

Bethel Midtown Village Charrette



Fall 2013

HIPR6950S Preservation Planning +
HIPR4680/6680S Community Design Charrettes
Professor Pratt Cassity

The University of Georgia • College of Environment and Design



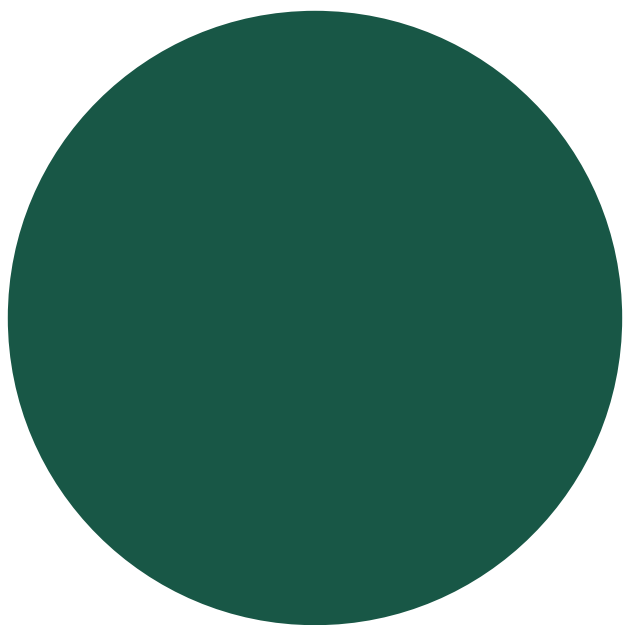


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Introduction



Introduction

During the Fall 2013 semester, graduate students from Pratt Cassity's Preservation Planning course had the opportunity to work with residents of Bethel Midtown Village in Athens, GA. As a response to downtown Athens' recently unveiled Master Plan, these students were asked to consider the future of Bethel, a neighborhood that has been an integral part of Athens' development since the 1960's.

In order to become acquainted with Bethel and the people who live here, students began the project by meeting with a primary group of stakeholders from within the Bethel community. Their insights were invaluable in identifying some of the neighborhood's problem areas and, more importantly, the elements of Bethel that have been working since the beginning.

Step two in the process, the Community Input Day, was met with great enthusiasm from the Bethel residents. Nearly 150 people showed up to voice their opinions, learn about the project, and provide the students with a picture of what living in Bethel is really like. The overwhelming sense of community and pride that was shown this day influenced how the students structured the remainder of the project.

Later in the semester, the class hosted a "charrette" weekend, which is a rapid-fire design process that involves students from multiple disciplines within UGA's College of Environment and Design. With the help of landscape design and urban planning students, the charrette considered possibilities for Bethel's future from every possible angle. As an overarching theme for each design team, students worked to include proposals for short-term alterations to the existing neighborhood. The resources found in Bethel are rich in history and deserve to be treated with the same respect and careful thought that the rest of downtown Athens is shown.

Throughout this document, you will find a comprehensive examination of Bethel's existing buildings, landscape design, recreational facilities, and community programming.

For each of these areas, students then proposed design changes that will enhance the appearance and, thereby, create a fresh look for the community. To assist management as they move forward with any of the proposed projects, there are case studies included at the end of each section which show how these designs have been successfully implemented in other similar situations.

By completing this project, students hope to empower the residents of Bethel Midtown Village. Each design is intended to highlight the truly wonderful assets that exist in this neighborhood and to give the community the modern, welcoming home that it genuinely deserves.

Students involved in this project:

Annie Barnes, Kit Candler, Fanglan Chen, Leeann Dickerson, Reneè Donnell, Kasey Fulwood, Victoria Leonard, Adam Martin, Alana Saul, Katie Twomey, Daniel Weldon

Logo



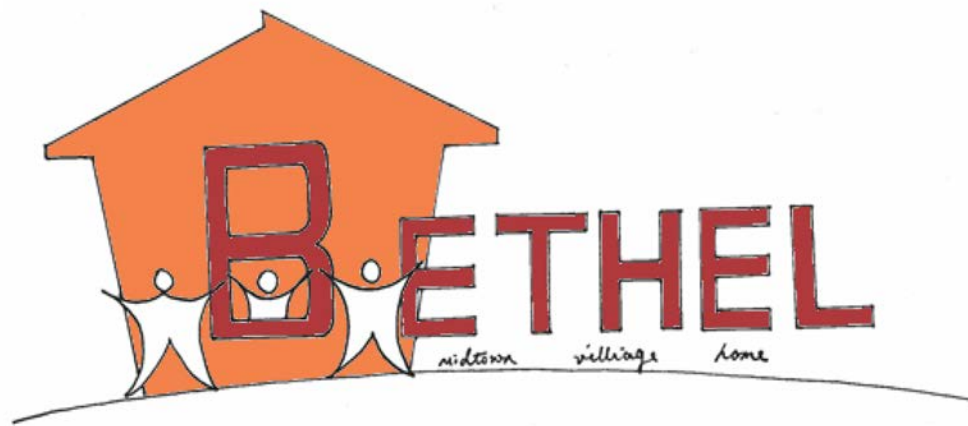
Logo

Having a sense of community is an important aspect of residential life, which can be created by establishing a unique identity for that neighborhood. Establishing this sense of community can be accomplished through creating an identity. One of the ways for a neighborhood to have a collective identity is by using a logo. A logo is such a simple tool but it is really effective.

During the Bethel Midtown Village Design Charratte, students created a logo for Bethel that incorporates elements of existing building facades. This can be seen most clearly in the roof line but also the shape of the letter 'B' was designed intentionally to look like the windows on the sides of the buildings. The logo is currently a simple black line drawing but colors can easily be added. The logo can be used all throughout the neighborhood, at the neighborhood entrance, on the buildings themselves, and on the suggested new bus stop



Figure 1. Design for the Bethel Midtown Village Homes. Designed by Qiuchen Jia.



Bus Stop



Bus Stop

Great effort was put into designing a bus stop that will not only serve the need of the community but enhance it as well. In the charrette process four bus stop designs were created and each would make a great addition to the Bethel neighborhood.

All four bus stops provide ample seating and protection from the elements. One of the bus stop designs even incorporates a vending machine into the structure so residents and bus riders can purchase refreshments while waiting for the bus (see Figure 2). The four bus stop designs were created to be more identifiable with the community; provide safe, well-lit areas; provide green areas for the residents; and hold community information so that residents know what is happening around Athens. The four bus designs were created to be more identifiable with the community, safer by adding light, have environmental areas, and have community information so that residents know what is happening in Athens, GA to better connect the two communities.

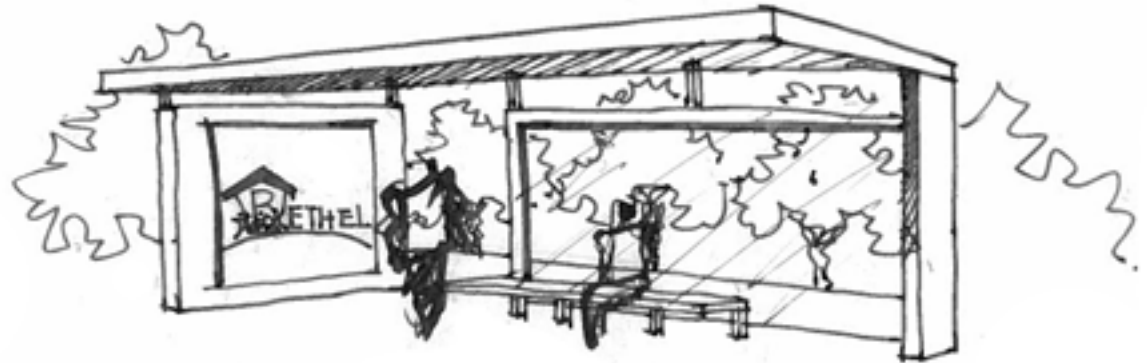
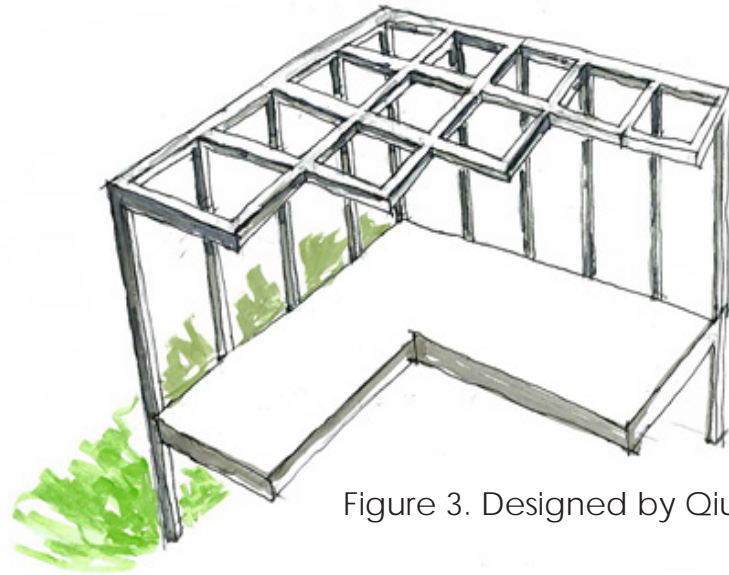


Figure 1. Designed by Trent (Jialiu) Cui.



Figure 2. Designed by Tianchi You



Each bus stop is unique in design, but any of the four would make a valuable addition to the Bethel Midtown Village.

Figure 3. Designed by Qiuchen Jia

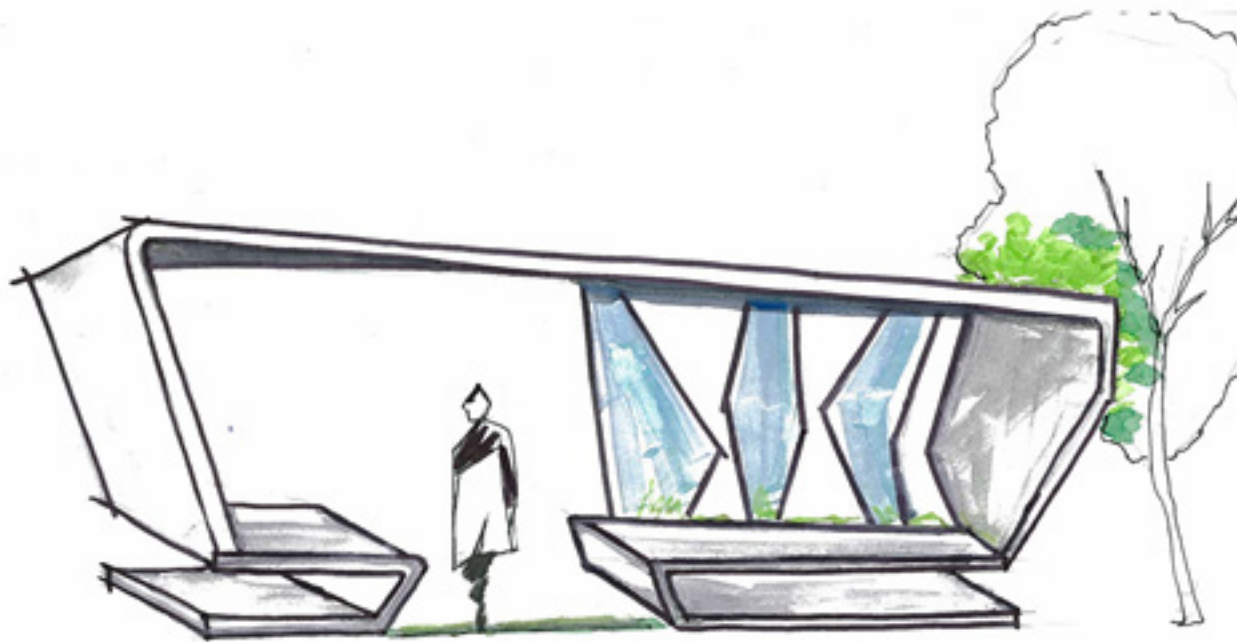
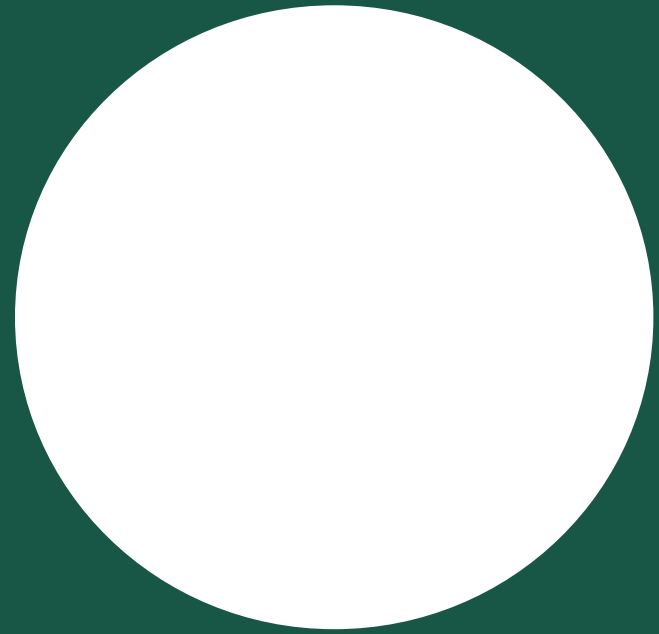


Figure 4. Designed by Qiuchen Jia



Case Studies

Bus Stop

Bus Shelter Mural Program-King County, Washington

The Bus Shelter Mural Program aims to improve the reputation of the city's bus system by encouraging youth and other members of the community to create works of art for display at bus stops. The project began in 1989 as a way to combat vandalism in the community. Over 700 murals have been installed in bus stops all over the area.¹ A public art project like this one could be good for Bethel because it could encourage community participation in the design process. If community members felt that they were being included in the process of improving bus stop design they might be less likely to commit vandalism later on. Also, this project could feature the art of Bethel residents, and could therefore be important in showing them that they are important to the community outside of Bethel.



Figure 1. Mural by Mauricio Robalino and North City Elementary students

¹ Bus Stop Mural Program, http://metro.kingcounty.gov/prog/sheltermural/shelter_mural.html

Bus Stop

New Sun Tran Solar Bus Shelters

The New Sun Tran Solar Bus Shelters in Tucson, Arizona are aesthetically pleasing and very “green.” The bus stops were first built with city money, but now have paid for themselves. The bus stops have advertising on most sides that are somewhat translucent and continue to provide money for new city projects. Most of the bus stops are a purple color that is bright and is identifiable with Tucson.¹ The new shelters are somewhat translucent, which provides an added aspect of safety to the stops. The materials used to build these bus stops are vandalism-proof, which helps to keep the areas visually appealing, and the roofs feature solar powered strips to produce lighting within the bus stops. So far Tucson, Arizona, has created 224 new shelters with these “green” PV panels and a 12 volt battery.



Figure 2. Solar Bus Stop

¹ <http://www.pagnet.org/documents/solar/casestudy/casestudybusshelters.pdf>



Figure 3. STM Bus Stop

STM Bustop Redesign

The STM (Société de transport de Montréal) recently undertook a bus stop redesign program aimed to increase bus ridership. The program sought to include innovative new technology in their designs and to create a safe waiting environment for bus passengers. They accomplished this goal by installing new benches, STM network maps, signs showing bus schedules and routes, and motion-sensors that turn on lighting when people enter.¹ They also installed “totems” in place of old bus stop signs that feature color coded bus line numbers and maps. The design increases visibility of the bus stop. Installing motion sensor lighting creates a bus stop that is perceived as being a safer space. The clear glass walls of the bus stop would also increase visibility and promote safety. Other good ideas from this program are the addition of easy to read maps and color coded totems which make bus travel simpler and more coherent.

¹ Andy Riga, “STM unveils the bus shelter of the 21st Century. What do you think?,” Montreal Gazette, November 8, 2010.

Community Center



Community Center

Currently Bethel Midtown Village has a small community center located in the basement of one of the apartment complexes. A short-term design change for this space was developed in order to create a multi-functional space that will support the many different types of residents who are currently using the area. The small community room was designed as a daycare, conference room, and classroom. Functioning as a daycare, the room incorporated a restroom, bookshelves, multiple desks, numerous beds for nap time, and an office for management. The space would include innovative furniture design to use all areas of the current space. If the room was converted into strictly a conference room, there would be ample seating in the form of sofas, conference tables with rows of chairs, and the use of a tatami (Japanese term describing a large padded seating area).

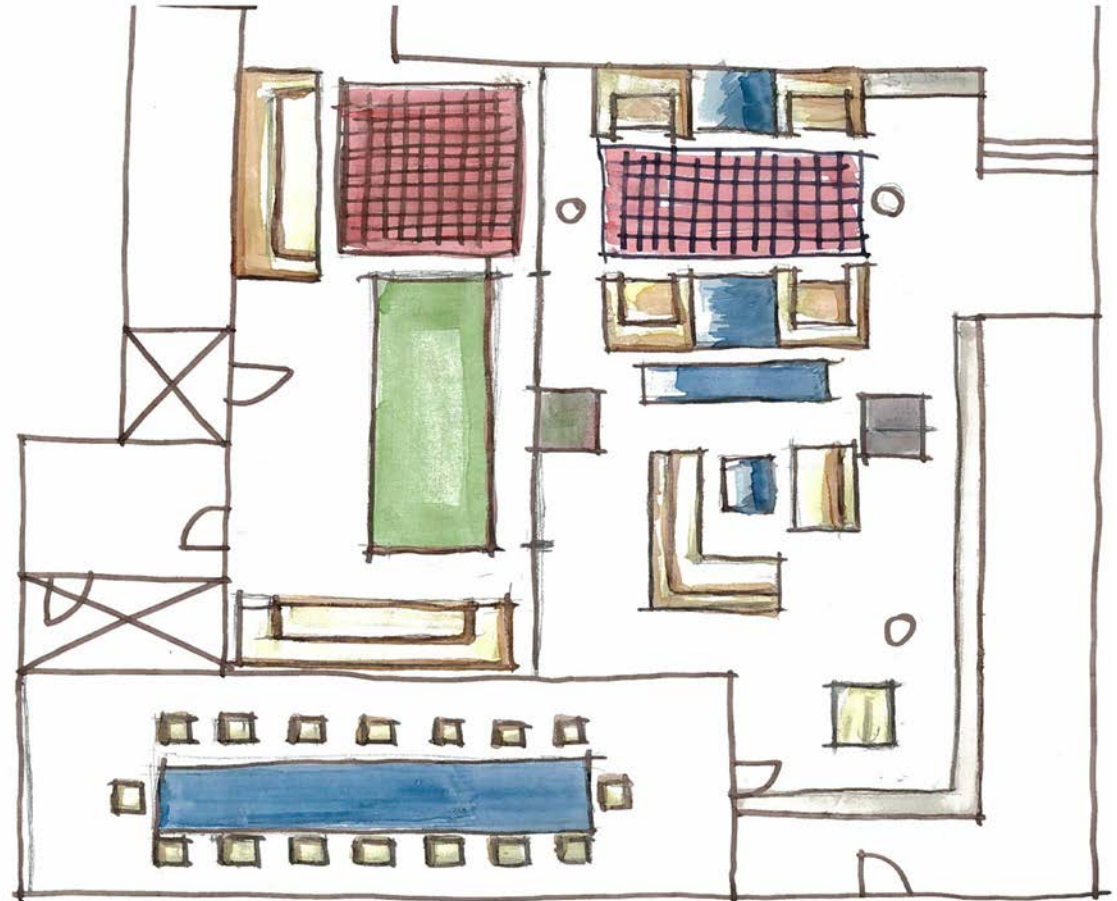
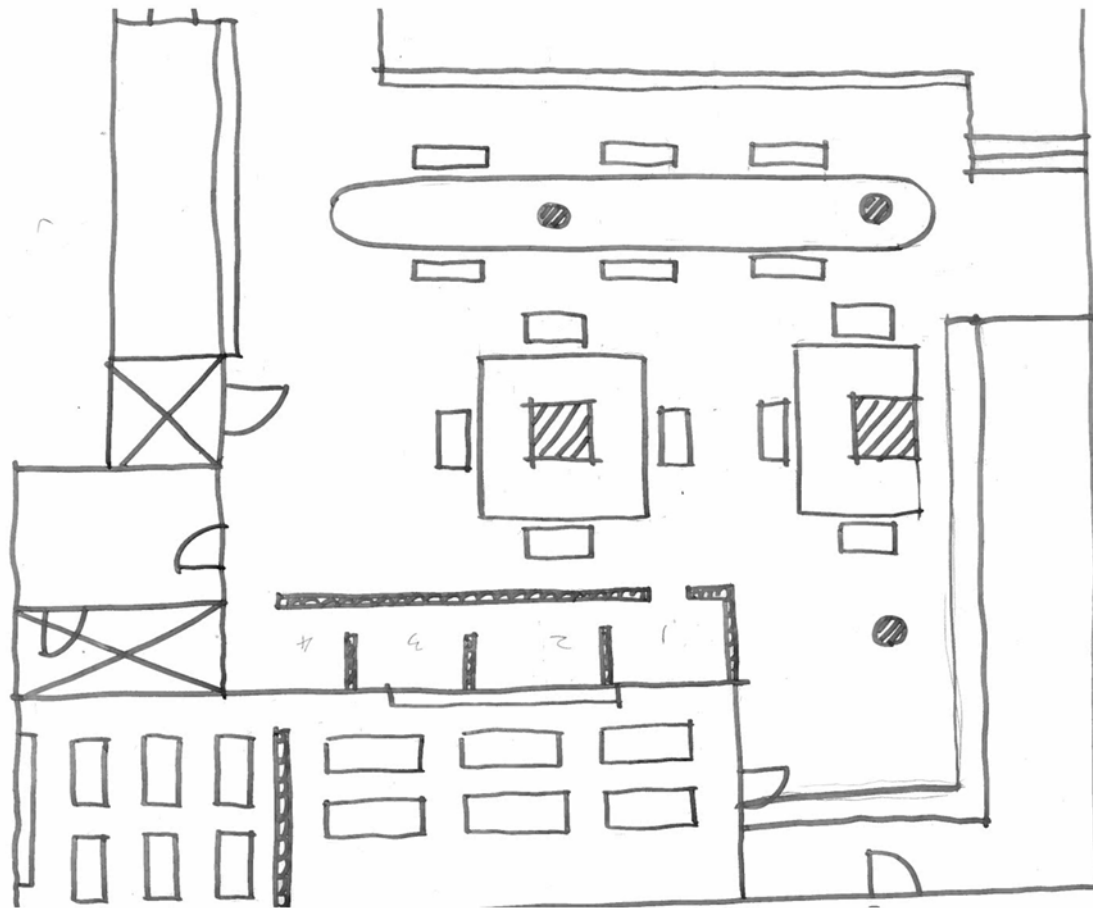
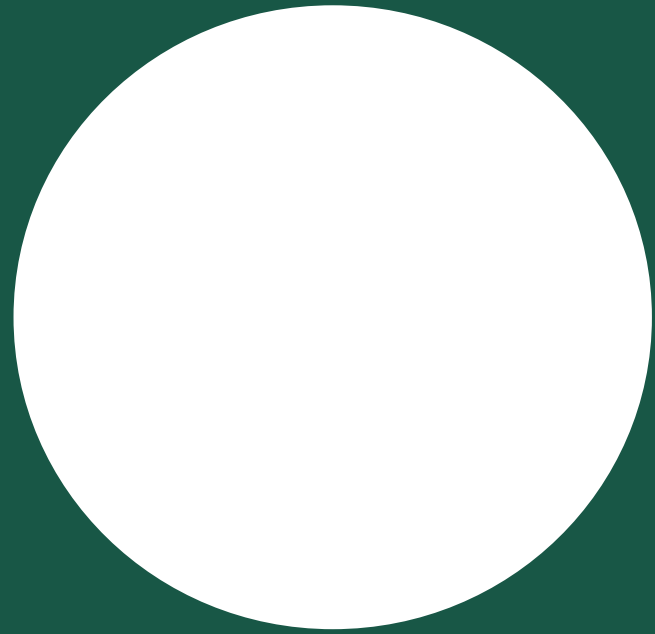


Figure 1. Community Center drawn Qiuchen Jia



The community room could also be used for a classroom with a large lunch & reading desk, small classroom, computer lab, and larger desks located in the middle of the room. Perhaps the best solution to most effectively utilize this space would be combining all the designs to create a common space for every type of resident in the community.

Figure 2. Community Center drawn by Tianchi You



Case Studies

Community Center

Copper Rawlings Community Center Lubbock, Texas

This community center was placed in the middle of a low income neighborhood. There are children and many senior citizens living in the neighborhood. In order to benefit both age groups, different programs were put in place. For \$10 a week children have proper after school care. There are computer labs, fitness equipment, and a variety of workshops for residents to partake.¹



Above:
Figure 1. Copper Rawlings Exterior

Right:
Figure 2. Interior of Copper Rawlings



¹ Lubbock, City of. 2012. City of Lubbock, TX- Parks and Recreation. . November. Accessed December 3, 2013. <http://www.mylubbock.us/departamental-websites/departments/parks-recreation/community-centers/rawlings-community-center>.

Community Center

Akron Boys and Girls Club: Akron, Alabama

This center was completed in September 2008. It has a large cylindrical roof, called a span lamella, which covers a basketball court. It connects to a 2,500 square-foot recreation complex. This club was constructed to provide children of that area a safe place to play and learn while their parents were away at work in nearby cities. The lamella span serves as a shield from both the elements of rain and sun making this a year round design. ¹



Above:
Figure 3. Play Space



Right :
Figure 4. Akron Boys and Girls Club Front Elevation

¹ Freer, Andrew . 2013. "Akron Boys and Girls complex at Akron, Alabama." Welcome to rural southwest Alabama. Accessed December 3, 2013. <http://www.ruralswalabama.org/attractions/akron-boys-girls-club-complex-a-rural-studio-project/>.



Figure 5. King County Housing Authority

King County Housing Authority Tukwila, Washington

Children in public housing face substantial barriers to achieving success in school. To help overcome these challenges, KCHA has developed a network of community centers that provide services in the neighborhoods where kids live. By the end of 2013, KCHA will have completed 20 community centers throughout King County. These centers serve both subsidized housing residents and people who live in the surrounding neighborhoods. In addition to youth services, many of the facilities also offer classes and programs aimed at parents and working adults.¹

¹ Norman, Stephen. 2013. "Development-Community Centers." King County Housing Authority. February. Accessed December 3, 2013. <http://www.kcha.org/development/community-centers/>.

Buildings



Buildings

Bethel Midtown Village was constructed during an era when architects across the country were embracing the midcentury modern design movement.¹ Modernist architecture first took hold in the 1920's and continued throughout the 1950's and 1960's, which is the period known as midcentury modern. It manifested itself in many ways, from mass-produced post-WWII housing in the suburbs to massive glass-walled skyscrapers in the largest cities. However, at the heart of the modernist movement, was the simple struggle to find balance between a building's form and its function.² Some of the world's most famous architects, such as Louis Kahn, Mies van der Rohe, and Frank Lloyd Wright, came out of the modernist movement, but that does not mean that all modernist architecture was monumental.

Although it was built as a public housing project, elements of modernist design clearly influenced the architecture of Bethel in an unexpectedly sophisticated manner. The most obviously modernist element of Bethel's architecture is the unique roof line of each building. Many architects during the 1950's and 1960's manipulated roof lines as a way to test the structural limits of new building materials and to reinvent the traditionally accepted form of what makes a building. See Figures 1 through 4 for comparisons between Bethel and other midcentury modern roof designs.



Figure 1. Photograph taken by Leeann Dickerson showcases the modernist roof line of Bethel's apartment buildings.

1 Bethel Midtown Village," H.J. Russell & Company, accessed December 5, 2013, http://www.hjrussell.com/development%20renovation_files/Page330.htm

2 Diane Ghirardo, *Architecture After Modernism* (London: Thames and Hudson, 1996), 9-11.



Figure 2 . This building on Hope International University's campus in Fullerton, CA was designed in the futuristic Googie-themed architectural style, which was popular during the 1960's



Figure 3 . A home designed by David Levitt in Ansty, Dorset, which features a dramatic roof line that mimics the sloping topography of its site.



Figure 4. This home designed by architect Bruce Goff is an example of the butterfly roofline popular throughout the modernist architecture movement.

Buildings

Other, less-obvious features of Bethel's ingrained modernism are the juxtaposition between traditional and modern materials (although some of these materials may now be considered outdated), the alternating bay pattern of the building facades, and the exterior window treatments.

Brick is certainly the dominant material of Bethel's architecture; however, it is the pairing of this brick with wooden paneling and low-lying, elongated windows that makes it a modernist design element (see Figure 5). Many architects during this time period worked to combine traditional building materials, such as brick or stone, with sleek, modern materials, such as enamel paneling beneath windows and thin metal trim to define alternating door and window bays (see Figure 6). The paneling on Bethel's apartment buildings has been neglected over the years. However, it could provide the community with a much-needed face lift if it were simply painted using a midcentury modern color palette (see Figures 7 through 11). In addition to changing the color of each apartment building, painting large numbers on the building exteriors would be an inexpensive way to enhance the graphic complexity of the community, while simultaneously making the buildings easier to identify. See Figures 12 through 15 for graphic representations of these proposed changes



Figure 5. Photograph taken by Leeann Dickerson showcases the alternating bay design motif, as well as the brick and paneling construction materials.



Figure 6. The American National Bank Building in Montgomery County, MD was designed in 1963 by architect Ted Englehardt. This building utilizes the brightly colored paneling that is typically found on large-scale midcentury modern architecture and also shows how architects would divide a building's facade into clear window bays through the use of aluminum molding



Figure 7. Photograph taken by Leeann Dickerson showing the existing treatment of Bethel's paneling.



Figure 8. Park Hill tower block in Sheffield, United Kingdom opened in 1961. As part of recent rehabilitation efforts, the building's doors and window panels have been restored to these brightly colored tones that were popular in the 1960's.

Buildings



Figure 9. These apartment buildings in southwestern Ohio exemplify the use of brightly colored wood paneling with brick bays like the ones featured on Bethel's buildings.



Figure 10. The Comer Residence by Bruce Goff, which was built in 1957, shows the use of vibrantly colored accents against a neutral brick wall.



Figure 11. This midcentury modern apartment interior designed by architects Dinerman, Davison & Hillman shows the color palette that was most popular during this architectural era. Color tones similar to the ones seen in these panels would be appropriate for use in repainting the exterior of Bethel's apartment buildings

Buildings

By making these moderate changes to the building exteriors, Bethel Midtown Village could once again be seen as the striking mid-century modern community that it was designed to be. Paint colors could even be continued in to the stairwells to help brighten up these otherwise dim spaces, which residents have identified as a problem area for crime and loitering (see Figure 17) . If budget allows, replacing the existing aluminum paneled doors with more modern doors (see Figure 16), updating the lighting around entryways, and replacing the metal railings with ones of a clean wooden design (see Figure 15) would further enhance this space and improve the community's overall appearance.



Figure 12. Color Scheme by Tianyi Dong



Figure 13. Color Scheme by Tianyi Dong



Figure 14. Color Scheme by Tianyi Dong

Buildings



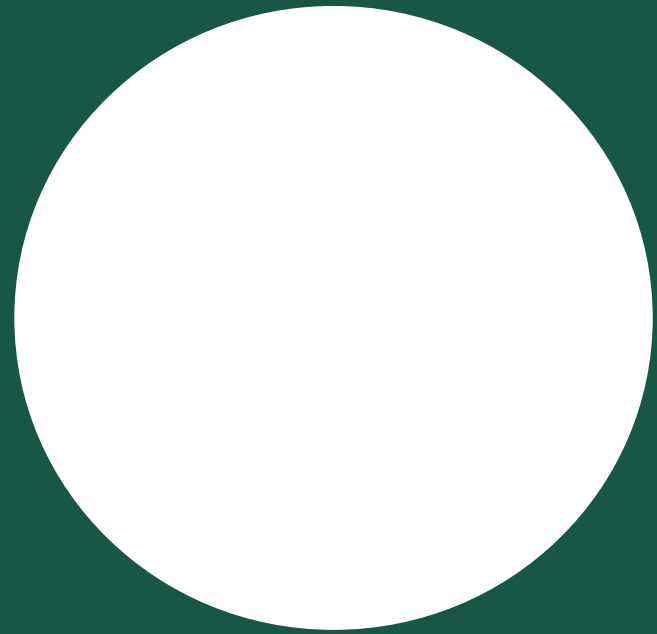
Figure 15. By replacing the existing metal railings with clean wooden ones, the entire community will get a facelift. This design could also be used to obscure the view of air conditioning units and other utilities on building exteriors.



Figure 16. By replacing the existing doors with more modern ones, the entryways will feel brighter, safer, and updated.



Figure 17. Rendering by Tianyi Dong . Renovated facade



Case Studies

Buildings



Figure 18. Ezzard Charles Apartments

Ezzard Charles Apartments

The Ezzard Charles Apartments located in Cincinnati, OH are garden style, mid century modern designed apartments. In 2008, the apartments underwent a face lift where “lots of sculpture and primary colors” were added to the complex. The buildings, similar in style to Bethel, are three story brick structures with stairways located in the middle of the buildings. In an attempt to improve the site, the management of the complex decided to update the look of the development by the addition of primary colors and fun, contemporary sculptures.¹

¹ CityKin, “Ezzard Charles Apartments Facelift, CityKin, <http://www.citykin.com/2008/08/ezzard-charles-apartments-facelift.html> (accessed December 5, 2013)

Buildings

Citrus Heights

The Moniz Architecture firm based out of Sacramento, CA recently “gave new life to an aging apartment complex in Citrus Heights by creating a new design for its exterior façade.”¹ The apartment complex, at the time, was facing “various water intrusion problems” which caused the owners to seek out some improvements. In their remodel, the owners were given the opportunity “to re-think the look of the complex, and to plan for a low-maintenance future. New cement plank and shingle siding were installed over existing plywood siding, with thorough attention to flashing, penetration and attachment details. Balconies and patio fences were re-designed and re-configured.”

¹ Moniz Architecture, “Sunrise Commons Multi-Unit Remodel, Moniz Architecture, <http://www.monizarchitecture.com/residential/sunriseCommons6.html> (Accessed



Figure 19. Citrus Heights



Figure 20. El Dorado Scottsdale Complex

El Dorado Scottsdale Complex

The El Dorado Scottsdale complex completed a renovation in 2012 of its mid-century apartment building. Originally known as the El Dorado Resort Apartments, the complex was built in 1960 and features white, two-story buildings set amongst a neighborhood of other “well-tended apartments from the mid-20th century.” The El Dorado is located in a neighborhood which “is characterized by a particular style of apartments built in the 1950s and ‘60s in Scottsdale with decorative block or native stone walls, balconies and courtyards with swimming pools, lawns and palm trees.”¹

¹ El Dorado Scottsdale, “Scottsdale mid-century modern apartments re-vamped,” AZ Central, http://www.azcentral.com/photo/Community/Scottsdale/23286&nclick_check=1#protected (accessed Dec 5, 2013)

Image Sources

All images were taken by Ms. Leeann Dickerson or produced by Tianyl Dong unless noted on the following list:

Figure 2- "About Hope: Campus Locations," Hope International University, accessed December 5, 2013, <http://www.hiu.edu/about/location/>.

Figure 3- "For Sale: 1960's Architect-Designed House," Retro to Go, accessed December 5, 2013, <http://www.retroto.go.com/2008/07/for-sale-1960-1.html>.

Figure 4- "Grant Mudford Photography," Plastolux, accessed December 5, 2013, <http://plastolux.com/grant-mudford-photographer.html>.

Figure 6- "The Straight Line," Montgomery Planning, accessed December 5, 2013, <http://montgomeryplanning.org/blog-design/?p=3321>.

Figure 8- "12th Century Castle, 1960's Tower Block and Chapel for Nuns all Shortlisted for Architecture Prize," The Telegraph, accessed December 5, 2013, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/art/architecture/10187115/12th-century-castle-1960s-tower-block-and-chapel-for-nuns-all-shortlisted-for-architecture-prize.html>

Figure 9- "Apt," Chris Glass, accessed December 5, 2013, <http://chrisglass.com/album/page/145/>.

Figure 10- "Bruce Goff's Architecture," FlickeFlu, accessed December 5, 2013, <http://flickeflu.com/groups/10816758@N00/interesting>.

Figure 11- "The Modern House Blog," accessed December 5, 2013, <http://themodernhouseblog.net/category/uncategorized/>.

Figure 15- "What Your Front Door Says About You," Curators of Lifestyle, December 5, 2013, <http://www.curatorsoflifestyle.com/blog/article/front-door-design>.

Figure 16- "Home Balcony Design," Mesopotamian Millionaire, accessed December 5, 2013, <http://mesopotamianmarine.blogspot.com/2013/05/home-balcony-design.html>.

Figure 17 CityKin, "Ezzard Charles Apartments Facelift, CityKin, <http://www.citykin.com/2008/08/ezzard-charles-apartments-facelift.html> (accessed December 5, 2013)

Figure 18 Moniz Architecture, "Sunrise Commons Multi-Unit Remodel, Moniz Architecture, <http://www.monizarchitecture.com/residential/sunriseCommons6.html> (Accessed Dec 5, 2013)

Figure 19 El Dorado Scottsdale, "Scottsdale mid-century modern apartments revamped," AZ Central, http://www.azcentral.com/photo/Community/Scottsdale/23286&nlick_check=1#protected (accessed Dec 5, 2013)

Landscapes



Landscape

The proposed landscape plan for the Bethel Midtown Village Community works with the existing building configuration and inserts new design in the present spaces. For this solution, the design team looked at one of the more pressing issues expressed by the residents; the need for a new playground.

Complaints about the existing structure include:

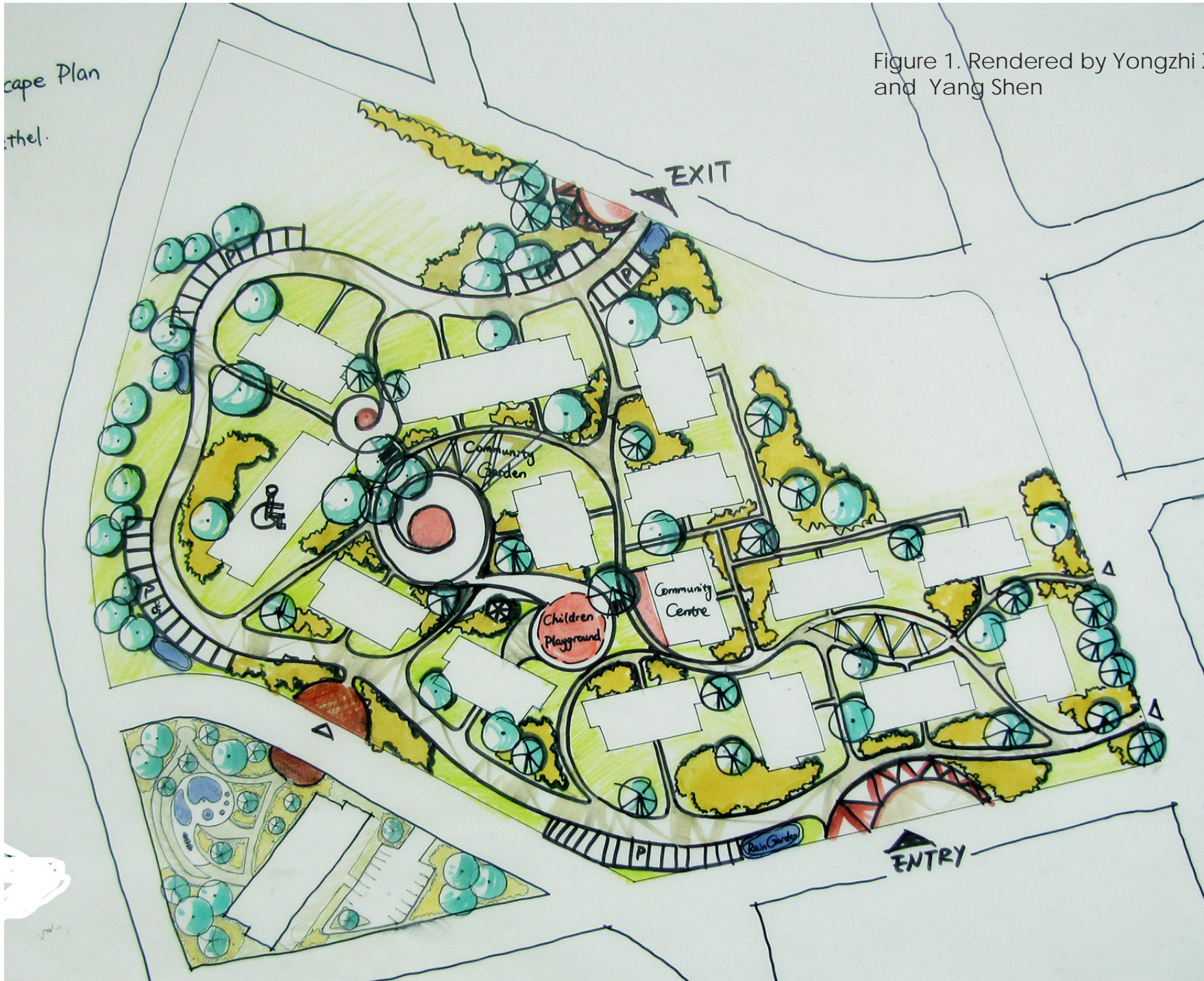
- Sanitation
- Age of the Equipment
- Lack of Swings
- Safety
- Variety of Play Options
- Location of the Play ground
- Inappropriate Use of Equipment

The design team took these concerns into consideration and developed three plans of what a play ground space at Bethel could be. In addition to the plans, we have identified three case studies that the residents should use as templates to the possible equipment and types of play grounds. Finally the design team has compiled a list of organizations that provide grants that can be used for the updating of playgrounds and equipment.

A second aspect of the design, was the creation of a series of rain gardens for the site. The gardens will aid in the aesthetics of the property while reducing the effects of rain on the site.

cape Plan
:thel.

Figure 1. Rendered by Yongzhi Xiao and Yang Shen



Rain Gardens

A rain garden is an inexpensive, yet very effective means to control storm water runoff, reduce water pollution, and enhance a site aesthetically. Bethel Community currently has areas in between the buildings which allow water to gather and puddle. Standing water is not only irritating to residents or pedestrians striving to keep their feet dry, but it can also pose a health concern during the warm Georgia summers when mosquitoes use these pools of water to breed. With the West Nile Virus a very real concern, especially for the young and the elderly, the Community should take steps to prevent areas of standing water.

A rain garden not only would address current water problems on the site, but also provides an excellent opportunity for the Bethel residents, especially the children, to understand how people impact the environment. Rain gardens allow children to have an educational opportunity right in their own backyards, in which they can study and interact with the wildlife and plant species that call these types

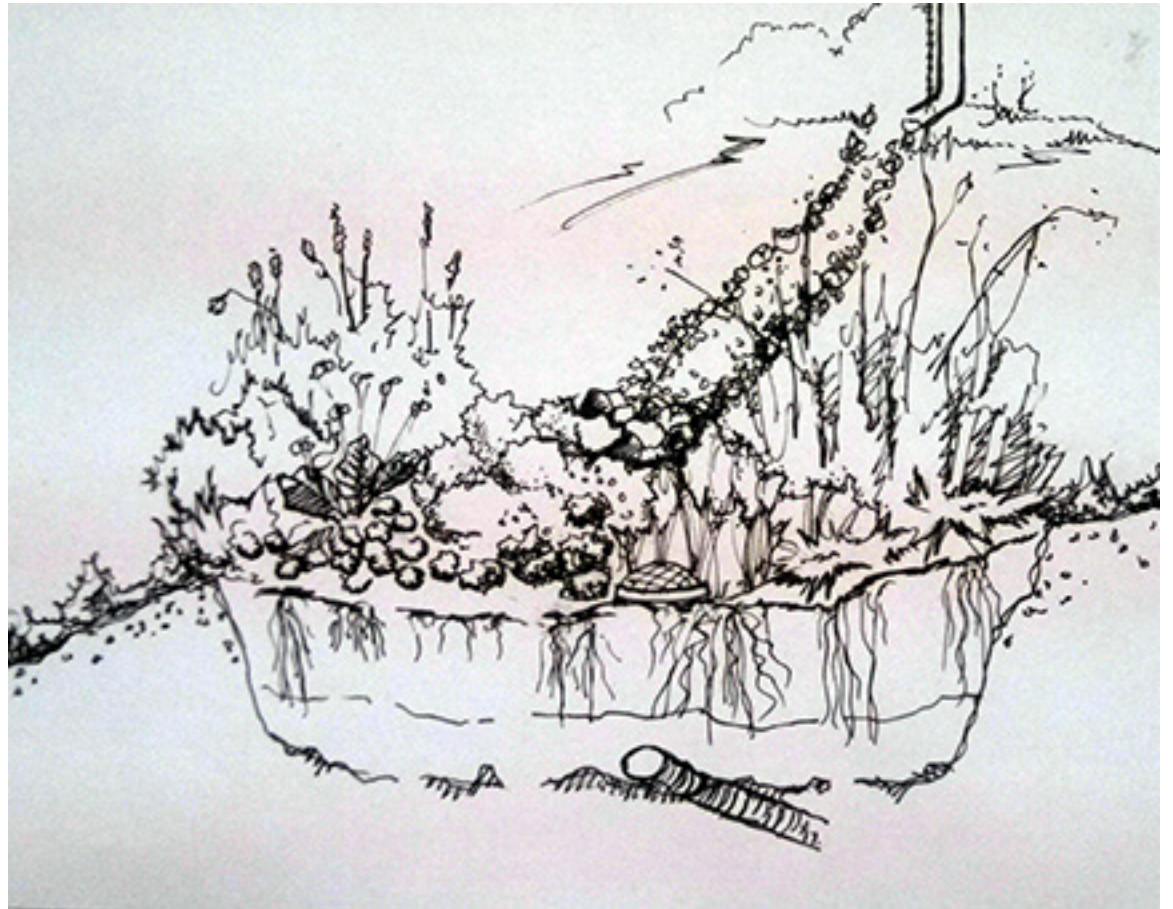
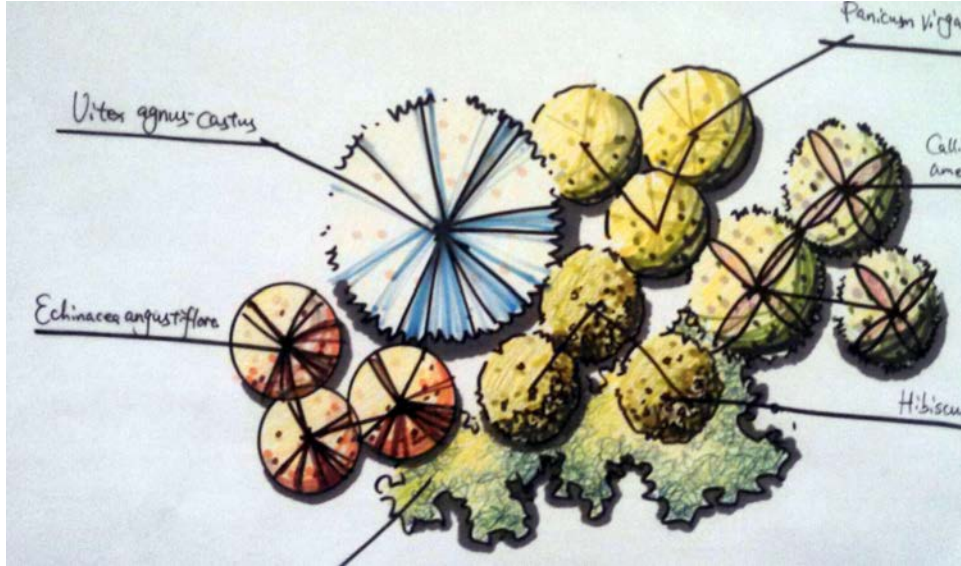


Figure 2. Rendered by Yang Shen



of environments home. All of the plants which have been suggested to be used in the rain garden at the Bethel Community have been shown to thrive and need little maintenance in this region of Georgia. The plant list was obtained from a presentation by Ms. Rose Mary Seymour entitled, "Rain Gardens in Home Landscapes." The powerpoint presentation can be found on the University of Georgia's College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences website, under the 'CAES Publications' tab.



Figure 3. and 4. Rendered by Yongzhi Xiao and Yang Shen

Playgrounds

The design team created three playground plans that can easily be inserted at different locations throughout the site. The discussion from the clients indicated that the new schemes needed to offer activities for a variety of ages and activity levels. Ideas include a variety of playground equipment and surfaces, accommodating a range of activity on the site. On the following pages we have included examples of the types of equipment that could be included in the design of the playground.

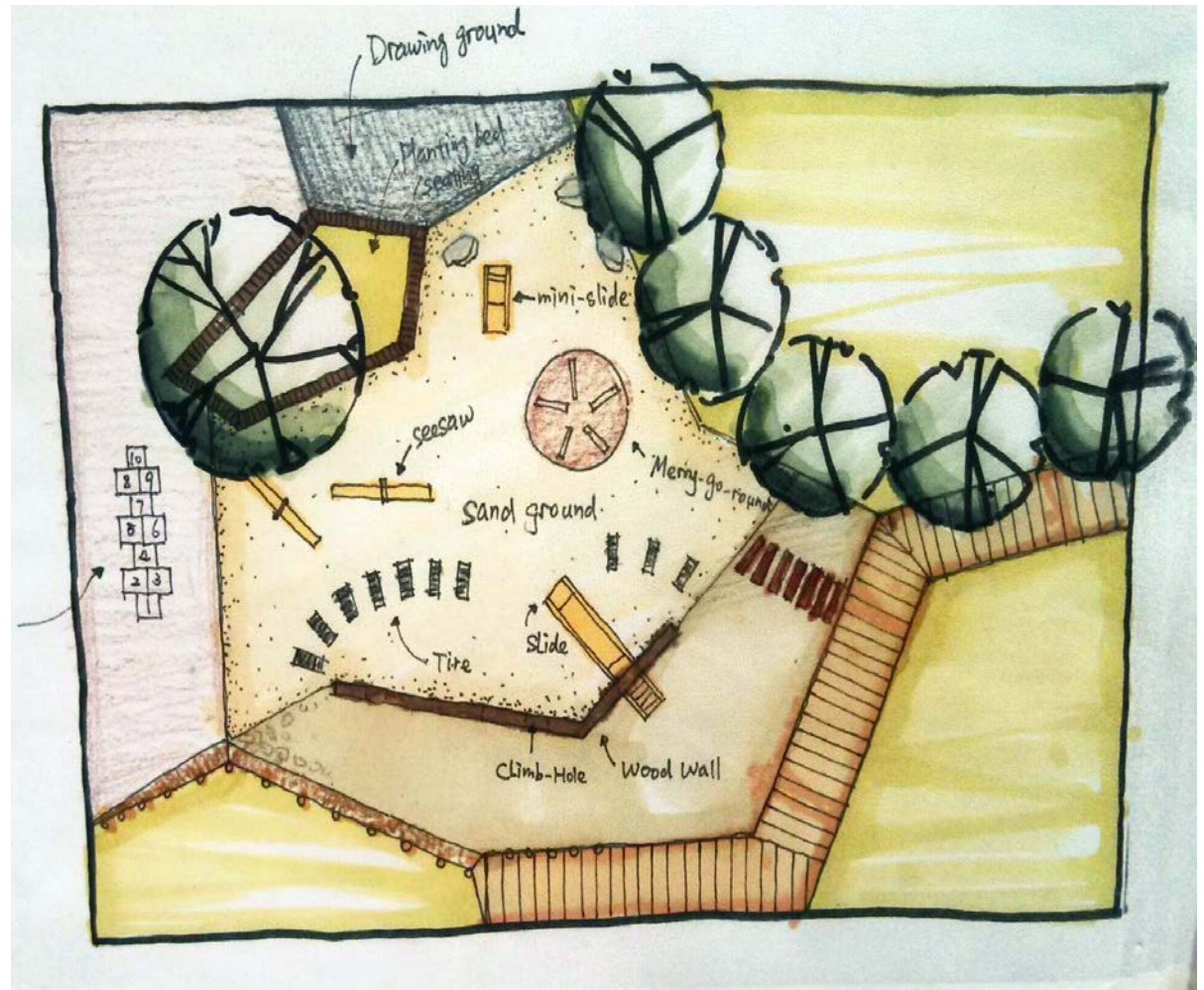


Figure 5. Designed and Rendered by Xiwei Wu

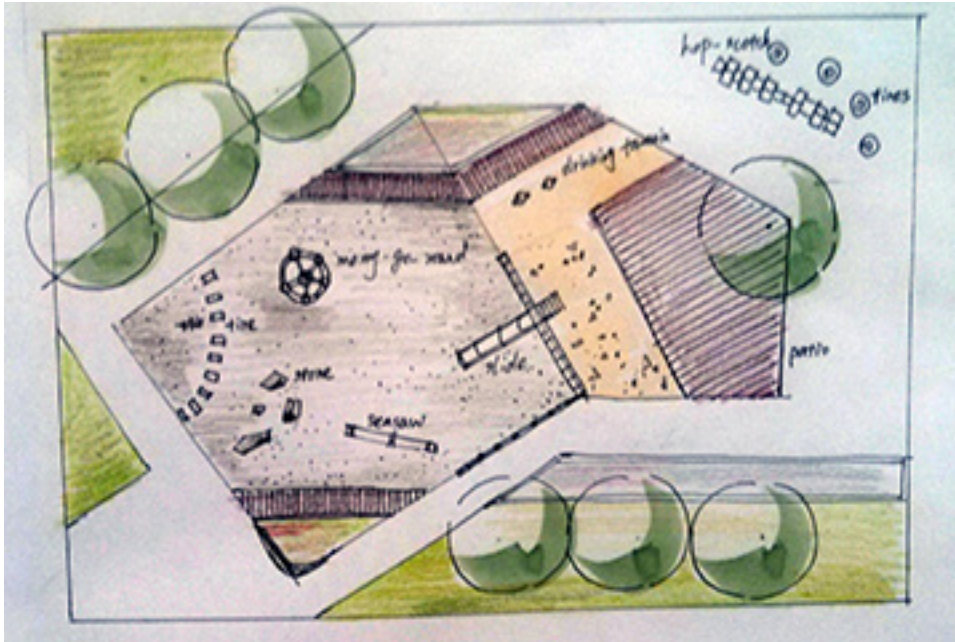


Figure 6. Designed and Rendered by Yuki

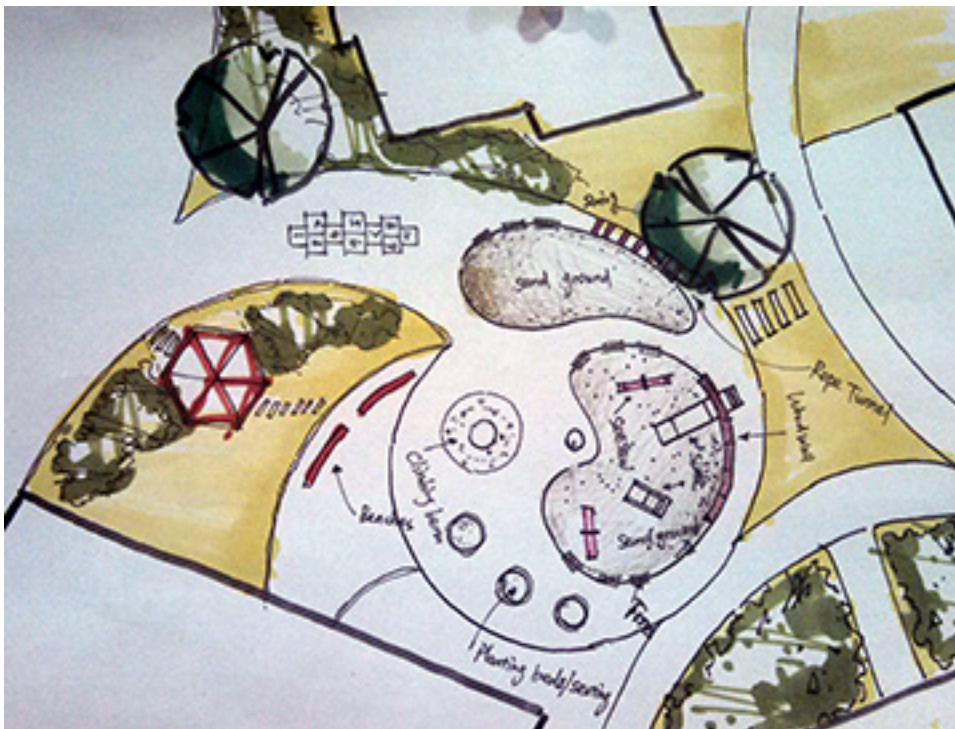


Figure 7. Designed and Rendered by Xiwei Wu and Yuki

Playgrounds



Figure 1. Slide
from ebico.co.uk



Figure 2. J Fleming College Paver

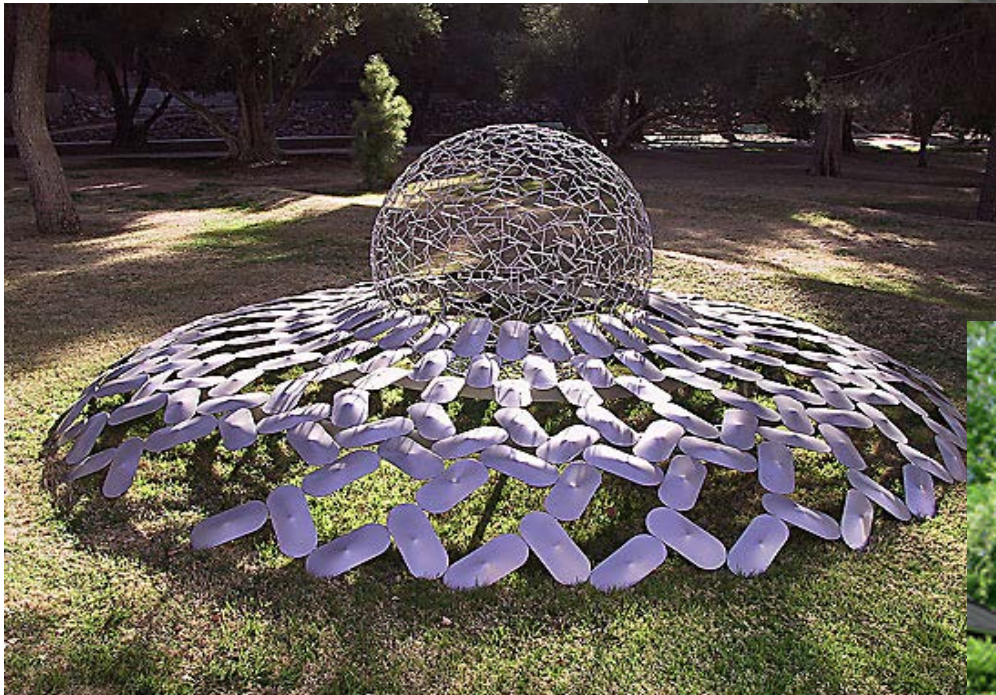
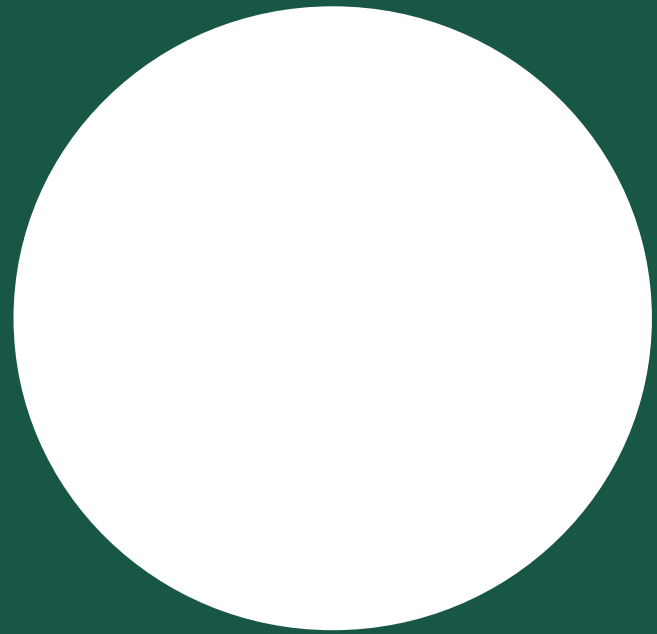


Figure 3. Sculpture
from artmuseum.arizon.edu



Figure 4. Banana and Pear
from formyhour.com



Case Studies

Playgrounds



Figure 1. Lion's Park Playscape

Lion's Park Playscape

Located in Greensboro, Alabama, this playground was completed in 2010. Constructed from recycled metal containers, the Lion's Park Playscape is designed in order to provide an interactive, imagination stimulating experience by the users of the project. The minimalist design and differing interior levels provide the user with a plethora of opportunities.¹

¹Freer, Andrew . 2013. "Lion's Park Playscape." Welcome to rural southwest Alabama. Accessed December 3, 2013. <http://www.ruralstudio.org/projects/lions-park-playscape>

Playgrounds

The Imagination Playground

The Imagination Playground in a Box was developed by architect David Rockwell. Imagination Playground Blocks are made of a cross-linked polyethylene foam that is manufactured in the USA. The blocks are also non-toxic, resistant to germs, mold, and mildew. They can easily be cleaned with soap and water. Blocks are also biodegradable and can be recycled. One Imagination Box can be used by up to 20 children, ages 5-12; with at least one supervising adult. Partners with KaBOOM! which is a non-profit dedicated to saving play.¹



Figure 2 . Playground in a Box

¹ Imagination Playground in a Box. <http://www.imaginationplayground.com/index.html>



Figure 3. Hyde Park Playground for the Elderly

Hyde Park Playground for the Elderly

Built in 2010, the purpose of the project is to provide an Older People's Play Area in Hyde Park that focuses on improving a person's core strength, flexibility, and balance. Facility includes 6 pieces of exercise equipment to help improve core strength, flexibility, and balance. The project encourages activity in the landscape and outdoor setting. The design is intended to be used by those who are ages 15 and older.¹

¹ Royal Parks. <http://www.royalparks.org.uk/parks/hyde-park/facilities-in-hyde-park/hyde-park-senior-playground>

National Playground Grants

We have provided additional information regarding playground grants which the Bethel Community could apply for, in order to receive funding to renovate the existing playground site.

KaBOOM! Community Partner Program
Deadline: Project-specific; Time-sensitive
Amount: Varies

The KaBOOM! Community Partner Program a flagship playground grant program. Through this program, hard-working, dedicated child-serving non-profits and municipal organizations are matched with Funding Partners, who have committed to providing the majority of funding to build playgrounds in specified towns or regions.

Deadline: Project-specific; Time-sensitive

Eligibility: Ideal Community Partners are usually child-serving non-profit organizations, but can be community development organizations, neighborhood coalitions, schools or any organization that can mobilize a volunteer force and is in need of a new playground! Find an updated list of cities with current funding opportunities here.

How to Apply: Learn more about the KaBOOM! Community Partner Program.

Contact: If you have any questions about the application process, please email needplayground@kaboom.org.

Let's Play Community Construction Grants

Deadline: Reference website

Amount: Up to \$15,000

Dr Pepper Snapple and KaBOOM! are offering \$15,000 grants to qualifying U.S.-based organizations to be used toward the purchase of playground equipment that will be built using the KaBOOM! community-build model. Grantees will plan their project, share best practices and challenges through Our Dream Playground. Imagination Playground in a Cart Construction Grants are also available for those communities that cannot build a fixed play space.

Application Process: Contact grants@kaboom.org to learn more.

Let's Play Maintenance Grants

Deadline: Rolling. These applications will be accepted on a continuous basis until they are all awarded.

Amount: \$750

Communities who wish to make their playgrounds cleaner, safer and more inviting are encouraged to apply for \$750 Let's Play Maintenance Grants. Let's Play Maintenance Grants are designed to reward communities that have maintained and "spruced" their playspaces and can be used for project supplies or new safety surfacing.

Application Process: Visit our website for further details.

<http://www.letsplay.com/get-involved/about-playground-grants>

American Express

Deadline: Rolling

Amount: Award amounts vary

One of the three divisions of American Express grant program includes community service, which could be a good fit for playground installations.

Application Process: See website for letter of inquiry guidelines.

<http://about.americanexpress.com/csr/howto.aspx>

David and Lucile Packard Foundation

Amount: Award amount varies

Program Contact: 650-917-7234 or local@packard.org

Several programs are available for community development and improvement. This foundation supports an exciting array of nonprofit partners as they work to achieve the full potential of America's children, lift human experience through the arts, and strengthen the nonprofit sector.

Application Process: Submit a letter of inquiry using their online form.

<http://www.packard.org>

Regional Grants

The Finish Line Youth Foundation

Deadline: Rolling on a quarterly basis

Amount: \$1,000-\$5,000

Program Contact: Youthfoundation@finishline.com

National Playground Grants

This Foundation strives to make a difference in the lives of youth in the communities where employees and customers live, work, and play. We accomplish this by being good stewards of the funds we receive and by supporting youth programs that are effective and inclusive. The Finish Line Youth Foundation financially supports opportunities for participation in youth programs that place an importance on youth development and an active lifestyle. In general, the Youth Foundation supports qualified, non-profit organizations that provide community based access to athletics for kids under the age of 18, as well as camps that give kids the chance to be active, especially camps that provide services to kids who are disadvantaged or disabled.

The Finish Line Youth Foundation is currently accepting grant proposals from qualifying programs/organizations on a quarterly basis.

Application Process: Take the eligibility quiz online to see if you qualify. Applications must be sent electronically.

<http://www.finishline.com/store/youthfoundation/guidelines.jsp>

State-wide Grants

The Robert W. Woodruff Foundation

Deadline: Grant proposals can be submitted any time during the year. Proposals received by September 1 are considered in November.

Amount: \$100,000 - \$1,000,000

Program Contact: 404-522-6755 or fdns@woodruff.org

The Robert W. Woodruff Foundation, Inc. is an independent private foundation with a broad charter to support charitable, scientific and educational activities. The Foundation is governed by a self-perpetuating Board of Trustees under the laws of the state of Georgia. Grants generally are limited to tax-exempt public charities located and operating in Georgia. Principal giving interests are focused on the following program areas:

- Elementary, secondary and higher education

- Health care and education Human services, particularly for children and youth

- Economic development and civic affairs

- Art and cultural activities

- Conservation of natural resources and environmental education

Application Process: No application form is required. Proposals should be in letter form, addressed to P. Russell Hardin, Robert W. Woodruff Foundation, 191 Peachtree Street, NE, Suite 3450, Atlanta, GA 30303. Visit their website for proposal guidelines.
http://www.woodruff.org/appGuidelines_rww.aspx

Comprehensive Design



Proposed Design

If implemented, the proposed landscape and building alterations would once again present Bethel Midtown Village as the modern, welcoming home that its residents so deserve.



Figure 1 . Image rendered by Fanglan Chen and Craig Biesecker

