

# News



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## Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church Expands

**Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church**, in Cobb County, has developed a working relationship with jB+a. The church acquired additional land this spring that created the opportunity to expand and add much needed parking. After becoming part of the design team, jB+a recognized the need for some changes to the campus irrigation systems. At jB+a's suggestion, Mt. Bethel's on-site systems have now been evaluated and an overall Water Use and Alternative Source Analysis has been completed. Retrofitting and general adherence to recommendation from this study will save Mt. Bethel thousands of dollars in water and sewage costs.



## Re-Mastering A Classic

jB+a is finalizing design plans for the main grounds at Atlanta Country Club in Marietta, the former long-time venue of the Atlanta Classic golf tournament. Design work includes a new Golf Clubhouse, Pro Shop and Tennis Center. The master plan includes detailed vehicular and pedestrian movement studies as well as tree preservation efforts. Leading to the main grounds and a formal motor court, a new vehicular drive at the golf clubhouse (shown left) will provide an approach appropriate to the richness and character of the new turn-of-the-century style clubhouse.

### This issue:

- Lenox Townhomes
- Mt. Bethel Church
- Atlanta Country Club Renovation
- Cooperative Resource Center
- Fairways at Jennings Mill

## Highland Avenue

Located on the north edge of Inman Park on the site of a scrap metal yard **Highland Avenue Apartment Homes** is one of jB+a's latest multifamily projects. The 350-unit, high-density brick complex includes four ground floor, neighborhood style commercial spaces. The project was developed by Perennial Properties within the Atlanta PDMU zoning guidelines that dictate the incorporation of a ten-foot wide sidewalk, large shade trees and street furniture along the Highland avenue frontage. Several of the units are accessed directly from the Highland Avenue sidewalk contributing to the urban character of the project. The complex also includes seven courtyards with outdoor amenities such as a formal pool and a large lawn area with a gazebo for large gatherings or active play. Several small courtyards provide lush garden spaces directly accessible to several ground floor units.



## Rooms with a View

jB+a has recently completed work on The Fairways at Jennings Mill in Athens, Georgia. Working with DLD Development and Sierra Contracting, the 304 unit project's site plan is organized around a central concentric parkway with an additional bisecting parkway at the center. The fifteen buildings step down the sloping site toward the golf course, affording views of the fairways in a majority of the buildings. A two-story clubhouse and leasing center overlook a large swimming pool and deck. In addition to the site planning and landscape design, jB+a also provided the design of hardscape elements such as the pool, piers, fences and entry gates.



The Fairways at Jennings Mill - Athens, Georgia

## Collaboration with the Cooperative Resource Center

The **Cooperative Resource Center (CRC)** has created over 1900 units of affordable housing in 8 different counties across the north and central parts of Georgia. In addition, future projects have the potential of providing an additional 650 units. CRC has retained jB+a to create Landscape and Hardscape Construction Documents that will allow the affordable construction of an attractive and desirable living space. A significant portion of CRC funding comes from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA). Each spring the CRC submits projects for the DCA's evaluation. For the 2002 submittal, jB+a was enlisted to produce concept plans for five potential projects.

Rendering courtesy of Benchmark Design International Architects & Planners.



## Lenox Townhomes

Working with Columbia Development, Jon Benson + associates recently completed initial zoning and tree protection plans for 25 townhomes on a 5.5 acre site near the Lenox / Phipps Plaza retail area in northeast Atlanta. Atlanta's new tree ordinance provided a challenge in creating a financially viable development that met the clients needs. Working with both the client on site planning issues and the Atlanta Arborist on tree replacement, jB+a produced a final site plan and cost analysis that met the needs of both. This analysis assisted the clients' decision to purchase the property.

## Design Trends

Jon Benson recently lead a discussion panel of Architects & Interior Designers at the Corporate Real Estate Women of Atlanta (CREW) to discuss Design Trends in the marketplace.

## Learning to LEED

In the spirit of the jB+a corporate goal to provide landscapes that are livable, maintainable and sustainable, two jB+a employees recently attended the Georgia Greenprints conference. Sponsored by the Southface Energy Institute, the conference included a series of seminars and a showcase of ongoing projects developed through a sustainable approach to both building and site design. The theme of the conference revolved around the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) green building rating system developed by the U.S. Green Building Council. The LEED system includes a list of guidelines that address energy efficiency, green building material selection and site planning. The overall goal of the LEED approach is the development of a sustainable building design that utilizes "green" construction materials and incurs minimal impact on public facilities for storm / waste treatment and energy needs. Jon Benson + Associates is currently pursuing several projects that will incorporate the LEED approach and are dedicated to the approach as a means to provide sustainable design solutions.

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