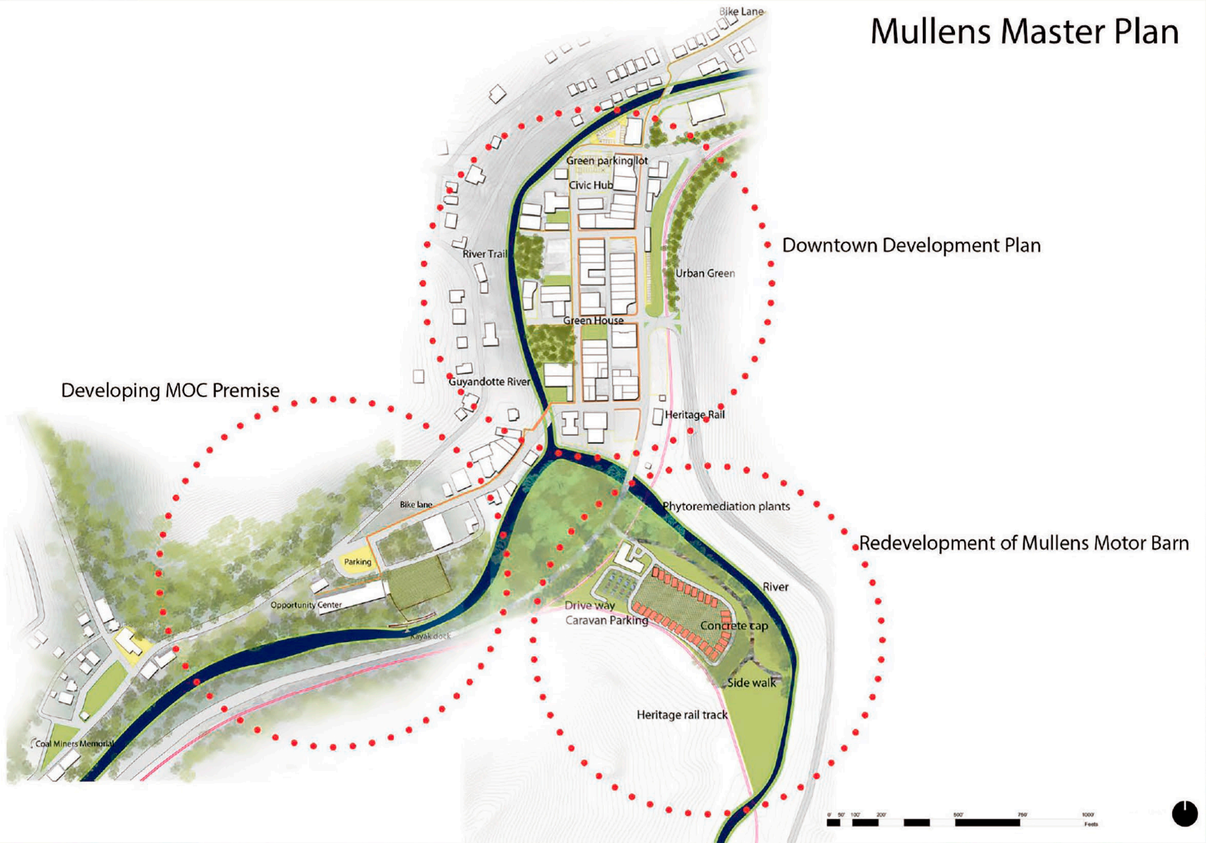
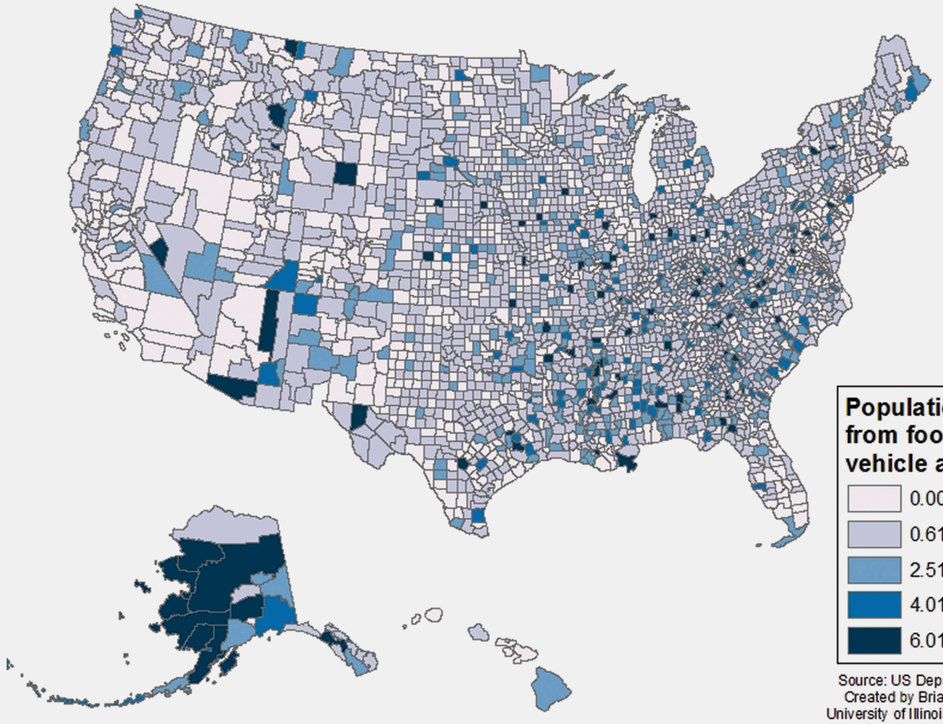
Mullens

Mullens is a city in Wyoming County, West Virginia. Mullens was incorporated as a town on September 17, 1912 and operated under a charter issued by the Circuit Court of Wyoming County. It was named for A. J. Mullins, who owned the land upon which the town is built. Located in a valley along the Guyandotte River within a mountainous region of southern West Virginia, the town was nearly destroyed by flash flooding in July 2001.

Mullens Master Plan



Food Deserts in the United States



Population >1 mile from food and no vehicle access (%)

- 0.00 - 0.60
- 0.61 - 2.50
- 2.51 - 4.00
- 4.01 - 6.00
- 6.01 - 30.0

Source: US Department of Agriculture
Created by Brianna Davis, 11/7/2016
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Design Concept

Pioneer species
Annual plants grow and are succeeded by grasses and perennials.

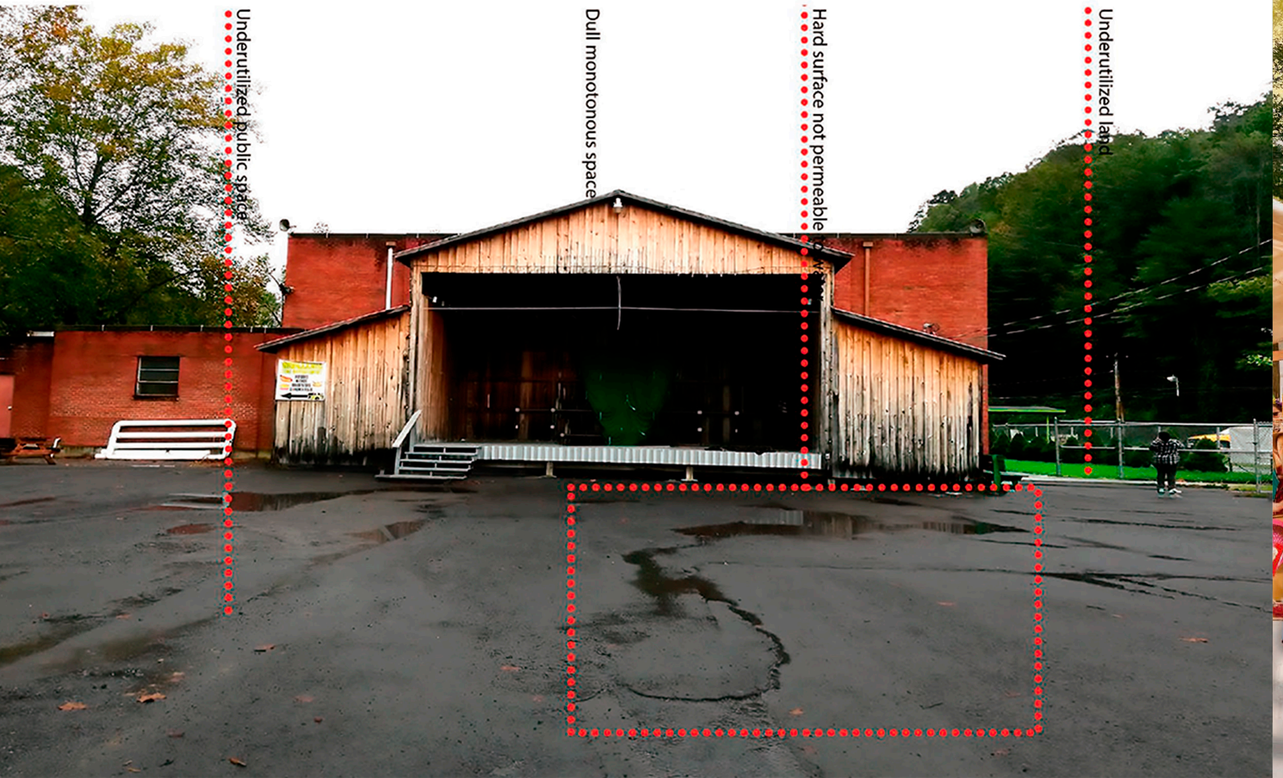
Intermediate species
Shrubs, then pines, and young oak and hickory begin to grow.

Climax community
The mature oak and hickory forest remains stable until the next disturbance.

Establishing Food Forests

Plant List

Existing Situation Analysis



Developing MOC Premise

The former Mullens Grade School, now known as the Mullens Opportunity Center (MOC), is RAIL's (Rural Appalachian Improvement League) base of operations. The MOC serves as a space for events, guest speakers, small businesses, and nonprofit programming.

The premise is connected to the Guyandotte River on south side. At present the premise only has a stage on it. The area can be redeveloped into a community gathering space. The area can be used to accommodate Mullens Farmers market on every weekend. The place can also be used for various community events like awareness creating or fund raising events.

Existing Situation Analysis

Land area 700 sft open space

Total House 691

Potential Cultivable Land 10.15 Acre

Private Land

Occupational

Recreational

The city of Mullens is facing the phenomenon commonly known as the food desert. Mullens do not have sufficient source of local fresh food. As a result, the common source of food is either can food or available items at grocery which also do not have much variety in food items.
The total number of households in the city is 691. With an average, every house has an area of 700 sft open space. This means at total of more than 10 acre of potential cultivable land can be used for urban farming.

COMMUNITY

community supported agriculture (CSA)

COMMUNITY RUN FARMS

Area
unused land of individual household will be used for cultivation.

Annual operation cost
Will be collected through fundraising, unused land of individual household will be used for cultivation.

Work force
Volunteer once or twice a week. School children and retired community members can be involved.

Product Distribution
Approximately 70% produced crop will be given away to the community and 30% will be donated to food bank families.

Source: https://www.agrilyst.com/

July -September
fruiting plants such as tomatoes and corn will be grown

Yield
10.59 lb/sqft

March-October
leafy vegetables will be grown

Yield
6.42 lb/sqft

March-October
leafy vegetables will be grown

Yield
8.71 lb/sqft

Compost can be made from leafs and added to the site

Sustainable irrigation
drip irrigation saves water by supplying water directly to the root zone of the soil

In addition to drip irrigation, rainwater is collected and stored in every household.