

The Fine Arts Center

Greenville County Schools
102 Pine Knoll Drive
Greenville, SC 29609



Field Observation + Park Design

Following a kick-off lecture by [Justin Brown](#), of [MASS Design Group](#), the architecture studios took an [experiential learning trip to Montgomery, AL](#). Students visited, observed, and sketched several award winning architectural works. First, students toured the recently completed Freedom Monument Sculpture Park, designed by OLIN. Then, we visited the Davis Architect designed Legacy Museum. Lastly, we toured one of the 21st Century's most recognized memorials, the [National Memorial for Peace and Justice](#) by MASS Design Group. Through the three spaces, students experienced landscape, architecture, museum, exhibit, and memorial designs, all part of the curriculum in the four years at the Fine Arts Center Architecture Program.

The primary project and lesson presented here relate to Field Observations as precedents for future park design work. The [Freedom Monument Sculpture Park](#) was the perfect setting for students to take observational notes about the park's design. Students were asked to pay attention to material changes, ways the landscape architects created space for observation and reflection, how the sculptures helped to share the story, and what emotional connection they made to the space or works of art. Additionally students were asked to sketch the works with which they connected.

From this research, students began the design work for an outdoor classroom space for [League Academy](#). They were able to present the project to the administration for review and are awaiting comments.

Connection to Strategic Plan:

Goal 2: Programming

- With the assistance of a variety of funding sources, we will ensure all areas of study are augmented by high-quality educational opportunities beyond the basic curriculum, including guest artist experiences, masterclasses, field trips, and individual extracurricular programs.

Connection to SC Graduate:

Investigate Through Inquiry:

- Collect and analyze data.
- Share findings.

Engage as a Citizen:

- Investigate enduring problems.
- Take action to improve my community.

Reason Quantitatively:

- Analyze and interpret data.
- Solve problems.

Connection to SC Design Standards:

Artistic Processes: Connecting - I can relate artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external context.

De.C.AM.7.1 - I can explain how the designer's choices on the current design challenge reflect influences of design solutions..

Field sketching at the Alabama Capitol Building



Observational Sketching Project Statement

Architecture Students and Faculty outside the [Davis Architects designed Legacy Museum](#). Students were able to experience the thoughtful design of the exhibits, where almost every space is embodied with information through the design and layout.



Additional Links:

[Park Project](#)

[Lesson Plan for Field Observation](#)

[Precedent Study Observation Worksheet](#)

[Student Work Example of Field Observation](#)

[Student Park Project Work](#)