

SAT-A07: **BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH LANDSCAPE: LESSONS FROM THE FIELD**

SESSION GUIDE | Sat., Oct. 20, 2018 | 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

ASLA  
PHL2018

Annual Meeting  
and EXPO  
October 19-22  
Philadelphia

#ASLA2018

**summary**

In a country that is fractured spatially, politically, and economically, public space offers unique possibilities for experiments in reconciliation. We'll explore opportunities for landscape to support social resilience in Seattle, Los Angeles, and the rural South, framed by lessons learned during 30 years of the West Philadelphia Landscape Project.

**learning objectives**

- 1. describe** the ways in which social and cultural systems can work towards environmental injustice.
- 2. illustrate** the importance of landscape to social resilience.
- 3. evaluate** the role of the landscape architect in designing for environmental justice and reconciliation.
- 4. identify** new opportunities to generate social resilience through the design of public space.

**sources + resources**

Rothstein, Richard. *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America*. Liveright. 2017.

Spirn, Anne Whiston. *The Granite Garden: Urban Nature and Human Design*. 1984.

Thompson, Tracy. *The New Mind of the South*. Free Press. New York. 2013.

Upton, Dell. *What Can and Can't be Said: Race, Uplift, and Monument Building in the Contemporary South*. Yale University Press. 2015.

<https://www.childrenandnature.org/learn/tools-resources/>

**notes**



**B TRAVEN OBERSCHULE: BERLIN, GERMANY**



Abundant Nature

## session outline

### 1. Foreground

*Anne Whiston Spirn*

- Introduction to frame the topics
- Introduce presenters

### 2. Designing Common Ground: Sites of Conscience in the Contemporary South

*Harriett Jameson Brooks, Hawkins Partners, Inc.*

- Overview: The cultural landscape of common ground in the Delta
- The case for social resilience as
- Making space for reconciliation post-Charlottesville
- Case studies
- Opportunities: Spaces of reconciliation in the South

### 3. Making Space: Optimistic Strategies for Urban Homelessness

*Brice Maryman, MIG SvR*

- Overview
- Case Study Strategies
- History of Homelessness in Public Space
- King County Assessor
- Opportunities

### 4. Designing High Schools for Mental Health

*Claire Latane, Studio-MLA*

- Overview of the research
- Los Angeles as a case study for teenage trauma and high school environments
- A survey of high schools designed with mental health in mind
- Movement towards design schools for mental health

### 5. Summary + Reflection

*Anne Whiston Spirn, MIT*

- Reflections on the presentations based on 30 years of experience with the West Philadelphia Landscape Project

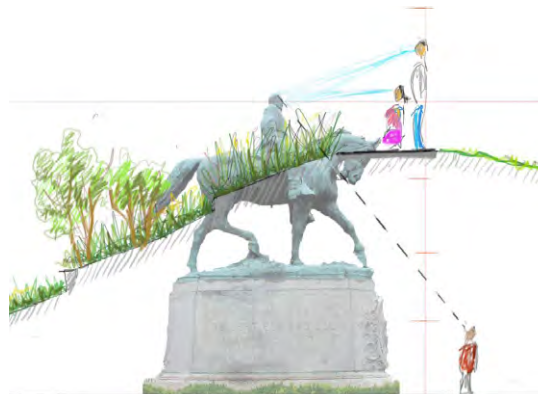
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## speakers



**harriett j. brooks** [commongroundscollaborative.org](http://commongroundscollaborative.org)

Harriett is a landscape designer at Hawkins Partners, Inc., in Nashville. Her research and advocacy explore the opportunities for reinterpreting and redesigning everyday landscapes to foster holistic well-being. In 2017, she was awarded the Landscape Architecture Foundation's inaugural Fellowship in Leadership and Innovation for her current project, Delta Terra, examining the potential for common ground in the Delta South to catalyze social resilience.



**brice maryman** [homelandlab.com](http://homelandlab.com)

Brice Maryman is a landscape architect focused on designing inclusive, sustainable and healthy urban environments. He is currently one of the Landscape Architecture Foundation's Innovation and Leadership Fellows, focusing on exploring the intersection of homelessness and public space. An award-winning designer, Brice's work has resulted in sustainable children's playgrounds, regional parks and vibrant downtown plazas. In addition to his work at MIG, He recently served on the Board of Seattle Parks Commissioners and as the Technical Advisory Committee Chair for Planning and Design for the STAR Community Index.



**claire latané** [clairelatane.com](http://clairelatane.com)

Claire Latané, ASLA, LEED AP, SITES AP is a senior associate with Studio-MLA. She is a writer, community advocate, and ecological designer. Her work focuses on climate-appropriate design and promoting equitable access to humane urban environments and nature. Her writing has appeared in Landscape Architecture Magazine, The Dirt, Ground Up Journal, My Livable City, and the Los Angeles Times. Claire's recent focus is on designing and advocating for restorative high school landscapes that support mental health and well-being and increase students' perception of safety.



**anne whiston spirn** [annewhistonspirn.com](http://annewhistonspirn.com)

Anne Whiston Spirn, Professor of Landscape Architecture and Planning at MIT, is an award-winning author, scholar, photographer, teacher, and practitioner. Her books include *The Granite Garden* (1984), *The Language of Landscape* (1998), *Daring to Look* (2008), and *The Eye is a Door: Landscape, Photography and the Art of Discovery* (2014). Since 1987, she has directed the West Philadelphia Landscape Project, an action research program integrating research, teaching and community service ([www.wplp.net](http://www.wplp.net)). In 2001, Spirn received Japan's International Cosmos Prize for "contributions to the harmonious coexistence of nature and mankind" in recognition of her life's work. For more, see [www.annewhistonspirn.com](http://www.annewhistonspirn.com).



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