

LANDSCAPE/URBANISM/MEDIA

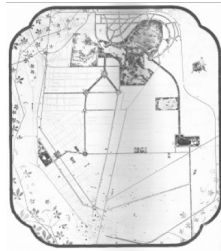
Option Studio Arch 4101/4102/5101 & Arch 5116 & Arch 8913

Fall 2019, 6CR Graded

MWF 12:30-4:30 Milstein hall

John Zissovici, jez2@cornell.edu

BUFFALO IMAGE SCAPES



The studio will investigate the vast **new 'nature' of image flows** emanating from networked communication devices, and social media as a form of mass participation, to **propose new networks of recreational space**. We will also exploit innovations in visualization, like **augmented reality, to s[t]imulate new forms of mediated recreational experiences**, and test them in the popular imagination at their intersection with Olmsted's ideas of 'nature' and landscape.

Frederick Law Olmsted's 1868 comprehensive plan of a **distributed system of parks and connecting parkways** for a rapidly urbanizing Buffalo, was one of America's earliest and most comprehensive proposal for organizing recreational activity for a city's population. On offer in these dispersed reservations for 'nature', were Olmsted's **artificially constructed 'natural' landscapes** with their carefully orchestrated **scenic views**, later to be memorialized and used to promote the wonders of Buffalo through postcards. The plan's various components, which included adjacent natural landscapes containing an insane asylum, a golf course and a cemetery, appeared distributed within a map of the greater city of Buffalo framed with rounded corners, **a complete picture of the new urban life**.

It also came at a time when photographic **images of America's natural wonders became a common sight**. The railroad that opened up the American west and made possible the transport of people and goods, also opened vast new parts of the continent to people's gaze, if not directly, then through the torrent of photographs of spectacular landscapes that flowed east to decorate people's homes.

The studio will make several visits to Buffalo