Oliver Atwood

Landscape & Regional Planner
Geospatial Analyst
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Oliver Atwood is a designer and researcher whose work focuses on the interaction of the built and natural environment at a variety of scales. He is passionate about using a data-driven approach to increase the resilience of the built environment through deployment of nature-based solutions.

Oliver is currently a graduate student of Urban Spatial Analytics at the University of Pennsylvania. His research focuses on scenario-based modeling and mapping of urban expansion, biodiversity loss, and climate risk. Prior to graduate school, he practiced architecture in San Francisco and worked on the design and construction of rammed earth buildings and art installations in Nepal and California. Oliver studied Landscape Architecture & Regional Planning at the University of Pennsylvania and holds a bachelor's degree in Architectural Studies from the University of Virginia.

Education
- University of Pennsylvania, 2019-2024
    Master of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning
    Master of Urban Spatial Analytics
        Certificate in Urban Resilience
- University of Virginia, 2011-2015
    Bachelor of Architectural Studies
        Minor in Global Sustainability

Professional Experience
- Regional Planner, One Architecture & Urbanism, 2022-
- Extern, James Corner Field Operations, 2022
- Junior Designer, Mark English Architects, 2018-2019
- Junior Designer, Sutro Architects, 2017-2018
- Designer + Builder, Rammed Earth Works, 2016-2017
- Designer + Builder, Conscious Impact NGO, 2016-2017

Publications
- 'To the Ends of the Earth: A Grand Tour for the Anthropocene'
    Richard Weller & Oliver Atwood
    Birkhäuser, publication 2024

Teaching
Research
- Urban Ecology, Teaching Assistant
    Nicholas Pevzner, UPenn School of Design, Fall 2023
- Urban Resilience Studio - Save the Suburbs, Teaching Assistant
    Matthijs Bouw, UPenn School of Design, Fall 2023
- Urban Resilience Studio - Climate Migration, Teaching Assistant
    Matthijs Bouw, UPenn School of Design, Fall 2021
- Media II: Digital Media, Teaching Assistant
    Keith VanDerSys, UPenn School of Design, Summer 2021
- Landscape Theory II: Culture of Nature, Teaching Assistant
    Richard Weller, UPenn School of Design, Spring 2021

Select Projects
Research
- UN Habitat Hotspot Cities Project
    Integrated mapping of projected climate risk, biodiversity loss, and urban expansion of three cities in developing nations.
    Research Leads: Andrew Rudd, Matthijs Bouw, Richard Weller
- Accelerating Renewables
    Socio-spatial mapping of New York State clean energy transition.
    Research Leads: Nicholas Pevzner, Daniel Aldana-Cohen
- World Park Project
    Conceptual mapping of a continuous landscape of restored habitat and trails connecting protected areas across the world.
    Research Lead: Richard Weller

Academic Work
- Beyond the Boiler - Exploring a Diversified Biomass Campus
    Design and prototype of an educational board game about sustainable forest management in the northern Sierra Mountains.
- Meebewegen Natuur - Rewilding the Netherlands
    Design for a phased, toolkit-based approach to loosening the Netherlands' control over water and nature.
- Who Makes the City?: An Anti-Displacement Framework
    Design of a neighborhood-scale community development nonprofit and series of policy changes to boost local economic development, increase affordable housing, and build resilience infrastructure in a Southwest Philadelphia.
- Taking Root: Catalyzing Generational Stewardship
    Design of a neighborhood resilience hub, educational campus, and series of youth engagement programs in a Philadelphia neighborhood adjacent to a recently-closed oil refinery.

Built Work
- Accessory Dwelling Unit, Palo Alto, California, 2019
- Migrant Agricultural Workers Memorial, Costa Mesa, CA,
    Rammed earth construction, 2018
- Women's Microfinance Cooperative, Nawalpur, Nepal
    Rammed earth construction, 2017
- Siddhartha Primary School Rebuild, Nawalpur, Nepal
    Compressed stabilized earth blocks, 2016