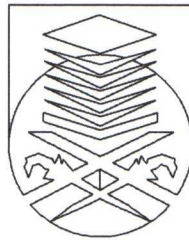


**EXPERIENCING THE NATURE : ECOLOGICAL AWARENESS
THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL ART AT SUNGAI PONTIAN
KECHIL**

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ABSTRACTS

Environmental art is defined as the meeting point of art and nature. This kind of art can be in any form which often concludes the state of the environment and explores inventive ways to communicate and provide answers to the pressing concerns on nowadays. Art revolution occurred with deep meanings that profound the implications and morals for landscape architects. Art can evoke the emotion towards the community in any angle that gives awareness on environment. The main focus is on resembles the value of the natural area towards the community through environmental art. The abandoned river and neglected nature area in urban fabric are a value that should be preserved and conserved for the environment benefits. Hence, the aim and objectives of this study are to revitalize the river at Sungai Pontian Kechil as riverfront community park through experiencing the nature while promotes awareness through environmental art and preservation of the mangroves forest. The methodology was used in this project including inventory and analysis for data collection, site synthesis for the suitability area and sensitive area for design to overcome the issues and problems. Moreover, the overall product will be used for masterplan development of Sungai Pontian Kechil. Therefore, Sungai Pontian Kechil Riverside is suitable for riverfront development with minimal intervention to resemble the mangroves value and the river history. The design guidelines focus on preserving and conserving the natural area in order to retain the quality of ecosystem in the study area. As a result, Sungai Pontian Kechil can become examples and new minimal intervention which landscape as an art that attracts people to experiencing the nature in our country.

Keywords: Environmental art, ecological awareness, riverfront, minimal intervention, preservation and conservation

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONTENTS	PAGES
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	i
ABSTRACT	ii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iii
LIST OF CONTENTS	iv – ix
LIST OF CHARTS	ix
LIST OF PLANS	ix – x
LIST OF FIGURES	x - xiv

CHAPTER 1 | INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Riverfronts developments nowadays become the popular approach among designers especially landscape architecture based on the community needs and demands of common public recreational place that tend to more on the natural environment. One of the reason is people now realize that they need a place to do their leisure activities and them aware that natural elements such as trees, water bodies and so on help in improving their health quality, especially in urban area. These types of developments have undergone many levels of development initiatives and become the most challenging tasks for urban designers and town planners.

Most of the cities in Asia, North America, South America, Europe and others experiencing the significant impact of modernization and urbanization through the natural resources with particular characteristics influencing the growth and image of the city. The evolution of riverfront developments within the urban fabric and public places as been practiced by Korea and China will be one of the critical frameworks in the development of the town. One of the approaches on riverfront developments is by low impact development which more on cares the ecosystem itself. In China, public art is the minimum intervention on its urban greenway as the approach to promote the community to ecological awareness.

In the early nineteenth century, a typical river city was established with a simple wooden jetty, which later grew to include multiple piers and a street network that linked the waterfront to commercial buildings as river traffic increased. The sequence as the growth was centered around transportation, general commerce, shipbuilding, and commercial fishing. On the 1800s, railroads entered most of the towns and cities. Transportation is shifted from water to rail that causes the river edge become less important which before this act as social and retail space. There are some reasons that cause this issue such as expanded land transportation based on concentrating large-scale industrial and commercial uses. These uses began to dominate many cities' waterfronts by the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (Wrenn, 1983).