Michigan State University
Urban and Regional Planning Program
HISTORICAL TIMELINE

1855  Michigan Agricultural and Mechanical College was established as the nation's first Land Grant College.

1865  A one-half year course in "Landscape Gardening," required of all students, was the first organized course in Landscape Architecture to be offered in the United States.

1923  Department of Landscape Architecture was established in the School of Agriculture under C.P. Halligan as Department Head.

1939  Courses in Urban Planning were introduced and offered by the Landscape Architecture Department. Charles W. Barr promoted Urban Planning as a part of the Landscape curriculum. This was the first time the word "urban" was used as a part of an academic curriculum.

1946  The Department of Landscape Architecture expanded its offerings to include a four-year undergraduate major in Urban Planning. The name was changed to the Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning, under Harold Lautner, department head and D. Newton Glick, Chairman of Landscape Studies. The Master in Urban Planning degree was established later in the same year.

1958  The Department of Landscape Architecture & Urban Planning was transferred to the College of Business and Public Service and the name changed to the Department of Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture.

1962  The Department of Urban Planning & Landscape Architecture was transferred to the new College of Social Science and its name and status changed to the "School of Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture" under Myles Boylan as Director and D. Newton Glick, Associate Director for Landscape Architecture.

1973  Carl Goldschmidt was appointed Director of the School of Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture. Keith Honey became Program Chairperson for the Urban Planning Program.

1976  Roger Hamlin became Program Chairperson for the Urban Planning Program.

1977  The Library, which evolved for over a decade, was formalized and dedicated as the Charles W. Barr Planning and Design Library.

1986  The Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture Programs became a part of a multi-unit department including Urban Planning, Landscape Architecture and Geography inside the College of Social Science. Roger Hamlin became Director of the Urban Planning Program (coordinator 1986-92).

1989  The Schun Hagiwara Endowed Fellowship and the Malcolm Drummond Endowed Scholarship were established.

1991  The Distinguished Professional Practitioner Endowment Fund was established.

1993  The Program's name and its degrees were changed to Urban and Regional Planning.

1993  The Jack Horniman Special Enrichment Endowment in Urban and Regional Planning was established.

1995  The Carl Goldschmidt International Studies Fellowship was established.

1995  Frank Zinn became Interim Director of the Urban and Regional Planning Program.
1996 June Manning Thomas became Director of the Urban and Regional Planning Program.
2000 The Charles W. Barr Urban Planning Enrichment Endowment Fund was established.
2000 The William Rowden Memorial Scholarship Fund was established.
2001 Eric J. Strauss was hired as Director of the Urban & Regional Planning Program. Herbert P. Norman became Assistant Director and Director of Graduate Programs.
2002 The Timothy J. Hernandez Scholarship Fund was established.
2004 The Urban & Regional Planning Program became a founding unit of the new School of Planning, Design & Construction.
2006 Mark Wilson appointed Director of the Urban and Regional Planning Program.
2007 Scott Witter appointed Director of the School of Planning, Design and Construction, and Mark Wilson as Associate Director.
2012 Zenia Kotval appointed Lead of the Urban and Regional Planning Program.