Boulder Herbarium Archives for Public Engagement

Adam, Luke, Mieko, Stephen



PROCESS



1. OBSERVING NATURE

Observe site features and illustrate local plant life to examine common design elements for ecological / cultural requirements



2. **BIOMIMETIC DESIGN**

Abstract key design principles to develop repeatable units, and explore these forms at different scales and functions



^{3.} MODULAR TRANSLATIONS

Translate design concepts into practical, modular, concrete units that educate herbarium guests while preserving specimen

Observing Nature

01

Observe site features and illustrate local plant life to examine common design elements for ecological / cultural requirements







KEY TAKEAWAYS COMMON THEMES

ORGANIC FRACTALS

Repeating patterns appear at different scales to create complexity

NEGATIVE SPACE

Spaces between flowers and branches determine how the form is read as a whole



CENTRIPETAL HIERARCHY

Divergent growth results in stronger materials near the base and core of the form



FLOODPLAINS

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The floodplain map indicates several FEMA flood zones located on the site. The Northernmost part of site is the high hazard zone, followed by the 100 year extent and the 500 year extent. Most of the site is susceptible to flooding making it imperative to plan for these events.

TOPOGRAPHY + VEGETATION



The topography of the site is varied with steep and gradual slopes. Boulder Creek flows through the North end of the site and Arapahoe Avenue runs along the Southern Edge. There is dense tree cover scattered in and surrounding the site.

BOULDER CREEK INHABITANTS



Native inhabitants of the creek inform **plant selection, spatial layout, and exhibit material** to ensure a thriving and diverse environment. Observing local species' behaviors and interactions ensure our design supports and enhances the existing ecosystem.

BOULDER COUNTY INDUSTRY

23.4% Educational services, health care, and social assistance 20.8%

Professional, scientific, and administrative / management

10.4% Arts, entertainment,

recreation, and food

PROJECT GOALS OVERVIEW



Community Engagement

Cater to diverse users blending both indoor and outdoor uses of space



Integration + Impact

Connect with existing public amenities to promote the herbarium as a cultural and economic asset.



Interactive Design

Interactive archives and intuitive displays to educate the public while protecting local species



Sustainability

Use eco-friendly materials and native plantings to support local wildlife



Accessibility Ensure ADA-compliant pathways and

signage. Create an inviting and inclusive space.



Climate Adaptation Ensure energy-efficient and climate-appropriate structures.

02 Biomimetic Design

Abstract key design principles to develop repeatable units, and explore these forms at different scales and functions



MODULE DEVELOPMENT



MODULE VARIATIONS



BLOOM CHART PLANTS FOR SITE USERS



PLANTING PLAN - BOTANICAL GARDEN

The plants selected for the botanical garden are a mix of native and non native species, all of which work well in Boulder's climate. One of the main considerations for each plant was its ability to help manage water throughout the site.



PLANTING PLAN - TERRACED GARDEN

Bearberry

Arctostaphylos

The terraced garden contains four low growing plants. All of which require low maintenance and are adaptable to various environmental conditions making them a great addition for the botanical garden.



PLANTING PLAN - SENSORY GARDEN

The sensory garden contains four types of medium sized plants all of which are meant to stimulate the users senses as they move through and interact with the space. Each of these plants are able to thrive in diverse environments.



PLANTING PLAN - BUTTERFLY GARDEN

The butterfly garden contains six different plants with the main goal being to bring in pollinators specifically butterflies. Additional benefits of these plants are low maintenance, aesthetic appeal and water management.



///// PLANTING PLAN - BEE GARDEN

The bee garden contains six plants all selected to attract a variety of pollinators but specifically queued to bees. These plants are resilient and easy to grow plants that range from small to medium with unique foliage.



03 Modular Translation

Translate design concepts into practical, modular units that educate herbarium guests while preserving local specimens

HABITAT WALL DESIGN PLANS





PLAN



PERSPECTIVE

SEATING STRUCTURE DESIGN PLANS

ELEVATION





INTERACTIVE EXHIBIT DESIGN PLANS







PLAN

ELEVATION

PERSPECTIVE

HERBARIUM DESIGN PLANS





ELEVATION

PLAN

SITE RENDER OVERVIEW

GARDENS SENSORY ENGAGEMENT

THE REAL PROPERTY.

CREEK ACCESS

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PATIO ACCESS





EXHIBIT SPACE

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MODULES REPEATING THEMES

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PLANTING WALLS

RECEPTION DESK



SEATING



PATIO DOORS



WATER ACCESS



PERMEABLE PAVEMENT

DESIGN APPLICATIONS BOULDER HERBARIUM

PRESERVATION

INDOORS

EXPERIENCE

OUTDOORS