



# Urban Workshop

## Selected Projects

### 2004 to Present

## **Living/Learning Cabin Prototype for Children with Disabilities Variety, the Children's Charity of Delaware Valley, 2020-2023**



**Project Description:** The Living/Learning Cabin provides a nurturing, enabling space for children with disabilities. Variety offers year-round educational programming as well as summer camp, so the cabins are designed to convert from sleeping to classroom space. The sensitivities of the children require attention to light and color, transitions from inside to outside, focused intimate and shared spaces, and engagement with nature. The cabin is a prototype for a dozen that will be built on the Montgomery County site. The project began in the Architecture Graduate studio and a research and design process with Urban Workshop professionals has taken the cabin design forward.

**Partners:** Variety, the Children's Charity of the Delaware Valley

**Funding:** National Endowment for the Arts

**Urban Workshop Team:** U. Sean Vance (Co-PI, lead) Sally Harrison (PI), Farzaneh Tahmasbi

## Nicetown Neighborhood Revitalization Triangle CDC, Philadelphia, 2019



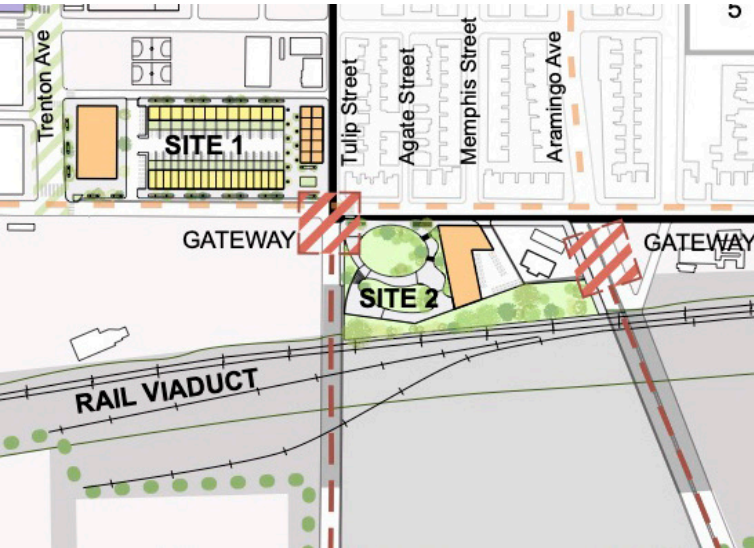
**Project Description:** The Nicetown neighborhood revitalization project seeks to combat housing and job discrimination experienced by returned citizens through mixed use redevelopment including social service, housing, retail and educational opportunities. The newly formed Triangle CDC worked with Thomas Jefferson University and the Urban Workshop to develop a conceptual planning strategy, and with the Temple Small Business Development Center to assist in the formation of a business plan.

**Partners:** Triangle CDC, Thomas Jefferson University, Temple Small Business Development Center

**Funding:** Pro bono

**Urban Workshop Team:** Pablo Meninato (lead) Sally Harrison, Lynn Mandarano, Jeff Doshna

# Brownfields Area-Wide Plan Kensington, Philadelphia , 2019



**Project Description:** Based on substantial engagement from the local community, the plan proposes an urban design framework and new development for five brownfields sites in a neighborhood that has experienced disinvestment and decay. The goal is to create human-centered spaces where industrial uses once dominated. These include senior housing and a gateway park (pictured above), family housing, community business incubator, and a health and literacy center.

**Partners:** Rowan University, Sommerset Neighbors for Better Living, New Kensington CDC, Philadelphia Water Department

**Funding:** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

**Principal Investigators:** Mahbubar Meenar PI, Lynn Mandarano Co-PI

**Urban Workshop Team:** Sally Harrison (design lead), Drew Hohenwarter, Andrew Jacobs, Alexandra Grabel, Jake Whitehead, Natalie Lee

**Urban Strategies and Tactics**  
**ASOCIACIÓN PUERTORRIQUEÑOS EN MARCHA (APM), 2016**



**Project Description:** The Graduate Urban Workshop Studio collaborated with the economic development team at APM to envision an urban design strategy for the commercial corridor. Following the long-range visioning, short-term tactical proposals sought to jump-start the redevelopment by reusing shipping containers for enterprises, including a bicycle repair shop (shown above), a clothing recycling center, a grow box and farmer's market.

**Partners:** ASOCIACIÓN PUERTORRIQUEÑOS EN MARCHA

**Funding:** Pro bono

**Urban Workshop Team:** Sally Harrison (studio instructor), Nick Scassaro, Joe Kott, Matt McCall, Dan Vallachi and Colin Phillips

# Norris Square Civic Association

## The Web of Community Institutions, 2003, 2015



**Project Description:** Norris Square is the central focus of community life in this primarily LatinX neighborhood. The 2003 research and design process was interdisciplinary and deeply community engaged. Building on the centrality of the square and the cultural identity of the community, the urban plan creates linkages to outlying schools and community institutions. A new library, recreation center and day care extension are proposed as well as an interactive mural depicting tropical Caribbean environments. Bio-remediation and other greening strategies remake the post-industrial sites and parched streets that ring the neighborhood. Design of the library, cultural center and public space design followed in 2015.

**Partners:** Norris Square Civic Association

**Funding:** Temple University Research Office

**Urban Workshop Team:** Sally Harrison, Baldev Lamba, Peter Di Carlo, Winifred Lutz, Arjumand Anjum

## Philly Earth Garden Pavilion, 2012



**Project Description:** The pavilion serves as shade structure and teaching space for the urban gardening program at Philly Earth. Built in modules with simple materials, it can be moved and reconfigured according to programmatic needs.

**Partners:** Philly Earth, John and Kira's Chocolates, The Village of Arts and Humanities

**Funding:** John and Kira's Chocolates

**Urban Workshop Team:** Vojislav Ristic (lead), Sally Harrison, Crystal Pickard, Luis Molena

# **Digging Deeper Future Vision**

## **The Village of Arts and Humanities, Hartranft, Philadelphia 2011-2012**



**Project Description:** The Village of Arts and Humanities comprises education spaces, residences and art gardens woven together in a three-block area. After growing incrementally for over 25 years, it needed a new, bold, comprehensive vision for growth and a strategy for preservation. Through a two-year process engaging all stakeholders, the design proposed an expanded arts building, new studios and renovated housing, a community workshop and an environmental center, linking public parks and gardens to programmed activities. The project received design honors from AIAPA and SEED.

**Partners:** The Village of Arts and Humanities, WellsAppel Landscape Architects, Philadelphia City Planning Commission

**Funding:** Pew Center for Arts & Heritage

**Urban Workshop Team:** Sally Harrison, Vojislav Ristic, Crystal Pickard, Luis Molina



## Project 1800 Habitat Philadelphia, 2003, 2010



**Project Description:** Fourteen new homes and six renovated row houses reweave the decayed Orleans Builders fabric of this half-block site. The homes are street-friendly and create a verdant mid-block courtyard where children play safely and neighborhood barbecues are held. The three- and four-bedroom homes are wider and shallower than the typical row home, providing better light and living space. Hundred of volunteers, including Temple students, participated in the construction.

**Partners:** Habitat Philadelphia, Homeowners, Orleans Builders, JacobsWyper Architects

**Funding:** HUD, US Department of Education

**Urban Workshop Team:** Sally Harrison, John Collins

# Baobab Park

## Hartranft, Philadelphia, 2006



**Project Description:** The Architecture graduate studio co-designed a park and built the threshold to a sculpture exhibition representing 12 local heroes of North Philadelphia. Tiles denote the heroes, from artists and musicians to political activists and education advocates.

**Partners:** Village of Arts and Humanities

**Funding:** Pro bono

**Urban Workshop Team:** Sally Harrison (faculty), Ayako Okutani, Emma Castro, Jamie MacDonald, Jay DiRaimondo, Kim Baxter, Kyle Solyak, Marcello Shiffino, Max Lent, Melissa Bernstein, Melissa McArthur, Orley McGoneghy, Sarah Brennen, Tarik Farid

# Shared Prosperity

## Germantown Avenue Revitalization, 2004



**Project Description:** Historic Germantown Avenue faces challenges typical of the post-industrial neighborhood commercial corridor. The project envisions a new vitality emanating from the neighborhood gateway and flanked by nodes focused on arts and culture to the south (pictured here) and entrepreneurship opportunities to the north. Strategies for reestablishing living above the shops bring a measure of 24/7 security to the life of the street. The project was honored in AIA PA Design Awards.

**Partners:** University of Pennsylvania Graduate Planning Studio, Village of Arts and Humanities, Net CDC

**Funding:** Wachovia Regional Foundation

**Urban Workshop Team:** Sally Harrison and Diana Nicholas (faculty)