the Phonebox** action committee;

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