



The Power of a Park



A Community Design Charrette

University of Georgia

College of Environment and Design

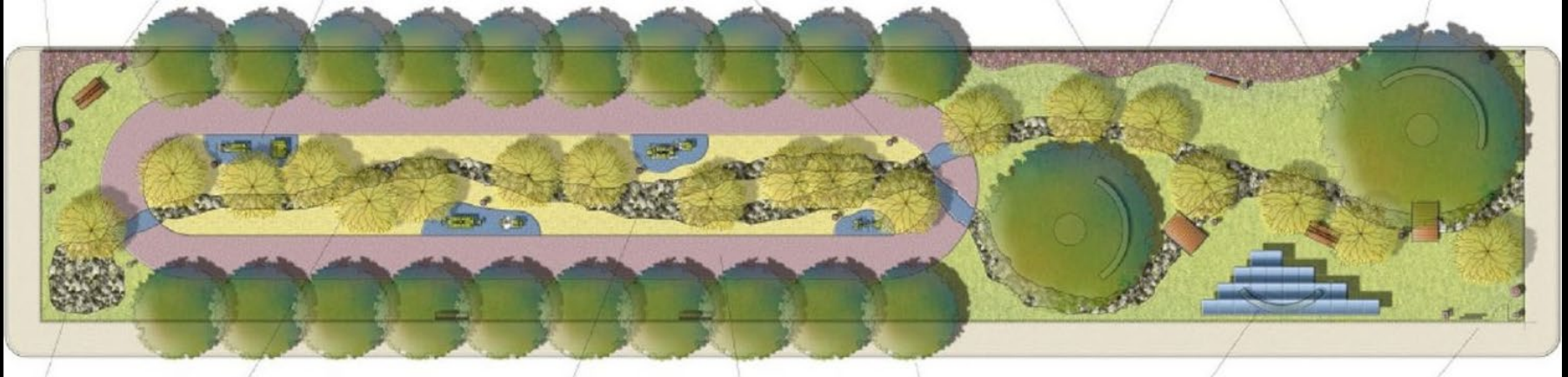
January 27-29, 2017

Guiding Concepts: Vision Defined

Harrison Park is an evolving eco-system and significant cultural landscape. It is a living place that must be allowed to adapt and grow. Not all change will occur at once but an approach is needed to make sure that the concept remains true over time.

1. Emphasize cultural appropriateness.
2. Encourage riparian land conservation.
3. Pursue conservation-based low-impact design (LID).
4. Protect and perpetuate sensitive Appalachian visual character.
5. Cluster all permanent structures near the historic barn and locate flexible uses and event spaces to the south.
6. Use a “light touch” when adding new features to the park.
7. Use earth tines and non-invasive plant species.
8. Use materials such as metal, wood, and masonry for park infrastructure and additions.

Sensitive Low-Impact Design



Low Impact Development (LID) is an innovative stormwater management approach modeled after nature. Rainfall is managed at the source near rooftops, streetscapes, parking lots, sidewalks and medians. The goal is to mimic a site's natural hydrology by using design techniques that infiltrate, filter, store, and detain runoff close to its source.



Low Impact Design



Architectural Vocabulary and Style Guide

- A style guide for the look, feel and character of a park that respects its context and tries to fit in rather than appear intrusive.
- A guide for future changes that may occur in the park.
- For all things that are not naturally or historically occurring onsite:
 - Walkways
 - Signs
 - Infrastructure
 - Buildings and structures
 - Art
 - Landscape elements



1. Metal

Farm-type materials or simple minimalist COR-TEN Steel

High strength, low maintenance, and cost effective



2. Wood

- Reds, browns and greys
- Rustic feel
- Repurposed and handmade appearance
- Simple



3. Masonry

Brick, Stone, Concrete, Terra cotta

- Earth tones
- Locally sourced
- Hand-hewn or natural





Metal, wood and masonry combinations.



Illustrative Site Plan



Specific Improvements

Barn and Restrooms



Specific Improvements

1. Parking, Barn and Restrooms



Dumpsters with Dense Screening Evergreens

Storage and Screened Porch/ Open deck

Porous Asphalt

Pasture Fence and Arbor Gateway

North Georgia Native Mix Wildflower Meadow



50' Mowed Field

Fragrance Garden and Herbs in Galvanized Trough Planters

Grain Bin Restrooms

50' Stream Buffer

Porous Concrete Parking Bio swales, rain gardens, and Specimen Trees with Uplighting

Park Sign, Pebble Bed and Boulder Cluster



The barn should be rehabilitated according to the Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation.









Specific Improvements

2. Paths





Kids bike park

11





Specific Improvements

3. Stage



Long term, a more permanent stage should be implemented that allows for flexible use and does not disrupt the visual character of the park.



Specific Improvements

4. Pavilions and Shelters



Specific Improvements

5. Site Furnishings

Signs, benches, play equipment,
trash receptacles



Trash and recycling receptacles should reinforce the rustic character of the park.







Public art and educational signs all have a place in the park when sensitively designed and planned in advance.







Temporary event lighting







Specific Improvements

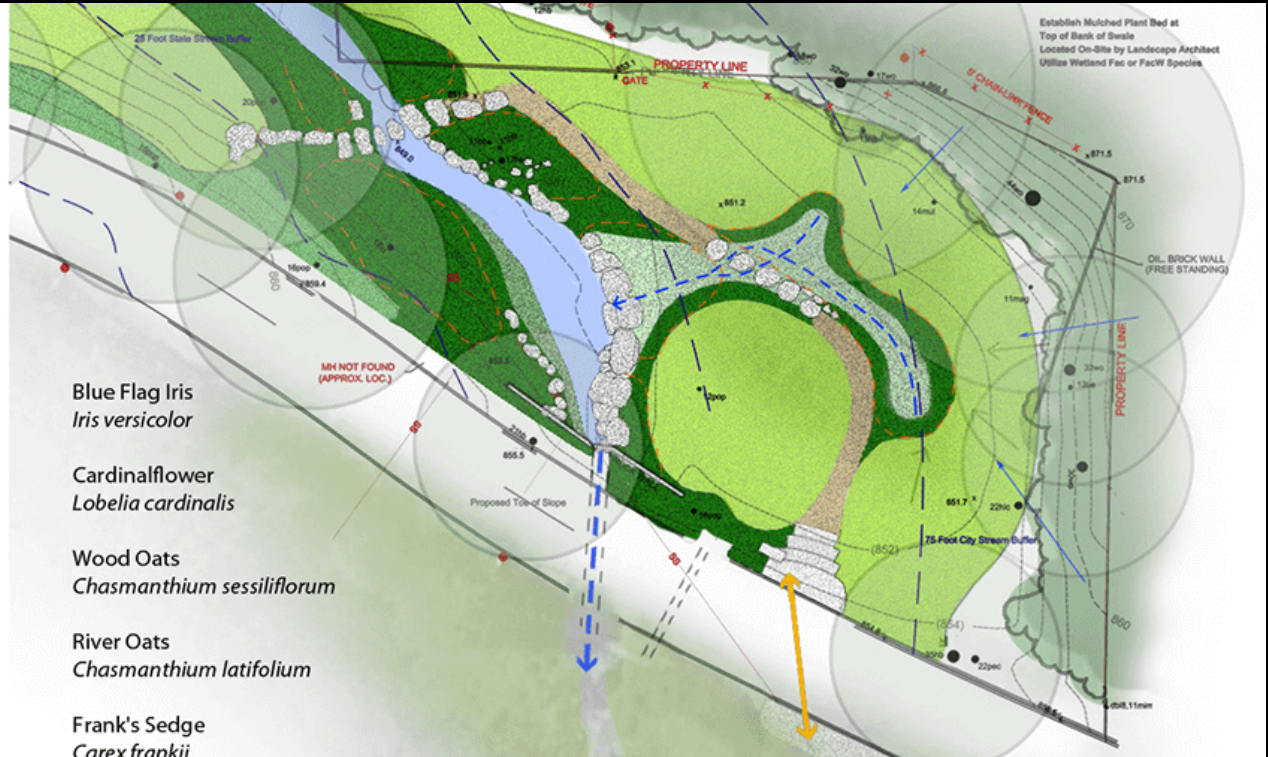
6. Rain Gardens and Bioswales



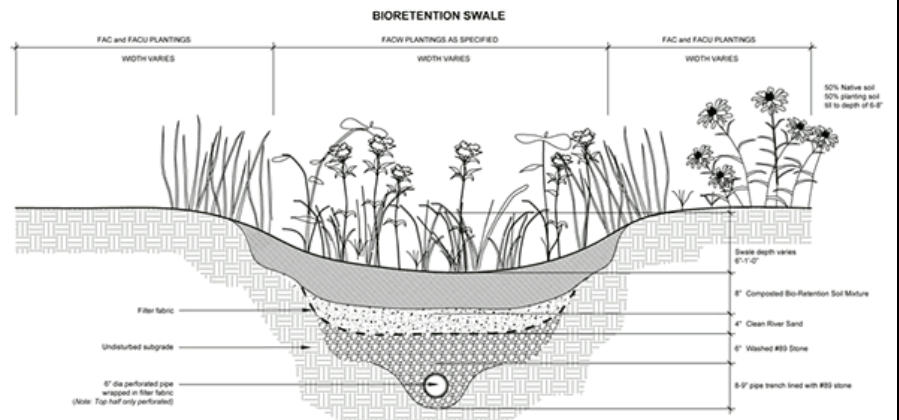
Native, adaptive design
Lessens maintenance
costs and provides
educational
opportunities.



Example of Rain Garden Design



- Blue Flag Iris
Iris versicolor
- Cardinalflower
Lobelia cardinalis
- Wood Oats
Chasmanthium sessiliflorum
- River Oats
Chasmanthium latifolium
- Frank's Sedge
Carex frankii
- Black-eyed Susan
Rudbeckia fulgida
- Tickseed
Coreopsis lanceolata
- Dwarf Joe Pye Weed
Eupatorium purpureum
- Narrowleaved Mountain Mint
Pycnanthemum tenuifolium
- Blue-eyed Grass
Sisyrinchium angustifolium



Nature Based Solutions



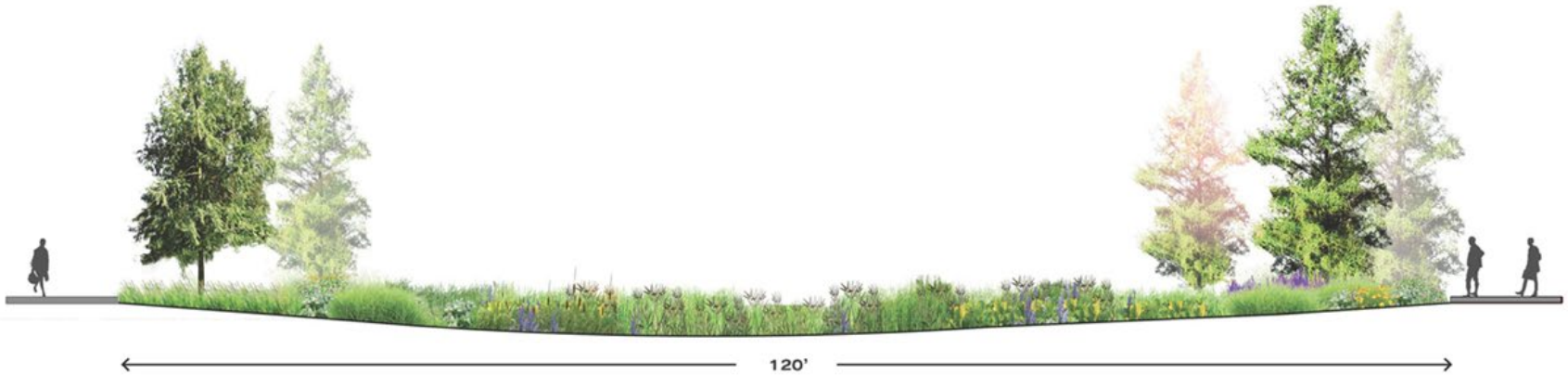
Before



After

Specific Improvements

7. Fields, Meadows and Pasture



Prairie Dropseed



Bushy Bluestem



Feather Reed
Grass



Blue Star



Steeplebush



White
Meadowsweet



Blue Flag Iris



Southern Blue
Flag Iris



Blazing Star



Great Blue
Lobelia



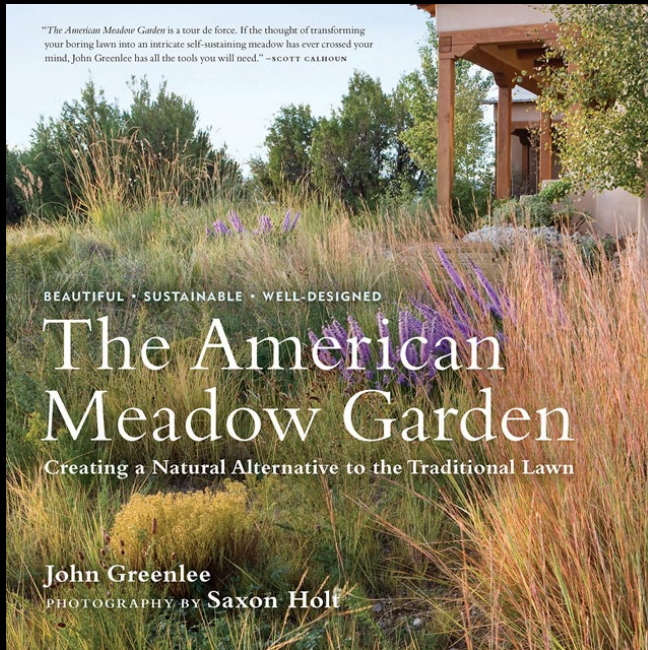
New York
Ironweed



Betony

The unique ecology of North Georgia is a primary characteristic worthy of perpetuation.



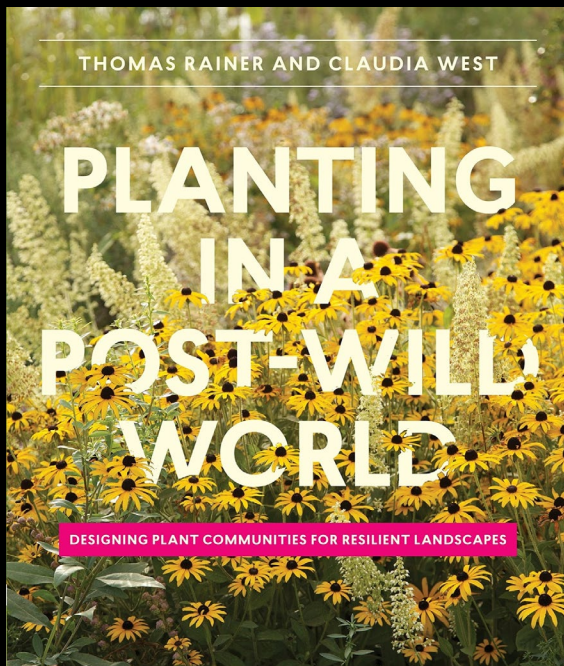


« Roy Diblík's design for the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago covers the ground densely with perennials, *Verbascum virginicum*, *Allium schoenoprasum*, *Salvia nemorosa* 'Castellana', and *Carex flacca* weave around boulders.

PRINCIPLES OF DESIGNED PLANT COMMUNITIES

Loosening the grip on our cherished notions of plant arrangement makes it possible to transform our adversarial relationship with nature into a collaborative one. The dry, gravelly hell strip along the edge of a street can be busted up, enriched with compost, and planted with boxwood and hostas. Or it could be preserved exactly as it is and made into the perfect home for drought-loving plants like Mediterranean mints, low meadow grasses, desert annuals, spreading sedums, and alliums. Intimately understanding a site is part of the challenge, but the more important task is to understand how plants fit together.

29



Native Wildflower Meadow Design, field maintenance and ongoing replanting are specialized processes.

Specific Improvements

8. Native American History



Specific Improvements

9. Playscapes and Nature Play





Durable, reliable and easy to maintain.





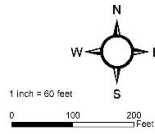
College of
Architecture + Design
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Harrison Park

University of Georgia - Center for Community Design & Preservation
Ellay Design Charitable
Map Created: 01/20/2016 - Mark Beatty

Legend

- Road Name
- Hydrology
- Parcels



Preferred locations for
children's play areas.

It does not have to be fancy to be fun!





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