

ABSTRACT

CREATIVE PROJECT: BUILDING TOMORROW: USING LANDSCAPE
ARCHITECTURE TO IMPROVE EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES IN AFRICA

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In 1997, the Ugandan Government introduced legislation mandating Universal Primary Education (UPE) and the right of every child in the nation to a free Primary School level education. This mandate, and the subsequent increase in enrollment, along with a revised primary school curriculum, has led to public schools straining to cope and a decline in student educational test scores. While more classrooms and schools are being built to accommodate the increase in student enrollment, instruction in curriculum subject areas like health and physical education, agriculture and the environment remain unaddressed. The purpose of this project was to redesign the landscape of a school in rural Uganda so that it better addressed the needs of the curriculum, teachers, community members and students of that school. This process involved a coproduction approach to the design that included interviews with teachers and community members, as well as the creation of artwork from the P5 students attending the school. The information gathered during the interviews was combined with other site analysis data to develop a site program containing the goals and

objectives that guided the design process. The products resulting from this process include a master plan for the school site, selected section elevations depicting features found in the proposed site, and a description of how these features improve the educational opportunities for the students in the school.