The Crowd-Sourced Roadscape Project

By: Emma Lorenz
Savanna Studio

- Two 3 week trips
- 32 students
- 3 professors
What is a roadscape?

- A roadscape is a particular stretch of road associated with a landscape
- Definition had changed over the years
  - Landscape is dynamic
- 1950s cultural geographer J.B. Jackson defines landscape as “the terrain and the people within it”
- 1990s landscape architecture Professor John Lyle defines landscape as “the physical manifestation of an ecosystem”
- Roadscapes contain multiple dimensions that can be mapped and assessed
Roadscape Project

- Split into groups of 4-5
- Each group collects different information
- Information collected at different sites around the country
Buffalo Gap National Grassland, South Dakota
Devils Tower, Wyoming
Yankee Jim Canyon, Yellowstone
Pigeon Forge, Tennessee
Mark Twain Monument, Missouri
Ames Monument, Wyoming
Site Plan

- Layout of the area
- Key measurements
- Buildings or landmarks on site

Site: Buffalo Gap National Grassland, SD

Drawing by Bailey Aldridge
Section Drawing

- Relationships of road to surrounding area
- Key measurements

Site: Wall Drug, SD

Drawing by Evan Todd
Plants

- Inventory of vegetation on site
Materials

- Inventory of constructed materials on site
Perspective Drawings

• Drawings of important views, viewsheds, or structures

Site: Ames Monument, WY

Drawing by Yichen Li
Phenomenology

- Sensory experience of the site
- Time of day
- Weather
- Atmosphere
- Busyness
Photography

• Photos from around the site
Culture

• Context and history of the area
• How the site is used
GIS Coordinates

• Collected by professors

• Pinpoint of location in order to find USGS maps online
In Between Trips

- Information sifted and compiled onto CyBox for everyone to have access
Second Trip

- Same information collected, but groups switch topics
Picking sites

• Had not been introduced to the project yet
• Mostly selecting sites based off memories
• “White Santa” format
**Project**

- **Project Statement:**
  - “Design an integrated roadside composition of landscape and structure”
  - “Respond to immediate surroundings”
  - “Interpret broader landscape context”

- **Requirements:**
  - Serve as a rest stop or viewing area in landscape
  - Cannot be over road or on both sides of road
  - Must fit 2-5 parking spaces and 2-15 people
  - Walls cannot fully surround structure
  - Must be ADA-accessible
Wildlife Crossing in Wyoming
Roadside Shelter

• Shelter draws parallels to actual wildlife crossing
• Designed to respond to site and landscape
  • Regionalism
• Shelter more designed than actual vernacular crossing
• Able to use information from roadscape collections
  • Plants
  • Material
  • Culture
Preliminary Study Models
Preliminary Study Models
Final Design
Final Design