

#ASLA2018

FS-014 - Like a Local: Life in the Streets and Gardens of Philadelphia

Presenters

Christine Carrington, Landscape Designer – City Garden Guru, former Director of Awbury Arboretum

Olivia Edlund, Education and Outreach Manager, Philadelphia's Magic Garden

Michael Coyle – Urban Designer, Groundswell Design Group

Nicole Juday Rhoads – Director of Engagement, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

Amy Syverson-Shaffer, ASLA – Business Development, Landscape Forms, Co-Leader

Susan M Mattison, ASLA, AICP, LEED AP – Landscape Architect & Planner, Co-Leader

Learning Objectives

Learning Objective # 1 Participants will observe historic and contemporary urban gardens and streets that contribute to the neighborhood identity and give community stakeholders and visitors alike access to outdoor space.

Learning Objective # 2 Environmental issues for gardens in an urban setting and the importance of high quality horticulture for use in residential spaces and streetscapes (including a historic garden) will be reviewed.

Learning Objective # 3 Participants will analyze the materials and elements that make these sites engaging, vital and successful through appropriate scale, site program and amenities, and adjacent and accessible garden space.

Learning Objective # 4 Participants will observe how streetscape and open space development projects can be used to build awareness, connect residents to their community, and to encourage revitalization efforts in historic neighborhoods.

Learning Objective # 5 Health Safety and Welfare (HSW) aspects of the planning and design of urban green space and streetscapes will be studied for accessibility, durability, urban infrastructure, and use of urban tolerant plant materials for sustainable environmental issues.

Uniqueness of Philadelphia's Neighborhoods and Streets

During the field session walk, presenters will discuss the following topics for each site:

1. Urban design factors that lead to neighborhood revitalization - how urban streetscapes and green spaces play a role in transforming neighborhoods
2. How public, semi-public urban green spaces help to develop community Interaction
3. How the palette of site materials, elements, and amenities help to contribute to a positive neighborhood character that helps to form neighborhood identity
4. Horticultural issues with urban residential properties - from historical period gardens to contemporary gardens
5. Unique characteristics of Philadelphia's urban neighborhoods - scale, materials used in the city, street tree challenges, circulation patterns and trends, other related issues



Delancey Street



Jessup Street

Historic and Contemporary Gardens in Neighborhoods

Physick House Garden

- Discussion of Physick House and Garden history
- Discussion of garden rejuvenation through research
- Discussion of plant palette reflecting 19th century horticulture
- Discussion of challenges of historical plant palette and garden maintenance
- Importance of the role of supporting organizations – Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks and the Physick Garden Committee
- Attractive and functional setting for events with access by the public



Physick House Garden

518 Pine Street – Contemporary Residential Garden

- Review of the goal of creating outdoor space for residents
- Review of garden layout, plant palette and materials
- Discussion of the benefits and challenges of small urban residential gardens
- Garden tour to review design objectives and inter-relationship of the house and garden



518 Pine Street

Washington Square – Talulah's Restaurant Garden

Talulah's Restaurant Garden

- Overview of the restaurant garden history and design
- Review of garden design elements and use of space to accommodate restaurant dining
- Discussion of custom-designed garden elements, pavements, water feature, and plantings,
- Discussion of the vitality of the Washington West community, with mixture of restaurant, office, commercial, and residential uses



Talulah's Garden

Walkway through Society Hill – additional sites of Interest

- Small Residential Alley Streets – Willings Way
- Small Vest Pocket Parks on small alleystreets – Perth & Addison Park
- Pennsylvania Hospital Garden
- Louis Kahn Park
- Rose and Magnolia Gardens
- Three Bears Park
- Street Patterns of Independence Mall



Delancey (Three Bears) Park

Philadelphia's Magic Garden – Sartain Community Garden

Philadelphia's Magic Garden

- Revitalization of the South Street Residential neighborhood through renovation of vacant lots with beautiful artwork
- Discussion of how coordinated community interaction, inspired through art, helped to save a neighborhood
- Discussion of garden development, expansion, and influence on mosaic art installations through south Philadelphia
- Review of use of recycled material in the art installations
- Review of elements of surprise and delight within the garden



Philadelphia's Magic Garden

Sartain Community Garden

- Review of the Washington Square West Community garden
- Combination of garden with mural "Garden of Delights"
- Discussion of role that community gardens provide in community revitalization
- Opportunity for area residents to grow edibles and ornamentals



Sartain Community Garden

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and EXPO**
October 19-22
Philadelphia

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Additional Readings:

1. Preservation Alliance of Philadelphia -<https://www.philalandmarks.org/single-post/2017/08/24/Hill-Physick-House-Inspires-Us-to-Think-About-Preservati>
2. Philadelphia Historic Commission - Historic Districts - Historic Street Paving - http://www.phila.gov/historical/PDF/Historic_Street_Paving_Dist
3. "Great Gardens of the Philadelphia Region" by Adam Levine and Rob Cardillo, Temple University Press, 2007
4. Groundswell Design Group - Projects similar to presented garden <http://www.groundswelldesigngroup.com/projects/?category=Current+Projects>
5. Community Gardening in Philadelphia, 2008 Harvest Report http://www.farmlandinfo.org/sites/default/files/Philadelphia_Harvest_1.pdf
6. DUSP MIT. "Places in the Making."
2013. <https://dusp.mit.edu/sites/dusp.mit.edu/files/attachments/project/mit-dusp-places-in-the-making.pdf>
7. The Project for Public Spaces. "The Power of 10+"
<https://www.pps.org/article/the-power-of-10>
8. Whyte, William H. The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces. 1980

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Notes:

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