THE ASHANTILLY CENTER
Tyler Haskell - Senior Project - Spring 2015 - LAND 4900
Site History

Also known as "Old Tabby," the Ashantilly Center was originally the home of Thomas Spalding, a 19th century Georgia legislator. Located in Darien, GA, the Ashantilly Center was constructed in 1820 before being sold to local artist Bill Haynes Jr. in 1920. 17 years later a fire claimed the house and it has been undergoing reconstruction ever since. It was the dream of Mr. Haynes to restore the Center to its former glory and pay tribute to its historical significance, main goals of the Ashantilly Board of Trustees who run the property today.
Ashantilly Project Program

**Program Mission:** Restore and enhance the Ashantilly site physically and economically through a phased process by employing its rich history and auspicious location.

**Program Goals:**

1) Improve maintenance structure
   a) Clean up existing foliage, debris, dirt, etc. which detract from the overall experience to be had on the site.
      i) Planted pines
      ii) Garden
      iii) Trailer
      iv) Pathways
   b) Find a long-term solution to maintenance troubles
      i) On-site groundskeeper
      ii) Community outreach

2) Develop marketing strategy which opens the site for a varied number of uses
   a) Appeal to local community
      i) Outreach for education, maintenance, events
   b) Appeal to broader community
      i) Branding
      ii) Advertising in nearby cities and towns
   c) Expand event opportunities
      i) Eco-tourism
      ii) Grow printing operation
      iii) Kayak/boating (contingent on dock)
      iv) Bartram Trail
      v) Grow and sell native plants
         (i) Community garden
**Ashantilly Project Program**

**Program Mission:** Restore and enhance the Ashantilly site physically and economically through a phased process by employing its rich history and auspicious location.

**Program Goals:**

3) Improve viewpoints and spaces in advantageous locations

   a) Main driveway
      i) Add wall
      ii) Plantings, framing of house
      iii) Clean back of house
   b) Front of house
      i) Clean
      ii) Plantings for framing and development of space
   c) Marsh
      i) Enhance or screen direct view from front lawn
      ii) Provide option for boardwalk/dock
   d) Garden
      i) Plant as designed in 2005
      ii) Develop pathway from front lawn which embraces transition between spaces
      iii) Enhance or screen direct view from driveway
This Concept Diagram focuses on delineating spaces within the design and the relationships between them. Both vehicular and foot paths are considered, with goals of limiting disturbance as much as possible.

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Concept Diagram

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This Concept Diagram illustrates design goals in the medium-term. A sense of mystery and discovery is implemented through an indirect entrance driveway with plentiful screening and multiple pathways, represented as dotted areas.
This Concept Diagram illustrates a long-term goal for the site. In addition to the elements implemented in the medium-term diagram, there are modular walls, trails, an upgraded boardwalk with access to the water, and modified screening.

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Concept Diagram
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SCALE: 1" = 200' 0"
Rear Lawn Elevation

Formal Garden Elevation
NOTES:

1. All plant material shall be subject to approval or rejection by a Landscape Architect prior to installation.

2. Trees to be planted a min. of 3'-0" from edge of paving or walls. All trees in a formal group or row shall be matching in size and shape.

3. Apply 3" of mulch for all planting areas without burying root crowns. Final mulch grade shall be installed 1" below any paved surface.

4. Refer to details for plant installation, staking and spacing.

5. All plant material to be nursery grown in a similar climate. It should be vigorous and of normal habit in growth and free of any disease, insects, or ailments. Plants shall equal or exceed the standards as outlined by the American Standards for Nursery Stock and to applicable Georgia Agriculture Code.
Phase one of my Ashantilly Center project will be centered around beautification and adding seating to the rear lawn of the property as well as delineating the front lawn space with plantings. This is the phase with the least cost, and potentially the highest benefit-to-cost ratio. Having spaces in the front and back of the property add definition to the areas and create designated gathering and resting areas. As shown, Bond Road has been removed. This must be done before the final phase.
Phase two of my Ashantilly Center project focuses on completing the main formal plantings of the design. The garden may be completed as shown here or as detailed in the professional plan located onsite. However, the plants in my design have been selected to complement one another and show cohesiveness throughout the property. The main parking lot is also surrounded by plantings and should be implemented at this time to allow for larger events and develop a more professional, official feel to the site.
The final phase of my Ashantilly Center project adds most of the more optional features in my design. The caretaker/visitor lodge, boardwalk, roundabout, overflow parking and trails are the components. Major features of the design are improved circulation, accommodations for very large visitor groups, options for overnight stay and leisure activities. Phase three is less of a realistic possibility, but it certainly offers value to the site in multiple ways.