



The Rural Studio (USA) is a design-build architecture studio run by Auburn University which aims to teach students about the social responsibilities of the profession of architecture while also providing safe, well-constructed and inspirational homes and buildings for poor communities in rural west Alabama, part of the so-called "Black Belt". The studio was founded in 1993 by architects Samuel Mockbee and D. K. Ruth. Each year the program builds five or so projects - a house by the second-year students, three thesis projects by groups of 3-5 fifth year students and one or more outreach studio projects. The Rural Studio has built more than 80 houses and civic projects in Hale, Perry and Marengo counties. The Rural Studio is based in Newbern, a small town in Hale County. Many of its best-known projects are in the tiny community of Mason's Bend, on the banks of the Black Warrior River.

Project author or developer:  
**Auburn University**

Where:  
**US / Alabama / Auburn University / Compton de Lee**

Website:  
**[apps.cadc.auburn.edu/rural-studio/Default.aspx](https://apps.cadc.auburn.edu/rural-studio/Default.aspx)**

