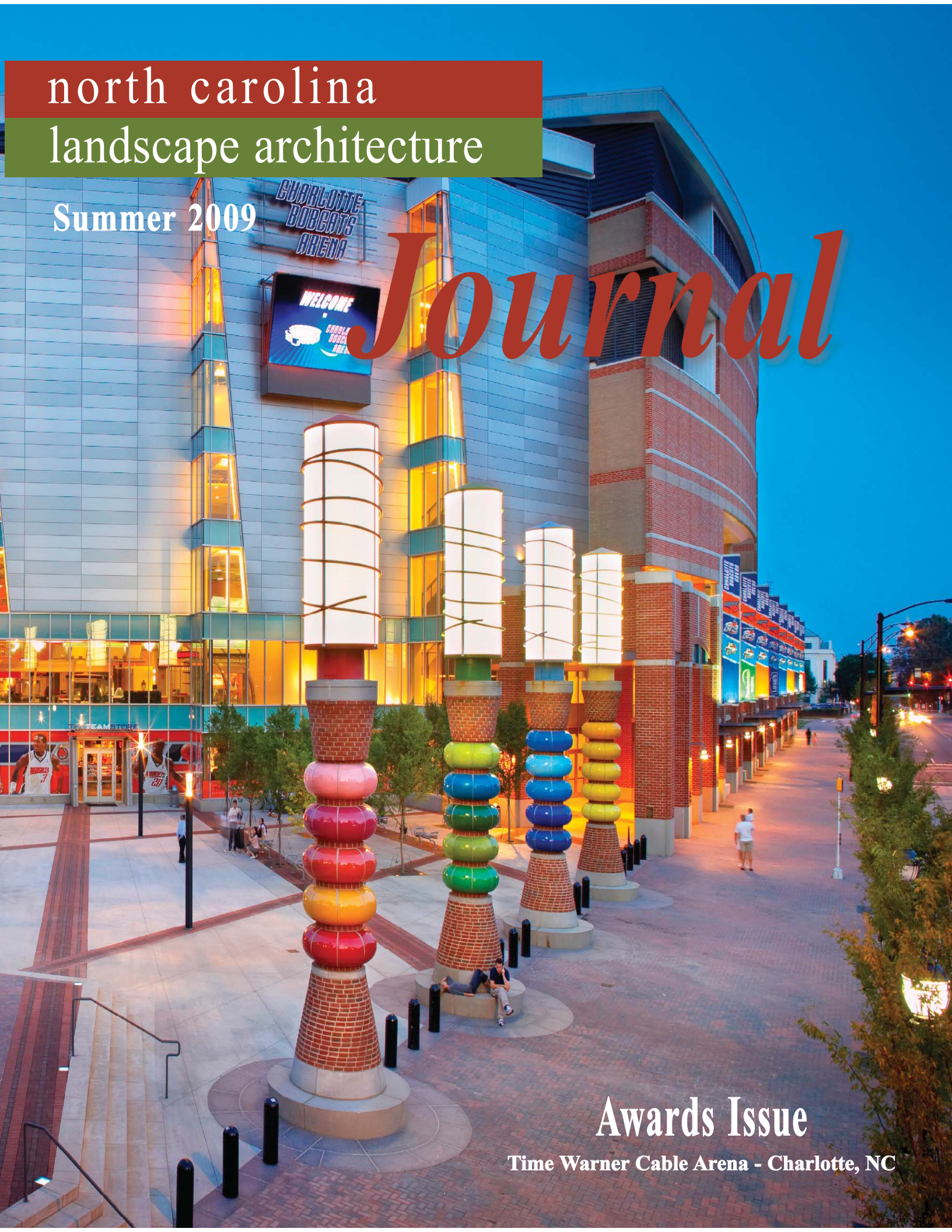


north carolina  
landscape architecture

Summer 2009

# Journal



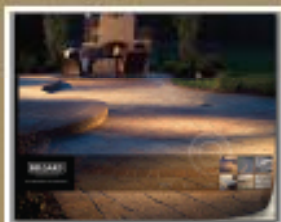
Awards Issue

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# Message from the President



**Tim Maloney, RLA, ASLA**  
**NCASLA President**

What an exciting and challenging time it is for me to serve NCASLA and its members across the state. I've been a member of NCASLA for 16 years and serving as your President is truly an honor. This past year I had the wonderful opportunity to meet many of you at our conferences in New Bern, Salisbury, and Asheville. When I meet and speak with members I'm always impressed with the great work our profession is doing and the services we're providing to our communities. It's obvious why our chapter and the profession of landscape architecture are so strong in North Carolina.

I thought I'd take this opportunity to update you on a variety of things going on with the chapter. As many of you know, we hired a new association manager last year. Having completed our first year with Blue Star Services, we're excited about the new ideas and energy they bring to our chapter. We recently extended their contract through 2011, and, with that, consolidated several other chapter functions including management of all sponsorship opportunities and coordination of the awards for the annual awards program. We'll continue to find ways to consolidate and streamline our functions for the benefit of the chapter. The services our association manager provides are extremely important to the day-to-day operations of the chapter, and, more importantly, the continuity of our ongoing activities.

Over the years, the chapter's annual operating budget has been fortunate enough to grow. However, in preparing the 2009 budget, the Executive Committee agreed to reduce the budget in light of the economic climate. Although we have not experienced any significant revenue shortfalls, we want to make sure we are properly positioned.

The 2009 budget of \$142,520 reflects a 14% reduction from 2008. Our primary revenue sources continue to be membership dues and the spring and fall conferences. On the flip side, our biggest expenditures include association management expenses and our lobbyist.

In April, we celebrated National Landscape Architecture month by sponsoring and participating in a variety of events across the state, capping off with our spring conference in Asheville. Also this past spring, nearly a dozen Landscape Architects convened in Raleigh at the legislative building for our annual Advocacy Day. This is always a great opportunity to meet with your state legislators and educate them on the importance of landscape architecture here in North Carolina. Those of you who participated in the professional awards program last year may have noticed how the program is now modeled after ASLA's national program. The program continues to grow and promote the outstanding work of our profession. The awards program will once again be held in conjunction with our fall conference in Winston Salem this October.

The Executive Committee is also making strides to collaborate more with the NC Board of Landscape Architects. Last year we held a joint meeting in New Bern to discuss areas where we can partner and jointly promote issues related to licensure and the profession. In addition, the Board of Landscape Architects has invited a representative from the NCASLA Executive Committee to sit on the Board. This representative will not be a voting member of the Board but will have the opportunity to discuss Board related issues. NCASLA has assigned this role to the Past President.

Another focus for the chapter this coming year is to make improvements to our website. We acknowledge that some of the information tends to be out of date and improving upon this is critical in getting timely and accurate information to our members. We'll be exploring ways to streamline our internal process for getting the information posted and available to you.

In these difficult economic times,

it's now more important than ever to lean on the resources and benefits of ASLA. With resources like JobLink, a searchable jobs database, and Firm Finder, an online search tool that connects clients with landscape architecture professionals, the ability to reach out and market you or your firm is right at your fingertips. These and many other valuable resources can be found at ASLA.org.

With 48 chapters across the nation, North Carolina continues to be a model for many others. We currently rank 9th in size with 529 members. I credit the strength of our chapter to its members and their dedication to the profession.

Once again, it's a pleasure to be serving you and NCASLA. Our chapter continues to be vibrant and strong because of outstanding professionals like you. I look forward to the remainder of this year and the many programs and activities we have planned. Please feel free to contact me at anytime if you have any questions, concerns, or just want to chat.

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Editorial comments, opinions and suggestions are invited. Please send comments to [lrake@salisburync.gov](mailto:lrake@salisburync.gov) for publication in the next issue.

## ABOUT LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Landscape Architecture is a diverse profession that encompasses the analysis, planning, design, management and stewardship of the natural and built environment. Types of projects include urban design, transportation planning, security design, gardens and residential design, campus planning, storm water management, historic preservation and restoration, and much more.

The American Society of Landscape Architects, founded in 1899, is the national professional association representing landscape architects. ASLA has more than 16,700 members in 48 chapters, representing all 50 states, US territories, and 42 countries around the world. ASLA promotes the landscape architecture profession through advocacy, education, communication, and fellowship. ASLA is an active advocate for the profession on public policy issues including licensure, livable communities, surface transportation, the environment, historic preservation and small professional practice issues.

The North Carolina Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects serves over 500 members as one of the larger national chapters of the ASLA. NCASLA provides educational, professional, and social opportunities for its members, vendors and allied professionals. NCASLA also participates in landscape architecture-related community service and outreach events across North Carolina. To become a participant in NCASLA, please contact NCASLA Association Manager, Debora Steenson at: (919) 215-3117 or [manager@ncasla.org](mailto:manager@ncasla.org).

## Dear Readers



Lynn Raker, ASLA  
NCASLA Member-at-Large for  
Communications and Journal Editor

Dear Readers,

I've seen plenty of changes in our profession over the past 25 years. "Desktop" has a whole new meaning, and the 20 square-foot drawing table that consumed half my office is now neatly packaged into a sleek plastic box that I can hold in my lap. Gone for good are the messy rapidograph pens. Gone are the mechanical pencils and the electric eraser. And gone is the cumbersome T-square that smeared graphite across brittle yellow paper. Surprisingly, I feel little nostalgia over the loss of these tools once so essential to my work.

Also, with no love lost, go plans for sprawling suburban developments that gobbled up forests and farms, with lengthy drives to schools and groceries. Banished are the thirsty landscapes designed for lush appearance rather than function and sustainability. And with any luck, gone from the virtual drawing board are broad single-purpose roadways that dominate so much of our public space.

If there is a silver lining to the dismal economy, it's that we have been pulled out of the vortex of spending and growth, forced to reconsider how our actions will affect future generations.

As of today, I still have my job, and I am grateful for that. Sadly, I know more than a few landscape

architects who are dusting off their resumes. At the risk of sounding cavalier, I'd like to suggest that this down-time be used to hone skills that will build value in the new economy. Study conservation principles, community facilitation techniques, low-impact development methods or multi-modal transportation systems. Research and write an article for a professional journal (NC LA Journal?) or volunteer to serve on the local planning or community appearance commission. Learn Arabic.

You can expand your resume while you help your community and promote the profession. You can volunteer your services for a school or local non-profit that needs landscape design assistance. Speak to a class of 4th graders about landscape architecture, or participate in a local government design charrette. Contact the manager or a near-by small town and volunteer consultation time related to your expertise. Now is a perfect time for towns to make plans, and remember they also are struggling in this economy.

Tonight on NPR, I heard (with renewed interest) that "programming was made possible through the support of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation which supports creative people and effective institutions committed to building a more just, verdant, and peaceful world." It occurred to me that our profession has a meaningful role to play in this endeavor. When thoughtfully focused, our work can go a long way to promote economic and social justice. We can certainly create a more verdant world. And the nexus of these activities may just contribute to a more peaceful world. Yes, ours is a changing profession on many levels, and we have more than a passing chance to make real contributions to a more just, verdant and peaceful world.

# The Nature of Cities: Landscape Architecture in Urban Settings



Join NCASLA for The Nature of Cities: Landscape Architecture in Urban Settings on October 22 and 23rd in Winston-Salem. As communities strive to revitalize their downtown areas, landscape architects are becoming more involved with projects in urban areas. These types of projects bring with them a variety of specific challenges. This conference will touch on some of the solutions and approaches landscape architects can employ in their own practices.

The conference will begin with a bike outing along the Downtown Strollway and the Salem Creek Trail Thursday afternoon. This will be followed up by a reception at Stimel Associates Thursday night. Friday morning's keynote speaker is Don Rypkema of PlaceEconomics, a Washington, D.C.-based real estate and economic development consulting firm specializing in downtown and neighborhood commercial district revitalization. He has worked

with several communities in North Carolina and is always informative and entertaining.

Other speakers include Dan Howe, Bill Hunt and Tracy Newsome. There will be a panel discussion on community connectivity especially to downtown areas through trails and greenways. The Fall Conference also means the Annual Awards Gala which will be held during lunch on Friday. Hope you can join us!

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# Legacy Practitioner - Lee R. McLaren, FASLA

By Jon Byers, ASLA



Lee McLaren, Sr., FASLA reviews the progress on a worksite.

Lee R. McLaren earned his bachelors degree in landscape architecture in 1968 from the University of Georgia and embarked on a journey that would help shape the future of landscape architecture in North Carolina. Lee advanced the interests of the landscape architecture profession and at the same time enhanced the quality of life for many citizens of North Carolina.

In 1970, Lee became North Carolina's 28th registered landscape architect and in 1974 co-founded DPR Associates. For over 40 years Lee R. McLaren has been one of the strongest advocates for advancing the interests of landscape architects in all facets of the profession. His decades of service have helped pave the way as the profession gained respect in the Charlotte region and across the state. Lee's early years working in architectural offices and for a development company gave him a perspective which served him well. Starting early in his career, Lee convinced developers and land owners that including landscape architects at the onset of all projects would give them a distinct and measurable advantage over their competitors.

The visibility that Lee gives to the profession also spills over into the public sector as a volunteer for

numerous groups who promote community and neighborhood interests. Lee committed time, resources, and knowledge to help formulate land use policies that encourage the preservation of open space and enhancement of the environment. In the early 1970's he assisted Charlotte's Tree Commission in obtaining enabling legislation that would allow for the creation of a tree ordinance for the City of Charlotte. This state legislation was used by other cities in their efforts to create tree ordinances. Lee was practicing 'environmental preservation', 'sustainability' and 'stewardship' long before those words were commonly spoken.

Lee began his service to ASLA as a founding member of NCASLA, and went on to serve on the NCASLA Executive Committee and as NC Trustee to ASLA national. He was the practitioner member on numerous landscape architecture accreditation team visits to universities across the country. Serving on the Landscape Architect Accreditation Board, he assisted in developing new standards for accreditation of landscape architecture programs. He is the longest serving member of the NC Board of Landscape Architects, and actively participated in protecting licensure against Sunset legislation and challenges from

engineers. He was an early advocate for continuing education requirements as a condition of licensure. Landscape architects in North Carolina had continuing education requirements before either architects or engineers.

At the 2007 ASLA Annual Meeting, Lee was recognized for his outstanding achievements and service when he was inducted into ASLA's Council of Fellows, the highest honor awarded by ASLA. This honor is bestowed upon only those individuals who have demonstrated sustained accomplishments in the profession. Lee's work, leadership & management, knowledge, and service were all factors that contributed to his nomination and induction into the Council of Fellows.

Lee took a moment to sit down with me and answer a few questions.

*What factors have shaped your design philosophy as a landscape architect?*

I try to think of three clients when approaching a project: the one who is paying me, the ones who will be using the place created, and the site. For example, a developer will be most successful if he creates an attractive place at a reasonable cost. That usually happens when a use is sensitively adapted to a site so that all three "clients" win.

*Have any of your life experiences affected the way you approach landscape architecture?*

Yes. Early in my career I wanted to save every piece of nature untouched, but I soon found that to have the greatest effect I would have to engage with and guide those who were building things – finding common ground.

*Are there any particulars that drew you into the study and profession of landscape architecture?*

I got into landscape architecture purely by chance – a lucky series of coincidences. I really didn't even

understand the profession until I had practiced a few years.

*How did you realize that starting your own firm was the right thing for you to do?*

I never intended to start my own firm – chance again. Tom and Janet Duggins and Bob Ballou were starting a firm and invited me to join them. The job market in 1974 was about like it is now, so I decided I might as well be self-unemployed, as unemployed.

*Do you have a secret behind 35 years of running and owning a successful landscape architecture firm?*

Not really. I've had the good fortune to be in business with Tom Duggins, a true friend and great landscape architect. Neither of us claim to be very good business people, but with the help of great employees, and a goal of doing quality work, we have muddled through.

*Is there any advice that you would give someone that is considering starting their own firm? Beginning a career in landscape architecture?*

Whatever niche of the profession you choose, know it well. Learn the details and become an expert before you try to serve a client. If you don't, you will hurt your client, yourself and the profession.

*How has the profession of landscape architecture shaped Charlotte, and in relation to landscape architecture, what are greatest strides that have been made in Charlotte since you started practicing? Did you or DPR have a role in addressing any of these challenges? If so, what was the contribution?*

Charlotte's early "legacy" neighborhoods like Myers Park and Eastover were designed by landscape architects. They remain a legacy to the profession. By the time Tom and I came to Charlotte, most site planning was being done by architects or engineers, and all subdivisions were



**Perry Howard, FASLA with Lee McLaren, Sr., FASLA**

designed by surveyors or engineers. By selling the largest developers on the benefits of hiring us, we gradually saw other developers give more thought to the design of their sites. Now most developers hire firms that include LAs and LAs are involved in design of most public spaces.

*How has the profession of landscape architecture evolved since you started?*

I think the profession as a whole is now better understood by decision makers than it was when I started.

For the work I do, rules and regulations have come to play a bigger role in the outcome of the design. That is both good and bad. When we started, there were no erosion control laws, no tree ordinances, no water quality measures, and in some areas, no zoning. As conceived, these rules are all improvements, but as they have matured and been reduced to "cook-book" ordinances administered by people who don't see how they interact, they often have devastating consequences for the environment they were intended to protect.

*What were the greatest challenges that the profession of landscape architecture faced during your career? Did you or DPR have a role in addressing any of these challenges? If so, what was the contribution?*

Economic downturns that slow construction are hard on all design professions and make it hard to attract, employ and keep good talent. The other challenge has been attacks on

our licensure. Without licensure, we can not participate in any meaningful way in the design process. In the past, it was frustrating that the national organization failed to recognize this. It is good to see that they are now placing emphasis on strengthening and protecting licensure. Increasing the number of graduates is vital to the continuation of the profession.

*Were there opportunities that the profession of landscape architecture provided you that you could not have predicted when you began your career?*

I never expected to have the opportunity and responsibility to influence so much of the City where I live. The street patterns, preserved open space, and park designs will, I believe, be evident for many generations into the future. I never expected to own a business or have employees. The profession and circumstances shaped my career.

*What are the future challenges and opportunities for landscape architects?*

I think the challenges and opportunities for individual landscape architects are to develop skills allowing them to have an overview of the proper balance between our need to shape our world without destroying it and to learn where and how this knowledge can best be applied. The challenges and opportunities for the profession are to produce enough professionals with the right knowledge to avoid losing our unique position to other design professionals.

# Gravely-Khachatoorian House (2002) Chapel Hill, NC

By Caitlin Allyn Smolewski, NCSU School of Design - MLA Candidate 2011

The Gravely-Khachatoorian house in Chapel Hill is a product of the circumstances that gave rise to its design. It is a replacement, though not by choice, of the Victorian hybrid that Frances Gravely and Haig Khachatoorian had together renovated. In 1996 a fire started by an electrical surge in a water heater consumed the original house and everything within a 75-foot radius. When Gravely and Khachatoorian finally emerged from the initial emotional shock and devastating losses, they hired architect Kenneth Hobgood to help them rebuild their home. What the clients were asking for, and needed, was more complex than a new structure to inhabit.

They needed to heal the site in order to heal themselves. The new residence needed to respond to the history of the site but be distinct enough not to be a constant reminder of the tragedy that occurred there. It needed to make a new sense of the place in order to allow the clients to move forward in their lives. For this precarious balancing act between honoring the past and pioneering the present, Hobgood suggested inviting landscape architect Michael van Valkenburgh onto the team.

The collaborative effort between architect and landscape architect enabled the success of this project. Van Valkenburgh was not an afterthought brought in to soften the blow of the architecture on the landscape. The relationship between the house and the landscape was of primary importance. Khachatoorian still remembers the quote Hobgood used to describe their inextricable nature, “Brother building, sister garden” (November 10, 2008).

Out of seven potential architects, Gravely and Khachatoorian agreed on Hobgood because of the purity and refinement embodied in his architecture. His signature use of glass and steel also imparted a sense of clarity and order that was noticeably missing from the clients’ lives at the time of the undertaking. Hobgood’s structure is based on John Hejduk’s pure problem. It is set up on a nine-point grid where columns are used to define space. This building method inspired what the clients’ refer to as the ‘glass pavilion’—the light-filled living space that dominates the house and seems to deliver hope. The window mullions create a Mondrianesque grid, which van Valkenburgh carries into the paving pattern of the circulation spine below.



His philosophy that “new materials and the latest technology dictate new forms” made van Valkenburgh a complement to Hobgood (Hodge 12). His openness to Hobgood’s strong geometric approach enabled him to blend the exterior and the interior through the details of the site. Van Valkenburgh situated the house in the upper corner of the property rather than in the center atop the footprint of the original structure. The new orientation affords Gravely and Khachatoorian a panoramic vista of the healed site.

While the architecture, in its heavy reliance of glass, seems to be appropriating Philip Johnson’s theory of ‘landscape as wallpaper,’ van Valkenburgh actively fights against this static notion of the landscape. He grades the land in sculptural rather than natural forms. His landscape admits its intentional design in order to provoke the user to uncover the multiple layers of meaning inherent in the design. Van Valkenburgh’s landscapes are meant to be experienced tactilely above visually.

Michael van Valkenburgh wrote: “Like the house in architecture, the garden is a succinct design statement, offering a concise view of each designer’s philosophy” (Hodge 9). From the design of the Gravely-Khachatoorian garden, it seems van Valkenburgh’s philosophy draws largely on the reinter-





pretation and reapplication of precedents. Gravely and Khachatourian gave van Valkenburgh fragments, rather than absolute vision, to weave into the design - they both valued the process of the design above specific styles or concepts.

One of these fragments, put forth by Gravely and internalized by van Valkenburgh, was the iconic Italian villa. Gravely is a co-founder of the import company Vietri, which specializes in Italian ceramic dinnerware, so the Italian countryside has always played a large part in her and Khachatourian's lives. From the villa arose the concepts of separation of public and private space and terracing to transition between grades. The Gravely-Khachatourian site, with its 40-foot elevation change and undulating nature, lends itself beautifully to this historical model.

An easement on the adjacent property, which provides access to the house may be compared to the strong central axis leading from the town to the gates of the Italian villa. A large stone wall delineates the public drive from the private house and garden. A break in the wall serves as the symbolic gateway into the residence.

The top terrace, at grade with the drive, is distinguished by large, irregular stone paving, which is carried into the terrace at the bottom of the short flight of embedded concrete stairs. This lower terrace, at grade with the house, connects to the circulation spine also defined by stone pavers. To the right, the large block pavers are interspersed randomly by smaller pavers. The spine terminates in a patio of the same smaller, irregular pavers in front of Gravely and Khachatourian's bedroom. To the left, the spine's pavers gain more space between each stone where grass is allowed to grow.

This end terminates in a flat expanse of lawn, which does for van Valkenburgh's design what sleek glass does for Hobgood's architec-



ture. The lawn is made traversable by a row of pavers, which leads to the last terrace of the garden, which is a ha-ha of sorts; its lack of architectural definition allows it to blend seamlessly with the lower grade of the back edge from certain angles. It is, however, a significant drop to the level below, which is supported by van Valkenburgh's sculptural grading and inset with a steep set of stairs. Looking back from this point on the edge, "...the house and the patios become a geometric progression that match the grade of the site" (Lea). These changing levels suggest passage and journey, underscoring the desire of the landscape to be experienced. They also allow for abrupt shifts in the viewer's perspective, which causes otherwise symmetrical arrangement of trees to dissolve into bosques.

A retaining wall that mediates between the grade of the house and the sloping lawn to the lower terrace creates a courtyard off of the pavilion, creating an interesting delineation of private within private space. It also affects the architecture by adjusting it to human scale. At the house van Valkenburgh's design remains formal and geometric in close association with the architecture. As it grows farther out, it breaks into more organic forms, leading to an ultimate blend with the naturalized edges.

Working with the dense, mature vegetation at the edges of the site and the barren center was a design factor presented by the fire (Figure

B). Van Valkenburgh used this to his advantage by creating a hortus conclusus in the space immediately adjacent to the house. Here van Valkenburgh used a traditional and familiar palette of plants consisting of *Hydrangea quercifolia*, *Cornus kousa* and *Cornus florida* that evoked the Southern landscape of Gravely's childhood and also the history of the particular site, which had been part of botany professor William Coker's garden in the early 1900s.

Van Valkenburgh also designed around what he termed an 'archeological remnant,' or part of a stone wall that had survived the fire, and which he incorporated into the driveway edging (November 10, 2008). This speaks to van Valkenburgh's consistent attempts to create 'reassuring landscapes,' a term coined by landscape architect Ian McHarg and referring to images made memorable through past associations (Hodge 10). Memory and narrative are the hidden layers of meaning to which, after repeated experience, van Valkenburgh's clarity of design eventually gives way.

Van Valkenburgh's horticultural background lends itself to this type of application, and he often uses plants as both integral elements of the design and for transitions. The allée of eight *Paulownia tomentosa* trees on the terraced lawn is an example of the complex thought van

*continued on page 30*

## 2008 NCASLA CITIZENS AWARD

### Fred & Alice Stanback



*Fred and Alice Stanback*

Fred and Alice Stanback are recipients of the 2008 NCASLA Citizens Award. Over the past 50 years, Fred and Alice Stanback have made significant contributions on many fronts to their hometown of Salisbury as well as the entire state of North Carolina.

Long time supporters of conservation and environmental causes, the Stanbacks have served tirelessly on conservancy boards and contributed millions of dollars to conservation projects throughout the state, including the preservation of the Lands Creek and Contonis watersheds. As Sierra Club supporters, they provided financial backing for the organization's effort to end commercial logging in our national forests and educate the public about the effects of commercial logging, such as wildlife habitat destruction and water pollution. Most recently, the Stanbacks' support enabled the Carolina Mountain

Land Conservancy to add 289 acres to Chimney Rock State Park, creating a pivotal link to the previously-acquired World's Edge property to the far upper reaches of Chimney Rock Park, allowing future generations the opportunity to enjoy the properties' remote beauty and unique ridge-top views.

As Duke University alumni, Fred and Alice Stanback have supported numerous programs and scholarships at the university. Since its initiation in 1996, the Stanback Internship Program has funded 251 summer internships at 44 environmental organizations. In addition, the Stanbacks donated \$2 million in December 2007 to the Nicholas School and the Duke Comprehensive Cancer Center, continuing their support of a collaborative research initiative between the two institutions. Consequently, Duke is one of only two universities in the country that has both a National Can-

cer Institute-designated cancer center as well as one of the nation's premier schools of the environment.

The Stanbacks' contributions to the quality of life for the citizens of Salisbury are immeasurable. They are steadfast supporters of Catawba College's Center for the Environment and its wild life preserve. In addition, they have made possible numerous amenities along the city's greenway, including a lake, weir and a covered bridge across a major creek. The Stanbacks are known for providing the incentive to make many regional land trust acquisitions possible, often matching other contributions dollar for dollar.

North Carolina is extremely fortunate to have the creative energy and steadfast support of Fred and Alice Stanback, for their ongoing initiatives and contributions to conservation, medicine, law as well as many other endeavors.

## 2008 NCASLA PRESIDENTS COUNCIL AWARD

### Dr. Clyde Robbins



*Dr. Clyde Robbins*

Dr. Clyde Robbins acquired his passion for the land through a long history of education and professional service. He holds degrees in Landscape Architecture and Forestry from Syracuse University (1958, Cum Laude), in Planning from Ohio State University (1961), an MBA in Economics from Georgia State University (1970), and a PhD in Business Administration from Georgia State (1971). Robbins was Assistant Professor in the doctoral program at Georgia State from 1964 to 1970, and Associate Professor in the College of Architecture at Georgia Tech from 1970 to 1990.

Robbins began his career with the National Park Service and the US Forest Service. He then served his country as a planner for the United States Marine Corps, retiring from the military as a Captain from the Navy and Navy Reserves. At Georgia Tech he was Director for Planning, Design and Construction, Facilities and

Physical Operations, and currently at Appalachian State University he is Associate Vice Chancellor and Director of Design and Construction.

Dr. Robbins began his tenure at ASU in 1993 when the university was experiencing moderate growth and expansion without a clearly directed course. Since then, the University has expanded rapidly, but now on a well directed path. Dr. Robbins' vision brings a cohesive nature to the architectural development, respecting and protecting the mountain character of the University and its heritage, and valuing the outdoor spaces. Using the guiding principles of landscape architectural, Dr. Robbins' personal interest in each project has profoundly enhanced the quality of the outdoor environment at ASU.

As Director of campus design and development, Dr. Robbins shepherds a staff of architects and engineers to oversee the design and construction

of a multitude of complex architectural, landscape architectural and infrastructure projects. At any given time, the University has well in excess of \$100,000,000 in construction projects in progress.

Dr. Robbins also brings visibility to the profession of Landscape Architecture in the region by encouraging project involvement of Landscape Architecture firms. Dr. Robbins promotes multi-disciplinary teams on all major projects on campus, often selecting Landscape Architectural firms as leads for applicable campus improvements. His support positions the profession to take a leadership role in the development of this very important North Carolina campus.

For his leadership and stewardship in Landscape Architecture, Dr. Clyde Robbins is especially worthy of the NCASLA Presidents Council Award.

## 2008 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE FIRM AWARD

### Greenways Incorporated



*Names of firm members from left to right: Britt Mylacraine, Todd Peterson, Jason Reyes, Matt Hayes, Chuck Flink, Marjorie Strauss, Chris Dye, Wesley Brown and Lora Greco.*

Greenways Incorporated is a unique, award-winning, North Carolina-based landscape architectural firm that has earned a national and international reputation for providing specialized planning and design services to both public and private clients. Established in 1986 by Chuck Flink, FASLA, the firm has completed greenways, open space, bicycle, pedestrian, green infrastructure and park planning design and implementation services for clients in more than 135 communities, within 35 states, and internationally in Argentina, Canada, Japan, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Greenways Inc. has contributed significantly to the way in which communities are planned, designed and developed. Through its work, tens of thousands of acres of land have been protected, thousands of miles of new trails, bicycle and pedestrian facilities have been developed, and hundreds of millions of dollars have been committed to finance land conservation and facility development. Greenways Inc. is rightfully credited with

having helped to establish the modern American Greenway movement, and to have involved in planning and designing some of the most significant and signature project work in the nation.

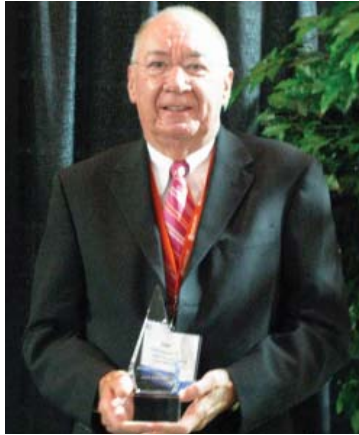
Greenways Inc. has garnered 35 local, state and national awards for its work, including an ASLA Merit Award and Awards of Excellence from several ASLA chapters, along with various planning awards. Additionally, the company has been featured for its unique work in three Landscape Architecture Magazine articles, as well in National Geographic, Walking, American Planning, Good Housekeeping, Buzzworm Environmental Journal, Southern Living, Hemispheres (United Airlines) and American City County.

Greenways Inc. has been a pioneer in North Carolina in the areas of landscape architecture and environmental planning. In 1989, the firm co-authored the state's first local government open space plan (Durham

County). In 1992, under the newly adopted Intermodal Surface Transportation Act, Greenways Inc. authored North Carolina's first Regional Bicycle Plan for the Durham, Carboro and Chapel Hill Metropolitan Area. In the past three years, the firm has authored bicycle master plans for four of North Carolina's five largest cities. In 1996, the company pioneered the first use of Geographic Information System technology and applied a Bicycle level of service model in preparing a Bicycle and Greenway Master Plan for Birmingham, Alabama. In 1999, the company produced the first greenway master plan that made use of GIS technology for Charlotte-Mecklenburg County. During the past two decades, the firm has authored more than 40 local government greenway plans in North Carolina. And in 2007, the firm donated services to plan, design and develop the first "green" Habitat for Humanity community in the state: Hope Crossings, in Durham.

## 2008 NCASLA LEGACY PRACTITIONER AWARD

### Jerry Turner, FASLA, AICP



*Jerry Turner, FASLA, AICP*

Jerry Turner, FASLA, AICP graduated from North Carolina State University School of Design with a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture Degree in 1959 and has since been recognized with numerous awards for professional excellence.

As Planner for the North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development, Division of Community Planning, Turner's responsibilities included the administration and coordination of planning and development projects with government agencies, public bodies and private associations specializing in urban design and recreational planning.

In 1967, he established Jerry Turner and Associates, Inc., and has since provided professional planning services for recreational, commercial, residential, and institutional projects

to governmental and private clients. As President of Jerry Turner & Associates, Inc., Turner is the lead on many of the firm's projects, and has provided his clients with exceptional service in both project design and management.

Turner's planning skills and experience include a broad range of project types including parks and development and redevelopment master planning. His numerous Master Plan projects include: the B. Everett Jordan Reservoir Master Plan; Falls River in Raleigh; Amberly, Preston, Regency Park and Carpenter Community Plan, all in Cary; and The Village at Nags Head.

Jerry Turner has a long history of giving expert professional attention to all aspects of a project from public facilitation, consultant coordination,

and conceptual design through construction drawings and detailing. He has skillfully presented complex planning information to a wide variety of audiences in an understandable way, and has served on numerous committees and boards representing the design profession.

Mr. Turner was recognized for his career of achievement, leadership and service at the highest level by a professional landscape architect. The NCASLA Legacy Practitioner Award is given to individuals with a statewide stature and a lifetime contribution.



## 2008 AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

### North Carolina Museum of Art Master Plan Raleigh, NC

#### Lappas & Havener, PA

Lappas & Havener, PA worked with the North Carolina Museum of Art in updating the Master Plan for the 164-acre Art Park in Raleigh. The Plan provides a development framework for immediate and long-term improvements that weave together existing and future attractions. Proposed improvements create a true outdoor extension of the Museum experience, one that supports the Museum's mission in becoming a national leader in art, education and environmental stewardship.

Over the course of a year, the Landscape Architect met with the Museum Board, stakeholders and the Partnership for Art and Ecology, a committee of Museum and City staff and representatives from the College of Natural Resources at North Carolina State University to develop the future goals and options for the Park:

- Create a Museum campus that enables artists to interpret the landscape and produce original, site-specific work.
- Create a network of trails that encourages increased visitor access to Museum programs, facilities and resources within the Park.
- Restore the ecological function of the Park landscape.
- Provide for enhanced recreation opportunities within the Park and as an extension of Raleigh Greenway trails system.
- Provide a plan for phased im-

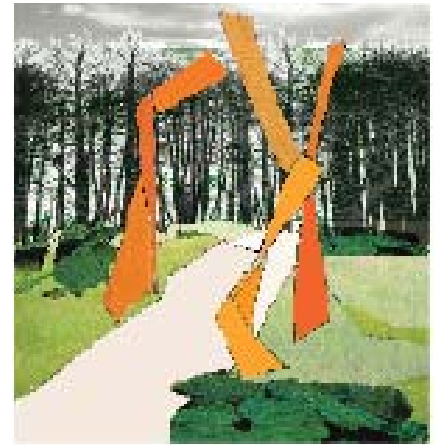
plementation of proposed Park facilities and improvements that would address immediate needs and set the direction for long-term projects.

- Format proposed projects to facilitate grant requests and fundraising.

The Art Park Master Plan recommends a series of expressive site elements, organized pathways traversing the varied landscape in a way that can inspire artists, provide recreational opportunities for guests, and connect the Museum buildings to the surrounding Park grounds. Three zones of activity - the active, the reflective and the nature refuge zones - form the underlying organization of the Park. Each zone requires a different design response based on whether its overall character is one of recreational activity such as jogging, biking and walking, or more contemplative activity in quiet surroundings near art installations, or whether the environment exhibits a sensitive natural character.

Overlaid on the zones of activity are the two remaining requirements of the Master Plan: to symbolically and efficiently connect the heart of the Park to the center of the Museum building complex, and to present the visitor a succinct method to view the outdoor art installations. The dominant concept that emerged was the development of two prominent site gestures – the “Clip” and the “Ramble”.

The Clip is the primary pedes-



trian/bicycle connector that links the collection of museum buildings to the Park grounds. The Clip begins at the core of the Museum facilities – at the planned grand plaza between the existing Stone Gallery, “Picture This” Amphitheater, the new Gallery expansion and a future sculpture garden. From the grand plaza a patron will be able to walk by the Amphitheater on an easily recognizable and accessible paved pathway directly to the heart of the Art Park. The Clip pathway culminates as a raised landform, or belvedere, projecting visitors toward a dramatic vista of the distant downtown Raleigh skyline. Here, the borrowed view of the cityscape intersects with an overview of outdoor sculpture, open prairie, native plantings and woodlands creating a dramatic opportunity to appreciate the uniqueness of the Art Park site.

The “Ramble” is a subtler pathway offering a variety of spatial settings, forming a loop along

the prairie and woodland edge and around an interpretive stormwater pond designed by environmental artist Mary Miss. This short loop begins at the Clip and will allow visitors to view close-up, 85 percent of current and potential art installations. While the Plan does not prescribe specific art installation sites, the Ramble forms the backbone of an organizing system for access to art pieces with temporary trails installed as site-specific approaches to the art installations in a manner that is coordinated with the artist.

When the planned trail system is complete, it will offer visitors a choice of many routes that are suited to people of varying abilities and interests, from the avid runner to the casual stroller. Many trails, including the Clip and Ramble, will offer patrons with limited mobility easy access to the sculpture settings. Walking

small trails on wooded, streamside slopes may satisfy more detailed curiosity. A surprise element – a grotto that can only be discovered through off-trail exploration - is proposed as a secluded woodland garden space. By creating a series of concentric and intersecting loops, the Plan provides trails of varying length and gradients, offering over 3 ½ miles of walking, biking and art discovery experiences.

To support the Museum’s expanding education programs the Plan provides outdoor gathering areas that can function as learning spaces for groups congregating amid informal seating for instruction and socializing. Placed on spur trails coming off of the primary pathways, these areas will be enhanced with plantings of native trees and Piedmont woodland understory and herbaceous species. The enhanced natural envi-

ronments will become the basis of interpretive and environmental education opportunities for youth and adult tour groups. Surfaces will be of durable materials such as crushed gravel to prevent erosion associated with concentrated foot traffic and wood mulch in the more intimate and less frequently used spaces.

The Art Park will function as a fluid part of the surrounding community. Three public entry points into the Art Park independent from the Museum will be marked with memorable, conspicuous monuments, signifying that one is entering a special precinct in the City. The entrance treatments will be augmented with pedestrian furnishings, conveniences and signs that announce Park rules.

The Plan also addresses functional and operational issues, proposing constructed elements to assist in security, service and maintenance access. Along the perimeter of the Park, a series of elements such as bollards, gates, berms and slopes are proposed to form discrete barriers to vehicles – the main security concern for the Park. Vehicular access to the Art Park will be limited to service and emergency vehicles only. Limited motorized cart access to all art sites along all but the most sensitive trails will allow staff to perform routine visual checks of art installations.

The jury credited the designers with finding a unique solution for a unique and unusual situation. The master plan captures the flavor of the site and purpose of the museum while identifying the issues - circulation, recreation potential, and art mission. One juror called the clip and ramble element an “art piece of itself.” Moreover, the designers succeeded in developing a cost effective plan and a strategic approach for implementation.



**2008 HONOR AWARD**

**Cape Fear Historic Byway Corridor Management Plan  
Wilmington, NC**

**Greenways Inc.**

This project was the result of an unparalleled collaboration between planners, landscape architects, engineers, developers, governments, and citizens. The plan tells the story of historic Wilmington, addresses current and future tourist needs, and makes a compelling case for federal National Scenic Byway designation. Descriptions of funding sources and a prioritized action guide have enabled the city to begin implementing the plan as it prepares to apply for federal designation.

The jury found the plan traditional but very logical for a challenging site. They credited the designers with being “assertive and aggressive” in developing the process and thorough in the documentation.



**LEGEND**

**Byway Segments**

- Wilmington Waterfront
- Old Wilmington Residential District
- Dry Pond
- Greenfield Park and Gardens
- N. 3rd Street Civic Corridor

**Bicycle Accidents**

- B1 Property Damage Only
- B2 Minor Injury
- B3 Moderate Injury
- B4 Severe Injury
- B5 Fatality

**Pedestrian Accidents**

- P1 Property Damage Only
- P2 Minor Injury
- P3 Moderate Injury
- P4 Severe Injury
- P5 Fatality



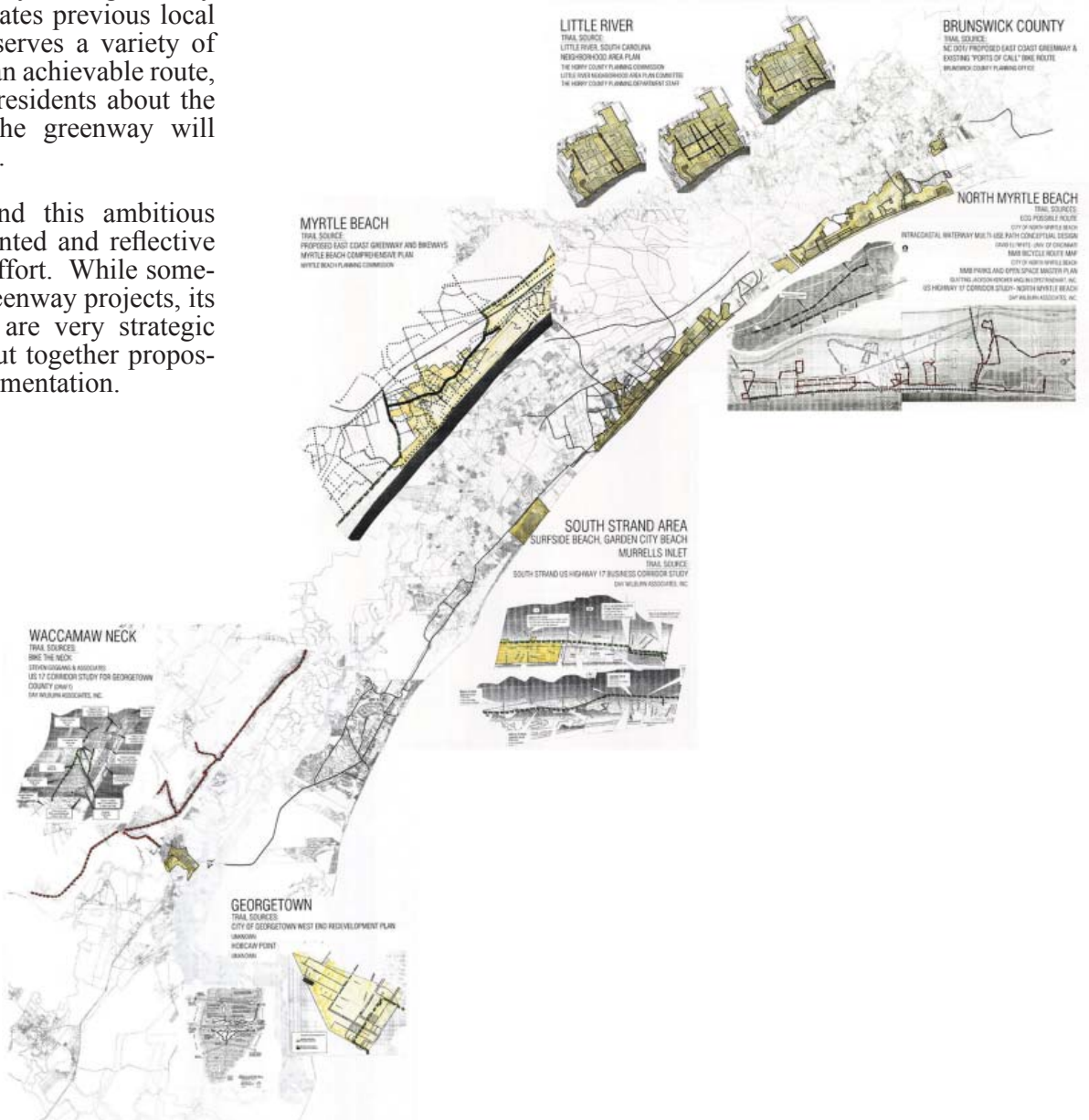
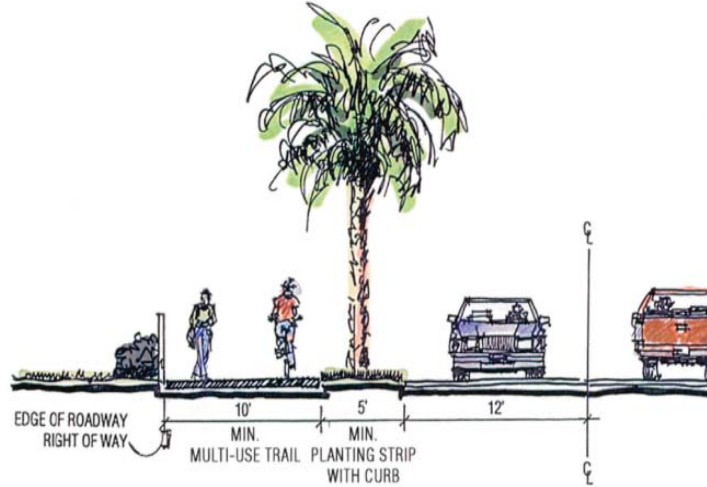
2008 HONOR AWARD

East Coast Greenway Master Plan  
Horry and Georgetown Counties, SC

HadenStanziale, PA

The East Coast Greenway Master Plan extends a national greenway into Horry and Georgetown Counties, South Carolina. Extensive site analysis was the basis for routing decisions and the foundation for educating the public on the local impact of a regional/national greenway. The greenway master plan integrates previous local planning efforts, serves a variety of users, establishes an achievable route, and excites local residents about the positive impact the greenway will have on their lives.

The jury found this ambitious project well presented and reflective of a strong team effort. While somewhat typical of greenway projects, its recommendations are very strategic in the way they put together proposals based on implementation.



2008 MERIT AWARD

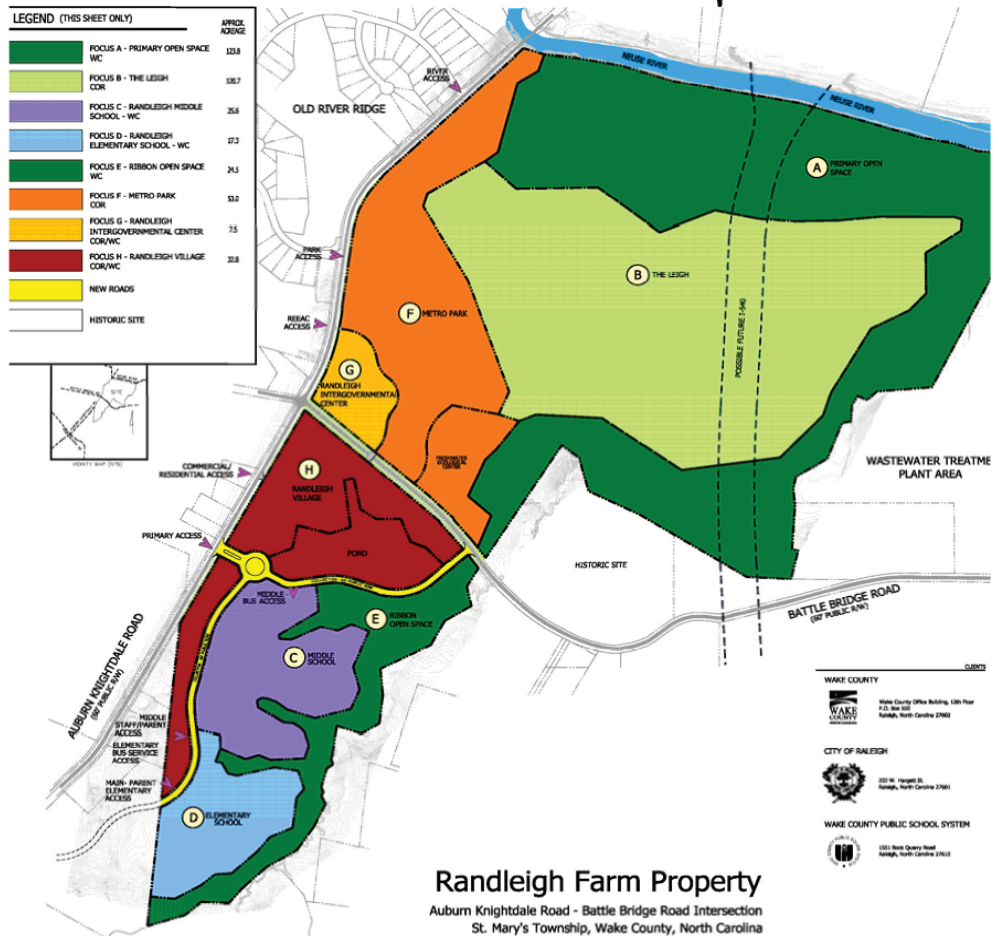
Randleigh Farm  
Raleigh, NC

McNeely Associates, PA

The LA designed the conceptual master plan of Randleigh Farm for environmental sustainability. The program elements were arranged and located to achieve the vision of the stakeholders:

- Preserve Open Space
- Provide for Beneficial Reuse of Water and Biosolids
- Promote Environmental Awareness and Eco-Tourism
- Demonstrate Model Sustainable Development
- Encourage Leisure Time Public Interactions
- Reserve Land for a Public Middle and Elementary School
- Promote Economic Development to support Randleigh
- Become central focus of “Mountains to Sea Trail”

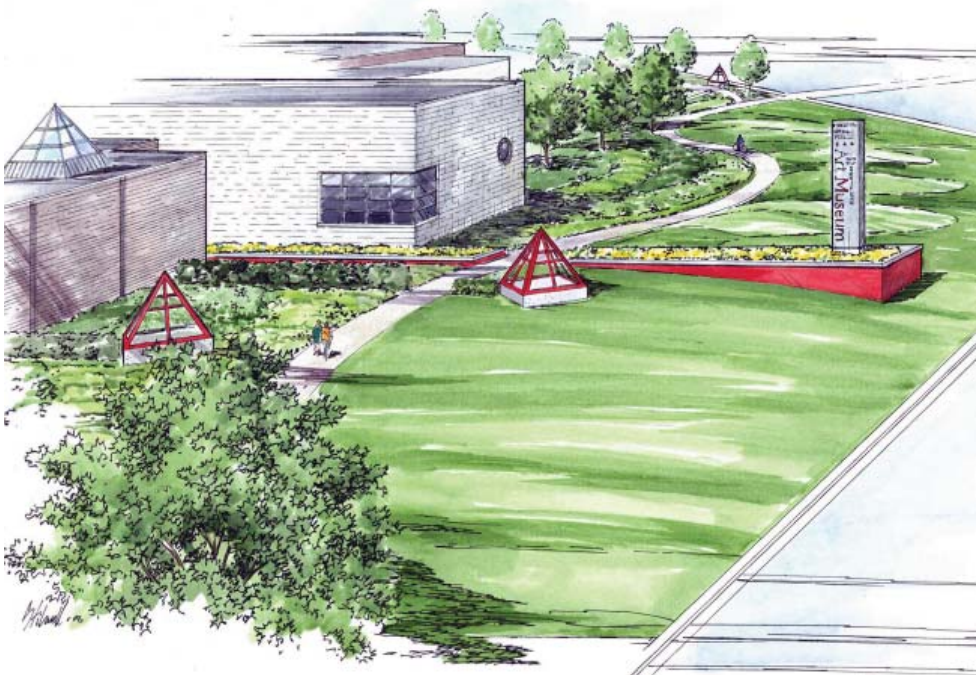
The jury recognized this plan for its competence and for the involvement of so many people. They called it a good solution for showing how schools and other elements can share land.



## 2008 RECOGNITION AWARD

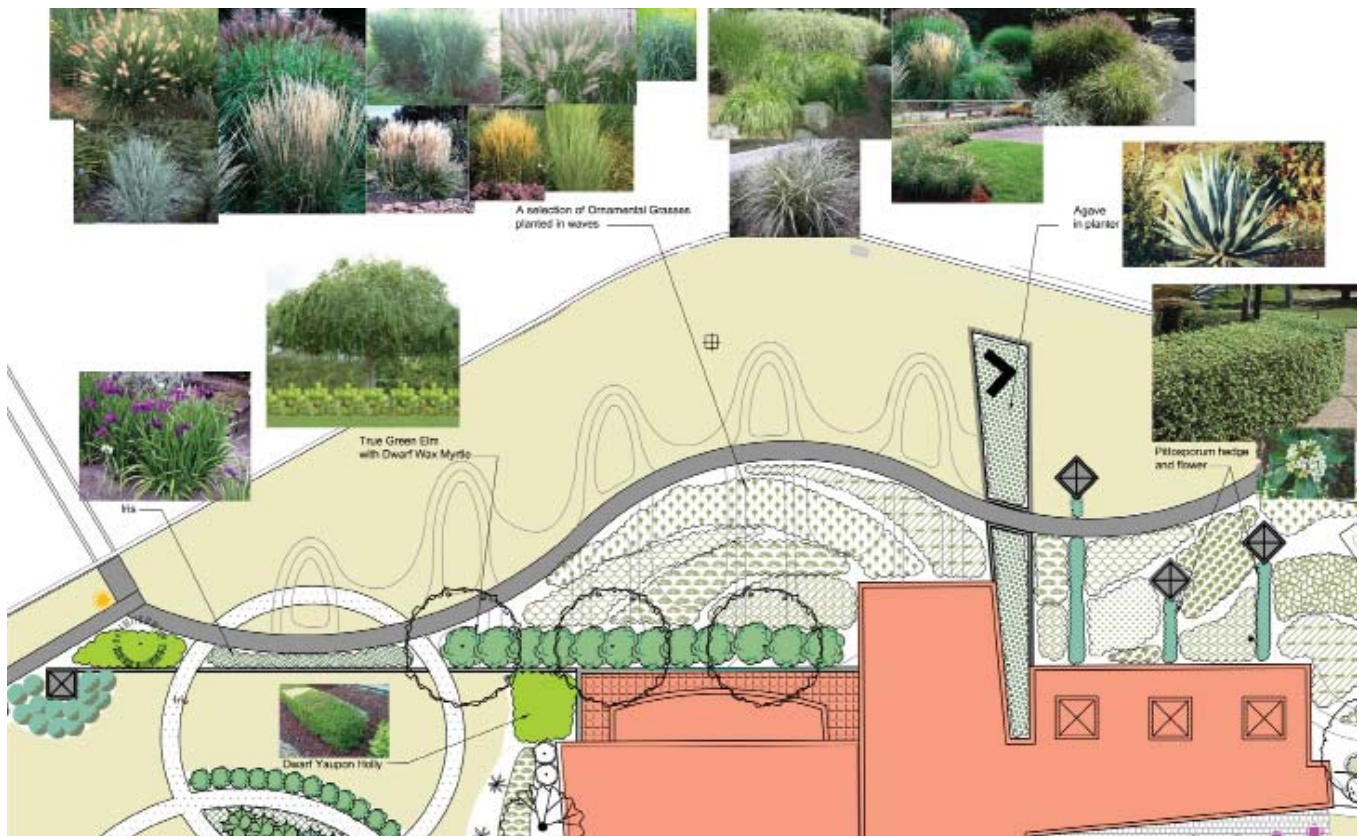
### Cameron Art Museum Wilmington, NC

#### The Hayter Firm



The core of every art museum is to enrich the lives of the visitors through experience. This master plan addresses the space as a cultural gathering place, part of the Wilmington Cross City Trail System, an outdoor sculpture area, a performance space, an event space, a garden, and part of the fabric of Wilmington. The built plan will confirm the Museum's place in the community and provide discoveries and meaningful memories to those who visit.

The jury recognized the plan for the strong collaboration and the number of goals that were achieved. One juror suggested that the designer resubmit in three years in the General Design category.





## 2008 AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

### Time Warner Cable Arena Charlotte, NC

#### ColeJenest & Stone

The City of Charlotte's new public arena reflects regional history in a concept called a "celebration of gathering." The city's spirit of adaptability highlights its design. It is a large building on a small tract that accommodates events as varied as professional and collegiate basketball games, tractor pulls and concerts of many musical genres. Despite multiple complications in making it fit and function as envisioned, the structure was completed on time and within budget.

Within two blocks of The Square in Charlotte, Time Warner Cable Arena encloses 780,000 square feet on 8.11 acres. Its 12-story height encompasses in excess of 19,000 seats for basketball and more for concerts. It is located across a main vehicle artery from the Charlotte Transportation Center, and is adjacent to once-abandoned train tracks, now repurposed



for light rail. A rail bridge that has existed for more than a century presented both challenges and opportunities, both of which were met. The arena has become a destination building that draws people from far and wide.

Traditionally, Charlotte has responded to changing urban demands and challenges, as its recent achievements and growth attest. At The Square, four sculptures represent Charlotte's successful transformation through many decades, while attesting to an outstanding support of the arts. ColeJenest & Stone endeavored to in-

tegrate those elements into the arena design. The firm was responsible for the landscape and streetscape along two major arteries, East Trade and East Fifth streets, as well as a public plaza. Fifth Street was relocated and Brevard Street was abandoned by the city to accommodate the arena's large footprint. The firm provided civil engineering, grading, drainage, erosion control and utility service connections, as well as design services. Accommodations for truck loading and unloading, as well as other staging concerns, had to be worked out in a confined space. The Charlotte Bobcats

play more than 40 home games in the arena annually, and the National Basketball Association imposed unique security specifications on the site.

A frequent comment “It doesn’t look as big as it is” attests to achieving the goal to make the huge structure fit well within its surroundings. The landscape architect designed the outside space to respond to the urban fabric and reflect Charlotte’s past, present and future. The steel and brick represent Charlotte’s heritage of strength and stability. Both the interior and exterior of the building’s bottom three levels invite pedestrians with fluid contemporary art forms. The crescent “C” shape of the arena sweeps from the entrance lobby around the seating bowl to symbolize an embracing of each event. Interior design features “streets” and “galleries” along connecting “streets.”

Public art is a connecting thread throughout the project. Collaborations with artists on the exterior pro-

duced a radial pattern of fins that encircle the arena and harmonize with a series of granite benches. A local artist created sculptures from North Carolina granite for a plaza between Trade and Fifth streets. A tulip-shaped work reflects agricultural beginnings as well as the promise of a prosperous future. A double-leaf piece emphasizes teamwork necessary to enter this new age. For a plaza along Trade Street, a Minnesota artist designed oversized textile forms to make reference to cotton mills of the past. He turned 35-foot columns into 23 multi-colored bobbins to fit within existing building piers.

Above Trade Street, the light rail line’s new Trade Street Station created an 18-foot wall. To make that imposing feature more appealing, decorative brickwork forms a quilt pattern, again referencing the region’s textile roots. Monumental steps and sidewalks of concrete with brick pavers connect the rail line and the streets with the plaza. Retail space

on the first level facing Trade Street is largely filled and provides interaction with pedestrian traffic.

In the plaza’s open spaces, elms and Zelkova trees thrive in grates, which are modified versions of the city standard that provide ample root growth. The trees turn a space that could be empty and hot into one that is comfortable and invites people to use it as a meeting place. No parking was built to serve the arena due to the downtown location, but its design features and retail functionality encourage motorists to leave their vehicles in existing decks nearby and walk to the building.

The jury recognized that the strategic, behind-the-scenes role of the landscape architect in siting and permitting was as crucial as the actual design of this thoroughly integrated, but complex urban project. One juror commented that the design was “sutured into the fabric of the city.”



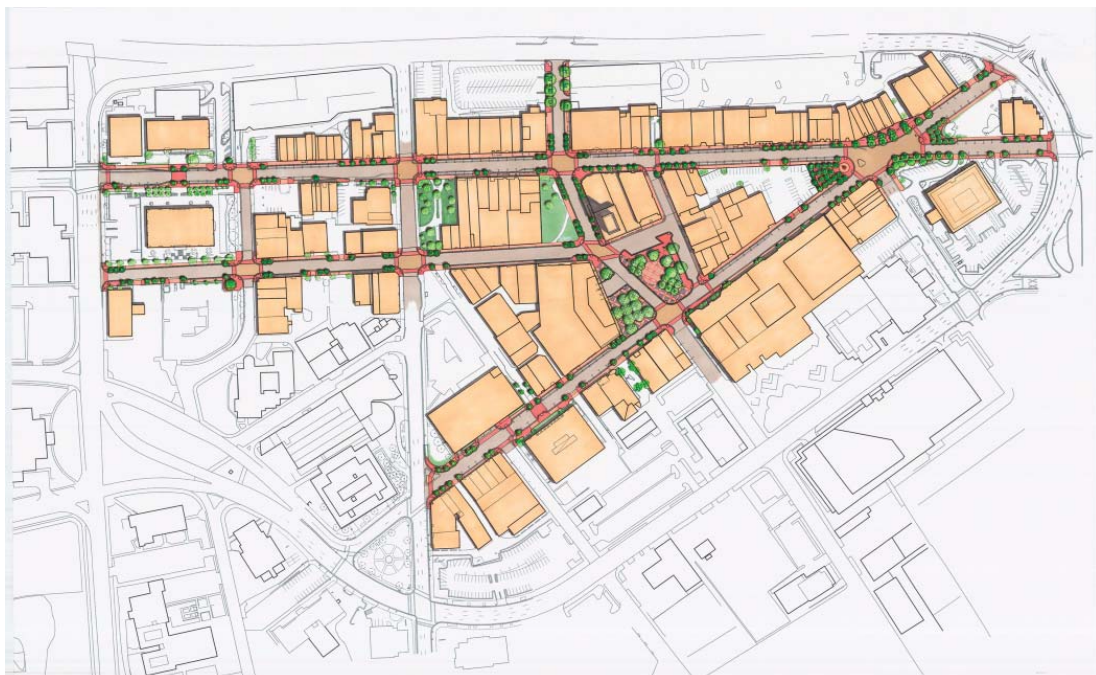
## 2008 HONOR AWARD

### Downtown Durham Streetscape Durham, NC

#### Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc.

This project was about bringing people back to Downtown Durham. The project team and the City shared a vision to redefine downtown's identity and enhance its quality of life through streetscape design, pedestrian safety, and traffic improvements. The team collaborated with citizens, business owners, and City staff to create a balance of function and aesthetics while helping to create streets that celebrate Durham's history.

The jury thought the plan competent and nicely executed. They credited the implementation of this plan with making a tremendous difference on the ground. One juror stated, "Durham was on the verge of coming back for years; now this project, in concert with others, is bringing it back."



## 2008 HONOR AWARD

### Minnie Evans Sculpture Garden Wilmington, NC

#### Haden Stanziale, PA

The Minnie Evans Sculpture Garden was created as a tribute to honor Airlie Garden's longtime gatekeeper and visionary artist, Minnie Evans. The Landscape Architect worked with local artists in creating a sculpture garden that celebrates and honors Evans' work. The project celebrated art, incorporated community involvement, and was a collaboration between the Landscape Architect, artists and contractors in the beautiful setting of Airlie Gardens.

The jury credited the project with accomplishing two major goals: it provides a setting for individual art pieces, and is in itself an art form, carefully delineated to capture the spirit of Minnie Evans. They cited the collaborative process and potential high impact by visitation, all accomplished on a relatively modest budget.



## 2008 MERIT AWARD

### Black Creek Greenway Relocation Project Cary, NC

#### Withers & Ravenel

Planning, landscape architecture and engineering services were provided for the design and relocation of a popular greenway along Lake Crabtree in Cary. The Landscape Architect developed the interactive process, which turned around the public opposition to the project by working closely with the public, Town of Cary staff and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. The project also included two pedestrian bridges, an expanded and improved overlook, and replacement deciduous and native plantings for disturbed areas.

The jury thought the designer worked hard to address the concerns of the stakeholders and minimize the impact of the trail. The plan demonstrates attention to detail to minimize the impact on the environment, minimize flooding, and save trees.



## 2008 MERIT AWARD

### Cary Academy Cary, NC

#### McNeely Associates, PA

The design program for this progressive independent school included a baseball field, middle School multi-purpose field, soccer/track complex, tennis court, and a gymnasium. The landscape architect ensured that all buildings maintained a stately appearance in elevation. With over seventy feet of topographical change across the site, developing a unified and accessible plan required ingenuity and finesse. Further challenges included managing runoff on site to protect adjacent properties.

The jury found the project thoughtfully planned to fit onto the site and to be affordably maintained. Despite challenges still to be met with surrounding build-outs, the design is competent and of significant merit.







## 2008 MERIT AWARD

### Little Sugar Creek Greenway Mecklenburg County, NC

HadenStanziale, PA



The Little Sugar Creek Greenway – Westfield Road section is the first greenway project for Mecklenburg County to combine a greenway with a stream and floodplain enhancement, storm water wetland design, and storm drainage improvements as one integrated design and construction project. This segment of the greenway is a model for inclusive, sustainable, innovative design that meets the goals of: greenway connectivity, recreation, floodplain and stream stability, riparian habitat function, storm water treatment, and public education.

The jury credited the designer for going the extra mile to save as many existing healthy trees, even though the result was an exceptionally curvilinear trail. While one juror thought the curves would make a biker dizzy, another thought it would be good for runners, because cyclists couldn't pick up speed and run you down.

## 2008 MERIT AWARD

### Rocky Mount Sports Complex Rocky Mount, NC

#### Site Solutions

In 1988, workers on a roadway-widening project began to feel ill. Ultimately the cause was linked to contaminated soil along the roadway of an abandoned municipal airport site. Twenty years later, with dedication and commitment, the City of Rocky Mount has converted this environmental hazard into one of the State's finest tournament level sports facilities. Along the way they created a community treasure and an engine for economic impact.

The jury found the plan demonstrated a good understanding of site conditions and flooding, and was designed to maximize the quantity of useable recreation. Furthermore, it shows a good understanding of site conditions and flooding. The plan includes a thoughtful circulation plan, sidewalks, orientation and congregation spaces. This is another project the jury would like to see resubmitted in 5-10 years.

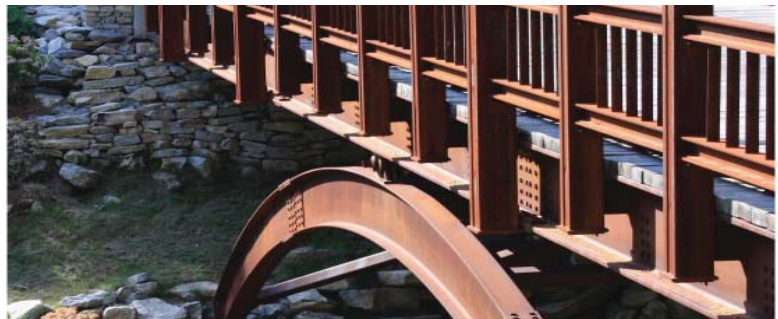
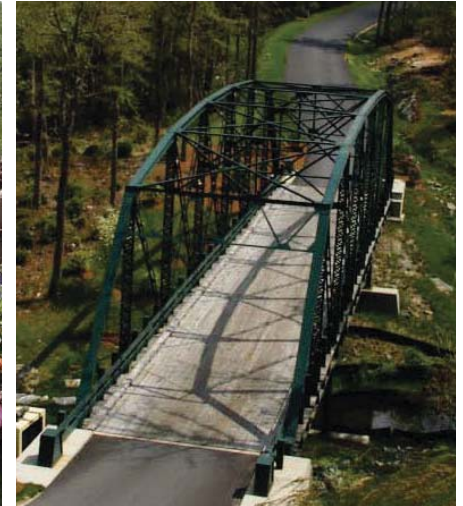


## 2008 MERIT AWARD

### Three Bridges Cashiers, NC

#### Kerns Landscape Architecture

The submitting landscape architect served as lead designer for the construction of three vehicular bridges within a new resort mountain community in Western North Carolina. The project scope included carrying the project from initial concept through construction administration and inspections, leading and coordinating the efforts of a project team that included the owner, engineering consultants as well as project oversight of the efforts of a general contractor and utility sub-consultants. The project reflects the local mountain vernacular and embodies the sensitive integration of an elegant structure into rugged topography with exceptional attention to custom detailing.



The jury noted that the 3 unique bridge concepts aptly addressed the varied site conditions, and particularly appreciated the reuse of the old bridge.

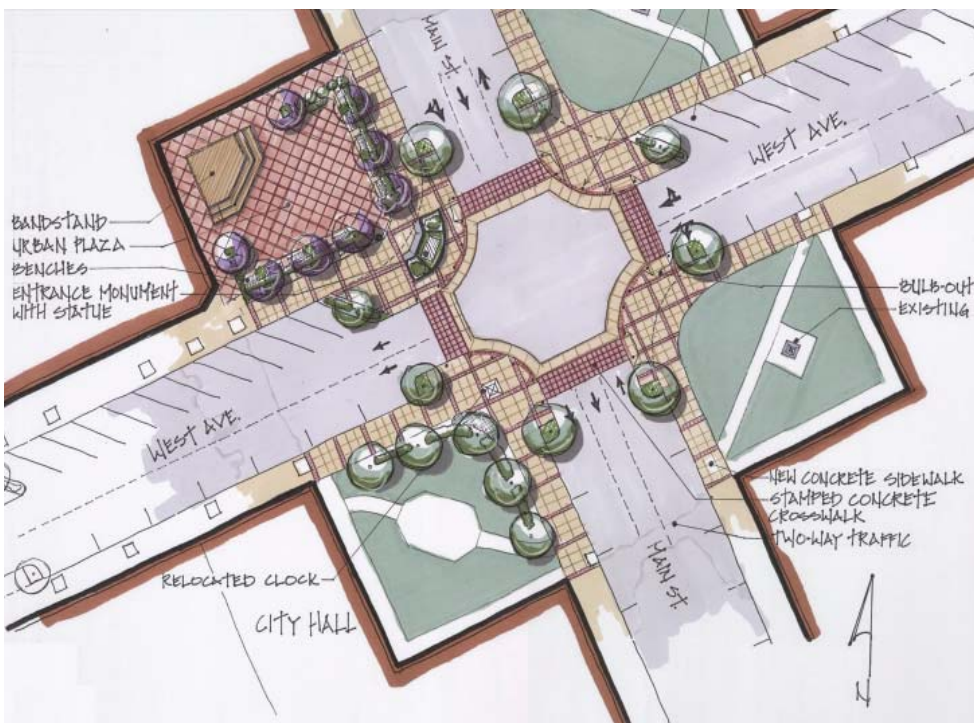
## 2008 RECOGNITION AWARD

### Lenoir Downtown Streetscape Improvement Project Lenoir, NC

#### McGill Associates, PA

Exemplifying all the strengths of landscape architecture everything from vehicular and pedestrian traffic flow, utilities and storm drainage as well as visual aesthetics were redesigned to enhance the Lenoir downtown streetscape. Utilizing local workmanship and materials the project manager, a registered landscape architect, was responsible for designing and managing all aspects of this very successful project. Truly deserving award recognition this project has enhanced not only downtown Lenoir but the lives of everyone who visits.

The jury found the design competent and well executed, and certainly “something the city should be proud of.”



## 2008 HONOR AWARD

### Sutton Residence Grandfather Mountain, NC

#### Miller Landscape Architecture

This is a residential renovation project involving the construction of outdoor gathering and approach spaces, driveway, a bridge and landscaping with respect and sensitivity shown towards the preservation of existing natural features. We believe that this project is award worthy because of the high level of cooperation between landscape architect, client and landscape contractor needed to overcome construction challenges while maintaining a delicate footing among the natural features to be preserved.

The jury found the before and after photos of the site a remarkable transformation. They applauded the sensitivity to detail on this challenging site, including the preservation of existing trees and the use of native stone and plant species. One juror remarked that the project makes you “proud to be a landscape architect.”



# MEMBERS IN THE NEWS



**Jonathan Crowder** has been promoted to director of landscape architecture at Cole-Jenest & Stone, P.A. He joined the firm in 2003. Crowder

received his Master of Landscape Architecture degree from Harvard University and his Bachelor of Environmental Design in Landscape Architecture degree from North Carolina State University. Crowder has been involved with guiding the design quality of a wide variety of projects for both public and private-sector clients. He has coordinated and established design concepts for projects that include master planned mixed-use developments, high-density urban infill projects, urban open spaces, residential developments, streetscapes, and signage and monuments.



**Jennifer Wagner** has become an Accredited Professional (AP) in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®). She joined Cole-Jenest & Stone, PA in

2007 as a Site Designer I. Ms. Wagner received her Master of Landscape Architecture degree from North Carolina State University and her Bachelor of Arts degree in International Studies from American University in Washington, D.C.

**Woolpert**, a nationally ranked planning, design and engineering firm, recently received two United States Air Force (USAF) Design Awards. The awards recognize excellence in design for Air Force installations. Woolpert received two Citation Awards in the Planning Studies and Design Guides category for the firm's outstanding planning efforts. Woolpert worked with Hurlburt Field, Fla., to develop a sub-area development plan for the base's town center and Cannon Air

Force Base (AFB), N.M., to develop a sub-area development plan for the base's community center.

**Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.** has opened an Urban Resource Group (URG) office, Charlotte-South End, which will be the firm's second office in metro Charlotte. The new 23-person office is located in a 7,000-square-foot space at 1919 South Boulevard, Suite 100. URG, a division of Kimley-Horn, specializes in redevelopment, streetscape, urban design, and town planning projects nationwide. Working collaboratively in a studio setting, URG's urban planners and landscape architects are skilled in developing public involvement programs, directing community workshops, and promoting consensus on complex redevelopment and improvement programs. The firm has provided these services in the Charlotte area for more than a decade.

Site Solutions is pleased to announce **Tristan McMannis, ASLA** has recently passed the Landscape Architecture Registration Exam in South Carolina, and is now a registered landscape architect. We would also like to congratulate Mr. McMannis on his recent appointment to the Town of Pineville Planning Board.



**David W. Owens, Assoc. ASLA**, accepted a position working as a Landscape Designer with Susan Hatchell Landscape Architecture, PLLC in

Raleigh. He works on park master plans and campus pedestrian projects. Rachel Mukai and Matthew Tobolski have also joined the firm as part-time interns while studying Landscape Architecture at NCSU.



**Phillip E. Hobbs, ASLA**, Vice President of Site Solutions has obtained Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design accredita-

tion through the U.S. Green Building Council's Green Building Certification Institute. Site Solutions has been providing landscape architecture and civil engineering services for health-care facilities, parks, schools, residential and commercial developments throughout the Carolinas for over twenty years. The Charlotte based firm has received numerous awards from the North Carolina Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architecture.

**Ed Johnson, ASLA** the Recreation Facilities Project Manager with the Town of Garner announced that wood from a farmhouse in Garner's White Deer Park was salvaged for reuse in the new Nature Center to be built there. Slated for demolition when the park is built, the dilapidated 1930's farmhouse contributes first as part of the new building, and also as part of the interpretive program for the park. The Nature Center will be the Town of Garner's first LEED Accredited building. Construction has begun on the 96 acre park and is anticipated to be complete in the fall of 2009. In addition to the nature center, the Park will feature 2.5 miles of paved walking trails, five picnic shelters, two new playgrounds, wildflower meadows and an arboretum. The design team for the park includes Garner Parks and Recreation Department, obs Landscape Architects, Cherry Huffman Architects, Design Dimension, Stewart Engineering and ConsiderDesign.



**Cynthia F. Van Der Wiele, Ph.D.**, will be Chatham County's first director of Sustainable Communities Development. In this position, she will over-

see several major county functions related to her wide range of experience and education.

## In Memoriam

### Marion Foster Clark



Marion Foster Clark, ASLA, a talented landscape architect dedicated to the design profession through her teaching, public and private practice and commitment to developing sustainable landscapes, died on November 27, 2008 in Washington, D.C. Marion was a Maryland native with roots in Lexington, North Carolina. She graduated with a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree with honors from Louisiana State University and a Master of Regional Planning at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Marion, who practiced landscape architecture and urban design for over 25 years, was a registered landscape architect in both North Carolina and Maryland. Marion served on the Executive Committee of the ASLA Chapters in North Carolina, Wisconsin and Maryland, serving as Potomac Chapter President in 2000-01.

Marion spent her early career working in North Carolina at the office of Dan Sears, Landscape Architect, and then moving on in 1986 to become the first landscape architect hired by the City of Raleigh to review plans under the newly adopted landscape ordinance. Marion negotiated with developers, property owners and government agencies for compliance with the ordinance and was instrumental in code revisions and other efforts such as the Façade Grant and Entryway Planting program. During her time with the City, she obtained forestry grants to implement tree planting and median projects in Raleigh. In recognition of her work, Marion was honored with the NCASLA Award of Excellence for the US 64 East Corridor Planning Study and with two Raleigh Appearance Commission Awards for planting projects.

After receiving her Masters in Regional Planning in 1996, Marion moved to Madison, Wisconsin to teach landscape architecture, regional planning, critical design theory and professional practice at the University of Wisconsin. In 1999, she returned to the Washing-

ton, D.C. area where she continued to both practice in the public arena and teach - as Planner Coordinator for the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and as a lecturer at George Washington University in the College of Professional Studies Landscape Design program. In her public sector work, Marion developed master plans that integrated ecological functions into transit communities including guidelines for green space, tree planting, stormwater management and best management practices. She raised awareness of urban environmental issues and lobbied for creative solutions through the regulatory process such as LEED certification and green building measures. On a community and residential scale, Marion established and managed a "Going Green at Home" program to educate the public on energy efficiency, sustainable materials, water conservation and the design process.

Most important to Marion was creating a positive and nurturing learning environment for her students. At GWU, where she taught design theory, site analysis and three-dimensional design, Marion wrote and launched a new graduate curriculum in Sustainable Landscapes focusing on small-scale best practices. Before she died, Marion expressed a desire to create a scholarship for students in the Sustainable Landscapes program. If you would like to celebrate the life and legacy of our colleague and friend, please consider making a contribution to the scholarship in memory of Marion. Donations can be made online at [www.gwu.edu/give2gw](http://www.gwu.edu/give2gw) and specify the Marion Clark Memorial Scholarship Fund under "Other".

### Thomas O. Perry



As a teacher, Thomas O. Perry was beloved and admired by his colleagues and students. His work influenced hundreds of professionals in Forestry, Wildlife and Parks services. As a researcher, he developed trees and growing methods that are used today by commercial growers in cities and towns across the nation. Millions of trees are planted annually using seeds that he helped breed.

Tom was an active and outspoken participant in the city and community. As a member of the City of Raleigh Planning Commission from 1974 to 1975, he was instrumental in developing the city's Greenway system and served on the Raleigh Greenway Commission from 1976 to 1982. He consulted with the Nature Conservancy on land use history, forestry, and natural resource management, and was a member of the Stewardship Committee.

As a scientist and environmentalist, Dr. Perry was increasingly drawn toward preserving city trees and inner city greenspaces. He developed the concept of Urban Forestry with the NCSU School of Design, where he taught Landscape Architecture there for many of his last years as a professor.

Dr. Perry was an Army veteran of WWII. He was a member of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting and a peace activist during the Vietnam War. His children remember him standing in peace vigils and driving the family to Washington to march for peace.

Tom was preceded in death by his adored lifelong partner and wife, Hazel Eaton Perry. He is survived by his sister, Miriam P. Calhoun, of Harbinger, NC; by his children, Susan, Beth, Craig, Thomas II, and Karen; and by his grandchildren, Eric, Kaola, Emma, and Samuel. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Friends Service Committee, the Union of Concerned Scientists, or the Nature Conservancy.

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Valkenburgh puts into his plant selection. The allée is aligned North-South in order to shade the glass pavilion from Southern exposure. It also serves to further disguise the dramatic change in grade that occurs at the edge of the terrace. The Paulownia tree, which is both fast growing and long living, creates a contrast between its own significant seasonal changes and the permanence of the terrace and concrete steps it frames.

Lastly, Japanese myth gives a new meaning to the choice of Paulownia trees with respect to the history of the place. It is believed that when the Phoenix flew over the Orient, it would only land on Paulownia trees, bringing wisdom and good fortune to all who were near. Since the Phoenix is borne from ashes, it applies all too well to the fire Gravelly and Khachatoorian endured to be just a coincidence in van Valkenburgh's design.

The Gravelly-Khachatoorian garden demonstrates van Valkenburgh's belief that design should relate to its physical and, in this case, psychological context. Here, van Valkenburgh draws on tangible remnants and intangible memories to make this segue. In addition, his minimalist take on historical precedents creates a quiet design that is harmonious with both the existing surroundings and the structure. The Gravelly-Khachatoorian residence deftly proves that beauty and elegance are found in the straightforward solution.

Thanks to Haig Khachatoorian and Frances Gravelly, Fernando Magallanes, and Carter Crawford

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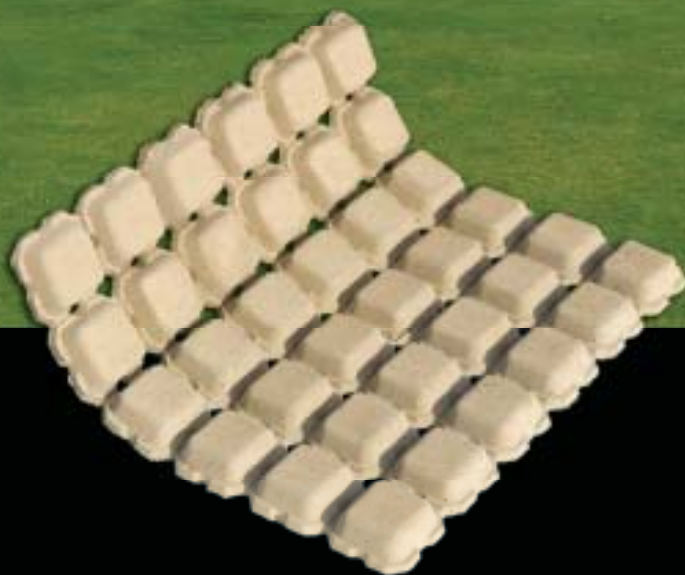
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