

# GEORGIA LANDSCAPE MAGAZINE





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## Fostering Success

» Daniel Nadenicek | Dean, College of Environment + Design

I am so very pleased with this well-written and beautifully illustrated 2013 edition of *Georgia Landscape*. Not only is it a fine collection of the outstanding work taking place within the College of Environment and Design's (CED) programs, it also clearly communicates how far we have come in meeting our strategic plan goals and objectives.

Community engagement—strategic theme one—has inspired a dramatic increase in the quantity and quality of CED's service learning projects including the Athens Downtown Master Plan, charrette experiences all over Georgia and beyond, design-build projects, and the Jekyll Island Project. In fulfilling the charge to better connect students to real world challenges, we have forged many partnerships ranging from local governments to state agencies and from other UGA colleges to nonprofit organizations.

Theme two, green design and planning, has inspired an emerging GeoDesign focus led by two new faculty specializing in GIS, a material reuse program, a targeted grazing program, a new Sustainability and Landscape Performance Laboratory, and the education of over 150 students who are now LEED accredited.

International engagement, the third strategic theme, has led to important collaborative agreements with Nanjing Forestry University, Nanjing, China and Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey. This focus has inspired a much larger percentage of our students to participate in international programs, especially existing UGA programs in Costa Rica, Croatia, and Cortona, Italy. And it has led to creative teaching whereby students and faculty have designed and planned in communities in India, Central Turkey, and South Africa.

The final and fourth theme about balancing continuity and change is a principal focus of the Cultural Landscape Laboratory (CLL). Through numerous projects such as Wormsloe in Georgia, Cowpens in South Carolina, and Stratford Hall in Virginia, CLL students and faculty have carefully balanced environmental, economic, social, and preservation imperatives, as they developed their plans and reports.

As we consider these many accomplishments, we can say with great confidence that this edition of *Georgia Landscape*, which is 100% student designed, written, and produced, stands as an important milestone along the CED journey to educate students and improve the environment through design, planning, and preservation.

Photo: Russell Oliver | MEPD 2013

Front & Back Covers: Sean Hufnagel | MLA 2013

# From the Editor



» Justin R. Cole | MLA 2008, MEPD 2013

Being a part of *Georgia Landscape Magazine* is a unique, rewarding, and sometimes exhausting opportunity. The magazine is produced in its entirety by a team of student volunteers who devote countless hours to making each edition a true showpiece for the talents and achievements of the College of Environment and Design community. As Editor of the 2013 edition, I am honored to have worked with the team that brings you this year's magazine; without them, this would not be possible. I would especially like to thank our team of editors, Emily, Sara, Sig, and D.H. for their dedication and commitment to producing an outstanding issue of GLM, as well as everyone who contributed to the articles, photography, and other content that fills these pages.

Each edition of GLM strives to build upon the successes of the previous issues and to "raise the bar" for those yet to come; a tradition we, too, have sought to continue. In addition to evolving and improving the print edition of GLM, we have continued to expand *Georgia Landscape* into the digital realm. The 2013 edition is the first in our magazine's history to have a Digital Editor and staff. This newly-minted digital team has now made it possible for you to connect with GLM on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. You can also view a digital copy of this year's edition on the CED website ([www.ced.uga.edu](http://www.ced.uga.edu)).

On behalf of the entire *Georgia Landscape* staff, I hope that you enjoy reading the 2013 edition, whether in print or online, and thank you for your support. If you would like to contribute to the continued production of this publication, donations can be made through the CED website to fund #UGAF 8810900, or by contacting the Development Office at 706-542-4727.

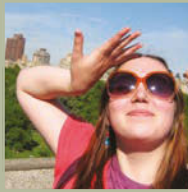
LAYOUT EDITOR



Taking on a role in layout and design slowly transitioned from playing with fonts and further exploring InDesign into a much greater project that involved tracking down photos and graphics, attempting to meet deadlines, and folder organization. After several hours of reorganizing data, editing graphics, and looking at photos of goats, seeing the excellent work produced by students in the CED and the *Georgia Landscape* staff has been well worth the effort.

» Emily Hunt | MEPD 2014

COPY EDITOR



Despite being in the midst of practicum writing, I have loved working on the magazine. Reading all of the article submissions was truly inspiring, and I learned about fellow students' innovative research and projects. I was impressed by the range and quality of work produced and am excited to be a part of creating this magazine, despite the sometimes long hours. This experience was a great way to end my time at the CED.

» Sara Farr | MHP 2012, MEPD 2013

COPY EDITOR



Hands-on learning comes in many forms during the first year of being an MLA candidate and being part of the magazine staff was no exception; an experience that has greatly increased my appreciation for this process during our short time together. The amount of submissions, as well as the level of participation shown by the graduates and undergraduates throughout the three programs can be nothing but a positive sign for the continued success of the CED and its presence beyond the classroom.

» Sig Sandzén | MLA 2015

DIGITAL EDITOR



Developing GLM's online presence has been a great learning process: establishing our social media sites, formatting our magazine for download on e-readers and tablets and working to improve the quality of our website. My hope is that with this new Digital Editor's position we can create a consistent online presence for the future of GLM. I want to extend a heartfelt thanks to the editorial staff for their patience with me in this newly created position, and to you for following GLM on your favorite social media app!

» D.H. Bathon III | MEPD 2014

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» *Georgia Landscape Magazine* 2013





### Sustainability Facts

As the official publication of the College of Environment and Design, *Georgia Landscape* takes great pride in using sustainable printing practices. The 2013 edition is produced using the following environmentally friendly printing techniques:

**Soy-based inks** can be more readily removed from paper and degrades more than four times as completely as petroleum inks. All of this allows for easier recycling.

**Alcohol-free dampening solutions** contain zero isopropyl alcohol, which quickly degrades paper and generates higher levels of VOCs.

**Sappi Flo Paper** contains 10% Post-Consumer recycled content and is manufactured using 100% Green-e® certified renewable energy. This paper is also FSC® and SFI® Chain of Custody certified and Lacey Act compliant.

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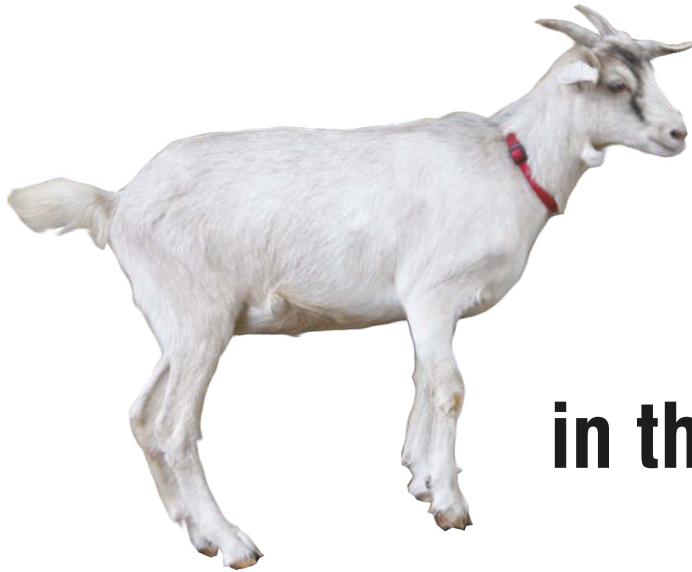
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# LONG LIVE THE HERD! PRESCRIBED



# GRAZING

## in the URBAN ENVIRONMENT

It all began with a group of friends and a few backyard goats for an undergraduate landscape architecture class. The goats quickly became a popular feature and then part of a larger project documented in Zach Richardson's "little lebowski urban goats" blog. The goat theme continued during a senior studio class that began analyzing Tanyard Creek, a degraded urban stream and forest on the UGA campus. In fall 2011 Zach applied for a sustainability grant, which he was awarded in January 2012. This "goat grant" morphed into his senior project using prescribed grazing to rehabilitate the Tanyard Creek Corridor. Now Zach is in grad school and his goat project has evolved to focus on community engagement.





Throughout the United States, landscape architects, planners, and other land management professionals are experimenting with the use of goats and sheep as biological agents for controlling invasive plants and assisting in the restoration of woodland and riparian environments. For urban conservationists, these animals represent a cost-effective, non-toxic, non-polluting, and efficient method for managing pest plant species. Aside from these benefits, prescribed grazing in urban settings represents an opportunity to engage the public in the process of rehabilitating and re-inhabiting neglected urban “wilderness.”

Ecologically-compromised urban green spaces exist everywhere, even on the University of Georgia’s campus. For example, the well-known Tanyard Creek corridor originates just north of Broad Street and flows southeast through campus, under Sanford Stadium, and into the North Oconee River. As is typical with most urban streams, much of its length has been redirected into pipes and paved over with asphalt and concrete. The few stretches that have escaped development suffer from severely incised and eroding banks, poor water quality, and slopes choked with non-native invasive vegetation. To make things worse, decades of debris and litter have collected along the water’s edge.

And what a shame! Rarely do urban streams and their banks escape the unforgiving path of development, yet parts of Tanyard Creek still possess a significant buffer, mature tree canopy, and the fresh atmosphere of an inner-city oasis. With funding from the College of Environment and Design and the Office of Sustainability, one stretch in particular is being rehabilitated by the university’s first 4-legged landscape management crew.

The Tanyard Creek Chew Crew project is a community-driven effort to restore and celebrate an ecologically damaged and underappreciated urban forest and stream using prescribed goat grazing as the primary management tool. The project site is an approximately 2.5 acre paddock in the heart of campus along Tanyard Creek, between Newton Street and the Hull Street parking deck. Before restoration work began, the site consisted of an impenetrable mass of exotic invasive species (privet, kudzu, mulberry, honeysuckle, etc.), garnering little attention from the surrounding communities.

Since spring 2012, the Chew Crew project has been responsible for several noteworthy accomplishments. First and foremost, the site has undergone a dramatic change for the better. Where it was once impossible to see or walk, there is now a much more attractive creek bottom (one where the creek can actually be seen!). The physical change is the result of both caprine and human help: goats worked (read: ate) around the clock, and volunteers helped during weekly workdays. By now, the number of hours spent improving the site is astounding.

In addition to the site’s physical transformation, the Chew Crew project is responsible for several excellent examples of interdisciplinary collaboration. Chris McDowell and his Materials Reuse Program were responsible for the construction of the “LEED Goat-Certified” shelter on site, and CE+D students were instrumental in several project-related events, such as an educational petting zoo in the Tate Plaza on Earth Day and KidFest – a morning devoted to introducing local children and their families to the project. Furthermore, students from all over campus (Art Education, Photography, Journalism, and English) have come together to help document the project’s achievements.

After ten months of prescribed grazing and volunteer help, the Chew Crew project has exploded into something much bigger than simply goats eating privet. Without a doubt, the site has been improved tremendously. But what’s perhaps more important is the project’s role as a catalyst for creative ideas, collaboration, and fostering a sense of campus stewardship. Long live the herd!

» Zach Richardson | MLA 2014

#### Contribute to the Chew Crew initiative

Donate through the CED website to fund #UGAF 9178300  
or Contact the Development Office at 706-542-4727



Photo: Jordan Tubbs | MEPD 2013

# UNSCENE LANDSCAPES

Exploring Relationships with Place Through Time

*A still moment in time, a scene is an image composed and framed for the purpose of telling a story. A scene, like a landscape, is defined as much by the arrangement of elements within it as by the demarcation of its frame and the location of the viewer. Like a scene presented in a photograph, painting, or play, a landscape scene tells a story. It is defined in part by the meaning it holds for those who either create or experience it. The concept of the scene helps us understand landscapes, for it allows us to frame our study of actions, objects, dialogue and processes in space and time. By understanding the components of a scene we can start to identify the less observed, yet important elements of a place and the history of its associated people.*

*Yet, just as a painter may reuse a canvas or hide compositional decisions under subsequent layers of paint, the ways in which people and nature have interacted within a landscape over time may no longer be visible. Only through stories, documents, or archaeological evidence can the dynamic history of a place be revealed. By weaving together not only the interactions among the visible elements of a scene, but also what is happening beyond the frame of reference, a narrative for the landscape is revealed.*



## Unscene Landscape

Since 2010, faculty and students from departments across UGA have collaborated on Cultural Landscape Laboratory (CLL) projects in places that are diverse in terms of their size, cultural histories, political circumstances and governance frameworks, ecologies and geographies. These landscapes tell stories about human suffering and triumph, environmental degradation and recovery. They teach us about the difficulties and joys of caring for land and the community of life that comprises it. The departments of Geography, History, Horticulture, and the Institute of Native American Studies, as well as the Historic Preservation, Environmental Design and Planning, and Landscape Architecture programs have collaborated to undertake various projects. These research endeavors serve as “field labs” for the next generation of cultural landscape professionals, creating opportunities for UGA graduate students to further their education

with valuable on-site research, design, planning, and management experiences.

## Cultural Landscapes and UGA CED

The American geographer Carl Ortwin Sauer concisely defined the idea of “cultural landscape” in 1925: “The cultural landscape is fashioned from a natural landscape by a cultural group. Culture is the agent, the natural area is the medium, cultural landscape is the result.” A cultural landscape is thus any place where human activity has altered nature. Cultural geographers like Sauer observed that people make all kinds of modifications to the natural areas they inhabit. They construct fences and walls to organize and divide the land into distinct spaces. They manipulate local ecosystems through the selective harvesting of wild plants and animals, or the wholesale replacement of native vegetation with agricultural crops such as corn and cotton. They construct roadways and canals to move themselves and goods through the


landscape, and they erect an immense variety of architectural structures to satisfy desires ranging from the mundane to the frivolous. Humans modify environments in response to economic, aesthetic, spiritual, associative, and mnemonic imperatives. In turn, humans use landscapes, often unwittingly, to express many dimensions of their condition.

Evolving from the 1920s, the concept of cultural landscapes was influenced by numerous disciplines including but not limited to geography, history, anthropology, archeology, planning, landscape architecture, and historic preservation. By the late 1980s and early 1990s, U.S. federal agencies such as the National Park Service (NPS) played a lead role in defining criteria and standards for identifying and managing historic cultural landscapes. Simultaneously, academic institutions across the U.S. played a key role in the discourse on theory and practice. CED professors Ian Firth, Catherine Howett, Richard Westmacott

**There is really no such thing as a dull landscape or farm or town. None is without character, no habitat of man is without the appeal of the existence which originally created it... A rich and beautiful book is always open before us. We have to learn to read it.**

**J.B. Jackson**

Graphics: CLL Staff



and Allen Stovall specifically addressed: landscape management in the NPS and the concept of biotic cultural resources; theory and criticism of historic landscape preservation, southern landscapes and gardens; rural African American landscapes and gardens and agricultural landscape management; and methodologies for rural landscape assessment and conservation that integrated landscapes and planning and design, respectively. These CED faculty educated many graduates who became leaders and advocates for cultural landscapes in governmental and private sectors.

Building upon that legacy in 2010, the CLL was established to provide multidisciplinary research and learning opportunities for students and faculty. Working to continue to advance theory and practice, the CLL is in a unique position to couple expert faculty guidance with student energy and creativity to engage in innovative projects with public and private partners. Integrating the concepts of resilience and adaptive management as relevant vehicles for stewardship, the CLL is led by Cari Goetcheus and Dr. Eric MacDonald. They are exploring the design and management implications of Aldo Leopold's "land-community"—a concept that "enlarges the boundaries of community to include soils, waters, plants, and animals, or collectively: the land." As a result, the CLL

has positively enhanced the identification, documentation, and stewardship concepts for our irreplaceable cultural landscapes.

#### **The Process of Cultural Landscape Study**

Cultural landscape study within the United States is guided by the professional procedures, recommendations and guidelines of the NPS and the Secretary of the Interior. The NPS defines a cultural landscape as "a geographic area, including both cultural and natural resources and the wildlife or domestic animals therein, associated with a historic event, activity, or person or exhibiting other cultural or aesthetic values."

Between February 21 and March 23, 2013 the CED Cultural Landscape Laboratory hosted an exhibition in the CED Circle Gallery with the intent of introducing the concept of cultural landscapes as seen through the lens of Cultural Landscape Laboratory research sites and projects.

The Circle Gallery exhibition relayed the process of studying cultural landscapes using the words "capture," "reveal," and "steward." Each keyword was explored in detail, first through ways to capture landscape information via tools such as observation, drawing, photography, archeology, ecological evidence, and oral histories, as well as Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR), and Geographic Positioning Systems (GPS)

technologies. Overlaying information can reveal new insights about a place. This data—along with information about past management decisions, the historical significance of existing site features and current management needs—helps to explore creative solutions for long term historic site stewardship.

#### **Balancing Ecological and Cultural Aspects of Place**

Our current era of rapid change has resulted in many people feeling ecologically and culturally disconnected from "place." Increased ecological and human threats are impacting many of the world's significant historic environments. Hence, it is now most essential that we understand the landscapes of our past in order to make informed decisions that shape their future. Throughout the exhibition, the timeless physical and emotional connections between humankind and environment were highlighted. By integrating the principles of resilience and adaptive management into cultural landscape stewardship models, the CLL aims to provide relevant and robust vehicles that treat inquiry, observation, design, and implementation as continuous and interconnected processes, rather than as separate and discrete activities.

» CLL Staff





Photographer Unknown | Jekyll Island, Summer 2012



CE + D  
Jekyll Island



The summer of 2012 had a notably coastal theme for UGA design students. Three groups descended on Jekyll Island as a part of three different summer classes offered through the College of Environment and Design. Students from the MLA and BLA programs joined Assistant Professor Brad Davis on Jekyll Island for an annual immersion in perspective drawing and watercolors. Davis initiated this course to support student development of hand graphic techniques. These skills remain important in the digital age as he believes drawing offers a more personal form of information gathering, interpretation, and communication. Since its creation, this course remains one of the most popular summer offerings for CED students.

In late May and early June, Associate Professor Brian LaHaie and a class of BLA, MLA and MEPD students partnered with the Fanning Institute and the Jekyll Island Authority to develop site plans for several potential island amenities critical to the Jekyll Island Master Plan. Projects included the redesign and reuse of an aging amphitheater, an historic garden, and an abandoned roadway, along

with the restoration of a scenic pond. Students stayed on the island for five days, then returned to the UGA campus to work on their final site plans. The completed projects were presented to members of the Jekyll Island Authority, many of which will be included in the final master plan report.

The Jekyll Island Preservation Maymester Field School, taught by Professor Mark Reinberger, was a three week intensive course that served as an introduction to the field of Historic Preservation, teaching skills in site documentation and hands-on conservation techniques, and strategies for cultural resources along Georgia's coast. Data gathering techniques included traditional hand measuring and site mapping with surveyor's tools. Conservation skills included carpentry, masonry, epoxy, and painting. Site visits to Butler's Island, Sapelo Island, Cumberland Island, Fort Frederica, and other sites examined different approaches to conservation and interpretation. The field school was headquartered on Jekyll Island and involved sites and buildings belonging to the Jekyll Island Historic District.

» GLM Staff



# International Horticulture Exposition

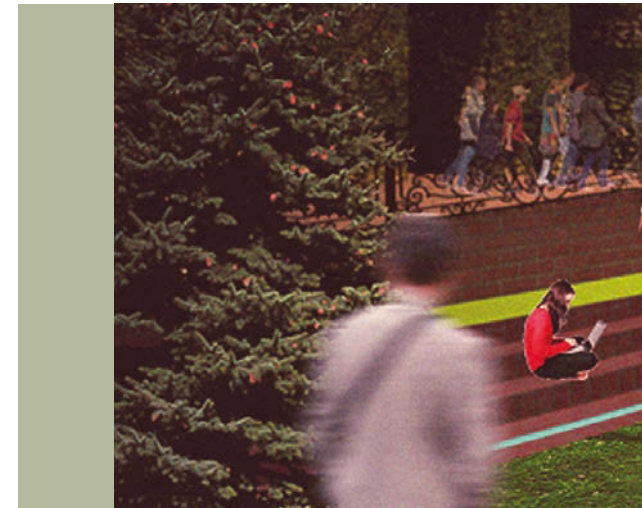
# Qingdao,

During the summer of 2012, the College of Environment and Design at the University of Georgia was invited to design an exhibit that reflected the state of Georgia for the 2014 International Horticultural Exposition in Qingdao, China. The College recognized the learning potential of such an opportunity and offered it as a summer studio course under the mentorship of Professor Douglas Pardue. Seven graduate and undergraduate students worked to create a design that could share the Georgian experience with the rest of the world.

The studio began with the premise that a successful representation of place exists effectively within a geographical and cultural context, simultaneously providing a meaningful perspective for its community. Creating a significant experience for an international clientele of visitors presented a particular challenge to our small group. Through research and studio exercises, it became apparent that there are certain similarities of form that speak across Georgia's various cultures. It was our goal to find those particular aspects, derive from them locally recognized forms, and synthesize these into a more universal narrative that can communicate a Georgian experience. How does one express the lush, verdant landscape of Georgia with

its high canopy and long, sheltered vistas within the constraints of a five-month expo? How does one simulate Georgia's varied topography and rich resources, or our commitment to the environment? How does someone simply express a promising future without dismissing its rich history? These were just some of the challenges we attempted to resolve through the course of the studio.

Through envisioning what Georgia meant to each of us, the group began to unravel the many layers of traditional and contemporary southern culture. We then proceeded to develop impressions and rapid-fire graphemes in order to hone in on distilled versions of these ideas, while also studying models to express design intentions as space and form. We discovered the power of abstraction as an activity to distill, communicate, and ultimately construct essential meanings. Having to take the design process into construction drawings was an invaluable experience, as we had to balance the creative processes of design with what would become the built product. A perfectly rendered design that could not be built would not fulfill the program's needs. Therefore, we had to design creatively in order to find ways to turn our paper designs into meaningful physical objects. By looking



at expo precedents, we learned that simplicity not only translates more accurately than convoluted details, but often results in better construction.

Our simplified approach used plant and material analogs to create an experiential narrative through Georgia's past and its key values as collectively condensed by the studio. In the final design, the visitor is first greeted in the exhibit by a series of walls. These six barriers provide a visual cue to the rich history

# China



Graphic: Juan Guzmán-Palacios | BLA 2013

of Georgia's past, its contemporary character, and a glimpse of its emerging potentials. After passing through the final, largest wall, the guest is ushered into a formal open lawn area, bordered by classic garden allees where individuals and families are encouraged to relax and play. This dialectic pairing of form and experience expresses Georgia's embrace of the global landscape as well as the critical importance of revisiting and adapting Georgia's traditional values and forms.

We are very thankful to the sponsors and the CED, who were willing to support this endeavor. Professor Pardue's tremendous guidance was a successful form of instruction as we battled this difficult task. Often at the peril of missed deadlines in order to complete lines of thinking, we obtained invaluable international experience that will stay with us for a lifetime. We also greatly appreciate the Shandong province, which sponsors the exposition, for offering a generous scholarship. This will

allow students to register for courses at Qingdao University in the academic year 2013-2014 along with becoming a liaison with the Georgia Department of Economic Development. We have been invited by Shandong province to the opening in 2014 and are excited to see not only the exhibit, but how this opportunity will further expand our horizons as landscape architects.

- » Jeremy Arnett | MLA 2014
- » Nobuko Ogawa | MLA 2014
- » Shannon Mikus | MLA 2014



# DETROIT, REVEALED

Photos: By Author



Detroit is a city in flux, one that conjures up conflicting images of triumph and tragedy. I arrived in Detroit to conduct my thesis research with tales of stabbings and muggings ringing in my ears and images of abandoned, crumbling buildings before my eyes. There was also grittiness leftover from its industrial heyday and subsequent decline that attracted me. I have always rooted for the underdog, and this city was no different.

As a preservationist and planner, I am trained to see the beauty and possibility where others only see empty land and old buildings in a failing city. When I arrived in Detroit, I was admittedly shocked by the large amounts of open land and abandoned homes, but I was also awed by the beauty and promise surrounding me. There is an abundance of graceful mansions in neighborhoods like Boston-Edison and Indian Village that once housed industry giants. These neighborhoods, largely well-maintained, now house communities that are proud of their city and take an active role in neighborhood associations to maintain their homes.

There are also more modest but equally charming neighborhoods scattered throughout the city, including places like Corktown. This walkable, mixed-use neighborhood reflects Detroit's industrial past while also attracting new residents. It is an active, growing community that provides an opportunity for young people who want to start their own businesses. This all occurs in the shadow of the infamous Michigan Central Station. This once grand train station now stands abandoned, the victim of many failed plans that represent the failures as well as the opportunities that still exist in Detroit.

Counter to these thriving, beautiful neighborhoods, I was faced with the physical evidence that Detroit still has many obstacles to overcome. I drove past large swaths of empty land

where houses once stood in a much denser urban fabric. Many neighborhoods contain an overwhelming number of homes in disrepair. These stretches of empty homes and land can make Detroit a scary place. The lingering evidence of former prosperity makes the emptiness that much more haunting. Being alone on a street lined with unoccupied homes is a strange feeling. The vision of so many problems can be overwhelming; even more so if one drives past it every day.

There has been a lot of attention on Detroit recently, both positive and negative. Some refer to the now numerous pictures of its falling structures, particularly the previously mentioned Depot, as "ruin porn." This interest is beneficial since it brings people to the city, but it also has negative ramifications. There is a lot of romanticization of Detroit and other post-industrial cities. People become enamored with images of crumbling industrial buildings and abandoned neighborhoods, forgetting the history and pain behind them. Young people move to these cities wanting to make a difference, but sometimes forget they are not coming to an empty slate. It's critical to realize that Detroit is not abandoned. It already contains vibrant communities working hard to make a difference. These changes will not come overnight and Detroit will never be the same city it once was. It doesn't want to be.

The revitalization of Detroit is apparent all over the city. From many urban gardens, to preservation, to local businesses,

there are changes and progress every day. To see the proof, all one needs to do is look at a large project like the restoration of the Book Cadillac Hotel, which revitalized an important landmark and brought business to Detroit. The now well-known Slows Bar B Q in Corktown is a local business that draws locals and tourists and has been covered in major publications like the *New York Times*. These are but a few of the examples that show the promise of Detroit.

In spite of these problems, or perhaps even because of them, I find myself drawn to Detroit again and again. It is a city where I have an opportunity to make a real difference, as so many of its citizens are already doing through preservation, urban farming and numerous other initiatives. While the bright lights of a city like New York are attractive, there are fewer opportunities readily available for a young professional in such an established city. Detroit is the ideal place to take risk and try new ideas surrounded by a community that wants to bring its city back. This is not to imply that Detroit is dead, because it isn't. It is struggling, but it can be brought back by bright ideas and community relationships. I see hope in Detroit and the chance to be a part of its revival.

» Sara Farr | MHP 2012, MEPD 2013



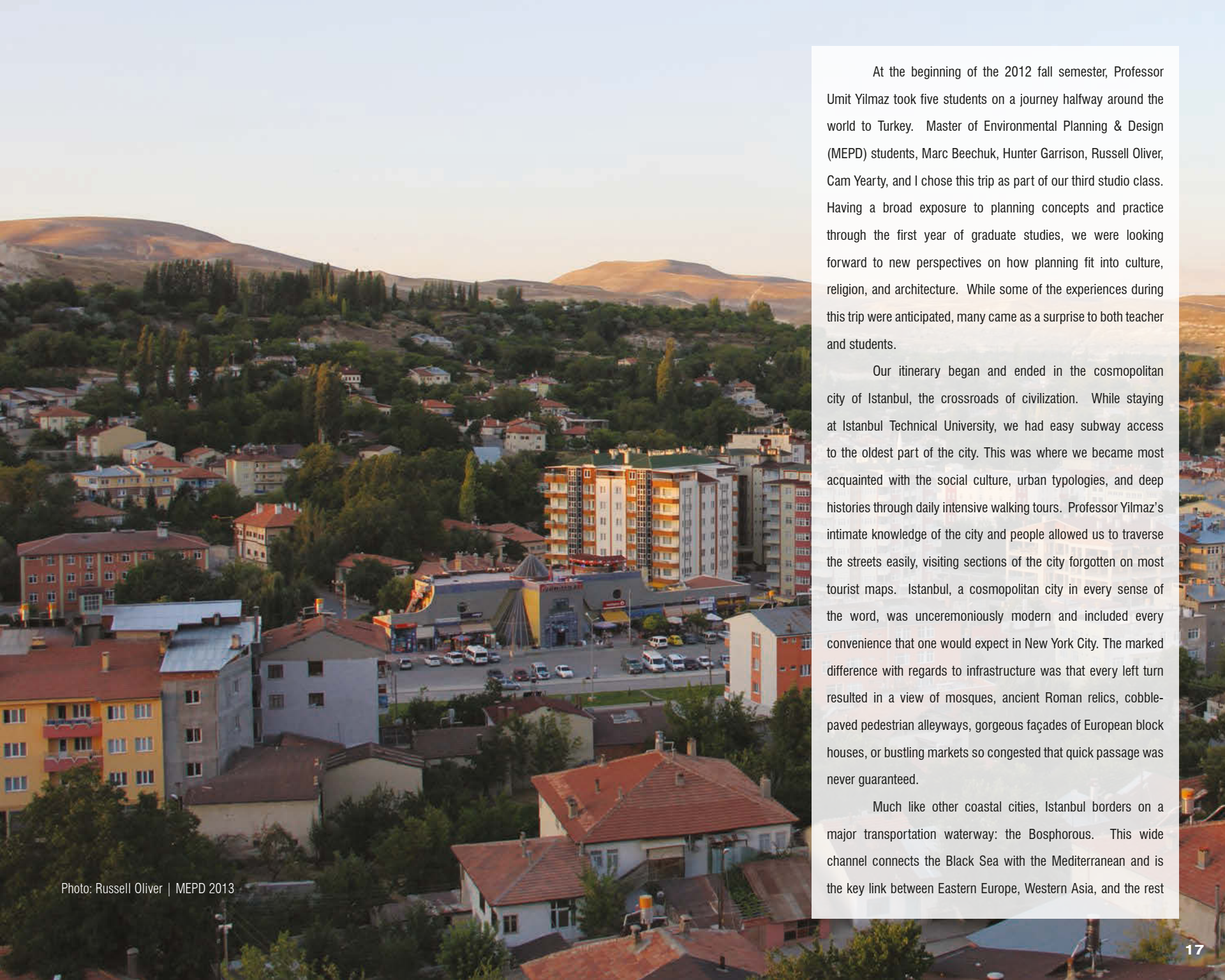
# Guiding Gurun

An International Planning  
Experience



Photo: Russell Oliver | MEPD 2013





At the beginning of the 2012 fall semester, Professor Umit Yilmaz took five students on a journey halfway around the world to Turkey. Master of Environmental Planning & Design (MEPD) students, Marc Beechuk, Hunter Garrison, Russell Oliver, Cam Yearty, and I chose this trip as part of our third studio class. Having a broad exposure to planning concepts and practice through the first year of graduate studies, we were looking forward to new perspectives on how planning fit into culture, religion, and architecture. While some of the experiences during this trip were anticipated, many came as a surprise to both teacher and students.

Our itinerary began and ended in the cosmopolitan city of Istanbul, the crossroads of civilization. While staying at Istanbul Technical University, we had easy subway access to the oldest part of the city. This was where we became most acquainted with the social culture, urban typologies, and deep histories through daily intensive walking tours. Professor Yilmaz's intimate knowledge of the city and people allowed us to traverse the streets easily, visiting sections of the city forgotten on most tourist maps. Istanbul, a cosmopolitan city in every sense of the word, was unceremoniously modern and included every convenience that one would expect in New York City. The marked difference with regards to infrastructure was that every left turn resulted in a view of mosques, ancient Roman relics, cobble-paved pedestrian alleyways, gorgeous façades of European block houses, or bustling markets so congested that quick passage was never guaranteed.

Much like other coastal cities, Istanbul borders on a major transportation waterway: the Bosphorous. This wide channel connects the Black Sea with the Mediterranean and is the key link between Eastern Europe, Western Asia, and the rest



of the world. As a result of the rolling terrain and abundance of river channels cutting through the city, much of the public domain could be found at the numerous plazas, ferry landings, restaurants, and tea shops along the water's edge. However, the quick pace of the city is left behind and the true entertainment is found in conversation and simple observation of the Bosphorous as it teems with sailboats, fishing vessels, ferries, and barges. Here, the energy of a streetscape does not dissipate until the early morning hours.

The longest portion of our trip took us to the small village of Gurun in the heart of the country, seemingly worlds away from Istanbul. Limestone hills and an arid climate were visually severe compared to the comfortable temperatures of Istanbul. The only noticeably lush and arable lands are confined to river and stream valleys and overlooked by Hittite caves. This rural region is well known for its production of sun-dried apricots and its two month harvest of white mulberry. The social and cultural conservatism was quite obvious as men dominated the public spaces and women were seen with shawled heads and long sleeved clothing. We soon found that much of this was superficial, as we were strangers warmly welcomed into the homes and working farms of many residents.

We determined that our main objective was to assess the development patterns and uses of the small village and make recommendations for future commercial and residential development. A walking survey was done of the small commercial district at the heart of the town, documented with annotated maps, film, journaling, and photography. After the analysis was completed, our final assessment and development recommendations were achieved back in the United States.

We consulted with the mayor and other officials of Gurun on a daily basis, and they often accompanied us during our town survey or to our exploration of the town's water supply through a nearby rock canyon. Great hospitality was expressed by citizens, as well, with offers of ayran (salty

goat yogurt drink) or a glass of chay (black tea) becoming more frequent during our stay. Despite the language barriers, our survey maps were great ice breakers, pointing out the exact location of residential homes, while Russell's large filming equipment garnered quite a bit of interest from children and adults alike.

Through our study of Gurun and the surrounding region, we observed how construction and development patterns that were still dominated by Corbusian ideals now seemed antiquated. Clusters of residential high rise towers were placed far from any commercial center and only accessible by those with automobiles. The planning perspectives here, like many parts of developing Turkey, seem to follow the concept that anything urban and "city-like" was progressive, but lacked a strong economic or resource based argument. A continuous construction pace has been miraculously untouched by the economic downturn that has affected the remainder of the world, as it is fueled by federal funds.

While keeping the Turkish values in mind, our recommendations included the exploration of more compressed development patterns that would aid both in the preservation of historic urban fabrics and pedestrian connectivity along with the quality of social life. Models showing building heights and current densities in the commercial center were able to reveal the potential for continued growth without sprawl, while allowing for the preferred and more urban building aesthetic.

Although the project ended with the timing of the semester, we are still looking forward to the day that the Mayor of Gurun makes a trip to Athens where we can host and proudly show the richness that makes our community unique. And even if the technical aspects of our analysis are not completely implemented in this unique area of the world, the cultural experiences we garnered there will remain with us for the rest of our lives.

» Heather Blaikie | MEPD 2013

Photo: Umit Yilmaz





Photo: Russell Oliver | MEPD 2013



# From Planning to Plan



Photo: Russell Oliver | MEPD 2013



The heart of a city can most often be defined by one component: its centralized downtown area. Athens is no exception, with fiercely loyal stakeholders continually investing in both its current prominence and future development. Individually, each of these groups has their own unique opinions on what is most important for growth in the community. The goal of the Downtown Athens Master Plan is to tell each of their stories in a single and cohesive narrative, articulating their visions and helping to guide local decisions on growth and prosperity.

Athens, GA is a special place, and it typifies the eclectic nature and creative ideals that are the hallmark of the nation's best college town. To foster and preserve the unique experience of Downtown Athens, the Athens Downtown Development Authority (ADDA) has contracted with the University of Georgia Master of Environmental Planning and Design Program's (MEPD) second year design studio to create a Master Plan for Downtown Athens. The planning team is comprised of second year MEPD students with a broad range of educational backgrounds and professional experiences, including law, architecture, landscape architecture, regional planning, geography, graphic design, forestry, and historic preservation. The planning effort was led by Dr. Jack Crowley, the program's creator and director.

The first phase of the planning process was to conduct an open dialogue with various groups of stakeholders, along with the general public, to find out their perceptions of Downtown Athens and to solicit ideas about how it can be improved moving forward. Over the course of four months, students conducted scores of individual interviews and met with 23 distinct interest groups in order to seek out as many different views of Downtown as possible. These groups included the Federation of Neighborhoods (along with individual neighborhood associations surrounding the

study area), advocacy groups (Bike Athens, The Athens-Clarke County Heritage Foundation, Casa de Amistad), City Staff, and an appointed Steering Committee. Throughout the public input portion of the planning process, planning teams worked diligently to gather input from anyone who expressed an interest.

Meetings were structured as informal work sessions that started with a brief introduction of the planning process, a description of the area boundaries, and an explanation of how the plan could be used by the city during the planning period. Dr. Crowley continually made the point to interest groups and students alike that our goal "was not for public hearings, but rather for hearing the public." Team members encouraged groups to speak candidly about what they wanted their downtown to be by the year 2030, and to think big on achieving their visions.

The public input phase of the plan culminated with a town hall meeting attended by over 200 people at the Classic Center on November 27, 2012. With the help of UGA's Fanning Institute, participants were asked to articulate their opinions on what makes Downtown Athens unique, including its strengths and weaknesses, and to give their preferences on a variety of possible scenarios for its future based on information gathered from the interest groups. The outcome showed that the majority of public feedback can be characterized by five key issues addressing: connectivity between Downtown and the Oconee River; enhancement and expansion of mixed commercial and residential uses throughout the downtown area; increased transportation options for both getting to and moving within centralized areas of the city; preservation of the Downtown's unique character (both visually and culturally); and increasing the number of open and public spaces within Downtown Athens.

During the fall of 2012, planning team members:

- Met with 23 groups of identified stakeholders with 498 total people in attendance
- Interviewed 68 individuals with the help of two graduate students from the UGA School of Social Work
- Collected responses from 680 online and paper surveys

All told nearly 1,500 people have taken part in shaping a vision for Downtown Athens



Photo: Russell Oliver | MEPD 2013



As the plan enters the next phase, team members will formulate specific design strategies and policy recommendations to address the issues identified in the public input phase, creating a cohesive vision for Downtown Athens in 2030. Once these design strategies begin to take shape, the planning team will host another public input session, scheduled for late March 2013, to present their preliminary ideas to the public. During this meeting the community will have the chance to respond to current implementation strategies, ensuring that the plan will reflect the community's vision for its future.

The Downtown Athens Master Plan will be completed and presented to the ADDA over the summer and, once approved, will be submitted to the Athens-Clarke County Mayor and Commission for adoption. If officially adopted by ACC Commissioners, the Downtown Athens Master Plan will become a guiding document for important regulatory decisions including land use, zoning and variances, and infrastructure improvements. This will also serve as an informational document for builders and developers constructing new projects in Athens, giving them insight into better satisfying the needs of the Athens community and preserving the unique character of this classic city.

» J. Scott Pippin | MEPD 2013

» Justin Crighton | MEPD 2013

# the *downtown* Athens Master Plan

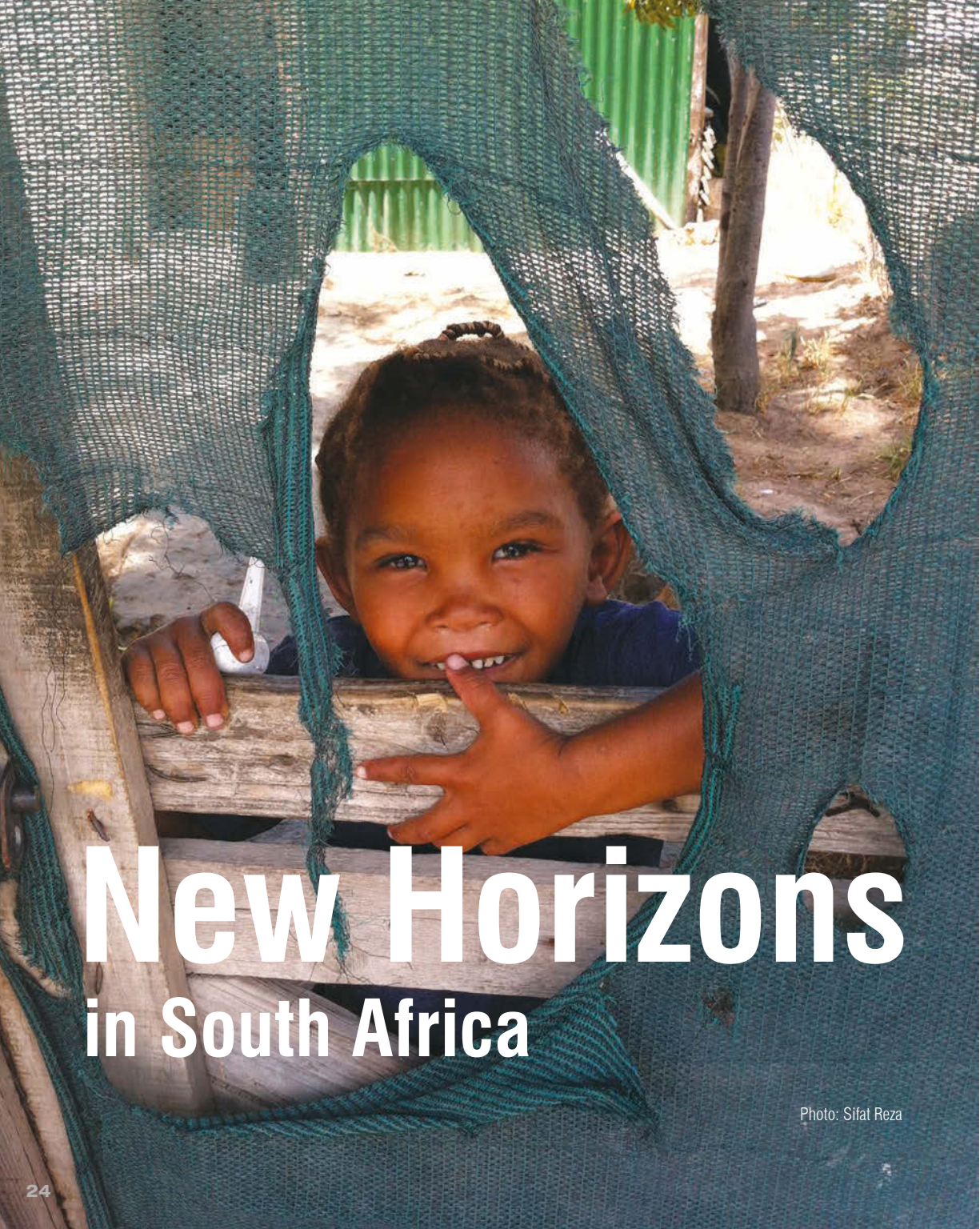
Graphic: Summer Constantino | MEPD 2013





Photo: Umit Yilmaz





# New Horizons in South Africa

Photo: Sifat Reza

In January 2013, I joined students and faculty members from North-West University (South Africa), Oxford Brookes University (UK), and The University of Georgia to learn tools for conducting Participatory Rapid Appraisal (PRA). This project marked the third year a group from UGA collaborated with Oxford Brookes. We conducted our main field work in Piketberg, which belongs to the Bergvriev Local Municipality in Western Cape, South Africa. The region, located two hours north of Cape Town, reveals itself as a vast, rolling landscape of large grape farms and open-pit mines. The population density was low at 40 people/sq mi, save for towns in the surrounding area.

I decided to participate in the project, which was organized by the Center for Development and Emergency Practice (CENDEP) at Oxford Brookes University, because the school's program is highly regarded for its field-based studies in responding to natural and man-made disasters in developing countries. I hoped that this participation would assist me in my graduate work here at UGA. In my master's thesis I am exploring how multi-use open space can be used to accommodate temporary housing in a disaster's aftermath. This workshop could deepen my understanding of the disaster recovery process and what kinds of design enhance such a process. I also hoped to extend my network of disaster recovery professionals.

This year the workshop addressed the longer-term, systemic disasters in the Western Cape region such as poverty, unemployment, social inequity, housing problems, and vulnerable populations. In order to answer these questions, we approached our research using PRA tools, originally developed as an alternative to conventional natural source management approaches in 1970. The process was originally utilized as a data collection tool aimed at rural farmers, and it eventually evolved as



a method to empower local communities. The core concept of PRA is to educate community members on the surrounding landscape, relevant issues, and solutions. Therefore, the primary role of outside researchers is to facilitate local member discussion and find solutions to the problem. An ancillary purpose of conducting PRA is that it allows for the gathering of information quickly, accurately, and in a relaxed setting.

PRA research is usually conducted by a multi-disciplinary team partnered with community members. This year, participants came from the fields of landscape architecture, architecture, disaster management, development studies, engineering, journalism, business, and psychology and represented eleven different countries. Using the PRA tools was the most exciting part of the project, as we interviewed 24 groups of community members and government officials (including a grape farm visit to conduct focused group discussions). Although many of the interviewees understood English, most of them felt more comfortable with the native language Afrikaans. Therefore, interviews were usually carried out with a translator.

During my short stay I rediscovered the power of graphics as tools for research. As a landscape architecture student I had an appreciation of graphic communication techniques but never used them as research tools. The aspects of Mapping, Seasonal Calendars, Rankings and Matrix Scorings clearly communicated important local institution locations, stressful times of year for vegetation, and reasons behind the lack of personal security. I observed another powerful aspect of PRA as we were leaving a household following an interview. One of the locals stated, "I'm glad that there are still people who care about this place". I was surprised by the amount of encouragement and hope these individuals gained from the collaboration and discourse during our stay.

Our research revealed that key issues included high poverty level, drug/alcohol abuse, ineffective community support, and flooding. In the community, the majority of the population worked either in farms or quarries. According to a community member, about 80 percent of the residents in the area work seasonally in agriculture and can have periods of unemployment as long as four months. Also, low wages compound the problem of seasonal employment. As a result, those people end up depending on difficult-to-obtain government grants and placement on long waiting lists for safe and adequate housing. I learned how difficult it is to provide social services and to empower the community without undermining the residents' independence and self-sufficiency.

Synthesizing the opinions of team members from diverse backgrounds and coming up with recommendations for the community proved to be an intriguing addition to our challenges, along with

including the cultural context in our final recommendations. Workshop participants needed to interpret, triangulate, and make generalizations about the information collected through the three-day field study. Once completed, we presented six recommendations to the Bergvriev municipality which included the improvement of educational programs for community members to gain more secure job opportunities and to prevent alcohol, drug abuse, and other social issues. Government subsidies on better housing were also suggested. To minimize the flooding disaster, it was recommended that local residents install rain harvesting systems and use gravel as a semi-permanent paving surfaces to reduce the accumulation of mud. The complete report will be published online this year.

The research trip was my first time visiting an African country and working for a development project. I enjoyed the challenges of working with professionals from different backgrounds, and these experiences provided the most beneficial learning opportunities.

I would like to show my deep appreciation to those who enabled my participation in this project, especially UGA Graduate School and Director of the Center for Community Design Pratt Cassity. This research trip allowed me to gain new insights into not only my master's thesis but also different cultures and values. Also, many thanks go to my fellow research team members, including Ann Nguyen and Eduardo Tapia. The friendships built with them were the most valuable aspects of the entire project.

> Nobuko Ogawa | MLA 2014



Photo: Christiaan Becker





# Sleepless in Spokane

Exploring the 2012 National Trust  
for Historic Preservation Conference

On the 29th of October 2012, I boarded an airplane at Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport bound for Spokane, Washington, to attend the 2012 National Trust for Historic Preservation's annual conference. My goals included thesis research, networking with other preservation professionals, exploring Spokane's architecture and landscapes, and representing the MHP program as the only UGA student in attendance.

National Trust conferences maintain a certain formula. The conference always has a theme, and this year's "Beyond Boundaries" challenged attendees to "push beyond traditional boundaries and explore new solutions to the most pressing preservation issues of our time." This challenge treated historic preservation as an essential tool for urban planning, with field sessions included trips ranging from a tour of the Grand Coulee Dam to the Hanford B nuclear reactor.

Since my thesis focuses on the Knoxville World's Fair Park in Knoxville, Tennessee, I was interested in the educational session on the preservation of world's fair parks. The session showcased the world's fairs of 1962 and 1974 in Seattle and Spokane, respectively. Spokane turned its world's fair site into Riverfront Park, and the Washington State Pavilion was transformed into a convention and performing arts center, where the majority of the conference took place.

Two of the most provocative educational sessions involved the future of interpretation in the United States National Park System. "Interpreting the History of the Atomic Age" discussed the three main sites of the Manhattan Project in Hanford, Washington; Oak Ridge, Tennessee; and Los Alamos, New Mexico. As of yet, the U.S. Congress has not approved any of the sites as national parks due to polarized opinions of





these controversial landscapes and their value in United States' scientific, military, and cultural history.

The session "Mission 66 Architecture: Design in the Clouds, Preservation on the Ground" discussed the "myriad of challenges associated with the preservation of Mission 66 architecture" and evaluated the program's relationship to the major tenets of modernist architecture. The main emphasis was on the application of modernist design within the National Park system and the efforts to preserve this legacy. During the panel presentations, we discovered that the preservation of Mission 66 architecture pushed the envelope regarding two aspects of historic integrity that are the most subjective and difficult to define: feeling and association. Preservation of these resources can be

difficult due to the subjectivity of feeling and association that have become essential to the historic integrity of these buildings.

The host city and its architecture has always been the main attraction of National Trust Conferences. My favorite in Spokane was The Parkade, a Mid-Century gem in the middle of downtown. This ten-level garage has been open since 1967 and continues to provide "a convenient parking facility to the retail district of downtown Spokane". Large, white letters and illuminated parking level numbers act as a beacon for anyone traveling through downtown in the evening and passing the massive concrete spiral suspended in air.

The world's fair later brought skywalks that resulted in severe damage to some of the surrounding buildings. However,

the skywalks continue to offer sheltered access to department stores, making the shopping and dining experience in Spokane's retail district more enjoyable.

One cannot discuss Spokane in October without mentioning the maple trees and the local flair. The trees were ablaze with fall colors in red, orange, green, and yellow. I was able to walk everywhere in the downtown area, even in the relentlessly foggy, rainy weather. There is a certain magic to Spokane's dreariness, as well, making the colors of the trees more scintillating, the lights on the buildings more sensual, and (invariably) the people I met even more special.

» Jennifer Bailey | MHP 2013





Photo: D.H. Bathon III | MEPD 2014





# Filtering the Everglades

Water is the backbone of Florida. It produces ecosystems that can only thrive here. Birds, mammals, and reptiles rely on the water of the Northern Everglades for survival. With the introduction of permanent human settlement in the late 1800s, Florida has seen many changes in its landscape. We have found that through these changes, much of Florida and its natural inhabitants have been exploited, leading to the extinction of many species of local wildlife.

The fall 2012 Environmental Planning Studio (PLAN 6520), taught by Professor Rosanna Rivero, focused on planning the Northern Everglades at a regional scale. The Northern Everglades, located in Central Florida, are where the journey for most water begins. It is a slow, meandering process for a single drop of rain to fall in a watershed and end up in one of the bodies of water surrounding Florida. Early in the semester, sixteen first year students in the Masters of Environmental Planning & Design Program packed their bags for a week long site visit to the Northern Everglades.

Our plan began with data collection, hearing presentations from Highlands Hammock State Park, Riverwoods Field Laboratory, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD,) Lykes Brothers, Inc., Kissimmee Prairie State Preserve, and research presentations from recent doctoral recipients. Along with the classroom-setting offerings the studio class was able to complete field research by collecting GIS coordinates, water samples, sketches and taking field notes. After visiting central Florida, the group headed back to Athens to begin creating their proposals and design plans.

The class worked in small teams on regional plans for five water sub-basins to create the overall project boundary. Each group had individual goals but were all centrally focused on restoring natural canal flow, promoting conservation easements, creating corridors for wildlife, water, and plants, educating the local population on the importance of their surrounding ecosystem, and implementing Best Management Practice (BMP) based incentive programs. The groups created maps, researched logistics and designed layouts to present to the clients in Florida via an online video feed.

This studio helped students learn the importance of planning at a regional scale. With an increase in ecological planning and restoration, the northern Everglades have started to see the reestablishment of the natural water flow, birds migrating to original nesting sites, and an increase in clean water filtered through ecological systems.

» Kimberly Reeves | MEPD 2014

Sketch: Emily Hunt | MEPD 2014

# DRAWN

The year 2014 marks the 75th Diamond Jubilee Anniversary of the Founders Memorial Garden on UGA's North Campus. In anticipation of this celebration the College of Environment and Design (CED) sponsored a graphic arts competition which was open to all enrolled UGA students and area high school students. Approximately 40 student artists participated.

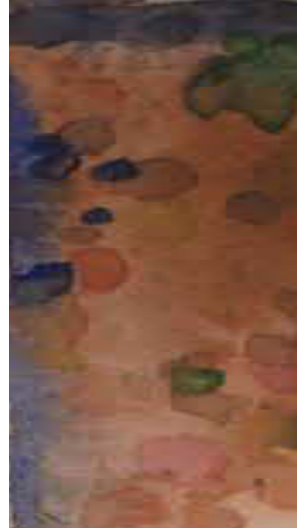
All artwork had to be two-dimensional and created by hand. Works included pen and ink, watercolors, collages, oil paintings, and pencil drawings. Digital media and photography were not part of the competition.

"In the spirit of the traditional discipline of landscape architecture, whose foundations lie in two dimensional art from the eighteenth century, we wanted to dare students to immerse themselves en plein air just like the first designers did in Europe, England and America," explains the competition's committee chair, Professor Marianne Cramer. Cramer, who has been on the faculty of the College of Environment and Design for fourteen years, has used the garden for undergraduate studios as well as for the graduate course in landscape management. She has been instrumental in the conception and development of this competition.

William Eiland, Director of the Georgia Museum of Art, served as the juror for the competition; artwork chosen for display is featured in a month-long exhibit in the Circle Gallery in the Jackson Street Building. The winning piece of art will serve as the graphic for the Diamond Jubilee Celebration.

The Founders Memorial Garden commemorates the twelve founders of the first American garden club, the Ladies Garden Club of Athens, which was founded in 1891. With funds raised by the Garden Club of Georgia, Dean Hubert B. Owens, his staff, and students of the Landscape Architecture Department designed the garden. The layout of the two and one-half acre series of garden spaces consists of a formal boxwood garden, two courtyards, a terrace, and a perennial garden with two informal areas. The grounds are the location of the former Headquarters House for the Garden Club of Georgia (1969 to 1998). The rose-brick, Greek Revival style house was built in 1857, originally used for faculty housing. The house and garden are on the National Register of Historic Places (as well as the Georgia Register of Historic Places) and are maintained by the CED and the UGA physical plant.

» Competition Staff

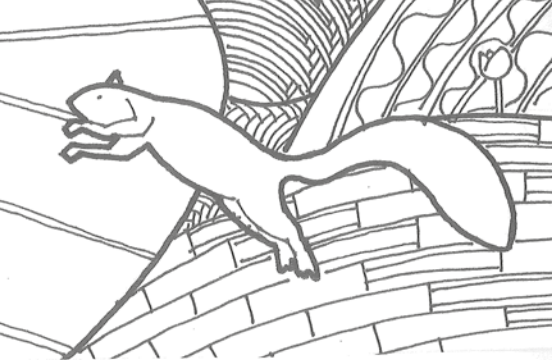






from the **GARDEN**



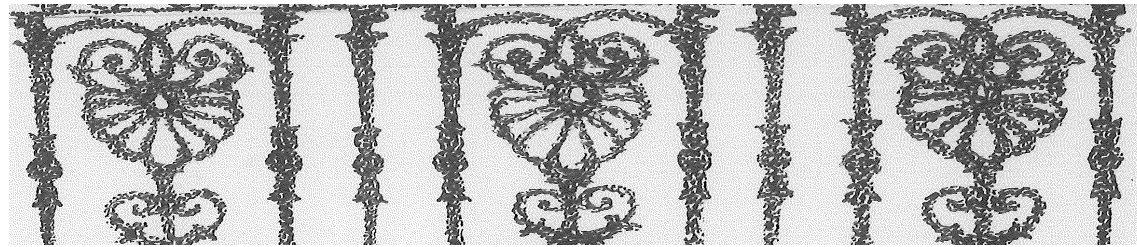
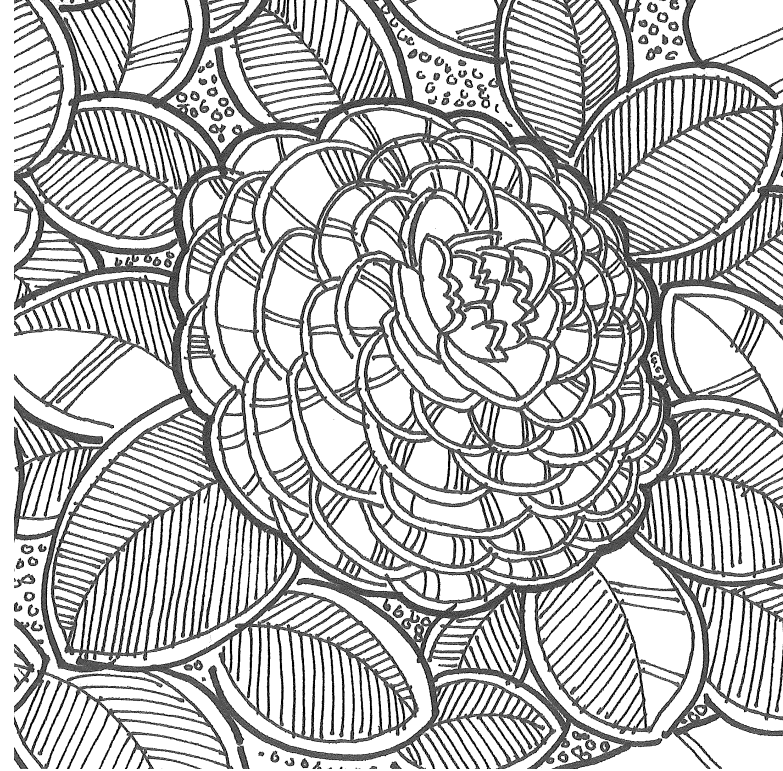
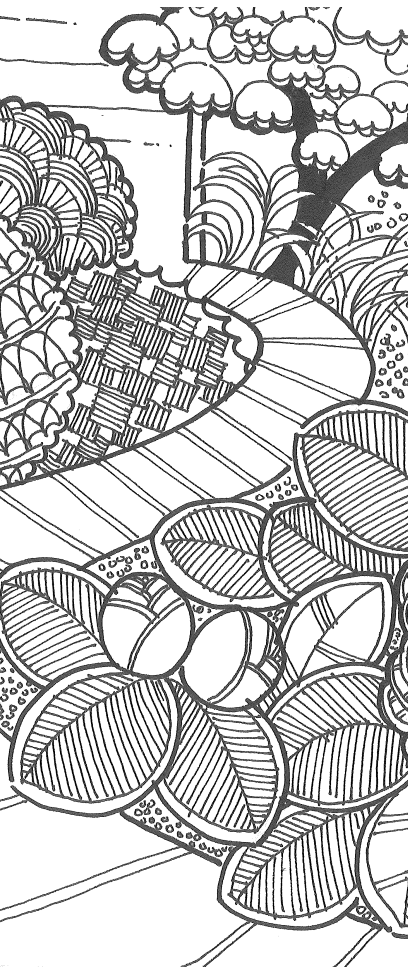
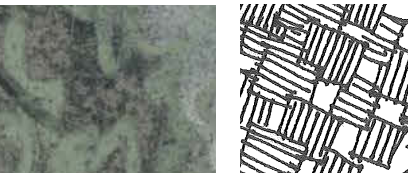


*Student Art Competition  
Celebrating the Founders  
Memorial Garden's 75th  
Diamond Jubilee*

Please see the CED website for winner information: [www.ced.uga.edu](http://www.ced.uga.edu)









Designing  
With

Purpose

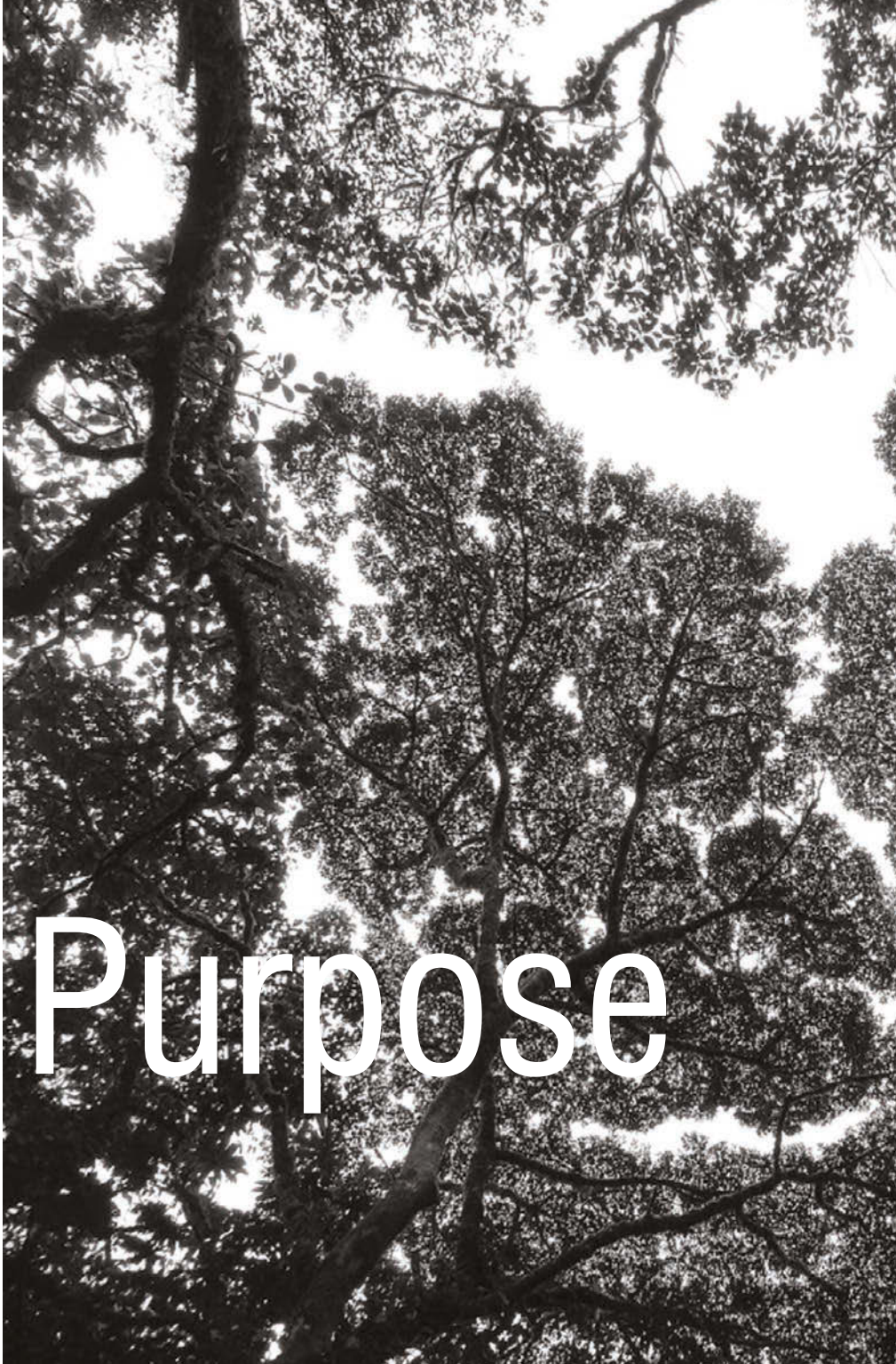






Photo: Dale Hall

Verdant mountains loom in the distance, the clouds masking their peaks as they prepare for their descent down the mountainside. A sudden shaking of the banana trees reveals a troop of capuchin monkeys nearby cautiously watching the movement below their canopy. Wind moves through the trees and the distinct smell of rain forewarns that the third downpour of the day is imminent. A hundred shades of green and the ever-thickening atmosphere divide wilderness from man-made shelter. There never seems to be a lack of curiosity between the insects, birds, vegetation, and weather; it is a pleasant reminder of the uniqueness in the Cloud Forest of Costa Rica.

Nestled in the San Luis Valley of the Monteverde region resides an establishment that many have heard about but few have actually visited. The University of Georgia's satellite campus in Costa Rica offers a one-of-a-kind experience for those who find themselves fortunate enough to visit. Once a broad pasture, the location has grown substantially since UGA purchased the land in 2001. Students, researchers, and tourists, along with native flora and fauna, have all grown to benefit from the campus's presence. The mission to provide academically rigorous instruction, community outreach, and innovative research has enabled the institution to become a vital part of the area. With over 30 programs ranging from dance to geomorphology offered throughout the year, UGA Costa Rica stays busy on a continual basis.

The program offered through the College of Environment and Design (CED) is one that stands apart. For the past few years, the CED has offered a fall semester study abroad opportunity for undergraduate students in the fourth year of the BLA program and graduate students in the second year of the MLA program.

This past year, the study abroad team arrived in the Central American country at the start of the wet season. Days after settling down, students were introduced to their new home with a powerful 7.6 magnitude earthquake. Fortunately, the 'terremoto' and subsequent tremors only unsettled nerves and not the campus buildings. It did, however, set the stage for an exciting three months.

A few weeks into the semester, Chinese students from Nanjing Forestry University and a handful of graduate students joined the small team to create a landscape plan for the newly constructed community center of San Luis. After meeting with clients and conducting routine information gathering, the assemblage divided into five groups to develop a fitting design. One additional group was assigned the task of generating suggestions to improve the overall connectivity of the site within the community. Points of interest included café seating, a playground area for families, drainage solutions, and general accessibility to and from the facility.





Photo: Jeremy Arnett | MLA 2014

Designing with the possibility of implementation is always exciting, but some of the most meaningful experiences can come from the process itself. In Costa Rica, two different language barriers had to be overcome as both English and Chinese students were given the responsibility of presenting to their Spanish-speaking clients. Variances in the style, method, and technology also differed significantly, which helped teams collaborate with one another to create a better end result.

With the community center project at its end, students were left to themselves to tackle their final project of the semester, this time at the coastal biological station of Hacienda Barú. The newly constructed station required a detailed planting plan for the site in order to enhance the aesthetics for future visitors. The owner also asked the group to test the new facility and come up with suggestions for improving the overall living experience. After three days of heavy rain, teams decided to address the current drainage problems afflicting the site. With bags full of wet clothes and dozens of bug bites, the crew presented their findings and departed from the coast to their second home in the mountains.

As one would imagine, the learning experience did not begin and end with design projects. Throughout the semester, students obtained real-world knowledge on the topics of living, working, and playing within the San Luis community. The abundant coffee tours, canopy walks, zip-lining opportunities and other eco-tourism activities allowed the students to become aware of their surrounding environment. Homestays were a sudden “crash-course” into the daily lives of Costa Rican rural families, but were undoubtedly some of the most powerful experiences. Several students even chose to spend an extra week in their households instead of traveling during the semester break as they had grown to become a part of their respective families. Paving the steep and treacherous La Trocha, the vital two kilometer connector between San Luis and much larger Santa Elena, alongside members of the community joined visitors and natives in powerful, lasting relationships.

The study abroad experience in Costa Rica proved to be an educational adventure both in and out of the classroom. From designing real-world solutions to lending a hand with the kitchen staff, few will ever have the opportunity to experience such unique conditions and interactions. In an environment where laughing geckos and hairy tarantulas are common and a simple game of fútbol can offer an entirely new perspective on life, one can sum up the semester with two words we all have come to know by heart – *pura vida*.

» Jeremy Arnett | MLA 2014,

» Elizabeth Lawandales | BLA 2014





Photo: Jeremy Arnett | MLA 2014





Photo: Russell Oliver | MEPD 2013

Moving to Malawi, Africa shortly after graduation last spring, I found that my interest in sustainable design fit a variety of needs, especially those increasingly evident in developing countries. In much of sub-Saharan Africa, technology and supplies are too limited or expensive to import. Under these circumstances, simple changes in the built environment can be important aspects of fostering widespread environmental change. Permeable interlocking concrete pavers are one way that landscape architects can begin to advocate for beneficial change in the evolving world.

Much of the development happening in the capital city of Malawi, Lilongwe, is unnecessarily impervious. Residents are building large homes and massive driveways while storm water conveyance relies almost entirely on concrete drains. This combination leads to an increase in the amount of pollution and erosion in the river systems, which is particularly important to smaller communities where these water bodies are an integral part of daily life. The quality of these rivers can partially be addressed by increasing permeable surfaces in developed areas.

A ten millimeter gap between pavers is a small change, but one that can easily be made without altering cultural preferences for land use and by only slightly modifying the current building materials and techniques. By turning large parking lots into more permeable surfaces, a significant amount of urban surface area can begin to improve the local environment by recharging the surrounding water table and reducing the amount of pollution that enters local rivers from runoff.

As Lilongwe continues to double in population every decade, there are many aspects of the built environment that could be improved through consultation with landscape architects. Unfortunately, with the many challenges facing a developing country like Malawi, there are few resources left for mitigating environmental issues in the capital city.

Advocating simple solutions which can be easily adopted by the private sector is one way that I can put my MLA to use after graduation. While many of my professors at UGA introduced me to permeable pavement systems, my participation in a public-private partnership between UGA and the Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute (ICPI) greatly expanded my knowledge of permeable interlocking concrete pavements.

Through funding and professional guidance, ICPI and CED Professor Doug Pardue led a graduate assistant team to develop [paveshare.org](http://paveshare.org), an online curriculum that teaches landscape architecture students about interlocking concrete pavements. The partnership between UGA and outside practitioners to develop this technology offers practical training and resources for incorporating pavers into designs and expanding landscape architects' knowledge of practical, low-cost, and sustainable solutions. » Stuart Jones | MLA 2012









LABash is an annual student Landscape Architecture conference held in North America, consisting of guest speakers, workshops, design charrettes, expos and social events. Over 300 students from around the globe are expected to attend this year and will be hosted by the University of Georgia.

By the time LABash 2013 is said and done, the chairs stacked and students back in school, there will have been 506 days spent planning. For some of us, it's the longest relationship we have ever been in. Peaks and valleys. Tears and triumphs. Scream-fests and quiet battles. The process has been long. We began with a small group of 10, grew to around 25 at its height, then dwindled to a strong core of 8. The meetings started biweekly, which quickly turned weekly, which then became sagas. On top of all this, continuous email chains, text messages, and phone calls were happening in the background.

A day hasn't gone by without some mention of LABash; I don't think we even spared Christmas. An initial logo competition kick-started the whole process and we jumped right in. We started with a list of about 200 speakers, workshops, and a dozen tours all arranged on 10 archD sheets that we posted on the wall and analyzed, one by one. We managed to cut it down to around 25 speakers, workshops, and tours, and I would guess that our final lineup includes four items from this original list.

Throughout the entire process, our treasurer quietly sat through every meeting and voiced only one question: "Who's

paying for this?" However, he did show some excitement when a quote came in under budget or a sponsorship rolled in. Logistics would chime in anytime someone suggested dinner on the moon and graphics always had at least one opinion on ("wrong") fonts and ("ugly") posters.

The collaboration was as fun as it was testing. Many of us have never had to work together in this capacity, and it was quite the learning curve. We've figured it out (for the most part) at this point in the game. By now, things have started to wind down. The speakers are set, workshops are falling into place, tours are scheduled, sponsors are showing interest, and students are registering. The most difficult part is done. Now we can celebrate.

» Grace Miller | BLA 2013



# CED LECTURES, GALLERY SHOWS & CHARRETTES

## CED Lectures:

- |      |              |   |
|------|--------------|---|
| 2012 | September 30 | <b>“Memory Infrastructure”</b><br>Randall Mason   |
|      | October 04   | <b>“Beautiful Big Feet: Toward a New Landscape Aesthetic”</b><br>Kongjian Yu                |
|      | November 14  | <b>“Ecological Infrastructure: Framing the World as a Work of Art”</b><br>Patricia Johanson |
| 2013 | January 23   | <b>“The Changing Role of Planting Design in Chinese Landscape Architecture”</b><br>Li Dong  |
|      | February 21  | <b>“The Poetics and Politics of Infrastructure”</b><br>Brian Larkin                         |
|      | March 01     | <b>“Landscape as Infrastructure: Towards an Ecological Urbanism”</b><br>Nina-Marie Lister   |

## Circle Gallery Shows:

- |      |               |  |
|------|---------------|--|
| 2012 | 08/16 - 09/07 | <b>“Evolution of the UGA College of Environment and Design”</b><br>Maps, Photos and Drawings Showcasing the History of the College on the UGA Campus |
|      | 09/20 - 10/31 | <b>“Altamaha: The Environmental History of a Great American River”</b><br>Featuring Photographs by James Holland                                     |
|      | 11/08 - 12/21 | <b>“American Dreams: The Paradox of Failed Subdivisions in Georgia”</b><br>A photographic essay by Stephanie Bryan                                   |
| 2013 | 01/17 - 02/15 | <b>“Discrete Aperture: The Work of Nils Folke Anderson”</b><br>Featuring paintings and sculpture by the artist. Curated by Dr. Stephen Ramos         |
|      | 02/21 - 03/22 | <b>“Unscene Landscapes: Exploring Relationships with Place through Time”</b><br>Featuring the work of the UGA CED Cultural Landscape Lab             |
|      | 04/01 - 04/25 | <b>“Drawn from the Garden: Student Work Celebrating the Founders Memorial Garden Diamond Jubilee”</b>  |
|      | 05/01 - 05/13 | <b>“BLA Exit Show”</b><br>Final projects by graduating students  |

## Charrettes:

- |      |               |  |
|------|---------------|--|
| 2012 | 10/26 - 10/28 | <b>Lexington, GA</b><br>Design improvements for Downtown Lexington, GA   |
|      | 11/09 - 11/11 | <b>Porterdale, GA</b><br>Envisioning an historic mill village as a contemporary destination to live, work, & play          |
| 2013 | 02/22 - 02/24 | <b>Rocksprings Neighborhood - Athens, GA</b><br>Conceptual masterplan for the Rocksprings Neighborhood                     |
|      | 03/20 - 3/23  | <b>LABash 2013 Design-Build Charrette - Athens, GA</b><br>Design and construction of a playground for Habitat for Humanity |

Sculpture: Nils Folke Anderson

Photo: Russell Oliver | MEPD 2013



PASSING

LANDSCAPE





Three miles west of campus, a scenic tract of land with a ranch house and private lake lies within a hardwood forest. Bass and panfish fill the lake while wood ducks, migrating Canada geese, and a host of other wildlife call the area home. Even though the busy intersection of the Atlanta Highway and Epps Bridge Road is nearby, the location provides a peaceful respite from the urban edge. Two years ago, the house was abandoned by its owner and subsequently occupied by a transient population. Trash littered the premises, invasive plants crowded the property, and the elements of a once beautiful site had vanished.

As students of landscape architecture, much of our coursework includes discussing the impact each of us make on the landscape. We apply these ideals in a variety of hypothetical design situations but rarely get to see a project completed. We decided to take advantage of our new home as a way to fill this

cleaned of invasive species. A crushed stone path now leads uphill past flowers and woody perennials to the house. The beach quickly became a focal point as a place for both gatherings and private contemplation.

Other projects sprouted from the first, and our designs started to spread across the property. We began building a year-round vegetable garden, with stone terraces downhill from the house surrounded by native wildflowers and herbs. We made a chicken coop from reclaimed pallets and set it into an earthen mound planted with agave to warn potential predators. We placed a sedum and groundcover roof on the coop to keep the hens cool in summer and insulated in winter. We fueled the growth of our planting beds by transplanting native plants, from around the property, accepting donations of divisions from friends, and continually propagating our own plants.

received the right amount of sun and water. We never drew a map or produced any analysis diagrams, but our conversations in and out of the classroom revolved around our ideas for the next big project.

Despite our efforts, we are faced with the uncertain future of our home. The proximity to town combined with development opportunities has made the land valuable, and it is currently being sold as a high density community of townhomes. The hardwood forest would be cleared and the house torn down. The beach, gardens, and entire landscape would be wiped away.

With this threat, we have all come to terms with the fact that our work will likely not survive another five years. In the end, we are the only ones who realize that our commitment was more than experimenting with landscape design. During the process we made new relationships with old friends and directly



Photos: By Authors

gap in our curriculum and began creating a landscape for our own enjoyment and experimentation.

The first project we completed was a beach flanked with a series of dry-stacked granite seat walls. Native hydric plants were placed along the lake's edge and a wetland area was

Each project was analyzed with site, placement, size, and design in mind. This in turn created a utilitarian design pattern. We considered sun exposure, drainage, soil fertility, and plant combinations when determining where to site garden plots. We transplanted existing plants on the property to ensure they

implemented ideas from our classrooms to connect the site with its agrarian past. We have learned what it means to create a place for ourselves, for our friends, and a space worth caring for by a greater community.

»Andrew Spatz | MLA 2013  
»Thomas Peters | MLA 2013  
»Blake Conant | MLA 2013



# Sparks of

Greenway-Oriented Development: Getting From Point A to Point B, Smog-Free  
Promoting Environmental Education Through Principles of Sustainability in A Jekyll Island 4-H Center Master Plan  
Hindrances of the Reuse of Closed Military Bases within the United States  
Measuring the Economic Benefits of Natural Open Space within Public Parks  
Bike Shares Past, Present, Future, and a Bike Share Feasibility Study for Athens, Georgia  
Riverfront Revitalization: Reforming Riverside North for Future Growth  
Envisioning Local Food Distribution in Chattanooga, Tennessee  
Integrating Professional Sports Facilities and Host Cities: The Turner Field- Summerhill-Peoplestown Redevelopment Plan  
Storm Water Management: A Plan for the Basins from Tanyard Creek to Lilly Branch on the North Oconee River  
Bicycling Athens GA: The Southeast Athens Bicycle Route Plan and Beginning of A Countywide Network  
Farm on the Atlanta Beltline: A look at the Methodology and Practical Application of Transitional Farms along the Atlanta Beltline  
Addressing Modern Food Needs in Cobb County on Historic Farms  
RE-Visioning Industrial UrbanScape: A Sustainable Development Plan for Southern Mill Industrial District, Athens, GA  
Tourism in the Developing World: Promoting Cultural Sustainability through a Community- Integrate Planning Approach  
Approaching Civic Greenery: Streetscapes Design Guidelines for the Central Business District of Athens, Georgia

LEEDing the Way Using the Green Building Movement and the LEED Rating System as Tools to Further the Preservation Movement  
1960s Suburban Architecture and Landscape in DeKalb County, Georgia  
More Than the Sum Of Its Parts:  
Expanding the Board of Regents Campus Historic Preservation Planning Guidelines Through a Preservation Plan for  
The University Of Georgia  
Georgia On My Mind: Assessing the Potential for a Heritage Music Trail in Georgia  
Holding Back Time: How are Georgia's Historic Dams Unique Resources  
Greener Pastures for Preservation: Proposing a Stronger Marriage Between the Worlds of Preservation and Sustainability  
Re-Servicing the Community: Bringing New Development to Closed Military Installations  
The Evolution and Significance of Historic Rural and Small Town Burial Grounds in Morgan County, Georgia  
and Preservation Strategies to Ensure their Survival  
Revitalizing New Urbanism: Extending Its Scope through Small Town Rehabilitation  
Historic Agricultural Landscapes and Stress: A Preliminary Examination of the Correlation between Human Well-Being and Historic Places  
Boom and Bust: Preserving Colorado's Ski Towns  
History that will not Vanish: Preserving the Legacy of the Soil Conservation Service Branch of the Civilian Conservation Corps in Georgia

**Brian Barth**  
**Philip Berry**  
**Kasey Bowles**  
**Melissa Branan**  
**Salem Bush**  
**Chris Chavis**  
**Drew Cutright**  
**Jeff Dadisman**  
**Carol Flaute**  
**Anna Gore**  
**Meghan Injaychock**  
**Theresa Owen**  
**Deepali Pavnaskar**  
**Erin Stubblefield**  
**Leanne Wells**

**Lauren Brown**  
**Grace Burrigge**  
**Kyle Campbell**

**Emily Laborde**  
**Mark Mooney**  
**Dustin Norton**  
**Becky Powers**  
**Joshua Riley**

**Stella Smith**  
**Stephen White**  
**Anne Wilson**  
**Inger Wood**

MEPPD

MHHP



# Creativity

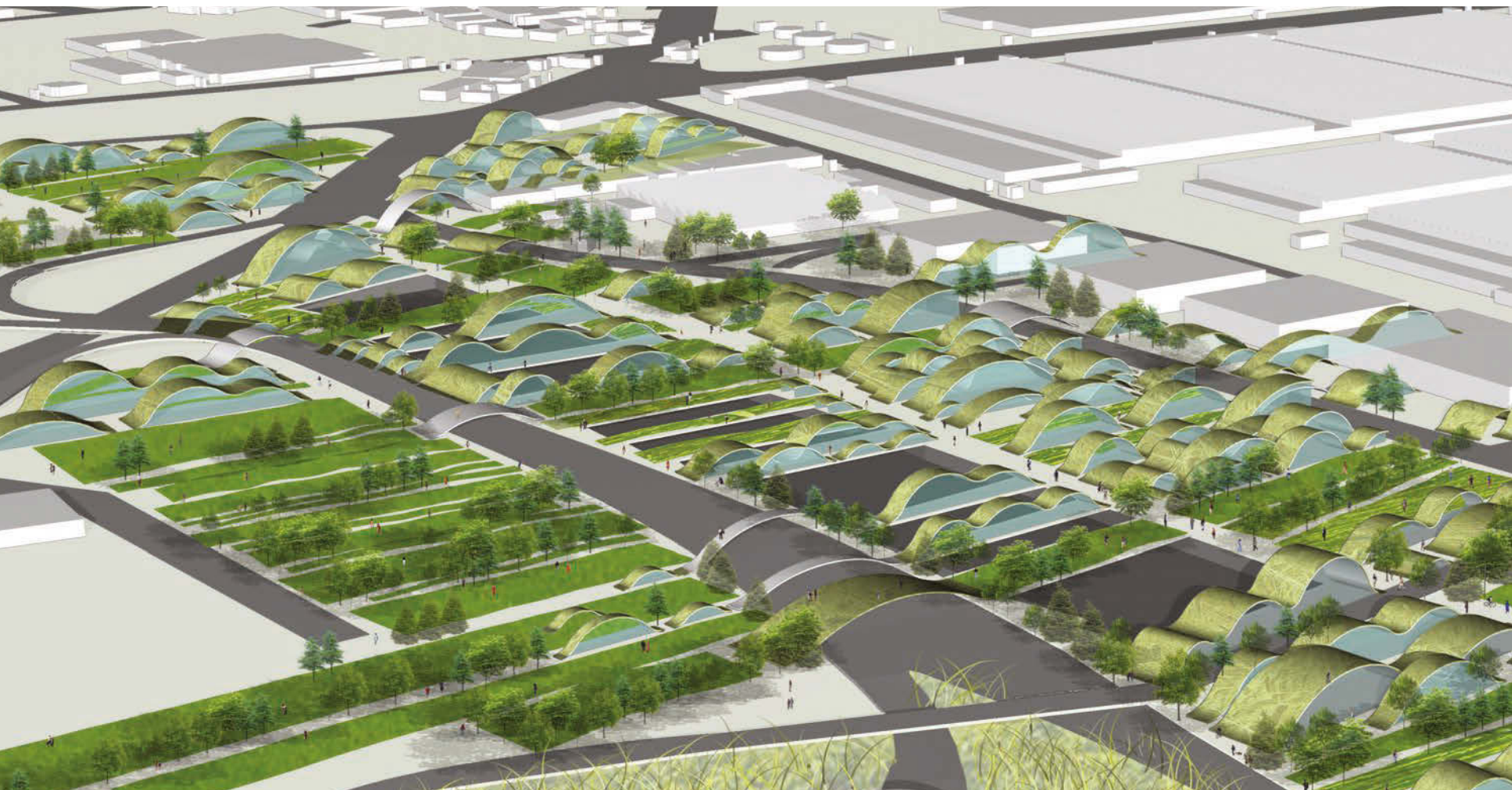
2012 Theses & Practicums

Photo: Russell Oliver | MEPD 2013

MLA

<b>Judson Abbott</b>	Oconee Hill Cemetery: Envisioning a Living Landscape
<b>Sarah Collins</b>	Landscape Agriculture: Cultural Preservation of Subsistence Farming Communities in Rural Appalachia through Landscape Architecture
<b>Katie Crosta</b>	Bringing Nature into Play: Integrating Nature into Outdoor Play Environments for Whole Child Development
<b>Allison Dublinski</b>	Partitioned Landscapes: The Gated Community Interface as an Edifice for Social and Spatial Interchange
<b>Kelly Holdbrooks</b>	A Teachable Moment: Discovering the Potential of Southern Highlands Reserve to Connect Children and Nature
<b>Rachel Johnson</b>	The New Meaning of Site-Specificity: Place as Nomadic Intersections
<b>Stuart Jones</b>	Visualizing Landscape Systems with Parametric Modeling
<b>Sam Kelleher</b>	Quantifying Water Conservation in the Founders Memorial Garden
<b>Taylor Ladd</b>	Defining Greenspace Services for Athens-Clarke County: A Comprehensive Analysis and Proposal for Municipal Parks and Community Gardens
<b>Carrie Landers</b>	Urban Interimventions: Reclaiming Underused Automobile Infrastructure as Community Public Space
<b>Myles Maland</b>	The Return on Investment of Parks and Open Space: How Economics Can Inform Design
<b>Michy McCreary</b>	Sustainable Food, Sustainable Cities: Optimizing Ecosystem Services in Urban Agricultural Landscapes
<b>Chris McDowell</b>	Material Reuse in the Landscape: The Feasibility of Reusing Wood in Landscape Design and Construction
<b>Joanne Mendenhall</b>	The Dramatic Landscape: Articulating Design Criteria for Outdoor Theater Spaces
<b>Heather Ryan-Lisbey</b>	Restoring the Human Element: Lost in the Pursuit of Performance-Based Design
<b>Joanna Schwevens</b>	The Art of a Social Sustainability for Urban Waterways
<b>Laura Sommet</b>	Human Needs: Considering Women in the Small Scale Design of the Outdoor Spaces of Public Housing
<b>Chris Sparnicht</b>	Artful Urban Rainwater Harvesting
<b>Ashley Stinson</b>	The Use of Exploratory Scenarios in Designing Post-mining Appalachia
<b>Heath Tucker</b>	Bit By Byte: Understanding and Engaging Ubiquitous Computing in the Built Environment through Interaction Design
<b>Andrew White</b>	Garden of Necessity: Sustaining Our Natural and Cultural Inheritances on the National Mall
<b>Gwen Wolfgang</b>	Minding the Gap: Using Experiential Urbanism to Connect with Environmental Processes
<b>Stephanie Wolfgang</b>	Learning from Locals: An Evaluation of Participatory Rapid Appraisal Techniques for Inventory and Analysis in the Landscape Architecture Classroom

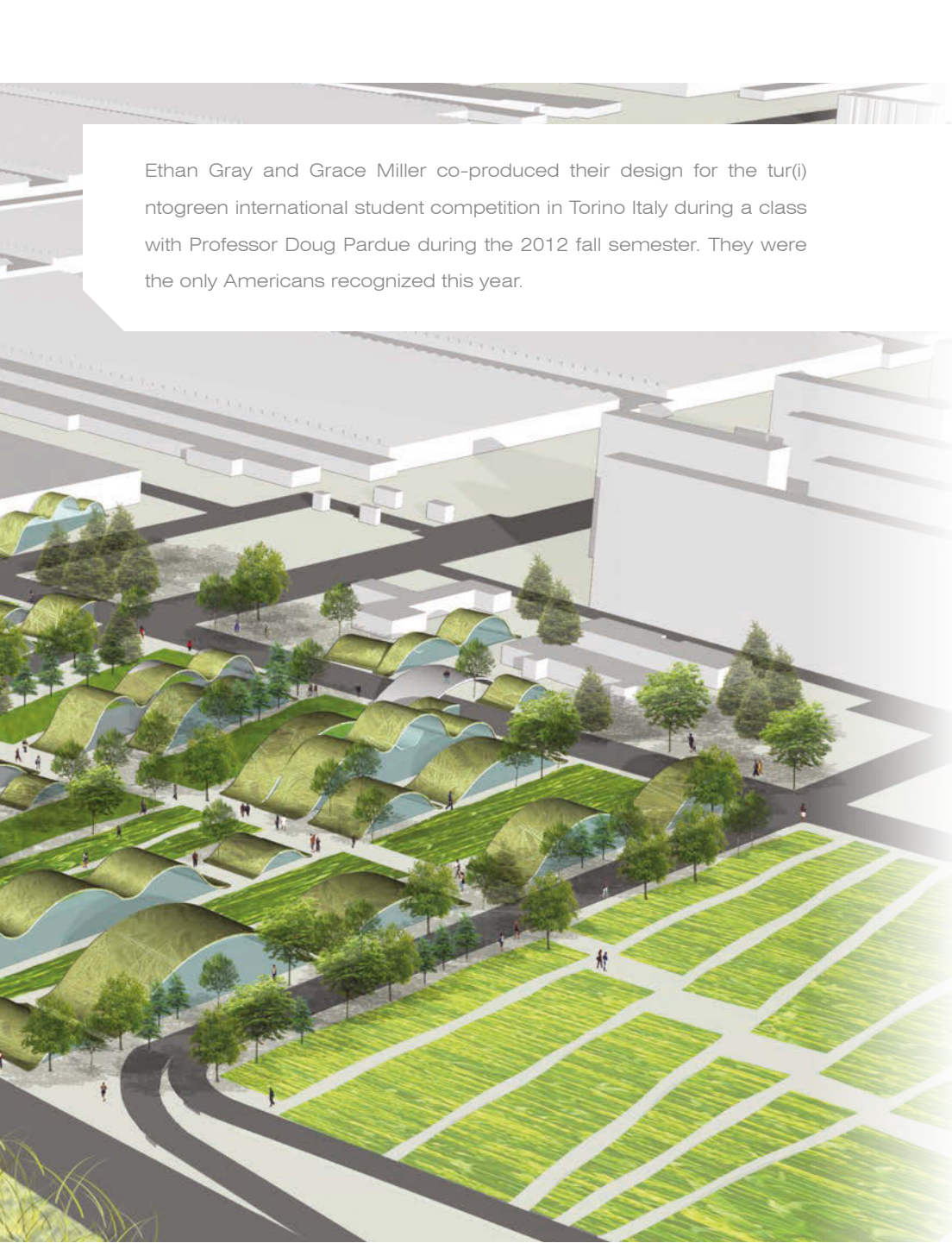




***tur(i)ntogreen***  
**international student design competition**

Graphic: By Authors





Ethan Gray and Grace Miller co-produced their design for the tur(i) ntogreen international student competition in Torino Italy during a class with Professor Doug Pardue during the 2012 fall semester. They were the only Americans recognized this year.

The Timbrel District is a distinct urban development within the Italian city of Turin. The development's architecture is based on medieval timbrel arc construction that dates back to thirteenth century Mediterranean Europe between Spain and Italy. The timbrel arc is a self supporting structure that can be used as roof structures for infinite possibilities of functions and forms the architectonic basis for our design proposal. Like the timbrel arcs we are constructing, the community built under these roofs is intended to be self supporting. We propose the development of a micro lending bank with conservatorship through FIAT Automotive. The bank will provide start up capital for a multitude of local, community owned businesses, with a particular focus on urban agriculture and locally produced durable goods. Also, all structures on the site will be created through a community owned Self-Building Housing Authority. The local residents will work as a community to build all the structures at cost to the association, who will in turn, allow the families to inhabit the structures ad infinitum, for minimal cost, while maintaining community land for an annual return on investment. The goal is to create a sustained community through common work and goals. The Timbrel District is poised to set a new precedent for urban agriculture, manufacturing, and community building throughout Europe.

The physical construction of the site is dependent on the function within the arc. Arc size is indicative of its use. Large arcs provide ample room for commercial work while smaller arcs allow for a cozy, human scaled atmosphere. The site is based on the disfigurement of a 30 m x 10 m grid and arcs maintaining a 3:1 ratio of implementation. Over time as the construction crews become more familiar with the techniques, heavy personalization of architectural form will take shape.

»Grace Miller | BLA 2013  
»Ethan Gray | MLA 2013





Stephanie Crockett  
Director of External Affairs  
706.542.4727



Photo: Russell Oliver | MEPD 2013

# Celebrating

New Committees, Boards, Honors and Awards...the development office of the College of Environment and Design has had quite a year of progress, and we believe the future holds just as much excitement.

The Dean's Advisory Council, established in 2010, is comprised of 15 members representing affiliated and outside professionals, as well as our three academic programs. This year, the council established its own fund in support of the efforts of the College, and to inspire student leadership and innovation. The fund directly supports initiatives of the Dean and council, and as funding allows hope to reward and encourage student leadership. This year they are offering an award for the best college-wide promotional video created by a CE+D student.

In 2013 the CE+D's Alumni Association board (CEDAA) expanded its membership and also reinstated the Pink Flamingo Ball as part of alumni weekend festivities in April 2013. The CEDAA continues to be an active force, bringing alumni back to campus to reunite class years and educate alumni about our programs.

This year the distinguished alumni medal of honor will be presented to renowned professor, Doug Allen, BLA '71. The CEDAA also chooses a distinguished faculty member each year, and Associate Professor Alfie Vick will receive this high honor. Dean Nadenicek also presents two additional awards from his office. The Dean's Award of Honor this year will go to Lucy Lawliss, UGA BLA '79 and MLA '92. The second award is for teaching innovation at the junior and senior faculty level, and we are thrilled to report that Associate Professor Marianne Cramer and Assistant Professor Doug Pardue have been selected for 2013.

# Commitment

Equally important has been the formation of the alumni's Strategic Steering Committee for the college. This team of 24 alumni will focus on a capital fundraising campaign through 2018. They are charged with engaging our alumni in record numbers toward a financial goal of \$18 million dollars to construct a new graduate wing for the college. With solid alumni participation and involvement, the college has a greater chance of securing critical foundation and corporate support. We hope when you are called upon to take part that you will contribute annually until we reach our goal in 2018. Already we have kicked off with a naming campaign for lecture hall seats in the Jackson Street Building. Engraved nameplates will be placed on seatbacks, honoring our alumni, faculty, friends and family.

We cannot reflect on our development without mentioning the successful move to our newly rehabilitated building on South Jackson St. The new home for the BLA program, faculty and administrative offices, the Circle Gallery and the Owens Library has been a tremendous publicity draw the past six months. We are honored that our new building is being nominated for a historic preservation award from the Athens Clarke Heritage Foundation.

With so much to be proud of, we hope you will take a moment to reflect on your time at the college, the school, your program, and your classmates; and consider what it all meant to you. It all still lingers in the halls of the CE+D and expands with each new generation of students. We are only as good as our alumni, and we are exceedingly proud of all the accomplishments and inspiration you represent. Please keep sharing your stories and ideas with us, and help keep this college – your college – recognized for its great attributes.





LIME

BRICK

OILS

PAINT

DOORS

WINDOWS

AMES

INSULATION

133

SHOWER

Cabinet

ASBESTOS

Sidi

Photo: Jordan Tubbs | MEPD 2013





College of Environment + Design  
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Athens, GA 30602 USA

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pg. 4

## Long Live the Herd!

The Tanyard Creek Chew Crew controls invasive plants and restores a riparian ecosystem on the UGA campus through prescribed grazing.

pg. 16

## Guiding Gurun

An MEPD studio visits the small town of Gurun to survey and guide better practices for the surrounding landscape.

pg. 30

## Drawn From the Garden

Preparing for the 75th anniversary of the Founders Memorial Garden with a student art competition.

GEORGIA LANDSCAPE MAGAZINE  
2013