

INFORMATIONAL TOPIC  
January 6, 2016

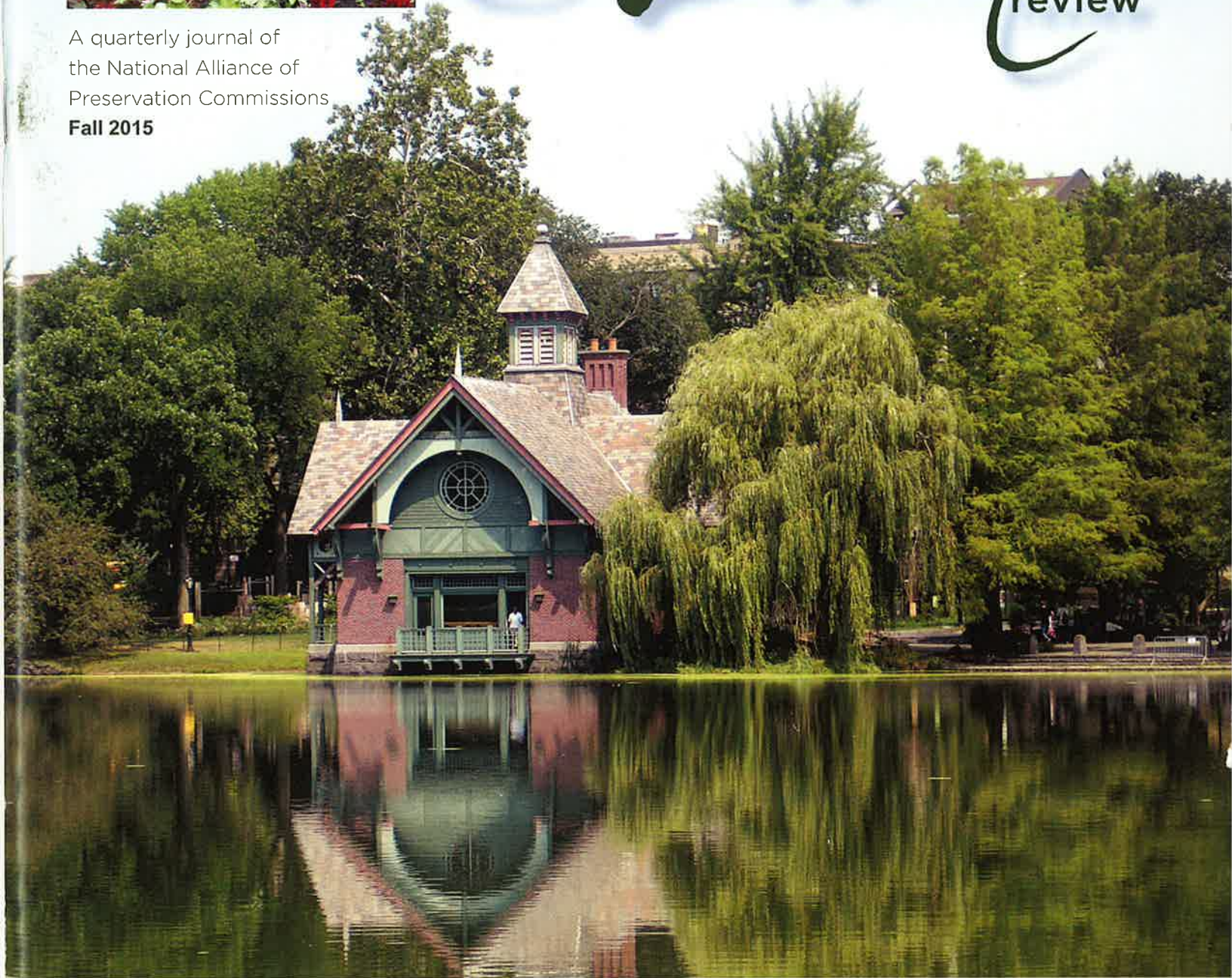


# Alliance

the  
review

A quarterly journal of  
the National Alliance of  
Preservation Commissions

Fall 2015



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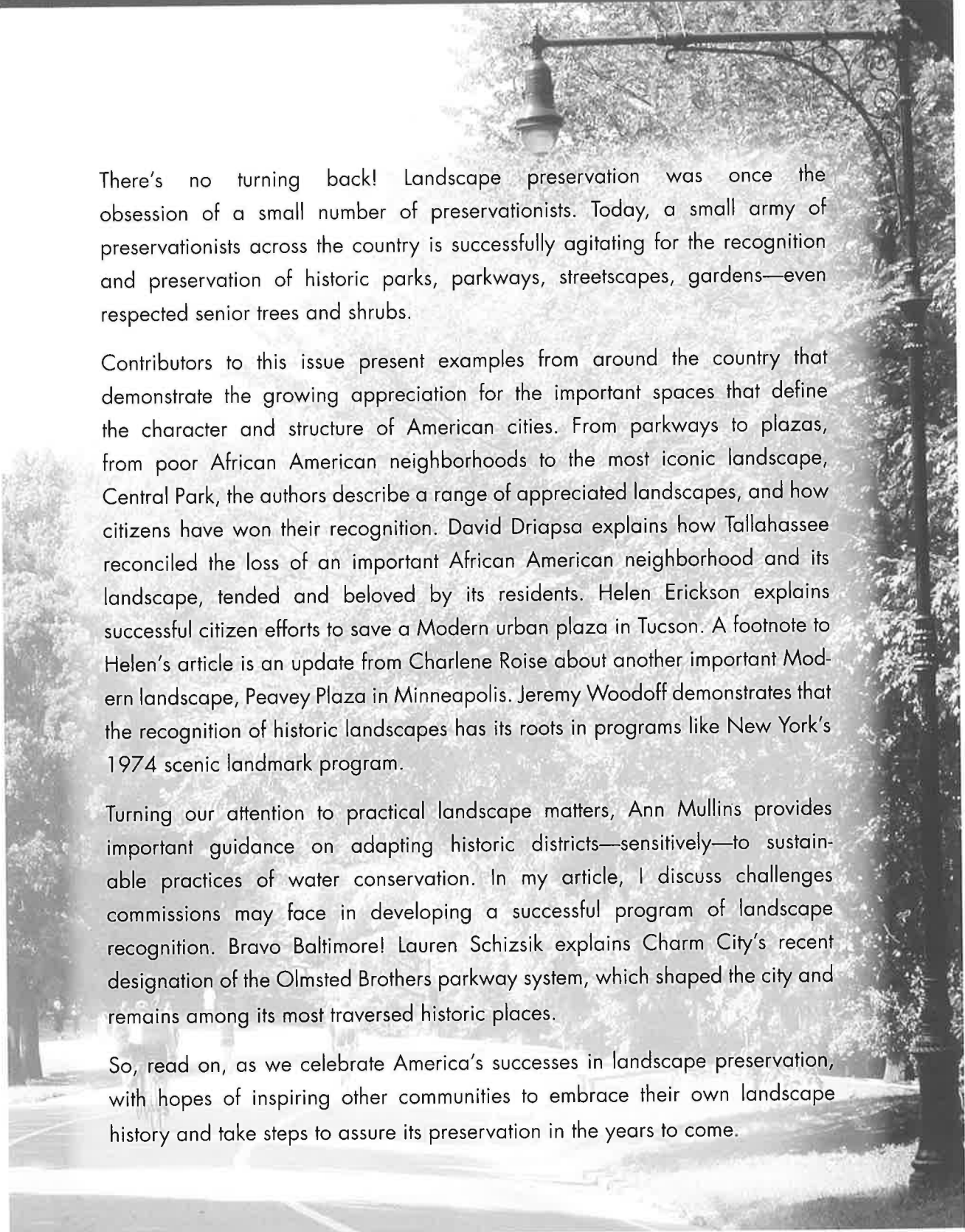
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# In this Issue

BY BARBARA WYATT, ASLA, THE ALLIANCE REVIEW GUEST EDITOR

A black and white photograph of a park street. In the foreground, a street lamp with a single globe hangs from a decorative metal arm. The street is lined with trees, and a path or road is visible in the distance. The overall scene is peaceful and well-maintained.

There's no turning back! Landscape preservation was once the obsession of a small number of preservationists. Today, a small army of preservationists across the country is successfully agitating for the recognition and preservation of historic parks, parkways, streetscapes, gardens—even respected senior trees and shrubs.

Contributors to this issue present examples from around the country that demonstrate the growing appreciation for the important spaces that define the character and structure of American cities. From parkways to plazas, from poor African American neighborhoods to the most iconic landscape, Central Park, the authors describe a range of appreciated landscapes, and how citizens have won their recognition. David Driapsa explains how Tallahassee reconciled the loss of an important African American neighborhood and its landscape, tended and beloved by its residents. Helen Erickson explains successful citizen efforts to save a Modern urban plaza in Tucson. A footnote to Helen's article is an update from Charlene Roise about another important Modern landscape, Peavey Plaza in Minneapolis. Jeremy Woodoff demonstrates that the recognition of historic landscapes has its roots in programs like New York's 1974 scenic landmark program.

Turning our attention to practical landscape matters, Ann Mullins provides important guidance on adapting historic districts—sensitively—to sustainable practices of water conservation. In my article, I discuss challenges commissions may face in developing a successful program of landscape recognition. Bravo Baltimore! Lauren Schizsik explains Charm City's recent designation of the Olmsted Brothers parkway system, which shaped the city and remains among its most traversed historic places.

So, read on, as we celebrate America's successes in landscape preservation, with hopes of inspiring other communities to embrace their own landscape history and take steps to assure its preservation in the years to come.

*Barbara Wyatt is a historian for the National Park Service, serving as the landscape specialist for the National Register of Historic Places and the National Historic Landmarks program. Past jobs include the historic preservation planner for the City of Frederick, Maryland, and the survey and planning coordinator for the Wisconsin state historic preservation office. She serves on the Frederick County, Maryland, Historic Preservation Commission.*

# Landscapes and Commissions: Time for Action

By Barbara Wyatt, ASLA

Landscapes! Why do many commissions consider landscape review to be too controversial or too difficult to tackle? Myths about the controversial nature of landscapes and muddled perceptions about their designation and treatment abound. Commissions may not feel qualified for the task of evaluating landscape significance and specifying appropriate treatments. They may believe the public will respond negatively—perhaps vehemently—to the introduction of even modest landscape guidelines. The opposite can be true as well.

Commissions have been startled by public energy when cherished landscapes are threatened and by the depth of public outrage over lost landscapes and landscape features. As with many aspects of historic preservation, such incidents can provide an opportunity to turn the page to a new way of doing business.

## WHAT IS A LANDSCAPE?

In the most general sense, *landscape* refers to the range of characteristics of a particular place. For example, the landscape may be composed of “green” space (i.e. land devoid of development other than plant materials), streets, walks, parking lots, vegetation, buildings, signs, and the other component parts of a place.

A more specific application, often used in historic

preservation programs, considers landscape resources to be historic resources that are not building-centric, such as parks, gardens, cemeteries, and plazas. Landscape resources may be composed of natural features (such as the soil and geology of the site) and human-designed, constructed, and placed features (such as introduced plantings, water features, lighting, and small buildings and objects). Landscape resources frequently represent various layers of history, including underground archeology, with different layers relating to one period or another.

The term *streetscape* usually refers to the visual image of a street, including paving, utilities, signs, street furniture, plantings, small scale structures—such as bus shelters—and the buildings that front



Photo by Barbara Wyatt

**East Third Street Park, Frederick, MD.** This small city park in the Frederick Historic District was dedicated in 2001, after a successful citizen initiative to upgrade the park with a new playground, plant materials, walks, and fencing. Even small green spaces add to a neighborhood in many ways.

onto them. Streetscapes may be considered a subset of landscapes. They are integral parts of historic districts, although often their significance is eclipsed by the buildings on either side. In these pages, streetscapes will be considered part of the family of landscape considerations.

## STATE ENABLING LAWS AND OVERLAP WITH OTHER CODES AND COMMISSIONS

In most states, local historic preservation commissions have the authority to designate and approve changes to landscapes, landscape features, and streetscapes. Such authority is specified directly or obliquely in state enabling laws, state constitutional amendments, or other legal instruments that give municipalities and counties the right to develop regulatory historic preservation programs. In some states, the law is very clear about giving commissions the authority to regulate landscapes and streetscapes. In Maryland, for example, the state code considers “environmental settings” and landscape features with significance to be subject to commission regulation. Definitions in the code specify that “appurtenances” and “environmental settings” include paved or unpaved walkways and

driveways (whether paved or not), trees, landscaping, pastures, cropland, waterways, and rocks (Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 66B, Sec 8).

All commissions should be familiar with the language in their state’s enabling law that describes the scope of commission review, and they should know how the courts, SHPO, or municipality have interpreted this language over time. Landscapes and streetscapes are recognized around the world as important components of historic districts—and they can and should be recognized as such in local historic preservation programs via state recognition of their significance in the enabling law.

A commission also needs to know how other departments, ordinances, and city practices may impact its ability to regulate landscape and streetscape modifications. Overlapping authority can have troubling consequences without a process in place to address it. For example, the public works department needs to understand paving requirements in a historic district, and the commission needs to abide by codes or guidelines in place for public safety (sidewalk width) and environmental well-be-



Photo by Barbara Wycif

The desire for green space is strong. Where opportunities are limited, property owners find ways to incorporate plants to soften the intersection of buildings, sidewalks, and streets.

ing (tree well design). Programs or commissions that may have overlapping jurisdiction or interest include those concerned with public art, urban forestry, sustainability, public works, planning, permits, code enforcement, parks and recreation, and the Main Street program. For regulatory issues, the guidelines should clarify who reviews what, and in what order. "Handshake agreements" that exist between the commission and other departments should be formalized to clarify the process.

## LANDSCAPE SIGNIFICANCE

What is significant about a landscape and what is significant within a landscape? A significant landscape is a place that is important as a designed or historic space, as an essential setting within a historic district, or as an important component of a designated building or object. The overall landscape itself, a park for example, may have significance. That larger landscape, in turn, may be composed of distinctive pieces referred to as major features, as component landscapes, or—in designed landscapes—"rooms." Sub-units from the historic period generally contribute to the overall significance and integrity of the landscape, as do smaller features, such as statuary or water features,

which complete the landscape composition and lend integrity.

## ESSENTIAL LANDSCAPE DOCUMENTATION

Landscape documentation should include a complete description of the landscape, its history, and the context within which it developed.

A complete physical description of the landscape is essential in the documentation for all nominated resources, whether the landscape is individually significant or exists as the essential "glue" in a historic district or individually nominated building or object. For example, for an important park, the nomination documentation should be required to include a description of the park's defining spaces; circulation; vegetation; major constructed and natural features; and major minor features, such as lighting and benches. The description should also be required to include an analysis of how these features changed over time and an evaluation of what contributes and what does not.

Attention to description will help override a commission's tendency to see a landscape as an

ephemeral piece of a designated landmark (read, “building”)—or worse, as “empty space.” Every building, structure, and object rests on a piece of land, and most are surrounded by the land where they were originally built (thus, our bias against “moved” buildings). A commission cannot sufficiently review alterations to designated landscape and streetscape components without an adequate description and history of the landscape.

Some communities have found it useful to prepare contexts that pertain to particular types of landscapes, styles of landscape design, or to a specific landscape architect. A “context” is an overview of a theme important in history during a particular time and in a particular place. A context generally relates a local historic theme to broad historic trends—on a national, regional, or state-wide basis. Notable aspects of the theme and patterns of development are important to explain. A general description of the types of properties associated with the theme or a specific list of related resources may be included with the context statement.

San Francisco has prepared an excellent context statement: “San Francisco Modern Architecture and Landscape Design, 1935 to 1970.” Prepared in 2011 by Mary Brown for the San Francisco City and County Planning Department, the landscape component of the context presents an overview history of Modern landscape architecture, with an emphasis on San Francisco. Brief biographies of landscape architects who designed Modern landscapes during the period are provided, with client lists and the identification of their San Francisco projects. This context provides a definition of Modern landscapes and provides indications of what may be significant within such landscapes. It provides the city with a roadmap for evaluating examples of Modern landscape architecture in the city. This is important because, as a fairly recent manifestation of landscape architectural design, Modern landscapes have not received the scholarly attention of earlier landscape periods. In addition, San Francisco is an important location within the history of Modern landscape architecture in the United States.

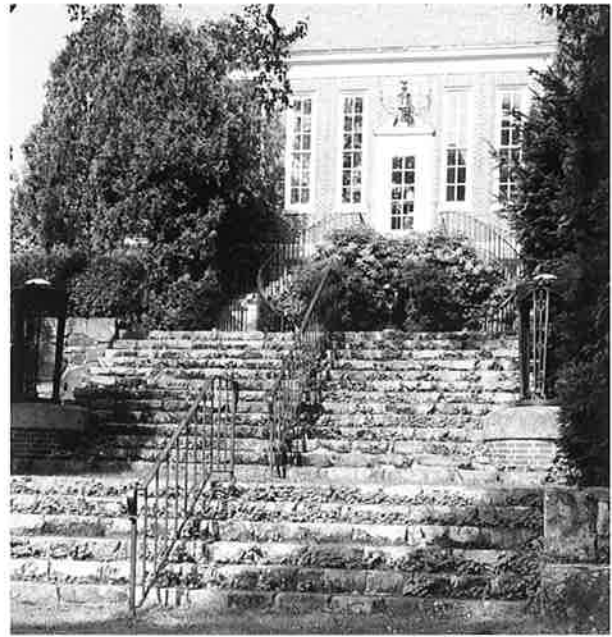


Photo by Barbara Wyatt

**Camden Public Library.** The grounds of the public library in Camden, Maine, were designed by noted landscape architect Fletcher Steele. The landscape features an amphitheatre with the Camden harbor as its backdrop. Local activists successfully spearheaded an effort that resulted in the 2013 designation of the Fletcher Steele landscape as a National Historic Landmark.

Although every city may not be prepared to develop a detailed “landscape” context, a fundamental history of the designed landscape and streetscape is essential. The history should explain the basic planning and development chronology, including the development of infrastructure; the development of parks and other green spaces and outdoor recreation facilities; cultural, aesthetic and environmental factors that contributed to landscape character and design; residential landscape use and design; and a description of the work of notable landscape architects. This overview history provides a fundamental historic context for placing a landscape within the overall development of the city or district.

## SELECTING APPROPRIATE LANDSCAPE TREATMENTS

A commission’s guidelines should prescribe appropriate treatments within the context and history of the landscape. “Treatment” refers to work carried out to achieve a particular historic preservation goal. Ideally, the guidelines should explain why certain treatments are appropriate and provide examples

and illustrations. For example, in regard to fencing, the guidelines should describe the kinds of fences that were used within the period of significance, identify the sources that inform this information (for example, historic photos, product catalogues, or extant remnants), and specify the fence styles that are considered acceptable in scale, materials, design, and placement.

The underpinning of the guidance for landscape treatment should be the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*. Most commissions will select the rehabilitation standards and guidelines as a basis for their own guidelines.

Two treatment issues that are particularly challenging are evaluating the contribution of specific plant materials and evaluating the significance of specific features in a commercial streetscape. Plant materials can be particularly vexing because they are ephemeral, although that does not negate their significance. Some commissions designate individual trees because of their historical significance (such as a witness tree) or their great age or size. Such trees are not replaceable. On the other hand, a tree group such as a historic allée, may be considered an important character defining feature. Commissions may require the replacement of diseased or hazard trees to be the same species or a close match. The essence of plant materials' significance is a critical consideration for commissions.

It is less common for commissions to consider the removal and replacement of shrubs. The City of Rockville, Maryland, can find a shrub significant if it is a "familiar feature of the neighborhood due to its singular physical characteristic or aspect of the landscape." The city's guidance notes that significance should be based on the documentation in the nomination form, which should outline "distinctive tree and landscape materials that contribute to the characteristics of the site or district." An inventory of plant materials in the documentation

material, in this case, would be essential. (See Technical Guidelines for Exterior Alterations No. 7: Landscaping and Trees, adopted by the Mayor and Council and by the Historic District Commission in 2013.)

Streetscape integrity can be particularly challenging to determine in regard to what contributes, and what does not, in a commercial streetscape. Although the buildings may have remained relatively stable over time, the streetscape may have changed dramatically more than once. At some point, relatively clear vistas may have given way to a clutter of overhead wires and signage. Streets may have been widened, pavement altered, and streetlights changed. With time, the streetscape may have been "cleaned up" with buried cables, new signage codes, and another generation of lighting. The streetscape today probably reflects a mix of these periods, and the guidelines may consider some recent changes—like buried cables—as desirable improvements. On the other hand, in some historic districts, brick sidewalks have been installed to convey "history" when they never existed there. The commission should make sure that documentation for streetscape improvements over time is accurate. If a contemporary aesthetic is selected as a streetscape treatment, transparency should prevail, and explanations of modern zoning or land management codes—or a modern aesthetic—that overrides the historic record should be considered, studied, and explained.

## THE BENEFITS

Landscape recognition and preservation can be a long, but enormously gratifying, journey. Saving familiar green and open spaces adds to the appeal, interest, and historic fabric of a city. The health and beauty of cities that have ample green space and trees is well known. Local preservation programs have the ability to recognize and protect significant historic landscapes and give new meaning to the expression popularized by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, "old is the new green."

## USEFUL SOURCES

NPS National Register website: [www.nps.gov/nr](http://www.nps.gov/nr)  
*How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes*

*Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes*  
*Historic Residential Suburbs*

NPS Park Cultural Landscapes website: [www.nps.gov/cultural\\_landscapes/Documents](http://www.nps.gov/cultural_landscapes/Documents)

*A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques*  
*Cultural Landscapes Inventory Professional Procedures Guide*

Technical Preservation Services website: [www.nps.gov/tps/Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes](http://www.nps.gov/tps/Secretary_of_the_Interior's_Standards_for_the_Treatment_of_Properties_with_Guidelines_for_the_Treatment_of_Cultural_Landscapes)

San Francisco Technical Guides website: [www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/pages/1054/files/sfmod.pdf](http://www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/pages/1054/files/sfmod.pdf)  
*San Francisco Modern Architecture and Landscape Design, 1935 to 1970*

## LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSIONS

Local historic preservation programs are frequently stumped by questions that concern the historic nature of plantings and other landscape features at designated properties. Solution? Consider pushing for the appointment of a historical landscape architect to the historic preservation commission.

Historic landscape architecture is a specialization in the field of landscape architecture that implies professional expertise in the principles, theories, concepts, methods, and techniques of identifying and preserving cultural landscapes. Every commission should have this expertise, right? But, if historical expertise is not available, any qualified landscape architect could prove valuable to discussions about landscape issues such as the removal of trees, paving modifications, plant species selection, storm water and drought management, lighting, and many other landscape-related topics that concern commissions. Making decisions without adequate professional input could result in long-lasting impacts to historical integrity, as well as to the visual and aesthetic image of the landscapes and streetscapes of historic districts and individually designated properties. Consider visiting the website of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) to find landscape architects who practice in your area: Firm Finder at [www.asla.org/ISGWeb.aspx?loadURL=firfin](http://www.asla.org/ISGWeb.aspx?loadURL=firfin).

The National Park Service (NPS) has proposed

revisions to the existing "Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards" (part of the larger Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation) to include Standards for historic landscape architecture, as well as eight other additional fields (underwater archeology, conservation, cultural anthropology, curation, engineering, folklore, historic preservation, and historic preservation planning). The existing Standards, published in 1983, defined the professional involvement recommended for the sound practice of historic preservation at that time: archeology (prehistoric and historic), architectural history, historical architecture, and history. With the maturation of historic preservation, the omission of several professions is recognized, and the updated Standards strive for inclusion.

Watch for announcements about the comment period on the updated "Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards and Guidance." Publication of the Standards in the Federal Register will be followed by a 60-day comment period. Consider encouraging the update that will formally recognize the expansion of historic preservation's family of expertise. Meanwhile, make sure your state enabling laws and local codes allow for the appointment of those with expertise in the fields represented in the forthcoming expanded Standards. If you have any questions about the proposed Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards, please contact David Banks at [david\\_banks@nps.gov](mailto:david_banks@nps.gov).



# National Register

## National Register of Historic Places Program: National Landscape Architecture Month

*The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation. Authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic and archeological resources.*

### **The National Register of Historic Places is pleased to promote awareness of and appreciation for historic places important in landscape architecture.**

This site showcases:

[Highlighted Properties](#) / [Previous Highlights](#) / [Publications](#) / [National Park Units](#) / [National organizations](#)

What is landscape architecture?

Landscape architecture is defined by the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) as "...the profession which applies artistic and scientific principles to the research, planning, design and management of both natural and built environments. Practitioners of this profession apply creative and technical skills and scientific, cultural and political knowledge in the planned arrangement of natural and constructed elements on the land with a concern for the stewardship and conservation of natural, constructed and human resources. The resulting environments shall serve useful, aesthetic, safe and enjoyable purposes." Beginning in the 19th century, landscape architecture came into its own. Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., is often considered in the United States the Father of Landscape Architecture, with his design for Central Park in New York City in 1858. There were those before him, but Olmsted's work, coming at a time when the industrial cities were growing and urban landscapes were thought beneficial to an expanding cosmopolitan population, really set the stage for those who would follow in his footsteps.

### **National Register Landscape Initiative**

The National Park Service has initiated a study of the nomination of landscapes to the National Register of Historic Places. The effort is called the "National Register Landscape Initiative" (NRLI). The first task of the NRLI will be an examination of current practices and existing guidance, with the end goal of establishing best practice guidance and increasing the attention paid to landscapes in nominations. [Read more](#) .

### **Showcase of Landscape Architecture photographs**

National Register coordinators were invited to submit images of designed landscapes listed in the National Register that they think are among the best in their state.

## Highlighted Properties (recent listings)



**Halprin Open Space Sequence**

*Photograph courtesy of Oregon State Historic Preservation Office*

### **Halprin Open Space Sequence, Portland, Oregon**

Constructed between 1966 and 1970 as a vital part of the South Auditorium Urban Renewal District, the Halprin Open Space Sequence is nationally significant under Criterion C for Landscape Architecture. Specifically, it is a masterwork by transformative landscape architect Lawrence Halprin. This work is one of the largest, most complex, comprehensive and sophisticated expressions of Halprin's concepts for public plazas.

### **Hakone Historic District, Saratoga, California**

The period of significance for the property is 1917-1941, during which the three main gardens and all contributing buildings and structures were built. Hakone was designed and built by talented Japanese designers and craftsmen, and during the late 1930s and early 1940s, a second generation of Japanese talent modified and added to the gardens. Hakone is unique in California and is a significant designed landscape that contains multiple contributing buildings and structures that embody high artistic values.



**Hakone Historic District**

*Photo courtesy of the California State Historic Preservation Office*

### **Omaha Park and Boulevard System, Omaha, Nebraska**

Omaha was one of the earliest Midwestern cities to develop and implement a complete park and boulevard plan. The System began in the late nineteenth century and was substantially complete by 1918.

. See all properties listed for Landscape Architecture since 2013

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## Properties Landscapes Highlighted in Previous National Landscape Architecture Months

### Robert M. Hanes House, Winston-Salem, North Carolina

In 1937, Hanes commissioned New York landscape architect Ellen Shipman to design the rear garden for the residence. *House and Garden* magazine labeled her the “dean of American women architects.” Shipman designed a variety of garden types, but the best of her designs were characterized by domesticity, intimacy, romantic seclusion, and lush flowerbeds. The garden at the Robert M. Hanes House reflects Shipman’s design aesthetic by exhibiting many of the features she typically employed: an axial layout with a short vista, small lawns, a terrace, near symmetry, multiple levels, well-defined paths, walls, pools in a variety of shapes, a garden house, and a secluded seating area.

### Mount Airy Forest, Cincinnati, Ohio

Conceived as the nation’s first urban reforestation project, the park has developed over the years—especially during the Depression and post-World War II period- into a park with a variety of areas, spaces and structures designed to accommodate recreational, social, and educational activities. Today it continues to offer a large expanse of protected land within the city limits where the public can enjoy the richness and diversity of nature.

### Chiricahua National Monument Historic Designed Landscape, Cochise County, Arizona

Located within the Chiricahua National Monument, the Chiricahua National Monument Historic Designed Landscape consists of approximately 10,000 acres of stunning wilderness. Administered by the National Park Service, this scenic wilderness is 120 miles southeast of Tucson, Arizona, and located in the northwest portion of the Chiricahua Mountain range in southeastern Arizona. The Chiricahua National Monument is best known for the rock pinnacles for which the monument was created to protect. Rising sometimes hundreds of feet into the air, many of these pinnacles are balancing on a small base, seemingly ready to topple over at any time.



**Cummer Gardens**

*Photo byspitmanvia Flickr and Creative Commons*

### Cummer Gardens, Jacksonville, Florida

The Cummer Gardens, located on the grounds of the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens on the western shore of the St. James River, in the historic Riverside neighborhood of Jacksonville, encompass 1.45 acres between the west bank of the river and the art museum. The gardens are unique in Florida and the southeast, representing the history of American landscape design in the first four decades of the 20th century. The gardens have direct ties to four leading American landscape designers and firms--Michigan based Ossian Simonds, Philadelphia’s Thomas Meehan & Sons, Ellen Biddle Shipman of New York, and the renowned Olmsted Brothers firm of Massachusetts.



**Rock Creek Church Yard and Cemetery**

Photo by danieljdougherty via Flickr and Creative Commons

### **Rock Creek Church Yard and Cemetery, Washington, DC**

Rock Creek Church Yard and Cemetery contributes, significantly-to the cultural heritage and visual beauty of the District of Columbia. Covering 85 acres, the cemetery is sited on high ground, its undulating terrain falling away to the north from the main gate. The cemetery is the site of many memorials of distinguished aesthetic quality including not only the Adams Memorial (*Grief*) by sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens and architect Stanford White of McKim, Mead and White but also the Frederick Keep Monument (*Journey of Life*) by James Earle Fraser.



**Jacques Marchais Center of Tibetan Art**

Photo by Kathy Howe

Courtesy of the New York State Historic Preservation Office

### **Jacques Marchais Center of Tibetan Art, Staten Island, New York**

The Jacques Marchais Center of Tibetan Art, located in Staten Island, New York, at 338/336 Lighthouse Avenue, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on May 29, 2009 for its association with Jacques Marchais (1887-1948), a pioneer collector and respected expert on Tibetan art. Marchais was an extraordinary American woman who created an institution to serve as a bridge between the west and the rich artistic and cultural traditions of Tibet and the Himalayan region.

### **Fort Worth Botanic Garden, Fort Worth, Texas**

The Fort Worth Botanic Garden, located southwest of downtown Fort Worth, Texas, encompasses 109 acres of slightly rolling terrain originally marked by native stands of deciduous trees (trees that lose their leaves seasonally). Listed in the National Register of Historic Places for national significance in the area of Landscape Architecture, the Fort Worth Botanic Garden is an excellent example of a designed landscape and as one of the first multiple rose gardens established in the southern half of the United States.

### **North Inlet Trail, Rocky Mountain National Park, Larimer County, Colorado**

Rocky Mountain National Park offers many scenic trails for the enrichment of the visitor. The North Inlet Trail,

located on the west side of the Rocky Mountain National Park, offers visitors a grand view of lakes, forest and mountains while offering campsites along the way.



*Hallet Peak from Lake Haiyaho Trail*

*Photo by Elderhiker via flickr used through creative commons license*

### **Lake Haiyaha Trail, Rocky Mountain National Park, Larimer County, Colorado**

Rocky Mountain National Park offers many scenic trails for the enrichment of the visitor. The North Inlet Trail, located on the west side of the Rocky Mountain National Park, offers visitors a grand view of lakes, forest and mountains while offering campsites along the way.

### **Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) 75th Anniversary**

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was established on March 19, 1933, by U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt as a New Deal program to aid young men from unemployed families during the Great Depression. Executive Order 6106 took effect in April 1933, ten days after President Roosevelt's address to Congress. The organization established was technically called "Emergency Conservation Work." The phrase Roosevelt used in his speech to Congress, however, the Civilian Conservation Corps, was more frequently used and is the name by which the organization is referred to today.

### **Skyline Drive, Virginia**

Skyline Drive is the only public road that travels the length of the National Park Service's Shenandoah National Park in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, measuring 105 miles of roadway. The drive runs the entire length of the northern and southern crests of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) as part of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal Program, Skyline Drive is a testament to the expanding movement for conservation, public outdoor recreation, and regional planning that gained momentum in the 1920s and became the hallmark of Federal policy in the 1930s.



*Will Rogers Park Gardens and Arboretum*

*Photo courtesy of the Oklahoma Historical Society, photograph by JoAnne Vervinck*

### **Will Rogers Park Gardens and Arboretum, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

Named after Oklahoma's famous native son, Will Rogers, the Will Rogers Park Gardens and Arboretum are

significant for landscape design and as a part of Oklahoma City's park system plan. The park was originally planned in 1909, then constructed in the 1930s by the CCC and WPA.

### **Riverview Park, Hannibal, Missouri**

Riverview Park is a 465 acre park along the Mississippi River in the city of Hannibal. The park opened in 1909 thanks to the philanthropy of Wilson Pettibone who wished to preserve the naturalness of the land, and avoid traces of artificiality. Riverview Park is a mature arboretum and is a good example of of the prairie style of landscape design.

### **Lincoln Park Lily Pool, Chicago , IL**

This 3-acre Lily Pool is an exquisite hidden garden in Chicago 's Lincoln Park that symbolically celebrates the natural and pre-history of the Midwest .

### **Manitoga (Russel Wright Home & Studio), Garrison, New York**

A founding member of the American Society of Industrial Designers, Wright was well-known as the designer of the "American Modern" style in domestic decorative arts (furniture, fabrics, glassware, and tableware) and as the inventor of the still popular sectional sofa.

## **Publications**

### **Building the National Parks: Historic Landscape Design and Construction**

Several titles in the **National Register of Historic Places bulletin series** provide guidance on the identification, evaluation and documentation of a variety of historic landscapes--from parks and parkways to gardens and cemeteries to agricultural districts and institutional campuses--for listing in the National Register.

*Historic Residential Suburbs*

*Designed Historic Landscapes*

*Rural Historic Landscapes*

*Historic Battlefields*

*Historic Cemeteries*

*Traditional Cultural Properties*

Discover Historic Contexts featuring aspects of Landscape Architecture and History such as *Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks MPS*, *Modernism in Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Design, and Art in Bartholomew County, 1942-1965 MPS*, *Historic Designed Landscapes of Syracuse MPS* and many others by searching the National Register Information System database.

National Register of Historic Places on Flickr: Landscape Architecture properties: The National Register is on Flickr, this subset of photographs are of landscape architecture properties.

National Register of Historic Places listing for landscape architecture:

Good examples of landscape architecture can be found on our sample nomination page.

### **Publications not in the National Register Program:**

Wilderness by Design: Landscape Architecture and the National Park Service

Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942

Bryce Canyon National Park: Bryce Canyon Lodge District and Historic National Park Service Housing District

Presenting Nature: The Historic Landscape Design of the National Park Service

Building the National Parks: Historic Landscape Design and Construction

### National Park Service Program Links:

Virtually visit the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park and the associated Conservation Study Institute, and other National Parks with historic Landscape Architecture significance.

Travel to places that feature historic landscapes in the Discover our Shared Heritage Online Travel Itineraries.

Investigate collections of **Teaching with Historic Places** classroom-ready lesson plans featuring landscape design, urbanization, conservationism, the role of public parks in U.S. history and celebrating National Park Week and Earth Day.

Guidance for making educated decisions and protecting cultural landscapes—both designed landscapes such as gardens and parks to working vernacular historic landscapes such as farms and industrial sites—from the NPS Historic Landscapes Initiative.

Like its sister programs, the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) and the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER), the Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS) produces written and graphic records of interest to educators, land managers, and preservation planners documenting the variety of American landscapes.

Parkitecture in Western National Parks

The Park Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Programs provide direction and demonstrate high quality preservation practices regarding cultural landscapes—ranging from carriage roads to battlefields, designed gardens to vernacular homesteads, and industrial complexes to summer estates-- in the National Park System.

Through grants and technical assistance, the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) promotes the preservation of historic battlefields associated with wars on American soil.

Skyline Drive: in the Shenandoah National Park

### National Organizations:

American Society of Landscape Architects  
Alliance Historic Landscape Preservation  
Library of American Landscape History  
National Association for Olmsted Parks  
The Arnold Arboretum at Harvard University  
The Garden Conservancy

Photo Credit:

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