

maria elena  
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cv [apr 2024]  
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@samples\_\_\_\_\_

## education

master of landscape architecture, auburn university [2023]  
bachelor in architecture, universidad de los andes [2018]

## professional experience

research associate, auburn university [jan 2024 - present]  
research assistant, auburn university [aug 2021 - dec 2023]

### responsibilities

- \_GIS mapping, data collection and processing
- \_Literature review (scientific papers, reports, studies, news)
- \_Elaboration of landscape architecture drawings (maps, diagrams, axons, renderings)
- \_Site analysis and fieldwork documentation (Humboldt Bay, San Francisco Bay, Mobile Bay, Perdido Bay, Grand Bay, Escatawpa River, Florida Forgotten Coast, Savannah River, Southern Texas)
- \_Contribution to nature-based infrastructure design concepts
- \_Preparation of material for stakeholders meetings
- \_Participation in design workshops
- \_Preparation of reports
- \_Elaboration of a wetland plant communities field guide for Fort Morgan Peninsula
- \_Communication across universities and teams

### selected projects

\_Natural Infrastructure Innovation Project [jan 2024 - present]  
design research centered on the development of innovative nature-based design concepts to address environmental challenges and amplify ecological and cultural opportunities of coastal infrastructure

Funded by U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC)  
Auburn University in collaboration with University of Virginia and University of Pennsylvania

\_Four Coasts [aug 2021 - present]

design concepts for incorporating nature-based approaches into the Army Corps dredge work in selected districts on the Gulf Coast, Atlantic Coast, Great Lakes and Pacific coast

Funded by U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC)  
Auburn University in collaboration with University of Virginia and University of Pennsylvania

\_Surface Transportation, Sea Level Rise, and Coastal Storms: A Sustainable Path to Increased Resilience [may 22 - present]

studying and visualizing the social and ecological benefits of nature-based infrastructure beyond reduction in SLR impact on transportation infrastructure in Fort Morgan Peninsula, Alabama

Funded by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Effects of Sea Level Rise (ESLR) program

architect, ministry of sports of colombia [feb - jun 2021]

### responsibilities

- \_Technical assistance to more than 25 local governments for sports parks and recreational projects
- \_Contribution to the drafting of funding application guidelines for construction and maintenance of recreation projects
- \_Periodic meetings with local design teams
- \_Site assessment and stakeholders meetings
- \_Coordination of workload for internal team and preparation of progress reports

architect, AECOM [nov 2020 - mar 2021]

part of the local consulting team for the urban regeneration concept and landscape plan for the Magdalena River in Barranquilla, Colombia

responsibilities

- \_ Conceptual design for pocket parks and roads typical sections
- \_ Elaboration of city scale maps, diagrams and a 3D model of the project area (650 Ha)
- \_ Research on landscape design precedents for client presentations

architect, enarq estudio de arquitectura, bogota [jan 2020 - dec 2020]

small design studio focused on responsible renovations to heritage buildings with emphasis on the use of timber structures

responsibilities

- \_ Survey plans and assessment report of existing structures and vegetation
- \_ Preparation of reports for permits
- \_ Construction documentation
- \_ Rhino models and physical models of timber structures
- \_ Material quantities and budget elaboration

contract designer, universidad de los andes [jun 2019 - nov 2019]

graphic production for Bogotá's vegetation manual "Manual de coberturas vegetales", in collaboration with the Bogotá's Botanical Garden

responsibilities

- \_ Elaboration of plan and section vector drawings of 66 suitable tree species for the city
- \_ Infographics for the chapter on Management, Restoration and Ecological Rehabilitation of urban trees and gardening

architect and researcher, el equipo mazzanti [jun 2018 - dec 2019]

design studio specialized in socially driven architecture and academic research

responsibilities

- \_ Conceptual design and architectural representation
- \_ Collaboration on workshops, community outreach strategies and interactive exhibitions
- \_ Coordination of the models workshop team (2 interns) and management of the team's schedule and budget
- \_ Communication with external vendors
- \_ Marketing graphic pieces, multiple project booklets and diagrams for editorial pieces and publications
- \_ Designer and manager of operations for an interactive installation
- \_ Research on pedagogical concepts for classrooms and furniture design

selected projects

- \_ Master plan for 40 km of Panama's coast, strategic document for The World Bank [Panama City]
- \_ Innovation Center at Maiporé Wetland, competition entry [Cundinamarca, Colombia]
- \_ Comfenalco Educational Complex, private competition entry [Cartagena, Colombia]
- \_ Jugando con Pedagogías, exhibit and installation [Madrid, Spain]

## academic experience

undergraduate teaching assistant, universidad de los andes [2017 - 2018]

architecture program courses

- \_ Landscape architecture unit - analysis course
- \_ Architecture and education for diversity unit - studio
- \_ Materials and design unit - studio

invited critic, auburn university

final review BLA 1 studio, studio professor Sarah Coleman [fall 2023]

## honors

- \_olmsted scholar nominee for auburn university, landscape architecture foundation [2023]
- \_ASLA student award of merit, ASLA alabama chapter [2023]
- \_book award for studio II, construction I, studio VI, auburn university [2022-2023]
- \_outstanding graduate student, auburn university [2022]
- \_landscape architecture advisory council endowed award [2022]
- \_sigma lambda alpha scholar [2021]
- \_graduate research assistanship/scholarship, auburn university [2021-2023]
- \_honor mention architecture thesis, 18<sup>a</sup> architecture student annual, sociedad colombiana de arquitectos [2018]
- \_summa cum laude, architecture degree, universidad de los andes [2018]
- \_distinction "ramón de zubiría" for best cumulative GPA, architecture program, universidad de los andes [2018]
- \_distinction "excelencia semestral" for best GPA of the semester, universidad de los andes [2018-1]
- \_distinction "excelencia semestral" for best GPA of the semester, universidad de los andes [2017-1]

## conferences

- \_panelist, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine GOMCON [feb 2024]  
session: design studios, interdisciplinary education, the future of the workforce, and community partnerships in the gulf

## skills

- \_arcGIS pro, adobe cs, autocad, rhinoceros, enscape, delft 3d, microsoft office
- \_physical modelling, 3d printing, wood working, embroidery, hand-drawing
- \_english (professional proficient), spanish (native)

## service

- fundacion arar, co-founder, creative director, [2023 - present]  
non-profit centered on social development opportunities through artistic initiatives in my hometown (villanueva, santander, colombia)