

*“bring the earth as an inhabited landscape in proximity to man.” M. Heidegger*

**Pandapas Pond** offers an 8-acre manmade pond that provides fishing, hiking, flat-water canoeing, and picnicking opportunities. A 1-mile loop trail, at an approximate elevation of 2200 feet, circles the lake and meanders through the surrounding Appalachian hardwoods and pines and some rhododendron thickets. In migration, this area can produce large numbers of warblers, including blackpoll and bay-breasted warblers. Residents of this area include great horned and barred owls, pileated and red-bellied woodpeckers, and green heron. The first parking lot to the left provides access to the Poverty Creek and Gap Mountain trails. Equestrian and cycling access is permitted here. These trails are extensive, and network with other U.S. Forest Service trails. These hardwood forests are home to similar bird species listed above, but are also home to a variety of non-avian wildlife.



Pandapas Pond is a resource for research and observation by many departments at Virginia Tech including: Biological Science, Environmental Science, Fish Conservation and Forestry, to mention only a few. Due to the frequency of research being conducted by members of these departments, there is a need for a **Research Station** to be designed and built in proximity to the pond. The research station would support observation of wildlife and visitors,

data collection for flora and fauna, and habitation from only a few minutes to several hours for up to 10 researchers. Due to its remote location, the pond site does not offer electricity and large vehicles for construction are discouraged. Your task is to propose a design for the **Research Station**.



Your proposal should consider the following:

- The Ranger Station should be accessible to visitors that may have mobility constraints, although, if you propose an observation tower as part of the design, access to the tower can be exempt from ADA requirements.
- You may assume that the restrooms near the entry to the pond may be used by the researchers. However, water will be needed on-site for cleanup and processing samples for research. The water may be from rainwater harvesting or from a well.
- You are highly encouraged to visit the site for inspiration.
- Daylighting should be included.

- The station should include at least the following:
  - Observation platform for 8 researchers ..... 250 sq.ft.
  - Gathering and conversation space for 10 researchers ..... 400 sq.ft.
  - Secure data equipment room ..... 200 sq.ft.
    - Shelving
  - Sample cleaning and specimen preparation area with countertop ..... 150 sq.ft.
    - Sink
  - Storage for buckets, waders, axe, etc. .... 100 sq.ft.

Submission requirements: 1) 24 " x 36" board (landscaped only) and 2) sectional model (3/8" = 1') demonstrating the architectural proposition. Board and models are due between 5p and 7p Sunday Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>.

*"it is necessary to wonder what space admits and secondarily in what way this happens. In order to be able to clarify this, we must return to the question of moments of use."*

*C. Norberg-Schulz*