Mapping Athens
Planning with Design
Outside of the Studio
Project Riverway
Archway Partnership
Thesis Spotlight: Lara Browning
Thesis Spotlight: Sean Zeigler and Lauren Clementino
CELA Awards
Faculty Spotlight: Rene Shoemaker
Events Calendar
A comprehensive master plan for a sustainable UGA campus

By Myles Maland, MLA 2012

The Campus Green Infrastructure Plan is an outstanding example of how student-led community-based design and principles of green infrastructure can come together to form a comprehensive guide for preserving and restoring the capacity of a campus landscape to provide critical ecosystem services and functions. As many universities turn their attention to campus sustainability, some will take a piecemeal approach, focusing on individual projects as they arise. This project approaches the campus as a whole system, and serves as a valuable educational tool for students, faculty and community partners.

Under the direction of two professors, twenty students in the graduate Sustainability Studio developed a program guided by stakeholder input, ecological principles, campus regulations, and site inventory and analysis. The group divided into small teams and conducted community input sessions, and after initial programmatic goals had been met, students designed individual plans that focused on restoring and enhancing ecological hubs, reestablishing fractured habitat, and mimicking pre-development nutrient and hydrological cycles.

Following stakeholder review and feedback, students dissected the merits of each individual plan, and reworked them into a complete green infrastructure plan that unified stormwater management, ecological restoration, habitat connectivity, and alternative transportation. After these revisions, students worked individually on site-scale interventions that supported the larger plan. Students also developed design guidelines to direct future campus improvements.

The recommendations offered by the class were well received by the stakeholders, which included campus planners. Public input and review lent transparency to the process, and also demonstrated the role of the landscape architect as facilitator and designer in one.

Top
Tanyard Creek runs through the middle of campus, directly under Sanford Stadium. The plan proposes restoring its ecological functionality. This visualization shows the creek running under a planned pedestrian bridge.
Stuart Jones, MLA 2012

Bottom
Public input was an important part of the planning process and helped shape the final product, as well as provide transparency.

Photo courtesy of Jon Calabria
A comprehensive master plan for a sustainable UGA campus

Right

Various overlay analysis techniques were used to inform the plan.

Left

Large patches of green space create nodes for wildlife habitat & ecological restoration.
Stephanie Wolfgang, MLA 2012
Athens counterSPACE is a collaborative university-community initiative to generate new possibilities for Civic Agriculture in Athens. Civic Agriculture is a relatively new term for an age-old concept: the idea that food should be produced, distributed, and consumed in ways that sustain the health of the ecological communities that inhabit a place. Civic agriculture is a locally organized system of food production characterized by networks of producers who are bound together by community and place. The contemporary civic agriculture movement embodies a commitment to strengthening an economically, environmentally and socially sustainable food system that relies foremost on local resources and serves local markets and consumers.

We define a “counterspace” as any space—farm, garden, market, kitchen, tabletop or compost bin—that weans our community from its dependence on an unsustainable, global industrial food system. In contrast to the spaces of industrial agriculture, counterspaces are part of comparatively small networks, and they operate primarily at the scale of the individual and the local community. They rely mostly on nearby resources, produce food and other goods that circulate close to home, and capture and recycle most wastes and “byproducts” within the local community.

Top
Newspaper pots planted with vegetables were distributed free of charge at the Athens Farmers Market and Tate Student Center as one of counterSPACE’s initiatives.

Bottom
Athens counterSPACE exists not only as a network of spaces, but as a community of people who have come together to explore, imagine, and build possibilities for civic agriculture in Athens.
Athens counterSPACE emerged during Spring 2009 through conversations between Dr. Amy Trauger of the University of Georgia Department of Geography, and Dr. Eric MacDonald of the College of Environment and Design. Trauger and MacDonald were interested in creating a mechanism for engaging UGA faculty, students, and community members in collaborative problem-solving focused on eliminating hunger (“food insecurity”) and expanding the availability of fresh, locally-grown fruits and vegetables in Athens-Clarke County. Trauger and MacDonald further developed the concept for counterSPACE through conversations and research collaboration with Dr. Jung Sun Lee of the College of Public Health, and Catarina Passidomo, a Ph.D. candidate in Geography. During the following 18 months, Athens counterSPACE evolved from these conversations.

The tangible results produced by Athens counterSPACE since its inception in May 2009 derive from research into existing and possible landscapes of civic agriculture in Athens. They include community suppers and potlucks, the design and installation of a temporary “community garden” in two downtown parking spaces (see article on right), the construction of bicycle “food carts,” the exploration of “guerilla gardening” techniques, and other experiments in growing and cooking food.

PARK(ing) DAY

By Craig Page, MEPD 2011

The San Francisco based art and design collective, REBAR, hosted the first Park(ing) Day in 2005, turning a single parking space into a temporary park. Last year, over 700 communities across the globe were inspired to transform their own parking spots to parks. In 2010, for the first time, Athens joined the ranks of these communities, with the twist of modeling the space after a community garden as part of counterSPACE’s initiatives.

Vegetables were grown especially for Park(ing) Day by Melissa Tufts on her farm in Madison County, Georgia. UGArdens, a student organization that runs a one-acre campus community garden on campus, also donated plants in addition to helping plan and set up the garden. The University of Georgia Grounds Department donated soil and mulch. All other materials in the garden were recycled and reclaimed.

On Park(ing) Day, students and community members set up the garden in the pre-dawn hours on College Square, downtown Athens. There were gardening demonstrations throughout the day. Food Not Bombs provided a free vegetarian lunch and all of the donated plants went to school gardens in Athens. For one day, these downtown parking spaces became a vibrant island of life, greenery, and inspiration.

To learn more about the counterSPACE project or International PARK(ing) Day, visit http://www.athenscounterspace.org and http://www.parkingday.org respectively.
Mapping Athens
Planning students visualize Athens’

Mapping is one of the most effective ways of communicating complex information and environmental characteristics. Using map visualization as a primary method, students in the Master of Environmental Planning & Design program identified Athens’ unique physical, environmental and social characteristics. The students showcased their illustrations this past fall in the Circle Gallery on campus. The exhibit adopted two different goals and approaches. Mapping Athens is intended to illustrate the “big picture” of Athens by focusing on objective statistical information and interpretive experiential networks that visualize everyday landscape experiences and practices. A few of the many maps included Leah Graham Stewart’s three dimensional population density model; Craig Page’s Burger Shed map that illustrates the location that each ingredient within a burger travels from to reach the Athens McDonald’s; and Mario Cambardella’s bike & automobile conflict map that indicates, with a red dot the location and number of reported collisions involving a bike and a car from 1999-2008.

Photo courtesy of Sungkyung Lee
Above
Visual analysis of Athens-Clarke County that depicts locations of automobile and bike conflicts.
Mario Cambardella, MEPD 2011

Left
Three-dimensional representation of population density per acre as depicted by current zoning codes, derived from the coordinating map.
Leah Graham Stewart, MEPD 2011

Below
Graphic depiction of the ingredients of a hamburger from an Athens, Georgia McDonald’s. The location of each ingredient was calculated to determine how many total miles the hamburger has traveled.
Craig Page, MEPD 2011

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**Burger Shed**

**Serving Site:** McDonald’s

**Serving Size:** One hamburger with french fries

**Total Miles:** 44,696

- by truck: 6,691 (15%)
- by train: 20,228 (45%)
- by boat: 1,777 (40%)

**Burger:** 2,943 (7%)

**Bun:** 28,625 (64%)

**Onion:** 1,064 (2%)

**Pickle:** 5,967 (13%)

**Fries:** 2,221 (5%)

**Ketchup:** 3,876 (9%)

**Ingredients:** Burger: 100% pure USDA inspected beef. Bun: Enriched flour ( bleached wheat flour, enriched wheat flour, leavening), dextrose, sugar, salt, shortening (palm oil, hydrogenated soybean oil, partially hydrogenated cottonseed oil, high oleic sunflower oil), vegetable oil (canola oil), High Fructose Corn Syrup, sodium nitrate, potassium nitrate, dextrose, high fructose corn syrup, water, citric acid, and guar gum. **Ketchup:** Tomato puree (tomatoes), high fructose corn syrup, citric acid, monosodium glutamate, sorbic acid (preservative), and water.

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*Grown in this area
**Produced here
"Grown near location in Athens, Georgia"
Assignment: Design a permaculture demonstration garden for the Athens Permaculture Club. The project sounds easy, but the site is tricky: a steep, narrow kudzu thicket, partly owned by the city of Athens, overlooking the headwaters of the odd-smelling Tanyard Branch Creek. No matter; we embraced the optimism of Athens’ permaculture leaders—Kevin Yates, Salem Willard and Gareth Crosby—this unused site can become a community space disguised as a food forest. The plants will restore the creek and feed the people. People will play here as often as they work. It is a progressive garden, equal parts restoration and recreation.

Initially, we each planned to design our own gardens. We realized though, that eighteen master plans with essentially the same ideas do not provide much of a service and, from our experiences, eighteen master plans make for a desperately dull presentation. We divided into three teams. With the energy and abilities of eighteen people, we read about common permaculture plants and design forms, tested soil and water quality, researched creek buffer ordinances, learned about stream bank restoration BMPs, researched groundbreaking kudzu removal strategies, dreamed up cool signage, collected a list of pertinent grant programs, pondered the use of social media in a decidedly low-tech garden, and drafted a manual to apply for 501(c)(3) status. The result: a wide-ranging collection of ideas, materials and plans.

The following photos track our progress through the project. As part of our service-learning experience, we spent a class period working on the site, building a rain garden, mulching and fertilizing the garden, tilling a new plant bed, and eating the last of the season’s tomatoes. We assessed the site, planned our own program, designed gardens and restoration areas, compiled research, and presented our work to our clients.

These photos do not (and cannot) show the entirety of the benefits of service-learning. These photos do not capture how I felt when our clients unexpectedly came to studio and we fervently tried to explain the nature of bubble diagrams and how a squiggle can mean “existing pecan tree” and the same squiggle on the other end of the paper can mean “rain garden.” Nor do they illustrate how I realized in that moment that I should never, ever propose a design to clients without elevation sketches. These photos do not explain that group work is great because each person gets to do work he likes to do, and the final product is better for it. The studio might be a comfortable place to design, but grounded experiences can only be found with real clients and real design problems.
Many hands make light work clearing kudzu in the permaculture garden at Ben’s Bikes.

Master plan for the garden, produced by Lillian Agel, Agustina Hein, Lauren Cardoni, and Tyler Lloyd in Professor Sungkyung Lee’s fifth year undergraduate Sustainability in Design studio.

The design group identifies potential programming elements in the garden.

The finished rain garden shortly after installation.
Iron sculpture: Monument to the

By Stuart Jones, MLA 2012

Watershed - “a bounded hydrologic system, within which all living things are inextricably linked by their common water course and where, as humans settled, simple logic demanded that they become part of a community.” John Wesley Powell 1834-1902.

Watersheds are often referred to metaphorically as sinks. Pushing the metaphor further the topographic...
model of the Tanyard Creek Watershed has been forged into a literal cast iron sink.

This piece is both a functional addition to a community garden as well as a monument to the couple that created the garden.

As a utilitarian object, the sink will allow gardeners the opportunity to fill watering cans and remove the heavy clay that can cake hands and vegetables, and clog indoor sinks. Unless a bucket is placed under the opening in the sink, water will spill out of the sink drain and onto the ground. Without a typical connection to a sewer system the sink will act as a reminder that our actions have an impact on the community.

As monument, the piece acknowledges that individuals can have a broad impact on their surroundings. The actual watershed is bigger than all of us, but when it is shrunken down, it is the individual that affects the watershed.

The concrete countertop is made to resemble a piece of sidewalk that has paved over forgotten objects such as records, silverware, pottery, broken glass, and a stuffed animal. The garden has a museum of found objects similar to the ones that are under the sculpture. This aspect of the piece represents the need for cultural sensitivity as well as ecological awareness.

The sink contour lines were taken from a government map of the Tanyard Creek Watershed that surrounds the community garden. The contour lines were then cut out of chipboard, glued into a three-dimensional model, and cast into sand mold into which molten iron was poured. The basin was then placed in wet concrete. Buried in the earth underneath the wet concrete were a number of found objects that were gripped by the wet concrete. When cured, the concrete table top was pulled out of the earth along with the buried objects and placed on cinderblocks, borrowing the imagery of the propped up houses surrounding the garden.
Wes Ryals completed UGA’s undergraduate landscape architecture program in May of 2010. During his senior year he created a terminal project, submitted it for two ASLA awards, and won both. The project explores historic preservation at the Wormsloe site in Savannah. The owners of this historic plantation have a longstanding relationship with the University of Georgia, offering it as a case study site for students from an array of disciplines, including history, ecology, sociology, anthropology, and geography, in addition to landscape architecture. Wes was attracted to the site on an initial visit during a fall 2009 design charrette with Professor David Spooner. Wes came to UGA having already completed a bachelor’s degree in history, and the plantation’s legacy appealed to him greatly. He took up the challenge of creating a new master plan for Wormsloe, incorporating its rich historic fabric. In crafting his approach, Wes sought to “take the varied pieces of landscape narratives, weave them together and make more of a comprehensive story for the site.” His work was awarded both the state and national ASLA Student Honor awards in the General Design Category.
The Wormsloe property encompasses 822 acres and lies approximately eleven miles southeast of the city of Savannah, Georgia. The property is flanked by the Moon River to the west; the Isle of Hope River to the east; the Diamond Causeway to the south; and the historic Dupon subdivision to the north.

Ownership of the property is subdivided amongst the private estate, The Wormsloe Foundation, and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. The property remained largely private domain until 1927, when the family, spurred by financial difficulties, opened the old plantation grounds to a paying public. Today, the focal features of the property continue to be the 1.5 mile-long Live Oak allee entrance drive as well as the colonial era remnants of Noble Jones’ fortified house. A visitor center and living history demonstration area provide some context to a visiting public. However, interpretation of the landscape remains largely fragmented, and in some cases, ignored completely.

Two events feature prominently in the environmental degradation of the site. The first occurred in 1972 with the construction of the Diamond Causeway, an important connection linking Savannah to Skidaway Island. The connection effectively bisected important salt marsh communities, choking off tidal flow north of the causeway. Additionally, excess fill was deposited north of the causeway, resulting in thinly vegetated areas of high marsh as well as upland hammock. Furthermore, increased salinity levels have led to the formation of extensive salt flats devoid of vegetation. Recent soil sampling of the site area suggests the buried marsh to be under approximately three feet of fill. Recent plans to widen the causeway place additional strain on the functionality of the delicate estuarine environment.

A second disruption occurred in 1974 with an infestation of Southern Pine Beetle on the Isle of Hope. Subsequently, a large tract of old-growth forest had to be clear-cut to avoid further contamination.
Since the early 1980s, the College of Environment and Design has played an instrumental role in the evolving discipline of cultural landscape management. CED professors pioneered concepts for the field and educated many graduates who became leaders and advocates for cultural landscapes in both the governmental and private sectors. The College is now building upon this legacy by establishing a research laboratory that will provide learning and research opportunities for students, faculty, and professional practitioners in the area of cultural landscape management.

The CED Cultural Landscape Lab is structured around long-term partnerships with organizations and people who steward nationally-significant cultural landscapes. With a research focus on heritage conservation and sustainability, work is currently underway at three sites: Wormsloe Plantation, Isle of Hope, Georgia (in partnership with the Wormsloe Institute for Environmental History and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources); Stratford Hall Plantation, Westmoreland County, Virginia (in partnership with the Robert E. Lee Memorial Association), and Hyde Farm, a historic farmstead in Marietta, Georgia (an emerging partnership with the U.S. National Park Service (NPS) and Cobb County Parks and Recreation).

In each situation, CED is collaborating with multiple partners to carefully investigate, design, and implement a bold and exciting vision to ensure sustained stewardship of these remarkable historic and ecological resources. The Lab’s work builds upon NPS professional procedures for cultural landscape management.

Above
The Spanish Veil
Etching & Ink on Paper.
Stephanie Bryan, MLA 2011
This etching was inspired by the iconic Wormsloe Plantation allee of live oaks.
management, while also exploring new possibilities for research, innovation, and education.

Researching a cultural landscape entails a great deal of detective work. Archival records, old photographs, personal recollections — not to mention the landscape itself — contain mysteries that the Lab is exploring. For example, faculty and students are using geospatial and remote sensing technologies to analyze each site’s historical evolution and reveal vestiges of past human activity that may be undetectable to the human eye. Findings from this and other research techniques will guide future management and interpretive strategies.

The Lab’s sites also are serving as “field labs” for the next generation of cultural landscape professionals, offering CED graduate students opportunities to further their education with fieldwork and immersion experiences. During fall semester 2010, students in three graduate-level classes investigated management issues at Hyde Farm and Stratford Hall.

The Lab anticipates some exciting discoveries over the next year. Indeed, the Wormsloe, Stratford, and Hyde Farm landscapes hold many intriguing clues to their important histories, which the Cultural Landscape Lab is working to uncover. Each of these stories will offer communities and visitors new ways to understand and experience these extraordinary historic sites.

Faculty involved in Cultural Landscape Lab projects include CED Dean Daniel Nadenicek and professors Cassity, Cramer, Harrison, MacDonald, Spooner, Tufts, and Vick. Other partners include faculty in the UGA Department of Geography’s Center for Remote Sensing and Mapping Science; The Jaeger Company, a landscape architecture and planning firm based in Gainesville, Georgia; and Don Moore, CEO and founder of Produce, Inc., a strategic planning and marketing consultant based in Atlanta. For more information, contact Eric MacDonald (eamacdon@uga.edu).
The second year fall 2010 Master of Environmental Planning and Design studio, directed by Dr. Umit Yilmaz, engaged in a service-learning project in Newton County, Georgia. Goals of the project included the students gaining an understanding of related planning, design, development, and regulatory issues while conceptualizing a pattern language for future integrated farm and residential land use. The service goal was to provide alternative visions for future land use and their contextual relations in Newton County by using a 95 acre study property. Each student worked independently to interpret the client’s project statement, develop visions, make future land use predictions, and conceptualize patterns for the property. In the end, a generic concept was synthesized from the students’ ideas. Planning and development policies were then generated from the physical design decisions previously made in the conceptual design phase. Writing policies derived from good design principles not only helped the students become more aware of the physical implications of written policies; it helped them further understand policies that need to be written in order to facilitate responsible design.

Collaboration with stakeholders exposed the students to common issues that planners are faced with on a daily basis. The class partnered with The Center for Community Preservation and Planning, a local non-profit organization that facilitates a collaborative atmosphere where growth and planning discussions occur efficiently among all stakeholders in Newton County. The Center hosted a final presentation at which community members, local planning officials, county commissioners, and developers provided feedback on the designs. The semester-long studio provided the students an opportunity to gain valuable real-world experience while benefitting the community.
Design students serve in Newton County, Georgia

The proposed design was a synthesis combining the most common elements of student work such as phased planning, commercial space, and a variety of housing types and lot sizes.

Current land use 2010
GIS maps courtesy of Fall 2010 MEPD Studio III Class.

Projected land use 2028.
Over the course of the past five years, the Project Riverway internship team has worked with multiple communities in the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River corridor to provide them with realistic and implementable design recommendations. The summer 2010 team focused on the City of Donalsonville and Seminole County, Georgia, and was led by alumni Danny Bivins (MHP) and Leigh Askew Elkins (MLA) of The University of Georgia’s Fanning Institute. Five current historic preservation and landscape architecture students from the College of Environment and Design also participated on the project.

The internship began with a community immersion visit, where the team spent several days in the community gathering information, interviewing residents, and developing an understanding of the space. The group had the opportunity to speak with the mayor, city council members, county commissioners, business owners and many others. It was the team’s goal to help the city and county realize the full potential of the resources they possessed and to allow both visitors and locals to take advantage of them.

The two months following this visit were used for vision and plan development, compiling resources, and creating illustrative designs and explanatory text based on community input. The goal was to turn hundreds of ideas and opinions into one focused vision. Major project foci included: landscape planning for the county courthouse; proposed trails and pavilions at Reynolds Landing in Seminole State Park; connections between the lake and downtown; signage on Route 39; and gateways and highway integration on Route 84. The historic heart of Downtown Donalsonville was also a key area, with efforts focused on greening streets and alleyways; effectively utilizing vacant storefronts; programming for youth activities; a 1st Street Trail to address water drainage issues; and a proposed public space called Ponder’s Corner.

The opportunity to work on a “real world” project with clients was a wonderful student experience. “Working with Project Riverway will be an invaluable experience for the future, and working with the community of Donalsonville was a privilege,” said Tori Simmons. Each participant brought different skills and ideas to the table to create a truly great proposal that will benefit Donalsonville and Seminole.
Community of Donalsonville, Georgia

County. Kaitlin McShea said about the program: “This is my second year participating in Project Riverway, and I have enjoyed being able to use my creativity while assisting Georgia communities.” The internship was an extremely valuable hands-on experience for the team members, as it was up to the students to prove the value of their suggestions through examples and demonstrations.

The final products were presented to the community of Donalsonville, Georgia, on October 23, 2010. The proposed changes and improvements were well received. It is the hope of the team that over the course of the next several years the City of Donalsonville and Seminole County will be able to implement many of the designs proposed in the final report.

Top Bar
Downtown greening in three phases.

Above and Left
Reynolds Landing alternative trail head signage options.

Opposite
Final phase of master plan for US 84 corridor demonstrating street tree plantings.
For the past five years, the Archway Partnership and the College of Environment and Design have collaborated to provide expertise to counties in Georgia that face significant economic and community development issues. This summer, the Archway Partnership along with twenty-three CED graduate and undergraduate students joined forces with civic leaders, communities’ members, and governmental agencies from various Georgia counties to provide community enhancement strategies and tools through design.

Projects included, but were not limited to: landscape plans, gateway and entrance designs, riparian buffer restoration, historic preservation guidelines, and neighborhood and regional revitalization plans.

The Archway communities include: Sandersville/Tennille/Washington County, Moultrie/Colquitt County, Brunswick/Glynn County, Clayton County, Hartwell/Hart County, Dalton/Whitfield County, Sumter County and Pulaski County.
development in Georgia
The Essential Cycle

...sky beauty aloft
cool off
slow down
stay real high
all abound
bind together
hold strong
fall to earth
make a song
run off
river wild
ebb and flow
bless the child
gather
together
bend
slice
carve like knife
run life
quench me
fall with grace
bless the sea
crawl deep
past blue
to the dark
cleanse anew
hold, hide
mother’s chest
till seasoned
escape when pressed
rise again
shape within
close
condense
sky beauty aloft
cool off...
This view is Bodega Bay, in Northern California, where I visited my sister this December. I am incorporating the painting into a studio project as the view seen from my ideal place of my own. - Carrie Landers
The American government operates within structures and landscapes that impede democracy rather than facilitate it. This dysfunctional built environment opposes the ideals and inhibits the goals of democracy to the detriment of American citizens. Through an examination of historic government typologies and their built environments, this thesis asserts that political will manifests itself through built form and indicates government intention and ideology. Applied to the United States, this concept yields a critique of both the American democracy and its built environment, exposing an inconsistency between the two. The issues revolving around a modern redesign of the government built environment are contemporized through an exploration of political transparency, government security, digital media, and peak oil. In the end, design principles and applications are offered that seek to provide a method of realigning government ideals and built form to facilitate the American democracy.
Detroit, Michigan is one of many postindustrial cities plagued by a cycle of depopulation, disinvestment, and increasing land vacancy. Negative perceptions of vacant land exacerbate this problem because they hinder the public’s ability to see such land as a potential resource. This thesis examines whether landscape architecture could counteract this perceptual obstacle, by devising a fallow state for vacant urban land. This fallow condition would be long-term, restorative, transitional, adaptable, interactive, and true to a sense of place. A study of scholarly literature, periodicals, and case studies, along with personal interviews and the author’s own explorations of Detroit, indicated that the proposed fallow state does hold promise as a catalyst for positive perceptual and physical change. The results also suggested it would be possible to develop a framework for systematic implementation of fallow urban land design on a citywide scale, although further research would be required first.
Research and design guidelines for therapeutic gardens target patient populations such as acute care, psychiatric, pediatric, geriatric, and Alzheimer’s patients. A significant patient population that has not been addressed is maternity care patients. This research concentrates on ways in which the designed environment can help to alleviate stress through the provision of therapeutic gardens for maternity patients, thereby protecting fetuses from adverse effects. Qualities of the home environment may assist in stress reduction and are thus used to develop guidelines for therapeutic garden design specific to maternity care patients. The design guidelines are applied to develop a rooftop garden for a maternity care center in Atlanta, Georgia.
Deferred Maintenance in the National Park Service and Preservation Goals for the 2016 Centennial and Beyond

By Lauren Michelle Clementino, MHP 2010

A tremendous multi-billion dollar backlog of deferred maintenance plagues National Service historic resources and infrastructure. This thesis examines the nature of the deferred maintenance, its effect on historic structures, and recent federal government attempts to address the backlog. In light of the upcoming 2016 National Park Service centennial, recommendations are offered for higher quality historic preservation and cultural resource stewardship in the park service.

Form, Function and Preservation: The Evolution of the Denominational College Campus in Georgia

By Sean Michael Ziegler, MHP 2010

This thesis looks at three colleges in Georgia which were founded by different denominations in the nineteenth century: Emory University, Oglethorpe University, and Mercer University. The history of the colleges and the planning traditions are examined to understand how the colleges have evolved up to the present and how they have evolved with the rest of the country; the current college designs focus on traditional quadrangles. The future plans for the quadrangles are examined and how the colleges have addressed their historic buildings in the evolving campus.
Ah Ah Ah Awake
Digital Media
by Joanna Schwevens, MLA 2012
Exploration of experiencing space through a sequence of visual frames, finalized as an animated music video.
Last spring the CED announced that as part of their final studio, the third-year MLA class would travel to China to participate in a pioneering exchange program with Nanjing Forestry University. On par with the frenetic pace of the Chinese economy, our trip was a whirlwind of activity. Upon our late night arrival into Shanghai, we were treated to the first of many elaborate meals, with as many as forty dishes served on a giant lazy-susan. During this formal welcome dinner, we learned that Gambé means cheers, bottoms up and lights out. Early the next morning, professors Li Zhiming and Lui Yuan shepherded us through the Shanghai World Expo – an extravagant show of global architecture represented by the omnipresent mascot Haibo. In the evening we explored the Bund, a promenade along the Huangpu River showcasing classical architecture and modern marvels such as the ‘Pearl of the Orient’ on opposing shores.

Day two included Shanghai’s Urban Planning Museum, which featured a mind-blowing 1:5000 scale model of the city, and Bridge 8, an industrial warehouse district retrofitted for a variety of design firms. Lunch in the leafy French Concession was followed by a hair-raising elevator ride to the top of the Shanghai World Financial Center, which at 1,614.2 ft is the highest observation deck in the world.

Awoken in the dark after a long bus ride, we were greeted by the cobblestone streets and narrow, vendor-lined alleys of Xitang. After a dinner of whole frogs, duck’s blood soup, and cow stomach, we retired to hotels complete with roll-back wooden doors, straw bales on the lower floors, and ‘ancient-style’ bamboo beds, all in a quaint and charming river town, softly lit by red lanterns and floating luminaries. Live musicians and fisherman poling along the canals helped to complete the scene.

Traveling north through the countryside, we stopped in Wuzhen, a paler, more sanitized version of an ancient river town, where the government is recreating lost building arts. We ended the day in Suzhou, the classic “garden city” of six million people. Here we visited contemporary parks by EDAW (AECOM), juxtaposed with UNESCO world heritage sites such as The Master of the Nets, Humble Administrator’s, Lingering, and Lion Grove gardens, as well as I.M. Pei’s Suzhou Museum. In addition to the rockeries and stonework
for which this area is famous, we discovered jien bing, a delicious crepe-like treat sold by street vendors. The drive northwest to Nanjing highlighted the alarming rate of building and industrialization underway.

Professor Pardue gave an amazing lecture on Synthetic Urban Nature, after which we began our task: a master plan for a 135-acre second phase of NFU’s Huai’an campus. We divided into three mixed teams, working to blend Western foci on site analysis, agricultural heritage, and human scale, with our NFU counterparts’ push for solar orientation, high density and monumental scale. Despite the challenges of project scope, limited time, and language barrier, we presented three plans to the Dean, Dr. Hao Wang, Associate Dean, Dr. Zhang Qing Ping, Professor Yan Jun, faculty and students.

We were not entirely confined to the studio – in the afternoons we took in spectacular views from Dr. Sun Yat-Sen’s Mausoleum and Ming Tomb and Temple on the Zhongshan (Purple) Mountain. We also visited the somber Nanjing Massacre Museum, wandered the markets along the Quin Huai river, and climbed the Nanjing-Zonghuamen gate. At the end of the week, we ventured to Huangshan, where we marveled at the staff hauling people and supplies up the ‘Yellow Mountains’ - beautiful even when shrouded in mist and poncho-clad tourists. On our last day, we stopped in Hongcun, a picturesque water village dating back to the Ming and Qing dynasties, and concluded at the Prince Bay Park and Gardens in Hangzhou.

The sites, smells, tastes, and customs we encountered abroad are inimitable, creating a unique and powerful experience. This journey continued when UGA hosted NFU students two months later for another fast-paced week of design and cultural immersion. All involved learned much about each other’s cultures and themselves by venturing outside of customary realms.
A Maymester along the Trail of Tears and Fall semester in Costa Rica

Above
*Untitled*. pen and ink. Sosebee’s Cove, GA from the Trail of Tears Maymester. Laura Sommet, MLA 2012.

Left
Fall semester in Costa Rica

Left
*Untitled.*
pen and ink.

Right
*Untitled.*
watercolor.
Blood Mountain, GA and Kentucky landscape from the Trail of Tears Maymester.
Kelly Holdbrooks, MLA 2012.

Below
*Ficus Tree*
pen and ink.
Fall semester in Costa Rica. Carson Hale, BLA 2012.
Cultural Heritage

A case study in Iraqi cultural heritage protection

By Benjamin A. Roberts, MHP 2010

The United States came under harsh international scrutiny in the wake of the 2003 invasion of Iraq and ensuing looting of the Iraq Museum. These criticisms were not unfounded, and highlighted a growing need for cooperation between the U.S. military and the international community in the area of cultural heritage protection during armed conflict and its immediate aftermath.

My original investigation into this topic started in Professor James Reap’s International Heritage Preservation class, which included an entire section devoted to the protection of cultural resources during war. Based on Professor Reap’s thorough knowledge of the subject and previous work with the United Nation’s International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), the classroom discussions allowed me to have a more informed experience while serving in Iraq.

In 2008, I embarked on an involuntary hiatus from UGA’s Master of Historic Preservation program to deploy to Iraq with the Georgia National Guard’s 848th Engineer Company (Sapper). Although I spent much of my time in Iraq as a Combat Engineer Platoon Leader conducting route clearance missions (hunting IEDs) throughout Baghdad, I did get to take part in some interesting rebuilding efforts there as well. It was during these brief assignments that my military mission and civilian education seemed to come together for the first time, most noticeably during my time as Task Force Engineer with Task Force Iron Gimlet (TFIG). The Task Force was formed in December 2008 to encourage community improvement efforts in the Abu Ghraib and Nassar Wa Salaam communities and surrounding areas west of Baghdad, Iraq.

TFIG was formed as a partnership between the local Qada (county) and community leadership, business owners, U.S. Army forces of the 1st Battalion of the 21st Infantry Regiment, and elements of 926th Engineer Brigade. The intention was to empower Iraqis to conduct many necessary community development projects themselves, with substantial funding provided through the Commander’s Emergency Response Program (CERP).

Our goal was to scope, bid, and conduct quality assurance for the community development projects carried out by local contractors and businessmen. The majority of the contracts awarded to local Iraqis allowed for school improvements, local market development, and micro-loans for small business owners. One of these contracts was for the revitalization of tourism infrastructure in and around the 4,500-year-old Ziggurat at Aqar Quf, just west of Baghdad. The once-popular tourist destination had included a café, visitors’ center, and a small museum, all of which had been looted and laid in various states of disrepair.

Photo courtesy of Benjamin Roberts

Left and opposite Ziggurat of Aqar Quf, Iraq.
The project at Aqar Quf highlights the potential for cooperation between military forces and local populations in safeguarding and preventing damage to cultural heritage sites. It also demonstrates the success of the CERP program as it provides opportunities for the local populace to obtain steady employment while simultaneously encouraging shared cultural heritage identity among various ethnic groups in a classic win-win scenario.

Photo courtesy of Benjamin Roberts
Bruce K. Ferguson is Franklin Professor of Landscape Architecture and former Director of the School of Environmental Design at the University of Georgia. He has served as a visiting professor at the University of Texas in Austin and at Tsinghua University in Beijing.

He is a landscape architect whose research, teaching, and practice have focused on environmental and technical dimensions of urban design for three decades. He is the top expert in the U.S. on porous pavements, stormwater infiltration and their integration with urban design. On these subjects he has authored approximately 200 scientific and professional articles and the books *Stormwater Infiltration* (1994), *Introduction to Stormwater* (1998), and *Porous Pavements* (2005). He is invited to speak approximately 20 times per year at universities, professional groups, and urban affairs associations in the U.S. and overseas on new environmental technologies and their importance in urban design.

Ferguson has conveyed the results of research into international practice, where he continues to be invigorated by the needs and opportunities of urban development and redevelopment. He has twice served as ‘Faculty in Residence’ at Design Workshop, which was the winner of the ASLA’s 2009 Firm of the Year award, and continues to work with Design Workshop as a consultant on individual projects. He has acted on interdisciplinary teams to guide new development in the metropolitan regions of Atlanta, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Pittsburgh. He guided stormwater quality protection at the Goddard Space Flight Center, and the ‘greening’ of new communities in Georgia, Florida, Puerto Rico, and Alaska.

At the University of Georgia, Ferguson’s teaching is top-ranked. In 2008, Design Intelligence named him one of the USA’s 25 ‘Most Admired Professors’ in all design fields.

Professor Ferguson earned his AB degree at Dartmouth College and his MLA degree at the University of Pennsylvania. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects, a Past President of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA), and a recipient of the Council’s Outstanding Educator Award, North America’s highest award for career contributions to landscape architectural education.

Something that made this recognition strikingly valuable to me was that I was asked to given the same type of recognition at the same time. I had been following his work went to, long ago; it was at Utah State University; after I presented my paper, Fabos Fabos — he came right up to me — he shook my hand!” At last summer’s ceremony, That CELA had me stand up alongside him told me of the significance of the honor.
Amitabh Verma, Assistant Professor, received the 2010 CELA Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Works (Jr. Faculty), which recognizes truly outstanding, innovative and noteworthy research and/or creative works related to the landscape architecture discipline. The Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture is the premier international organization for academics in landscape architecture, and is composed of virtually all the programs of higher learning in landscape architecture in the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The award is given annually to one faculty member out of all submitted entries, was given at the annual conference which was held in Maastricht, The Netherlands, in May 2010.

A few years ago, while studying the work of Le Corbusier in India, Professor Verma came to understand the inadequacy of that god’s-eye view to today’s cities. Consequently, his research and dissemination products reach much deeper in recognizing the complexity of urban environments and the vast problems that must be solved to improve living conditions in places. He exhibits dedicated study and exploration in those complex urban issues through in-depth research on rapidly changing cities in India, his multifaceted research extending beyond space, form, and order to the study of conservation, preservation, sacred landscapes, public health, social justice, water and water pollution and religion, which combine to reflect the realities and difficulties of the contemporary urban condition.

Professor Verma also disseminates his research in the international arena. In 2009 he received the Best Paper Award at the second UNESCO ICCROM Asia Academy of Heritage Management Conference in Macau, China for his paper titled “Safeguarding the Sacred Ghats of Varanasi: Preservation and Conservation Strategies.” He is also well-published on the topic, including a book chapter in Water in the Townscape, significant proceedings such as UNESCO-ICCROM and the International Federation of Landscape Architects, and important bulletins and reports.

He has recently written a paper titled “Planning for Health Amelioration: Analyzing Mumbai’s Urbanization Patterns” for the RealCorp Conference held in Vienna, Austria. In addition, he was an invited presenter at the University of Georgia’s Global Education Forum, where he spoke about the complex nature of Indian cities. His work casts a new light on perceiving the role of water in defining the identity of cities in times of globalization.

Something that made this recognition strikingly valuable to me was that I was asked to receive it alongside the great Julius Fabos of the University of Massachusetts, who was since before I ever got a faculty position. I remember the first CELA conference I ever encouraged my work. As I told it to my Georgia colleagues when I came back, “Jules almost 30 years later, I thanked him for the biggest encouragement I had ever gotten.”

-Bruce Ferguson
Faculty Spotlight

Rene Shoemaker

By Myles Maland, MLA 2012

After 17 years of dedicated service to the College of Environment & Design, René Shoemaker retired as Director of Owens Library & Circle Gallery in September 2010. Since graduating with a Master of Library and Information Science from the University of South Carolina in 1993, René has been fundamental in disseminating information and providing resources to UGA’s students of historic preservation, landscape architecture, and most recently, environmental planning.

Rene’s career with the University of Georgia dates even before she joined CED; prior to attending graduate school, René worked as Library Assistant in two departments within University of Georgia Libraries from 1981 – 1992. When she joined CED a year later as a Librarian in the Hubert Owens Reading Room, she also began oversight of the newly created Circle Gallery. Having received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Georgia, and as an artist familiar with the local Athens community, these dual responsibilities were immediately a natural fit and provided her with the balance necessary to be successful in both roles.

In fact, when looking back on her legacy at CED, René is most proud of, “watching the Owens Library blossom into a special library serving our College, the University, and the community we live in…and of participating in the maturing of the Circle Gallery as it became an important and well-respected gallery for sharing with the world what we do and what inspires us here [at the college].”

After recently spending a month in France, she and her husband, Harvey, hope to continue to travel as frequently as possible. René will also use her time to work more on her art, focusing on the hand painted silks that she has become so well known for in Athens. And, as many students and faculty can already attest, René will also continue to support CED – whether it’s lending a helping hand to Interim Owen Library Director, Melissa Tufts, or hanging exhibits in the Circle Gallery, René will continue be a source of inspiration for students, faculty, and staff at the University of Georgia.
College of Environment & Design presents:

Lecture Series

- September 15: Vladimir Djurovic
- October 12: Gustavo F. Araoz
- November 11: Witold Rybczynski
- February 3: Dean Hill
- March 9: Martin Kagel & Sarah Hemmings

Circle Gallery Exhibitions

- August 16 - September 24: Mapping Athens: Environmental & Experiential Aspects of Community
- October 4 - November 19: counterSPACE: Possibilities for Civic Agriculture in Athens, GA
- December 6 - 21: How it Never Ends: Emeriti Faculty Works
- January 10 - February 17: Our Expanding Oceans: Batiks by Mary Edna Fraser
- February 24 - March 25: Brave New Worlds: Students at Work in China and Costa Rica
- April 1 - April 29: Windows into Charlie's World: Charles Godfrey, Landscape Architect
In support of College development, *Georgia Landscape Magazine* is by far the most highly anticipated annual publication of the College of Environment & Design. As many of you know, this feature magazine is created, researched, authored and edited entirely by students of the College, and is a tremendous effort pursued on top of their course work, studio time… and socials in the Founders Memorial Garden. The magazine is also entirely funded by private contributions made through the Arch Foundation’s CED Dean’s Discretionary Fund for the College.

This year’s work is being produced by a team of driven individuals who plan to submit the piece for award consideration, both locally and nationally. They are guided by assistant professor Amitabh Verma, a MLA graduate of ours from 1994, who in 1993 worked with his own classmates to produce *Georgia Landscape* as an ASLA award-winning publication. We have high aspirations for this dedicated team of students and will keep you posted on their success.

Toward a sustainable means of support for the magazine, we are also looking for continued private funding from alumni, friends and faculty. In fact, it would be an amazing gift if a corporation would wish to sponsor the magazine entirely each year. If you are interested in making a gift toward seeing this publication be perennial in showcasing our talented students, faculty and endeavors, please contact Stephanie Crockatt, Director of Development at the College (706)542-4727, or by email at crockatt@uga.edu. In the meantime we hope you will continue to find this magazine both an inspiration and celebration of the College’s work, reputation, and future. Cheers!

-Stephanie Crockatt