Public Interest Design in Action

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1980’s fieldwork with architects serving community needs
STUDENTS AS CIVIC ENVIRONMENTALIST

STUDENT + COMMUNITY = PRAXIS (reflective practitioners)
SITES of LEARNING - EXCHANGE of KNOWLEDGE
Leads to participatory processes of design and building
children’s library, ojo del agua, jiutepec, mexico
Conclusion

Patty’s house explores many aspects of building a comfortable, sustainable house that is elevated and structured to meet the demands of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

The rooms beneath the house are well-used, creating cool, shaded spaces for sitting and gardening. The stair is brought into the mass of the house to make an indirect entry sequence. The house is natural among the trees and garden, and the views from the house are rewarding. The house form and structure respond to surrounding trees, so it is fitting that neighbors and friends of Patty refer to it as “the treehouse.”
R30.09

Bedroom

The west wing of the house includes the bedroom, bathroom, and laundry room. The utilitarian spaces are nestled on either side of a small entry foyer, giving the bedroom a protected and spacious feel. As in the living room, the ceiling is vaulted.

The floor as well as the walls and ceiling are pine, creating a warm, contained room. A window box on the west wall (see slide 10) is the right scale for a seat and storage and frames a spectacular view of the sunset.

A ductless mechanical system meets the LEED certification and allows the dog-trot split and vaulted ceilings. Other elements of LEED certification include bio-based spray foam insulation and slate floors.
ALLEY FLAT INITIATIVE

Applied Research and Service Learning
Working Toward a Sustainable Future
For All Austin

Partnerships: GDNC
ACDDC

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  LUCE Foundation
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  MERIDIAN Energy

Documentation:
“Green for All” 2nd Installment of PBS
television series “Design-e2” (2006-7)
“Alley Flats Tackle Affordable Green
Housing in East Austin”
KVUE, December 5, 2007
“Austin Now”, November 2005
www.alleyflatinitiative.org

UT Austin - School of Architecture

AFI
DATA COLLECTION METHODS

1. PHYSICAL BLOCK SURVEY

To gain an understanding of significant changes in construction since 2009, 20 students divided into 4 groups to document building elements in detail. Data from a significant sampling was compiled to create an adequate visual comparison. Certain elements provided clues about future growth.

2. INTERVIEWS

To document and understand the narrative of the lives and experiences of those who live in Los Pilotos; the students carefully crafted exploratory questions and interviewed residents over the course of one week regarding current practices, future plans, concerns, and perceptions regarding the development of Los Pilotos. 30 interview transcripts were compiled and used as source documents that acted as a primary reference for the students' propositions.

3. LOW ALTITUDE AERIAL MAPPING

To obtain an up-to-date overview of the physical morphology of the community, a series of low altitude aerial maps were generated over the course of two weeks. A team of three students employed several low-cost photographic methods which also succeeded in spontaneously engaging children. These maps were used as a primary reference for initial propositions and will continue to be used in the coming months to give quantitative specificity to proposals.
PROPOSED INTEGRATED PUBLIC SPACE
The Economic Incubator
sustainable taiwan
NATIONAL TAIPEI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

INTERFACE - INTERMEDIARY - INBETWEEN

Campus - Metropolis

DEMO NSTRATIVE MODEL

Landscape Project Plans

Future Station

Current Floor Plans

Historic Floor Plans (1940)

Passive Energy Sources

Using Tree & Roof Systems

Green Wall

Green Roofs

Key Buildings

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SEED
A multi-year collaborative effort to establish a new standard for design projects. The standard is defined by addressing the “triple bottom line” of critical issues: social, economic and environmental.
www.seednetwork.org

SEED NETWORK
SEED EVALUATOR
SEED CERTIFICATION

...tools for pursuing a community-based, inclusive design practice where understanding the results of our work is just as important as the process itself.
SEED CORE VALUES

SEED MISSION: Advance the right of every person to live in a socially, economically and environmentally healthy community.

SEED PRINCIPLES:
1. Advocate with those who have a limited voice in public life.
2. Build structures for inclusion that engage stakeholders and allow communities to make decisions.
3. Promote social equality through discourse that reflects a range of values and social identities.
4. Generate ideas that grow from place and build local capacity.
5. Design to help conserve resources and minimize waste.
Welcome to SEED:
Social Economic Environmental Design®

SEED maintains the belief that design can play a vital role in the most critical issues that face communities and individuals, in crisis and in every day challenges. To accomplish this, SEED provides tools—the SEED Network and SEED Certification—that guide design professionals toward community-based engagement with design practice. These tools support a public-interest methodology that is increasingly recognized as an effective way to sustain the health and longevity of a place or a community as it develops over time.

**SEED Network**
For designers and others looking for resources and a community of practice where like-minded people share an interest in the results of design and care about fundamental ideals of practice.

**SEED Certification**
For designers, project developers, community leaders and others who desire a common standard to guide, measure, evaluate and certify the social, economic and environmental impact of design projects.

**Learn More**
For those who want to learn more about SEED, read case studies of SEED Certified projects, search for projects based on issue or location, read recent press or support SEED.

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The SEED Evaluator
PUBLIC INTEREST DESIGN TRAINING PROGRAM
SEED Issues Addressed:

- Community Revitalization
- Housing
- Unemployment
- Health
- Energy Efficiency
- Crime
- Historic Preservation
Bancroft School Project
Location: Manheim Park Neighborhood, Kansas City, Missouri
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- **Social:**
  - Preserve historic school through renovation and restoration therefore restoring “historic fabric”
  - Provide health initiatives: cooking classes, health services, outdoor spaces & a fitness center
  - Make a safer environment through more “eyes on the street”
  - Build community spaces to provide flexible space for: job training programs, entrepreneurship programs, as well as computer literacy programs

- **Economic:**
  - Provide affordable housing for 104 people
  - Spur redevelopment in area of disinvestment
  - Increase property values

- **Environmental:**
  - Create green space including gardens, playground, and public gathering spaces
  - Re-use site storm water
  - Educate using greenhouse about nutrition and local food sourcing
  - Have access to public transit
  - Utilize LEED platinum guidelines (pending funding)
CPIID Methods & Practices

- Multi-Stakeholder Participation
- Integration
- Networked Interventions
CPID Methods & Practices
Multi-Stakeholder Participation

• Open, transparent, iterative design process
• Harnesses community’s social, political, and economic capital and know-how
• Involves technical knowledge of design professionals, political will of local and/or regional government, investment capacity of private sector
• Incorporate stakeholder consultation and engagement so residents, business owners, municipal groups, and other groups have true agency in decision-making process
**CPID Methods & Practices**

**Integration**

- Combine physical, social, & economic strategies in single intervention
- Design may be the entry point, but integrated intervention expands beyond design of structures and/or landscapes to include design of programs, processes, organization structures, enterprises with help of multi-disciplinary team
- Resident needs related to development should not be oversimplified – consideration of broader social and economic needs can help avoid lopsided or tunnel vision type of development
CPID Methods & Practices

Networked Interventions

• Large scale issues (vacancy, poverty, access to food, making healthy communities) addressed by networking series of small scaled interventions
• Small interventions envisioned from start as strategic components of future network through selection, coordination, design, and development
• Network is physically, fiscally, socially, and economically supported to build new economics, social safety nets, and political capital
• Large scale efforts can disenfranchise residents, or small scale efforts can be isolated or one-off
• SOLUTION: Adopt multi-scale approach to all projects, no matter the catalyzing original scale
Service Proximity to Del Paso Heights

The neighborhood of Del Paso Heights has convenient access to a variety of services that are significantly mixed by the quality of this area within the neighborhood. In particular, these services with their income or social service data, indicate some of the issues we see in the neighborhood. A financial service, such as the Children's Community Health Services, is located near the center of the neighborhood, which can be beneficial for residents. Additionally, there is a public transportation service, which can be helpful for those without access to a car or a public transit system. Overall, the neighborhood appears to have a diverse mix of services that cater to the needs of its residents.
Transportation and Access in Del Paso Heights
Harvest Festival
Community Engagement
What do you love about your community?
What would you change?
What is your favorite sport?
Aerial View

Youth Rec. Area
Retail & Pavilion
New Basketball Complex
Extended Permeable Paths
Safe Crossings

Parking
Bus Stop
Improved Skatepark
Creative Intersection Repair
Improved Community Center
Place Through Pavilions

safety defined by

needs
access to water
fresh air
food
rest

pathways provide opportunities

household familiarity
Community Guide to Transit Stop Design
**Design Characteristics - Platform**

Key factors:
- passenger circulations
- passenger waiting area

Max number of passengers in the stop at any given time

\[ P_{\text{max}} \times (\text{ft}^2 \text{ per passenger}) + A_{\text{inf}} \]

Level of service | ft²/p | User experience: free standing and circulation
---|---|---
A | >13 | Extremely high density
B | 10-12 | High density
C | 7-10 | Medium density
D | 5-7 | Low density
E | 2-3 | Very low density
F | <2 | No passengers

Example Pages

- Center for Public Interest Design
Scheme 1: Oasis

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ELEVATIONS

South Elevation in its closed position

North Elevation in its closed position

South Elevation in its open position

North Elevation in its open position
Oasis Bus Stop

before

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

[Image of people waiting at the bus stop and engaging in activities as the design progresses from before to after.]
COMMUNITY PROCESS: PROGRAM SELECTION

The neighborhood community is the expert on what types of programs would best serve the residents and the type of design that will best reflect the neighborhood. The intent is that the community drives the development of the Oasis Stops through a series of workshops with local residents. The workshops offer the residents a voice in choosing the program of each Oasis Stop as well as the physical aesthetics of each given Oasis Stop. In addition, these workshops offer potential funding and service partners an opportunity to interact with the people they are hoping to serve.

COMMUNITY PROCESS: SCREEN DESIGN

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
COMMUNITY PROCESS: MATERIAL SELECTION

MATERIAL EXAMPLES FOR STATIONARY BUS STOP

WOOD SLATS
PREFABRICATED
METAL PANEL

MATERIAL EXAMPLES FOR CUSTOM MOVABLE SCREEN

METAL HINGE SCREEN
POLYCARBONATE
WOOD SCREENS
Scheme 2: Link

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COMMUNITY DESIGN COMPONENT
The community design component of the LINK stop is that the entire stop is made from “low-tech” recycled materials with the idea that the construction is actually carried out by the community members in conjunction with a local artist, community organization and transit authorities. The diagram below illustrates how individuals in the community could work together to within the design parameters, design a bust stop that fits their vision and needs.

EVENING USE / SECURITY
Linear LED lighting attached to the underside of the structure will allow for safe levels of illumination while creating an aesthetically pleasing rhythm of light along the structure.
Scheme 3: Rhythm

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TUBE CONFIGURATIONS - Examples responding to ergonomy and activities

- children sitting
- normal sitting
- high sitting
- table
- board
- swings
- signal
- board and chair
- table and chair
- shelves
- wheel
- children + adults
Scheme 4: **Diffuse**

**COMPONENTS (BASIC CONFIGURATION SHOWN)**

**Structure and Shelter**
A ceiling of aluminum channels diffuses sunlight, collects rainwater, and allows for open air flow.

**Amenities**
Amenities include: hydration station, rotating bench/counter tops, and schedules. The larger bus stop would include lockable storage for micro retailers or anyone else interested in renting the stall for a day.

_Center for Public Interest Design_
CONFIGURATIONS
COMMUNITY DESIGN COMPONENT

Prior to construction of the shelter, the community will be engaged and asked to participate in the final design. The community will have three options in what shape and wood they would like to use for the benches. Finally, the community will work with a local artist to create a graphic representative of the neighborhood which will be added to the benches.

STEP 1: SHAPE SELECTION

- Diffuse
- Square
- Iceberg

STEP 2: MATERIAL SELECTION

- Western Red Cedar
- Northern White Cedar
- Teak

STEP 3: COMMUNITY GRAPHIC DESIGN

Community-Designed Graphic + Bus Shelter = Final Design
w/ sacramento

With Project
Online Community Tool
Add your ideas or proposals here. Map challenges and opportunities here.
Describe your idea (maximum of 140 characters)
Choose a category

facilities people Openspace Trees improvement ilovethisplace sunshine activities toilet children sea walk transport park safe view pet youshouldgo water universal design fitness tree fishing elderly space greening bench wind noise music The senior (Elder) grass elders cycling area user inconvenience access water pond ventilation Plants protect furniture plant lunchtime cover pond voice block caring health rolling

Choose some tags
Up to 5 keywords

health

Choose a location

Add a photo and a link

Choose an Image: 1

http: Add a link
The Center for Public Interest Design is a research[+action] center at Portland State University that aims to investigate, promote, and engage in inclusive design practices that address the needs of underserved communities worldwide through work that is socially conscious, environmentally sustainable, and economically accessible to all.
FIELD WORK
PROJECTS INCLUDE WORK IN:
TITANYEN, HAITI
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
LADAKH, INDIA
LAME DEER, MONTANA
PORTLAND, OREGON

RESEARCH / DESIGN
PROJECTS INCLUDE:
THE SAGE CLASSROOM
ROSEWOOD INITIATIVE
INTERGENERATIONAL STUDIO
reGENERATION COMPETITION
SACRAMENTO STUDIO

OUTREACH
INITIATIVES INCLUDE:
CPID TALKS
EAST OF 205 FORUM
PID CERTIFICATE DEVELOPMENT
INTERGENERATIONAL FORUM
DISASTER RELIEF WORKSHOPS
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