

VTASLA Chapter Update Letter from the President

Dear Members,

WOW! A year has passed since I took over the reins and became President of our Chapter. It has been a busy and fun year – and I am grateful to have been a part of the good work we have done. Thank you!

The best part of this year has been the opportunity to view our profession from a vantage point that has allowed me to connect with and experience the work Vermont Landscape Architects are doing– and that view is both impressive and expansive. The talent that resides in this small state holds its own and our work is a testament to Vermont ingenuity on a level that will prove to have lasting and positive effects for us all.

We held the Chapter's Design Awards last month and I was struck by the diverse work completed and submitted by our members. Brief synopses of these winning projects are included in this quarter's newsletter. Tom Tavella, President of National ASLA, made the journey to Vermont to honor our work and help present the awards. We thank him for both his time and his support! His participation highlighted the design influence of Vermont Landscape Architects on our national landscape that was reflected in this year's winning projects.

Claire McFarland from Victor Stanley attended and once again gave us all a book to uplift and inspire. Victor Stanley has been one of VTASLA's most consistent sponsors and we are very grateful for this sponsorship – Thank you to Victor Stanley and to all our continuing sponsors who help make our events possible: Landscape Forms, Pine Hall Brick, Trowel Trades, Belgard, Swaney Lighting, CWA Lighting, and Unilock. The Illinois Chapter of ASLA judged this year's entries and provided us with comments that were both constructive and entertaining. Thank you Illinois!

This is such an important moment for us and our profession in Vermont. As you all know by now, our licensing law is up for review this year and this truly is a make or break moment. The Board, National, and our Membership have been pulling together to solidify our professional accreditation. Information and stories are being gathered to demonstrate the need to license Landscape Architects in Vermont and more data is needed if we are to succeed. Our efforts are directed towards the law which reads:

ACT NO. 84 SEC. 4. REVIEW BY DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION; REPEAL

- (b) On or before December 31, 2013, the director shall file a report with the House and Senate committees on government operations on whether this act has benefited the public health, safety or welfare. The report shall make a specific finding of whether or not this act has benefited the public health, safety or welfare. If the report finds no such benefit, this act shall be repealed on July 1, 2014.

In the coming weeks we will be reaching out to all of you for letters of support from both Landscape Architects practicing in Vermont and from allied professionals working with Vermont's Landscape Architects. Please take the time to contribute any thoughts, stories, projects, conflicts, or positive outcomes that will help to demonstrate our impact on the public health, safety or welfare in Vermont. All aspects and impacts of our professional licensure will be reviewed, including environmental and economic impacts. *If our licensing law is repealed there is no going back and we will lose professional licensing for Vermont's Landscape Architects permanently. It's your chance step up to the plate: your stories and thoughts regarding your practice and licensure in VT are instrumental in convincing our lawmakers to pass our licensing regulation.* We urge you to send us any examples you can think of where being licensed has benefited the health safety or welfare of your community, its citizens, or the state of Vermont to vtasla@gmail.com by October 15.

A huge thank you to those who have worked tirelessly for us all and have gotten us this far!!! Happy Fall everyone! This year has been wonderful. ■ Paula Green, VTASLA Chapter President



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MEMBER PROFILE

SCOTT WUNDERLE

TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOU: WHERE ARE YOU FROM, WHAT THINGS DO YOU LOVE?

Scott Wunderle, Co-founder of TERRIGENOUS, LLC, grew up in Vermont, and graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design with a Bachelor of Fine Arts (EISD)(1992) and a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (1993). After graduation, he moved from Providence to Boston to work as an intern at Harvard University's Arnold Arboretum and as a model maker for Martha Schwartz Inc. In 1996, Scott returned to Vermont to begin working in the landscape that had originally inspired him and spent three years as a laborer, draftsman, and foreman for Gordon Hayward Landscape Gardening and Design. In addition, he spent three years as a Zoning Administrator for the Town of Peru, VT, six years as a member of the Chester Planning Commission, and four years as the chairman of the Chester Development Review Board. Scott is a licensed Landscape Architect in the State of Vermont and owner of TERRIGENOUS.

In addition to working on studio projects, Scott enjoys spending time with his children, Tuckerman and Angelae, experimenting with stone on his property, experiencing Fine Arts, writing poetry, keeping up on current events, skiing in powder, and riding his Moto Guzzi motorcycle.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED AND PRACTICED IN VERMONT?

I was born here and started TERRIGENOUS Landscape Architecture when I was 28.

WHAT PATH LED YOU TO THE PRACTICE OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE?

Growing up in Vermont, I was inspired at an early age by the craftspeople, masons, farmers, and loggers that contribute significantly to the local economy and to our sense of place and culture.

During the five years I spent at RISD, studying Fine Arts and Landscape Architecture, I realized my challenge was to combine the elements of both worlds - that of meaningful design, exploring the human condition, and of construction, enabling and enriching human habitation within the Vermont landscape.

WHO HAS INFLUENCED YOU THE MOST PROFESSIONALLY?

Christo and Jean Claude, Martha Schwartz, and Andy Goldsworthy have inspired and challenged my understanding of the relationship between art and the habitable landscape. The person who influenced me the most professionally though is probably the dairy farmer I grew up working with - Richard Stickney.

WHAT IS THE MAIN FOCUS OF YOUR PRACTICE?

I focus on projects in Vermont that combine art, architecture, and the landscape.



Scott Wunderle

WHAT IS THE MOST INTERESTING / UNIQUE PROJECT YOU HAVE WORKED ON?

That is a tough question....

Professionally it is probably the work that we did for an alpaca farm in Windsor, VT. The project allowed me to further explore the relationship between image and structure- between two and three dimensional space using local materials.

I'm also proud of a residential project in Jamaica, VT that involved the removal and recycling of several home sites within a view corridor and the restoration of a pond and wetland on the site. Years of human impact on the land was thereby reversed.

On a personal level, I am very proud of the sculptural installation "H...Harvest" that I worked on after Tropical Storm Irene which was displayed at VTICA in Chester, VT.

DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE TOOL?

The most important tool I use is a digital 35 millimeter camera. It enables me to document a site, share conceptual ideas, construct and illustrate narrative through image, document the construction process and finally capture the ephemeral nature of the spaces that are created.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE PLANT MATERIALS? WHY?

White Oak and Climbing Hydrangea are favorites due to their slow growth habits and long life cycles, but honestly what I enjoy the most are plants that grow naturally and comfortably on a site- "Weeds"!

IF YOU HAD ADVICE FOR SOMEONE JUST ENTERING THE FIELD, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Spend time on construction sites building landscapes. The things that you learn from this experience will infuse your work with subtleties, confidence, and understanding that your drawings may not otherwise have. ■

EVENT PROFILE

2013 VT ASLA CHAPTER AWARDS

Award of Excellence: DESIGN

Quaker Smith Point Residence
Shelburne, Vermont



Wagner Hodgson Landscape Architecture
with

Birdseye Design
Birdseye Building Company
Colby Hill Landscape
Treeworks
Church Hill Landscapes
JKB Stone
Dave Newton Stonework
Epic Electric

Project Narrative

Motivated by the site's raw beauty, a modern design aesthetic and a respect for the unique history of the site, the landscape architecture artfully integrates a new residence with the agrarian landscape. The modern built form successfully transitions into its context through thoughtful and poetic interventions - a modern re-interpretation of the 19th century agricultural estate.

Jury Comments

Poetic detailing; excellent use of materials; simply beautiful. Mindful of siting of building with sun, views, photovoltaic; master plan developed to transition easily between indoor and outdoor space.

Honor Award: DESIGN

University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy, Medicinal
Kingston, Rhode Island



Wagner Hodgson Landscape Architecture
with

Elizabeth Billings
Andy Wasserman
Atlantic View

clients:

Rhode Island State Council of the Arts
(RISCA)
University of Rhode Island

Project Narrative

The Wellness & Medicinal Plant Garden is a sculptural environment that speaks to the fields of pharmacy and pharmacognosy, the geography of Rhode Island and the context of URI. The Garden forms as entryway to the School of Pharmacy and is a visual statement that has the potential to permeate and subtly guide the school - an opportunity to artistically create an inspired space, where garden, sculpture, and school interact and overlap to such an extent that they become integral to one another.

Jury Comments

Interesting basis for design of pod seating; strong hardscape detailing. Shadow patterns on building wall is attractive.

EVENT PROFILE

2013 VT ASLA CHAPTER AWARDS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

Honor Award: DESIGN

Tapis vert + Barn Millerton, New York



Wagner Hodgson Landscape Architecture
with
Matthew Baird Architects
PT Nilsen & Sons
Twinbrooks Garden Center
Randi Sackheim Design
Treeworks
Roma Pools

Project Narrative

High atop a hill, a 28,000 SF rectangular 'tapis vert' was scribed into this rolling 110 acre parcel, as the organizing element for a weekend home and surrounding elements. At the east end of this tilted rectangular plain sits a contemporary 'barn' of Corten steel and glass; at the west end is a lap pool, children's wading pool, and a terrace at the precipice. Steel tree wells allow key existing trees to remain and extend barn materials out into the landscape. The tapis vert adds a functional, yet sculptural element to the composition, which through materials recalls the rusting farm implements of Dutchess County, and through pattern the hay bales that dot the local landscape.

Jury Comments

Very clean, simple design; clever pool enclosure; tree wells an intriguing element for residential application.

Merit Award: DESIGN

Formosa, Elisabet Ney Museum Phase 1 Landscape Restoration and ADA Access Austin, Texas



Heritage Landscapes, LLC

client:
Elisabet Ney Museum

Project Narrative

This project is the completed Phase 1 of preservation design implementation at Formosa, the 2.45-acre Elisabet Ney Museum in Austin, Texas, that was the studio of noted sculptor and Texas cultural pioneer Elisabet Ney. Based on over a decade of detailed historic research and planning by the Project LA, the purpose of this project was to make dramatic steps toward returning the landscape to its 1907 appearance, the time of Ney's death, thereby interpreting the link between the landscape and Ney's philosophy and to address contemporary concerns of access, sustainability, and maintenance into the restored Ney era landscape without compromising historic character or extant historic features.

Jury Comments

Significant research effort is obvious. The process was well articulated and very inclusive. Enjoyed outreach to school children; art, ecology and history.

EVENT PROFILE

2013 VT ASLA CHAPTER AWARDS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

Award of Excellence: PLANNING

Scenic Resources in the Shawangunk Mountains Region: A Guide for Planning Boards Shawangunk Mountains Region, New York



PLANNING & DESIGN PRACTICES

5.5 FOLLOW NATURAL CONTOURS



Best Practice: Reduce grading and resulting land alterations by laying out driveways along natural contours. This allows existing forest lands to remain intact while visually softening the building in the surrounding woodlands.

Forelands in the Shawangunk region are most often found on slopes along the ridges and valleys. When building on forested slopes, the roadway is to build a foreland that connects the road and the building in the best possible manner, often a straight line. The method involves an increased amount of clearing in order to grade the driveway. When the driveway follows the natural contours of the land, even less grading and clearing is required, which reduces visual and environmental impacts. This preserves the natural and forested character of the landscape by setting the building and driveway within the wooded landscape.



Existing Condition: Proposed slopes with a permanent slope type through the Shawangunk region.



Practice to Avoid: Laying out driveways that fight or ignore the natural contours of the land results in increased clearing, accelerated soil erosion and gaps in the forest canopy and character of the area.

LandWorks

with

The Shawangunk Mountains Regional Partnership

client:

The Shawangunk Mountains Regional Partnership

Project Narrative

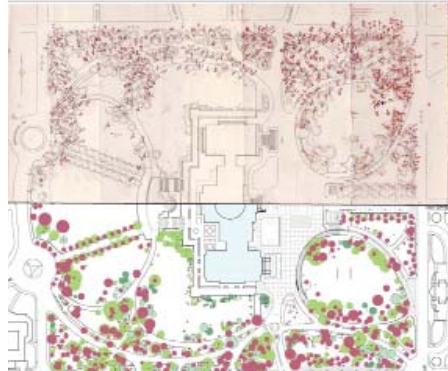
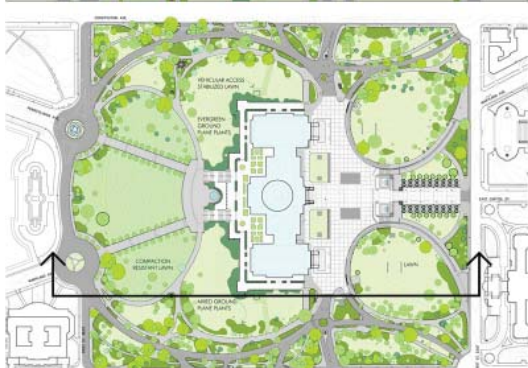
LandWorks was selected to undertake this ground-breaking project involving 11 municipalities surrounding the unique Shawangunk Mountain Range to develop a regional approach to drafting policy for guiding sustainable growth while protecting scenic resources. Through an extensive outreach process, the team prepared a comprehensive 'Best Practices' handbook for regulators, developers, engineers, and landowners that will focus on sustainable development and scenic resource conservation and preservation, and helped to develop and adopt a consistent regional policy focused on conserving and protecting scenic resources.

Jury Comments

Simple goals can be clearly understood by stakeholders; wonderful that process was so inclusive and comprehensive, built on previous plans developed by individual areas; excellent communication piece, simple graphics are easily understood.

Honor Award: PLANNING

Capitol Square Cultural Landscape Report Washington, District of Columbia



Heritage Landscapes, LLC

with

Theodore R. Bechtol, Jr.

Martin Shore

Vitetta

Charles E. Beveridge, PhD.

Pamela Scott

Hord Coplan Macht, Inc.

The Care of Trees

Faithful + Gould, Inc.

client:

Architect of the Capitol

Project Narrative

The Capitol Square Cultural Landscape Report addresses, for the first time, the intricate past, challenging present, and greener future of this iconic landscape in the heart of our nation. Research rediscovered the definitive legacy of designer Frederick Law Olmsted Sr., while innovative and historically grounded recommendations responded to heavy use, ceremony, security, and management. Implementation will result in enhanced landscape vitality with applied best practices and quality visits.

Jury Comments

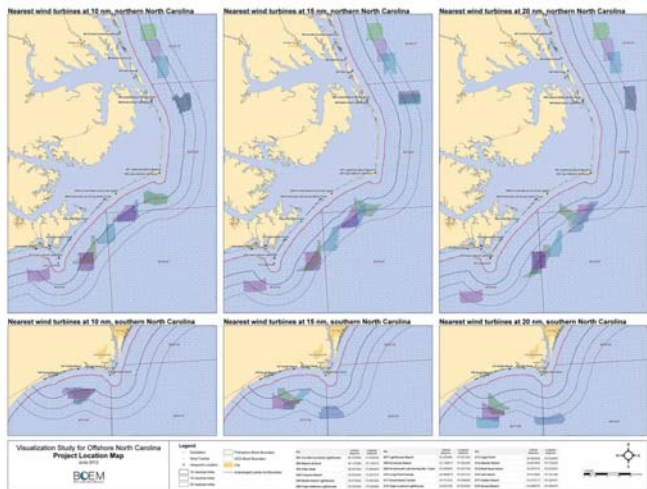
Analysis well documented and recommendations appear clearly communicated for such a significant project; simple graphics are easily understood.

EVENT PROFILE

2013 VT ASLA CHAPTER AWARDS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

Honor Award: PLANNING

Visualization Study for Offshore North Carolina Coastal North Carolina



T.J. Boyle Associates

with

Mangi Environmental Group

client:

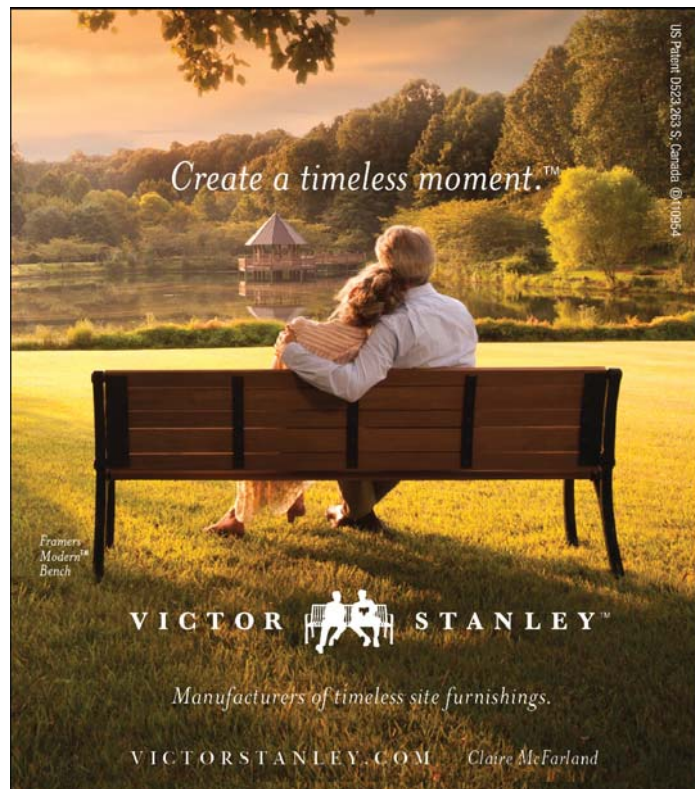
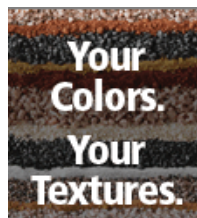
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Project Narrative

T.J. Boyle Associates was awarded a contract by the BOEM to prepare visualizations and facilitate public outreach events on the visual effect and public response to the potential for offshore wind turbines off the coast of North Carolina. The project involved assessments of multiple offshore wind generation projects, each with 200 potential wind turbines and six alternative scenarios, requiring the creation of over 234 photographic simulations, 48 photographic animations, and 15 panoramic photomontages.

Jury Comments

Very interesting project; bleeding edge of what landscape architecture profession can provide; appreciate significant efforts to document findings and communicate with the public



EVENT PROFILE

2013 VTASLA DESIGN AWARDS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

Merit Award: PLANNING

Boler Mountain Strategic Business Plan

London, Ontario, Canada



SE Group

with

RRC Associates

North South Environmental

client:

Boler Mountain

Project Narrative

Boler Mountain is a not-for-profit community organization with a long history of providing recreational opportunities and promoting health and fitness for people of all ages and ability levels in a highly treasured open space in London's Byron Neighborhood. The Strategic Business Plan harnesses the natural beauty of the place and protects the environmental resources to build a multi-seasonal recreation plan for all to enjoy.

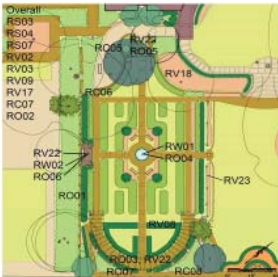
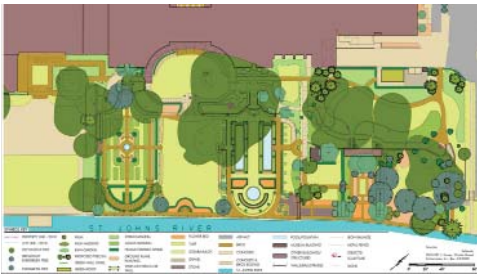
Jury Comments

Interesting variety of recreational options proposed; appreciate integration of market conditions and financial feasibility.

Merit Award: PLANNING

The Cummer Museum Cultural Landscape Report and Management Plan

Jacksonville, Florida



Heritage Landscapes, LLC

client:

The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens

Project Narrative

The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens is a National Register-listed property with a series of historic gardens along the St. Johns River that are curated as important elements within the Museum collection. The return of the Cummer's designed gardens to their historic landscape character, the accommodation of current needs and uses, and the framing of a focused approach to landscape management are important goals of this far-reaching planning effort in the process of implementation.

Jury Comments

Very detailed documentation of historic gardens; clearly a comprehensive planning effort.



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CALENDAR

Upcoming Events and News

DOUG CROWELL LECTURE SERIES FALL 2013

DOUG CROWELL LECTURE SERIES | FALL 2013

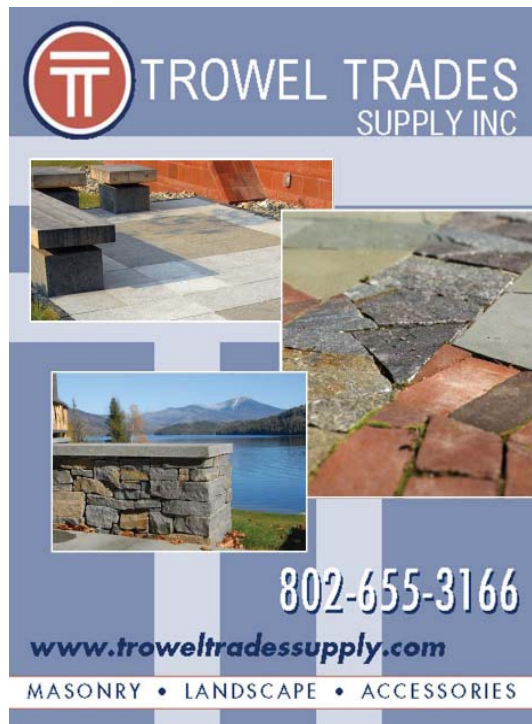
YOUR TOWN: THE CITIZENS' INSTITUTE ON RURAL DESIGN A Twenty Year Reflection on the Role of DESIGN in Shaping Rural Communities



RICHARD S. HAWKS, PROFESSOR
Department of Landscape Architecture
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

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- SPEAKERS:** **Bill DeVos**, Owner, Treeworks
Andrew Pleninger, Owner, Urban Forestry LLC
- LOCATION:** Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church,
43 Hebard Hill Road, Randolph
- REGISTER:** www.surveymonkey.com/s/TreeStewardRegistration
- CONTACT:** Kate Forrer
katherine.forrer@uvm.edu
(802) 223-2389 ext .210




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2013 ASLA Professional Awards

go to: <http://www.asla.org/2013awards/index.html>



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