

Cabot Park Outdoor Classroom/Pavilion:

A collaboration with the City of Newton and the Community Build Studio at Massachusetts College of Art + Design

To: Newton Parks & Recreation Commission
From: Paul Hajian/ Head of Graduate Program in Architecture
Date: February 23, 2022

As an architect and teacher engaged in working with communities across Massachusetts, I met with the Mayor in the summer of 2021 to discuss an opportunity to collaborate with MassArt’s Community Build Studio. Cabot Park was proposed as a realistic possibility for this project.

The program would be a multi-purpose outdoor classroom and small pavilion to be sited in the park. This a good fit with the initiatives that the City has supported in the creation of flexible places for residents to use. The location is for concept and the initial planning process (see some preliminary areas to consider below in red.)

The Community Build Studio is a design/build project for a summer collaboration where our master’s level students participate and lead meetings with members of the community, interact with each of the City departments, and present the developed designs for the project. The first month is an intense design process and then the construction part of the project commences—all to be completed by mid-August.

The site proposed presents many possibilities with links to the Cabot School, local pre-school programs, and the neighborhood. There is an adjacent elderly housing community for possible multi-generational activities. MassArt’s community-based approach to learning is essential to the education of an architect and this proposal to work creatively and collaboratively with the vibrant Newton Parks Program, presents a beneficial opportunity for everyone. Below is a link to some typical past partner projects for your review:

<https://massart.edu/communitybuild>



Cabot Park proposed locations

The Master of **Architecture Program** at **Massachusetts College of Art and Design** is pleased to announce the third project of its Community Design Build Program

DENNIS C. HALEY SCHOOL PROJECT



The School

The **Haley School** is a learning community that promotes place based education. Students are encouraged to create long term memories by **working with thier hands** and use all areas of the school to be places in which learning can occur. The **schoolyard** is considered to be a classroom where students learn about plants and organisms in their natural habitat. This type of curriculum along with a strong affiliation with the **Boston Nature Center** supports the growth of young enviromental activists.

Donations

We are currently seeking building materials, labor and financial donations.

For more info contact:
haleyschoolproject@gmail.com

Contributions can be made to:

Friends of the Haley Public School

Please mail to:

MassArt Graduate Office
Attn: Liz Hidalgo
621 Huntington Ave.
Boston, MA 02115

All contributions are tax deductible

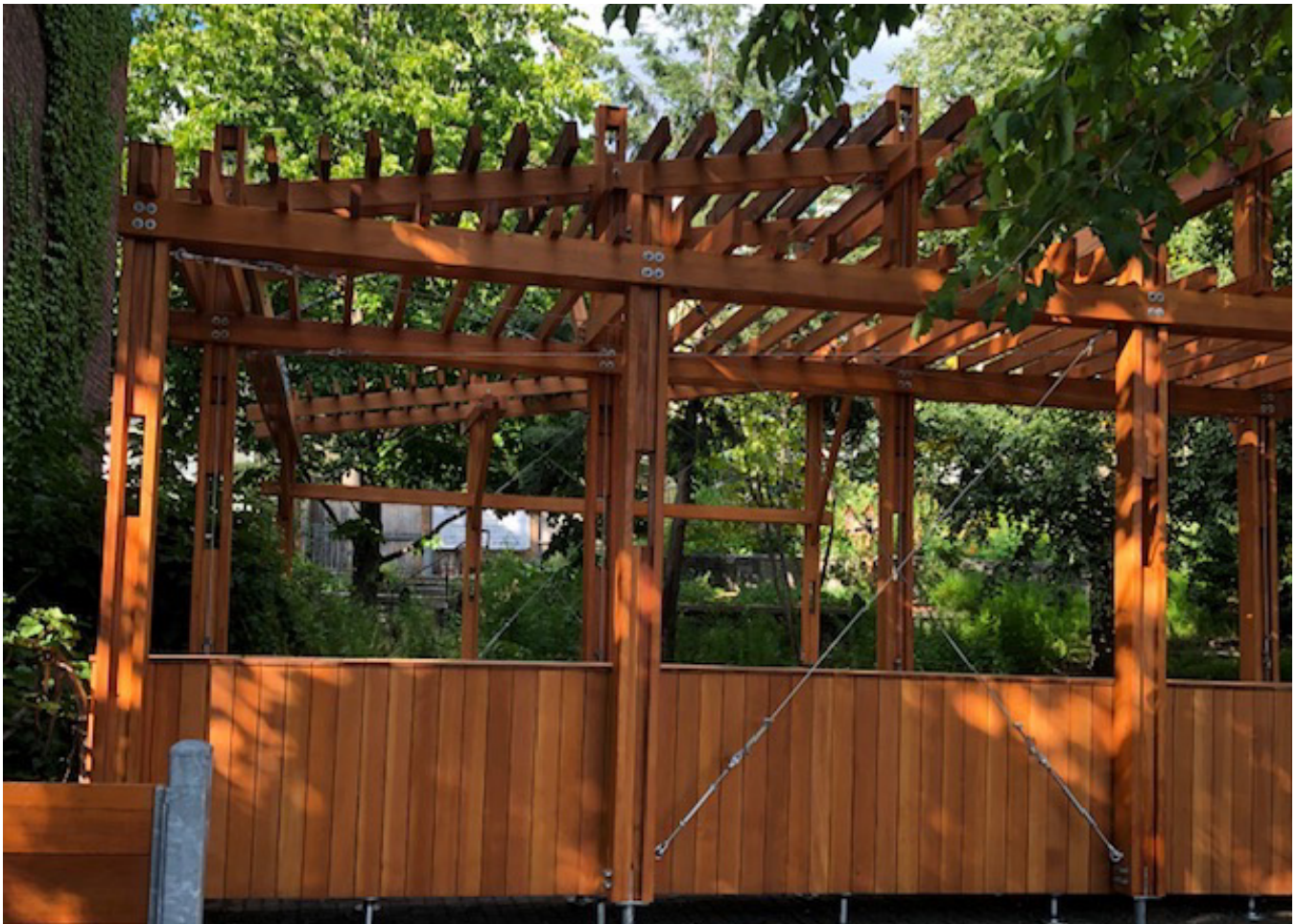
The Project

Our project adheres to the Haley school's learning process. The design includes a bridge, an outdoor classroom and a small tool shed with a storm water collection built into the roof. Each structure is a new element to the landscape connecting the classroom to the play area and fosters the Haley school's interest in nature.

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Construction in process



Somerville Growing Center: Storage units and trellis



Somerville Growing Center: Gathering space