Giving Back: Our Work with the Community Design Collaborative

One of our favorite ways to provide design services to those who can't afford them is by working on projects with the Community Design Collaborative. The Community Design Collaborative (CDC), Philadelphia PA, is a volunteer-based community design organization that provides pro bono, preliminary design services to non-profit organizations. CDC projects act as the seeds that allow organizations to reach their dreams and grow to their full potential. Currently, Tavis Dockwiller serves on the CDC board.

Meadowood Nature Preserve: Conceptual Design for a Community Program

Location: Worcester, Pennsylvania Client: Meadowood Retirement Community & Worcester Elementary School	When: 2010-2011 Cost: \$2.4 Million		
Worcester Elementary School Viridian Landscape Studio & Meliora the project to the CDC and developed program for the Meadowood Nature positioned between Meadowood F Worcester Elementary School. Loc greater trail and green open space sys imbued the plans with strategies Meadowood a valuable community m sustainable land management. This p has unique opportunities for fosterin intergenerational learning and collaborative landscape restoration.	a conceptual design and community Preserve, an ecologically rich site etirement Community and ated within a tem, Viridian to make odel for roject	And and a set of the s	
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Sustainable Master Landscape Plan for Cook-Wissahickon Elementary School

Location:Philadelphia, PennsylvaniaClient:Cook-Wissahickon Elementary SchoolSize:3.9 acres

Cost: \$1.4 million Status: 2008

Viridian Landscape Studio developed a Sustainable Master Landscape Plan for Cook-Wissahickon Elementary School. The plan calls for improving the school grounds to provide rich educational opportunities for the students and community. A variety of landscape types - meadow, woodland grove, orchard, rain gardens, and teaching gardens - provide settings for school lessons, beautify the campus and improve the environment through species diversity and restoration of natural systems. Students will circulate through spaces that provide a variety of settings for play and exploration. The plan looks beyond the school boundaries and encourages links between the school, neighborhood and adjacent Fairmount Park. One goal is for schools to serve as prototypes for long term ecosystem restoration thinking.









Meadow at front of school



Tree lined street & entry sign

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Giving Back: Our Work with the Community Design Collaborative, continued

SHARE : Urban Energy Design Charrette for a Conceptual Sustainable Site

Location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Client: SHARE Food Program

Tavis Dockwiller worked with other designers and sustainable advocates to prepare a conceptual site plan for a sustainable, green business marketplace that is to serve as a community hub and be a catalyst for neighborhood revitalization in the Hunting Park West neighborhood of Philadelphia. Participants of the charrette applied the principles of sustainability and community design as they developed master plan principles for the five-acre site and 170,000-square foot warehouse. The site is intended to serve as a model of regenerative design and a built environment that will generate renewable energy, conserve, clean and reuse water, provide space for natural habitats and urban agriculture, minimize greenhouse gas emissions, and implement closed loop systems, which will reduce waste and create a net positive impact. Unique to this site is the restorative forest/orchard where multi-layered species grow in symbiotic polyculture inspired by native forest structure.



INFILL Philadelphia: Industrial Sites

When: 2010

Location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Infill Philadelphia: Industrial Sites explored the possibilities and realities of reusing former factories and underutilized manufacturing sites in an effort to offer more options for small-scale artisans and advanced manufacturing to contribute to a diverse, resilient Philadelphia economy. The process demonstrated the link between industrial reuse and a sustainable city and identified some key design and development guidelines for the next generation of neighborhood-based manufacturing. Tavis Dockwiller served as Landscape Architectural Advisor for the three participating teams influencing their responses to site.



Design and Image by DIGSAU

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Giving Back: Our Work with the Community Design Collaborative, continued

Overbrook Environmental Education Center

Location:Philadelphia, PennsylvaniaClient:Jastech Development ServicesSize:0.85 acres

Cost: \$300,000 in sitework Status: Phase 1 Design and documentation completed 2006.

Viridian principal, Tavis Dockwiller, worked to develop a green building feasibility study for Overbrook Environmental Education Center (OEEC). The programs of OEEC concentrate on teaching local students and residents the importance of environmental issues in an urban context. OEEC's goal for the team was to investigate an existing building and site at 61st Street and Lancaster Ave. and provide a schematic design for a demonstration building and landscape that illustrates the best management practices and practical applications of energy conservation and environmental resources.



Lindley Mural Arts Garden

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Location:	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	Cost:
Client:	Mural Arts Advocates	Status:
Size:	3600 sf	

Viridian, teamed with Salt Design Studio and the Philadelphia Mural Arts program to develop a garden and mural that reflect local community in a restorative setting. The design highlights the large-scale -art work while providing a mix of ecological diversity in three native north eastern habitats: young woodland, dry open meadow, and lowland rain garden. The site provides respite from the busy streets while providing educational opportunities on local ecosystems and sustainable stormwater management.

\$10,000 2008



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Giving Back: Our Work with the Community Design Collaborative, continued

Cranaleith Spiritual Center

Location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Client: Cranaleith Spiritual Center

The Cranaleith Spiritual Center is a non-profit organization providing services to "those at the center of need and those at the center of influence". Cranaleith approached the CDC with a plan for a new building of approximately 10,000 sf located in the area of an existing barn on site. The original proposal involved demolishing the existing barn structure, which is a unique and recognizable part of the Cranaleith site. After reviewing programming needs and considering the existing site in detail, the team produced a recommendation that provides for the desired program spaces and maintains the existing barn.

