

Executing Progress through the Design_Build Platform

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Fig. 1: Our Clients- Duncan and Nugget

Emphasizing design that values human and local research, students approach learning through creative problem solving, while the development of skills results in a full understanding of how ideas become real. The holistic approach to sustainable design must be addressed as part of curricular standards, especially where the survival of the individual is dependent on the community, and the community profits from the individual.

Keywords: Socially Responsible Design, Design/Build, Citizenship

Abstract

By exploring moments of inspiration between designers and ecologists, we can investigate how both practices intersect and remain intertwined pragmatically and philosophically within the still emerging field of sustainable design. The goal of sustainable architecture is to holistically unify art and science in order to find practical solutions to environmental problems while addressing the social and economic aspects of sustainability.

Understanding how sustainable design benefits a community introduces the notion that architecture is not only an academic discipline, but also one that serves social consequences. Students from the Marywood University School of Architecture explored the design/build platform for a not-for-profit animal sanctuary in Mehoopany, Pennsylvania by providing a structure for two growing pigs rescued from slaughter as piglets (Fig. 1). The student work examined the capacity of design to the betterment of the farm, and ultimately, community. The process provided the framework for an engaged and comprehensive learning opportunity, developing industry skills and accumulating material knowledge while emphasizing citizenship as part of the curricular standards.