



TIGERS!!





# Connections on Canal

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# PHASE 01. Research and Design Analysis

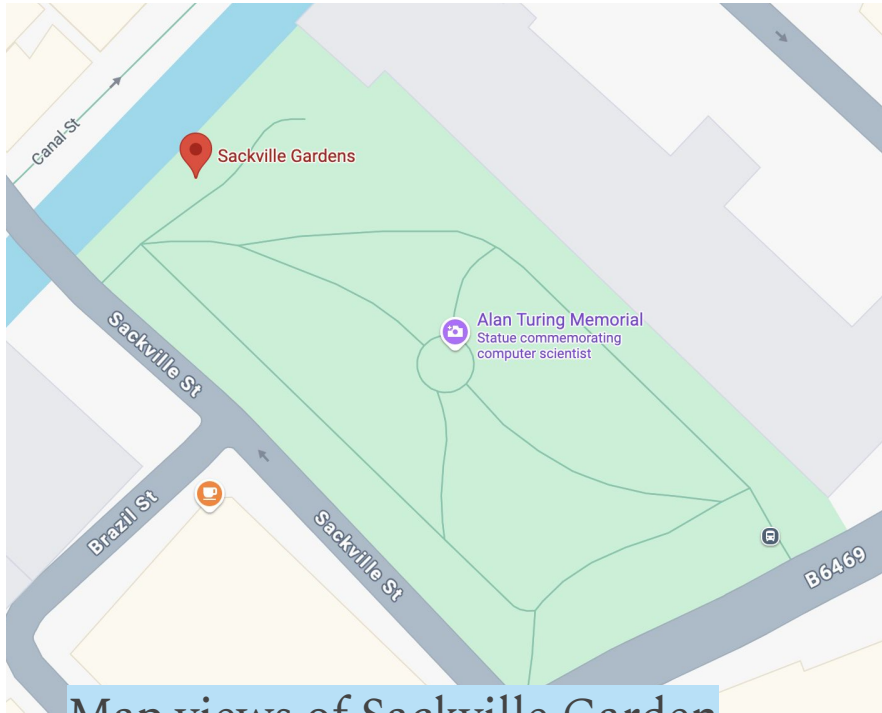
## Our Task

Propose an experiential intervention for Sackville Gardens in Manchester, England that:

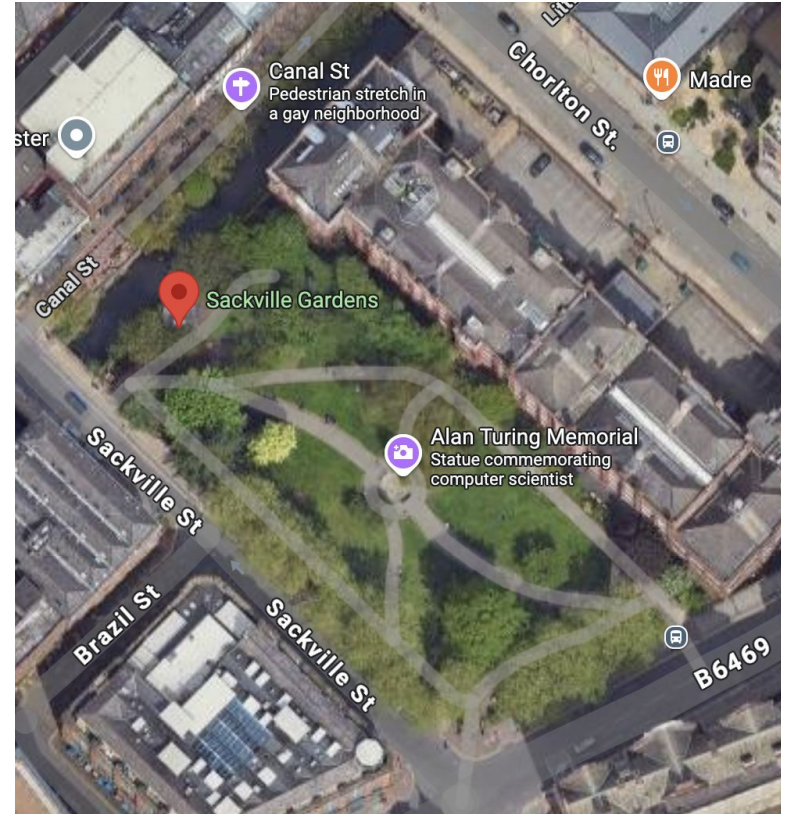
- 1) Interprets local queer history
- 2) Responds to the environment
- 3) Engages the senses
- 4) Considers **what visitors will do, with whom, and how they will feel**





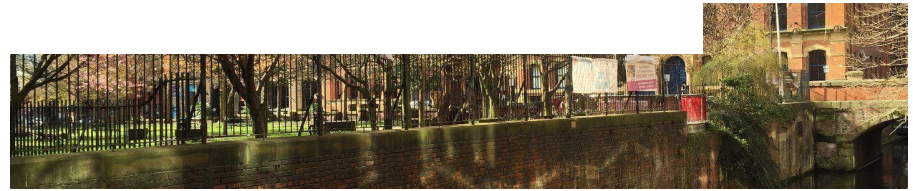


Map views of Sackville Garden





Sackville Gardens is located in Manchester's Gay Village, along Canal Street which is the neighborhood's main hub for pubs, restaurants, and events. Canal Street plays a very important role in Manchester's queer history, dating back to the 50s it was used as a hidden queer space after the use of canals decreased. Over time, Canal Street has become associated with the queer community being the heart of the Gay Village. Sackville Gardens provides many opportunities for visitors to learn about queer history, such as the statue of Alan Turing, The Beacon of Hope, and the Queen Bee.





## Audience Personas



Name: Robert  
Age: 35

Robert is an unhoused individual that has been living in Manchester his whole life, who is always in search for hot water and places to hang around locals and tourists.



Name: AJ  
Age: 27

AJ recently moved to Manchester and is actively looking for welcoming queer spaces that doesn't involve alcohol. Most places on Canal street are pubs, and he hopes to find a place that is accessible during the day and night.



Name: Gina  
Age: 22

Gina just graduated college and has been solo travelling the UK for a month. She loves taking photos and wants to seek places to capture the greenery in Manchester.



Name: Cornelius  
Age: 75

Cornelius has always been a history buff, and has been educating himself on queer history since the start of this year. He hopes to gain more knowledge about the quaint gay village of Manchester, while finding the frequent spots of the locals.

# Marketing Materials



## Streetlight Banners

Streetlight Banners outside of Gay Village will help to direct where the gardens are, along with presenting itself as an analog communication.



# Marketing Materials

## Flyers

Flyers also align with the theme of analog communication, which will specifically cater to those that do not have access to phones.

## Local Pub Advertisements

Pub advertisements will allow us to reach our audience for those that want daytime fun after a night out, along with allowing for queer people to discover new spaces.



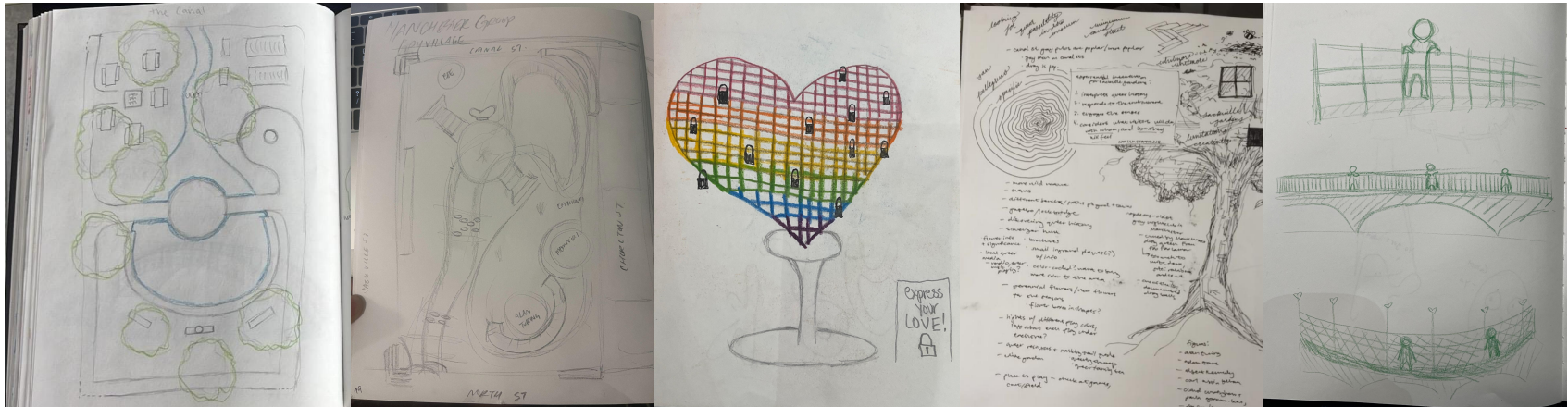
## PHASE 02. Concept and Design Proposal

## Our proposal focuses on:



We plan to implement interactive **water and communal areas within the park** that provide connection, love, queer visibility, and education on the history of Canal Street.

## Initial Sketches





# Inspiration from Public Spaces



## A collage of ten images related to LGBTQ+ themes and parks. The images include: lavender flowers, a white gazebo on a pond, pink cherry blossoms, a stone bridge with a tower over a river, a rainbow light effect, a wooden gazebo on a path, a heart with "LOVE IS LOVE" text on a rainbow background, a rocky stream with a waterfall, a string of heart-shaped lockets, a rainbow over a pond, and a heart-shaped garden sculpture on a bridge.

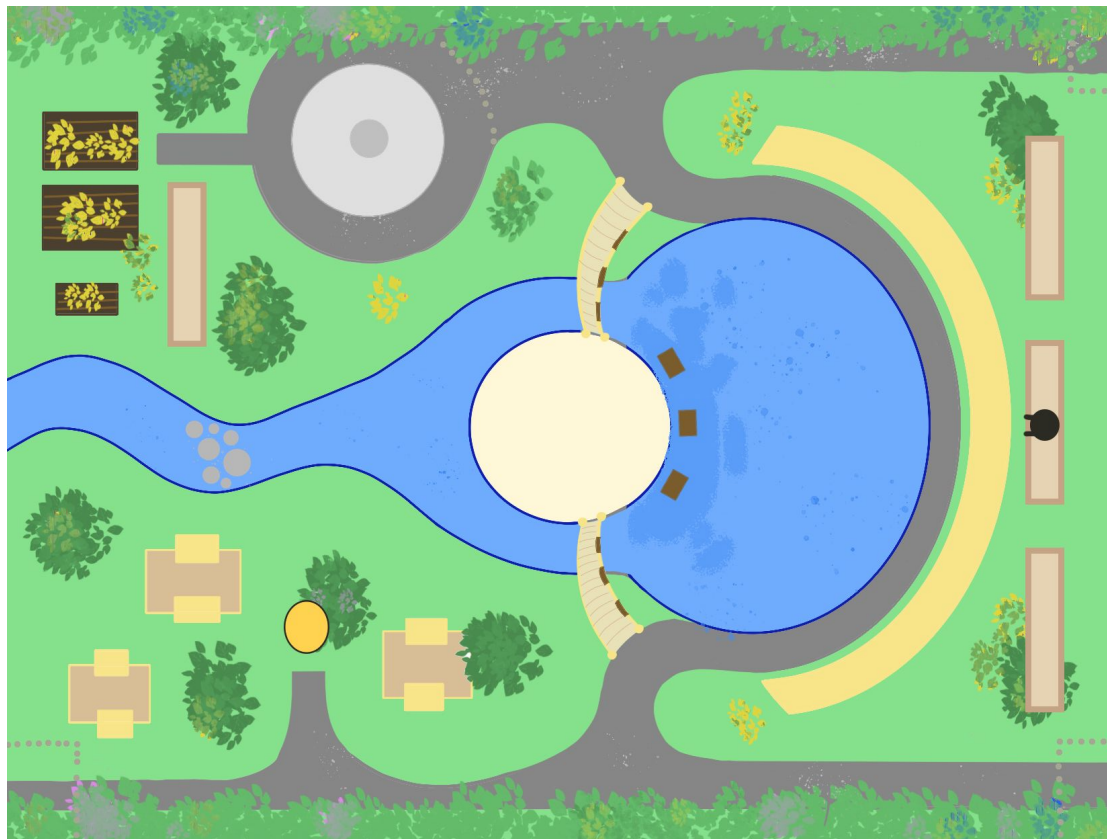
## PHASE 03. Detailed Design Solutions

Beacon of  
Hope

Communal  
edible garden

Community  
picnic area

LGBTQ+  
Queen Bee



Bridges

Alan Turing  
Memorial

Gayzebo

Plaques  
with  
historical  
information



# Connections on Canal

Neue Haas Grotesk Medium

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

1234567890 !@#\$\$%



#F9E589

RGB 249, 229, 137

#C8ADE5

RGB 200, 173, 229

#85E18C

RGB 133, 225, 140

Muted, pastel rainbow colors give a softer, more welcoming feel.

The colors are easier on the eye compared to pride colors, but still reflect the meaning.



#FA7658

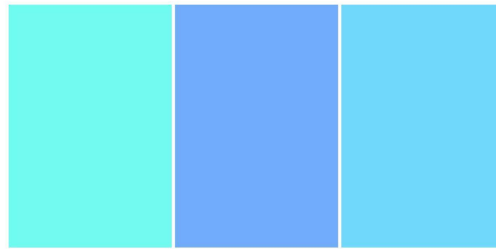
RGB 250, 118, 88

#F5A82F

RGB 245, 168, 47

#63BAE5

RGB 99, 186, 229



#70FAF0

RGB 112, 250, 240

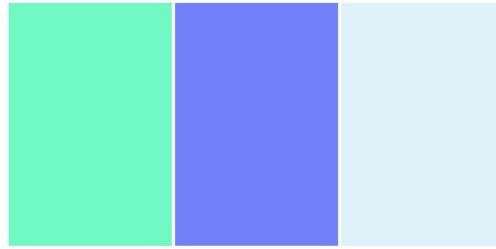
#70ACFA

RGB 112, 172, 250

#70D8FA

RGB 112, 216, 250

The water in the pond will be a light blue color, providing a clean and inviting look for visitors to feel a desire to interact with.



#70FAC1

RGB 112, 250, 193

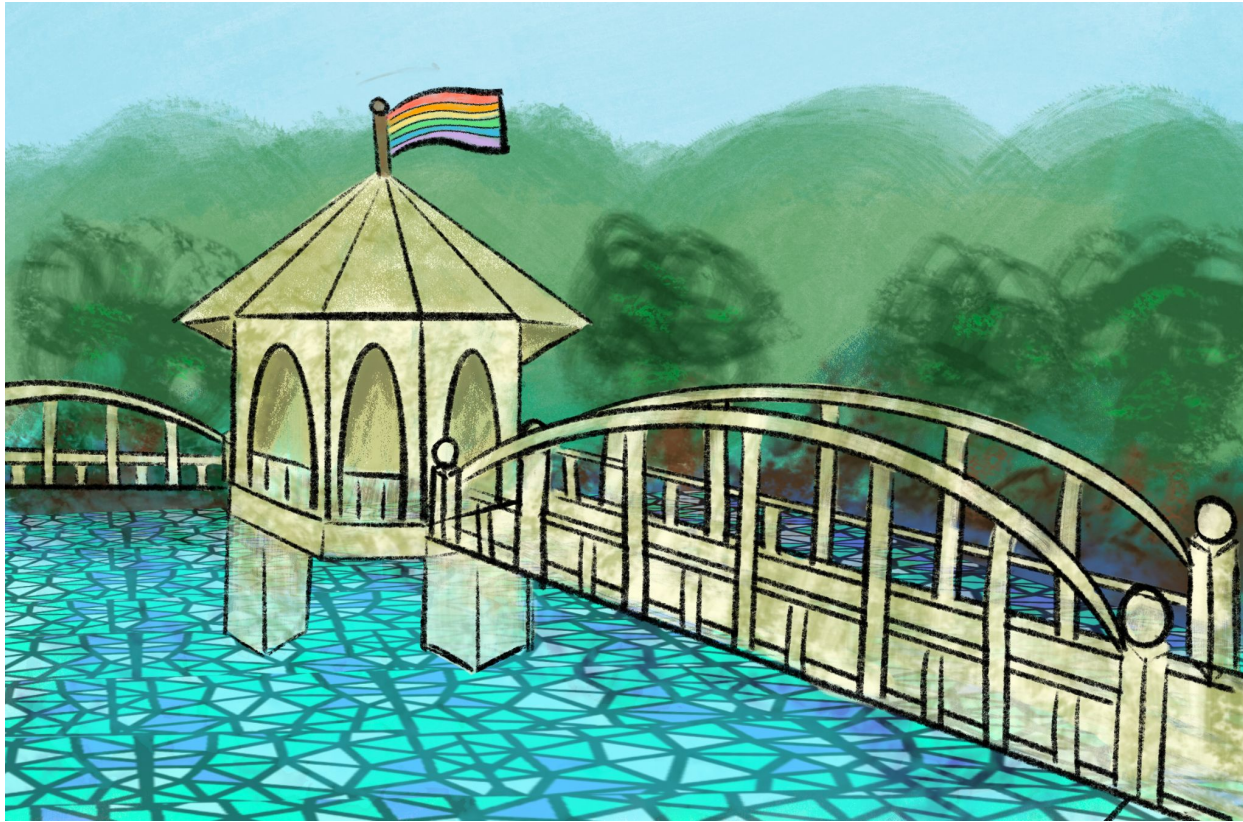
#7081FA

RGB 112, 129, 250

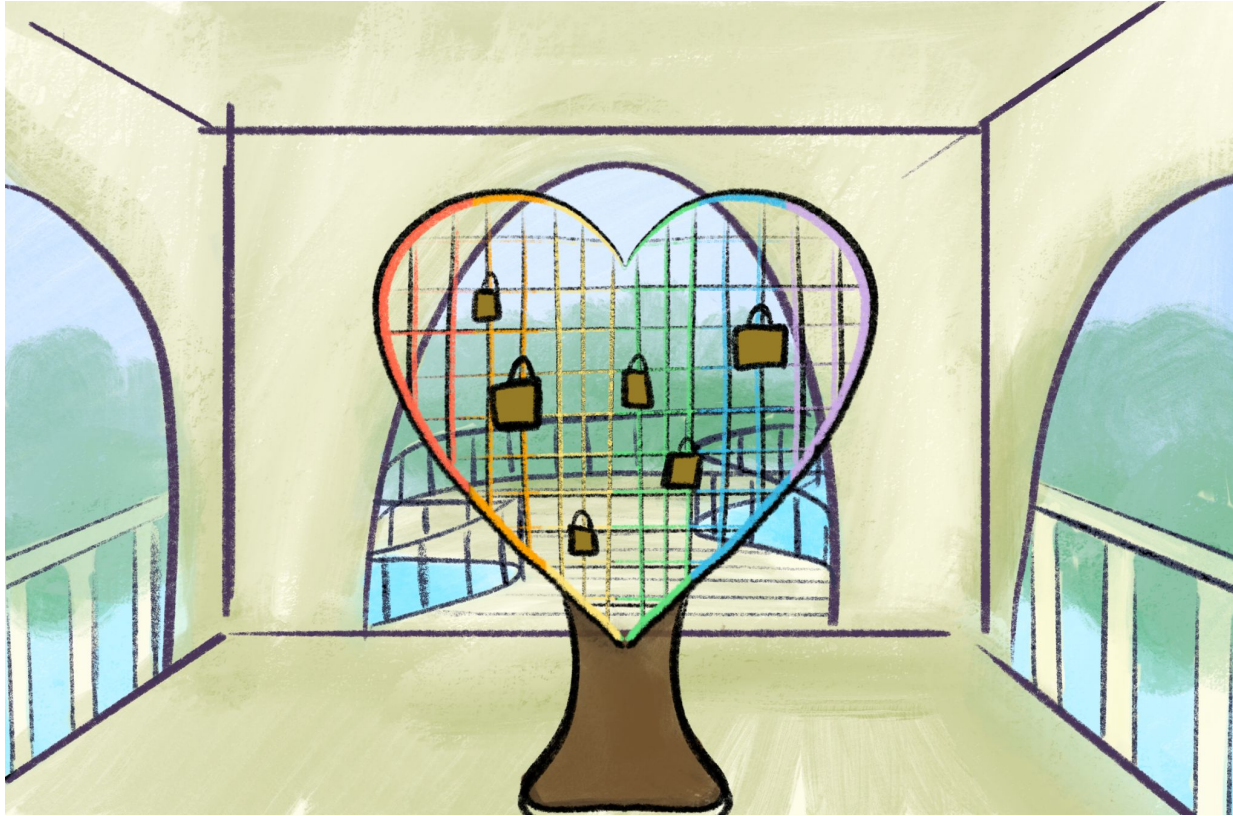
#DDF2F9

RGB 220, 242, 249

## PHASE 04. Design Documentation and Intent



Situated in the middle of the water feature, the Gayzebo is the connection point between two bridges. Visitors can seek shelter, socialize, and congregate in this space.



The center of the Gayzebo would hold metal gridded heart sculpture visitors could hang locks on. This provides a place for the community to openly display their love, similar to popular lock bridges around the world.



## Plaque Examples

### Why “Canal Street”?

Canal Street gets its name from the Rochdale Canal, which was used to transport materials and goods to and from Manchester in the Industrial Revolution.

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Once warehouses and workshops, the buildings are now homes to iconic pubs and bars that make Canal Street what it is today.

### The Desire for Queer Spaces

When the cloth trade declined in the early and mid 20th century, the area went into decline. Canal Street began to be used as a secret meeting place.



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Dark, deserted, but in an accessible central location, Canal Street became a popular meeting spot.

## Call to Action

Our design aims to provide the city with an **accessible and inviting** park that offers **resources, community building and educating passersby** on the history of Canal Street.

By incorporating a bridge into the park, it symbolizes Canal Streets' role in queer history for Manchester.

The water feature **symbolically and literally connects the use of canals**, while the bridge symbolizes **overcoming obstacles, making connections, and bringing people together**.

The heart sculpture in the Gayzebo allows for **an interactive aspect** for visitors to hang locks on and **express their love** to their community.