

ART499B

March 15, 2016

Joseph J. Wunderlich

## Journal Assignment 6 – Campus Land Usage

- 1.) The first location was the paved path leading from baseball field to the quads. This path has almost no remarkable features worth noting, but there was enough land on the side of the road that faced the soccer field that you could possibly place several planters to break up the long stretch of road. From a view of the campus map, this is one of the longest roads on campus that is not directly adjacent to an outside road, putting extra stress on the need for some spicing up.
- 2.) The second location was the empty forested back property behind the tennis courts. The only noticeable features of this area is the periodical numbered, chain frisbee catchers along the several branching jogging paths. This is some of the most difficult to use property for several reasons. One is that there are rivers running down to a large marsh. Second is that there are too many trees and bushes that would need to be cleared entirely. And third, the relative distance from all other buildings could make this too remote of a location for students desire to visit often. The best use for this space I can think of would be a designated camp ground, as there are several dry grassy bits.
- 3.) The third location was the top of the hill right of Cedar Street and across from Ober Residence Hall. This is a perfect location to plan a building facing south down the hill where the beehives and an old refurbished watermill building lie because of the amount of visible space. Perhaps a c-shaped glass greenhouse would suit this area well to match the curvature of the hill. A future construction here should be planned with consideration to the amount of light it would receive, as this property is situated on one of the highest points on campus.
- 4.) The fourth location was an empty lot at the end of Cherry Street that branches off to two smaller paths. One of these paths is College Hill Lane, which then turns on to Cedar Street as mentioned above. And the second is an unnamed, somewhat unpaved trail that leads back into the woods and then eventually around to the tennis courts again. This lot looks like it was laid down quickly and very rarely gathers traffic (I jog by this here often). A circular planter or possibly a fountain in the center of this square slab could offer better closure to this street than there is currently. It is debatable whether or not this particular space is of our concern though, considering that this area rarely garners student traffic.

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April 3, 2016

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## Journal Assignment 7 – Etown Area Land Usage – Various

- 1.) Our Elizabethtown College and the neighboring high school are divided by a small, deep creek that runs along an uninterrupted array of scattered trees with little to no walking paths in between. Because some of the ground beside the waterway has muddy patches, but is still flat enough to walk along, I propose that a layer of fine gravel be laid down first, with a second layer of sand on the creek side facing the high school. I would also prefer, given the chance, to build a higher quality wood and brick bridge where there is currently only a cheap concrete slab with a tin pipe underneath.
- 2.) Next is the topic for a better use of the Etown Alumni House. This building sits right across College Ave. within walking distance of Schlosser Residence. Despite its proximity to the College I rarely find myself ever needing a reason to go here. The house is well furnished and clean but hardly used. It is currently an office space for admin. The best idea I can think of would be to use the upstairs storage rooms as graduate student dorms or maybe a small business startup location.
- 3.) Currently the college and high school have no real shared spaces. In paragraph #1 I mentioned how a thick line of trees and a creek separate the college property almost entirely. In my opinion this is how it should probably stay for the time being. Both our college and the school have our own sports facilities so there is no need for us to connect our property for athletic reasons. There should probably be a wall now that I think about it. Although, while we are on the subject, we should make it complimentary to the nearby houses by using the brick and wide cement trim style of Elizabethtown. To make it a community project we can even make the high school students build it! To mask any possible child labor connotations we could always disguise it as a school project.
- 4.) This area is merely an unused corn field and should probably stay as such. If we own this piece of farmland we could always plant our own vegetables. If we have any leftover money we could build a greenhouse to tie this future project together.
- 5.) This neighborhood is connected by an unusually wide road with no sidewalk in addition to several spaced apart, single story, flat houses with large yards spanning a width equal to the road. A large colonnade of trees tower over this residential, giving the whole area a grand feel that makes people look quite small walking in comparison. My only complaint is that there is no sidewalk or gutter to contain runoff. Though with a road this large it is probably unnecessary.
- 6.) This neighborhood is quite the antithesis of #5, despite being on the road directly opposite. The houses here are close together with small, neatly maintained yards with several specimen bushes and flowers. The road has a small gutter but still no sidewalk. The road ends with an oblong culdesac. Slightly higher income housing.

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April 8, 2016

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## Journal Assignment 8 – Elizabethtown Land Usage

- 1.) The park across from Elizabethtown Public Library is a clean and public space that like most of Etown, is rarely used. To bring more traffic to this nice spot, the college soccer or lacrosse teams could practice here once a week. Another use could be various ceremonies such as weddings or early graduations. It would be a shame not to see this perfectly good city space go unused.
- 2.) The official Elizabethtown town center is one of the highest traffic areas and contains some of the oldest architecture in the city. Several shops here are below apartment buildings several blocks down the main road. A small improvement could be made to the intersection of Est High Street and South Market Street by subtracting a bit from the wide sidewalk to give way to left turning traffic, making for a smoother traffic flow.
- 3.) The Elizabethtown train station has been improved greatly in the last several years. The main station platform had a completely modern overhaul with two glass elevators on each platform, a new tunnel under the tracks, and a refurbished waiting room. This is one of Etown's key attractions in my opinion because it is one of the most pristine stations along the Amtrack line down to Philadelphia. I particularly enjoy the architecture here because it uses a modern addition that compliments the color and scale of the old station's sandstone and white cement style. Very few buildings here were taken down in the reconstruction, which I find to be a plus. The proximity to the Masonic village is also convenient in both style and functionality for the older population.
- 4.) Just east of Etown Station is a group of old factory buildings that were once connected to the station's property but have now been separated into individual real estate blocks. One of these buildings is now used by a Toshiba mobile branch, and another is currently being used for a real estate company. The receptionist at the latter allowed us to tour the inside of her building. The inside of this building had only a mezzanine on the second floor. There was practically no ceiling on the first floor office space so you could still get light from the large front and back windows which is a nice touch. From the looks of it, the inside of the other buildings in this small town have been repurposed as well.
- 5.) College Avenue is technically the entrance to the college according to the board of directors, though you might not know it right off. Aside from the president's colonial revival styled house and the main campus sign, there are no real indicators within close proximity to the college, making it easy to stumble upon it while driving. I thought of a few clever ideas to fix this minor issue. One would be to commission custom streetlights bearing an emblem or a flag of our college insignia on them in the same way the town of Hershey does for their flagship attraction: Hershey Park. Another idea is to paint the sidewalk gutter block blue down East College Avenue all the way down to the high school. Even subtle cues like the school colors used on nearby architecture could help.

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April 14, 2016

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## Journal Assignment 9 – New Campus Changes

It difficult to pinpoint all the changes made to the campus since 1999 at a glance, but they are there. Beginning from the most noticeable changes on the old map, I first noticed the lack of a track field and its adjacent sidewalk. In this same area the entirety of the car nest (parking lot) left of Leffler Chappel is not present. The Hoover business center and its back parking lot are missing as well. Almost all of the outdoor area that the BSC encompasses has been replaced with parking.

It looks like the large property square that extends outside of our campus has been unused until recently, as it is now home to a family of photovoltaic arrays for extra campus power.

Our baseball stadium has moved south of Lake Placida to near the forest, freeing up the soon-to-be location for girl's lacrosse field. I also noticed 5 new tennis courts behind the founders' residence apartments.

The new walking paths outside entrance to the library have been built in a circular pattern connecting the music and art buildings, which is similar to the path improvement in front of the engineering building.

Now the best for last, the trees. Our college has planted specimen trees and bushes everywhere, which I am completely fine with as visibly intricate detail was put into choosing the right plants and their locations. Our school even plants new flowers each spring around the buildings which I think is just dandy. That's all I have to say.

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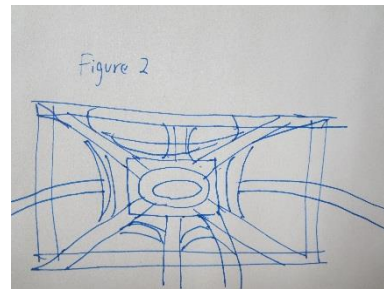
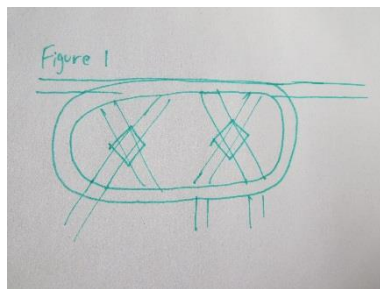
April 28, 2016

Joseph J. Wunderlich

## Journal Assignment 10 – New Campus Implementations

Since the completion of Elizabethtown College's architectural master plan in 1999, the majority of planned future changes have been executed, with only a few leftover beta elements. To start off, one of the most significant changes made was the addition of our famous Lake Placida, a large water feature in front of Leffler Chappel that also functions as a catch basin for campus water runoff. Also, four years ago a two-million-dollar dam was completed just parallel to College Avenue to keep the lake's water level stable.

Two other significant ellipse-shaped structures have been built since; the track field opposite to the chapel, and the curved walkway the circles the space between the BSC-Gym connection and the math and science buildings. The latter of which has now become one of the most crowded of all campus intersections. The oval road loop feels as if it were simply overlaid on top of the existing roads. It appears that they tried to fix this by putting to cross-shaped intersections inside of the loop, but this only overcomplicates the space. (*Figure A: Current layout*) I believe this entire enclosure could be fixed by having all roads join at an 8-sided fixed point instead of submissively joining the loop at slight angles, this is to account for all possible "desire paths" that students might take to increase the efficiency of their walk, subconsciously. (*Figure B: My proposed layout*) The old layout was changed so recently that you can still see it on current up-to-date maps, despite the fact that all the buildings have been changed as well. The online map is up to date.



Within the vicinity of this open space it can be seen on the early drawing that there is no Hoover business center. The corridors joining the BSC are also noticeably smaller, almost to the point of redundancy as a distance this small could easily be replaced with an outdoor path. The choice to turn these connection areas into individual buildings such as the pool and performance center was another good decision. Though, it should be pointed out that these new buildings create several unusual spaces and awkwardly joined walls, such as the point of intersection between what is now the new athletic hall and the old gym that were not present before the remodeling.

Some other small changes are, for instance, no Founders Residence apartments, several paths have been added in the fields behind the school, new building additions have been made, more specimen trees, and many new parking lots have been laid, amongst other countless cosmetic changes.