

# Alex Krumdieck, AIA

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## Educational background

Bachelor of Architecture, Auburn University, 1986

Masters of Architecture, Georgia Institute of Technology, 1991

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## Professional practice

Birmingham, Alabama:

Krumdieck A + I Design, Inc., President, 1993-Present

The Garrison Barrett Group, Inc., Project Architect, 1991-1993

The Garrison Group, Inc., Co-Founder, Intern Architect and Project Architect, 1987-1991

Architects South, Inc., Intern Architect, 1987

The Ritchie Organization, Intern Architect, 1986-1987

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## Positions held in academic institutions

Director of the Urban Studio 2016 - present

Interim Director of the Urban Studio 2014 - 2015

### Adjunct Professor

- Auburn University, School of Architecture, Urban Studio 2008 - 2013
  - Auburn University, School of Architecture, 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Studio, Fall 2011
  - Auburn University, School of Architecture, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Studio, Fall 2012
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## Professional registrations & memberships

Registered Architect State of Alabama

LEED, Accredited Professional

Professional Member, American Institute of Architects

Professional Member, Urban Land Institute

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## Awards, recognitions, grants, competitions:

2017 recipient of a CAD/C Seed Grant "Growing Resilience in Birmingham: Framework to Implementation"

Team: John Pittari, Jennifer Smith, and Alex Krumdieck

2017 invited to present a paper "Shaping Healthy Ten Minute Neighborhoods in Downtown Birmingham" at the 55<sup>th</sup> International Making Cities Livable Conference in Ottawa, Canada.

Presenters: John Pittari and Alex Krumdieck

2018 invited to present a paper "Affordable and Connected Housing for a Resilient Birmingham" at the 56<sup>th</sup> International Making Cities Livable Conference in Portland, Oregon

Presenters: John Pittari and Alex Krumdieck

2019 invited to present a paper "Planning for a Re-vitalized and Re-connected Smithfield" at the 57<sup>th</sup> International Making Cities Livable Conference in Carmel, Indiana

Presenters John Pittari and Alex Krumdieck

2020 invited to present a paper "Planning for a Re-vitalized and Re-connected Smithfield" at the 57<sup>th</sup> International Making Cities Livable Conference in Carmel, Indiana

Presenters John Pittari and Alex Krumdieck

2019 Received the first grant given by The Phillip A. Morris Fund for Design Arts, a fund of The Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham for 15,000.00. This was for an invitation to Jeff Speck to come to Birmingham and present a public lecture at the Birmingham Museum and then conduct a 2 day Charrette with

the fifth year studio in the Smithfield Community.

2020 Received Pella Scholarship for the Urban Studio. Pella Windows provided an award for the Urban Studio of 3,000.00 to be given each year to students attending the Urban Studio.

Sunshine Chapel in Sterrett, Alabama, a project completed by Krumdieck A + I Design in 2009, was selected as one of the 200 most significant projects in Alabama by Design Alabama honoring Alabama's 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

2020 AIA Birmingham Chapter "Merit Award" Guest House on Lake Martin

2019 AIA, Alabama Chapter, "Honor Award", Minimalist Bath

2019 AIA, Alabama Chapter, "Merit Award" Guest House on Lake Martin

2018 AIA, Birmingham Chapter, "Merit Award", Cabin Noir on Lake Martin

2015 AIA, Birmingham Chapter, "Merit Award", AIA Office Alabama Center for Architecture

2015 AIA, Birmingham Chapter, "Honor Award", Wiggins Residence

2015, AIA, Alabama Council, "Honorable Mention", Ovenbird Restaurant

2012 AIA, Alabama Council, "Honorable Mention", Burkhalter Residence

2012 AIA, Birmingham Chapter, "Honorable Mention", Homewood Residence

2012 AIA, Birmingham Chapter, "Honorable Mention", Mountain House

2011 AIA, Alabama Council, "Merit Award", Sunshine Farms Alpaca Shed

2011 AIA, Alabama Council, "Honor Award", Sunshine Farms Chapel

2011 AIA, Birmingham Chapter, "Merit Award", Sunshine Farms Pool House

2011 AIA, Birmingham Chapter, "Merit Award", Sunshine Farms Boat House

2011 AIA, Birmingham Chapter, "Merit Award", Rosemary Beach II

2009 IIDA Alabama Chapter, Biennial Idie Awards, "Best of Show" for Krumdieck A + I Design, Inc. offices and "Best Residential" for Destin Condo

2009 AIA, Birmingham Chapter Design Awards, "Honor Award" Chapel at Sunshine Farms

2008 AIA, Birmingham Chapter Design Awards, "Merit Award" Alpaca Shed and Chicken Coop at Sunshine Farms

2008 National ASID/*Southern Accents Magazine* Design Competition, awarded 'Grand Prize', Stewart Residence

2007 IIDA, Alabama Chapter, Biennial Idie Awards "Best of Show" for the Stewart Residence

2007 AIA Birmingham Chapter Design Awards "Honor Award" for Pullman Flats

2006 AIA Birmingham Chapter Design Awards "Merit Award" for Cater Cabin Addition, Mentone, AL 2006 National ASID / *Southern Accents Magazine* Design Competition, runner up Living Room category, Peeples Residence

2006 AIA Birmingham Chapter Design Awards, "Honor Award", Brower Residence

2005 AIA Birmingham Chapter Design Awards, "Merit Award", Barber Companies Corporate Headquarters Addition

2005 IIDA, Alabama Chapter, Biennial Idie Awards, "Best of Show" for St. Marks Catholic Church

2005 IIDA, Alabama Chapter, Biennial Idie Awards, "Best Residential" for Rosemary Beach House

2004 National ASID / *Southern Accents Magazine* Design Competition, runner up Bathroom category, Weir Residence

2004 AIA, Alabama Chapter, "Merit Award" for Institutional, St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church

2004 AIA, Birmingham Chapter, Design Award for Residential, Harrington Residence

2004 Birmingham Historical Society, "Preservation Award", Jackson Galleries

2004 ASID Alabama Chapter, Design Award, 1<sup>st</sup> Place Renovation, Clairmont Residence

2004 ASID Alabama Chapter, Design Award, 1<sup>st</sup> Place Single Family Dwelling, Rosemary Beach House

2003 AIA Alabama Council, Design Awards, "Merit Award", Barber Race Control Building

2003 AIA Birmingham Chapter Design Awards, "Honorable Mention", Barber Race Control Building

2003 AIA Birmingham Chapter Design Awards, "Honor Award" Weir Residence, Birmingham, AL

2003 National ASID / *Southern Accents Magazine* Design Competition, runner up Bathroom category, Weir Residence

2002 National ASID/*Southern Accents Magazine* Design Competition, runner up Kitchen category, Stephens Residence

2002 AIA Alabama Chapter Design Awards, Honorable Mention and Architect's Choice Award for Mentone Cabin

2001 IIDA, Alabama Chapter, Progression Awards, "Best of Show" for Clairmont Residence

2001 IIDA, Alabama Chapter, Progression Awards, "Silver Award" for V. Richard's Market, Homewood

2000 *Southern Living Magazine* Design Awards "Best Renovation" for Clairmont Residence

1999 American Concrete Institute, "Award of Excellence" Bruno Capital Building at Grandview  
1999 Steelex Systems Inc., "Design of Merit", Reich Companies  
1998 AIA Birmingham Chapter, Design Awards, "Honorable Mention" Day Building  
1998 AIA Birmingham Chapter, Design Awards, "Honorable Mention" Shook & Fletcher Building  
1998 Birmingham Historical Society, "Preservation Award", Shook & Fletcher Building  
1997 IIDA, Alabama Chapter Progression Awards, Morris Avenue Warehouse Adaptive Reuse  
1997 IIDA Alabama Chapter Progression Awards, Offices for Pittman, Hooks, Marsh, Dutton & Hollis,

Published in "Leading Residential Interior Designers"

Published in various regional and local magazines including:  
New Old House, Southern Accents, Southern Living, Better Home and Gardens Kitchen and Bathroom  
Woodworking Magazine  
BMetro Magazine, Birmingham Home and Garden, Lake Norman Magazine, 30A Magazine

2001 Birmingham Top 40 under 40 award  
2006 Nominated for Birmingham Business Man of the Year

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#### Civic, Social, and Philanthropic Involvement:

2020 Participated in a two day Charrette for the City of Wedowee, Alabama. Working with Design Alabama, the Urban Studio ran a two charrette for the city of Wedowee creating a new asset based masterplan along with a plan of action providing 1week ,1 month, 6 month, 1 year goals.

2019 Participated in a 2 day Design Charrette for the Parkside District

2019 Presented the redevelopment plans produced by the Third year students at the Urban Studio for Banks High School at a public meeting attended by 200 members of the Eastlake Community

2019 Invited to present a talk on Modern Architecture, Urban Design and the Urban Studio to the Greater Birmingham chapter of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

2019 Participated in Design Charrette for the Sloss Furnace District

2018 Participated in a one day Design Charrette with Design Alabama for the city of Camden, Alabama

2018 Participated as a member of the project team with Design Alabama for the city of Elba , Alabama

2018 Continental Gin Charrette

2017 Presentation to the Red Mountain Garden Club

2017 Participated in the Design charrette for the redesign of the Birmingham Green, or 20<sup>th</sup> Street with GMC architects and Walter Hood.

2017 Jury member for the Alagasco 4<sup>th</sup> year competition

2017 Participated in a Charrette on Transit Oriented Development for the 5 Points West neighborhood with Strada and the BJCTA.

2017 member of the "Neighborhoods and Community Renewal Subcommittee" for the implementation of the City of Birmingham's Comprehensive Masterplan.

2013 Rotary Trail Design Charrette Birmingham

2011 Tornado Relief presented to Greater Birmingham Homebuilders Society

2011 Tornado Relief presented to Design Alabama

2009 Charrette and Student Exhibition studying Climate Effects and Watershed Mobile, Alabama

2002 Mt. Laurel Design Charrette

2011 Bird house project fundraiser for Southern Environmental Center benefiting Cahaba River Society

2008 Dog House Project, AIA, Benefiting the Humane Society of Birmingham

2020 Jury Member, Design Awards Columbia Chapter of the AIA

2012 Jury Member, Design Awards Tennessee Council of the AIA

2011 Jury Member, Design Awards New Orleans Chapter of the AIA

2009 Jury Member, Design Awards Minneapolis Chapter of the AIA

1995-2012 Have been a guest juror for all levels for Samford University Interior Design Program  
2000-2013 Have been a guest juror for Auburn University School of Architecture

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## Unfunded Research

2015 – Studies for the development of “Cascade Plunge” for Greater Birmingham Habitat for Humanity  
2016 – Master Plan study and development of the Innovation District for the City of Birmingham.  
2017 - Master Plan study and development of the Automotive District for the City of Birmingham.

Redesign of the 20<sup>th</sup> Street corridor based on the RFP sent out by the City of Birmingham.  
Continuing to explore a tactical urbanism proposal presented by the students in creating “parklets” by absorbing underutilized parking areas along 20<sup>th</sup> street.

Worked with Christopher Washington and his Development team exploring the opportunities of a Building relocation plan that was being discussed by city officials. After identifying 6 buildings that could be purchased within a 5 mile radius, the students looked at the northern edge of Birmingham’s downtown core and created strategic plans for the redevelopment and strengthening of existing urban communities. The student’s work will be presented to the Mayor’s office.

Master Plan study and development of the “Gap”, the area located between the downtown Communities of Avondale and Lakeview

Worked on a Design exploration for the development of “Spark @ Sloss”. Working with the city, represented by Renee Kemp Rotan, the Urban Studio (3<sup>rd</sup> year) was invited to participate, along with Georgia Tech and Tuskegee, in a design exploration creating a plan for a new artist community and outreach program on the current Sloss Furnace site.

Studied and evaluated 3 urban neighborhoods, Norwood, Smithfield and Woodlawn, in order to determine if affordable housing can be addressed through the underutilized existing housing stock, thus improving resiliency in the city of Birmingham.

2018 – Master Plan study and development of the Parkside District located adjacent to the new Railroad Park

Worked with the City of Birmingham to create a new masterplan for the Banks High School site located in the Eastlake Neighborhood on the eastern edge of Birmingham

participated and led the 5<sup>th</sup> year studio in the Charrette with Design Alabama for the city of Camden, Alabama

Led 2 students in the study/redesign of the Standard Furniture building located adjacent to the new home of the Urban Studio, in order to provide a housing component to the Urban Studio.

Studied and evaluated the North Titusville neighborhood in order to determine if affordable housing can be addressed through the underutilized housing stock, thus improving resiliency in the city of Birmingham.

2019 – Master Plan study and development of the Smithfield community

Studied and evaluated the Ensley neighborhood to identify possible redevelopment opportunities for the Build Up Organization to better focus their efforts and create appropriate communities for their students.

Continued strengthening our relationship with Build Up through a new collaboration connecting our students through a student discussion regarding the Practice of Architecture, and the required education, and demands of an Architect.

Created a new Practicum course for the fifth year studio exploring the design process through a series of guest lecturers. The lectures were coordinated with the timeline for their main project in the Smithfield

community. These lectures were a series of workshops focusing on an aspect of the Design process.

Aided in planning and organizing a trip to New York City to view and visit Urban Design solutions and planning projects throughout the city. The tour occurred over a four day period. The students were asked to create a presentation from a select group of projects which were located along the tour.

## 2020 – Master Plan study of the McClendon Park District

Continued development of the Practicum course for the fifth year studio exploring the design process through a series of guest lecturers. The lectures were coordinated with the timeline for their main project in the McClendon Park community. These lectures were a series of workshops focusing on an aspect of the Design process.

Organized and began the new Urban Lab with John Pittari. The Urban Lab will begin working in Ensley beginning in January of 2021 as a team member with Henderson Partners out of North Carolina and Carlton Brown out of New York.

Continued leadership in the development of the Hood McPherson building as the new home of the Urban Studio.

Building on the Urban Studios Legacy and Partnering with Design Alabama I helped create a new delivery model for Design services to communities called Design vision. Partnering with the Urban Studio, a Practicing Architect, and Design Alabama, the program will run a 2 day charrette evaluating the community and delivering an asset based strategic plan, along with an implementation strategy.

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## Projected Research

### Creative Work

- Renovation of a Historic Home in Birmingham Alabama
- Renovation and addition to a historic Home in Homewood Alabama
- Design of a new hardscape design for an existing Home in Homewood Alabama.
- Design of a new Carriage House in Rosemary Beach
- Design of new home in Tallahassee Florida.
  
- Cabin on Lake Martin
- Guest house on Lake Martin
- Comprehensive Study for a weekend retreat maximizing comfort minimizing cost
- Addition of a new modern master bath to an existing traditional Home.
- Conceptual Design Studies for a Contemporary House in a Gated community south of Birmingham Alabama
- Conceptual Design Studies for a new contemporary home on Lake Martin, meeting the design guidelines set by Russell Land
- Development of plans for a new planned community on Lake Martin.
- New Lake House on Lake Martin
- Renovation of a 1970's home to meet the needs of a young growing family
- Design studies and final design for a new home South of Birmingham Alabama
- Adaptive reuse of an existing structure in the downtown area of Birmingham into a private law practice.
- Study in the development of "Temp to Perm" structures in response to natural disasters.
- Remaking the "split level" study in the redevelopment/redesign of existing "split levels" addressing the growing trend toward contemporary design.
- Adaptive reuse of an existing structure in downtown Birmingham as the new home of the Urban Studio. Over the past 2 years I have led the work on the redevelopment of the Urban Studio. First, I directed the

development of a master plan study performed by two students in the fall of 2014. Second, I have reviewed and proposed a phase one option for the redevelopment of the structure to facilitate funding. Currently I am working on the development of a new masterplan and the development of a new pro forma to present to the landlord.

- Renovation/Restoration of Historic Mountain Brook home that was slated for demolition .

#### Academic Development

- Reviewed an article for PER Preservation Education and Research for Paul Hardin Kapp, associate Professor, School of Architecture, University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign
- Through the creation of a design build portion and collaborative with the Landscape Architecture, Industrial Design and Building Science programs, the Urban Studio can become a catalyst for the redevelopment and growth of the City of Birmingham through the implementation of strategic interventions revealed through partnerships with the public and private sector and academic studies.
- Currently working on the development of a new Study abroad program with John Pittari to enable third year students to spend 7 weeks in Birmingham studying Urban Design and experiencing the urban condition; then traveling to Quito, Ecuador; Brasilia, Brazil; and Sao Paulo, Brazil to continue their studies.
- Submitted a new MOU to the City of Birmingham. Establishing a line item in the City of Birmingham's annual budget for the Urban Studio in the amount of 25,000.00.

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#### Miscellaneous

- As our lease nears completion, over the past year I have led the search for the permanent home of the Urban Studio in Birmingham Alabama. Through careful evaluation and selected site visits, I have compiled multiple lists of available properties and have continued to update said lists. During this time, I have sought out new construction opportunities and met with potential development teams in order to better represent APLA's needs and wishes. It appears we are nearing a decision.
- Coordinated and participated in the acquisition and redevelopment plans of the Hood McPherson Building, the new home of the Urban Studio and the new presence of Auburn in Birmingham, Al.
- Continued participation the development of the new home of the Urban Studio through onsite management, strategic planning meetings and developer interview process to determine best delivery method for the completed project
- Involved in the selection of a Design team for the redevelopment of the Hood McPherson Project
- Member of the redevelopment committee for the Hood McPherson Building exploring the benefits of pursuing Historic Tax Credits.
- Creating a new focused area of study for the Urban Studio. After years of practice and 7 years at the Urban Studio, it has become clear to me that architecture and architects need to focus on People not objects. The idea of understanding the role a building plays in the environment, not just by physically shaping space but by creating Place. It is clear that as instructors of Architecture as well as practicing Architects, our profession fails to do a good job of addressing and connecting to the user, "ordinary people". Over the years in my practice, I have tried to address the user through an in depth understanding of materiality. While I believe we have been successful at times, these past 7 years have continued to shape my understanding and I believe the answer lies in the ground plane and the idea of creating "Empathic Architecture". I hope to continue an exploration in the Urban Studio as well as testing my thoughts and assertions through my practice.

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#### References

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