Master Plan
Olivia Stockert
Land4900 – Steffens
Spring 2015
Ashantilly was first built around 1820. The original structure, pictured at right, was the residence of Thomas Spalding, early Georgia planter, legislator, and McIntosh County landowner. After the house burned in 1937, it was rebuilt by the Haynes family. Today, the Ashantilly Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to hosting cultural, environmental, and historical events and workshops.
Today, the Ashantilly house has been rebuilt in the style of the original with a few changes to the layout and exterior ornamentation. Visitors to the Center can experience the passage of time through the different phases of construction. The house’s “tabby” exterior, finished with a special stucco made from oyster shells, is a unique regional style. The house is framed by stately oaks hung with Spanish moss.
Darien, GA was founded in 1736 and is the second-oldest city in the state. It is located in McIntosh County and has a population of 1,975. Darien is known for a number of tourist attractions including biking, boating, fishing and birding.
Recreational trails connect Ashantilly to the surrounding community and potential new visitors. To the east, the Southeast Coast Saltwater Paddling Trail brings boaters through the marshes and river of Ashantilly's backyard. To the west, cyclists can ride along the Coastal Georgia Greenway directly past Ashantilly's rear entrance.
Birding and bird habitat in the area surrounding Ashantilly are part of what make the visitor experience so unique. Ashantilly is conveniently located near several wildlife refuges, giving it the potential to be an important link in the ecological corridor along the Georgia coastline. The property is also right off the Colonial Coast Birding Trail, which might provide a new source of visitors to Ashantilly.

The Pileated Woodpecker can be spotted in the woods surrounding Ashantilly.
EXISTING CIRCULATION

Ashauntilly can be accessed by either the front or rear entrances. Existing parking in grassy fields is very informal. Bond Road, technically a state road at this time, runs through the property. There are currently no additional formal walking paths or trails.
EXISTING VEGETATION

The Ashantilly property is mainly woods and marsh, with a large swath of planted pines. Other key features of the vegetation are a vegetable garden, the remains of a formal garden, and several large, stately oaks and other specimen trees around the main house.
CONCEPT

Exploring the main house, visitors can see for themselves the different stages of construction. While some would say the house is unfinished, in reality it provides visitors with a deeper appreciation of Ashantilly’s long and rich history and allows them to visualize the passage of time. The passage of time and the weathering and change it brings has an undeniably romantic quality, especially in the deep South. After all, it was the story of a similar old southern mansion that enchanted millions with the idea of “a dream remembered, a civilization gone with the wind.” This design invokes that same spirit in cultivating an almost magical atmosphere. By embracing and emphasizing the effects of time on Ashantilly, rather than trying to erase it, this design will celebrate Ashantilly in all its incarnations, from 1820 til today.
Site Program

Mission: A master plan for the grounds of Ashantilly that enhances user experience, is accessible to all visitors, improves aesthetic quality, facilitates education and events, takes advantage of local recreational resources, and can be constructed in an environmentally sustainable fashion.

Goals:
- **Parking and circulation.** The Ashantilly Center needs designated parking both for visitors and events. Circulation should improve the experience and convey visitors to key features in the site.
  - entrances - aesthetic improvements made to both front and rear entrances
  - accessibility - users must be able to easily access the house
  - permanent, paved small parking lot near house with path to entrance
  - event parking - need to be able to accommodate higher numbers of vehicles for events
    - flexible, pervious parking area
  - visitors should be conveyed to front of house on arrival
  - re-route circulation from rear entrance

- **Planting and habitat.** Add planting to key areas of the site for aesthetic improvement as well as the creation of wildlife habitat. Planting must be low maintenance.
  - native species
  - Coastal Wildscapes
  - bird watching - plant species that create habitat for bird species
  - foundation planting - shrubs and perennials to soften the house's facade
    - must tolerate alkaline soils because of tabby exterior
  - garden planting
    - shade-tolerant species
    - low maintenance
    - drought tolerant species
    - species that don’t require pruning/deadheading

- **Connection with other resources.** Ashantilly should take advantage of its proximity to recreational trails in order to bring more visitors to the site.
  - bike trail, kayak trail
  - boardwalk/dock in marsh area
  - fruit trees along bike path
  - Colonial Coast Birding Trail
  - campground for users’ source of revenue
  - restroom facility
  - online reservations

- **Experience and accessibility.** Improve the experience via wayfinding elements and visitor information.
  - lighting
  - signage
This design celebrates Ashantilly's long history while enhancing visitor experience and site function. The addition of campgrounds, birding trails, and connections to existing biking and kayaking trails encourage new visitors and take advantage of the site's location and ecology. Updated, accessible circulation ensures that everyone visiting Ashantilly has the best possible experience. New event spaces create a magical atmosphere and reference Ashantilly's evolution over time. Improved bird habitat makes Ashantilly a valuable part of the Coastal Georgia ecosystem.
SECTION VIEW: FRONT OF HOUSE

EXISTING HOUSE

PAVED ENTRY PLAZA

FOUNDATION PLANTING
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SYMBOL</th>
<th>BOTANICAL NAME</th>
<th>COMMON NAME</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>SPACING</th>
<th>NURSERY</th>
<th>SIZE</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PLANTS</th>
<th>COST PER PLANT</th>
<th>TOTAL COST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Cornus asperifolia</td>
<td>Rough Leafed Dogwood</td>
<td>Tree</td>
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<td>7 gal.</td>
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<td>JV</td>
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<td>Eastern Red Cedar</td>
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<td>Oakleaf Hydrangea</td>
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<td>Nearly Native Nurseries</td>
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<td>Alabama Snow-Wreath</td>
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<td>RC</td>
<td>Rosa carolina</td>
<td>Carolina Rose</td>
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<td>ForestFarm Tube</td>
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<td>Dwarf Palmetto</td>
<td>Shrub</td>
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<td>Nearly Native Nurseries</td>
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<td>SC</td>
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<td>North Creek Nurseries</td>
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LANDSCAPE FORMS WELLSPRING BENCH

SCALE: 1" = 1'-0"
PERSPECTIVE: WOODLAND GARDEN
SECTION VIEW: WOODLAND GARDEN

CONVERTED FOUNTAIN PLANTER

WISTERIA ARBOR

SEATING AREA
## PLANT SCHEDULE AND COST

### WOODLAND GARDEN PLANTING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SYMBOL</th>
<th>BOTANICAL NAME</th>
<th>COMMON NAME</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>SPACING</th>
<th>NURSERY</th>
<th>SIZE</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PLANTS</th>
<th>COST PER PLANT</th>
<th>TOTAL COST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CC</td>
<td>Carpinus caroliniana</td>
<td>American Hornbeam</td>
<td>Tree</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Nearly Native Nurseries</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>$28.00</td>
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<td>PS</td>
<td>Prunus serotina</td>
<td>Black Cherry</td>
<td>Tree</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Native Nurseries</td>
<td>10&quot; seedling</td>
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<td>$3.49</td>
<td>$3.49</td>
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<td>IG</td>
<td>Ilex glabra</td>
<td>Inkberry</td>
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<td>IV</td>
<td>Ilex vomitoria</td>
<td>Yaupon Holly</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>$24.00</td>
<td>$72.00</td>
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<td>SM</td>
<td>Sabal minor</td>
<td>Dwarf Palmetto</td>
<td>Shrub</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Nearly Native Nurseries</td>
<td>1 gal.</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>$126.00</td>
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<td>ZP</td>
<td>Zamia pumila</td>
<td>Coonti</td>
<td>Shrub</td>
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<td>WF</td>
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<td>American Wisteria</td>
<td>Vine</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>$24.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>SL</td>
<td>Salvia lyrata</td>
<td>Lyreleaf Sage</td>
<td>Perennial</td>
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<td>North Creek Nurseries</td>
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<td>PM</td>
<td>Spigelia marilandica</td>
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OUTDOOR PORCELAIN TILE

SCALE: 1" = 1"
## BIRDING DOCK PLANTING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SYMBOL</th>
<th>BOTANICAL NAME</th>
<th>COMMON NAME</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>SPACING</th>
<th>NURSERY</th>
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<th>NUMBER OF PLANTS</th>
<th>COST PER PLANT</th>
<th>TOTAL COST</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SM</td>
<td>Sabal minor</td>
<td>Dwarf Palmetto</td>
<td>Shrub</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Nearly Native Nurseries</td>
<td>1 gal.</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
<td>$216.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>CL</td>
<td>Chasmanthium latifolium</td>
<td>Inland Sea Oats</td>
<td>Grass</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Baker Environmental Nurseries</td>
<td>1 gal.</td>
<td>275</td>
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<tr>
<td>MC</td>
<td>Muhlenbergia capillaris</td>
<td>Pink Muhly Grass</td>
<td>Grass</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Baker Environmental Nurseries</td>
<td>4&quot; pot</td>
<td>166</td>
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<td>Panicum virgatum</td>
<td>Switchgrass</td>
<td>Grass</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Plant Delights</td>
<td>2 qt.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB</td>
<td>Spartina bakeri</td>
<td>Cordgrass</td>
<td>Grass</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Grass</td>
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<td>EP</td>
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<td>$440.51</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$13956.51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DOCK RAILING

RAILING POST WITH POST CAP LIGHT
TREX TRANSCEND COMPOSITE DECKING, "VINTAGE LANTERN"
FASCIA

8" BOX BEAM - FLUSHSCENARIO
BOLT BEAM THROUGH SUPPORT POST

STEEL BRACKET BOLTED INTO BEDROCK WITH 6" STEEL BOLTS

Decking Layout

RAILING POST
P.T. 4"X4" TREX ELEVATIONS STEEL DECK SUPPORT POST
TREX ELEVATIONS JOIST

JOIST/BEAM ASSEMBLY

SCALE: 1/2" = 1'-0"
SCALE: 1/2" = 1'-0"