

PLAY AREA DESIGN & IMPLEMENTATION EXPERIENCE

Creative Exterior Solutions Ltd (CES) have designed and project managed over 20 play areas in Wales, Germany, and the Middle East. Prior to CES, company Director Mark Synan worked on multiple play area designs for housing & tower /multi use developments across Canada.

We have provided a selection of recent play area design and project management. Photos and project information are brief summaries only.

Please see www.creative-exterior-solutions.com - Project Experience for a full portfolio



GRANGE GARDENS PLAY AREA, CARDIFF, WALES (2021).

The play area was inspired by a 'Fallen leaf concept' designed to encourage imagination games. The new layout included equipped play equipment, accessible play, a ground paint leaf graphic trail on the surfacing which leads around the tree, and the refurbishment of existing equipment. All surfacing included permeable resin bound gravel, Playrite surfacing, with new benches, gates, and bins.



AFTER PHOTOS



BEFORE PHOTOS & KEY ISSUES

Drainage - Equipment old - poorly positioned - uninspiring



LLANDAFF FIELDS PLAY AREA, WALES (2022).

New concept design to create a destination play area at Llandaff Fields. Work included the detailed design and implementation of Phase A, which includes a 3 metre high embankment, custom sphere climbing footholds, climbing, climbing ropes and nets, and 3 new slides.



AFTER PHOTOS



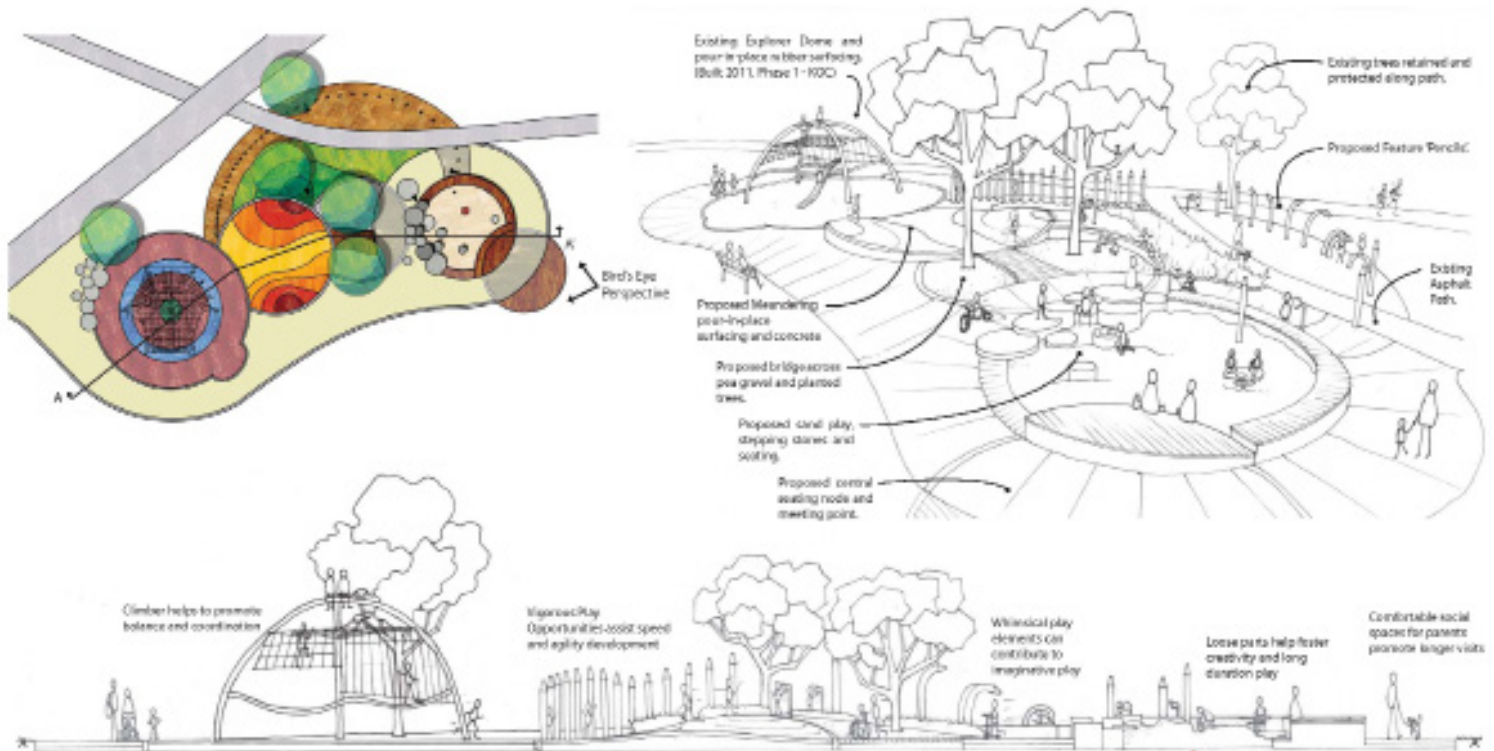
BEFORE PHOTOS & KEY ISSUES

Large expanses of tarmac - poor layout and uninspiring design.

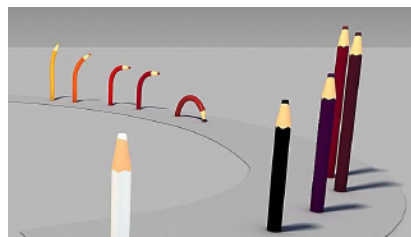


HOLLAND PARK PLAY AREA, CANADA (2011 - whilst employed at vdz associates).

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AFTER PHOTOS



'OAK THEME PLAY AREA' AT HEOL LLANISHEN FACH, CARDIFF (2023).

New play area layout consisting of oak leaves, acorn patterns, and fauna that you would find associated with a grand oak. This can be seen in various forms in the surfacing, painted games, log carvings, an acorn mound and various forms. The theme was created to reflect the adjacent woodland and trigger imagination games and provide some educational benefits, particularly for younger children. Toddlers play equipment has been grouped on the left, junior equipment on the right. The entire play area contains a mix of play features for children of all abilities. The flat surface throughout (except the slide mound) provides open access for wheel chair use. The play area contain equipment accessible for wheel chairs, including swings and an accessible roundabout.

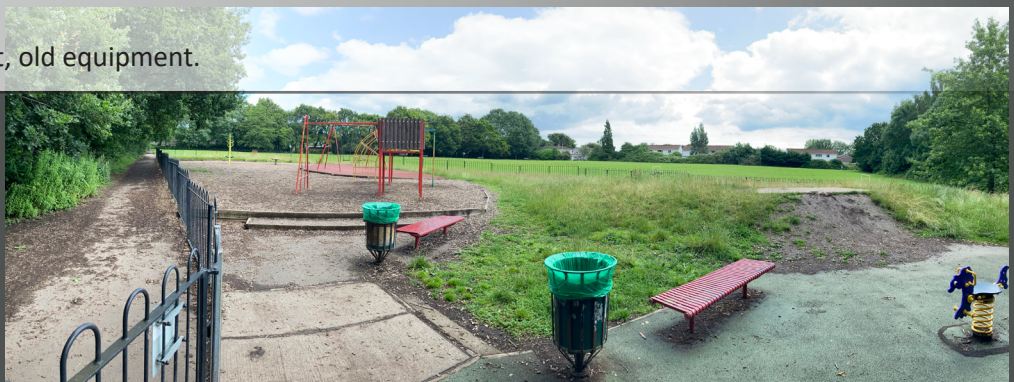


AFTER PHOTOS



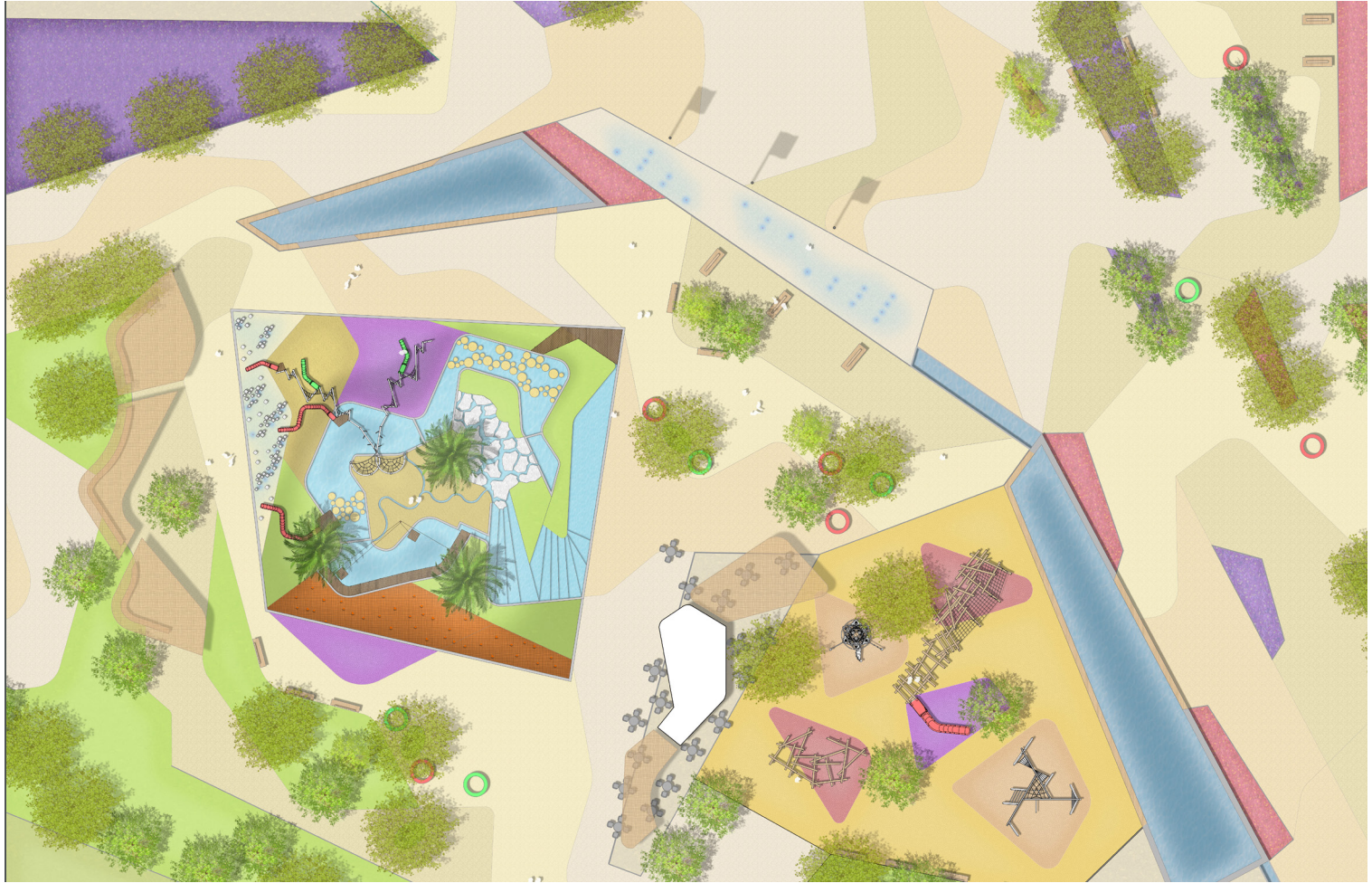
BEFORE PHOTOS & KEY ISSUES

Poor use of space, large disused bark pit, old equipment.



KOKEREI HANSA, DORTMUND, GERMANY (2019).

Competition entry for the redevelopment of a former industrial area in Germany. Works included the concept for a new splash park, cafe, and mound play area with a variety of climbing elements.



PERSPECTIVE SKETCHES



MAINDY PARK, CARDIFF, WALES (2022).

New 'puddle' themed play area with new and refurbished play equipment on a new EPDM rubber surface. The play area also consisted of a natural play area, with logs, boulders, and a climbing rope. The play area has been very popular with local schools.



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ROOFTOP PLAY AREAS, CANADA (2011-2016)

7 play areas constructed on intensive green roofs for Multi Storey mixed use development in Vancouver, Surrey BC, Richmond BC, and Tsawassen BC on the West Coast of Canada.

All the play areas were built on a rooftop concrete slab with weight loads and drainage carefully incorporated into the design.

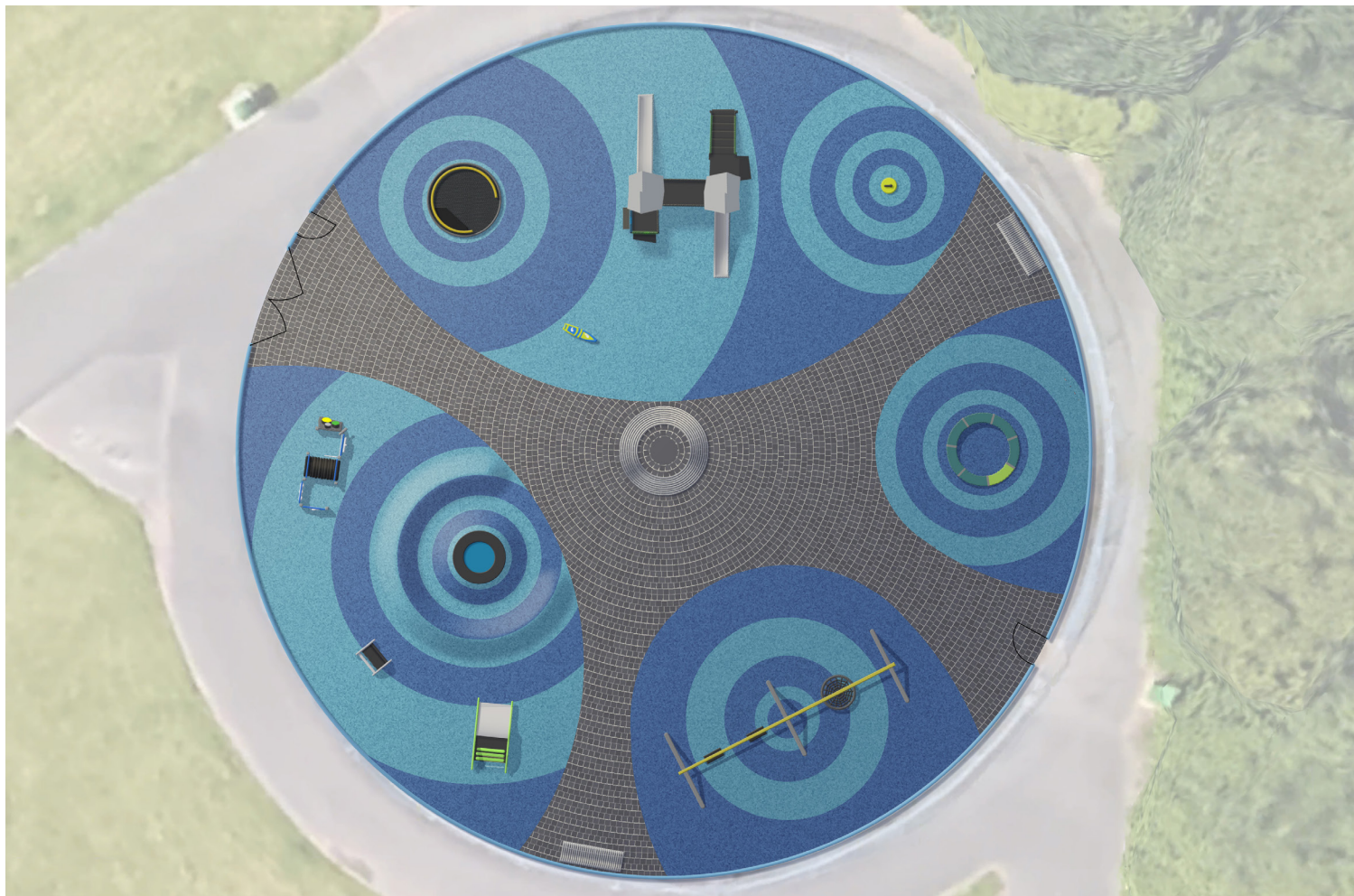
The play areas varied in style, from natural play elements using typical West Coast Canadian materials, to more traditional equipped play and EPDM surfacing.



DROVERS WAY, RADYR, CARDIFF, WALES (2024).

Complete refurbishment of a derelict play area in Drovers Way Housing Estate (Radyr) in the North West of Cardiff. The site previously flooded by surface water running from the adjacent land and from a failed drainage system. Works involved new drainage and a new themed play area in the form of water ripples & puddles.

The play area is split in toddler play, Junior play, accessible equipment, spinners, swings, and a trampoline, maximising play value within 400m² of space. New seating and pavers were added in a radial pattern.



BEFORE PHOTOS & KEY ISSUES

Failed drainage system and play space closed for several years.



