

1st Board:

The idea behind this board was to show the driving forces behind Albion. As a whole, Albion residents display a strong sense of values within the community; a sense of belonging and trust with each other. The map of farm plots and agricultural elements along the top of the board blended with the townscape along the bottom are connected with the people of the past and the present. It is really the residents of the community that make it continue to thrive. After visiting with residents, preserving heritage seems to be an important aspect, because the history of the people and the town must be respected in order to grow and move into a sustainable future. It all really comes down to the residents as a whole, and the blending of local and global ideas to create one community.

2nd Board:

This board was about diagrammatically representing something architectural in the community that used to exist, and is now gone. The bandstand was selected because it used to be at the center of the downtown area. It was a crucial place for townspeople to gather for dancing, speeches, concerts, , picnics, etc. With the development of more efficient technology over the years, it seems that the reasons people were brought together around the bandstand are no longer applicable. Instead of a central gathering space to discuss current events of the town with friends, there are telephones, vehicles, and television, to name a few. Families and friends can communicate by other means, thus making the reason for having a bandstand nearly obsolete.

3rd Board:

This board was about diagrammatically representing something architectural in the community that is still standing. The Albion News building stood out to me the most first because of the unique ironwork holding up the awning. The materiality of the brick combined with the ironwork create a subtle beauty that makes one want to take a closer look. Upon further reflection, it seems that the news building in itself is a crucial part of the network of the downtown, and the Albion community as a whole. The newspaper is essential in any society, and is perhaps another reason that local gatherings aren't as essential to townspeople. Through meeting with Paul and having the opportunity to read several of his articles, it seems that the newspaper is also an essential part of the move towards a sustainable future.

4th Board:

This precedent board was more about the idea of a community within a community, rather than an architectural precedent. This is a community located in Shropshire, England, that is making its way towards sustainability. Homes are in small areas, around central community gardens. These gardens are important to the entire society- residents living in the downtown walk out to the vegetable and flower gardens to take care of their prospective plots. These gardens become not only a thriving oasis, but almost more importantly, a social gathering space for the neighborhood. Elderly residents, teenagers, youngsters, and everyone in between can be involved in this, and it becomes something that everyone is invested in.