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Recording and Sharing: Reflections on Learning from the Course "Landscape Construction Drawing Design"

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Abstract

This paper reflects on the learning journey in the course Landscape Construction Drawing Design taught by Professor Xiaodong WANG. It explores the process from initial hand-drawing practice to field investigations, CAD software application, and the final production of construction drawings. The course emphasized the importance of integrating technical skills with creative thinking, as well as the role of cross-disciplinary collaboration in environmental design. Through this reflection, the paper aims to provide valuable insights for students and practitioners interested in the complexities of landscape construction drawing and its practical applications.

Keywords Landscape construction drawings; Design principles; Field investigations; CAD software; Practical application

Article History

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1 Introduction

Before taking this course, my understanding of working drawing design was primarily shaped by the foundational course *Basic Architectural Drawing and Design*, where I initially thought it was simply two-dimensional data presented in CAD. However, as the course progressed, especially after listening to Professor WANG's introduction, I gradually realized that working drawing design is not just a simple data set but an essential bridge connecting design concepts with actual implementation.

2 Preliminary Understanding and Hand-drawing Practice

In the first class, Professor WANG provided a detailed introduction to the fundamentals of working drawing drafting. He emphasized that working drawing design has a unique diversity and professionalism, and, due to safety considerations, the processes involved are intricate and complex. Unlike schematic drawings, working drawings require additional details such as precise size standards, material construction, and craftsmanship, covering aspects like landscape construction, greenery, drainage, and electrical components. To help us adjust our mindset and become familiar with drafting, the instructor first had us hand-draw the elevation views of tree support structures and stair elevations, and then draft them in CAD. This process helped us understand the construction of specific landscape nodes and improved our drawing skills.

3 Field Investigation and Sketch Practice

Later, we conducted field investigations in the small garden below Shangmeyuan, where Professor WANG personally explained and demonstrated how to sketch plan views under the scorching sun. After working on digital drawings for a long time, I rediscovered the value of hand-drawing. Through field observation and sketching, we gained a deeper understanding of the construction of various facilities. For example, flower beds are not just composed of surface granite but also include a cement mortar bonding layer beneath; similarly, stairs consist of multiple components. After the field investigation, we proceeded to draw detailed plan views based on our sketches, complete with legends.

4 CAD Software Application and Stage Review

After completing the sketches, we converted them into CAD drawings. In the initial assignments, many students, myself included, encountered several issues, such as disorganized layouts, blurry lines, and incorrect scales. Through repeated revisions and the instructor' s periodic reviews, we gradually came to understand the importance of layout in drawings, realizing that the client values not only the content of the drawings but also their presentation.

5 Project Examples and Detailed Operations

The instructor demonstrated examples of his previous projects in class, showcasing detailed operations in CAD and emphasizing the importance of finishing touches. Construction drawings must not only be clear and understandable but also ensure the safety of the facilities. These detailed operations require clear thinking and solid skills.

Next, based on the actual conditions of the two gardens below the Shangmei Building, we began to draw a complete set of construction drawings. I continuously performed on-site measurements and sketches, overcoming the hot and dry summer weather. When faced with complex structures and materials, I combined measurements with CAD software to complete high-quality

construction drawings. During this process, I frequently encountered unfamiliar materials and used online tools to research and identify them, gradually accumulating knowledge and experience.

6 Complete Plan and Summary Improvement

In the end, we completed the conversion from sketches to CAD drawings as per the instructor's assignment. Through continuous revisions and improvements, we eventually met the required standards. This process made me realize that construction drawing design not only demands technical proficiency but also requires a meticulous attitude and clear thinking.

Through this course, I gained a new understanding and deeper insight into construction drawing design. Firstly, Professor WANG's unique insights and strict standards made me fully appreciate the complexity and importance of construction drawing design. Secondly, the practice of hand-drawing in environmental design, combined with proficient use of CAD software, enabled me to make significant progress in both areas. Additionally, through interactions with teachers and classmates, I learned how to tackle complex problems and greatly benefited from cross-disciplinary learning. Moreover, the teacher's humorous and engaging teaching style sparked our interest in construction drawing design, encouraging us to be more enthusiastic about learning and practice.

7 Conclusion

The Landscape Construction Drawing Design course has been an invaluable learning experience, significantly enhancing both my technical proficiency and design thinking. From hand-drawing practice to the use of CAD software, each stage of the course provided opportunities to deepen my understanding of construction drawings and their critical role in bringing design concepts to life. The integration of field investigations, detailed operations, and project-based learning enabled me to appreciate the complexity and precision required in this field. Moreover, the collaborative and cross-disciplinary approach enriched my problem-solving skills and broadened my perspective on how construction drawings intersect with other aspects of environmental design. This course has prepared me to approach future projects with confidence, creativity, and a meticulous attention to detail.

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Author Biography

Xiang YI was born in 2004 and is a native of Huarong County, Hunan Province. She is a student in the Class of 2022 at the College of Fine Arts, Sichuan Normal University. Her research focuses on the residential landscape of Shu Dao and the aesthetics of rural habitation. https://orcid.org/0009-0003-3037-605X.

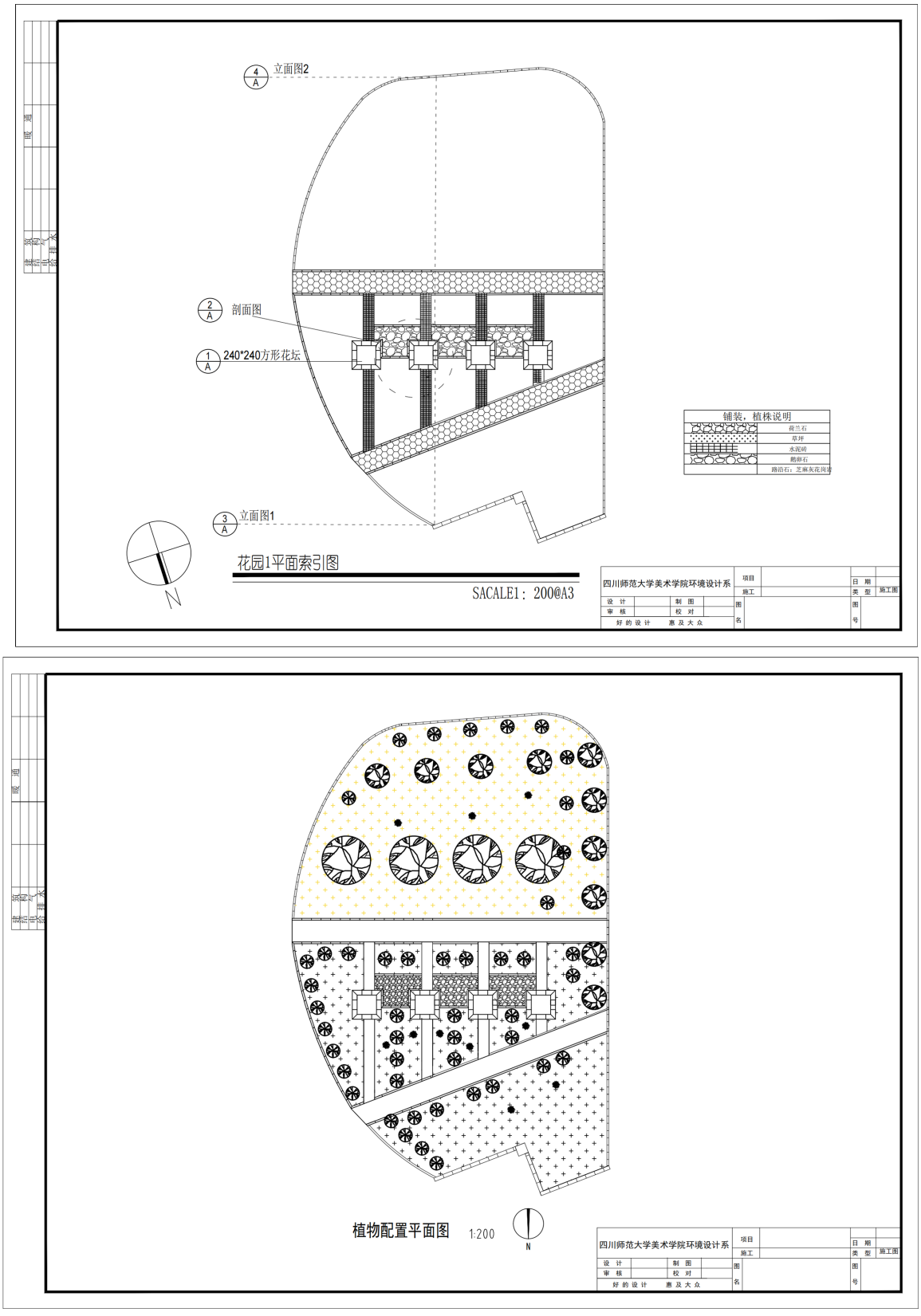

Figure 1: Partial construction drawings

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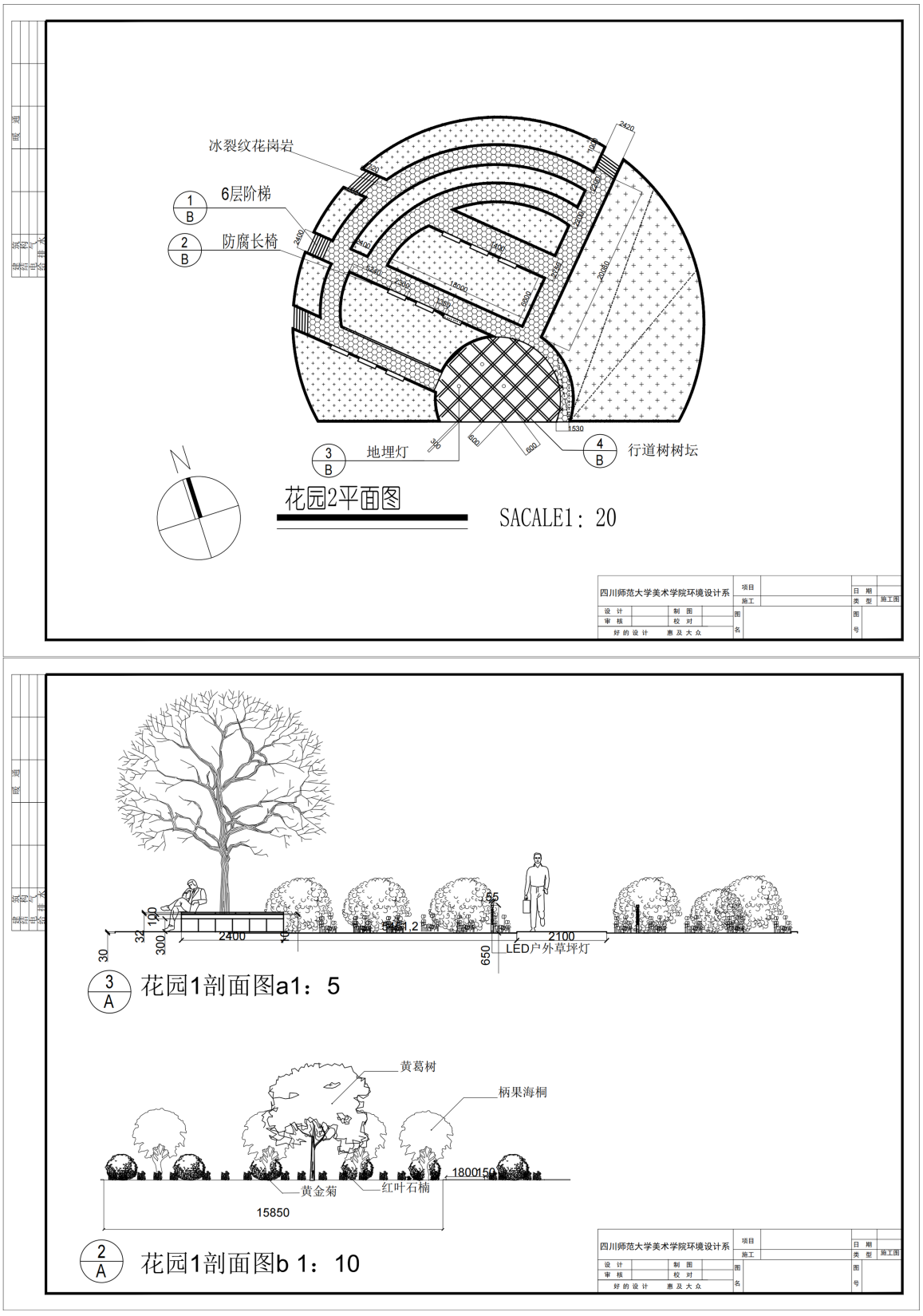

Figure 2: Partial construction drawings

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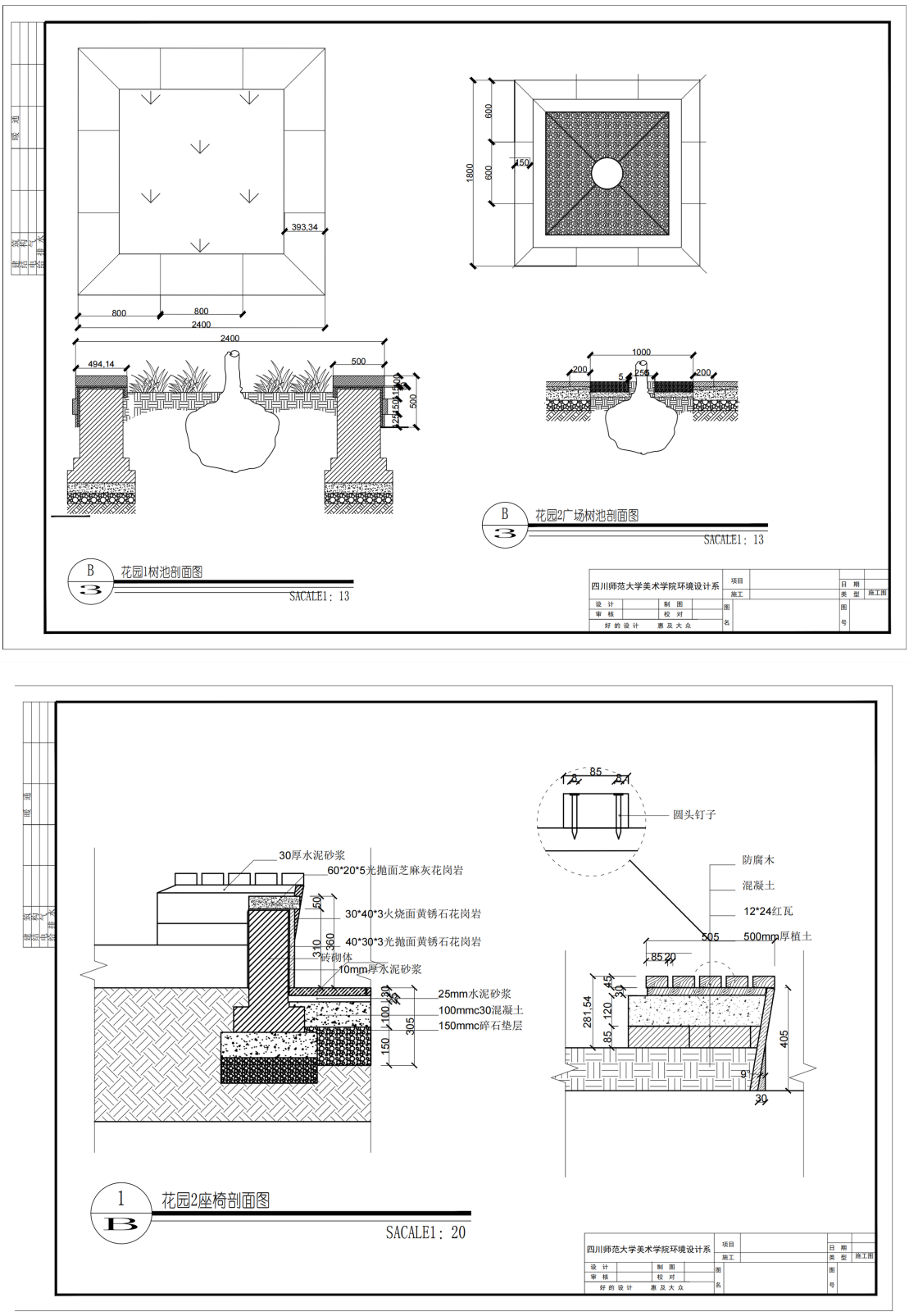

Figure 3: Partial construction drawings