

SPRING 2010 EVENTS

Designing Community

A Social and Design History of the Charlottesville Pedestrian Mall From community participation and urban planning to design and construction Lawrence Halprin Associates, Landscape Architects (1973-1976)

During April and May 2010, several exhibitions and related events will celebrate and interrogate the late 20th century history of the Charlottesville Downtown Mall designed by renown landscape architect, Lawrence Halprin (1916-2009). They are part of an ongoing research and public history collaboration between University of Virginia School of Architecture professors and graduate students, Preservation Piedmont, and the Charlottesville Community Design Center (CCDC). The project research and exhibition design is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts' Design Excellence-Stewardship program, the UVA School of Architecture and the generous support of numerous donors.

Project leader: Elizabeth K. Meyer Project Advisors: Daniel Bluestone, Lydia Brandt, Jane Fisher.
NEA funded research assistants: Lauren Noe, Sarita Herman, Nathan Foley
UVA research assistants: Mellissa Elliott, Jana VanderGoot

2 April-31 May EXHIBITION

More than Just Bricks. A Field Guide to the Design of the Charlottesville Downtown Mall Lawrence Halprin Associates, 1973-1976

Charlottesville Community Design Center (CCDC)

This exhibition explains the community engagement process, design process and principles that Lawrence Halprin Associates deployed when planning and creating the ten-block long pedestrian street at the heart of Charlottesville historic commercial district downtown. It includes drawings, photographs and analytical drawings as well as oral history interview recordings of numerous citizens and city staff involved in the decision and debates concerning the Mall's conception and planning in the 1970s.

All related events noted below are held at the CCDC, 100 Fifth Street NE, Charlottesville, VA unless otherwise noted. CCDC is located on the Charlottesville Downtown Mall and is open to the public Monday through Friday, 9am – 5pm. See the CCDC website for updates to this calendar <http://www.cvilledesign.org/>

2 April-30 April EXHIBITION

More than Just Bricks: Repairing Community Halprin Associates' 1974 Vision for Downtown Charlottesville

University of Virginia School of Architecture

Campbell Hall Elmaleh Gallery exhibition, open 9am – 5pm Mon-Fri

See UVA School of Architecture website for details <http://www.arch.virginia.edu/>

This exhibition explains the large urban design framework for Downtown Charlottesville that was proposed by Lawrence Halprin Associates between 1973-1976. It includes 16 drawings, found in the Halprin Papers at the University of Pennsylvania Architectural Archives that imagine rebuilding, and repairing, vast areas of Downtown that had been cleared with Federal urban renewal funds in the mid 1960s, some parcels of which are still empty forty years later. These plans and perspective drawings have not been displayed in Charlottesville for over forty years, and suggest a still unrealized vision about how to: 1. Create a vibrant mixed-use Downtown, and 2. Re-connect Main Street and the new pedestrian Mall to Vinegar Hill and Garrett Street through a series of new urban streets, walks, blocks, parks and neighborhoods.

Friday, 2 April CCDC EXHIBITION OPENING AND GALLERY TALK, 5:30-7:30 pm

More than Just Bricks

Gallery talk, 6pm with Beth Meyer and Lydia Brandt

Wednesday, 7 April PANEL DISCUSSION, 12noon-2pm

UVA School of Architecture Elmaleh Gallery

Halprin's Charlottesville Take Part Workshops—innovative community participation model and participatory art practice Cole Hendrix (TBC), Tanya Denkla Cobb, Institute for Environmental Negotiation; Nathan Foley, UVA MUEP and MLA graduate student; Howard Singerman, UVA Associate Professor of Art History
Moderator: Jana VanderGoot, UVA MArch graduate student

Friday, 9 April through Saturday, 17 April

PRESERVATION WEEK 2010

Regenerating Places. Halprin Associates' Modernist Mall and Charlottesville's Historic Downtown

Sponsored by Piedmont Area Preservation Alliance (PAPA) and its associated members

This year's Preservation Week is conceived around the exhibition, "More than Just Bricks. A Social and Design History of the Charlottesville Downtown Mall" that is on display at the CCDC from 2 April-28 May

For more details and updates: <http://ppiedmont.squarespace.com/>

Friday, 9 April LECTURE 5pm

University of Virginia School of Architecture, Campbell Hall, Room 153

"Continuity and Change: Conversations Across Time"

Stephen Kieran, Kieran Timberlake Architects, Philadelphia, PA

Annual Hanbury Evans Wright Vlattas + Company Lecture in Historic Preservation

Reception to follow. Free parking available in the UVA Culbreth Road parking garage

Saturday, 10 April WALKING TOURS 10am, 11am and 1pm

Walking tour of Charlottesville Court Square, 10 am with Albemarle Historical Society members

Meet at Historical Society's McIntire Building, 200 Second Street NE. Donation suggested: \$5

Walking tour of Halprin's Downtown Mall, 11 am with Beth Meyer and Lydia Brandt

Describing the Halprin design intentions, landscape design elements and recent renovations. Meet at CCDC

Walking tour of Charlottesville Downtown, 1pm-3:30 pm with Nathan Foley, Jana VanderGoot, UVA graduate students

Following Halprin's 1974 Take Part Workshop "score." Meet at CCDC

Sunday, 11 April Albemarle Charlottesville Historical Society (ACHS) TOUR 2pm

Tour of newly renovated 1912 Jefferson Theater, 110 East Main Street on the Downtown Mall

with Kirby Hutto, project manager and Hawes Spencer, former owner (and member of ACHS)

Following the program, ACHS members and guests are invited to adjourn to the McIntire Building on Lee Park, home of the Society, for refreshments and a chance to view a new exhibit, Charlottesville Broadcasting in the Golden Age of Radio.

Monday, 12 April PANEL DISCUSSION 1:30pm – 2:30pm

Recollections of the Mall's Early History. 1970s

City Councilors Charles Barbour, Francis Fife (TBC), George Gilliam, Jill Rinehart

Moderator: Sarita Hermann, Research Assistant for NEA grant, and UVA Architectural History graduate student

Tuesday, 13 April LECTURE 11am -12:15pm

Lecture on Lawrence Halprin, designer of the Charlottesville Downtown Mall

Beth Meyer's LAR 5140 Theories of Modern Landscape Architecture class

UVA Campbell Hall Room 158. Open to the Public. Parking in the UVA Emmet Street garage.

Wednesday, 14 April TOUR 11 am, and PANEL DISCUSSION 12noon-1pm

Walking tour of Charlottesville Downtown's social history with Jane Myers, Albemarle Charlottesville Historical Society

Meet at Historical Society's McIntire Building, 200 Second Street NE. Donation suggested: \$5

Renovating a Modernist Landscape—The Charlottesville Downtown Mall, 2008-2009

Taylor Gould, Landscape Architect, MMM Engineering Group and other members of the design and construction team

Moderator: Beth Meyer, UVA Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture

Thursday, 15 April PANEL DISCUSSION 12 noon-1pm AND TOUR 4-5pm

Thirty years of architecture and landscape architecture design review in Charlottesville's Historic Districts

With former and current members of Charlottesville's Board of Architectural Review (BAR) and others

Moderator: Genevieve Keller, Charlottesville Planning Commission, former BAR member

Tour, newly renovated Pavilion X on the University of Virginia Lawn. Sponsor: TJ Chapter of Preservation Virginia

Guides: Daniel Bluestone with members of the UVA Office of the Architect and Facilities Management restoration team

Park on the Corner or in the Emmet Street (Newcomb Hall) Parking Garage

Friday, 16 April LECTURE and RECEPTION 5:30pm

“Why Not Cultural Systems? The Interface Between Landscape Architecture and Historic Preservation”

Charles Birnbaum, Founder and President, The Cultural Landscape Foundation, Washington, DC

Sponsored by University of Virginia School of Architecture

Preservation Week Reception to follow, sponsored by Preservation Piedmont

Saturday, 17 April WALKING TOURS 2pm and 4pm

Walking tours of Charlottesville Downtown, 2 pm Nathan Foley and Jana VanderGoot. Meet at CCDC.

The tour follows Halprin’s 1974 Take Part Workshop “walking score” of downtown and the Mall area

Walking tours of Downtown Mall, 4pm with Lauren Noe and Beth Meyer. Meet at CCDC

Describing the Halprin design intentions, landscape design elements and recent renovations

Week of 26 April or 24 May PANEL DISCUSSION TBD

Contemporary Implications of the Halprin Associates 1974 Urban design plan for Charlottesville

TBD--City official, citizen, developer, planner, architect

Moderator: Daniel Bluestone

Monday, 26 April GALLERY TALK and RECEPTION 6-7pm

University of Virginia School of Architecture Campbell Hall Elmaleh Gallery

“More than Just Bricks: Repairing Community. Halprin Associates’ 1974 Vision for Downtown Charlottesville”

Speakers: Daniel Bluestone, Lydia Brandt, Nathan Foley, Sarita Herman, Beth Meyer

Wednesday, 28 April SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS 9am-11 am

Presentations of UVA School of Architecture student research on Halprin’s legacy on contemporary architecture, planning and landscape architecture. RSVP by April 20th to bmeyer@virginia.edu

Wednesday, 5 May SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS 9am-11 am

Presentations of UVA School of Architecture student research on Halprin’s legacy on contemporary architecture, planning and landscape architecture. RSVP by April 20th to bmeyer@virginia.edu

Friday, 7 May, First Fridays CCDC Gallery talk and reception 5:30-7:30 pm

More than Just Bricks. A Social and Design History of the Charlottesville Downtown Mall

Speakers: Beth Meyer and Lydia Brandt

Wednesday, 19 May PANEL DISCUSSION 12 noon-1 pm

Preserving Designed Landscapes—Theory and Practice

Tim Keller, Professor, Iowa State University; Laura Knott, Milner Associates, Rob McGinnis, AECOM; Mary Hughes, University Landscape Architect, UVA; Syd Knight, VanYahres Assoc., and Charlottesville Board of Architectural Review.

Moderator: Beth Meyer

Saturday, 22 May WALKING TOUR 3pm

Walking tour of Halprin’s Downtown Mall with Beth Meyer

Learn about the Halprin design intentions, landscape design elements and 2008-9 renovation. Meet at CCDC

Week of 26 April or 24 May PANEL DISCUSSION TBD

Contemporary Implications of the Halprin Associates 1974 Urban design plan for Charlottesville

TBD--City official, citizen, developer, planner, architect

Moderator: Daniel Bluestone

Thursday, 27 May, CLOSING GALLERY TALK and RECEPTION 5:30-7:30 pm

More than Just Bricks. A Social and Design History of the Charlottesville Downtown Mall

Speakers: Daniel Bluestone, Beth Meyer and Lydia Brandt

Questions? Charlottesville Community Design Center, 434-984-2232

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