Hannah Brown

Landscape Architecture Portfolio

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University of Georgia
MLA 2025

ABOUT ME

I recently earned a Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) from the University of Georgia, along with a certificate in Sustainable Food Systems. My work is guided by a passion for community-based design, ecological resilience, and sustainable land stewardship. With experience in organic farming and sustainable agriculture, I bring a strong understanding of local food systems to my design approach. I also draw on my background in marketing and communications to create visual media that enhances project storytelling.

WORK HISTORY

Graduate Assistant — *2022-Present*
University of Georgia
Archway Partnership
Athens, GA

Farm Crew — *2022-Present*
Love is Love
Cooperative Farm
Mansfield, GA

Greenhouse Manager — *2021-2023*
Levity Farms
Madison, GA

Farm Crew — *2021*
Pinewood Springs Farm
Stockbridge, GA

Farm Crew — *2018- 2022*
Rodgers Greens and Roots
Organic Farm
Douglasville, GA

Marketing Manager — *2021*
Cultured South
Atlanta, GA

Creative Media Associate — *2017-2019*
Little Barn Apothecary
Atlanta, GA

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Horticulture Apprentice — *2020*
Wylde Center
Decatur, GA

Contributing Editor — *2019-20*
Fall Line Press
Atlanta, GA

Landscape Design Intern — *2019*
Roots Down Georgia
Clarkston, GA

Permaculture Design Certified — *2019*
Atlanta, GA

EDUCATION

Master of Landscape Architecture — *2025*
University of Georgia

Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Food Systems — *2025*
University of Georgia

Bachelor of Arts in Magazine Journalism — *2017*
University of Georgia

ASLA Member — *Present*

SKILLS

Site Analysis • Case Study Analysis • Plant ID
Conceptual and Schematic Design • Planting Design
Hand Drawing and Rendering • 3D Modeling
Participatory Design • Community Engagement
Written and Verbal Communication • Horticulture
Content Creation (Educational Materials, Presentation Development, Writing for Publication)
Greenhouse Operations • Permaculture Design
Edible Landscaping

PROGRAMS

AutoCAD • Land F/X • SketchUp
Lumion • Adobe Illustrator • Adobe Photoshop
Adobe InDesign • Adobe Premiere • ArcGIS

Photo by author

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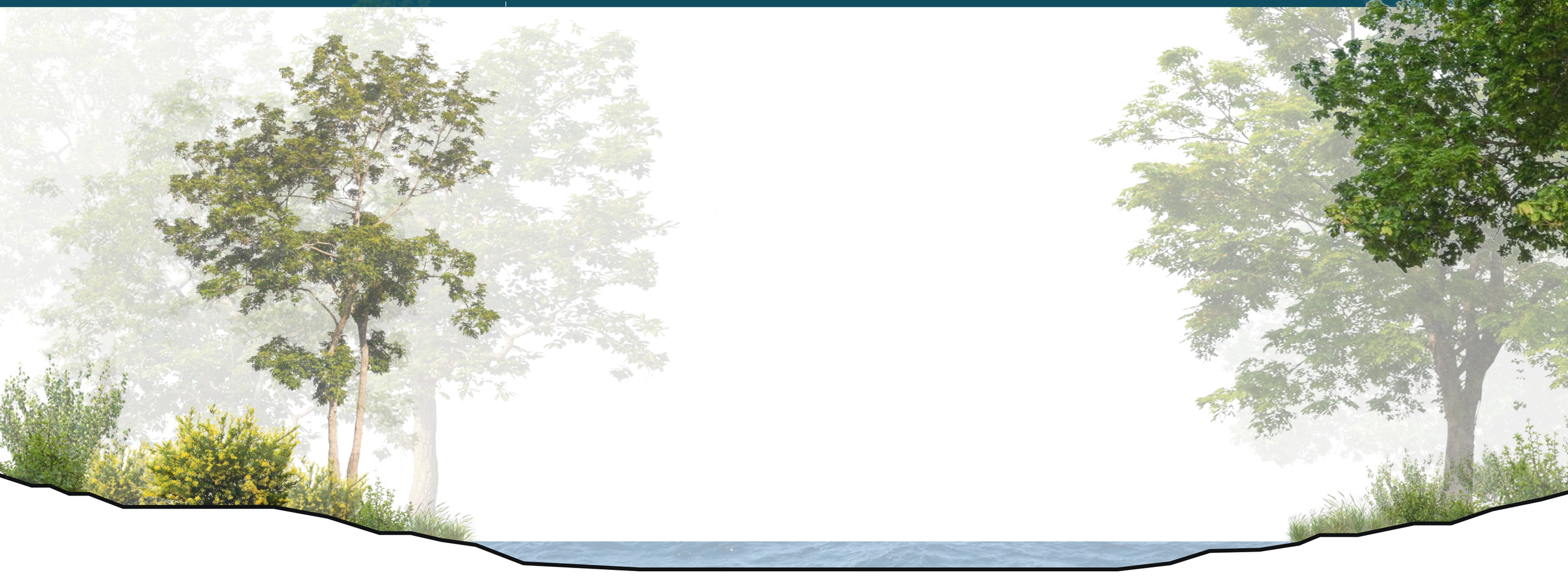
COMMUNITY PROJECTS



Graphic Origin: LAND 6220 Representation I

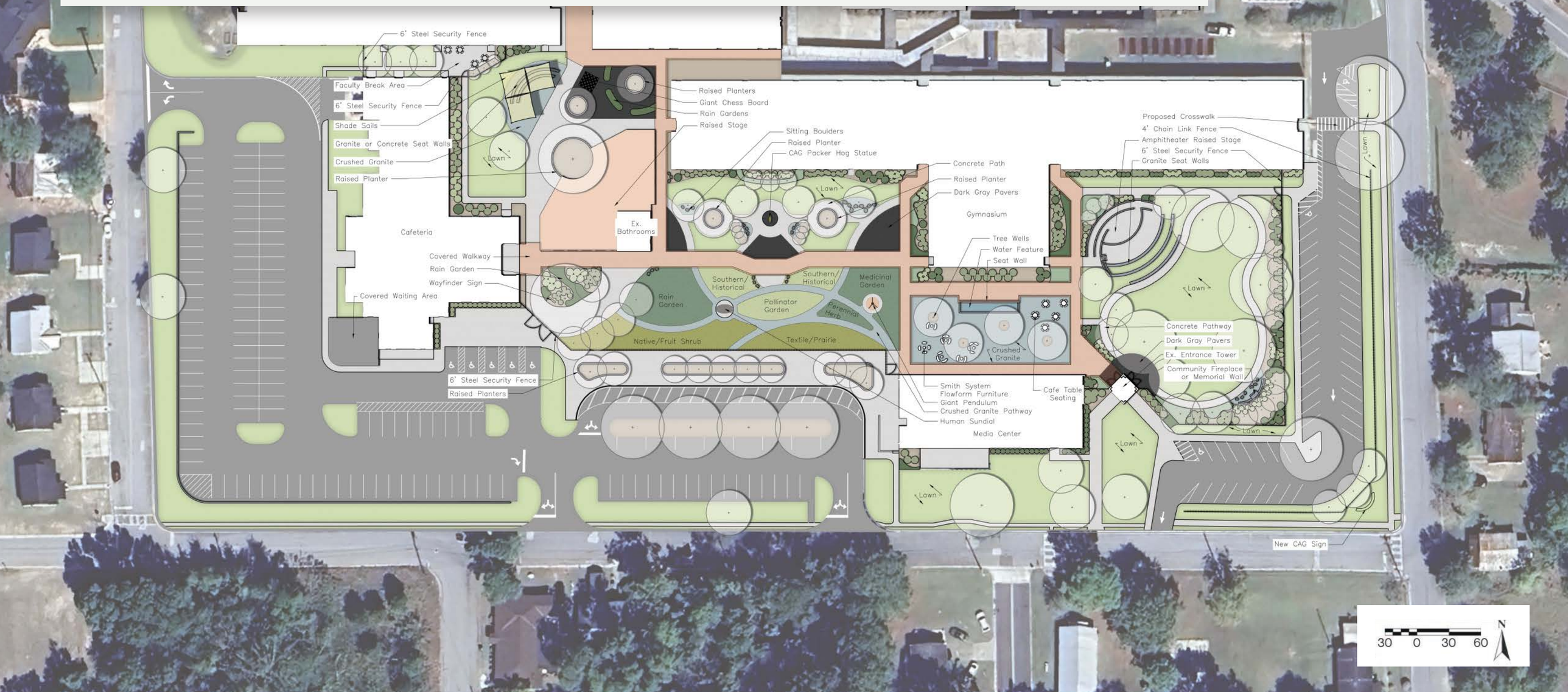
1.1 CHARLIE A. GRAY JR. HIGH SCHOOL

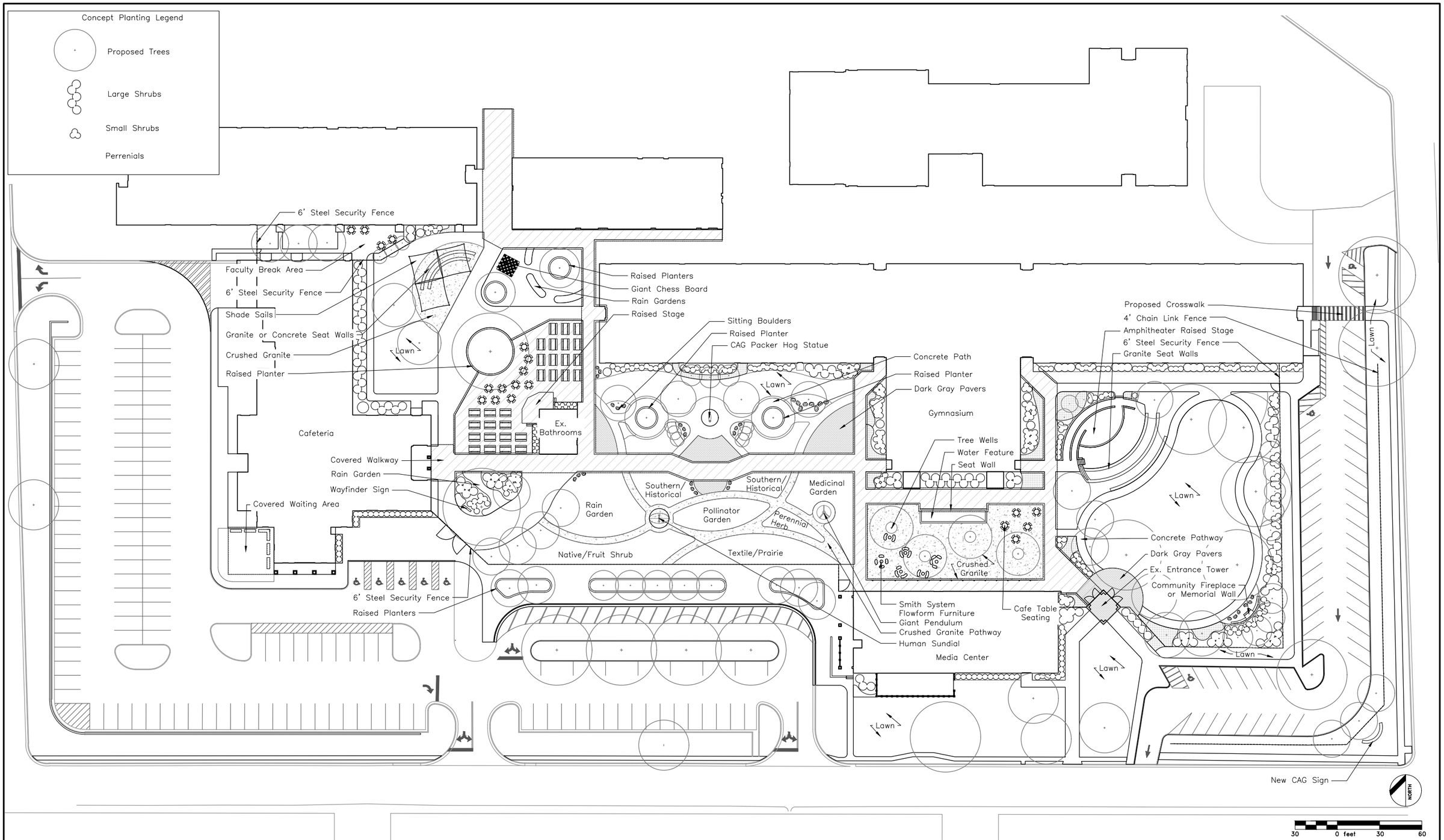
Landscape Redesign Illustritive Plan

Project Origin: UGA Archway Partnership

As Charlie A. Gray Jr. High School plans to demolish unusable buildings on its campus, the potential for new outdoor areas and improvements to their current green space has become a priority. School administration did not have set design goals for the project, so a survey of students and faculty was distributed, gathering over 500 responses. The survey process revealed strong support for outdoor dining areas, classrooms, increased shade and vegetation, and improved traffic flow during drop-off and pick-up.

These responses, as well as other green schoolyard case studies, informed the design, highlighting potential benefits such as reduced heat island effect (a pressing concern in South Georgia's warm climate), increased biodiversity, improved cognitive performance and increased opportunity for physical activity and environmental education. The schematic design responds directly to these desires, creating comfortable, accessible spaces for learning, socializing, and recreation. With designated areas for both group and individual activities, the campus's outdoor spaces act as an extension of the classroom, supporting student well-being and fostering strong community connections.





UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
ARCHWAY PARTNERSHIP

H. BROWN, C. MADISON

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
ARCHWAY PARTNERSHIP

C.A. GRAY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS
LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Colquitt County School System
812 11th Avenue NW, Moultrie, GA 31768

NO	NOTES	DATE
1	SCHEMATIC DESIGN	07/11/2024

DRAWN: CM
DATE: 07/11/2024
SCALE: 1"=30'

SHEET TITLE:

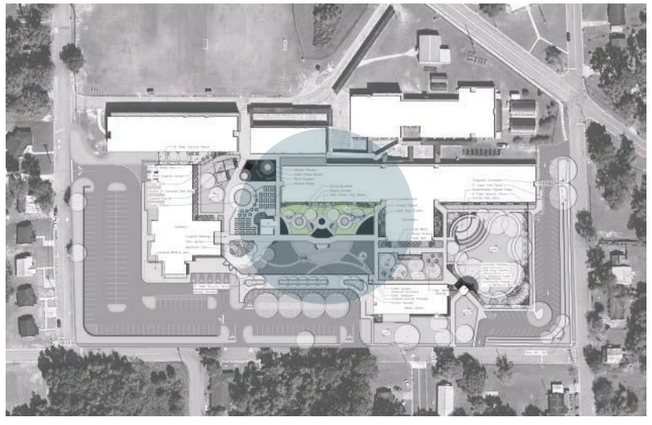
SCHEMATIC DESIGN

SHEET NUMBER:

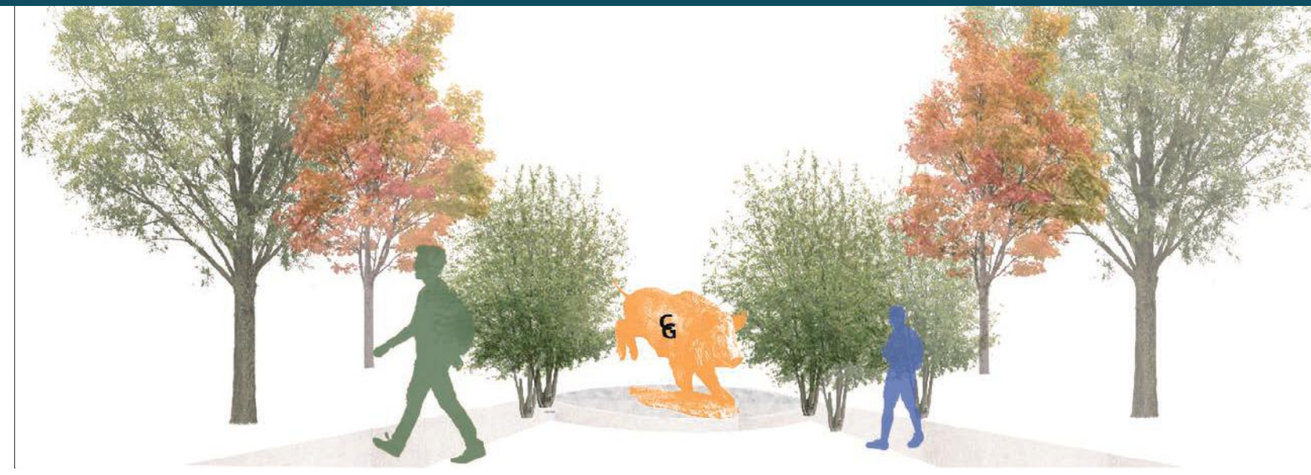
L-101

DESIGN DETAILS

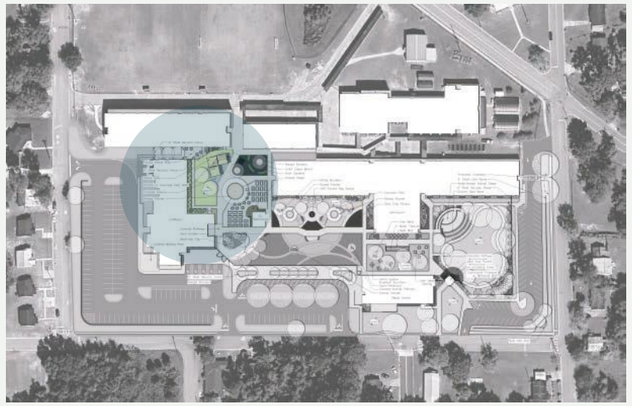
PACKER PLAZA



Anchored by the mascot statue and plaza, this central space embodies C.A. Gray Junior High's Packer pride. It serves as a favorite meeting spot, with a walkway that connects students across campus.



Additional seating and plantings are added on either side of the mascot to add both function and interest, providing students with a more dynamic route between classes.



Additional outdoor spaces invite students to learn and socialize in fresh air. Outdoor classrooms expand opportunities for hands-on education, while the reading garden offers a quiet retreat for independent study.

OUTDOOR CLASSROOMS

OUTDOOR CAFETERIA

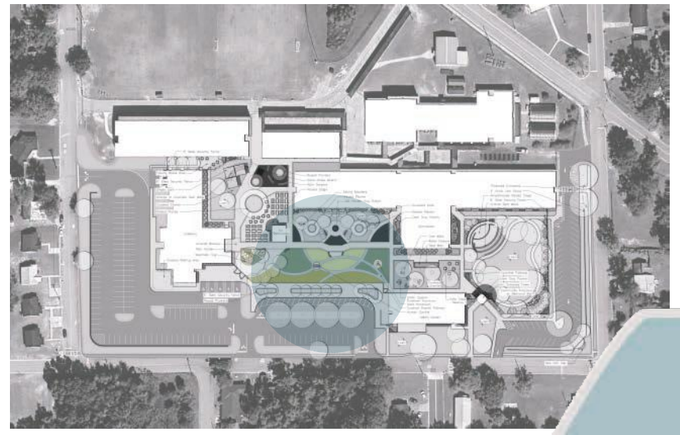
READING GARDEN

A SPACE FOR THE COMMUNITY

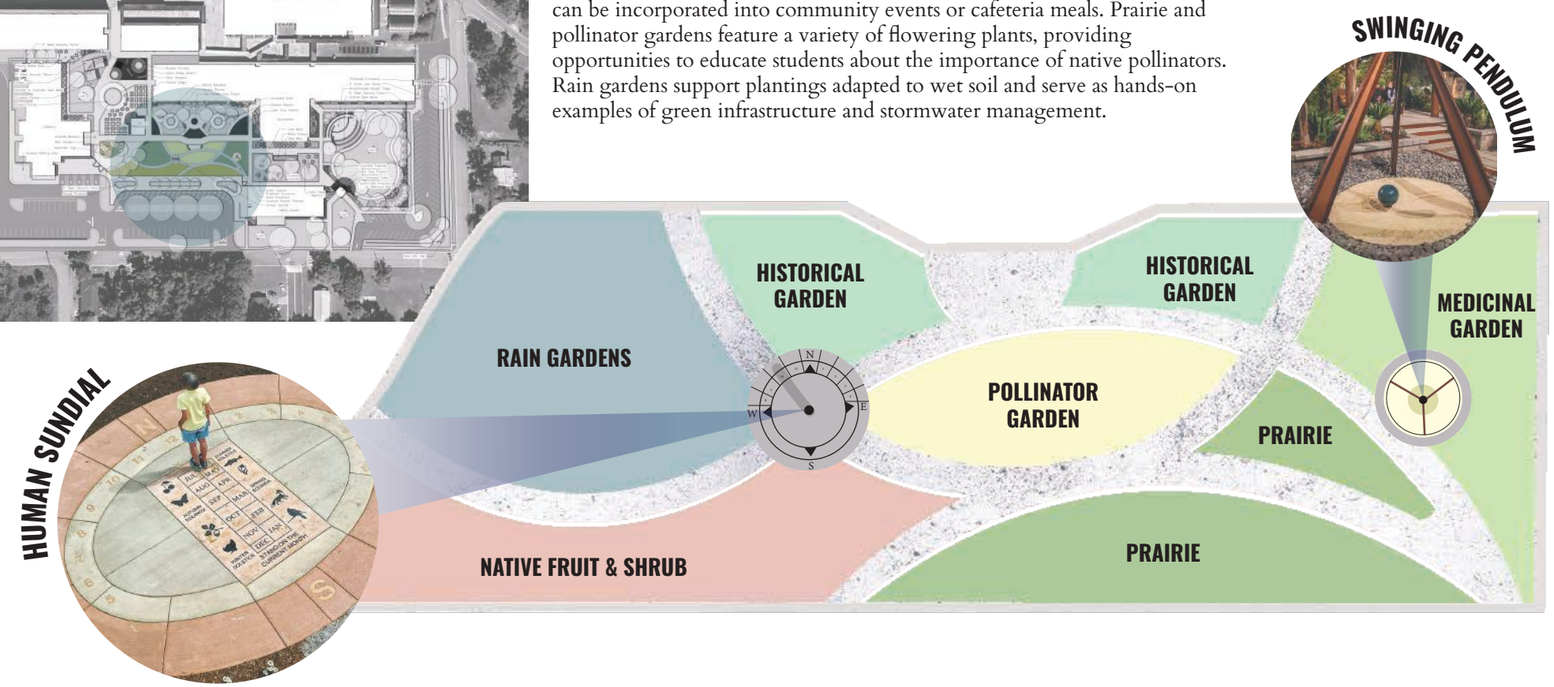
Designed as a flexible venue, this space can extend the school's reach into Colquitt County, fostering new opportunities and partnerships through large-scale events.

TEACHING GARDENS

The teaching gardens include several interactive features designed to engage students. A human sundial and swinging pendulum provide hands-on scientific learning opportunities, while a meandering path through diverse garden types encourages mindful, meditative strolls. The gardens are organized to highlight different educational themes along the path, creating a versatile outdoor space that supports a wide range of curricular goals.



The historical gardens showcase plantings traditionally used in Southern Georgia for diverse purposes. Species such as Wild Indigo and Rattlesnake Master have been utilized by Native Americans for centuries, both medicinally and aesthetically. Medicinal and herb gardens include plants that can be incorporated into community events or cafeteria meals. Prairie and pollinator gardens feature a variety of flowering plants, providing opportunities to educate students about the importance of native pollinators. Rain gardens support plantings adapted to wet soil and serve as hands-on examples of green infrastructure and stormwater management.



PARKING LOT CIRCULATION

Survey results indicate a need to improve vehicular circulation around campus. Two possible strategies to address this include creating designated student pick-up and drop-off zones and reconfiguring the East parking lot to reduce vehicle speed while providing additional space for a vegetative buffer.

1.2 Growing Food, Fostering Community

Project Origin: LAND 6040 Community and Place

Re-Imagining Brockett Triangle Pocket Park

Current Condition

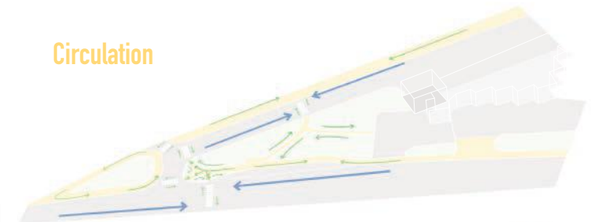
Brockett Triangle sits at a busy street corner, bordered by a pub and a liquor store parking lot. Despite heavy foot traffic, the park has long felt uninviting. Adjacent to a bustling MARTA station, it is overgrown with perennial shrubs and fruit trees—remnants of an earlier vision for a community edible green space. In recent years, maintenance and local engagement declined, leaving the park underused. A recent community meeting gave residents a chance to share their hopes and concerns, guiding a new vision. This project re-imagines Brockett Triangle as a vibrant hub, combining edible plantings, educational features, and inviting seating to foster social interaction, stewardship, and hands-on learning while honoring the park's original mission.

New Project Goals

- Low-Maintenance
- Improved Circulation
- Seating Areas
- Play Areas for Kids
- Improved Aesthetics
- Stormwater
- Food Production
- Road Buffers

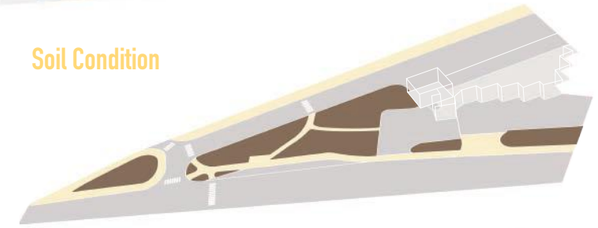
Brockett Triangle Existing Conditions

Circulation



The park serves as an intersection for pedestrians crossing through the area and sees heave foot traffic throughout the day. This is also due to the MARTA stop right next to the park's entrance.

Soil Condition



The site was once used to store heavy equipment, so the soil is quite compacted and would benefit from remediation efforts.

Existing Vegetation

There is an existing buffer strip of Crepe Myrtles between the park and the parking lot. There are also several woody shrubs and some fruit tress remaining from the original design.

Existing Hardscape

The site is surrounded by busy roads and parking lots with not much planting buffer in between.

About Clarkston, Georgia

Clarkston is a uniquely diverse city, often described as the "most diverse square mile in the United States." Home to over 60,000 refugees, the majority of residents live in apartment buildings and face limited access to private or public greenspaces. This lack of outdoor space can amplify the culture shock of relocating to the United States, particularly for residents from agricultural backgrounds. The city's remarkable diversity also presents distinctive design considerations for community spaces, as its population represents cultures from nearly every corner of the globe.

"The Ellis Island of the South"

At a Glance

60,000+ Number of refugees currently residing in Clarkston

1.857 Mi.^{2} Square mileage of Clarkston

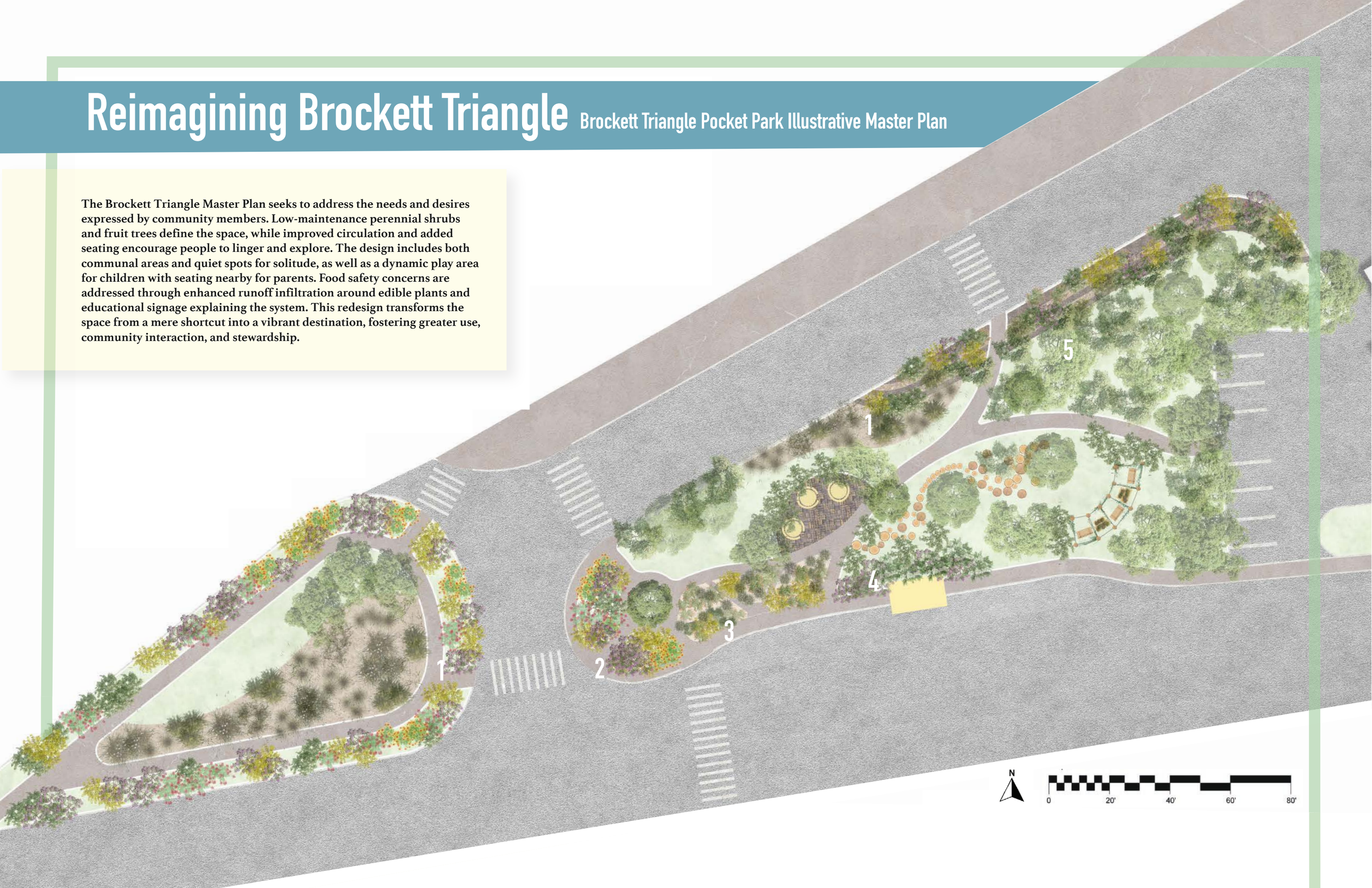
9.36% Percentage of homeownership in Clarkston
64.3% National average percentage of homeownership

49.4% Percentage of Clarkston residents
93.4% National average of those born in the U.S.

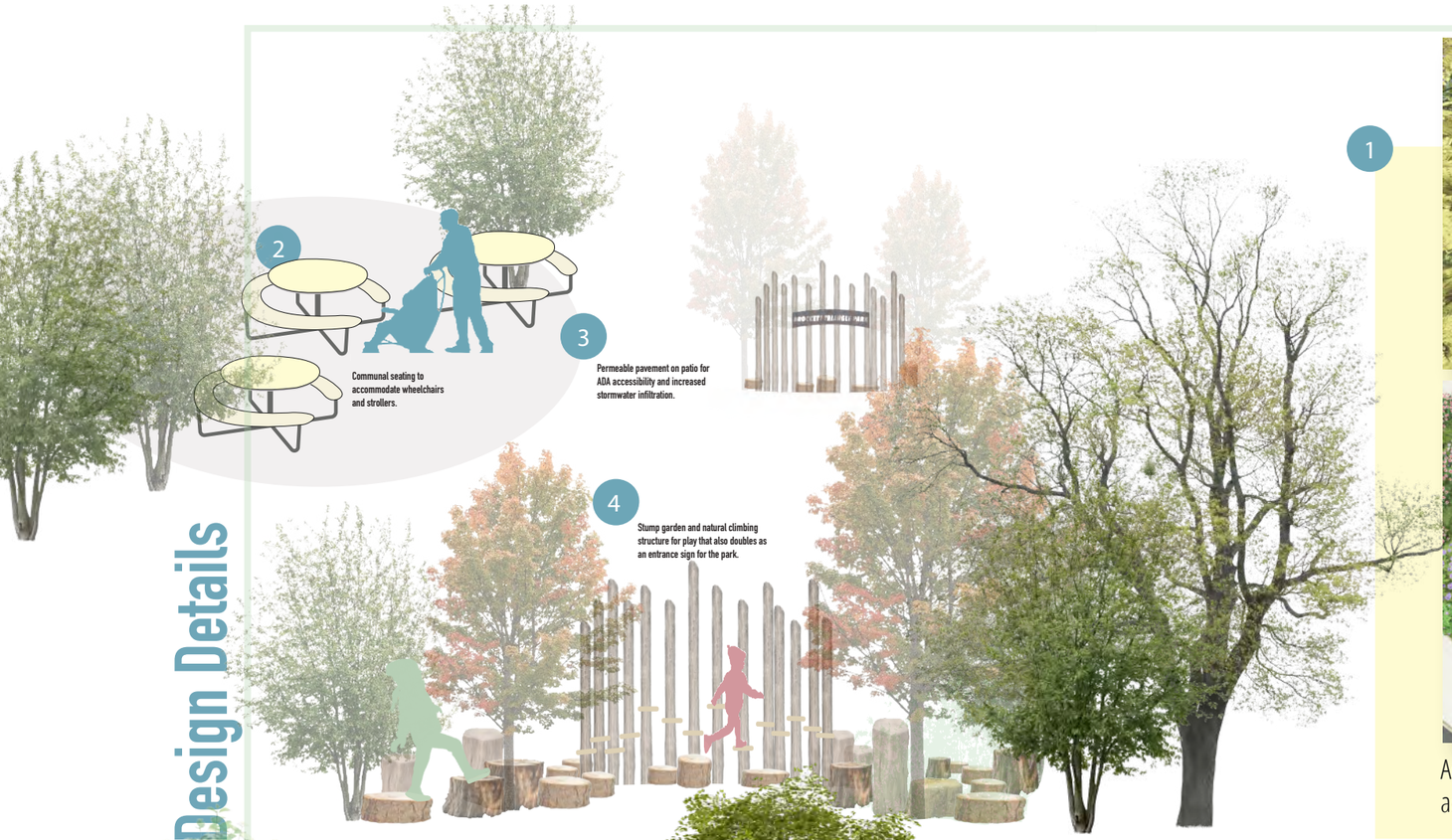
Reimagining Brockett Triangle

Brockett Triangle Pocket Park Illustrative Master Plan

The Brockett Triangle Master Plan seeks to address the needs and desires expressed by community members. Low-maintenance perennial shrubs and fruit trees define the space, while improved circulation and added seating encourage people to linger and explore. The design includes both communal areas and quiet spots for solitude, as well as a dynamic play area for children with seating nearby for parents. Food safety concerns are addressed through enhanced runoff infiltration around edible plants and educational signage explaining the system. This redesign transforms the space from a mere shortcut into a vibrant destination, fostering greater use, community interaction, and stewardship.



Design Details



2

Communal seating to accommodate wheelchairs and strollers.

3

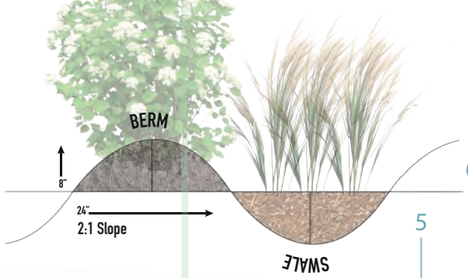
Permeable pavement on patio for ADA accessibility and increased stormwater infiltration.

4

Stump garden and natural climbing structure for play that also doubles as an entrance sign for the park.

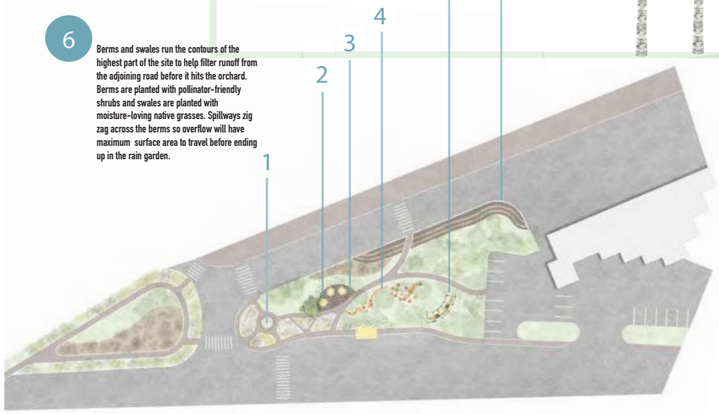
1

Additional secondary pathways with varying paving patterns are added throughout the site to increase walkability and ease of access.



6

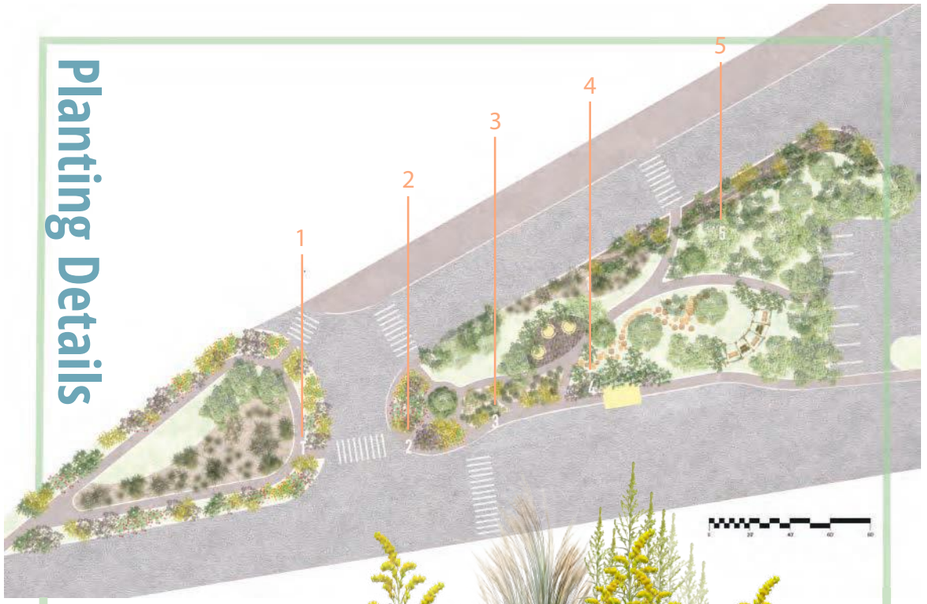
Berms and swales run the contours of the highest part of the site to help filter runoff from the adjoining road before it hits the orchard. Berms are planted with pollinator-friendly shrubs and swales are planted with moisture-loving native grasses. Spillways zig zag across the berms so overflow will have maximum surface area to travel before ending up in the rain garden.



5

Hanging swings interspersed with planter boxes are arranged in a curved overhead structure that faces toward the open lawn space and children's play area.

Planting Details



1 Rain Gardens

Native grasses and perennials that can tolerate wet conditions fill these rain gardens to help increase storm water infiltration and filter runoff from bordering roadways. The also help to add color, texture, and visual variety to the park.

Pollinator-friendly perennials like Black-Eyed Susans and Purple Coneflower fill areas near pathways and entrances, welcoming people in and bringing color and wildlife to the site.

2 Pollinator Gardens

3 Tea Garden

Flowers and herbs that can be dried and used medicinally can provide opportunity and space for community members to grow culturally significant plants not found in American stores.

4 Scent Garden

Fragrant and flowering perennials are placed near the parks entrance and the adjacent MARTA bus stop to be enjoyed by commuters and encourage utilization of the space.

Native fruit trees like American Persimmon and Mayhaw are interspersed with fruiting shrubs like Serviceberry and Blueberry. Educational signage is added for specific plants to encourage community harvesting and care.

5 Community Orchard

ACADEMIC PROJECTS

Graphic Origin: LAND 6330 Landscape Construction

Project Origin: LAND 7050S Landscape Studio Engagement Group project – work shown reflects individual contributions

2.1 Magnolia Manor
Garden Master Plan

Design Objectives

This project aims to create an accessible and therapeutic outdoor space at Magnolia Manor that enhances residents' well-being. Designed for both passive and active use, the garden will promote relaxation, sensory engagement, and gentle physical activity. Features such as accessible pathways, seating, sensory plants, and interactive elements will provide a calming, immersive environment that supports mental, emotional, and physical health. By fostering connection with nature, encouraging social interaction, and offering opportunities for therapy and exercise, the garden will serve as a restorative space that enriches daily life for residents.

1. **Accessible Design**
   Design features should be accessible to those with mobility aids and should provide benefits for all residents, even those who cannot travel outdoors.
2. **Active & Passive Involvement**
   Options for engagement should include physically engaging with the site and passively engaging, through activities like bird-watching through windows.
3. **Sensory Engagement**
   The garden should engage multiple senses through pleasing color palettes, scented plantings, and interesting visual textures, promoting relaxation and overall well-being.

View of the Butterfly Garden and children's play area

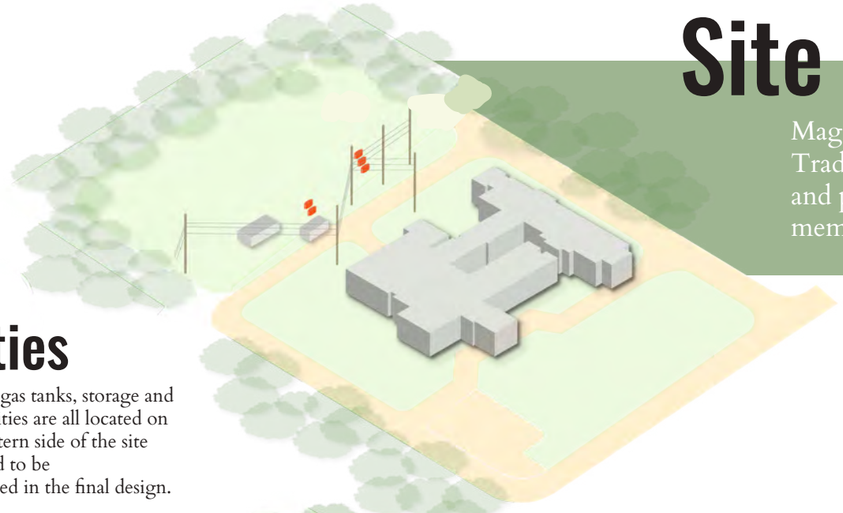
Arbor entrance to the Butterfly Garden and gazebo where community events can be held

Covered communal seating area and children's play area

Overview of garden with ADA accessible planting beds for residents to use as they please

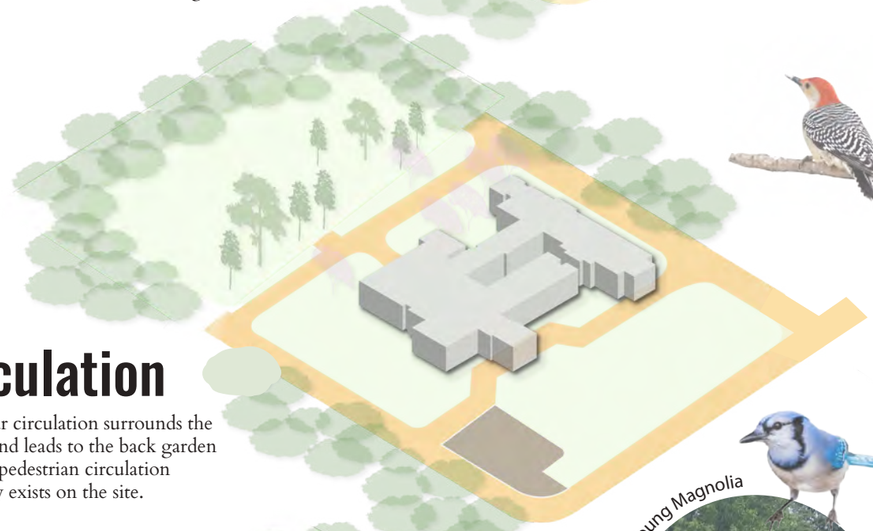
Site Analysis

Magnolia Manor in Buena Vista, Georgia is a non-profit senior-living facility born from the Methodist Faith Tradition. Magnolia Manor strives to offer residents a quality lifestyle that provides for the social, spiritual, mental, and physical needs of older adults in South Georgia. The 70-bed facility offers rehabilitation, skilled nursing, and memory care services, and is certified for both Medicare and Medicaid.



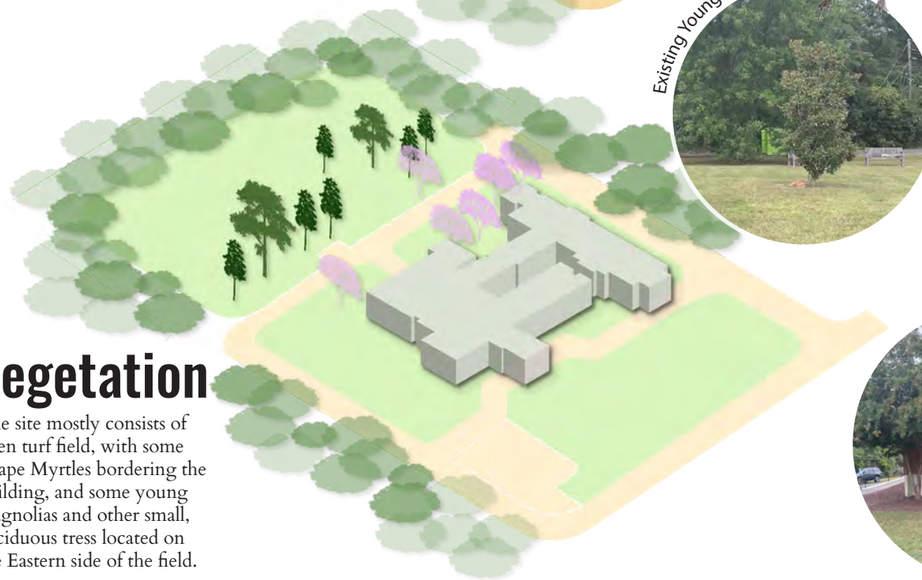
Utilities

Power lines, gas tanks, storage and laundry facilities are all located on the Southeastern side of the site and will need to be accommodated in the final design.



Circulation

Vehicular circulation surrounds the facility and leads to the back garden site. No pedestrian circulation currently exists on the site.



Vegetation

The site mostly consists of open turf field, with some Crape Myrtles bordering the building, and some young magnolias and other small, deciduous tress located on the Eastern side of the field.

Soil & Climate

Buena Vista is located in the Southern Hilly Gulf Coastal Plain region of Georgia. Summers are long and humid, while winters are short and cold. Sandy, loamy, and dense clay soils are all a part of this diverse ecoregion, while soil generally appears lighter and redder than surrounding areas.

The soil on our site is Lucy loamy sand, part of a soil family that is deep, moderately permeable, and well-drained, which may be a concern in drier months if the soil is not able to retain enough water to support plantings.

Wildlife

Numerous bird feeders are currently placed throughout the site so residents can enjoy watching them. Birds like Cardinals, Carolina Wrens, and Blue Jays are all common to the region and likely to be spotted on site.

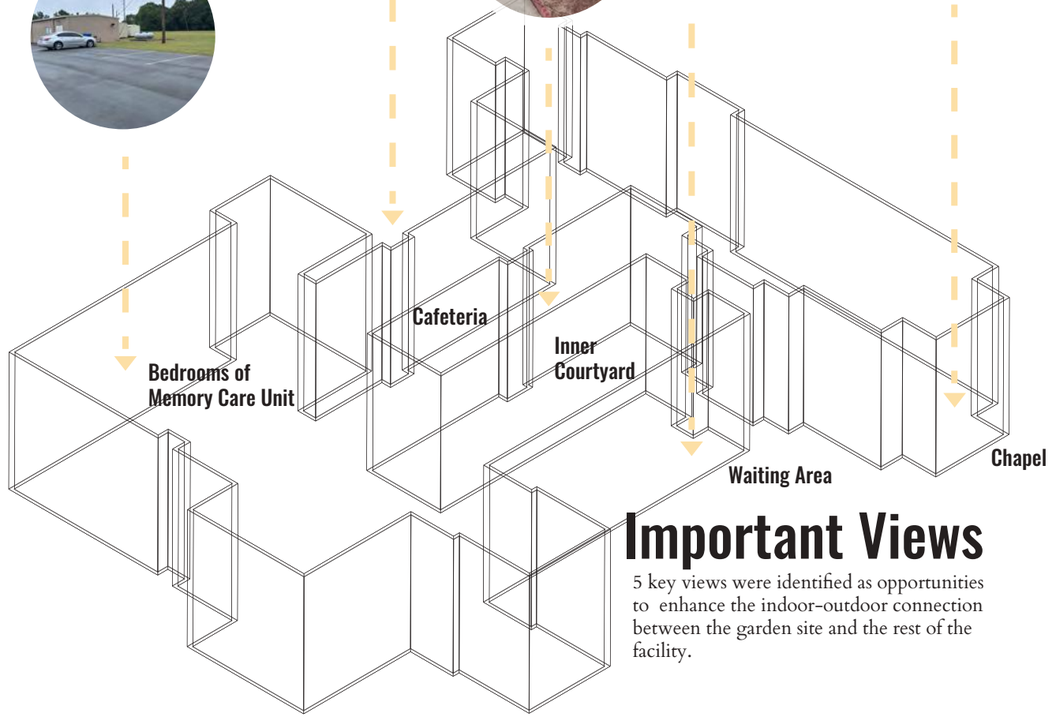
Swallowtails, Dragonflies, and Skimmers are also likely to be seen flying around flowering plants. Mosquitoes are prolific in the region and are a large concern for residents and staff that want to spend time outdoors.

Storm Water

There is very little topographic change on the property, but the back garden is gently sloped toward the Northeastern corner of the site, where storm water is currently being directed.

Site Context

The project site is in the back of the facility, facing the windows to the cafeteria and to the bedrooms of the memory care unit. It is surrounded on two sides by a young pine woodland, and on one side by a neighboring business.



Important Views

5 key views were identified as opportunities to enhance the indoor-outdoor connection between the garden site and the rest of the facility.

Design Detail: Butterfly Walk

The Butterfly Walk is an accessible, paved path that will allow residents to comfortably stroll through the sensory garden. It features a diverse array of blooming perennials and beds for annual flowers that community members can volunteer to maintain.

Key Features

1. Wooden arbor entrance to garden
2. Paved Butterfly Walk
3. Annual flower beds
4. Perennial pollinator & sensory beds
5. Roundabout for pathway options
6. Gazebo

N

Scale 1-0”=12-0’

Design Detail: Butterfly Walk

The Butterfly Walk takes users on a short, paved path through a sensory garden full of pollinator-friendly plants. Annual flower beds near the entrance give garden club members a place to plant their favorite plants and give an opportunity to introduce cold-hardy blooming plants into the garden. Plant choice was based on seasonal interest and client preference, while prioritizing native and wildlife-friendly plants.

Winter

Autumn Joy Sedum
Hylotelephium spectabile 'Autumn Joy'

American Beautyberry
Callicarpa americana

Rosemary
Rosemary officinalis 'Blue Boy'

Spring

Flowering Dogwood
Cornus Florida 'Cherokee Princess'

Piedmont Azalea
Rhododendron canscens

Lamb's Ear
Stachys byzantina

Summer

Bee Balm
Monarda didyma 'Blue Stocking'

Black Eyed Susan
Rudbeckia hirta 'Marmalade'

Purple Coneflower
Echinacea pupurea

Prairie Milkweed
Asclepias sullivantii

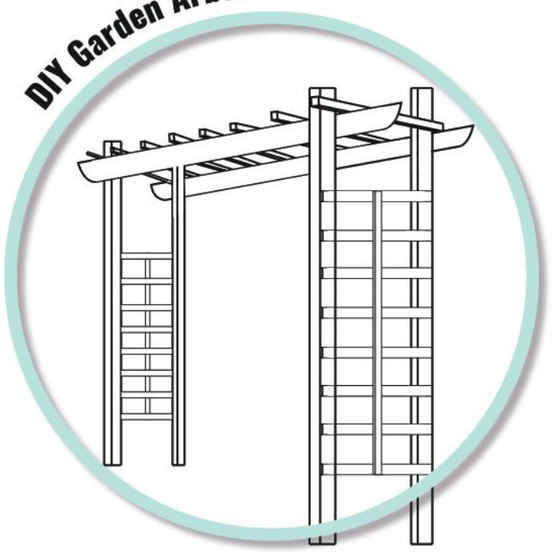
Autumn

Flowering Dogwood
Cornus Florida 'Cherokee Princess'

Piedmont Azalea
Rhododendron canscens

Muhly Grass
Muhlenbergia capillaris

DIY Garden Arbor



A simply constructed garden arbor to mark the entrance of the Butterfly Walk is a great opportunity to engage the local high school woodworking classes.

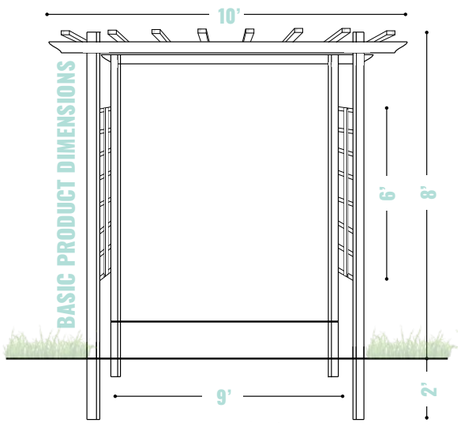
Volunteer Project: Butterfly Garden Arbor

Project Info:

A wooden arbor to mark the entrance to the butterfly garden can be easily constructed by volunteers with a beginner knowledge of woodworking and the right supplies. Wood materials can be easily found at a local home improvement store, or recycled from scraps as long as the pieces fit the necessary dimensions (listed below) and are pressure-treated. The final product can be painted white to match surrounding landscaping elements. The following guide will take you through a simple step-by-step process for completing the project.

Skill level: **Intermediate** **Number of people needed:** **At least 3**

Before you begin: **Always call before you dig to avoid interfering with any buried utilities.**



Lorem ipsum

Materials Checklist:

Equipment Needed:

1. Miter or table saw ☐
2. Jig saw ☐
3. Drill ☐
4. Wood Screws ☐

Supplies Needed:

1. Pencil ☐
2. Measuring tape ☐
3. Level ☐
4. Shovel ☐
5. Bags of concrete (8) ☐
6. Weatherproof, white outdoor paint ☐
7. Sandpaper ☐

Wood Needed:

1. 2" x 6" x 10'
   Pressure-treated board - will need 2 for the joists ☐
2. 4" x 4" x 10'
   Pressure-treated post - will need 4 for the posts ☐
3. 2" x 2"
   Pressure-treated board - will need 16 pieces for sides @ 24" long, 8 pieces for the rafters @ 30" long, 2 longer pieces for the sides @ 72" (64' total in length) ☐

Step-by-Step Construction Guide

1. Cut wood pieces to specified lengths using a miter saw. You will have 4 posts, 2 boards for the joists, 16 pieces for the horizontal lattice strips, 2 pieces for the vertical lattice strips, and 8 pieces for the rafters. Exact dimensions are listed on the materials checklist and illustrated in **Diagram A.**
2. Give the ends of the joists a curved edge using a jig saw. It can be a simple curve or a more decorative shape depending on preference. Trace the desired shape onto cardboard and cut the cardboard shape out to use as a stencil. Use a pencil to trace the cutout onto each end of each 6" x 10" board and cute the shape out of each end with the saw.
3. Bring cut wood to the project site along with bags of concrete, post hole digger, shovel, level, tape measurer and wood pieces.
4. Using the shovel to dig four holes for the arbor posts that are 2.5' deep and roughly 12" in diameter. Holes should be spaced 9' apart, on either side of the paved pathway, and 2' apart on the sides. Use a tape measurer to ensure the holes are properly spaced and are deep enough.
5. Mix the bags of concrete. While mixing have someone pour gravel into the bottom of the whole to roughly 6". This will prevent the wood from touching the soil that can cause it to decay quickly.
6. Have someone place the first post into the first hole on top of the gravel. Use a level to make sure the post is sitting level and have them hold the post in position. **See Diagram B.**

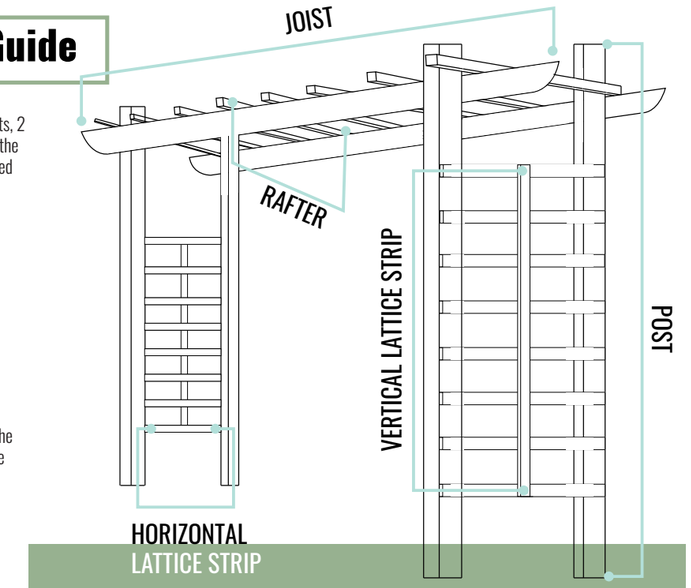
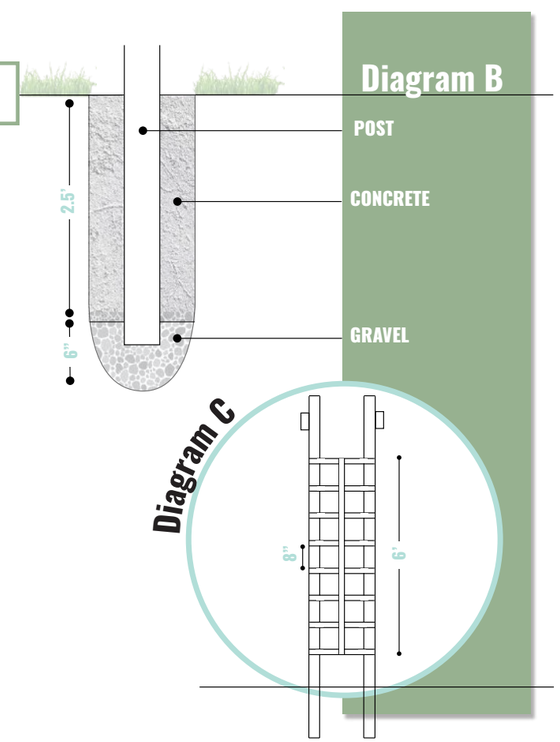


Diagram A

Step-by-Step Construction Guide

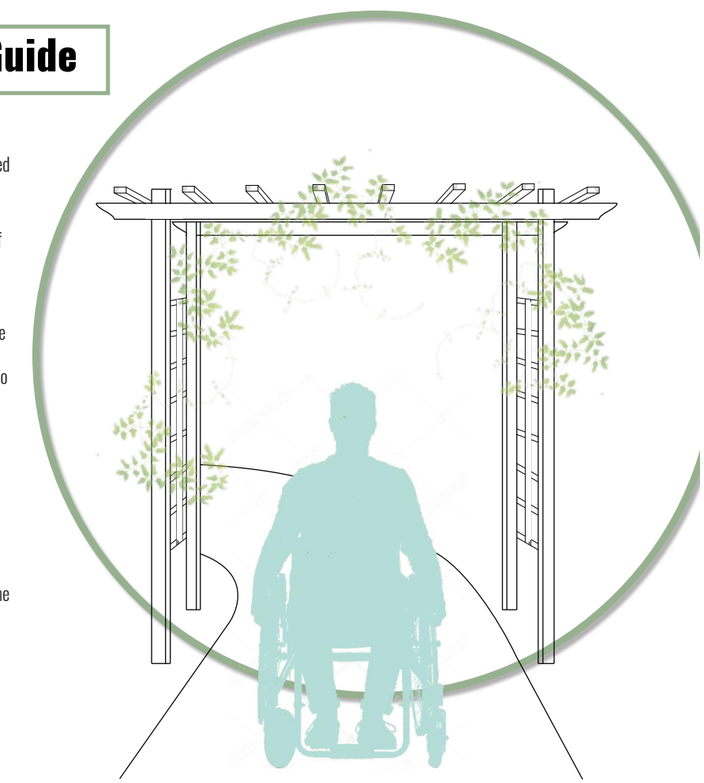
7. Pour the mixed concrete up to ground level, while the post is still being held in position. Wait several minutes for the concrete to begin to set and then repeat steps 5-7 with the remaining three posts. If needed, wood scraps can be used as temporary stakes to hold the arbor posts in position while the concrete sets by setting one end of the scrap wood on the ground and angling in the touch an outer wall of a post. Stakes can be attached with screws that will be taken out once the concrete is fully set.
8. Leave posts in place to set overnight before attaching any other arbor pieces.
9. Come back the next day with the rest of the wood pieces.
10. Using a tape measurer and a pencil, make a mark on each post 6" below the top of the post.
11. Attach the joists. Have two people standing on stepladders hold the first joist piece so the top of the joist is touching the pencil mark. Use a level to double check that the joist is sitting level and use wood screws and the drill to attach the joist on each side. Repeat this step with the second joist.
12. Use a tape measurer to mark the spots for the lattice strips. Measure 8" from the ground for the first strip, and then make 7 more marks up the post, spaced 8" apart.
13. Attach the horizontal lattice strips with wood screws at each marked spot.



Step-by-Step Construction Guide

14. Measure 11" in from one edge of the bottom horizontal lattice strip and make a mark. Repeat on the other edge. There should be a 2" space marked in the center of the bottom strip. Repeat these measurements on the top strip.
15. Place the vertical 2" x 2" strip in between these markings, in the center of the horizontal lattice strip, and attach with wood screws on the top and bottom lattice strip. **See Diagram C.**
16. Using wood screws, attach the first and rafters on the outside of where the posts meet the joists. This should be approximately 1' in from the edge of the joist. Then, space the remaining rafters evenly in- between the first two (the spaces between should come out to roughly 11", though the measurement does not have to be exact as long as they look even) and attach these rafters to each joist.
17. Sand any rough areas on the arbor, and paint it with two coats of white, weather-resistant paint.
18. **Admire your work!**

    Bonus: You can save any leftover wood scraps to make a painted welcome sign for the garden.



2.2 BERT ADAMS SCOUT CAMP

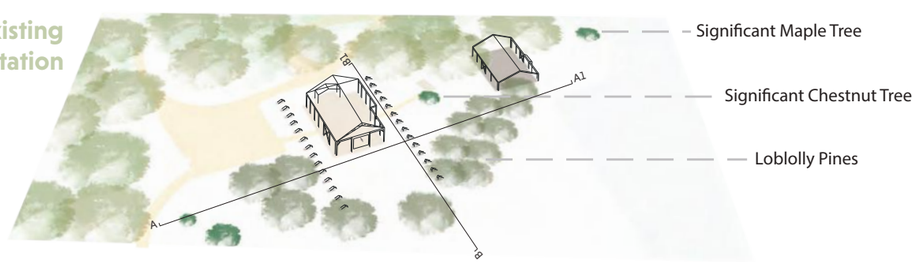
Project Origin: LAND 6030S Nature and Sustainability
Group project - work shown reflects individual contributions

Bert Adams Scout Camp sees the arrival of thousands of scouts each year for weekly camps and annual events. At its entrance, the foundations of the historic dining hall now frame a new outdoor pavilion. This new structure welcomes visitors as they arrive at camp. The vision for this space is to re-imagine it as a central gathering hub—one where campers can connect with each other, participate in environmental education, and engage in the spirit of scouting. Beyond camp activities, the pavilions can also provide an opportunity to host larger events, helping to extend the reach of Bert Adams Scout Camp to the broader community.

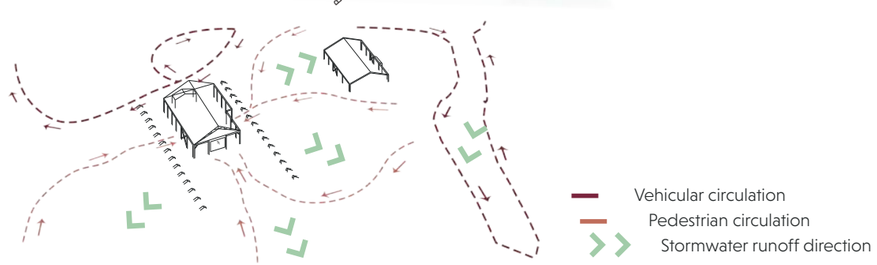
SITE ANALYSIS

EXISTING FEATURES

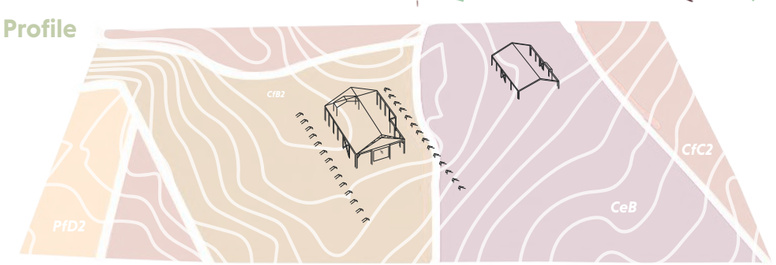
Existing Vegetation



Circulation & Water Flow



Soil Profile



CfB2 Cecil Sandy Clay Loam, 2-6% slopes

CeB Cecil Sandy Loam, 2-6% slopes

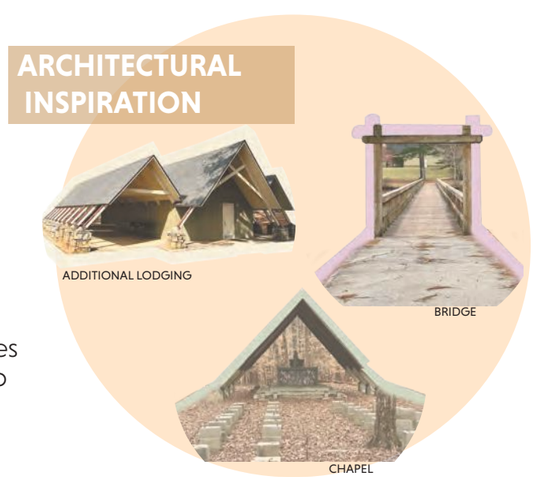
CfC2 Cecil Sandy Clay Loam, 6-10% slopes

PfD2 Pacolet Sandy Clay Loam, 10-15% slopes

MATERIALS

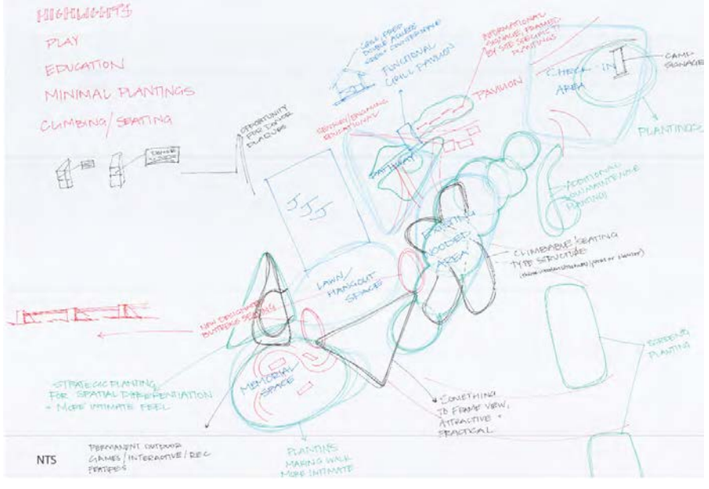
We called out significant materials that we saw repeated throughout the site and other areas at the camp that gave us some aesthetic inspiration and direction to use in our future design.

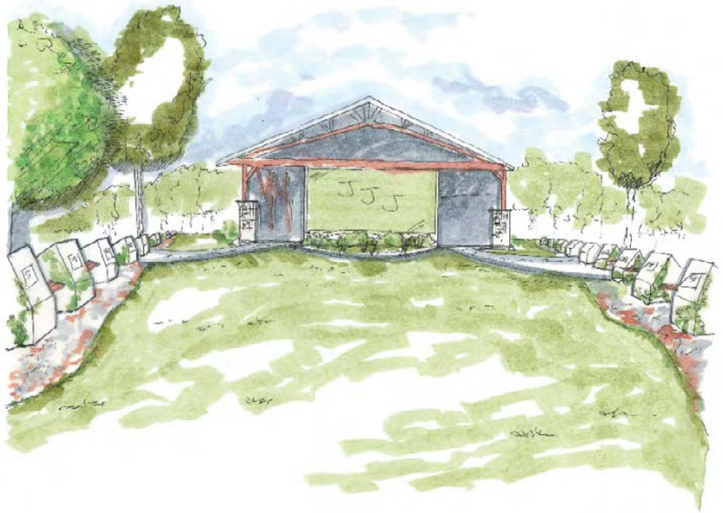
ARCHITECTURAL INSPIRATION

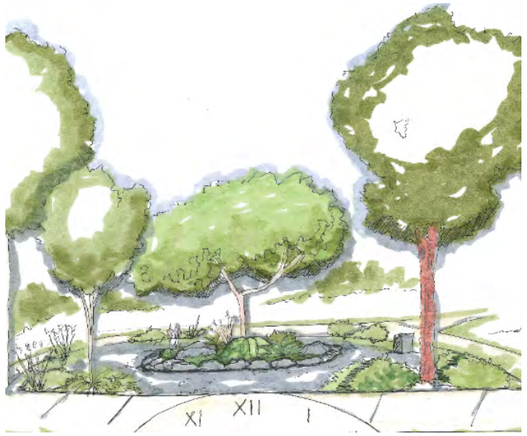


The A-frame form and the archway over the bridge were both important architectural shapes that held significance in the design of the camp and that we knew would help inform our hardscape design going forward.

DESIGN PROCESS *Initial Design Sketches*



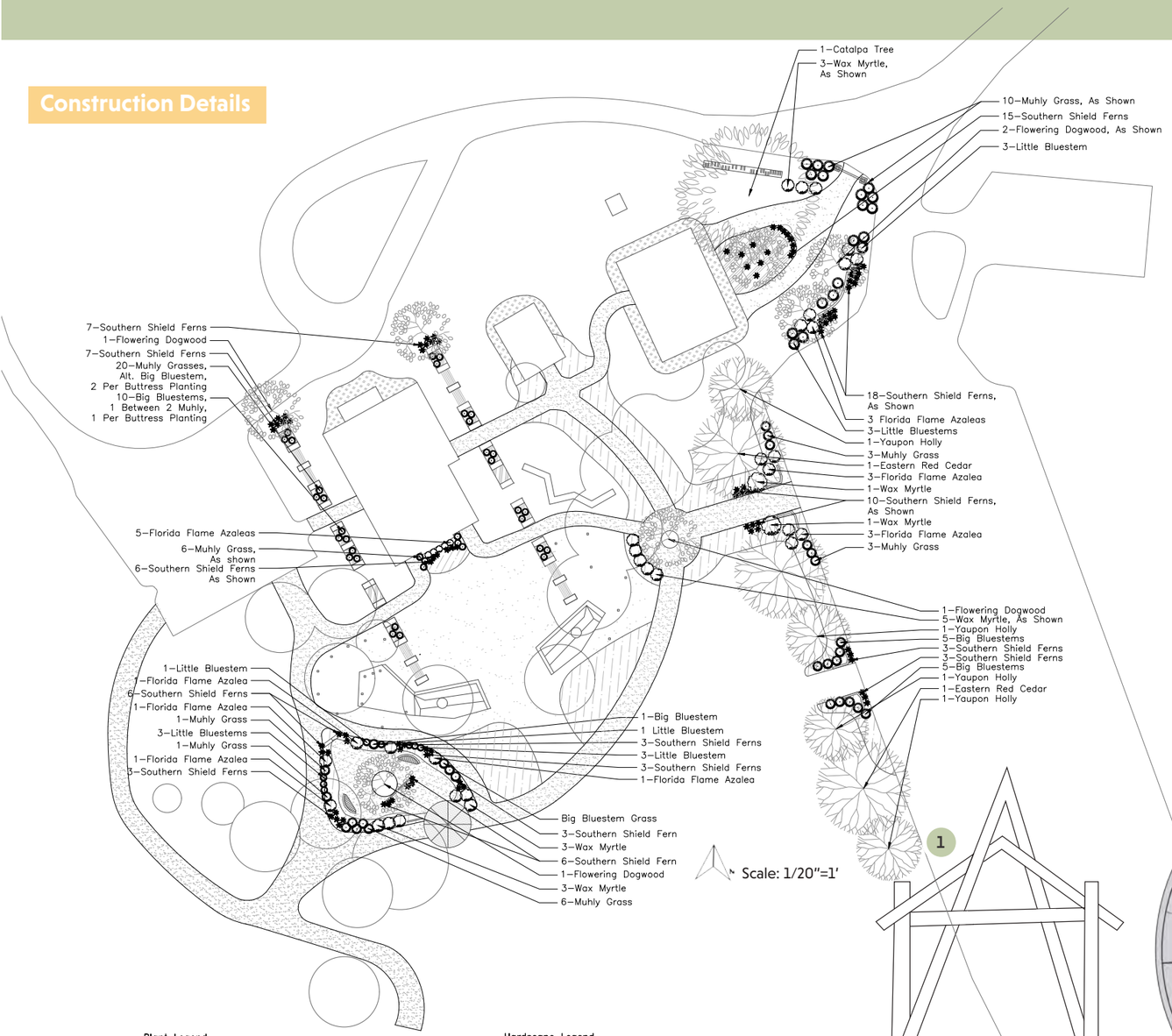




COMMUNICATING THE DESIGN

Implementing The Narrative

Construction Details



Plant Legend

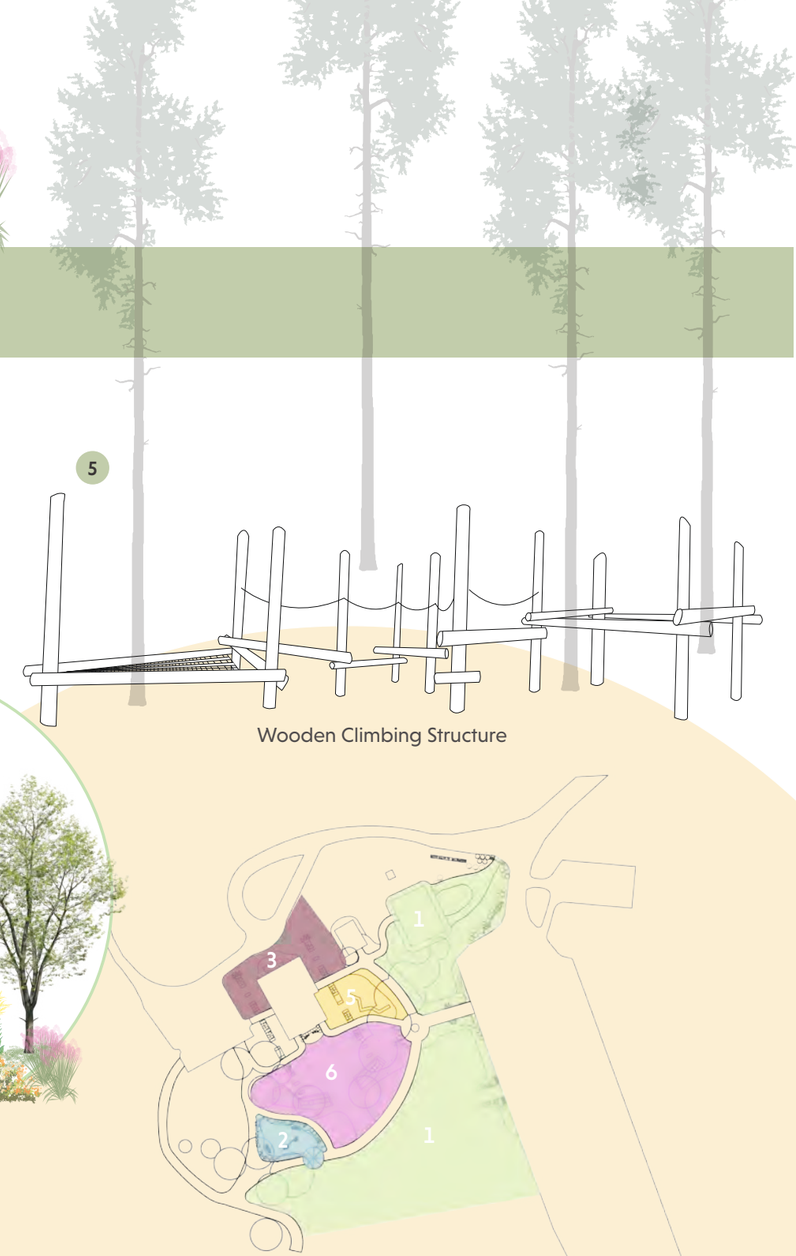
- Perennial Mix A: Purple Coneflower, Milkweed, Sensitive Plant, Black–Eyed Susan, Mountain Mint
- Pollinator Mix B: Goldenrod, Mountain Mint, Broomsedge
- Pollinator Mix C: Black–Eyed Susan, Purple Coneflower
- Zoysia

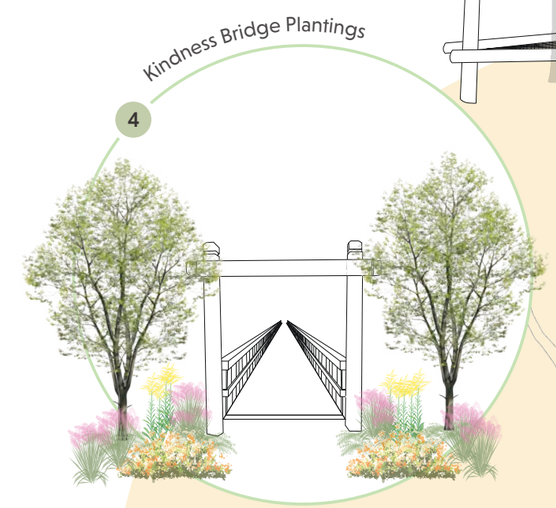
Hardscape Legend

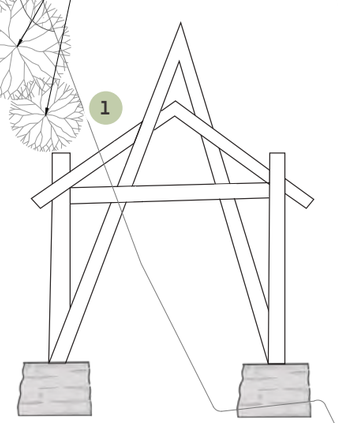
- Decomposed Granite
- Stacked Stone
- Concrete

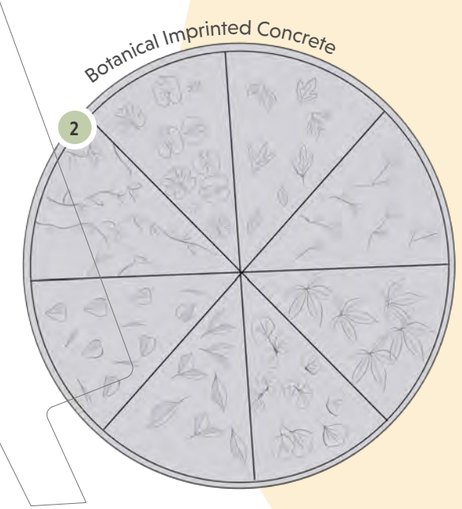
Embodying The Scout Law

When visualizing our design, we drew our major inspiration from the Scout values listed in the Scout Law. To embody these values in the design, we chose specific areas to represent these values, all interconnected through meandering pathways meant to take visitors on a "journey" through the Law. Through intentional plantings or specific built structures meant to encourage gathering, play, or reflection, each space evokes a different feeling meant to welcome campers and visitors and lead them to reflect on the values that have brought them all together.









1 COURTEOUS

The site welcomes visitors by guiding them through designated entrances planted with native plantings, guiding them underneath am A-frame structure that recalls the three-pointed scout logo and the A-frame architecture that exists throughout the camp.

2 REVERENCE

A concrete circle imprinted with native botanicals marks the entrance to the Memory Garden. The plant material chosen (such as Paw Paw Tree leaves, Bloodroot, and Catalpa Tree leaves) have a history of usage in the camp's region and are arranged in a clock-like pattern, calling visitors to reminisce on the many generations that have appreciated these plants. Educational signage, seating areas, and native plantings are also added to the space to give visitors a designated area to learn about the history of the camp and spend time alone reflecting on these ideas.

3 THRIFT

Native prairie plantings are incorporated throughout the site to provide interesting plant material for craft projects as well as an opportunity to learn about caring for these native plants through processes like controlled burns.

4 KINDNESS

Though not on the site, we mimicked planting combinations from our design to surround the Kindness Bridge. We chose Flowering Dogwood, Goldenrod, Muhly Grass, and Florida Flame Azalea to bring aesthetic continuity to the site and to further emphasize the important bridge.

5 CHEERFUL

A wooden climbing structure weaves throughout the trees, encouraging play and community through woven "platforms" that recall skills from the Pioneering activities and give visitors an opportunity to sit amongst the trees.

6 FRIENDLY

The lawn space welcomes community gathering through group activities like as movie nights. A zoysia lawn invites people to sit down and rest on a soft surface, while additional seating is included between the buttresses and on the multi-level platform. The emphasis in this space is on building connection and community with eachother.

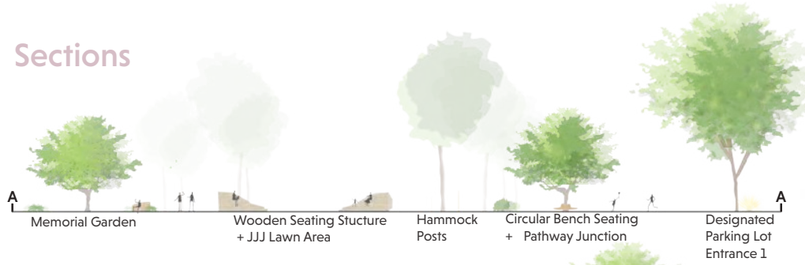
ENGAGING WITH PLACE

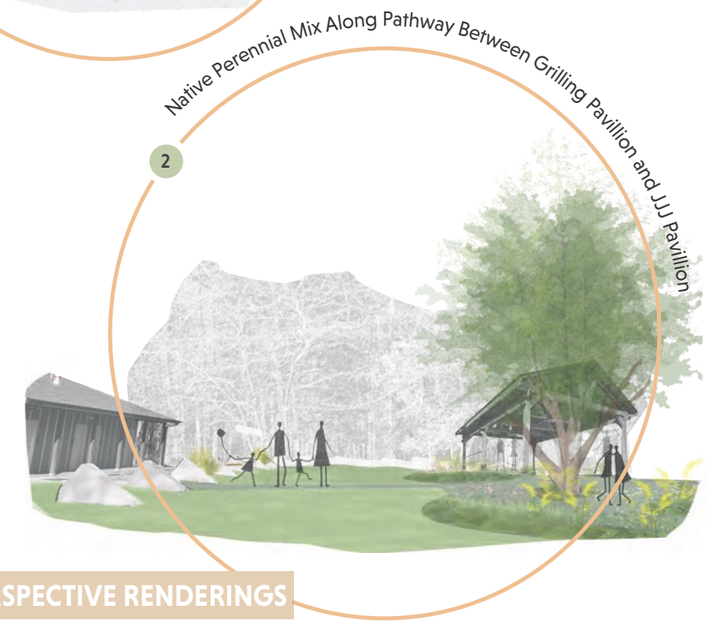
Scout Laws in the Landscape

ILLUSTRATIVE MASTER PLAN

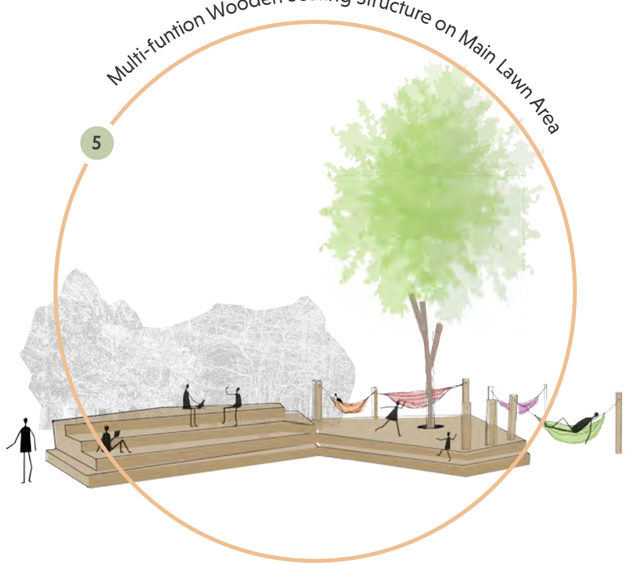
For our final master plan, we adapted previous elements, client preferences, and our unique creative implements for a final site rendering. The finalized master plan, along with several perspective and section renderings, communicate the design from various angles. The perspective graphics represent the design and its distinct characteristics for each intimate space on the site that embodies a specific Scout value. The pathways through our plan connect these values together, tying them together to create a spatial experience meant to further visitors' connection to the site through educational opportunities.

Sections





PERSPECTIVE RENDERINGS



2.3 Tiger Creek Stream Realignment Project at Fort Moore

College of Environment + Design
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Project Origin: LAND 6390 Ecological Landscape Restoration Group project - work shown reflects individual contributions

Tiger Creek Stream Realignment Project at Fort Moore

THE SITE

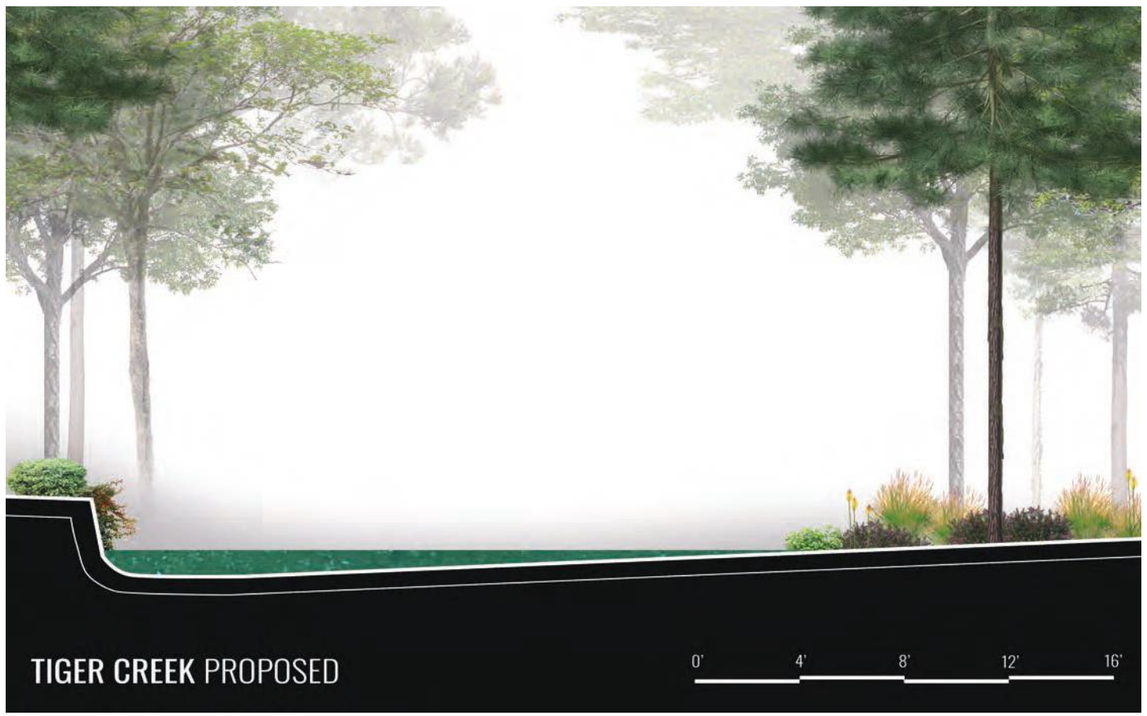
This project takes place at Fort Moore on the outskirts of Columbus, Georgia. The fort owns several thousand acres in and around the city of both developed and undeveloped property. The undeveloped property, often used for training purposes by the fort, is a diverse combination of wetlands, forests, and streams.

THE PROBLEM

Historically, several streams on the property were channelized to increase usable space, but inadequate planning, increased city development, and increasingly unpredictable and more intense weather conditions due to climate change have caused many of these channelized streams to incise, flood, and damage downstream development (IPCC, 2021).

PROJECT TARGET

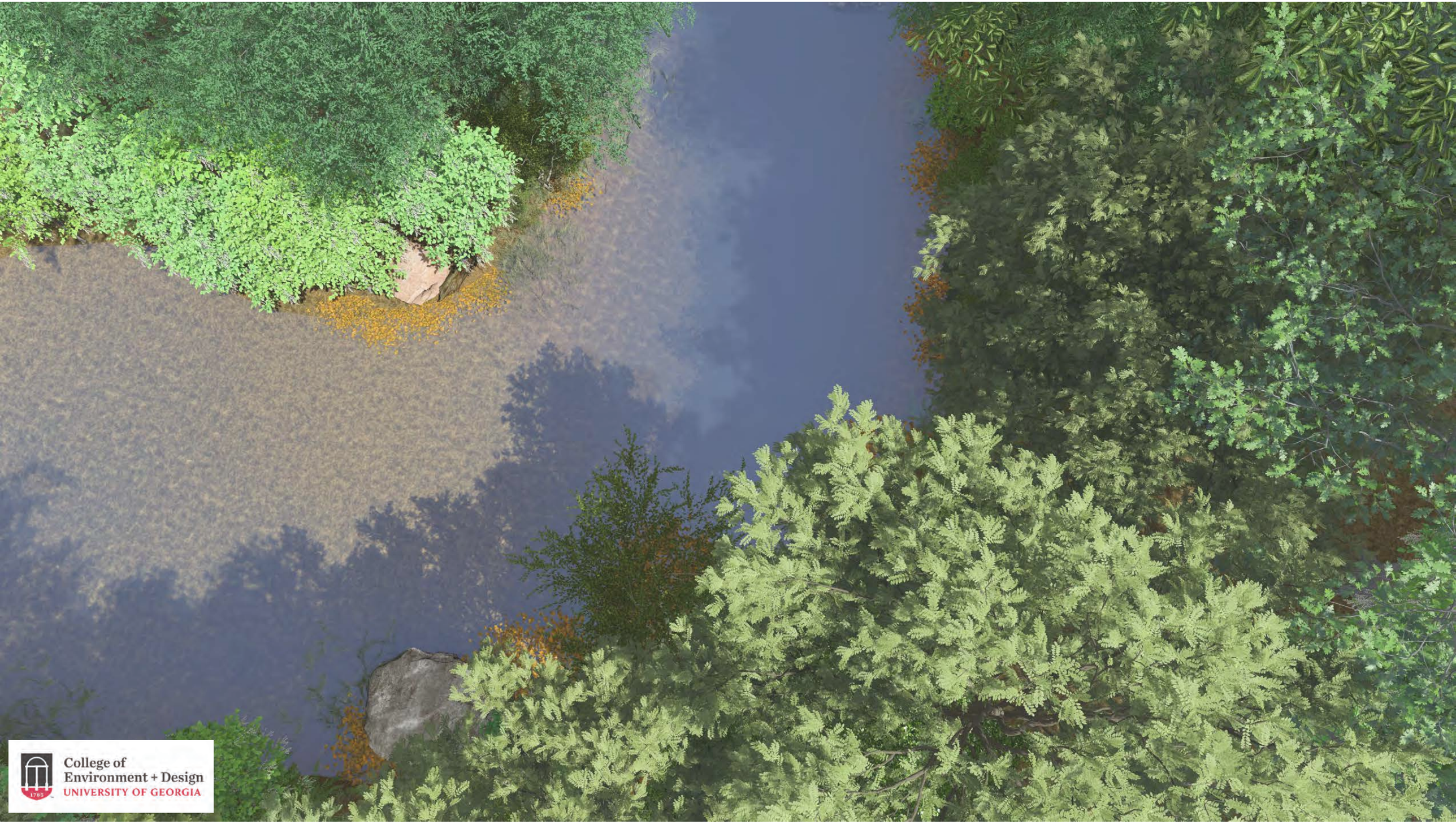
Tiger creek is one of the streams on the Fort's property that had been channelized and is suffering the effects of a changing climate and additional development. The creek lies on the Southeastern side of the city of Columbus, Georgia right on the edge of several city communities. Increasing imperviousness in the feeding watershed to Tiger creek has caused the creek to become dangerously entrenched as sediment from the banks has been taken downstream. The sediment washed away from the Tiger Creek banks travels downstream, ending up in the Chattahoochee River. The stream's condition continues to worsen as no efforts have been made to mitigate the stream's erosion and degradation.



PROPOSED DESIGN

When approaching the mitigation efforts for Tiger Creek, both process and form-based approaches were considered as liable options for rehabilitation of the site (Rosgen, D.L., 2011). Because of several limiting factors such as property boundaries, existing infrastructure like bridges and culverts, and existing property usage requirements of the base, a form-based approach was decided upon. This approach would entail re-channeling the stream to increase sinuosity, increase aquatic connectivity, and regain access to the floodplain.

Through calculation, team discussion, and consideration of existing stream design research including the NRCS Stream Restoration Design Handbook, a C-channel design was developed for the stream (Rosgen, D.L., 2011, Li, M. 2008). This was done by creating a cross-section of the actual channel depth, width, and access to flood plains using GPS data points and then overlaying it was a proposed channel section with the correct geometry for a C-channel. Additionally, the design was created with greater sinuosity to bring it to the C-channel classification which will slow the water down and discourage future entrenchment. The proposed stream channel path is directly east of its current path.



Increased sinuosity in the design re-directs the stream to wind through the landscape, slowing it's flow.

Better stream health leads to better streambank health, increasing vegetation and habitat for important wildlife like the Red Cockaded Woodpecker.

A healthier Tiger Creek also provides vital habitat for important freshwater marine life, including endangered native mussles like the shinyrayed pocketbook.

A sinuous, C-channel stream has access to the floodplain, decreasing erosion, entrenchment and loss of important wildlife habitat.

DESIGN SKILLS

Graphic Origin: LAND 6220 Representation II

3.1.A EDIBLE LANDSCAPE PLANTING DESIGN GUIDE

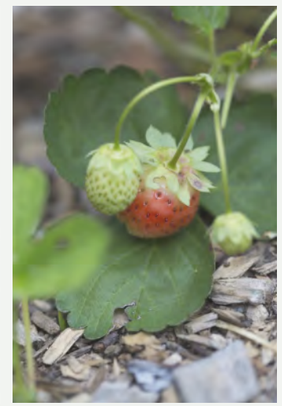
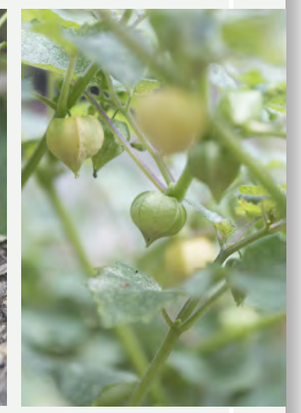
This project highlights a curated selection of edible plants that can thrive in the Southeastern United States, specifically within USDA hardiness zones 6–9. It is meant to serve as a printed or digital resource and inspiration for community members wanting to create a public edible landscape.

The suggested plants were chosen to balance three key goals

Aesthetic Quality	*attractive foliage, blooms, and forms that contribute to the overall beauty of public spaces*
Low-Maintenance	*plants that adapt well to regional conditions and require relatively low inputs once established*
Nutritional Diversity	*a harvest that spans multiple months and includes a variety of fruits and herbs that offer a diversity of nutrients*

Together, these plants demonstrate how edible landscapes can simultaneously enrich community spaces, support ecological health, and expand access to fresh, nutritious foods.

PLANTING SELECTION

Photos by author

A plethora of edible plant varieties can thrive in the Southeastern United States, creating opportunity for a wide range of planting combinations when designing a public edible landscape. The success of each plant relies on the specific climate and soil conditions of your individual site. However, the following plants are simply listed as **possible** *suggestions of plants that are featured in edible landscapes throughout the region, and can succeed in USDA hardiness zones 6-9. These suggestions were assembled with the goal of providing aesthetic quality, relatively easy maintenance, and a nutritionally diverse harvest that spans many months.*

TREES

Image source: Virginia Cooperative Extension

Image source: Ty Ty Plant Nursery

AMERICAN PERSIMMON

Diospyros virginiana

- Plant in full sun
- Extremely sweet fruit, but astringent before fully ripe - may require signage to educate people about proper time to pick
- Dioecious (plants are either Male or Female)
  - University of Georgia Cooperative Extension recommends planting at least 3-5 trees to ensure proper pollination
- Requires little pruning, only to control tree size and remove dead or damaged branches
- Native to the Southeastern U.S.

ARKANSAS BLACK APPLE

Malus domestica 'Arkansas Black'

- Plant in full sun
- Very popular, medium-large, dark-red fruit
- Highly disease resistant
- Showy white flowers attract pollinators
- Triploid
  - Requires two, non-triploid pollination partners nearby (of a different variety) that can cross-pollinate
    - University of Georgia Cooperative Extension recommends varieties like Golden Delicious, Gala, or Granny Smith.

TREES

Image source: University of Georgia Cooperative Extension

Image source: Raintree Nursery

CELESTE FIG

Ficus carica 'Celeste'

- Plant in full sun
- Very sweet, white flesh
- Self-fertile (Can be used as specimen planting, though planting in multiples can lead to higher yield).
- May need winter protection in colder regions (zones 6-7)
- Prune in winter while tree is dormant to encourage new growth in the Spring (UGA Cooperative Extension).

METHLEY PLUM

Prunus salicina 'Methley'

- Plant in full sun
- Juicy, sweet red flesh
- Moderate resistance to Black Knot Disease
- Prolific clusters of fragrant, white flowers in spring
- Can be susceptible to late spring frost
- Self-pollinating
  - Can produce ample harvest with one plant, but yield may be greater if planted in multiples (UGA Cooperative Extension)

TREES

Image source: North Carolina Extension Gardner Plant Toolbox

Image source: Stark Bro's Nursery & Orchards Co.

MOONGLOW PEAR

Pyrus communis 'Moonglow'

- Plant in full sun, but can tolerate partial shade
- Medium -large, attractive fruit
- Resistant to Fireblight
- Showy, fragrant flowers in spring attract pollinators
- Not self-pollinating
  - NC State Extension recommends planting other European pear varieties like Bartlett Pear or Seckel Pear to cross-pollinate
- Late winter or early spring annual pruning when tree is dormant

OVERLEESE PAWPAW

Asimina triloba 'Overleese'

- Can grow in full sun to dense shade
- Large, oval fruit with creamy, yellow flesh
- Ripens later than other PawPaw cultivars
- Considered disease and insect-resistant
- Will need two cultivars to act as reciprocal pollinizers (North Carolina Extension Gardener's Toolbox)
- Native to the Southeastern U.S.

TREES

Image source: Urban Perennials

SLAVATSKI POMEGRANATE

Punica granatum 'Slavatski'

- Plant in full sun
- Hard-seeded variety with sweet, juice fruit
- Cold-hardy variety
- Considered to be productive and dependable (North Carolina Extension Gardener's Toolbox)
- Will benefit from good airflow
- Bright orange flowers bloom in late spring
- Self-pollinating
- Late winter or early spring annual pruning when tree is dormant

SHRUBS & VINES

Image source: University of Georgia Cooperative Extension

Image source: American Meadows

ALAPAHA RABBITEYE BLUEBERRY

Vaccinium ashei "Alapaha'

- Plant in full sun
- Medium-sized berries with less pronounced seeds than other varieties
- An early season variety, however, the plant flowers later than other early season blueberries (possibly allowing it to avoid late-freeze damage), but the fruit ripens quickly (UGA Cooperative Extension)
- Requires cross-pollination. UGA Cooperative Extension recommends the Vernon Rabbiteye Blueberry as a companion plant
- Native blueberry

HARDY KIWI

Actinidia arguta

- Plant in full sun to partial shade
- Small, grape-sized fruit with high Vitamin-C content. Smooth flesh that does not need to be peeled before eating
- Dioecious
- Fruiting vine that will need to be trellised or supported by a sturdy structure
- Will require regular pruning as the plant can grow up to 30' per year. The plant's rapid growth habit can be considered weedy. (North Carolina Extension Gardener's Toolbox)

SHRUBS & VINES

Image source: Pike's Nursery

Image source: Ison's Nursery & Vineyard

HERITAGE RASPBERRY

Rubus idaeus 'Heritage'

- Plant in full sun
- Sweet, juicy, heart-shaped fruit
- Erect form
- Considered a heavy, easy producer (UGA Cooperative Extension)
- Self-pollinating
- Easy pruning schedule
  - Can prune once in late winter to cut all canes down to 2" above the ground, resulting in one fall harvest.
  - Can also choose to prune in late Spring, leaving the largest cane on each plant and pruning all others to ground. This will result in a modest harvest in mid-summer in addition to a heavier harvest closer to fall.

NATCHEZ BLACKBERRY

Rubus fruticosus 'Natchez'

- Plant in full sun
- Large, sweet fruit
- Erect form
- Thornless variety
- Prefers loam soil
- Self-fertile
- Will require multiple pruning sessions
  - Recommended to prune in winter to cut back dead canes that fruited the previous summer
  - Also recommended to prune new canes back to 4' in summer to encourage lateral branching (UGA

SHRUBS & VINES

Image source: Food Forest Nursery

TRIUMPH MUSCADINE

Vitis rotundifolia 'Triumph'

- Plant in full sun
- Avoid planting in spots that retain standing water after rainfall (North Carolina State University)
- Attractive, pinkish-bronze fruit with a firm texture
- Sweeter than other muscadine varieties. Great for easting fresh off the plant. (North Carolina Muscadine Grape Association
- Yield consistently high (UGA Cooperative Extension)
- Considered disease-resistant (UGA Cooperative Extension)
- Will need to be trellised and pruned annually while plant is dormant in winter to avoid plant becoming weedy.

PLANTS FOR RAISED BEDS

Including raised beds in your site design can allow you to plant a greater diversity of plants. Imported soil in a container or raised bed can be a great option for sites with contaminated soil concerns, as they can grow leafy greens, herbs and other plants that may not be suitable for growing on the ground (Washington State University). This can also prevent food safety concerns from dogs walking by, and can offer greater opportunity for interested community members to grow annual plants in a contained setting. Raising the bed height can also make edible plants more accessible to those with limited bending or kneeling capabilities (West Virginia University Center for Excellence in Disabilities). Raised beds can be used for herbs that need to be contained, like Spearmint, Lovage and Oregano, all perennial plants that can be harvested longer into the winter than other fruiting plants, adding more seasonal versatility to your site.

Image source: Illinois Extension

LOVAGE
Levisticum officinale

- Large, hardy perennial
- Celery-like flavor, but sweeter
- Leaves, stems, roots and seeds are edible
- Grows fairly tall at 4'-6', but can be kept shorter through regular harvesting
- Can be eaten raw and used in a variety of dishes (Illinois Extension)

Image source: North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox

OREGANO
Origanum vulgare

- Hardy perennial
- Intense flavor used in many dishes
- 6" - 3' in height, depending on variety
- Leaves can be eaten fresh or dried
- Aromatic
- Small flowers (color depends on variety) (Illinois Extension)

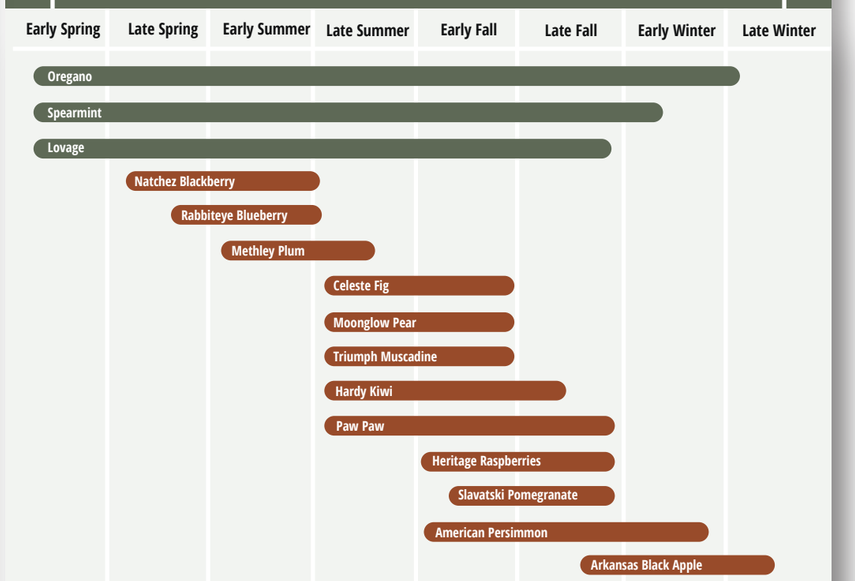
Image source: North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox

SPEARMINT
Mentha spicata

- Upright perennial
- Will spread rampantly, best grown in container or bed
- Aromatic
- Will need regular pruning to contain size and prevent plant from becoming rootbound in container or bed (North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox)

SAMPLE FRUITING SCHEDULE

Plants can be selected to prolong the harvest season of your site. Below is a sample fruiting schedule based on suggested plants and their harvest seasons. Actual harvest season will vary depending on specific hardiness zone and site conditions. You can set up a similar schedule based on your site's climate to help gauge what plants will be most effective for extending harvest opportunities throughout the year.



PLANTING CRITERIA

Whatever plants you choose for your site, the following criteria should be considered in order to choose the most effective planting combination for your public edible landscape:

BLOOMING TIME
Knowing the blooming schedules of your plants will help to choose companions for plants that need multiple varieties to pollinated. In order for two varieties to pollinize each other, there should be an overlap in blooming. Blossom time will also help to build seasonal aesthetic interest if you would like to feature blooms in your landscape at different times of the year.

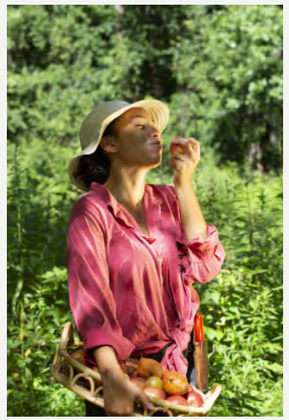
CHILL FACTOR
Choosing plants that will survive in your hardiness zone is important, however, it can also be important to know what plants will be able to *thrive* in your specific hardiness zone.

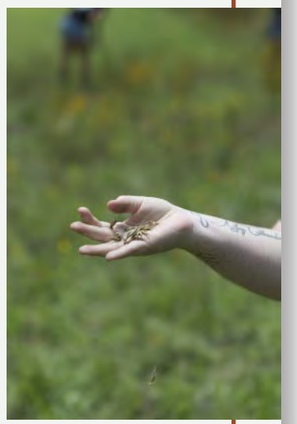
DISEASE RESISTANCE
It can be very helpful to research common diseases of specific desired plants and choose cultivars that are known to be resistant to that disease.

HARVEST WINDOW
Choosing plants and cultivars with different harvest windows can help extend harvest opportunities throughout the year.

NURSERY SOURCE
A local nursery can be a great resource for gathering information about all aforementioned criteria. It also ensures that the plants you chose will be acclimated to your climate.

List adapted from The Holistic Orchard by Michael Phillips (2011), p. 39-40





Photos by author

3.1.B UPDATED PLANTING DESIGN Griffin, GA Downtown Traffic Medians and Planter Boxes

In Griffin, GA, downtown medians and planter boxes are often empty or planted inconsistently, leaving the streetscape underwhelming. The city requested a new planting design to bring color, structure, and seasonal interest to the heart of downtown. As the "City of Irises," Griffin also wanted to showcase iris bulbs donated by community members, creating a design that reflects local pride while enhancing the city's character and sense of place.

Current plantings in planters and medians

Visualizing the Design Large Median

Appalachian Sedge

Hubricht's Bluestar

Eastern Redbud

Little Bluestem

Autumn Joy Sedum

Schumard Oak

This bright color palette is anchored by the deep green of the Schumard Oak that turns a vivid red in the Fall. Mounding plants like Little Bluestem, Hubricht's Bluestar, and Autumn Joy Sedum give opportunity for bright color that persists in colder months. Appalachian Sedge gives this combination a beautiful, feathery texture and weaves throughout clumps of differing plants to provide continuity and a sense of movement to the design. They also help to locate designated walkways intersecting the median.

Visualizing the Design Height-Restricted Median

Medians under power lines can use many of the same plants as the larger medians for continuity, but can also be anchored by Eastern Redbuds, a compact tree with lots of seasonal interest. A more developed shrub layer can also help to add greater visual interest, with native grasses like Little Blustem and Muhly Grass giving the space texture and color that persists in the colder months. Encore Azaleas bloom repeatedly throughout the year and also give the design an evergreen element.

Appalachian Sedge

Little Bluestem

Muhly Grass

Encore Azalea

Hubricht's Bluestar

Eastern Redbud

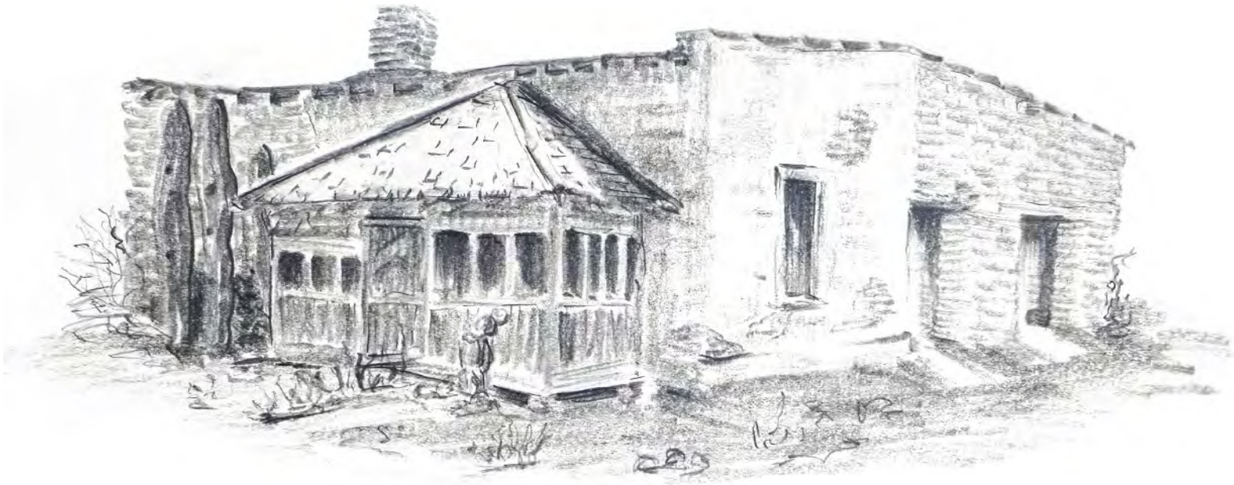
Small Median

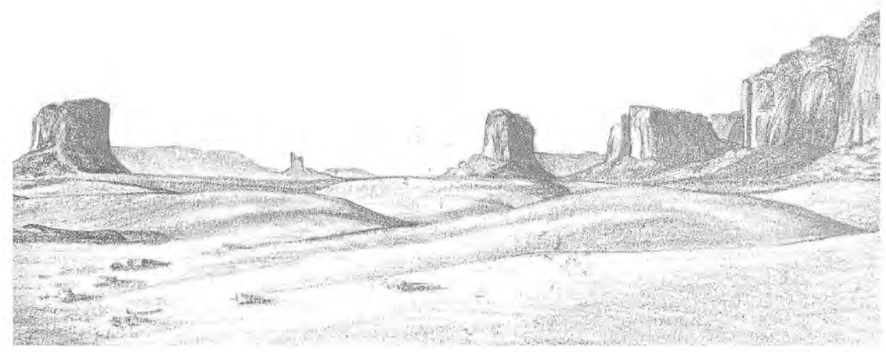
Smaller medians throughout downtown give opportunity to plant with irises due to the full sun availability and contained planting area. Irises can be mixed with lower-growing plants from the other median designs like Autumn Joy Sedum, which can compliment the blooms in both color palette and texture, and Appalachian Sedge, to add swaths of green throughout the bright color palette.

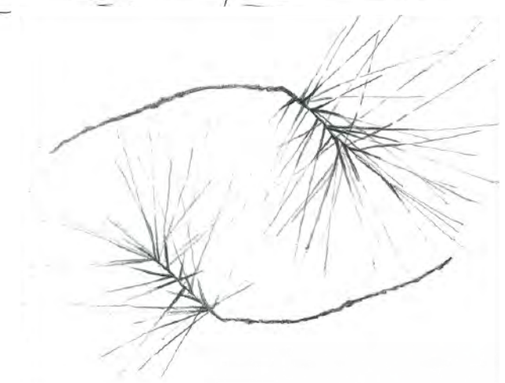
Watercolor, Acrylic

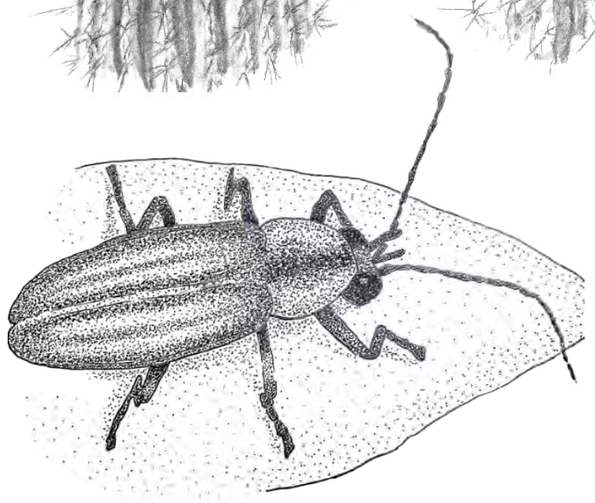
3.2 Hand Graphics

Project Origin: LAND 6210 Representation I + Personal Projects









Pencil, Ink

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Photo by author