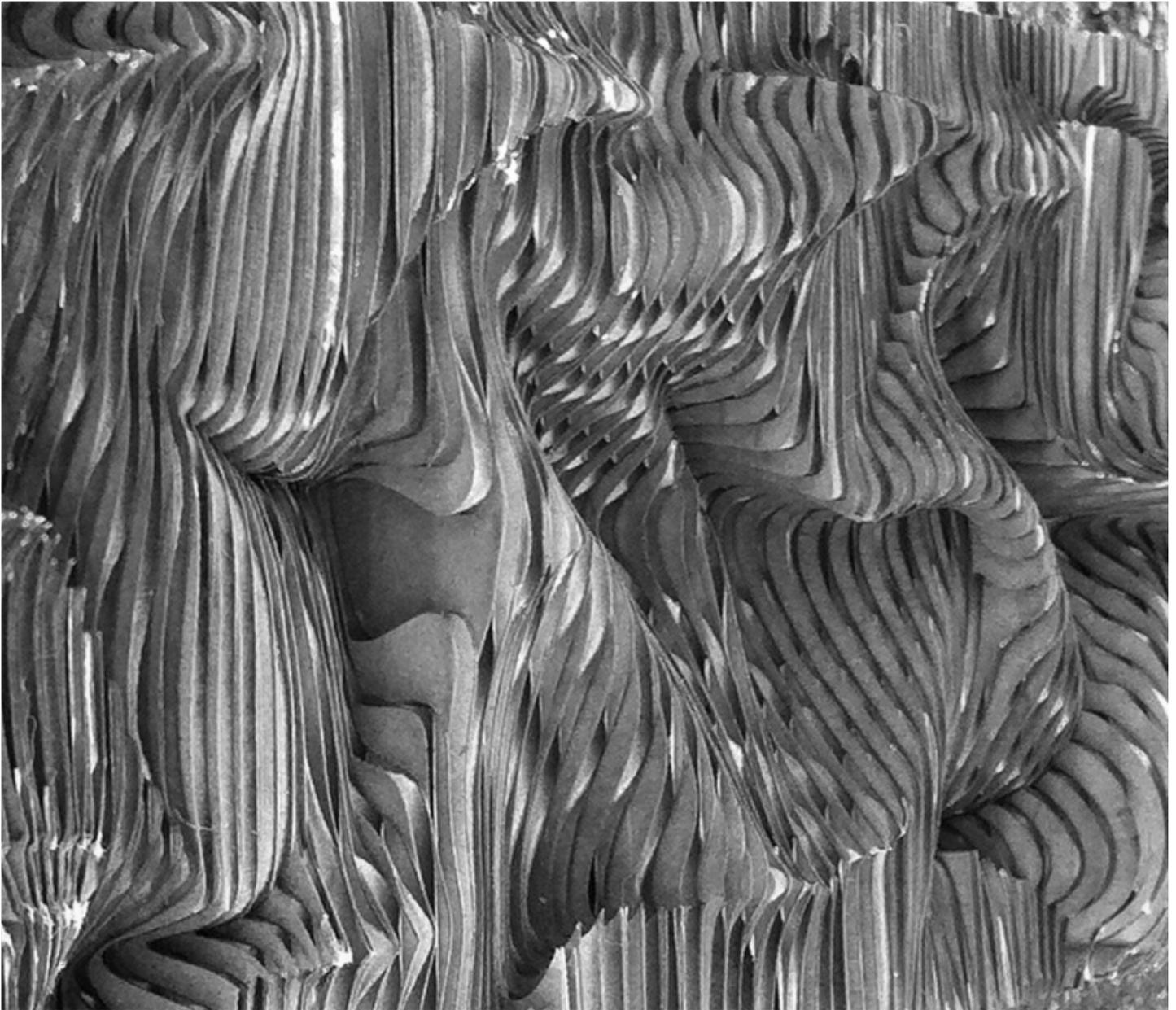




Portfolio of Graduate Landscape Architecture Work



1930s

Republic Steel

1933: Prohibition Ends. Tom Girdler of Republic Steel browses a munitions catalog to increase the stockpile of weapons already at the factory. The police have been hired as a private army with guns and ammunition paid for by Republic Steel.

May 26, 1937: Workers walk off the job at Republic Steel. Union organizers want standardized pay, overtime, and an 8-hour work day. Radical staff to anti-union die hard Girdler.

May 30, 1937: Memorial Day. Strikers march through a field towards the Republic Steel gate at 118th and Burley and encounter a line of police. The possibility of violence hangs in the air like an incoming storm, but somehow blows over.

July 31, 1937: Tom Girdler studies grenade illustrations in a catalog, feels a little sick, and then reaches for another magazine on his desk: *Prairie Farmer*. He marvels at the different kinds of chickens available for purchase (White Leghorn) and reads an article about the profitability of wheat in Illinois. He wonders if he may be in the wrong line of work.

1970s

Butterfly Republic Brewing

April 22, 1970: The first Earth Day is celebrated by the planting of a memorial tree grove responding to the diagonal line of South Burley Avenue. This site accumulated meaning for Republic workers over the years as the labor movement progressed, and stores from 1937 were shared. London Plane trees are selected for their gloriously colorful bark and effective shade.

Management sees the writing on the economic wall, and Republic's steel operations cease. The large blast furnaces and reusable components on the north end of the factory site are dismantled and shipped to a steel mill in Asia, and a few buildings are removed. Workers and management meet, and decide to formally establish a new company: Butterfly Republic Brewing. (In acknowledgment of the "butterfly effect" that workers trace to the non-violence encounter of 1937.)

2000s

Butterfly Republic Brewing

The local food movement gains traction, and agriculture efforts are expanded at BRB in response to this growing market, including an indoor vertical farm with an adjacent market. An orchard of fruit trees and a grove of sugar maples are planted, beehives are installed, and space in an existing building is converted to honey and maple syrup production.

The historic Victory Garden of 1944 is given a much needed facelift and is re-dedicated on the same day that a new area of 95 community garden plots opens near the memorial beer garden. These 10'x10' raised beds are available to neighborhood gardeners for a nominal yearly fee.

1950s

Republic Steel

An argument about unequal pay exacerbates racial tensions between some black and white workers, leading to ugly exchanges of words and threats of violence. Concerned about productivity, management tries to find something to bring everyone together.

A picnic is organized near the ongoing Victory Garden site, and a mixed group of home brewers discusses planting unused Republic Steel land with wheat and hops. Management is happy to encourage this peaceful collaboration. As the crop yields increase, space in the factory buildings is transitioned to agricultural use.

1990s

Butterfly Republic Brewing

The heat wave of 1995 creates a high demand for delicious, cold beverages. Fueled by a sharp increase in beer sales, BRB expands operations to 2,000 barrels a year, creates a brew pub with a vegetarian menu, and builds a beer garden with monumental wooden tables and benches in the shade of the London planetree grove. This beer garden becomes a mecca for craft beer enthusiasts from Chicago, who are now able to reach the site easily on an extension of CTA's green line train and not worry about driving home.

The "Rails to Trails" program converts the old tracks serving the factory into a bike path that leads directly to the beer garden.

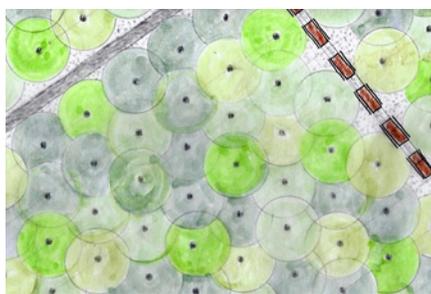
2010s

Butterfly Republic Brewing

The declining population of monarch butterflies makes front page news in science journals and causes a stir amongst the Lepidoptera lovers at the brewery. In honor of its namesake, BRB establishes a butterfly research center and breeding operation in a large area of the building that houses the brewery and brewpub. Several species of *Asclepias* (milkweed) are added to the seed mix used in prairie restoration areas around the site. A small herd of prairie bison (a gift from FarmBab) find a new home in the in the wildlife preserve, after a sturdy fence is added.

The best selling brews of 2012? BRB Milkweed Witbeer and BRB Brewery Stout.

Project Timeline Narrative: Decade Samples



Beer Garden: Plan Sketch



Perspective: Brewery Entrance

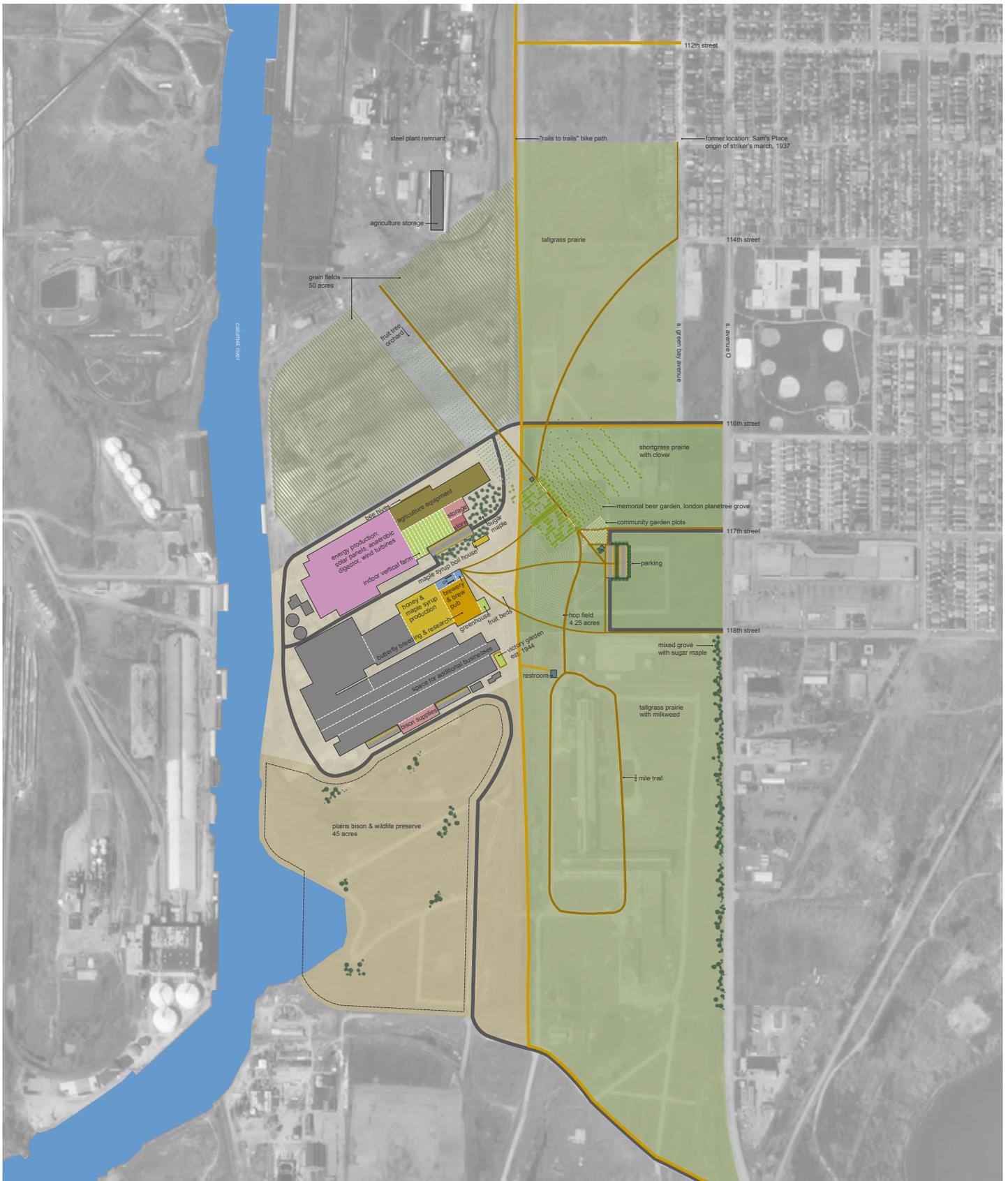


Project Pinup

Butterfly Republic Brewing: Chicago, Illinois

Professor: Martin Holland — From Steel Plant to Self-Sustaining Brewery

What if a small thing — like the flap of butterfly's wings, or an act of kindness — dissolved the tension between striking Republic Steel factory workers and a line of police on the south side of Chicago in 1937? This project proposes an alternate history for the land formerly occupied by Republic Steel: the Memorial Day Massacre is avoided; workers and management come to terms; a Victory Garden during WWII marks a shift from industry to local agriculture; and a group of former steel workers found Butterfly Republic Brewing, a self-sustaining, 2,000 barrel-a-year brewery operation where all possible ingredients are grown on adjoining land, and neighbors gather in a memorial beer garden set in a grove of London planetrees.



Site Plan

Butterfly Republic Brewing: Chicago, Illinois

Professor: Martin Holland — From Steel Plant to Self-Sustaining Brewery



Model: Memorial Beer Garden, London Planetree Grove



Beer Garden Model



London Planetree Bark

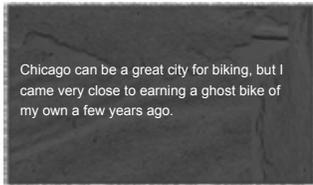


Beer Garden Canopy: Detail

Butterfly Republic Brewing: Chicago, Illinois

Professor: Martin Holland. Materials: torn newspaper, pipe cleaners, markers, foam core, chipboard.

In this project's alternate history, the first Earth Day in 1970 is celebrated with the planting of a grove of London planetrees to mark the site of avoided violence between striking steel workers and police. Over time, this grove develops into a memorial beer garden where neighbors gather at tables under a leafy canopy to share pints of Butterfly Republic Brewing beer. The gloriously colorful bark and dappled shade of *Platanus xacerifolia* creates the perfect atmosphere for relaxing after a hard day at the office, brewery, or urban agriculture operation.



Websites with Chicago biking information:
<http://www.activetrans.org/>
<http://www.chicagobikes.org/>
<http://chicagocriticalmass.org/>
<http://www.biketodrive.org/>
<http://www.lateride.org/>
<http://ghostbikes.org/chicago/>
<http://www.rideoffsilence.org/chicago/>
<http://www.therecyclery.org/>
<http://www.experimentalstation.org/blackstone-bikes/>

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As of 2013, there are 21 documented ghost bike sites in Chicago: 12 existing memorials, 8 bikes that have been removed, and an art installation called 1,000 Ghost Bikes (a "meta memorial") at Ravenswood & Montrose, near Lillstreet Art Center. The Chicago ghost bike project is an independent effort; volunteers create ghost bikes for accident victims with the goal of making the project unnecessary.



Isai Medina ghost bike (removed) Photo: <http://bedno.com>

Ghost bikes are grim but necessary reminders of the dangers cyclists face on the streets of Chicago. They warn of dangerous intersections, and remind drivers to share the road.

Open to read a nearly tragic biking story...

Tract: "Don't Get Doored: A Cautionary Tale"



Detail: Chalkboard Memorial



Stencil, Painted Intervention

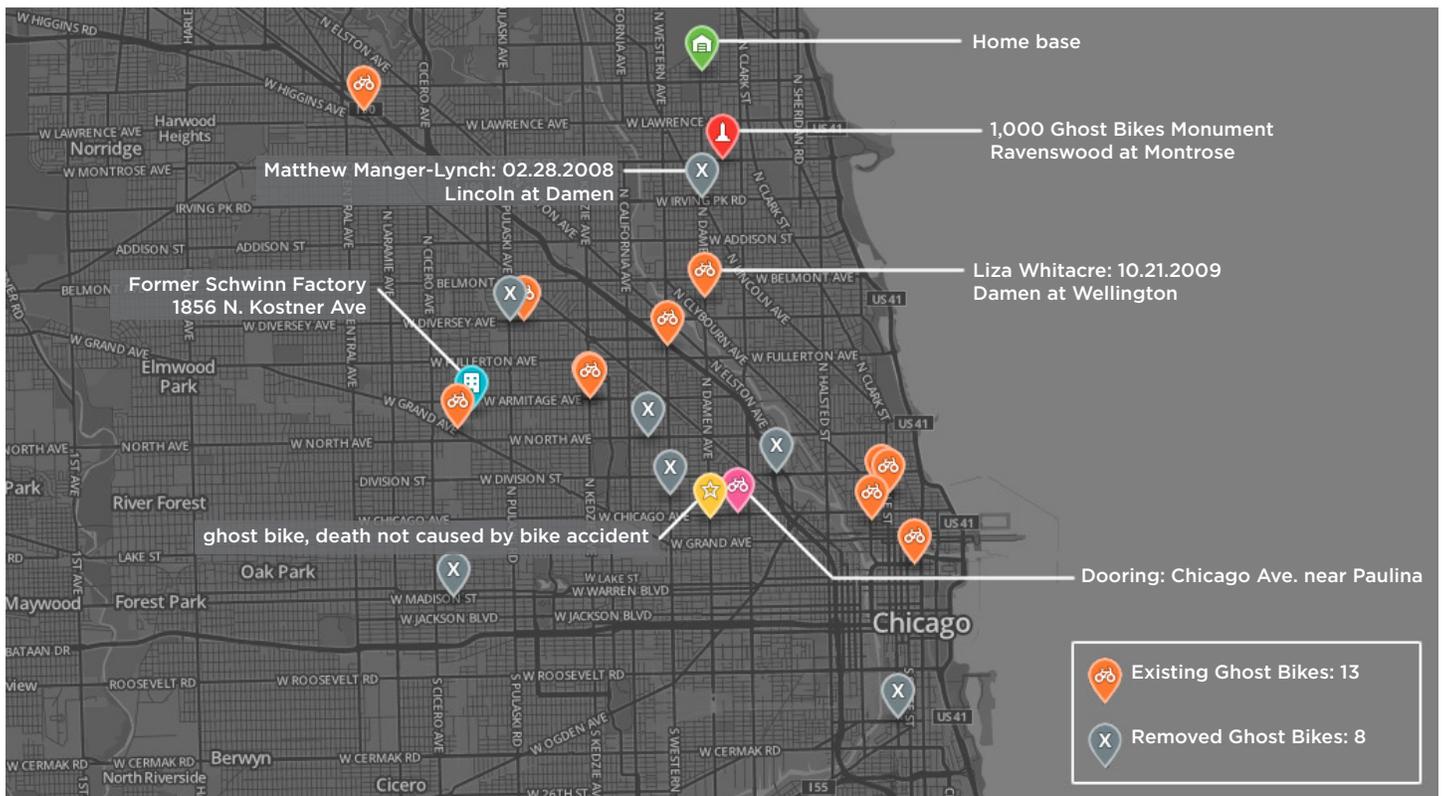


Intervention: Lincoln Near Irving Park

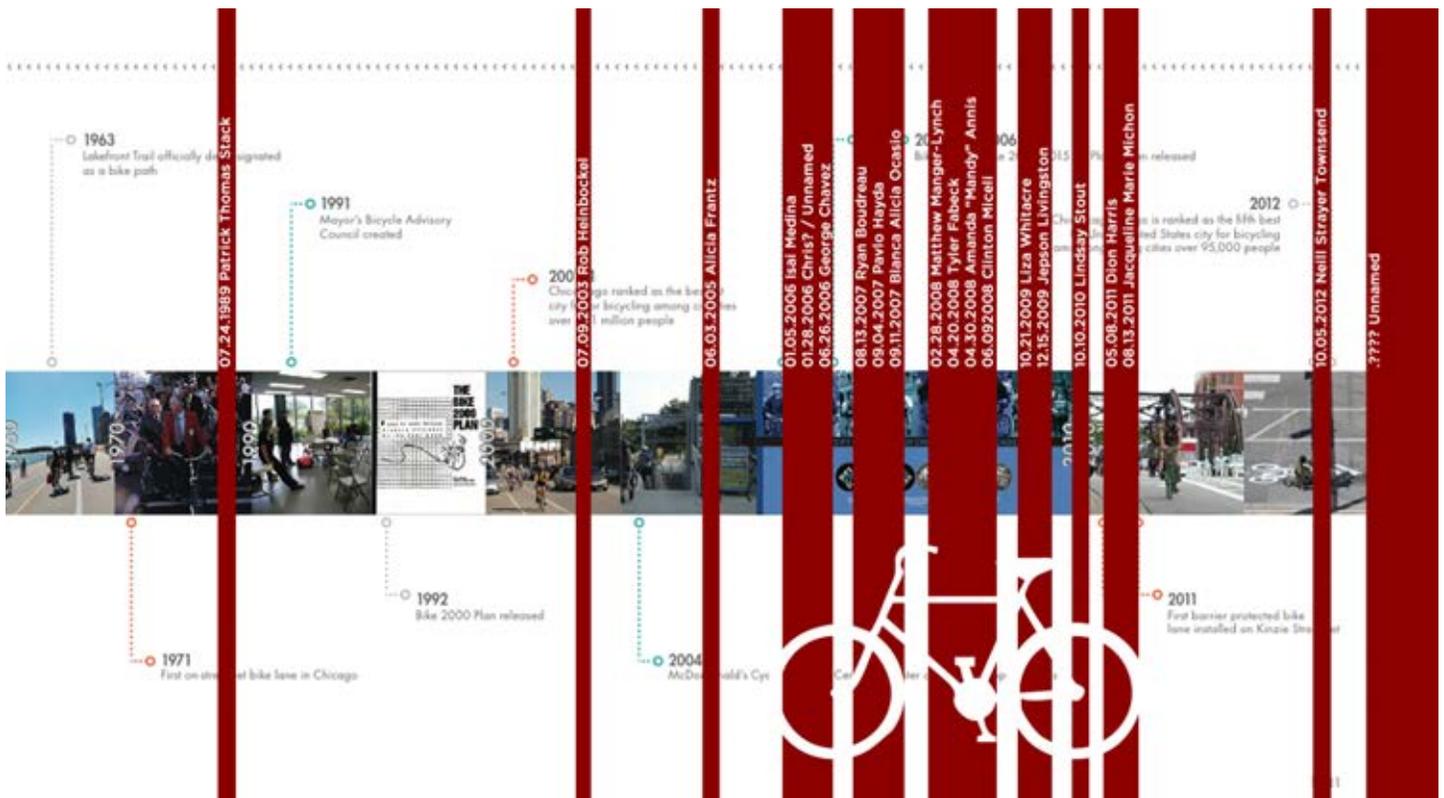
Ghost Bikes of Chicago

Professor: Martin Holland — Share the Road

The Chicago ghost bike project is a volunteer effort where bikes are painted white and locked near sites where cyclists have been killed. These tragic markers serve as warnings for other bikers, poignant memorials to the deceased, and raise awareness of the dangers of reckless driving. For this project, I studied ghost bike locations in Chicago, modified a Chicago biking timeline with ghost bike dates, and created a zine in the style of a religious tract with a personal story about getting doored. I also staged an intervention on Lincoln near Irving Park, spray-painting a stencil of tattoo-style angel wings with a victim's initials above the seat of a bike lane marker to mark the site of a ghost bike that had been removed.



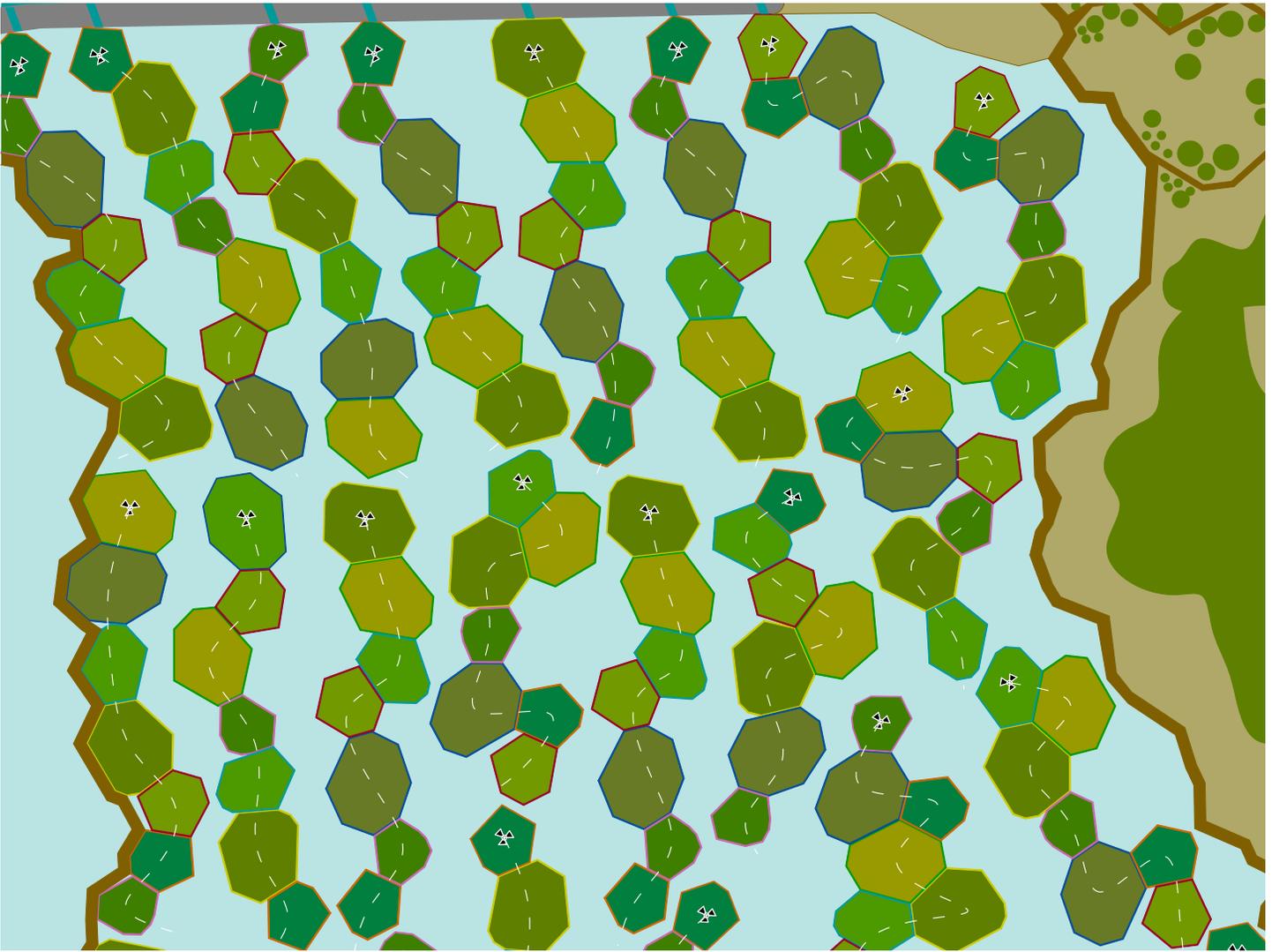
Chicago Ghost Bikes Map



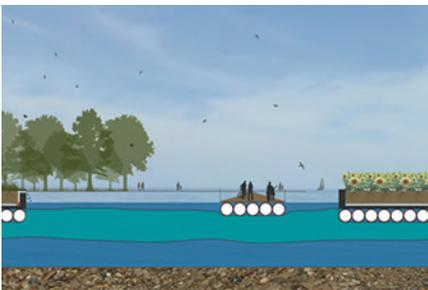
Chicago Streets For Cycling Plan 2020, Timeline with Ghost Bikes Inserted

Ghost Bikes of Chicago

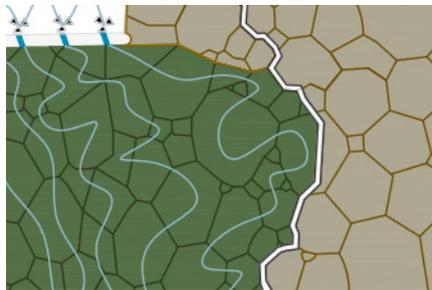
Professor: Martin Holland — Share the Road



Site Plan Detail



Section: Boardwalk, Filter Unit



Geometric exploration: water flow

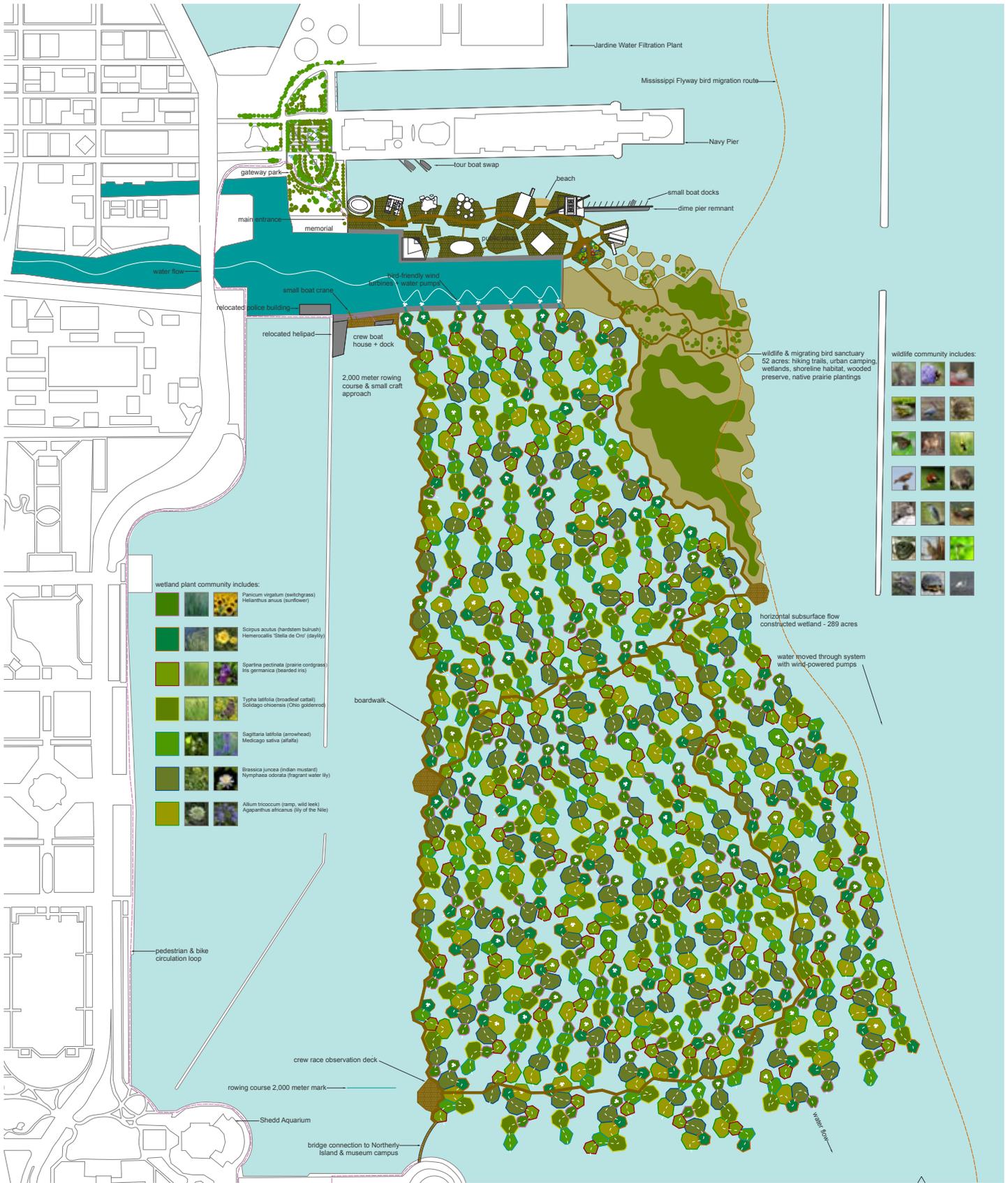


Wildlife Sanctuary

Filter Island: Chicago, Illinois

Professor: Martin Felsen — Re-reverse the Chicago River, Clean the Water

This collaborative studio project proposed re-reversing the Chicago River and building a modular, floating, horizontal sub-surface-flow constructed wetland to clean the river water of sewage and chemicals before it enters Lake Michigan. Each filtering unit in the system consists of 7 connected cells with 2.2 acres of surface area. (131 filter units = 289 total acres of constructed wetland) Water flow through the system is powered by wind turbines connected to pumps, and the water cleansing work is done by plants via phytoremediation and rhizofiltration. Microbes that live in the root systems of the plants continue to clean water after the plants have gone dormant, and at the end of the cleansing process, the water is ready to enter the lake.



Site Plan

Filter Island: Chicago, Illinois

Professor: Martin Felsen — Re-reverse the Chicago River, Clean the Water



Models: Water Flow, Filtering Unit

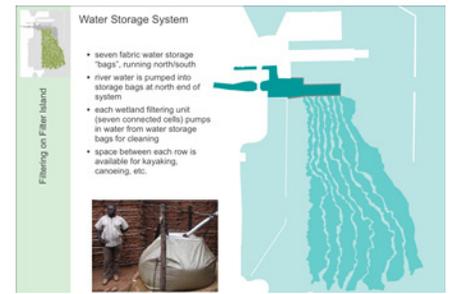


Diagram: Water Storage System

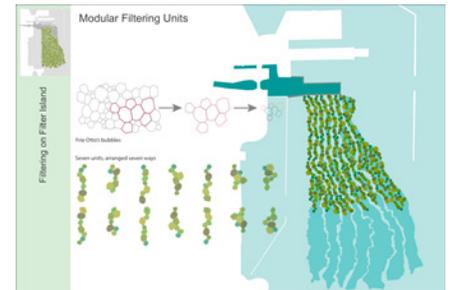


Diagram: Evolution of Filter Cells

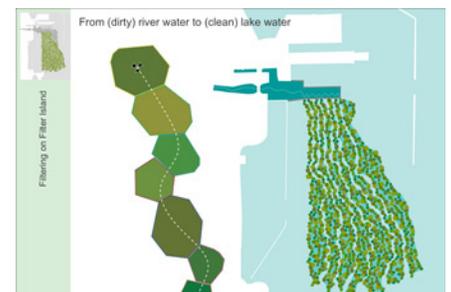


Diagram: Filter Unit

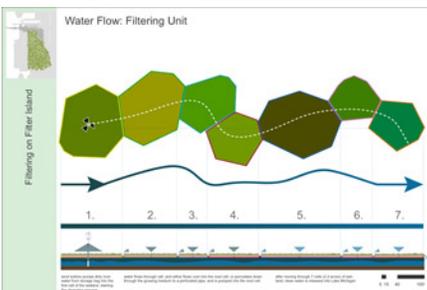


Diagram: Water Flow

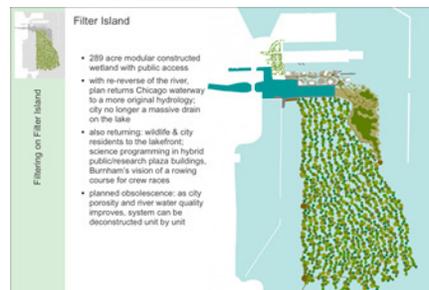


Diagram: Filter Island Overview

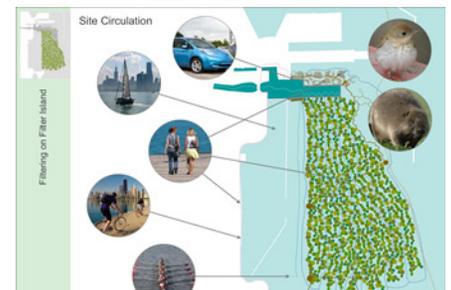


Diagram: Site Circulation

Filter Island: Chicago, Illinois

Professor: Martin Felsen — Re-reverse the Chicago River, Clean the Water

In addition to the overall site plan of Filter Island, models and diagrams help illustrate how the system would work. A sequence of diagrams shows the layers of the constructed wetland, from underwater fabric storage bags to the water flow through the system. Returning clean water to Lake Michigan is the primary goal of the project, but the design also returns space and habitat to humans and wildlife, with a 2,000 meter rowing course, an urban camping preserve, a floating boardwalk system, and a 52 acre wildlife and migrating bird sanctuary. The modular design of the filtering units allows for planned obsolescence: as city porosity and river water quality improves, the system can be deconstructed unit by unit.



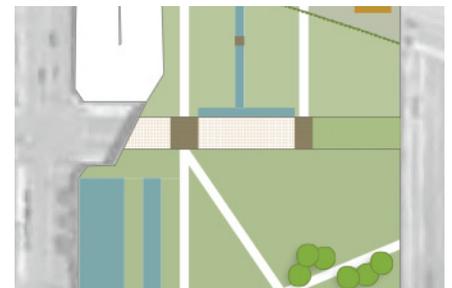
Site Plan



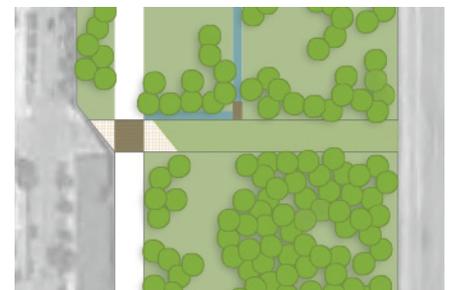
Excavation Gardens



Regeneration Station



Prairie Paths

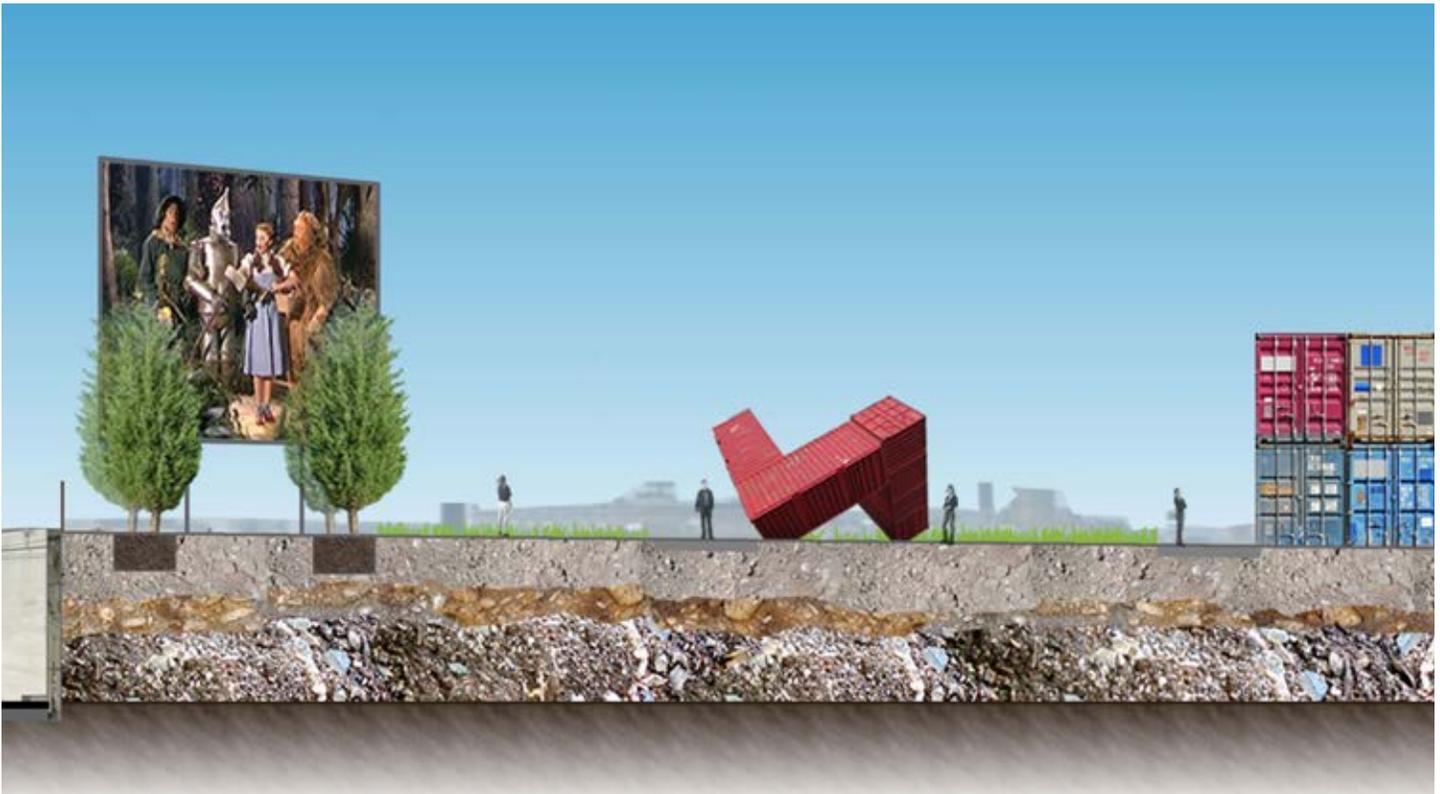


Wildlife Grove

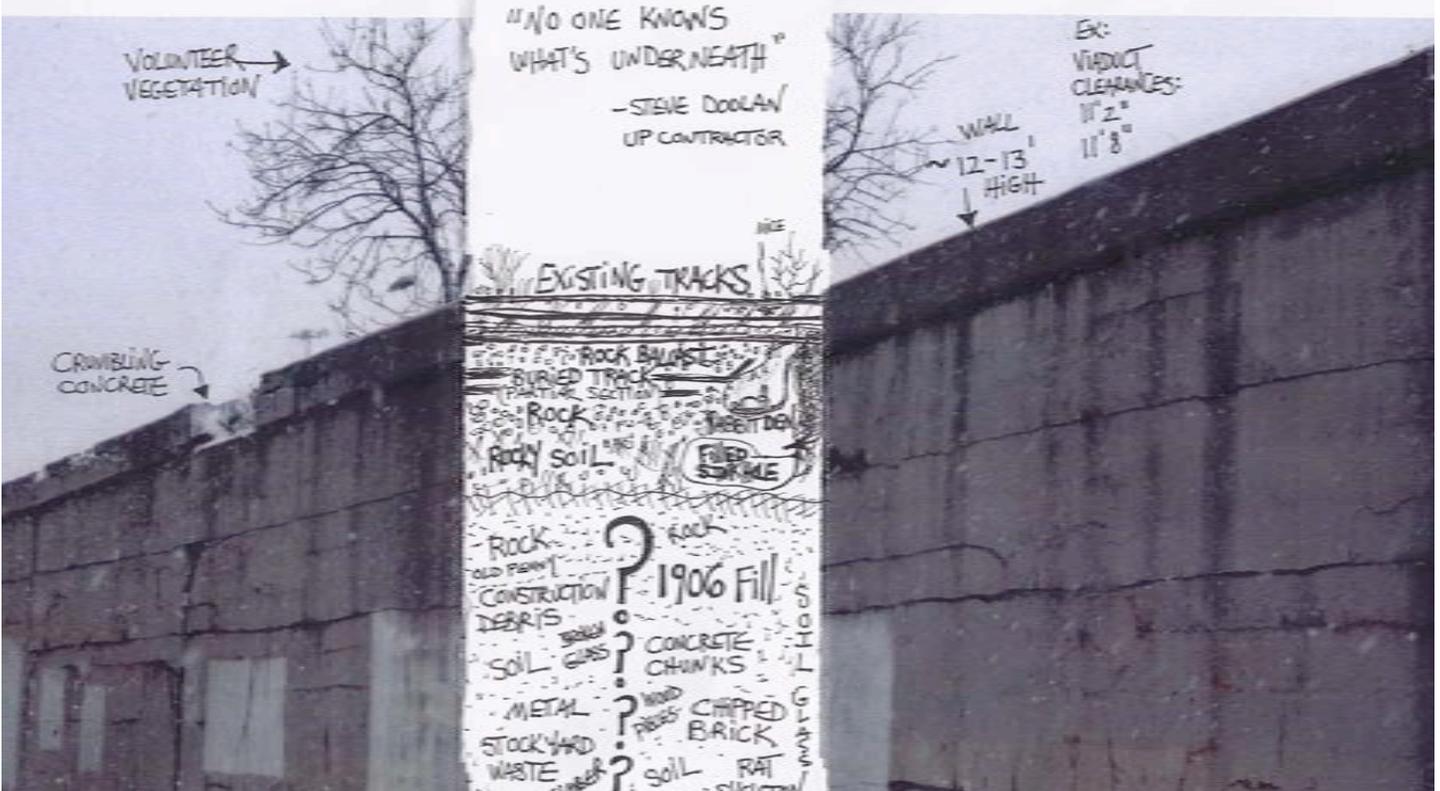
Neo Terra Sculpture Park: Chicago, Illinois

Professor: Mary Pat Mattson — No One Knows What's Underneath the Surface

The process of revealing/recreating communities of diverse life under Chicago's paved surfaces and layers of infrastructure is an exercise in urban archaeology -- one that can honor the past use and history of a site while opening up its full potential. The elevated strip of land between Canal and Stewart, 23rd & 29th streets is now in use as a Union Pacific rail transfer station, but contains a world of possibility beneath the surface. Neo Terra ("new land/surface") Sculpture Park aims to return the elevated land to the entire community, including wildlife. Through a series of cuts into the surface and openings in the walls, material mysteries buried by years of industrial use will be revealed.



Section: Regeneration Station Movie Park



Speculative Section Collage

Neo Terra Sculpture Park: Chicago, Illinois

Professor: Mary Pat Mattson — No One Knows What's Underneath the Surface



Perspective: Hanging Highway Gardens



Perspective: Excavation Gardens



Section: Intermodal Container Entrance

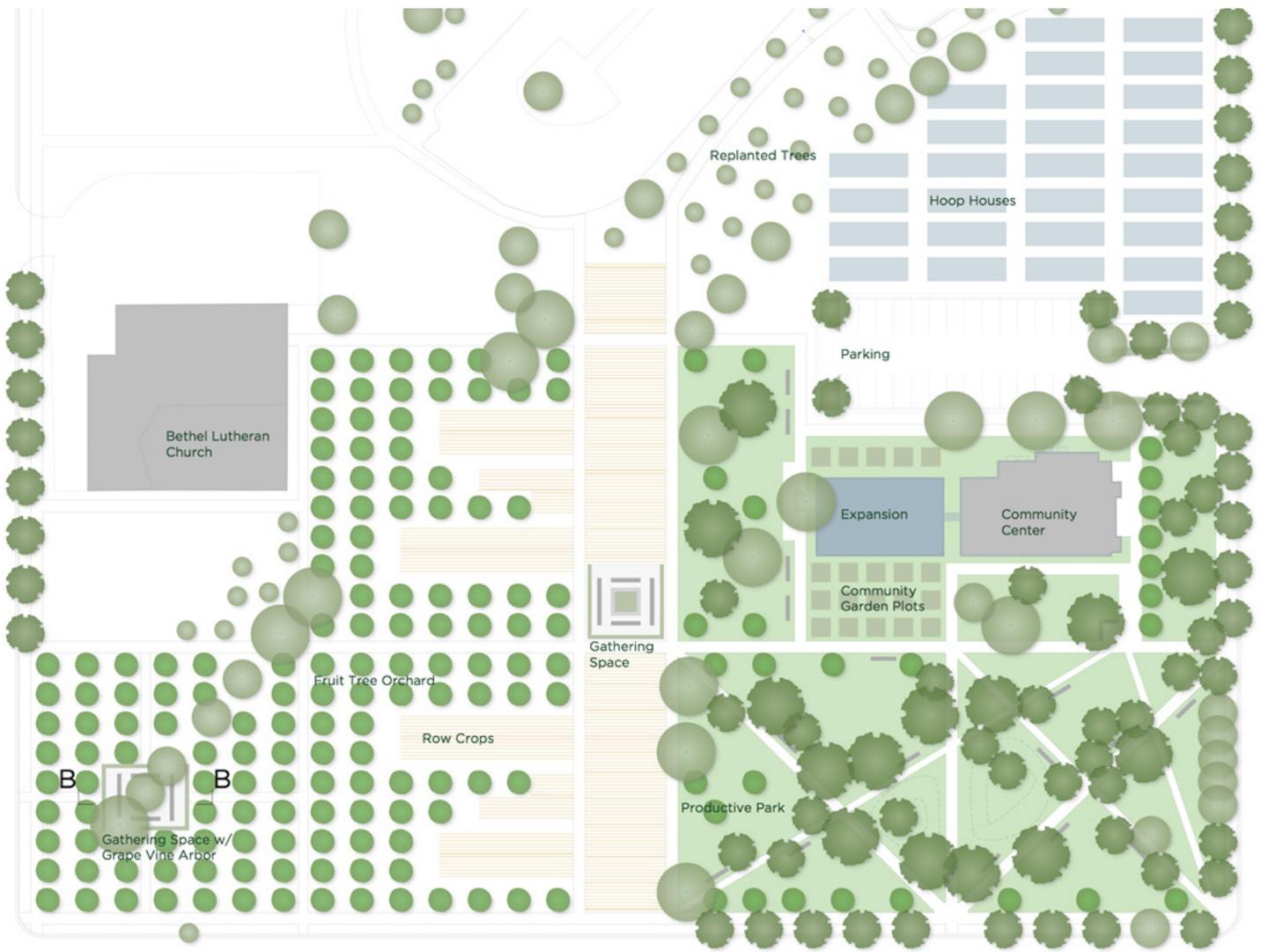


Perspective: Prairie Path

Neo Terra Sculpture Park: Chicago, Illinois

Professor: Mary Pat Mattson — No One Knows What's Underneath the Surface

The foundation of the Midwest plant community is the prairie -- prairie plants are “under the surface” (literally, and in collective memory) waiting to be uncovered and rediscovered. Neo Terra transitions from a human-focused habitat in the north to an opening prairie and wildlife habitat in the south, with a critical transition marked by a cascade of plants on the south edge of an expressway overpass. The neighborhoods formerly divided by this elevated surface are brought together by a varied, lush landscape with multiple access points and an emerging diversity of life.



Site Plan Detail



Current Site Condition



Section: Gathering Space



Perspective: Garden Plots

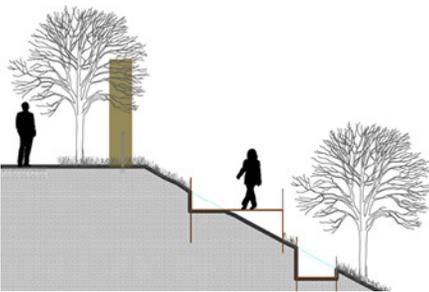
Englewood Gardens: Chicago, Illinois

Professor: Ted Wolff — Urban Planning, Urban Agriculture

The large parcel of land at the corner of W. 63rd Street and S. Halsted Avenue in Chicago is in desperate need of redevelopment. This plan detail is a portion of a larger urban design plan, and includes community garden plots, a fruit tree orchard on a formal grid, and a community center housed in a converted fire house. The programming and land use is focused on the health of the community in the broader sense, including plants, animals and soil, as well as humans. Top objectives: provide access to fresh food, create affordable housing, build community and enrich lives through educational opportunities.



Model: Coreten Ramp and Stair to Dock



Section: Ramp



Stair Detail



Site Plan Detail

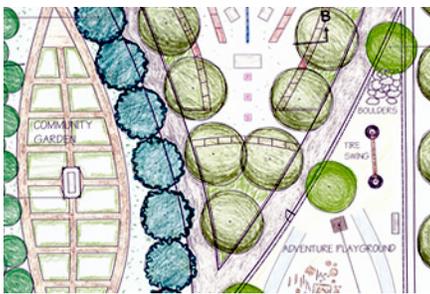
Wolf Point, Chicago, Illinois

Professor: Peter Osler — Sliver Park, River Access

This model was based on a proposed site plan for Wolf Point (a sliver of a park along the Chicago River) and included an accessible coreten steel ramp+stair descending 11 feet from an existing sidewalk to a coreten dock on the Chicago River. Model materials: foam core to represent topography, chipboard with applied rust treatment, plexiglass base over watercolor painting of the river.



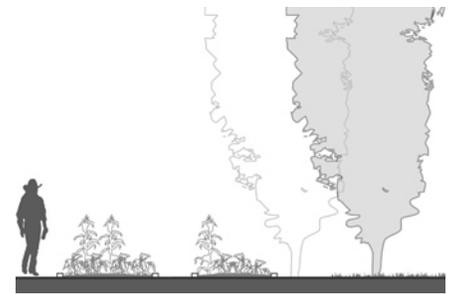
Site Plan



Detail: Community Garden



Section: Prairie, Gabion Wall, Path



Section: Community Garden

Roosevelt Square Park: Chicago, Illinois

Professor: Ted Wolff — Native Plants, Building Community

Community park plan for a parcel of land at W. Taylor Street and S. Lytle in Chicago. Focus of the design: re-use of material and the establishment of native plant communities. Quieter zones in the south offer city dwellers access to pockets of nature, including a bald cypress wetland and an oak savanna. Bermed areas are surrounded by gabions filled with construction material that also serve as benches, recycled granite paths curve through the site, and children build their own play equipment with material from the Chicago Rebuilding Exchange in an "adventure playground", or splash in the interactive water feature located in the pedestrian plaza along Taylor Street.



Model: Color Perspective



Model: Abstract Topography



Detail: Color



Detail: Surface

Abstract Landscape

Materials: recycled beer boxes, glue

As part of a digital modeling course, I created this abstract surface model using recycled beer boxes from a local liquor store. The 3D surface topography was created in Rhino, split into many individual slices/pieces, and then taken into AutoCAD for output on a laser cutter. I then glued all the pieces together, and was pleasantly surprised by the color patterns that were created by the printing on the beer boxes. (...and yes, the first bright yellow piece is from a Goose Island "312" box!)



Ginkgo Tree Seedling



Ginkgo Seed



Emerging Seedling

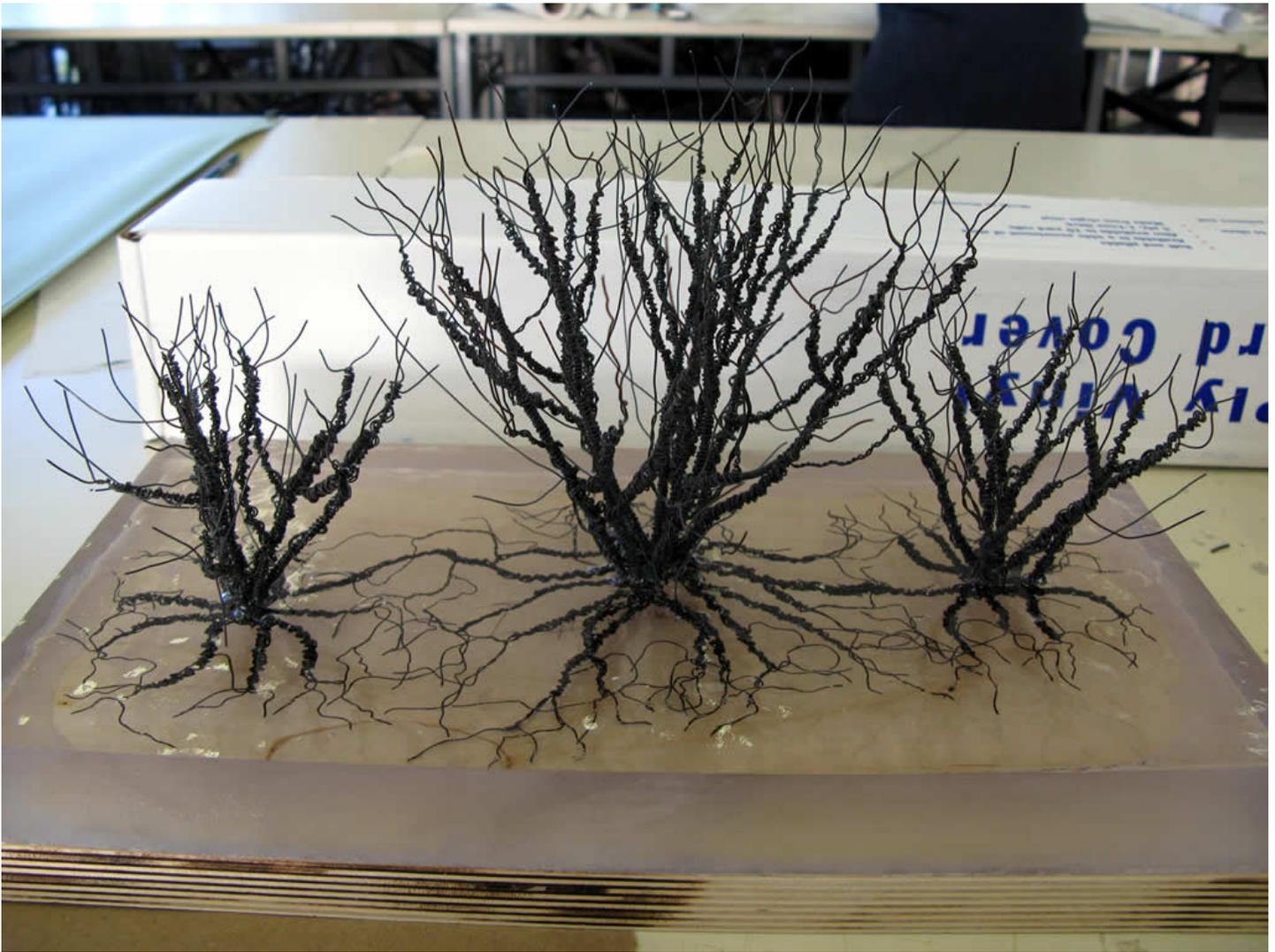


Small Ginkgo Army

Horticulture: The Ginkgo Experiment

Project Dates: 2006–Present — Go, Gink, Go!

I first remember identifying *Ginkgo biloba* trees in the fourth grade, when a nature-loving teacher had each student create a leaf collection. Several years ago, I noticed that a few of the ginkgo trees on the UChicago campus were female and produced a healthy crop of the notoriously stinky seeds. I collected a bagful that fall (2006), cold-stratified them in the fridge, and grew a small army of ginkgo tree seedlings in the spring. I now collect seeds from both the UChicago Botany Pond ginkgo and the famous tree at Frank Lloyd Wright's Oak Park Home & Studio. I love watching these living fossil trees emerge from seed, and nurturing them until they are ready to be distributed far and wide.



Model: Three Plant Grouping, *Corylus americana*



Study Model: *Corylus* Colony



Corylus americana

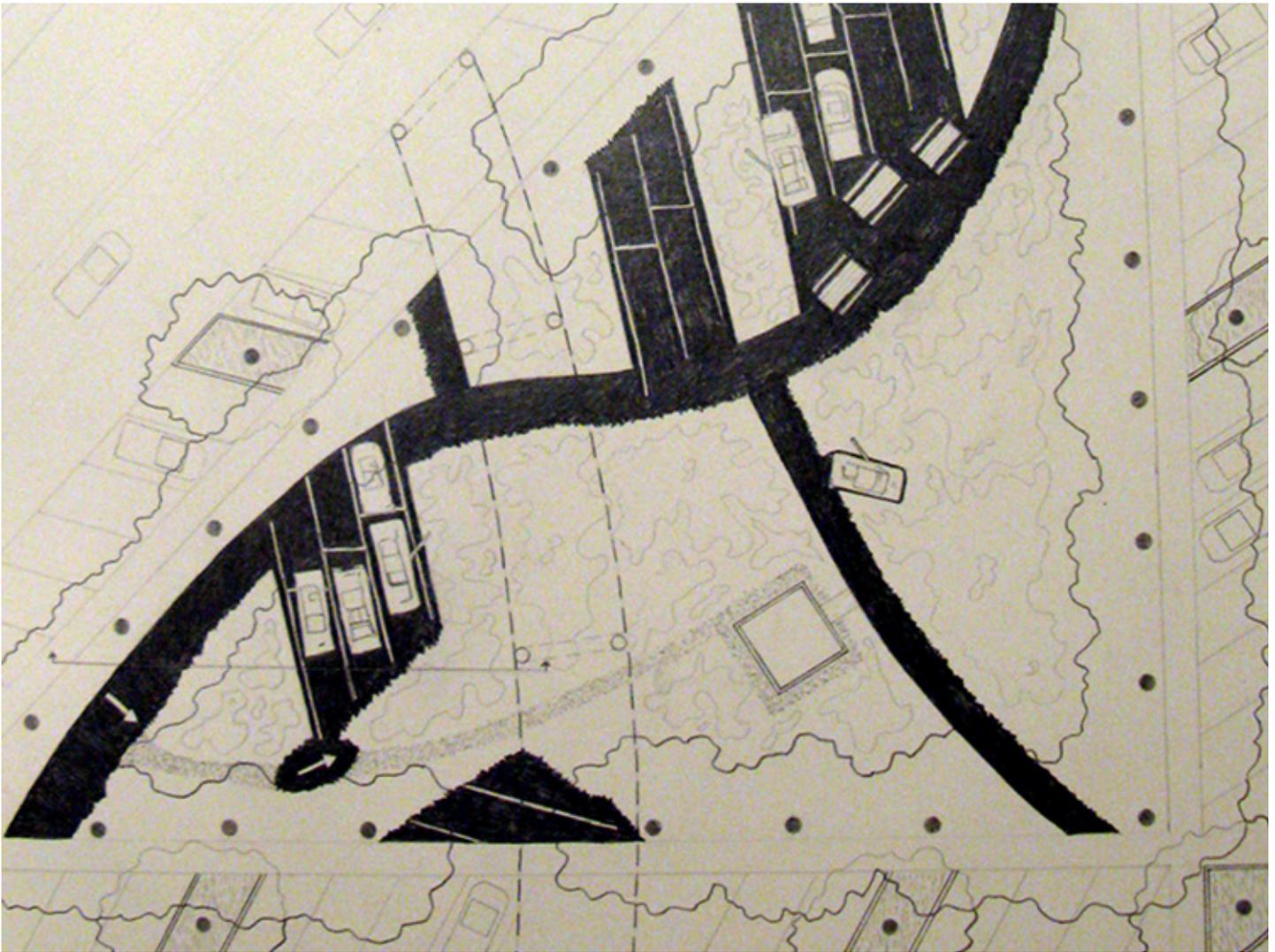


Model: Root Detail

Corylus americana: American Hazelnut

Professor: Peter Osler. Materials: wire, resin, plywood

This wire model of a grouping of *Corylus americana* (American hazelnut) was created as part of an intensive study of the plant, including characteristics, uses, and cultivation. Roots were set in clear resin, and the model was mounted on a plywood base. The photo of the hazelnut plant was taken at the Chicago Botanic Garden during a research visit to study the form of a live specimen.



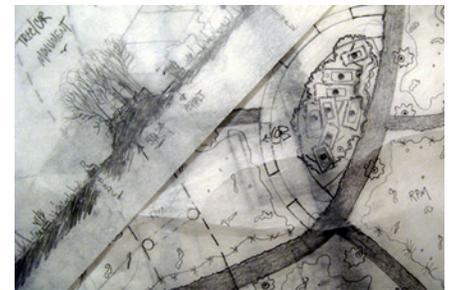
Site Plan Detail



Detail: Abandoned Car Sculptures



Model: Carpark



Trace: Site Plan Development

Carpark: Chicago, Illinois

Professor: Peter Osler — The Succession of Route 66

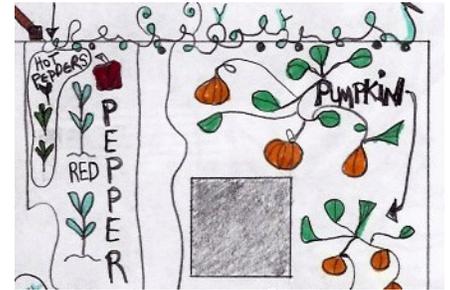
The brief for this project called for a “carpark” design in the triangular plot defined by Adams, Jackson, Ogden and Paulina. A carpark in this case was defined as a park that was geared toward the automobile. The site sits on a hinge point of historic Route 66, and currently functions as a parking lot. This design proposed closing the lot with cars on site, selectively subtracting asphalt and adding plant species to demonstrate both ecological and usage succession. As time passes, nature will reclaim the site, and gently curving pedestrian paths (one rough, eroded edge, one sharp and clean) immerse people in the reclamation process. The abandoned cars serve as both play objects and monuments to Route 66 and car culture.



Garden Plan: 2012



Detail: 2011 Plan



Detail: 2011 Plan



Indoor Seed Starting



Preparing the Soil



Sunflower, Gloriosa Polyheaded



Garden in Summer

Bowmanville Community Garden Plot: Chicago, IL

Project Dates: 2011–Present — Goal: Pesto in Winter

For the past few summers, we have shared a 10x10' organic community garden plot with two friends, and enjoyed a bounty of fresh vegetables, flowers, and herbs as a result. In early spring, I start several varieties of seeds inside in a south-facing window (tomatoes, peppers, etc.), and draft a planting plan for the year. We've had good success with sugar snap peas grown on the perimeter fence, early and late arugula, kale, tomatoes, and both butternut squash and pie pumpkins (once I learned to give them enough room to crawl). Having fresh frozen pesto in the dead of winter is one of the best rewards of tending your own vegetable garden: I've learned you can never plant too much basil.

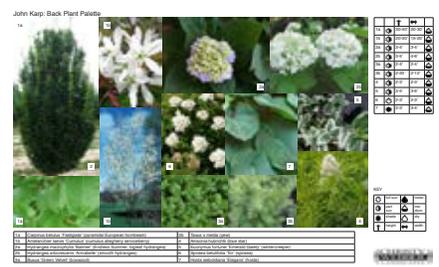


1	Viburnum lantana 'Mohican' (viburnum)	6	Hosta sieboldiana 'Elegans' (hosta)
2	Weigela florida 'Alexandra' (Wine and Roses)	7	Calamintha nepeta 'Montrose White' (Montrose white dwarf calamint)
3	Spiraea japonica 'Anthony Waterer' (Japanese spirea)		
4	Heuchera micrantha var. diversifolia 'Palace Purple' (coral bells)		
5	Actaea simplex 'Brunette' (bugbane)		

Plant Material Palette



Detail: Plant Palette



Plant Material Palette



Detail: Plant Palette

Plant Material Palettes: Multiple Projects

Design Intern — Christy Webber Landscapes, 2011

While I was interning at Christy Webber Landscapes in 2011, I assisted the design team by translating hand-drawn site plans into AutoCAD files, creating photo renderings, performing site survey and documentation work, as well as a variety of other marketing and social media projects. I also had the opportunity to create a new plant material palette template file for the office using InDesign, which I used to prepare collages for several CWL design proposals. These documents demonstrate possible plant combinations for the client, and indicate basic light and water requirements for each named plant.