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2023 AIA Fellowship

Candidate Christian B. Sottile
Organization Sottile & Sottile
Location Savannah, Georgia
Chapter AIA Georgia;

Category of Nomination

Object 1 > Urban Design

Summary Statement

A global-award winning architect, former university dean and passionate champion of Savannah's National Landmark Historic District, Christian Sottile unites preservation, urbanism, architecture and art to shape policy and shift paradigms for historic environments.

Education

Syracuse University | Fellowship conducted in Florence, Italy, 1998-1999 (2 years), Master of Architecture & Urban Design (M.Arch II)

Savannah College of Art and Design | Savannah, Georgia, 1993-1998 (5 years), Master of Architecture (M.Arch); Valedictorian of graduating class

Licensed in:

State of Georgia (License No. RA011289)

Employment

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:

Sottile & Sottile, Urban Design & Civic Architecture | Principal | 2000-present (22 years +)

Cowart Group Architects | Lead Designer | 1992-1998 (6 years)

John C. LeBey, FAIA | Apprentice | 1989-1992 (3 years)

ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

Savannah College of Art and Design | Professor of Architecture and Urban Design | 1999-present (23 years +)

Savannah College of Art and Design | Dean of the School of Building Arts | 2011-2017 (6 years)

September 15, 2022

RK Stewart, FAIA, Chair
2023 Jury of Fellows
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Chair Stewart and Members of the Jury:

It is my privilege to serve as Sponsor for **Christian Sottile, AIA**, who is being nominated by the Georgia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for elevation to the College of Fellows.

I have known Christian for 30+ years. I have seen firsthand how his visionary leadership has transformed the nation's largest National Historic Landmark District and galvanized the next generation of architects. It is my strong professional and personal belief that Christian's civic contributions, design work and pedagogical achievements merit his elevation.

Christian is a proven consensus-builder. When Savannah sought to grow its historic core after 150 years, he authored several landmark city plans, including the Civic Master Plan for the East Riverfront, a recipient of the AIA 2010 Institute Honor Awards for Regional and Urban Design. Christian's elegant solution establishes a permanent civic network of urban streets, parks, public spaces, and fine-grained city blocks, while providing for flexibility within the private realm for authentic urban evolution over time.

Among Christian's most notable achievements is the SCAD Museum of Art, which earned a 2014 AIA Institute Honor Award for Architecture, as well as a National Preservation Award from the National Trust. In this new construction, he intervened to adaptively reuse the only extant antebellum railroad complex in the country, creating a study in contrasts between the historic ruin and the spare architecture of the new museum.

His landmark redevelopment of Plant Riverside District weaves together a century-old power plant into the urban fabric of one of the Nation's largest Historic Landmark Districts. The resultant work advances the practice of contemporary preservation and has been recognized with a 2021 Global Excellence Award from the Urban Land Institute.

As professor and former dean of the School of Building Arts at the Savannah College of Art & Design, Christian is also shaping the next generation of architects, bringing to bear an interdisciplinary approach that dissolves boundaries between art, architecture, preservation, and urban design. He recently led the architecture program in partnering with NCARB to inaugurate the Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure. Christian has connected industry with academia, and was instrumental in hosting the National AIAS Forum in Savannah, weaving students into the design of the city. Sottile later led the visionary student collaboration, SCADpad, a micro-housing and preservation concept for center cities that received global acclaim.

For his outstanding contribution to the profession as an urban interventionist, historic preservationist, global award-winning architect and university educator, I commend Christian Sottile to the Jury with enthusiasm.

Sincerely,



Gerald D. Cowart, FAIA

5618 White Bluff Road
Email: gcowart@cowartgroup.com

Savannah, Georgia 31405

Office: (912) 401-0538
Cell: (912) 658-2494



A global-award winning architect, former university dean and passionate champion of Savannah's National Landmark Historic District, Christian Sottile unites preservation, urbanism, architecture and art to shape policy and shift paradigms for historic environments.

Preserving Place and Time

Classically trained at age 13 under master architect John C. LeBey, FAIA, Christian Sottile learned that Savannah, much like his native Florence, Italy, is an unlimited environment: a humane and universal context for discovery, connection and progress.

For the past three decades, Savannah has formed the backdrop of Sottile's professional and personal life, a home for his practice and a foothold for his work in the world. Across his portfolio of projects, he applies timeless principles and modern science to approach urban design from a regenerative perspective, evolving the city while protecting and respecting its rich history.

A Steward of Savannah

At an infrastructure level, Sottile's re-authorship of Savannah's Height Map and National Landmark Historic District Large Scale Development Ordinance identified 38 lost streets and lanes for recovery and continues to protect Savannah as a precious resource. This advanced code informs contemporary larger-scale development, preserves the city's human scale and urban pattern and promotes authentic evolution over time.

A true steward of James Oglethorpe's celebrated city plan, Sottile led a public charrette process that resulted in the restoration of Ellis Square, one of four original city wards. He also authored plans for The Civic Master Plan for the East Riverfront, the first extension of the historic city plan in more than 150 years, which received a 2010 National AIA Honor Award for Regional and Urban Design.

To reestablish two neighborhoods lost to urban renewal in 1963, he authored the Civic Master Plan for I-16 Highway Removal, which calls for the removal of elevated highway infrastructure from the city center. This plan, which was adopted by Savannah's mayor and city council, will be transformative to the urban landscape, repairing the walkable street grid, restoring public space and lost building frontages, and reconnecting isolated and disadvantaged neighborhoods with the economic and social life of the city center.

Designing with Integrity

Beyond the civic realm, Sottile's architectural sensibilities are exemplified in the design of the SCAD Museum of Art, which transformed the National Landmark ruins of the Central of Georgia Railroad complex (the largest antebellum railroad complex in the U.S.) into a contemporary art museum that fosters a dialogue between the past, the present and the future.

More recently, his work on Savannah's Plant Riverside District preserves and adaptively rehabilitates one of the nation's first power plants. Extending Savannah's renowned river walk by a quarter mile, this 10-year initiative creates new public plazas and reconnects the city with the river after more than a century of isolation and disuse.

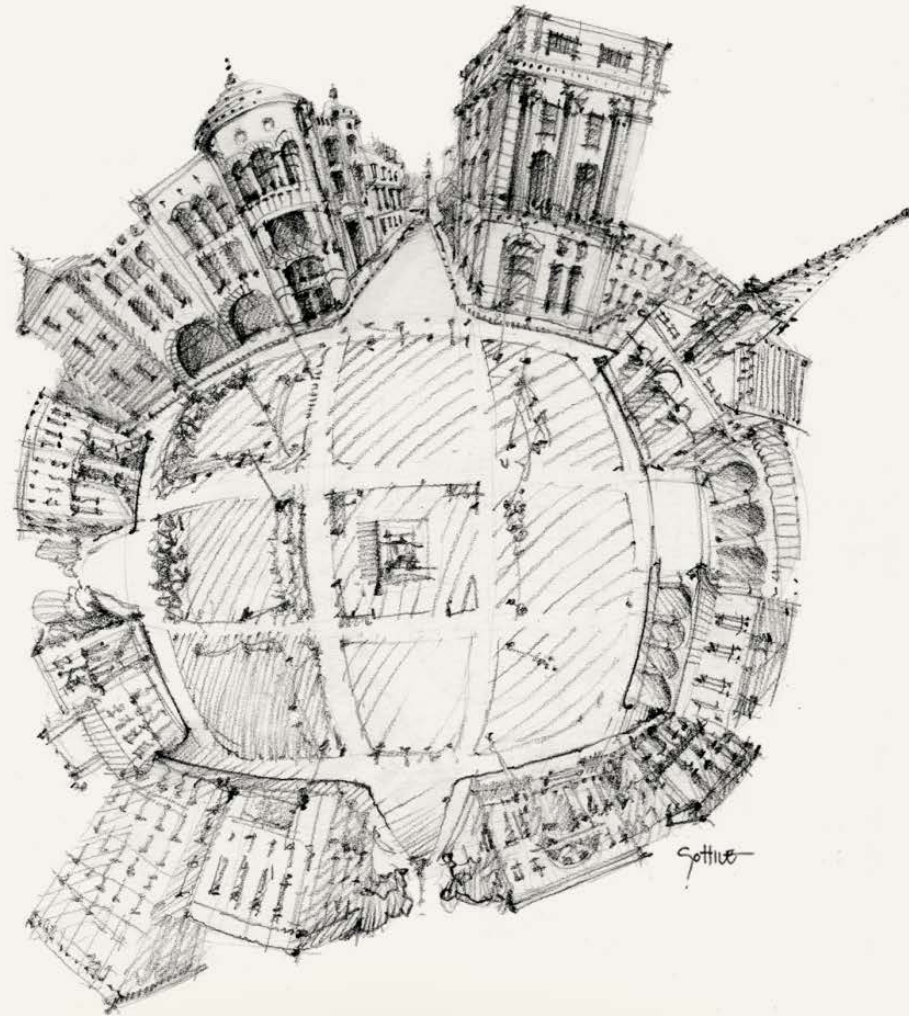
Building a More Humane Future

Sottile has taught architecture courses and served in academic leadership roles at the Savannah College of Art and Design for more than 20 years. He regularly leads student delegations to AIA national conferences, he hosted a pioneering national AIAS Forum fully integrated into the urban fabric of Savannah, and he worked closely with NCARB to develop an inclusive, progressive Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure.

He is the recipient of the 2014 National AIA Young Architect Award, and his work has been recognized with three National AIA Awards, a 2013 National Preservation Award from the National Trust and the 2021 Global Award for Excellence from the Urban Land Institute.

Connecting Generations

Driven to nurture a sense of professional responsibility in the next generation of architects, Sottile is led by instinct to teach, share, engage and build consensus. In his view as an educator and as a practitioner, preservation and stewardship of the built and natural environment are table stakes. Fully realized spaces are inherently inclusive. That Sottile's work is concentrated in his adopted hometown affords a network of organic connections and infuses his projects with commitment, accountability and pride of place. Here, as ever, urban design is a contextual undertaking, and the form and proportion, rhythm and grit of Savannah are the architect's milieu.



Merits of an Urban Campus, Savannah, Georgia

“American urbanism moves into a future that will require a return to the human scale, walkability, and the application of conscious artistry to inform us that the places we call home are worthy of our affection. Few professionals I know have done this better than Christian Sottile.”

James Howard Kunstler | Author
The Geography of Nowhere and *The Long Emergency*

2 Accomplishments



2.1 Significant Work: Urban Design & Master Planning



Urban Reclamation
Elbert and Orleans Square
Principal-in-Charge
Savannah, Georgia
2021-Present



**Historic Rail, Waterworks
& Canal District**
Canal District Civic Master Plan
Lead Urban Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2016-Present




**Reclamation of
Industrial Port Lands**
Union Pier
Design Architect
Charleston, South Carolina
2021-Present



Urban Mapping
Atlanta City Design
Principal-in-Charge
Atlanta, Georgia
2017-2018
The Atlanta City Design



**Urban Campus
Planning & Adaptation**
Independent Presbyterian Campus
Principal-in-Charge
Savannah, Georgia
2014-Present
AIA South Georgia Award 



Historic Village Extension
East Village Master Plan
Principal-in-Charge
Cashiers, North Carolina
2021-Present



**Historic Industrial
Reclamation & Reuse**
Charleston Navy Yard
Lead Urban Designer
North Charleston, South Carolina
2017-Present



**Urban Regeneration
Master Plan**
East Broughton Street
Principal-in-Charge
Savannah, Georgia
2014-Present



**Historic Industrial
Reclamation & Reuse**
La Pedrera
Design Architect
Guatemala City, Guatemala
2018-Present



**Reclamation of
Industrial Land**
The Nations
Design Architect
Nashville, Tennessee
2017-Present



**Civic Master Plan
Neighborhood Reclamation**
I-16 Highway Removal
Lead Urban Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2010-Present
American Planning Association 



**Civic Master Plan
Urban Extension**
Savannah East Riverfront
Lead Urban Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2006-Present
AIA National Award 



**Urban Riverfront &
Harbor Development**
Savannah Harbor
Design Architect
Savannah, Georgia
2018-Present

“Christian is a uniquely talented architect and designer. I have never worked with anyone as capable of human-scaled design and, importantly, the exceptionally clear and inspiring communication of ideas.”

Timothy J. Keane
Director of Planning and Development
City of Boise, Idaho, USA
Former Planning Commissioner, City of Atlanta

2 Accomplishments



2.1 Significant Work: Urban Design & Master Planning



Civic Master Plan Downtown Expansion

West Boundary Savannah

Principal-in-Charge
Savannah, Georgia
2015-2018

“His commitment to advancing the cause of design as a tangible influence on the human experience continues to ripple through the students he has taught over the years and the professionals who have worked with him, myself among them.”

Anthony Cissell, AIA | Principal of Urban Planning
Lessard Design, Washington, DC



Rail Corridor Planning & Public Greenway

Lowcountry Lowline

Principal-in-Charge
Charleston, South Carolina
2017-2018



Historic Neighborhood Planning & Adaptation

Christ Church Urban Campus

Principal-in-Charge
Savannah, Georgia
2013-2015



Analysis, Restoration & Redevelopment

Ellis Square, Original Ward

Lead Urban Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2004-2014

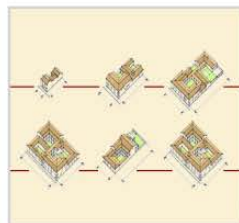
CNU Charter Award



Downtown Assessment Development Strategies

Central City Roanoke

Urban Designer
Roanoke, Virginia
2010-2017



Master Planning & Architectural Infill

Finca El Portal

Design Architect
Antigua, Guatemala
2015-2016



Civic Master Plan 200 Acres of Riverfront

Hutchinson Island Riverfront

Lead Urban Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2012-2014

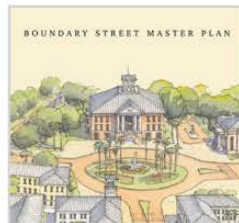


District Revitalization East Central Neighborhood

Upper Peninsula Infill

Design Architect
Charleston, South Carolina
2016-Present

Caropolis Award



Suburban Retrofit Planning & Implementation

Boundary Street Corridor

City Architect
Beaufort, South Carolina
2007-2015



Urban Boulevard Master Plan

Second Street Boulevard

Principal-in-Charge
Macon, Georgia
2010-2012



Historic Resources Planning & Adaptation

St. John's Episcopal Campus

Principal-in-Charge
Savannah, Georgia
2015-2016

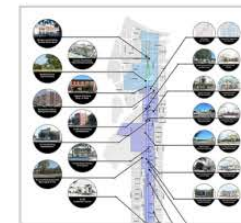


Urban Analysis & Architectural Infill

Plan El Paso

Design Architect
El Paso, Texas
2014-2015

CNU Charter Award



Design Assistance Public Program

Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

Lead Urban Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2005-2012

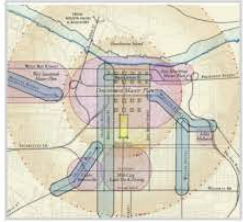
APA Award Winning Program



2 Accomplishments



2.1 Significant Work: Urban Design & Master Planning



Master Plan, National Historic Landmark District
Savannah, Georgia
 Urban Designer
 Savannah, Georgia
 2008-2012



Historic District Planning
River Street Vision Plan
 Principal-in-Charge
 Savannah, Georgia
 2007-2012



Town Extension
Historic Bluffton
 Lead Urban Designer
 Bluffton, South Carolina
 2000-2008



New District Planning
Long Savannah
 Design Architect
 Charleston, South Carolina
 2008-2010



Civic Master Plan
Mixed-Use Infill
Savannah International Maritime Trade Center
 Lead Urban Designer
 Savannah, Georgia
 2007-2012



Regional Master Plan
South Iredell County
 Lead Urban Designer
 Mount Mourne, North Carolina
 2007-2009



New Neighborhood Planning
Silk Hope, Ford River Club
 Lead Urban Designer
 Richmond Hill, Georgia
 2017-Present



Downtown Master Plan
Historic Mooresville
 Lead Urban Designer
 Mooresville, North Carolina
 2006-2010



APA Award Winner

“I want to thank you for inviting us to participate in the charrette process, and for reminding all of the potential and importance of playful and exuberant skylines that have and should continue to make our city beautiful.”

Tory Parish, AIA

City Architect & Preservation Officer
 Urban Design and Preservation Division
 Charleston, South Carolina



Urban Infill Master Plan
One West Victory Drive
 Lead Urban Designer
 Savannah, Georgia
 2009-2012



Economic Corridors & Greenway Planning
West Savannah Greenway
 Lead Urban Designer
 Savannah, Georgia
 2006-2008



Mixed-Use Community Planning
Palmetto Bluff
 Design Partner
 Bluffton, South Carolina
 2003-2011



42 Block District Plan
Starland Design District
 Lead Urban Designer
 Savannah, Georgia
 2000-2010
 Georgia Trust
 New York Times



2 Accomplishments



2.1 Significant Work: Historic Preservation & Urban Transformation



Mixed-Use Adaptation Historic Power Plant

Plant Riverside District

Design Architect
Savannah, Georgia
2013-2022



ULI Global Excellence Award
AIA Aspire, GA, NC, SC, KY
AIA Georgia Honor Award
CNU Grand Prize Winner

“Nobody understands Savannah better than Christian Sottile and we work with him because of it. His fingerprints are on essentially every urban design project undertaken by the City of Savannah over the past 15 years.

Christian is able to see possibilities where others see roadblocks. He places our plan in historic and geographic context, allowing us to view today’s projects through the lens of a broad continuum.”

Edna Branch Jackson | Former Mayor
City of Savannah, Georgia



Mixed-Use Urban Infill

Courier Square

Design Architect
Charleston, South Carolina
2022-Present



Mixed-Use Urban Infill

741 Meeting

Design Architect
Charleston, South Carolina
2018-2022



Adaptive Use & Evolutionary Additions

Windrose Hotel
Design Architect
Savannah, Georgia
2016-2019
Dezeen Magazine



de
zeen



Historic Industrial Adaptation & Infill

Standard Oil Refinery

Design Architect
Charleston, South Carolina
2014-2020



Mixed-Use Urban Infill

655 East Bay Street

Design Architect
Charleston, South Carolina
2016-2021

Carolopolis Award



Restoration of Historic Beaux Arts Landmark

Armstrong College
Architect of Record
Savannah, Georgia
2017-2019
ICAA Award



Mixed-Use Urban Infill

Foundry Point

Design Architect
Charleston, South Carolina
2015-2020



Urban Block Restoration

West Broad Street

Design Architect
Savannah, Georgia
2015-2020

Georgia Trust Award



Preservation & Adaptation

West Taylor Street

Architect of Record
Savannah, Georgia
2015-2018

AIA Georgia Award



2 Accomplishments



2.1 Significant Work: Historic Preservation & Urban Transformation



Mixed-Use Urban Infill
Charleston Steel
Design Architect &
Lead Urban Designer
Charleston, South Carolina
2017-2021



**Urban Preservation
& Adaptive Use**
Brady Street Revitalization
Architect of Record
Savannah, Georgia
2004-2012
New York Times



**Work-Force Housing
Urban Infill**
55 Romney Street
Design Architect
Charleston, South Carolina
2018-Present



**Historic Landmark
Revitalization Plan**
Candler Hospital
Lead Urban Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2010-2012



Headquarters Master Plan
Urban Electric Co.
Design Architect
Charleston, South Carolina
2010-2013



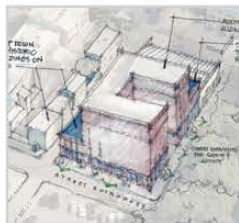
**Work-Force Housing
Urban Infill**
One Cool Blow Street
Design Architect
Charleston, South Carolina
2008-2010
Carolopolis Award



2.1 Significant Work: Urban Research, Codes & Ordinances



**Historic District Ordinance
Large-Scale Development**
National Landmark District
Principal-in-Charge
Savannah, Georgia
2007-2012
American Planning Association



Urban Research
*Savannah Architecture and
Urbanism Resource Manual*
Principal-in-Charge
Savannah, Georgia
2007-2010



**National Historic District
Height Development Map**
National Landmark District
Principal-in-Charge
Savannah, Georgia
2004-2006



Education Exhibition
*Savannah National Landmark
Historic District, Massie Center*
Program Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2005-2007
Historic Savannah



“Christian not only teaches people how to read the language of a city, its architecture and civic structure – he embodies the very best philosophies of city making and the building arts in his professional work as well. I continue to learn from his approach, or process in design. He has a rigor and methodology of applying principles and studiously measuring and analyzing the parts as well as the whole of a place.”

Lauren Hawley
Former Student, & Senior Associate, Perkins+Will

2 Accomplishments



2.1 Significant Work: Civic Building Design



Restoration of National Historic Landmark

Basilica Cathedral Savannah
Regina Ceoli Hall
Architect of Record
Savannah, Georgia
2020-2022



Mixed-Use Infill Historic Urban Ward

Grand Bohemian
Design Architect
Charlotte, North Carolina
2016-2020



Historic Museum Campus Planning

Telfair Museum of Art
Lead Urban Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2010-2012



Urban Park & Lodge

Falls Park East Gateway
Design Architect &
Lead Urban Designer
Greenville, South Carolina
2015-2022



Education & Cultural

Tybee Island Marine Science Center
Design Architect
Savannah, Georgia
2015-2020

AIA Georgia Award



Contemporary Design & Preservation

SCAD Museum of Art
Design Architect
Savannah, Georgia
2009-2014

AIA National Award



“I have known Christian Sottile for years both in relation to the American and European contexts. In the United States, during my visits as Visiting Professor in architecture, I had the opportunity to know him as an enlightened and innovative teacher and university dean who was largely responsible for the international prestige of the School of Building Arts at the Savannah College of Art and Design. I was also able to admire him as a designer of beautiful works, including the SCAD Museum of Art and many other preservation and urban design projects.”

Andrea Ponsi, Architetto | Florence, Italy
Author of *Drawing Analogies*

2 Accomplishments



2.1 Significant Work: Streets, Landscapes & Public Places



Public Realm & Streetscape Design
Savannah West End Riverwalk
Lead Urban Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2016-2022
CNU Charter Award



**Community Garden
Historic Rail Bridge**
SCAD Community Garden
Architect of Record
Savannah, Georgia
2012-2013



**Public Realm
& Streetscape Design**
West Oglethorpe
Lead Urban Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2015-2018
AIA South Georgia



**Streetscape Design
& Mixed-Use Planning**
Unity Park and Mayberry Street
Lead Urban Designer
Greenville, South Carolina
2020-Present



Streetscape & Transit Design
*Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
Walkability Plan*
Lead Urban Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2008-2010



**Public Realm
& Urban Design**
Alex Townsend Courtyard
Lead Urban Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2010-2012



**Public Realm
& Streetscape Design**
Barnard Street and Ellis Square
Lead Urban Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2012-2013
CNU Charter Award



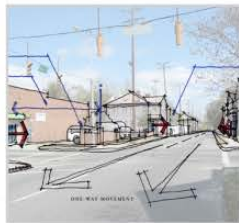
**Monument Lighting
Master Plan**
National Historic District
Lead Urban Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2014-2016



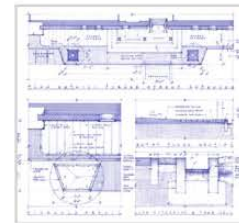
Intermodal Transit Design
Central Ferry Landing
Design Architect
Savannah, Georgia
2008-2010



**Historic District
Parking & Transportation**
Broughton and Johnson Square
Lead Urban Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2014-2015



**One Way Streets
Urban Impact Analysis**
Price and East Broad Streets
Lead Urban Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2005-2008
Published in *Walkable City*



**Public Realm
& Streetscape Design**
Turner Boulevard
Lead Urban Designer
Savannah, Georgia
2010-2012
CNU Charter Award



“Christian lives his scholarship, practice, and art in and out of the classroom, shaping the minds of his undergraduate and graduate student just as he shapes the city in which they live and learn”

Paula S. Wallace, Hon. AIA | President and Co-Founder
Savannah College of Art and Design

2 Accomplishments



2.1 Significant Work: Teaching and Research

SCAD

The University for Creative Careers

Dean, School of Building Arts

Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD)

Led Undergraduate and Graduate Programs in Urban Design, Architecture, Historic Preservation, Interior Design, Furniture Design and Architectural History
Savannah, Georgia, Atlanta Georgia, Lacoste France,
2011-2017

Professor of Architecture and Urban Design

Savannah College of Art and Design

Focus of Teaching:

- *Reading Urban Form*
- *Off-Campus Seminars in Italy and France*
- *Advanced Architectural Drawing*
- *Interior-Exterior Perspective*
- *Emerging Urban Issues Seminar*
- *Graduate Urban Design Studio*

1999-Present



Visiting Critic

University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, Indiana

Graduate Architecture Studios
2017, 2019



Visiting Critic

Syracuse University; Florence, Italy Campus
Syracuse, New York

Urban Design Studios
2003-2005

Established Scholarships

John C. LeBey, FAIA, Scholarship for Architecture and Urban Design

The John C. LeBey, FAIA, Scholarship was established by Christian Sottile, AIA at the Savannah College of Art and Design in honor of his mentor. It supports students in architecture and urban design. Candidates expand their commitment to the intuitive capacity of art in the making of architecture.

Established 2010

Thesis Advisement Committees

Graduate Thesis at SCAD

For more than 20 years, Christian Sottile, AIA has served on graduate thesis committees for candidates in the professional architecture program at SCAD. His mentored students have gone on to professional careers worldwide, from Central America to Singapore.

2000-Present

“I am honored and privileged for the scholarship you awarded me. This gratefulness has become an incentive to apply all my efforts and talents in following a long lasting dream of making a positive difference in architectural practice in my country.”

Ana Amelia Batlle | Dominican Republic
2017-2018 Scholarship Recipient

“Professor Sottile is by far one of those rare professors who opens your eyes and your mind. He is the reason why this Italy trip is profoundly effective and unique.”

*“You have given me hope that thinking big is not an exercise in lunacy, but in lucidity...
Molto grazie”*

Students | Italy Program
Savannah College of Art and Design



2 Accomplishments



2.1 Significant Work: Education Leadership



National Student Exposure
AIAS National Forum, Savannah
Christian Sottile developed a partnership through SCAD that had never been attempted in the 56-year history of AIAS FORUM, the annual national meeting of the AIAS. Through his leadership, an unprecedented level of collaboration was achieved among students, faculty, administrators, and AIAS executive leadership, resulting in the first fully integrated educational track at a National Forum to offer CEU and IDP Credits, providing a model for future National Forums. 2012-2013



Urban Design Collaborative
SCADpad Micro-Housing Adaptive Use and Preservation of Mid-Century Parking Structures
Sottile's work received worldwide recognition as a unique solution to growing urban housing challenges. SCADpad was featured in TIME Magazine, Dwell, Fast Company, CNN, Architectural Record, USA Today, and NBC's TODAY show. It was featured at the World Architecture Festival and received the First Place Award for Urban Design from World Architecture News. SCADpad was recognized with an AIA Georgia Honor Award. 2014-2017



Future of Architectural Licensure
Inaugural Partner of NCARB Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure
Sottile partnered with NCARB to introduce the unprecedented Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure. Close collaboration at the local, state and national levels built relationships that advanced this ground breaking initiative. Full support and endorsement was gained from the Georgia State Board of Licensure and AIA Georgia. 2014-2017



Professional Preparation
Accreditation with Distinctions
Sottile led NAAB reaccreditation resulting in the first maximum 8-year accreditation term to be awarded in the program's history, placing SCAD among the first programs in the nation to receive this distinction. In all, six distinctions were commended that highlight professionalism: Leadership and Practice, Collaboration, Client Role in Architecture, Project Management, Practice Management, Legal Responsibilities, Ethics and Professional Judgment. 2012-2013



Urban Analysis
Merits of an Urban Campus
Sottile's research demonstrated how traditionally insular college quads have been reinvented on Savannah squares to become part of the public realm. The result is a campus network that is experienced by nodes throughout the Historic District. Reinforcing the urban plan has created remarkable growth while forming a bond between the character of the city and identity of its students. The submitted project was recognized with a National AIA Honor Award for Urban Design. 1997-1998

“We appreciate the effort and substance of your proposal and its creative integration of experience and examination into your existing, NAAB-accredited curriculum.

The opportunity to enhance preparation for licensure through a concurrent approach to education, experience, and examination, and reduce the time to licensure, is one step closer to reality.”

Dennis Ward | NCARB President
Ronald Blicht, *Chair Licensure Task Force*

2 Accomplishments



2.1 Significant Work: Professional Service

Professional Membership and Service



AIA National Committee on Design
2020-Present

AIA Georgia At-Large Board Member
2021-Present

AIA Savannah Legacy Charrette Chair
2009

AIA Savannah Education Chair
2003-2004

AIA Savannah Legacy Charrette Chair
2001

AIA Savannah Urban Design Committee
2000-2002

American College of Building Arts
Curriculum Development 2022-2024

Society of Architectural Historians
Member 2012-Present

Institute for Classical Architecture and Art
Member 2012-Present

National Charrette Institute
Member 2011-Present

Savannah College of Art and Design
Urban Design Advisory Board 2011

Creative Coast, Board of Directors
2010-2014

Historic Preservation Commission
Chatham County, Georgia, 2006-2009

City Architect, Beaufort, South Carolina
2006-2016

Crescent Resources, Design Review Board
2004-2011

National Trust for Historic Preservation
Member 2006-Present

American Planning Association
Member 2004-Present

**National Council of Architectural
Registration Boards**
Member 2001-Present

“My experiences with Christian as co-chair for the AIA Committee on Design are testimonial to both his knowledge and advocacy in the field of urban design. Through his leadership and in collaboration with our awards nomination subcommittee, both UACDC, and Mayor Joe Riley received the 2022 Collaborative Achievement Award, and the larger AIA community engaged with them through AIA programming.”

Craig Brandt, FAIA
AIA Committee on Design
Co-Chair Collaborative Achievement Award

Professional Chair and Jury Service



AIA National Committee on Design
Collaborative Achievement Award
Co-Chair 2021-2023

AIA Maryland Honor Awards
Design Awards Juror
2021

AIA Charleston
Deans Forum, Southeast Region
2015

Fentress Global Challenge
Urban Design Juror
2012

Italian Cultural Institute
Slow Cities Exhibition, New York
2012

AIA Legacy Charrette
Elbert Square, Savannah, Georgia
2009

Institute for Classical Architecture & Art
Design Awards Juror
2008

Historic Savannah Foundation
Preservation Week Juror
2004

5th Savannah Symposium
Building in the Public Realm
2007

4th Savannah Symposium
Architecture, Modernism and Place
2005

2 Accomplishments



2.1 Significant Work: Speaking, Presentations & Exhibitions



**The American
Institute
of Architects**

AIA Georgia

Christopher Kelley Leadership Development, 2020

AIA Savannah

Preservation for the Future, 2019

AIA National Conference

Small Spaces, Big Ideas, 2017

AIA National Conference

Architect LIVE, 2017

AIA South Atlantic Conference

Plant Riverside, 2016

AIA Wisconsin, State Conference

A New Humanism, 2016

AIA National Conference

SCADpad Revealed, 2015

AIA National Conference

Architect LIVE, 2015



**Urban Land
Institute**

ULI National Conference

Plant Riverside District, 2022

ULI Carolinas Conference

Greenville East Gateway Master Plan, 2022

Urban Land Institute

The Next Big Ideas, 2008



American Planning Association

APA National Conference

SCADpad, 2014

APA National Conference

Architectural Standards, 2006



**THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS**

AIAS National Forum

A New Humanism, 2012

AIAS South Quad Conference

Making the Grid, 2009



**World
Architecture
Festival**

Global Conference, Singapore

SCADpad, 2014



**Smithsonian
American Art
Museum**

Commissioners Conference

Urbanism of Savannah, 2020



Institute of Classical Architecture & Art
Drawing Seminar, 2021

Institute of Classical Architecture & Art
Private Savannah, 2019

Arthur Ross Award

Educators Panel, RAMSA, 2016



National Conference

Keynote: Building a Humane City, 2017

“Christian is a personal hero to me due to his inimitable urban design skills, demeanor, and his continuous desire to learn and raise the bar.”

Joshua Lange Martin, AICP
South Carolina Coastal Conservation League

2 Accomplishments



2.1 Significant Work: Speaking, Presentations & Exhibitions

“As Commissioner of City Planning for the City of Atlanta, Georgia, I asked Christian to convey ideas at the city scale that I felt only he could accomplish in a compelling way. The thoughtfulness and quality of the result was highly important to the people of Atlanta. Christian’s influence is widespread.”

Timothy J. Keane | Director of Planning and Development
City of Boise, Idaho, USA | Former Planning Commissioner, City of Atlanta



TEDx Creative Coast
The City is Human, 2011



Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation
Plant Riverside District, 2016



Project for Public Spaces, New York
Livability Forum, 2009



Universidad del Istmo, Guatemala
Keynote Address: Art of the Built Environment, 2014



National Public Radio
History of Ellis Square, 2002



Georgia Conservancy
Blueprints for Successful Communities, 2009



Preservation Society of Charleston
Keynote Address: Human Principles in Design, 2021



City of Savannah Public Forums
Historic District Ordinance, 2007-2012
Height Development Map, 2004-2006
MLK, Jr. Boulevard Workshops, 2002-2003



**NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES**

National Endowment for the Humanities
Savannah’s Urbanism, 2005



National Conference
Through the Eyes of the Designer, 2018



Modern Architecture
Nationwide Tour, Savannah, 2014



College of Charleston
Sustainable Urban Design, 2021



Swedish Architecture Review
Savannah’s Urbanism, 2015



International Making Cities Livable
History of Ellis Square, 2001

2 Accomplishments



2.2 Significant Awards, Honors & Recognition: National & International Awards

National AIA Honors & Awards



**The American
Institute
of Architects**

AIA National Young Architect Award

Christian Sottile, 2014

AIA National Honor Award for Architecture

SCAD Museum of Art, 2014

AIA National, Emerging Professionals

Curated Exhibition, Washington, DC, 2012

AIA National Honor Award for Urban Design

East Riverfront Civic Master Plan, 2010

AIA National Honor Award for Urban Design

SCAD, author of winning submission, 1998

Global and National Allied Awards



ULI Global Award for Excellence, Winner

Plant Riverside District, 2021, *Nine developments from around the world were selected as winners of the 2021 ULI Global Awards for Excellence including three from North America, one from Europe, and five from Asia Pacific.*

ULI Americas Award for Excellence, Winner

Plant Riverside District, 2021, *Twelve developments from across North America were selected as winners of the 2021 ULI Americas Awards for Excellence.*

“This very sensitive addition to one of America’s historic treasures is simply the right thing to do and is carried out with a real understanding, pride, and careful analysis. In the beautifully executed, convincing presentation, Savannah remains an excellent example of a supportive, humanistic environment. The cooperation evidenced by the development community’s support, and the collaborative effort among private property owners, lends substantial credence that this plan can reverse the damage of the latter part of the 20th Century.”

National Jury for Regional and Urban Design

American Institute of Architects

2010 AIA INSTITUTE HONOR AWARD FOR REGIONAL AND URBAN DESIGN



Congress for the New Urbanism

Charter Award; *Grand Prize Winner*

Plant Riverside District, 2021 *Plant Riverside District was selected as the 2021 Grand Prize Winner among 87 projects worldwide.*

CNU International Charter Award

Plan El Paso, 2015

CNU International Charter Award

Ellis Square Revitalization/Cay Building, 2013

CNU International Charter Award

SCAD Museum of Art, 2012

Congress for the New Urbanism

Art of Urbanism; Curated Exhibition, 2012

CNU International Charter Award

Savannah East Riverfront Civic Master Plan, 2009



**National Trust for
Historic Preservation®**

National Trust for Historic Preservation

National Preservation Honor Award

SCAD Museum of Art, 2014

**WORLD
ARCHITECTURE
NEWS**

First Place, Urban Design

SCADpad Micro Housing, 2014



**Government Finance
Officers Association**

Government Finance Officers Association

Excellence in Government Finance, 2009



2.2 Significant Awards, Honors & Recognition: Local & Regional Awards

Regional & Local AIA Honors & Awards



The American Institute of Architects

AIA Aspire; GA, SC, NC, KY, Merit Award
Plant Riverside District, 2022

AIA Georgia; Honor Award
Plant Riverside District, 2021

AIA Georgia; Honor Award
Tybee Island Marine Science Center, 2021

AIA South Georgia; Excellence Award
Preservation Award; West Taylor Street, 2018

AIA South Georgia; Design Award
Independent Presbyterian Campus, 2018

AIA Atlanta; Residential Design Award
West Taylor Street, 2018

AIA Georgia; Honor Award
SCADpad Micro Housing, 2014

AIA South Atlantic Region; Honor Award
SCAD Museum of Art, 2012

AIA Savannah; Honor Award
SCAD Museum of Art, 2011

AIA Georgia Honor Award
Emerging Professional, 2008

AIA Georgia Honor Award
Emerging Professional, 2005

AIA Georgia Honor Award
Design Excellence, 1996

AIA Georgia Honor Award for Urban Design
Winning submission; 1996

Regional Allied Awards

Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation
Excellence in Preservation Award; Plant Riverside, 2021

Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation
Excellence in Preservation Award; West Broad, 2021

Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation
Excellence in Preservation Award; SCAD Museum, 2013

Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation
Brady Street Revitalization, 2003

Georgia Planning Association
Civic Master Plan for West Broad Street, 2012

Georgia Planning Association
Outstanding Planning Initiative, 2008

Georgia Planning Association
Outstanding & Innovative Planning Process, 2004

Georgia Department of Community Affairs
Best Design Program in State, 2008

Georgia Department of Community Affairs
Signature City Award, 2005

AGC Build Georgia; First Place Award
Tybee Island Marine Science Center, 2021

American Concrete Institute
Georgia Chapter; First Place in Restoration, 2011

Historic Charleston Foundation
Caraopolis Award, Best New Infill, 2009

North Carolina Planning Association
Cascade Neighborhood Master Plan, 2005

Local Allied Awards

Historic Savannah Foundation

Urban Preservation Award; Plant Riverside District, 2021

Urban Preservation Award; West Broad Street, 2020

Presidential Preservation Award; Armstrong Kessler, 2019

Preservation Award; Independent Presbyterian, 2017

Preservation Award; West Taylor, 2017

Preservation Award; Cay Building, 2013

Leopold Adler Historic Preservation Award, 2012

Preservation Award; SCAD Museum of Art, 2012

Urban Preservation Award; Civic Master Plan, 2008

Urban Preservation Award; Savannah Model, 2004

Urban Preservation Award; Ellis Square, 2002

Historic Preservation Award; Brady Street, 2002

Urban Preservation Award; Starland District, 2002

Historic Rehabilitation Award; Artists' Row, 2001

Urban Preservation Award; Oglethorpe Avenue, 2000

“Christian Sottile is that rare practitioner who has mastered a wide range of architectural expression. The common thread that I’ve observed—whether a building is modern or traditional—is its humanity.”

Peter Katz | Author

The New Urbanism

Toward an Architecture of Community

2 Accomplishments



2.3 Significant Awards, Honors & Recognition: Publications & Press

Press and Publications on Christian Sottile's work:

TIME Magazine

100 Greatest Places in the World, July 2021

Epoch Times

Reawakening a Giant, May 2021

Atlanta Journal-Constitution;

Plant Riverside District, September 2020

The New York Times

The Charm and Challenge of Savannah, August 2019

Architectural Digest

Architects Find Inspiration in Factories, February 2019

Bloomberg

Where to Go in 2019, January 2019

Hospitality Design

The Windrose Hotel, March 2019

Dezeen

The Windrose Hotel, January 2019

Architectural Digest

SCAD Ushers in a New Era for Savannah, December 2018

Worth Magazine

Historic Plant Riverside, September 2018

US News & World Report

Plant Riverside Takes Shape, July 2018

National Trust for Historic Preservation

People Centered Preservation, May 2018

The Atlanta City Design

Atlanta Master Plan, January, 2018

The Atlanta Business Chronicle

The Atlanta City Design, September 2017

The Classicist

The American South; Professional Portfolio, 2017

Preservation Magazine

Savannah Itinerary, Fall 2016

South Magazine

Power Plans, June 2016

City Talk

Dramatic Changes to West Oglethorpe, May 2016

Buildings of Savannah

Robin B. Williams, University of Virginia Press, 2016

Design Intelligence

Big Lessons in Small Spaces, May 2015

CBS Sunday Morning

A Tale of Two Cities, May 2015 (*6 Million Viewers*)

Dwell Magazine

SCAD Museum of Art, 2014

Architect Magazine

Rethinking Adaptive Reuse, May 2015

Preservation Society of Charleston

Humane Principles of Design, September 2016

TIME Magazine

The Smarter Home, July 2014

CNN

Sustainable Adaptive Reuse, July 2014

NBC TODAY Show

SCADpad, July 2014

The Guardian

Designer Micro-Apartments, July 2014

Architect Magazine

SCAD Museum, of Art, AIA Young Architect, June 2012

FASTco. Exist / Huffington Post

SCADpad, June 2014

Architectural Record

New Generation, New Pad, April 2014

Dwell

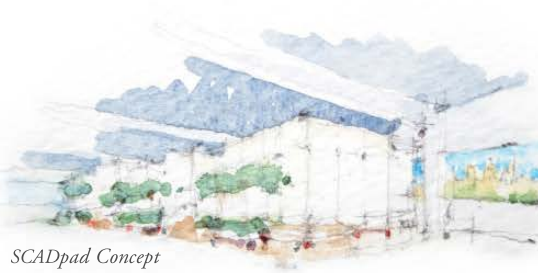
The Next Frontier in Adaptive Reuse, April 2014

USA Today

A House the Size of a Parking Space, April 2014

Fast Company

Turning Parking Garages into Mini Cities, April 2014



SCADpad Concept

CNN

Coollest Buildings in America, January 2014

Georgia Public Broadcasting

Ideals on the Map in Savannah, February 2013

The Oglethorpe Plan

Thomas Wilson, University of Virginia Press, 2012

Walkable City

Jeff Speck, Farrar Straus and Giroux, 2012

Business Insider

Sky City One, November 2012

BBC World Service

Construction in China, November 2012

Planning Magazine

Preserve and Protect, November 2012

Georgia Trend

Art by Design, October 2012

Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Savannah's Surging Downtown, September 2012

Architect Magazine

SCAD Museum, of Art, May 2012

AIA Designs of the New Decade

Civic Master Plan, April 2012

Architecture Week

New Urbanism Now, March 2012

Architectural Digest

SCAD Museum, of Art, February 2012

Blueprint, UK

SCAD Museum of Art, February 2012

Preservation Magazine

New Life for an Old Depot, December 2011

Architect's Newspaper

Foundation Studies, November 2011

Il Giornale dell'Architettura; Torino

SCAD Museum of Art, November 2011

Wallpaper

SCAD Museum of Art, October 2011

Architects and Artisans

Contrasting Old and New, October 2011

2 Accomplishments



2.3 Significant Awards, Honors & Recognition: Publications & Press

Press and Publications on Christian Sottile's work (Continued):

Savannah Morning News
TEDx to Inspire Creative Class, May 2011

Savannah Magazine
Love and Urban Planning, Spring 2011

Savannah Morning News
Urban Designer wins Visionary Award, April 2011

Roanoke Business
Downtown Development Strategies, January 2011

Architectural Record
Savannah's Civic Master Plan, May 2010

Architecture Week
Savannah East Riverfront Extension, February 2010

Savannah Morning News
Refining the Vision, December 2010

Savannah Business Journal
Historic District Ordinance, December 2009

Congress for the New Urbanism
Civic Master Plan, June 2009

Savannah Morning News
SCAD Museum of Art, Several Features, 2009-2011

Green Business Quarterly
Eco-Building Concepts, Winter 2009

City of Savannah, Georgia
Landmark Historic District Ordinance, 2009

City of Savannah, Georgia
Architecture and Urbanism Resource Manual, 2009

Savannah Business Journal
Redesigning River Street, March 2008

Alliance for Government Innovation
Architectural Standards, Spring 2008

Savannah Morning News
I-16 Flyover Removal, Several Features, 2009-2011

City of Mooresville, NC
Downtown Master Plan, 2008

Savannah Morning News
Western Gateway to Savannah, November 2008

South Magazine
Old Guard & Avant-Garde, December 2007

Savannah Morning News
Historic District Ordinance, Several Features, 2008-2009

City of Charleston
South Carolina; East Central Master Plan, 2008

City of Savannah, Georgia
Downtown Master Plan, 2008

Savannah Business Journal
Savannah's Downtown Expansion, 2006-2007

Charleston Business
Neighborhood Revitalization, August 2007

The New York Times
Savannah Adds to its Master Plan, May 2007

Southern Accents
Livability of Savannah, December 2007

SCAD Magazine
Urban Outfitter, Summer 2007

South Magazine
Stars of the South, July 2007

New Urban News
East Riverfront Extension, May 2007

Preservation Progress
Making Green Cool in Charleston, August 2007

South Magazine
Buildings of Their Time, June 2006

Savannah Morning News
Growing the Oglethorpe Plan, Several Features, 2010

Town of Cary, North Carolina
Community Appearance Manual, 2004

Savannah Magazine
Loft Living, Spring 2004

City of Mount Holly
Manual for Development, 2004

The New York Times
Development and Design in Savannah, October 2002

Savannah Morning News
Brady Street Revitalization, Savannah, GA, 2001-2006

Savannah Morning News
Ellis Square Charrette, Several Features, 2002

City of Savannah, Georgia
Ellis Square; Urban History & Analysis, 2002

Town of Bluffton, South Carolina
Historic Preservation Manual, 2002

Historic Savannah Foundation
Elbert Square Alliance, Summer 2001

Lowcountry Magazine
Future Vision for Historic Bluffton, November 2000

Savannah Magazine
Starland Design District, October 2000

Antiques & Art
Wishing upon a Star, September 2000

Architectural Record
Urban Design Honor Award submission, May 1998

“Christian Sottile is a splendid architect and design leader whose perspective grows from his engagement with historic Southern cities. He understands that to successfully merge the new with the old, infill must be woven sensitively into the fabric of a neighborhood. It must respect that a city is a living thing.”

Joseph P. Riley, Jr., Hon. AIA
Mayor of Charleston, 1975-2016
2022 AIA Collaborative Achievement Award Recipient



The SCAD Museum of Art, Savannah, Georgia

“As an annual visitor to Savannah, I observed the deterioration of historic buildings, famous parks and streets in the city. In recent years, I have been amazed at the transformation of the Historic District in Savannah that was advanced by Christian Sottile, AIA. As an architectural educator, I have witnessed the remarkable accomplishments that Christian has achieved.”

James Gantt Fausett, FAIA
Emeritus Professor - Georgia Tech. and Kennesaw State University



Index to Exhibits

3.1

**Plant Riverside District
Mixed-Use Adaptation**
Savannah, Georgia

3.2

SCAD Museum of Art
Savannah, Georgia

3.3

**Savannah East Riverfront
Civic Master Plan**
Savannah, Georgia

3.4

**National Landmark
Historic District Ordinance**
Savannah, Georgia

3.5

Ellis Square Reclamation
Savannah, Georgia

3.6

**I-16 Flyover
Civic Master Plan**
Savannah, Georgia

3.7

**SCADpad
Urban Design Collaborative**
SCAD, Atlanta, Georgia

3.8

**NCARB Integrated Path
to Architectural Licensure**
SCAD, Savannah, Georgia

3.9

**Dean of the
School of Building Arts**
SCAD, Savannah, Georgia



3.1 *Design Achievement:* Plant Riverside District

Design Architect, Lead Urban Designer

DESIGN CHALLENGE & IMPACT

After decades of neglect and disinvestment on Savannah's west end, Plant Riverside reimagined the century-old Riverside Power Plant, one of the first in the United States. Defined by its noble industrial architecture and monumental smokestacks (a signature landmark within the Savannah skyline), Plant Riverside encompasses five acres of urban redevelopment in Savannah's National Landmark Historic District, including 14 new buildings, a variety of diverse plazas and public spaces and a quarter mile of new river walk and pedestrian streetscape. This project — the largest preservation and urban redevelopment project in the history of the Savannah Landmark Historic District — creates the first public connections to the west end of River Street in more than a century and reconnects one of the oldest wards in the Oglethorpe Plan to the Savannah River.

First public connections to the Savannah River and the west end of River Street in over 100 years.

Largest preservation and urban redevelopment project in the history of the National Landmark Historic District.

First opportunity for the public to experience the grand Generator Hall of one of the nation's earliest Power Plants.

Transformed to an 800-person employment base from the most distressed census tract in the State of Georgia.

Completion: 2021

Design Architect: Sottile & Sottile

Architect of Record: John T. Campo & Associates, Inc.

Architect of Record: PFVS Architecture

DECLARATION

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the exhibit listed above. That responsibility included:
- Largely responsible for design

Mark Kessler, President & COO, Kessler Collection (Client)

AWARDS RECEIVED

AIA Aspire, GA, SC, NC, KY
Merit Award; 2022

AIA Georgia
Honor Award; 2021

Urban Land Institute
Global Excellence Award; 2021

Urban Land Institute
Americas Award; 2021

Congress for the New Urbanism
Charter Award, Grand Prize Winner; 2021

Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation
Excellence in Preservation Award; 2021

Historic Savannah Foundation
Urban Preservation Award; 2021

PUBLICATIONS & PRESS

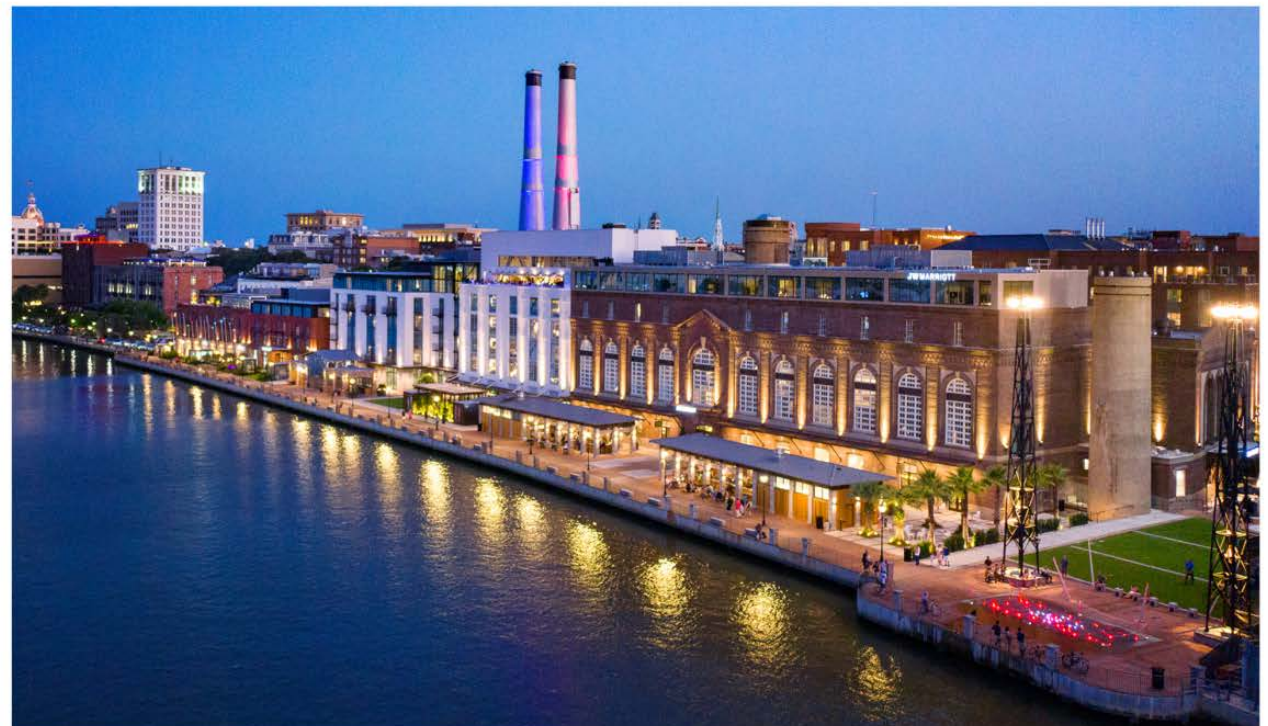
TIME; *100 Greatest Places in the World, July 2021*
Atlanta Journal-Constitution; *Plant Riverside, Sep. 2020*
The New York Times; *The Charm, and Challenge, of Savannah, August 2019*

Architectural Digest; *Architects Find Inspiration in Abandoned American Factories, February 2019*

"...Perhaps most importantly, Christian continues to inspire through his poetic reading of a place — whether it's a building, a street, or a city."

Lauren Hawley

Former Student, & Senior Associate, Perkins+Will





3.1 Design Achievement: Plant Riverside District





3.2 Design Achievement: SCAD Museum of Art

Design Architect, Lead Urban Designer

DESIGN CHALLENGE & IMPACT

Located on the western boundary of Savannah the SCAD Museum of Art resurrects the ruins of the Central of Georgia Railroad 1853 depot, a National Historic Landmark and the largest surviving antebellum railroad complex in the country. When the project broke ground in 2009, the building site was surrounded by actively deteriorating freight warehouse walls, and it became a cultural imperative for the ruins to remain in place. Built by enslaved Africans, the structure served as a Union stronghold during the Civil War, and later looked out at an important African American commercial nexus. By the late 20th century, the complex was beset by five decades of neglect. Designed to accommodate the renowned Walter O. Evans Collection of African American Art, the revitalized and re-envisioned structure preserves the historic remnants of the older buildings, while integrating them into a striking contemporary architectural intervention.

Revived the ruins of the largest surviving Antebellum railroad district in the country.

Re-imagined the role of historic preservation within contemporary architectural expression.

Integrated a university into the physical and cultural fabric of the historic city.

Completion: 2011

Design Architect: Sottile & Sottile

Architect of Record: Lord Aeck Sargent

Associate Architect: Dawson Architects

DECLARATION

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the exhibit listed above. That responsibility included:
- Largely responsible for the design

Martin Smith, Associate Vice President, SCAD (Client)

AWARDS RECEIVED

AIA National Honor Award

Institute Honor Award for Architecture; 2014

National Trust for Historic Preservation

Preservation Honor Award; 2014

Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation

Excellence in Preservation Award; 2013

AIA South Atlantic Region

Honor Award; 2012

International Interior Design Association

Georgia; Best of the Best; 2012

Historic Savannah Foundation

Preservation Award; 2012

AIA Savannah

Honor Award; 2011

PUBLICATIONS & PRESS

ARCHITECT; *SCAD Museum of Art, June 2012*

Architectural Digest; *SCAD Museum, February 2012*

Architects and Artisans; *Old and New, October 2011*

Wallpaper; *SCAD Museum of Art, October 2011*

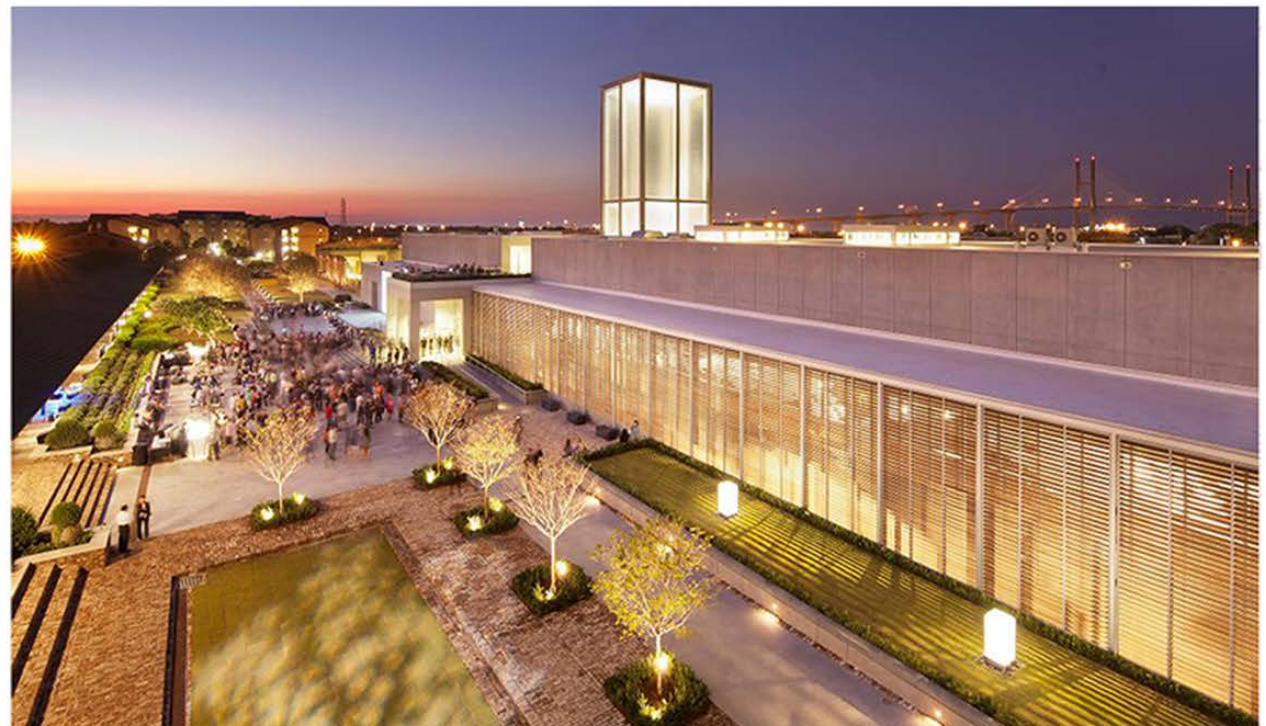
Preservation; *New Life for an Old Depot, Dec. 2011*

Giornale dell'Architettura; *SCAD Museum, Nov. 2011*

"This is a school of art, and architecture is an art. A realm based on poetics, content, power, and I see it full blast here."

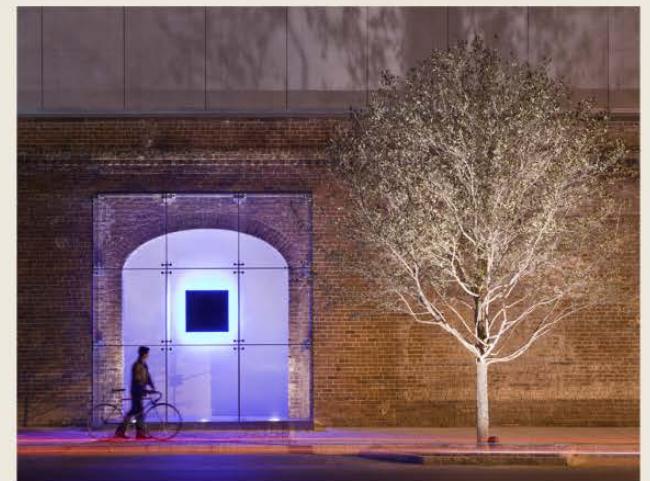
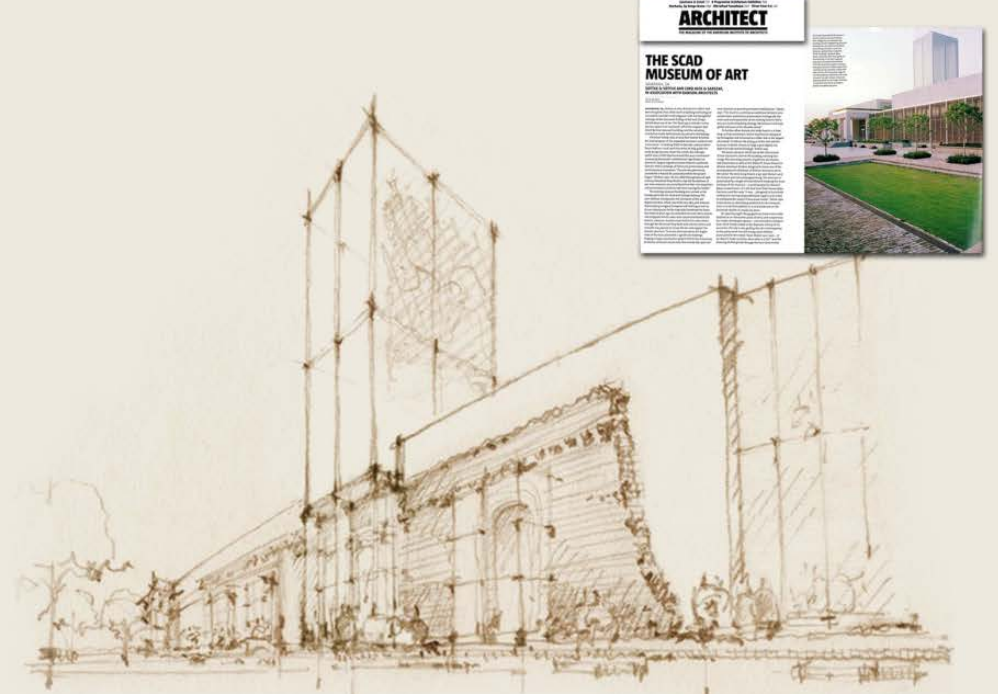
Antoine Predock, FAIA

AIA Gold Medalist





3.2 Design Achievement: SCAD Museum of Art



“Christian brought to our professional teaming partnership a deep knowledge of Savannah’s context, a kindred sensitivity about weaving historic fabric and contrasting contemporary design together, and an incredible instinct for making what was old, arrestingly new again.”

Antonin Aeck, FAIA, LEED AP BD+C
Senior Principal | Lord Aeck Sargent



3.3 Design Achievement: Savannah East Riverfront | Civic Master Plan

Lead Urban Designer

DESIGN CHALLENGE & IMPACT

The first expansion of Savannah’s historic city plan in 150 years, the East Riverfront Civic Master Plan defined 54 acres to the east of Savannah’s National Landmark Historic District, creating a dense pattern of compact, connected blocks and public spaces based on the renowned 1733 Oglethorpe Plan in scale and disposition. The significance of the Civic Master Plan is not the magnitude of the development effort, but the longevity of the public realm that is created through a joint commitment between public and private sectors. Christian Sottile led the process through multiple public charrettes between the city, citizens, property owners and development interests, resulting in a unified agenda for sustainable urban growth and creation of a Civic Master Plan as the primary mechanism for urban expansion. After being adopted by the city, the East Riverfront Civic Master Plan was recognized with an AIA National Honor Award and has been highlighted as a replicable urban design model on a national and international level.

First planned urban expansion of Savannah’s renowned City Plan in 150 years.

Creates a 40% allocation of land toward public space based upon a study of the Oglethorpe Plan allocation.

Established 6 new City Squares derived from the pattern of the original 18th century town plan.

Completion: Infrastructure 2015, build-out ongoing
Civic Design Architect: Sottile & Sottile
Associate Architect: Niles Bolton Associates

DECLARATION

I have personal knowledge of the nominee’s responsibility for the exhibit listed above. That responsibility included:
 - Largely responsible for urban design

Michael Brown, former City Manager, Savannah, GA (Client)

AWARDS RECEIVED

AIA National Honor Award
Institute Honor Award for Urban Design; 2010

Congress for the New Urbanism
International Charter Award; 2009

Historic Savannah Foundation
Urban Preservation Award; 2008

PUBLICATIONS & PRESS

AIA Designs for the New Decade; *Civic Master Plan*
April 2012

Architectural Record; *Savannah’s Civic Plan, May 2010*
Architecture Week; *Savannah East Riverfront Extension*
February 2010

New York Times; *Savannah Adds to the Master Plan of 1733*
May 2007

“Thank you for your outstanding collaboration between the public and private sectors, urban design professionals and community activists, eighteenth century city planners and twenty-first century practitioners.”

Mark McDonald | President and CEO
 Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation



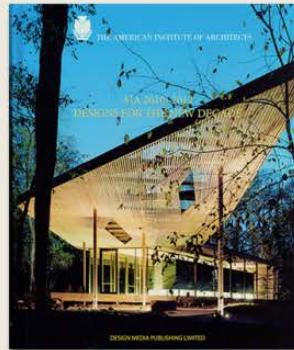
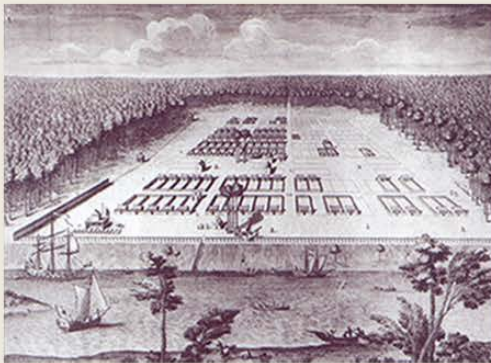


3.3 Design Achievement: Savannah East Riverfront | Civic Master Plan

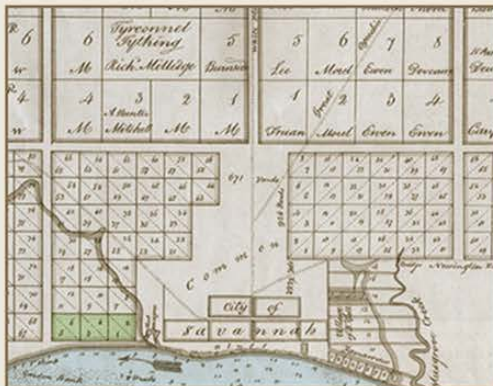


“Christian helped both the City and private developers envision how a 54-acre waterfront property that had sat vacant for a century could become an exciting modern extension of our Town Plan.”

Edna Branch Jackson | Former Mayor
City of Savannah, Georgia



AIA 2010-2012
Designs for the New Decade



Savannah Adds to the Master Plan of 1733



3 Exhibits



3.4 Civic Contributions: National Landmark Historic District Ordinance

Design Architect, Lead Urban Designer

DESIGN CHALLENGE & IMPACT

As the sensitive urban fabric of Savannah's historic core faced increased development pressures, it became imperative to define and implement a new standard for building heights and modern large-scale development in the City's National Landmark Historic District. These standards had to acknowledge the scale of modern development footprints, while establishing strategies that transcend architectural style, allowing larger scale buildings to integrate more fully into their context. The standards also needed incentivize the recovery of lost streets and lanes within the historic plan. Christian Sottile was instrumental in leading a comprehensive analysis effort and an in-depth open public process aimed at engaging citizens and arriving at consensus for these new standards. A comprehensive Height Map Revision and a new Large-Scale Development Ordinance were drafted and adopted under his leadership. These ordinances have successfully mitigated the effects of increased development pressures and improved the quality and contextual sensitivity of new architectural projects throughout the historic city center.

Development regulations for one of the largest National Historic Landmark Districts in the country.

All new development in the City Center is governed by this advanced code.

38 lost Streets and Lanes were identified for recovery.

Completion: 2012

Civic Design Architect: Sottile & Sottile

Architect of Record: Sottile & Sottile

DECLARATION

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the exhibit listed above. That responsibility included:

- Largely responsible for the design

Thomas Thompson, former Executive Director, MPC (Client)

AWARDS RECEIVED

Georgia Planning Association

Outstanding Planning Initiative; 2008

Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Best Design Program in State; 2008

PUBLICATIONS & PRESS

Planning Magazine; *Preserve and Protect, Nov. 2012*

Savannah Business Journal

Historic District Ordinance, December 2009

Alliance for Government Innovation

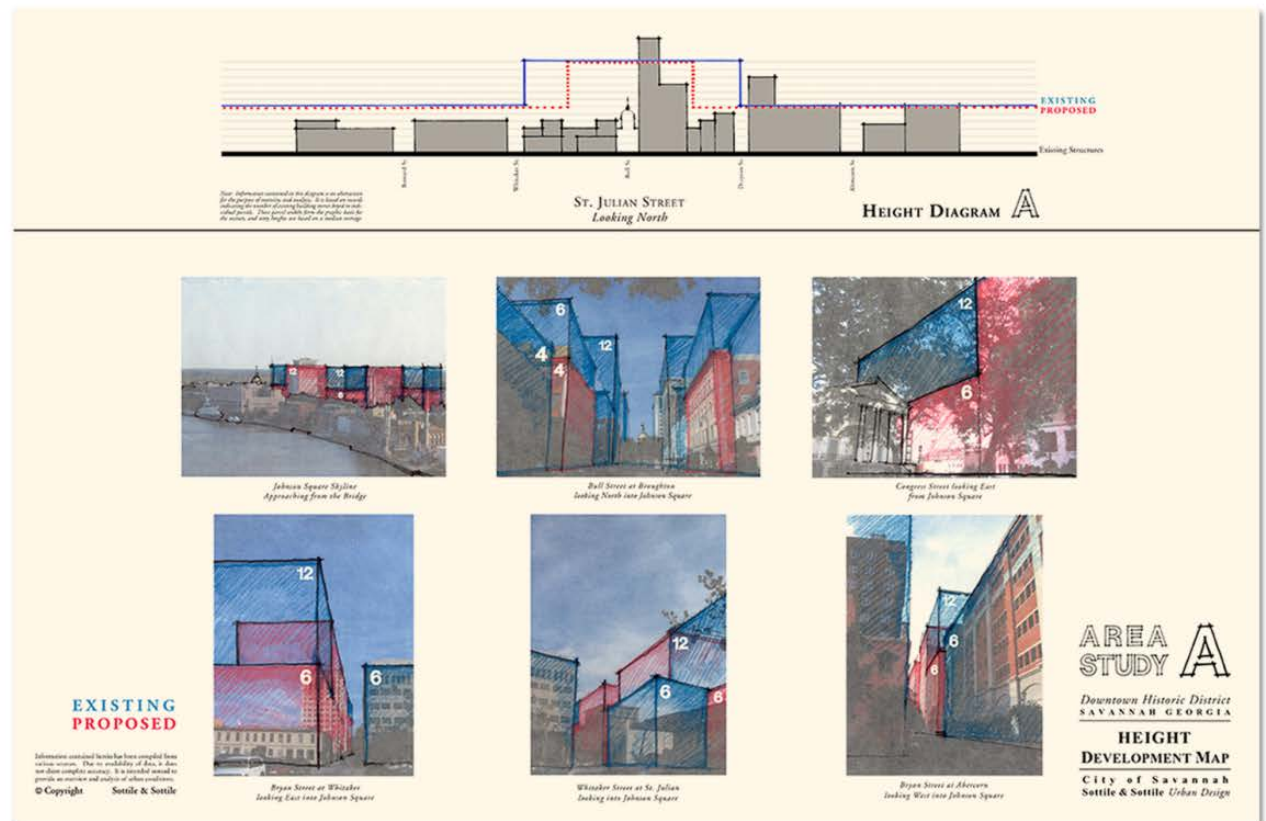
Architectural Standards, Spring 2009

"We greatly appreciate your professionalism and dedication to the advancement of architecture through your ongoing work in education and your practice in Charleston and elsewhere."

Lawrence Courtney, AIA

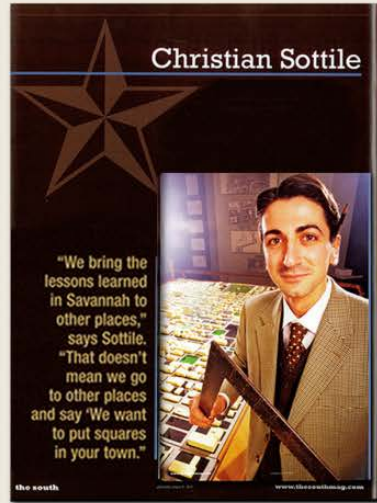
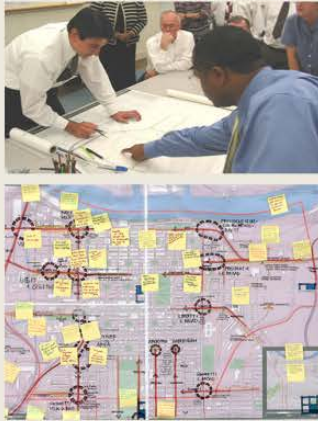
City of Charleston | Urban Design and Preservation

(Savannah's Height Development Map later influenced the conversion of Charleston, South Carolina's height regulations)





3.4 Civic Contributions: National Landmark Historic District Ordinance



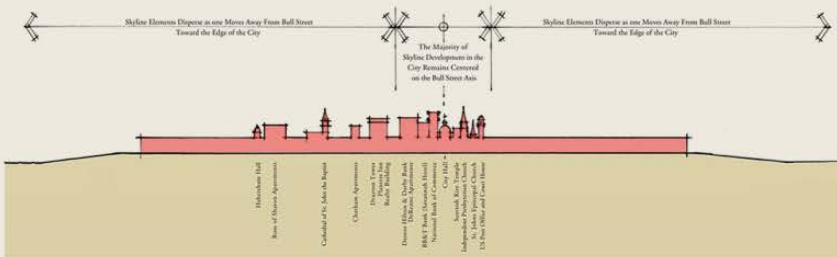
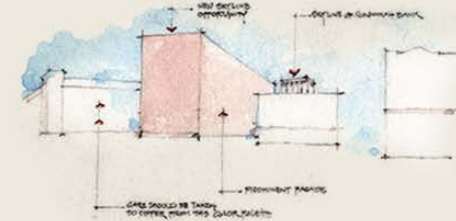
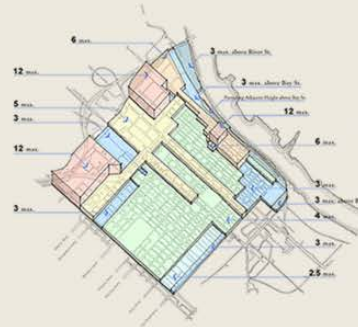
South Magazine
June 2007



SAVANNAH HEIGHT DEVELOPMENT MAP

Research, analysis and public process for revised building height standards in the City of Savannah's National Landmark Historic District.

The project identified height map revisions and coordinated with a committee of local professionals to create graphic materials to support and facilitate an in-depth public process, soliciting input and consensus.





3.5 *Advancement of Urban Design: Ellis Square Reclamation*

Design Architect, Urban Designer

DESIGN CHALLENGE & IMPACT

Following the expiration of a 50-year lease for a parking structure that had been built in the 1950's on a razed historic public market (Ellis Square, historically) at the center of one of Savannah's four original four wards, the City identified Ellis Square and the surrounding area as one of the most significant redevelopment opportunities in modern history. Christian Sottile led an extensive urban design analysis and public process, laying the groundwork for a complete regeneration of the ward, a vibrant new public space and a reaffirmation of Savannah's City Plan as a truly sustainable model for urban growth. Sottile also led the design of The Cay Building, housing the Offices of the U.S. Attorneys, built over a surface parking lot to fill in a critical missing piece of the ward, completing the urban edge of the public square.

Restoration of one of the original 4 Wards of Savannah's internationally renowned City Plan.

14 acres of the original 18th Century City plan regenerated.

24 New Businesses and 3 new Civic Uses created in the Ward.

Redevelopment spurred creation of the First Class-A Office space to be built in the City Center in 60 years.

Completion: 2012

Ellis Square, Urban Analysis & Design: Sottile & Sottile

Architect of Record: Lominack Kolman Smith Architects

Cay Building, Design Architect: Sottile & Sottile

Architect of Record: Smallwood, Reynolds, Stewart, Stewart

DECLARATION

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the exhibit listed above. That responsibility included:

- Urban Analysis & Design, Architectural Design

Mark McDonald, President and CEO, Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation (Community Partner and Stakeholder)

AWARDS RECEIVED

Congress for the New Urbanism
International Charter Award; 2013

Historic Savannah Foundation
Urban Preservation Award; 2013

PUBLICATIONS & PRESS

Buildings of Savannah; *Robin B. Williams*
University of Virginia Press, 2016

Georgia Public Broadcasting
Ideals on the Map in Savannah, February 2013

The Oglethorpe Plan; *Thomas Wilson*
University of Virginia Press, January 2012

"This extremely complex and delicate project was comprised of many phases including public education, demolition of a 1955 parking deck structure, excavation for a new underground parking structure, creation of a new landscape design for Ellis Square, creation of designs for new buildings to surround the square and, of course, implementation of all these. Christian Sottile was the spiritual and creative leader of the team that accomplished the recreation of Ellis Square."

Mark McDonald | President and CEO
Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation





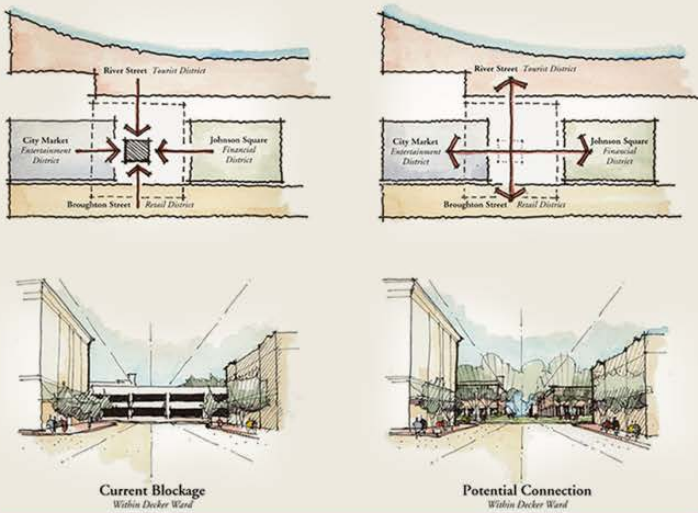
3.5 Advancement of Urban Design: Ellis Square Reclamation

“For many years, this part of Savannah had been neglected. Christian Sottile has been a leader in reconnecting – bringing this area back into the fold of the City.”

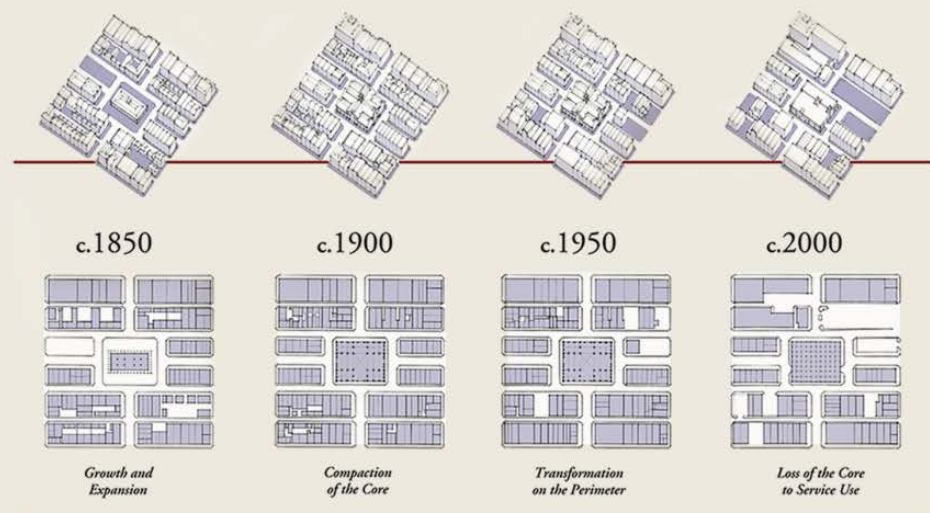
Carole Bell
Savannah City Council



Ellis Square Opens to the Public



RECONNECTING DISTRICTS



EVOLUTION OVERVIEW



3.6 Civic Contributions: I-16 Flyover Civic Master Plan

Lead Urban Designer

DESIGN CHALLENGE & IMPACT

The extension of Interstate 16 into Savannah's city center in the 1960's wrought devastating changes on the West Broad Street neighborhoods in its path, depressing a once vibrant commercial and residential corridor. In 2009, the City's Metropolitan Planning Commission engaged Christian Sottile to study the removal of the highway and the potential for neighborhood restoration. The resulting analysis and master plan involved the most extensive public design process to-date in the City, engaging the entire community in a dialogue about reclaiming West Broad Street. The process resulted in a comprehensive policy document detailing urban design strategies for removing the highway and re-stitching the urban fabric to reconnect historically disadvantaged neighborhoods back to the economy and culture of the city center. The plan was adopted by the Planning Commission and City Council, and funding is currently being applied for under the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Calls for reestablishment of two neighborhoods that were lost to Urban Renewal in 1963.

Restores 650 feet of building frontages within the heart of the African-American business district that were lost.

Funding is currently being applied for under the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Completion: Civic Master Plan, 2012
Civic Infrastructure Improvements, Ongoing
Civic Design Architect: Sottile & Sottile

DECLARATION

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the exhibit listed above. That responsibility included:
- Largely responsible for the design

Ellen Harris, AICP, LEED AP, former Director of Urban Planning, Chatham-Savannah MPC (Client & Project Partner)

AWARDS RECEIVED

Georgia Planning Association
Outstanding Planning Document
Civic Master Plan for West Broad Street; 2012

PUBLICATIONS & PRESS

Savannah Morning News;
I-16 Flyover Removal
Reclaiming West Broad Street
Several Features, 2009-2011

"The addition of the flyover created more than just a physical barrier, it wiped out entire neighborhoods.

In setting out to reclaim the area devastated by the flyover, the team went back to plans originated by General James Oglethorpe."

Savannah Morning News
February 2010



"Christian Sottile is the paragon for creating equitable, integrated communities and towns. His entire career has been devoted to creating and preserving vibrant neighborhoods that connect the place, climate, culture and people."

Jane Frederick, FAIA
2020 AIA National President

3 Exhibits



3.7 Design Achievement: SCADpad Urban Design Collaborative

Design Architect, Program Designer

DESIGN CHALLENGE & IMPACT

Christian Sottile served as the lead design architect for SCADpad, an unprecedented micro-housing concept that converts under-utilized parking structures in major cities into dwelling communities with plug-and-play architecture and communal spaces. Sottile convened faculty from twelve disciplines including Industrial Design, Interactive Design and Game Development, and Interior Design to lead students in every aspect of the project. The concept was realized in Midtown Atlanta, where students competed to live in the micro-homes on a rotating basis throughout the academic year. SCADpad has received global recognition as a unique solution to growing urban housing challenges worldwide. SCADpad has been prominently featured in TIME Magazine, Dwell, Fast Company, CNN, Architectural Record, USA Today, and NBC's TODAY show. It was featured in Singapore at the 2014 World Architecture Festival and received the First Place Urban Design Award from World Architecture News.

Developed a unique urban housing solution employing under-utilized parking structures in major cities.

75 students, 37 alumni and 12 faculty members collaborated across 12 academic degree programs.

More than 500 million media impressions and 150 articles written.

Completion: 2017

Design Architect: Christian Sottile, AIA

Architect of Record: Craig Clements, AIA

DECLARATION

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the exhibit listed above. That responsibility included:
- Largely responsible for the design

Martin Smith, Associate Vice President, SCAD (Client)

AWARDS RECEIVED

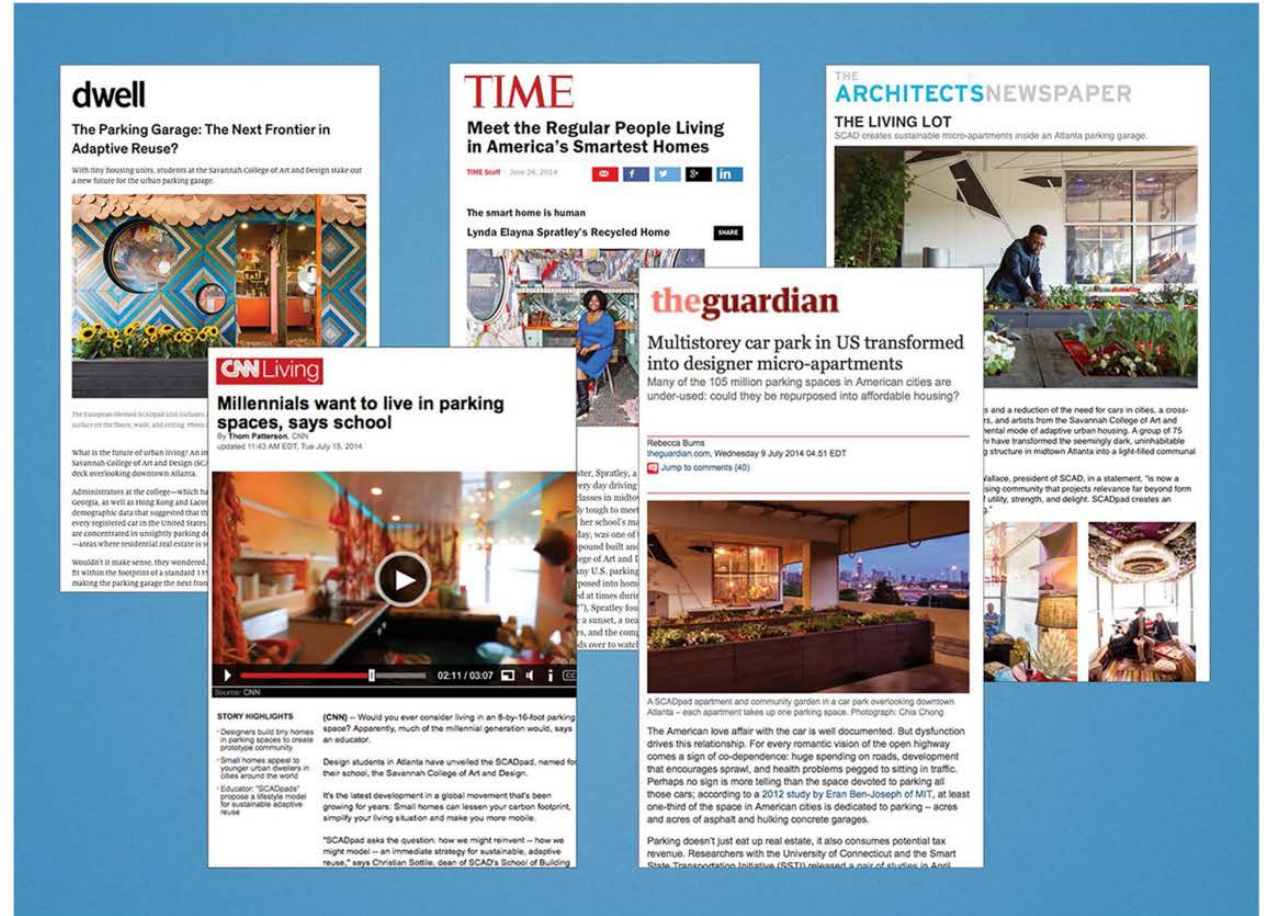
AIA Georgia, Honor Award for Architecture
SCADpad Micro-Housing; 2014

International Interior Design Association
Best of the Best Award, IIDA Georgia; 2015

World Architecture News
First Place, Urban Design; 2014

PUBLICATIONS & PRESS

TIME / CNN / NBC TODAY Show; July 2014
The Guardian; *Designer Micro-Apartments*, July 2014
FASTco. / Huffington Post; *SCADpad*; June 2014
Architectural Record; *New Generation*, April 2014
Dwell; *The Next Frontier in Adaptive Reuse*, April 2014
USA Today; *A House the Size of a Parking Space*, April 2014
Fast Company; *Turning Garages into Mini Cities*, April 2014

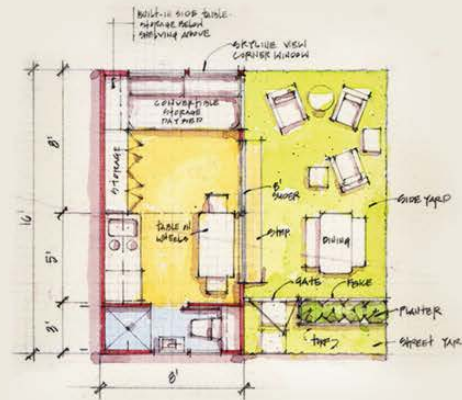
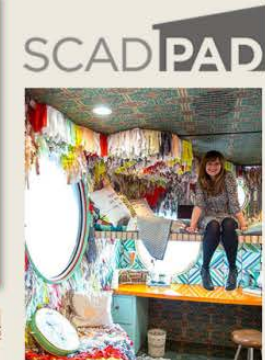




3.7 Design Achievement: SCADpad Urban Design Collaborative

“Professor Sottile is the quintessential gifted educator who has always valued and balanced practice with academia. His work in Savannah fuses deft preservation and modernism in an exemplary way. He has always embraced student learning and innovation as a generous and exceptional teacher and architect.”

William J. Carpenter, FAIA, PhD, DPACSA
 Past Chancellor, ACSA College of Distinguished Professors





3.8 Contributions to the Profession: NCARB Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure

Architect and Academic Leader

DESIGN CHALLENGE & IMPACT

As Dean of the School of Building Arts at SCAD, Christian Sottile partnered with NCARB to introduce the unprecedented Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure. Close collaboration at the local, state and national levels advanced this groundbreaking initiative. The program received the full support and endorsement of AIA Georgia and the Georgia State Board of Licensure. The trends affecting the practice of architecture, underscores the need for this program. From 2007 until 2014, the number of licensed architects in the United States declined by 18 percent. For the State of Georgia, the number of licensed architects has remained the same since 2002, while the population of the state has grown by 19% during that same period. With the average time it takes to become a licensed architect in the United States being 12 years, IPAL introduces another path for dedicated students to help reverse this trend and strengthen the profession.

Provides a structured path to licensure for motivated individuals aspiring to become architects.

Groundbreaking initiative to make licensure more accessible to women and minorities.

Supports a more comprehensive understanding of the practice of architecture, better preparing graduates.

Completion: Inaugural launch 2015
Dean of the School of Building Arts, SCAD
 Christian Sottile, AIA, NCARB
Inaugural Architectural Program to Partner with NCARB

DECLARATION

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the exhibit listed above. That responsibility included:
 - Project under direction of nominee

Ivan S. Chow, AIA, NCARB, former Associate Dean, SCAD
 Inaugural implementation of IPAL (Team Member)

“Christian’s vision drove the efforts of an entire academic institution towards SCAD becoming one of the inaugural class of schools to implement the NCARB Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure.

He was also the motivational force behind the legislative effort to amend Georgia State law to allow IPAL students in the NAAB-accredited program unprecedented access to the Architect Registration Examination.”

Ivan S. Chow, AIA, NCARB
 former Associate Dean of the School of Building Arts, SCAD
 (During implementation of IPAL)

Forging the next generation of
 architecture leaders with SCAD IPAL





3.8 Contributions to the Profession: NCARB Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure





3.9 *Advancement of Architectural Education:* **Dean of the School of Building Arts, SCAD**

Architect and Academic Leader

DESIGN CHALLENGE & IMPACT

Christian Sottile is an active voice speaking on issues of architecture, urbanism, art, and urban life to a wide array of audiences that include community and civic organizations, politicians, and the professional design community, as well as students aspiring to the profession. Education has always been central to his professional ethos.

As Dean of the School of Building Arts at SCAD, Christian Sottile emphasized two major areas, professionalism and the return of art to the discourse of architecture. Under his leadership, SCAD instituted a stipend for students to start their NCARB council record, and integrated lectures on professional licensure in the institutional lecture series. He partnered with the National AIAS to host the first AIAS Forum to ever to be fully integrated into the fabric of the city and the first-ever AIAS FORUM education track to be eligible for CEU and IDP credits.

Led undergraduate and graduate programs in Architecture, Urban Design, Preservation, and Architectural History.

Re-imagined the role of historic preservation within contemporary architectural education.

Led 60 faculty and 1,200 students from a population including all 50 States and over 100 Countries.

Leadership Period: 2011-2017
Dean of the School of Building Arts
Savannah College of Art and Design

DECLARATION

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the exhibit listed above. That responsibility included:
- Project under direction of nominee

Paula S. Wallace, Hon. AIA, President, SCAD (Client)

During his leadership as dean, the largest preservation event in the world, PastForward, the National Preservation Conference, was hosted in Savannah. Collaborative projects overseen by Christian focused on sustainability with the Preservation Green Lab adding depth to its programming. This was reinforced with Sottile's interview on CBS Sunday Morning, where his preservation ethos was shared with an audience of more than 6 million people.

Christian consistently puts the significant role of architecture and preservation at the forefront of students and the public, both in the physical reuse of historic resources, and in the events and speakers that he takes an active role in hosting.

“He opened my eyes to the importance of human-scaled urbanism and its connection to architecture in a way that no other professor had been able to articulate until then. His way of presenting the theory of design, while connecting it both to a place, in this case the city of Savannah, and to private practice presented a meaningful, thoughtful approach towards architecture and design. Both as a professor and peer, he was and remains truly a great influence on my work throughout Latin America.”

Eduardo Castillo-Cortés | Principal
Castillo Arquitectos, Guatemala





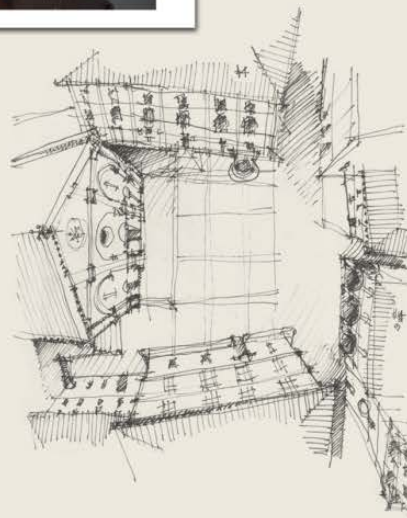
3.9 Advancement of Architectural Education: Dean of the School of Building Arts, SCAD



“Dean Sottile proposed a partnership through SCAD that had never been attempted in the 56-year history of ALAS FORUM, the annual National meeting of the ALAS.

Through Christian's leadership, an unprecedented level of collaboration among students, faculty, administrators, and ALAS executive leadership was achieved, resulting in what some are calling the most inspiring ALAS FORUM in memory.”

Joshua Caulfield, IOM
CEO American Institute of Architecture Students, 2013



Under Sottile's leadership, SCAD co-hosted the National Trust for Historic Preservation National Conference in Savannah.



Dean Sottile with students during his Sketching with the Dean workshop series.





Piazza San Pietro, Rome, Drawing Seminar

“His national leadership in urban design has fused the lessons of Savannah's living laboratory with students as they prepare for careers all over the world. Working to bridge preservation, urbanism and architecture, Christian is grounded in professionalism, additionally forging a partnership for students with NCARB's Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure. I highly endorse Christian Sottile for FAIA.”

James P. Cramer, Hon. AIA
Former Chief Executive of the American Institute of Architects



References

1

Curtis W. Fentress, FAIA

AIA Thomas Jefferson
Award for Public Architecture
Founder, Fentress Architects
Denver, Colorado

2

David Green, AIA

Principal, Urban Design
Perkins+Will
Charlotte, North Carolina

3

Paula S. Wallace, Hon. AIA

President and Co-Founder
Savannah College of Art and Design
Savannah & Atlanta, Georgia; Lacoste, France

4

Eric B. Johnson, FAIA

Former Georgia State Senator
Executive Vice President Hussey Gay Bell
Savannah, Georgia

5

Marleen Kay Davis, FAIA

ACSA Distinguished Professor, Former Dean
University of Tennessee, College of Architecture
Knoxville, Tennessee

6

Chris Morrill

Executive Director / CEO
Government Finance Officers Association
Chicago, Illinois

7

Michael Armstrong

Chief Executive Officer
National Council of Architectural
Registration Boards
Washington, DC