



a natural state

Artist: Clemson Nature-based Sculpture

Video 3: Nature

[Francis Chamberlain] To define the natural world is truly very difficult, and in teaching landscape architecture how do you define nature when its definition has changed through the centuries? And what I find very interesting is that in the beginning man protected himself from nature. When man came out of the woods and settled in the plains, and then began to build fences, put a roof over his head, to seek shelter and protection, nature was mysterious, awesome, frightening. And now centuries later we in fact are building fences around nature to protect it from civilization. We're right at the cusp of that switch and that is what I find truly fascinating. So this definition of nature in the beginning...perhaps it was chaos and now perhaps civilization is defined as chaos and nature itself is more civilized.