

Danielle Leclercq

The Unbuilt Crosby Arboretum Exhibition Installation

The Octagon Museum, Washington, D.C.

March 8-10, 2020

Travel Award Report

Beginning of our (first) week of spring break, I travelled to Washington, D.C. to help with the installation of the *The UnBuilt Crosby Arboretum: An Unrealized Masterplan by E. Fay Jones and Edward Blake Jr.* Last year, during the setup of this exhibition, my contribution was the basswood model of the Switzer Pavilion. Since the opening, I have worked through last summer and up until the end of February editing and finalizing the virtual reality model of all the unbuilt structures. Before we began on our trip to D.C., my professor and I made sure all of the VR headsets were in working order, and we loaded them onto the truck along with the rest of the exhibit. After arriving at the Octagon Museum, we spent two days reassembling the panels, hanging the posters, and placing the models. Moving the exhibition from the truck and up a flight of stairs was a feat in itself. I enjoyed being able to wander around the Octagon Museum, a historical building designed by William Thornton, after operating hours and being able to see the building differently than most people ever will. After completing the installation, I wandered around the city, admiring the various monuments and structures and visiting places such as the National Archives and the National Museum of African American History Museum. My time working on this exhibition, participating in the installation, and visiting Washington, D.C. has awarded me with a memorable and educational experience that will influence me and my work in the future.