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Village of Glencoe

Focus: Glencoe

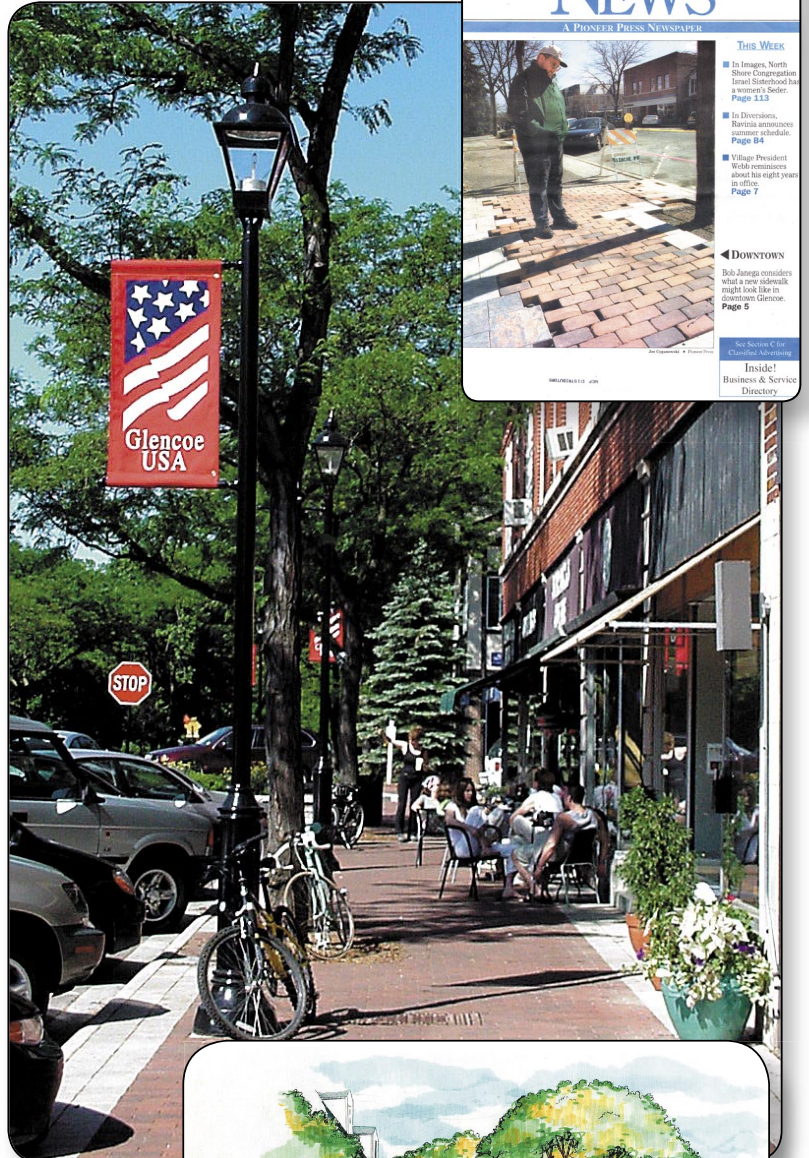
The Village of Glencoe, named after Mathew Coe, the original landowner, has had a rich and varied development history. Settled by wealthy Chicagoans who were freed to live some distance from their businesses by the invention of the steam locomotive in 1835, Glencoe's early urbanization - electricity in 1903, brick paved streets in 1914 and sanitary services in 1913 - was balanced by early public awareness of the importance of open spaces; Glencoe's famous Lakefront Park was dedicated in 1867 (the same year Glencoe was founded) and its Park District was established in 1912 - years before other municipalities.

LDC's roots are intertwined with those of Glencoe. Robert V. Everly, Glencoe's first Parks Superintendent, was both a friend and a business partner and LDC acquired Everly's business, McFadden & Everly, in 1990. Today LDC is charged with ensuring the vision of Everly and other original Village leaders in the continued balancing of development with the preservation of natural beauty.

In 2000, LDC created a two phase Comprehensive Master Plan to facilitate development of Glencoe's downtown while safeguarding its character, natural beauty and historical connections. Phase I, completed in the fall of 2001, saluted Glencoe's historic roots with over 40,000 square feet of antique clay and concrete pavers along with nine limestone planters. Twelve street trees were added to the 40 trees saved from construction and were planted in natural, nonuniform patterns.

Working with the Glencoe Historical Society, LDC designed a high illumination interpretation of one of Glencoe's original lighting fixtures and over 60 now beautify the downtown area. Phase II provides for 50 more of the historically accurate fixtures as well as an additional 14,000 square feet of antique clay and concrete pavers while protecting 16 more street trees.

Part of Glencoe's enduring cachet is its breathtaking lakefront - another area of planning in which LDC is proud to be involved. In 1997, LDC developed a three phase plan to restore and renovate historic Lakefront Park,



the first phase of which won an Outstanding Project Award from the Illinois Park and Recreation Association and earned an Open Space Land Acquisition & Development Grant.

In addition to restoring a 1928 beach house with a surrounding stone terrace, adding an adjacent playground and wood pergola, Phase I improved Glencoe's 450 linear feet of beach front and even added handicap access. Phase II restored erosion-discouraging native plants on the spectacular bluffs overlooking the lake - some as high as 80 feet - and placed colorful signs explaining the native species to passersby.



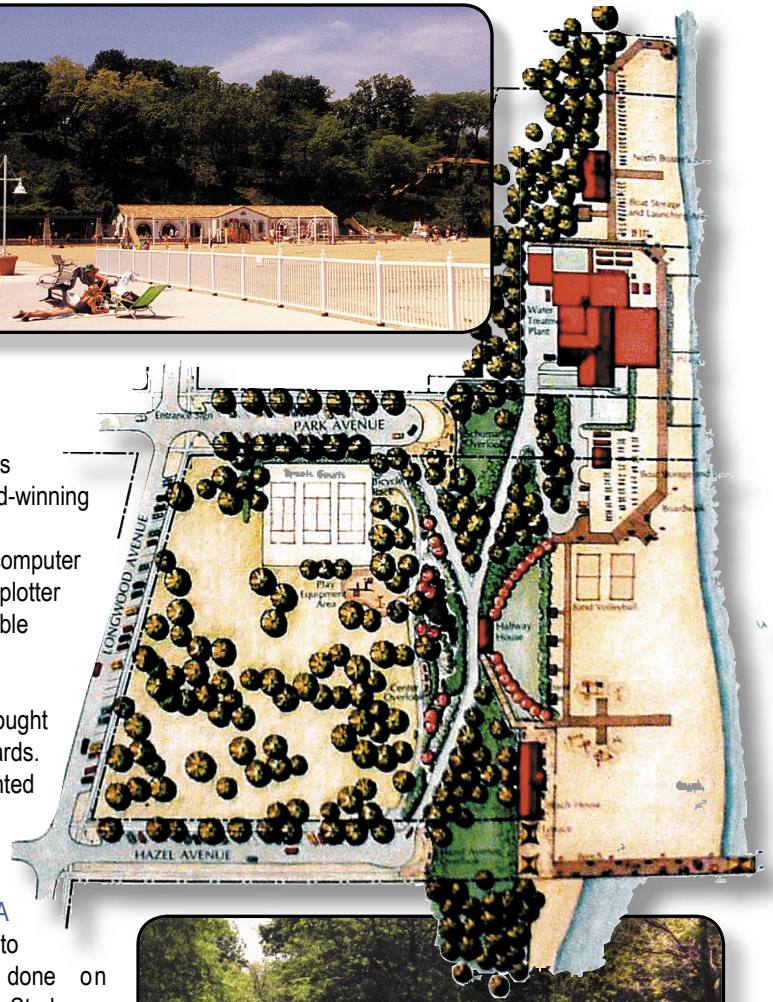
Phase III of LDC's Lakefront Park plan renovated walkways, added more plantings and improved the Park Avenue and Hazel Avenue overlooks. A new playground was added at street grade, a reward for everyone making it to the top of the three level park! LDC is now working with the Park District on a Master Plan for Shelton Park, the site of Glencoe's first steam sawmill in 1855.

With its downtown development and lakefront protected by forward thinking master plans, Glencoe is well situated for future growth. LDC is proud to be part of that growth.

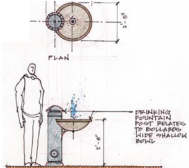
LDC Update

After being located in Evanston for 15 years, LDC moved to 5142 Main Street in Skokie. In addition to doubling their work space, the new office also provides convenient parking for clients. With the new space LDC has added to its award-winning team by bringing on Lisa Davis, Laura Soncrant ASLA, Jonathan Brooke ASLA, CLARB and Larry Raffel ASLA. Some exciting changes made to the computer system in the last year include upgrading 5 computers, adding an HP 800 PS plotter with large format color printing capabilities, and introducing a scalable server.

The last year has also brought LDC the honor of three awards. One award was presented by Design Evanston for the work done on the Green Bay Road Metra Embankment. An APA award was presented to LDC for work done on the Naperville Downtown Study, as well as a Merit Award presented by ILASLA, for their "Naperville Downtown Streetscape Prototype Project". With all of these exciting events taking place LDC is looking forward to a new project already underway, the creation of a webpage. Please look for Land Design Collaborative, Inc. in the coming months at www.Landdesigncollaborative.com.



Lincolnwood Medians



Naperville Streetscape



Wagner Farm

Comprehensive Park Master Planning for Future Growth

Comprehensive Park Master Planning for Future Growth

By Robert W. Zolomij
Land Design Collaborative, Inc.

Article appeared in the January 2007 Annual Park & Recreation Issue of *elevation.*, newsletter of the Illinois Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects

As growth continues in many communities at approximately three to five percent per year, existing parklands will not meet the expanding needs of residents. Easy and equitable access to parks and recreation facilities is an expected and an attractive element in any community. Quality parks, recreation and cultural opportunities improve the physical and mental health, create opportunities to develop and build community, add to community pride and provide positive opportunities for use of leisure time.

Most park and recreation agencies are faced with a number of challenges, including limited financial resources due to tax caps; aging physical facilities and the need to meet standards, such as ADA (Americans With Disabilities Act) and CPSC (Consumer Products Safety Commission). Growth and diversity in population are creating demands for more parkland and new facilities. In many older communities, where growth is slower, the availability of parkland is very limited due to build-out. In new communities, donation of land, acquisition and development of new parkland exceeds the agencies resources, as is the case with numerous Chicago western suburbs. In far western Hampshire, for example, a town of 4,500 is projected to grow to 20,000 by the year 2020. Existing parkland is expected to increase from 35 acres to well over 300 acres.

In order to meet these challenges, park and recreation agencies need to develop a Comprehensive Master Plan. The development of a Comprehensive Master Plan is a guide for land use as it relates to parks, trails, open spaces, conservation lands, and recreation facilities and opportunities in the community. A Comprehensive Master Plan is envisioned to serve as a "blueprint" to assist the community in guiding the future growth of the park agencies' park facilities and leisure programs and services. The Plan defines short and long term park and open space use, needs, new facilities, costs and preservation direction.

Since many park agencies in the State of Illinois are separate taxing districts from the municipality in which they provide park and recreation services, cooperation with the municipality is critical. Park agencies need to coordinate their Comprehensive Master Plan with the municipality's Land Use Plans. In addition, since many park agencies are pursuing acquisition and development grants, such as OSLAD



Grants (Open Space Land Acquisition and Development) from the State of Illinois, the need for a Comprehensive Master Plan is considered essential in order to justify the need and costs for acquisition of new park land and improvements to existing parks.

Process and Elements of Plan

Developing a Comprehensive Master Plan begins with an inventory and understanding of existing park facilities and recreation programs. The inventory of existing parks generally includes the number of parks, types of facilities, the condition of facilities and acreages. The national guideline of 10 acres per 1,000 people is a means of comparing acreage of existing parkland (active recreation) to population served, and thereby determining the need for additional parkland. The type, number and condition of facilities will be important to determine the need for new facilities, improvement to existing facilities, and related costs. Along with the location of existing parks, the service areas for each type of park can be evaluated. Typically, a neighborhood park may service residents within a one-half mile radius of the park, while a community park may service residents within a one mile radius. Where gaps or voids occur in the service areas, this may justify the need for additional parks, as well as indicating the general location of new parks based on future growth patterns.

Besides an inventory of facilities, an inventory of recreation programs offered by the park agency is beneficial in identifying the types of programs and number of participants. Recreation programs offered and those that could be offered will affect the need for maintaining existing physical facilities and/or developing new facilities. As an example, recreation programs for soccer and baseball are in greater demand today and appear to be increasing, necessitating the need for sport fields; whereas the need for tennis courts has diminished.

It is critical to understand the needs of the users. This may be accomplished with a number of techniques, including an attitude/interest survey mailed to residents, phone survey, and/or public meetings. Whatever technique is utilized, it is essential to determine what residents use, how often they use the recreation facilities, and what new facilities may be needed. Such a user survey may identify an excess of existing facilities and/or the need for new facilities.

Demographics and recreation trends provide another element in developing the Plan. Community census data, typically for 1990 and 2000, will indicate changing trends in population profiles or age groups.

Trends such as aging populations or increase in pre-school and school age children may be indicative of needs for recreation facilities to meet these population age groups in future parks and/or renovation of existing parks. Local and national trends in recreation also provide a foundation for determining the needs for maintaining existing facilities and/or developing new facilities. For example, based on several recent surveys both regional and national, people have expressed the greatest participation in walking, cycling and jogging activities; As a result, there is a greater need for more trails throughout parks as well as establishing linear greenways or trails throughout the community.

An important part of the Comprehensive Master Plan is the "Open Space Plan" which delineates existing parks, future parks, greenways and trails and conservation areas. This illustrative plan becomes the guide for shaping the community's land use and open space system for future growth and development. Before land is permanently lost to development, park districts can acquire and/or work with developers to donate needed parkland.

With goals, objectives and standards established for development and acquisition of parks, the Plan also establishes a Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The CIP identifies and prioritizes annual improvements with costs for five to ten years. The CIP may also identify sources of revenue, such as grants, sponsorships, and donations. In the case of the Hampshire Plan, Land Design Collaborative

developed several scenarios of the CIP in order to accommodate different growth trends, availability of funding, and the need for additional taxes.

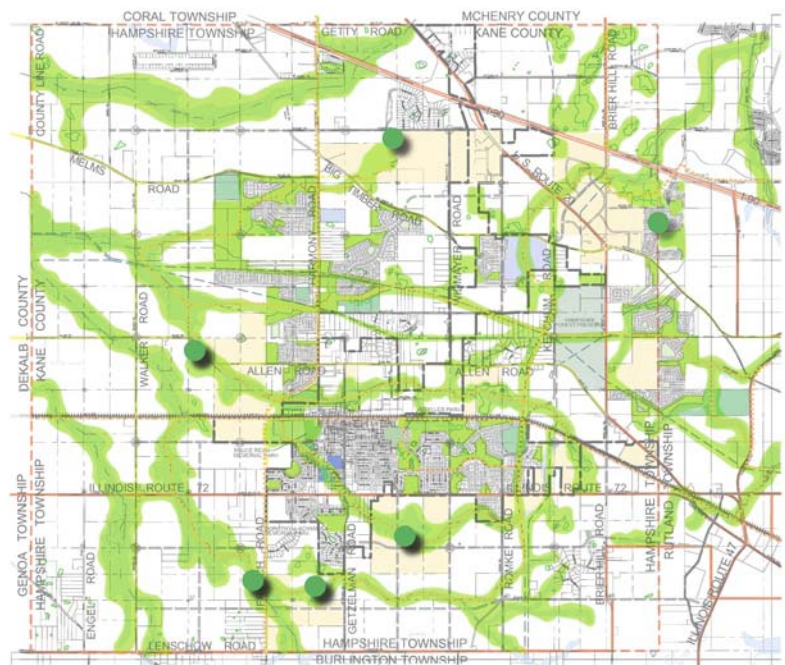
Need for Special Facilities

The Comprehensive Master Plan allows the agency to evaluate the potential for new facilities due to changing recreation and demographic trends. The potential for special facilities could also be warranted for their revenue-generation, thereby supplementing operating and capital budgets.

As an example, the past ten years have seen a tremendous growth in Community Recreation Centers. These centers have ranged from 25,000 to over 200,000 square feet with a wide range of facilities, requiring substantial costs, land, and commitment by the public in the form of increased taxes. Other such special facilities include golf learning centers, skate-board parks, sports complex, swimming or aquatic centers, and nature and historic facilities. The feasibility of any of these special facilities must be carefully evaluated as part of a Comprehensive Master Plan, since their success is dependent upon their use by the public and the financial resources of the park agency.

Guide for Future

The development of a Comprehensive Master Plan by a park agency is essential in meeting the challenges of today's demand for the public's expectations for park and recreation facilities. Park agencies cannot haphazardly plan for new parks and their development of facilities to meet the recreational needs of the community. With limited financial resources, disappearing suitable land for parks, changing trends in recreation, and growth in population, park agencies must carefully plan for their future by accommodating for the needs of their constituents.



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How Landscape Architects Contribute to Context Sensitive Design of Thoroughfares

How Landscape Architects Contribute to Context Sensitive Design of Thoroughfares

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Before the availability of reliable automobiles and a highway system, suburban development followed the commuter rail lines as they were extended to undeveloped lands beyond the city. Following World War II, automobiles allowed access to more remote suburban areas not served by the commuter railroads. Larger and more remote properties were accessible by automobiles, creating new communities far from the central city. The state and county highways, supported by federal funds, became the backbone of the suburban roadway system and an integral part of an interstate highway system.

To provide better linkages between these new remote suburban communities and the central city, roads were widened, and new arterial roadways, expressways, and toll ways were built. The rural roadway network was designed for safe and efficient travel at speeds and capacities far below what were needed as suburban growth increased. As roads with greater traffic capacity are needed, new wider roads are built and old roads widened to meet the demand for traffic lanes.

Landscape architects are effective roadway design team members in the critical preliminary design phase. Their skills in design are needed to reduce the negative impact of the roadway widening by making it fit in the context of the site while maintaining the image and quality of life of the community.

Today, the state highway is a continuous thoroughfare with communities along it like beads on a string. As suburban communities develop they wish to distinguish themselves from their neighbors. Communities use land use, zoning, streetscape enhancements and landscape requirements to affect the design and aesthetic character of the roadways bisecting their downtowns and commercial areas. The challenge of creating a downtown identity for a suburban community is problematic, since many of the main roads are under state or county jurisdiction and were developed to move traffic at a regional level, which often conflicts with the lifestyle of the local community. Too often these roads bisect downtowns and degrade local vehicle circulation and pedestrian use.



Typical suburban arterial roadway

There are few places for pedestrians to cross suburban arterial roads safely. Roadway design speeds, multiple through lanes, dual left turn lanes and large corner radii widen roadways, consume medians and compromise pedestrian waiting areas. As roads widen, it reduces "green-time" available for crossing, making it impossible for people to cross at grade without being in a car. Grade separated pedestrian crossings are an option, but they are expensive and often unused, and in some cases there is not enough room.

IDOT Design Process

Historically, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has allowed few deviations from its standard design requirements and usually the costs for any deviations are borne by the community. The IDOT roadway design process, is basically broken into three very structured phases:

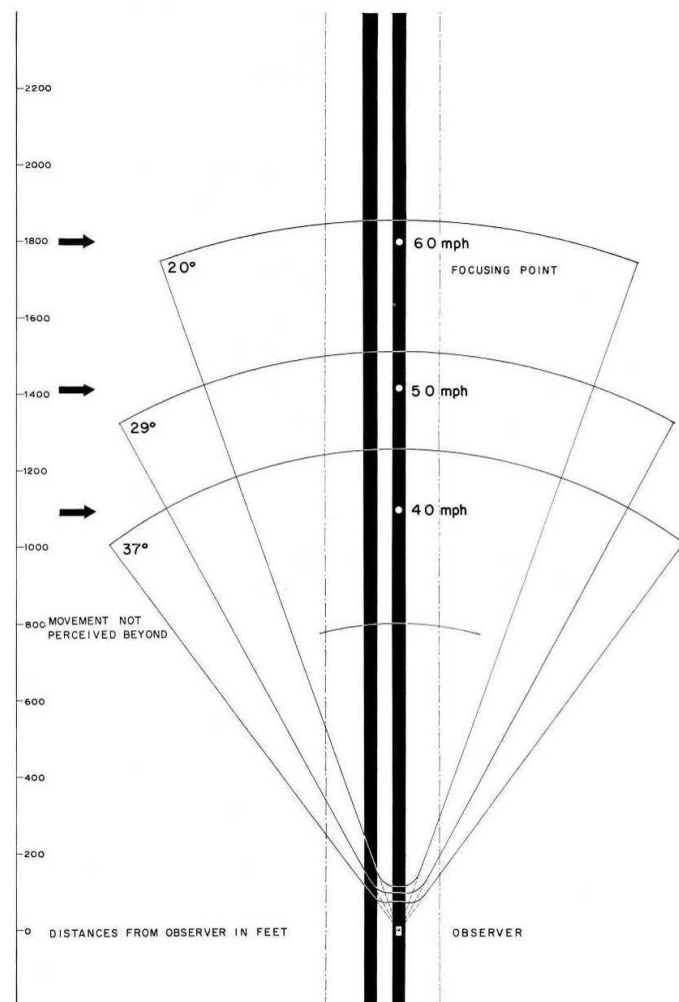
1. Phase I Design: The phase when planning and preliminary design occurs
2. Phase II Design: The phase when Construction Design of features occurs
3. Phase III Design: The phase when construction of the project occurs

Currently landscape architects do contribute in the design of roads, particularly in the areas of landscape planting design during Phases II and Phase III with the preparation of landscape construction plans for plantings in the right of way. Although developing a planting plan for the right of way is important, it runs the risk of only covering up problems that should have been addressed earlier in the process.

Landscape Architects' Involvement in Roadway Design

A valuable time for landscape architects to be included in the design process is during the Phase I design. Involvement of a landscape architect should be required in the IDOT highway design process starting in Phase I Design. Landscape architects should work as equal partners on the engineering design team to develop design alternatives for the engineering concepts where "design by the book" compromises the aesthetic values of the community. There are a number of behavioral and contextual considerations that should be included in the design of roadways that landscape architects have the ability to provide. Important relationships exist between travel speeds, the design of the right of way, and the perception of car occupants. The accompanying illustration shows the effects of speed on a driver's cone of vision and ability to process information.

- As Speed Increases, Peripheral Vision Diminishes: At 25 mph the eye sees 100 degrees horizontally; at 60 mph it's reduced to 40 degrees.



Relationship between focusing distance, angle of vision and distance of foreground detail at speeds of 40 mph, 50 mph and 60 mph

- As Speed Increases, Concentration Increases: Planes perpendicular to the road are prominent; parallel ones are not.
- As Speed Increases, the Point of Concentration Recedes: The driver's eye focusing point at 25 mph is 600 feet ahead where at 65 mph it is 2000 feet.
- As Speed Increases, Foreground Detail Begins to Fade: At 40 mph the nearest point of clear vision is 80 feet, at 60 mph its 110 feet. In fact, vision is really only in focus between 110 and 1400 feet at 60 mph, a distance traveled in 15 seconds.
- As Speed Increases, Space Perception Becomes Impaired: Without visual clues such as trees along the highway, it is difficult for drivers to judge speed and distance.

Communities that have had the most success in achieving modifications to IDOT plans have engaged their own design consultant to develop design enhancements prior to or during IDOT's development of Phase I Engineering Plans. Land Design Collaborative (LDC) has provided services to communities for enhancements to roads, bridges, and downtown streetscape improvements on IDOT initiated projects. In St. Charles, Illinois, at the City's request, LDC developed Phase I and Phase II designs for the Main Street (Route 64) bridge which did not follow the IDOT standard bridge, but in fact retained the graceful look of the historic bridge and incorporated open steel railings in lieu of solid concrete ones to allow views of the Fox River from passing cars.

LDC also developed design recommendations for the Borman Expressway (17 miles of I-80) that would reduce negative highway impacts on adjacent homes while reducing effects of chaos and monotony on drivers caused by the existing right of way conditions.

Landscape architects are highly qualified to address the planting requirements of roadway design. There needs to be a routine that includes the landscape architect to address key issues during right-of-way design, such as:

- Creation of bio-swales and wetland run-off areas to protect habitat by treating roadway storm water before entering sewers and natural areas.
- Participation in route selection, design, and landscape restoration.
- Creation of landscape and roadway features to address driver behavior related to way finding, safety, sight lines, travel speeds, monotony and road rage.
- Participation in intersection design and pedestrian safety, including size of radii, width of medians, crossing times and safe pedestrian queuing areas.
- Conceptualization of designs for barriers and roadway features such as walls, guardrails, sidewalks, and lights.
- Preparation of plant requirements for biodiversity and roadway conditions such as soils, drainage, IDOT grading requirements and plant selection.



The Main Street bridge project in St. Charles received a President's Award from ILASLA

Illinois Adopts Context Sensitive Design Principles

Rights of way and travel lanes have increased; what seemed adequate by yesterday's standards are too narrow and need to be widened to increase capacity and safety and reduce congestion. The older and narrower state routes are clogged with traffic and constrain traffic flow creating bottlenecks between old suburbs and new remote suburban communities. Often, state routes divide older suburban downtown commercial areas that grew with the increased traffic along the old road and, when widened, sidewalks and on-street parking are decimated.

Context Sensitive Solutions in Highway Design is intended to mitigate negative impacts of highway improvements and this federal program has been adopted by the State of Illinois. It creates an opportunity for landscape architects to become part of the engineering design process and contribute to the success of the program. Landscape Architects must be proactive in the pursuit of meaningful involvement in roadway corridor design and be allowed to contribute. This becomes most challenging when these contributions are perceived to be superfluous and in exclusive practice areas of other design professionals.

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Evolution of the Park : Why the Playground is the Heart

Evolution of the Park: Why the Playground is the Heart

James C. Gamble
Land Design Collaborative, Inc.

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Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects

Historically, parks sold real estate, defined neighborhoods, and provided public access to natural resources. Many community parks contained recreation centers with facilities for gathering, water and court play, surrounded by sports fields, and playgrounds. Parks provided residents with recreational resources the individual could not afford to provide for himself. In many ways the role of parks have changed very little over the years.

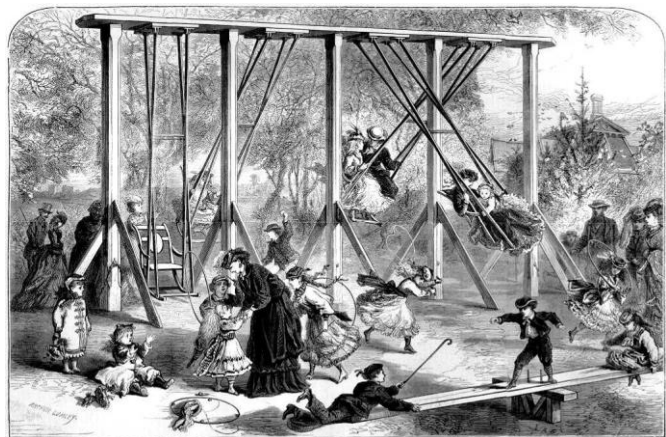
Today, as in the past, health problems for children are a concern. However, spontaneous recreation is in competition with computers/TV/video games, and “structured” activities. In May 2005 KaBoom! found that the pediatricians surveyed believed that unstructured play helps build children’s social skills and confidence (96%), helps kids from becoming overweight (89%), and helps kids improve problem solving skills (82%). A number of questions arise regarding the historic role of parks and what role tomorrow’s parks can play in society, health, and recreation. Answers to these questions lie in understanding how parks changed over the past century.

Park Playground the “Heart of the Park”

Playgrounds have been evolving as knowledge in technology, safety, physiology, and psychology increases. Play equipment has been a unique aspect of parks since the 1900s and distinguishes the park visit from all other park play experiences. The playground has become the heart of many parks, encouraging spontaneous play and social interaction. A chronology follows.

1850 to 1920

During the 19th and early 20th centuries, a playground consisted of seasonal hand crafted wood play pieces such as swings, ladders, and balance beams. The “Jungle Jim,” a steel pipe play climber, changed the playground from temporary wooden equipment to permanent installations of manufactured equipment and led the way to elaborate steel pipe climbers.



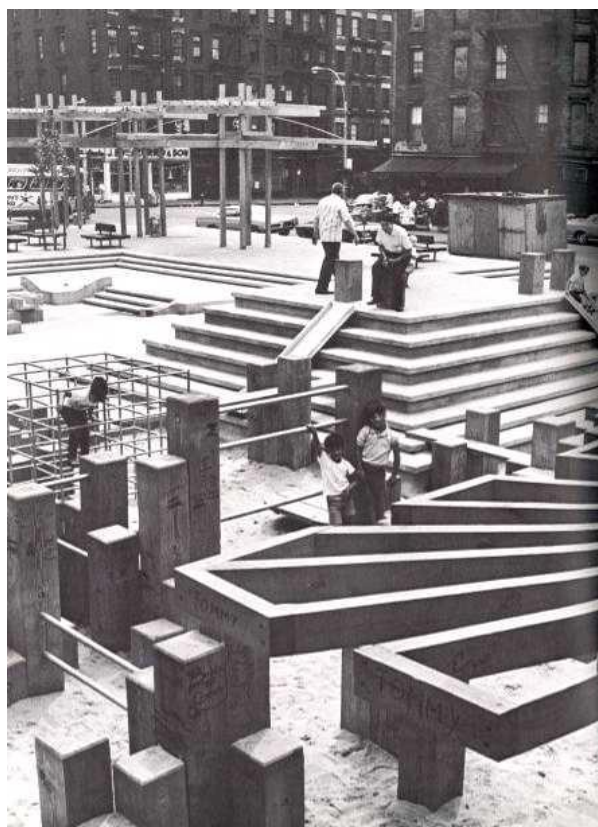
1920 to 1950/60

In Denmark and England a new play concept emerged around the idea of a “junk playground” later to become the Adventure Playground where materials and tools were provided in controlled play areas. In the U.S., new play equipment was manufactured with a “theme” that looked like rocket ships, teepees, and bugs. Swings, climbers, and metal slides were lined up on dirt and asphalt pavement. Playground users stopped play, time after time, as they picked the next piece of equipment to use.

1950/60 to 1970

During this period, playground equipment was often custom designed and integrated with manufactured equipment. In addition to steel equipment, manufacturers like Form created figurative sculptural pieces that were designed by artists for use in playgrounds.

Landscape architect M. Paul Friedberg was advancing playground design in the urban setting to be integral with other public spaces and urban life. He used typical urban materials such as recycled granite cobblestones and large timbers to form spaces and play experiences. Friedberg was a defining force in the design of parks and revitalization of this country's desolate urban environments. His 1970 book "Play and Interplay" revolutionized the philosophy of urban play and design in this country.



1970 to 1990

From 1970 to 1990, play equipment manufacturers took on the responsibility for research and development to create better equipment that provided safer, accessible, and challenging play. In addition to more natural materials and colors in the playground, safety and accessibility became huge factors in the design of playgrounds and play equipment. The days of the individual playground designer custom designing play equipment were essentially over.

The Americans with Disabilities Act brought the rights of access for everyone into the design of playgrounds. Litigation created a heightened awareness of the need for technology and design to address safety issues, such as impact absorbing play surfaces, removal of injury prone equipment, lower heights of play pieces, safety zones, and elimination of entrapment points. Inspections and audits on playgrounds are now performed nationwide by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) trained and certified by The National Recreation and Park Association.

1990 to 2000

During this decade color and height have been reintroduced and safety and equipment accessibility is standard. Playground equipment manufacturers enhanced their equipment with lower maintenance technologies and features providing more play value.

In the late 1980s, the Scandinavian influence changed the image of the playground. Kompan introduced bright colors and figurative themes in their pieces. Their ship and climbing tower brought back bright colors and role playing. Kompan also introduced pieces to address play and socialization needs for teenagers in a new generation of equipment.



Beyond the Year 2000

The future of park design relates to the demands of society. The baby boomer group is healthier, more mobile, and more financially viable than any group before. Gail Sheehy, chronicler of aging and author of *Passages*, proclaims life begins at 60, with the Age of Mastery between 50 and 75 years. Affluent Baby Boomers are moving to the city and to suburban retirement communities. At the end of the century males are expected to live to the high 70s and women beyond 80 years. Future active recreation will include three and four generations of users engaged in the same activity at the same time.

Certainly, there will be a need to develop safe, healthy, and challenging playgrounds for both children and adults who need to exercise, dream, create, and socialize at their own pace and in their own way. A playground is yet to be defined for seniors but its purpose will be similar to that for children: a safe place to run free and unrestrained.

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Multigenerational Playgrounds

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James C. Gamble
Land Design Collaborative, Inc.

Article for the January 2007 Park and Recreation
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In the future traditional parks will be challenged to accommodate the needs of active senior users as today's adults are enjoying longer and more productive lives. Many Baby Boomers are healthier, more mobile, and more financially viable than any previous generation. However, unhealthy boomers are often lowering their standard of living, being supported by family and moving to state supported care facilities when assisted living is required. Gail Sheehy, chronicler of aging and author of Passages, proclaims life begins at 60, with the "Age of Mastery" between 50 and 75 years. By the end of this century, men are expected to live into their late 70s and women beyond 80 years.¹

Living longer is only part of the whole answer. Living healthier lives is the key. Health problems and costs are a part of a growing national concern and campaign. Today, spontaneous recreation, which was a big part of healthier life styles in the past, is losing the competition for people's time with computers/the internet/TV/video games, and other "structured" activities. Children and adults are consequently becoming more sedentary and gaining weight, losing mobility, developing diabetes, heart disease as well as new ailments like carpal tunnel syndrome. Most importantly, because the Baby Boomers are living longer and working additional hours over extended years, they need to have multiple opportunities for health building. One way to obtain and maintain good health is through spontaneous recreation. Richard Jackson, University of California, states: "Building incidental exercise is a matter of life and death."²

Parks and recreation programs teach active life skills at an early age when bodies and minds are conditioned to learn athletic activities. However, there are opportunities to modify the traditional park with changes that serve the new senior active lifestyle and encourage fitness through what seem to be normal lifestyle activities. For special needs adults, particularly those suffering with dementia or Alzheimer's disease, simple modifications to traditional park facilities can create safe areas for their spontaneous recreational activities.

Nationwide, health care costs are dramatically increasing with emphasis on the number of children and seniors requiring health care and prescriptions. Several alternatives that lower health care costs are to shorten hospital stays, improve rehabilitation successes, and extend independent living by minimizing the need for skilled care. Another way to lower costs is through joint development of park facilities for health care maintenance.

Senior Playground and Stealth Exercise

It was discovered that many early development techniques for teaching preschool children could be applied to seniors suffering from dementia.³ The use of natural features, gardens, water,



secured perimeters, and way finding features are beneficial to adults with Alzheimer's as well as the preschool child. These play gardens, with proper design, function as preschool play areas and as therapy gardens for adults with dementia and Alzheimer's disease. A facility featuring these very attributes was developed by Land Design Collaborative, Inc. for the Lake Forest Park Department shown in the accompanying illustration.



The playground has, since the 1900s, continuously encouraged spontaneous play and social interaction for generation upon generation of children and adults. The development of play equipment continues evolving as knowledge in technology, safety, physiology, and psychology increases. Today, certain playground manufacturers like Tri-Active America are trying to make a difference in our nation's health by offering equipment designed for use by multi-generational users. Tri-Active America has its focus on the three aspects of life; the mind, body, and spirit. Their equipment provides the older adult similar advantages as a children's playground does for spontaneous, safe, and healthy exercise.

Expanding on the adult exercise concept, Mr. Henry T. Wilkinson at the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign, "Blueprint for Health Initiative" has pioneered new concepts to engage seniors in exercise by "stealth," i.e., spontaneous physical movements improving health. His initiative focuses on indirectly engaging senior participants in active, healthy spontaneous outdoor recreation. Whether participants realize they are getting exercise or not, "stealth exercise" is integrated into the park's design and programming to encourage walking, stretching, and strengthening. Park users will experience an increase in energy and gain the benefits of fresh air and nature all while doing ordinary recreational and leisure activities.

Healthcare Recreation Facilities

Healthcare gardens and parks are often jointly developed by the public and private sectors to serve non-patients and patients alike. In the private sector, health care facilities are creating therapy and healing gardens on roof tops as well as in courtyards to create a peaceful environment. Some hospitals, such as Kaiser Permanente Hospital facilities, are bringing in farmers markets, walking trails, fountains, and flower gardens making hospitals look like luxury hotels.

At the session on "Designing Hospital Landscapes" at the 2007 ASLA annual meeting, behavioral scientist Roger Ulrich, PHD, states that "healing gardens make a patient's stay both more pleasant and shorter than a facility without a healing garden."

Existing facilities such as the Buehler Enabling Garden at the Chicago Botanical Garden in Glencoe is universal in its design and can be enjoyed by those without disabilities as well as those with visual, motor or cognitive impairments. The Bronson Methodist Hospital in Kalamazoo, Michigan created a large indoor garden for staff, families, and patients that has added uses of way-finding, water, and privacy. The garden is a peaceful retreat for patients, families, and hospital staff. In Hinsdale, Illinois Gene Rothert, manager of horticultural Therapy at the Chicago Botanic Garden, teamed with Robert Zolomij, principal designer at

Land Design Collaborative, in the design of a roof top garden for the Hinsdale Hospital where patients can view, walk, and interact with the garden as part of the healing process and staff can escape to relax.

Another example is the therapy garden for La Rabida Hospital in Chicago, Illinois in conjunction with the Chicago Park District. Robert Zolomij, Principal of Land design Collaborative and therapy garden designer, stated: "the primary design objective for this facility was to create a seamless link between patient, non-patient and the typical park user allowing the patient to psychologically escape from the medical aspects of their care to a day at the park." This garden was developed as a joint use garden/park with outdoor therapy facilities integral to a play ground, fountain and walks connected to the Chicago Park District's lake-front park and bike path.

Future Benefits

Many physical ailments and medical costs can be reduced or eliminated with routine exercise and by maintaining a healthy weight. Spontaneous outdoor recreation is a major part of the solution to continued physical health and mobility.

The role of parks should change with people living longer active lives with greater attention to health and quality of life. Future Park and Recreation facilities serving the multigenerational family may be structured by both public and private partnerships providing recreation programs, facilities, and unstructured activities that are health oriented.

Multigenerational recreation facilities require recognizing and embracing preschool playgrounds, parks, therapy and healing gardens as opportunities for developing partnerships between public and private interests. These partnerships will provide improved recreational opportunities for all ages, lower medical costs and taxes, while creating life-long benefits for all.



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Perspectives in IL-ASLA Registration History

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By James C. Gamble // President of Land Design Collaborative, Inc. | Introduction by Jerrold Soesbe // University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

The regulation of landscape architecture in the United States began in 1953, when California became the first state to enact a statute. Illinois was one of the last when it became the 45th state to pass an act. Today, 47 States have practice acts and three (Illinois, Maine and Massachusetts) simply have title acts.

After several attempts, the Illinois Landscape Architecture Act of 1989 was passed and it then took nearly two years to implement the act. The first license was issued to Gary Kesler, FASLA, on July 17, 1991. Since then 1,527 licenses have been issued, although many are no longer active.

This article chronicles the efforts to pass the act. The story told is of the individuals who worked tirelessly on the project that would ultimately take six years to complete. Jim Gamble's terms as Illinois Chapter vice president and president and his continuing service on the registration committee provided Jim with the insider's view that follows.

The success of registration passing in Illinois owes to many people working individually and together over many years. Jim Gamble and others developed initial strategies and participated in early activities that laid the foundation for passage of the law. Their strategy emerged from an awareness that it would take a well-organized "team" to put a plan in play and patience because it would

take years to accomplish their goal. Drama engulfed the law up to the last minute when it was passed by the legislature, vetoed by the Governor, and then passed again by the legislature's vote over-riding the Governor's veto.

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The first few years of the push toward registration were spent building support within the Chapter's landscape architects, forming coalitions with other professions outside the LA community, and creating a funding stream to pay for years of lobbyists, licensure public relations, meetings, and fund raisers for state politicians who supported the law. The pursuit of registration of landscape architects in Illinois, as in any political campaign, included developing a strategy, i.e., a "platform"; gathering support, and raising money.

Between 1979 - 1982 the Chapter was operating on meager funds with an annual budget of \$10,000, sometimes carrying debt forward to the next fiscal year. To generate the funds needed for registration, programs and activities were adjusted to increase revenues and activities were required to make a profit. Although the Chapter continued

expanding its revenues by increasing costs for its programs, it was still not enough to sustain a registration effort.

In addition to funding, there was also a problem with outreach and support from other design professionals, including Architects and Engineers. As part of the strategy, efforts focused on two main items, funding and support.

Registration Funding

The National ASLA would/could not assist in funding registration. They did help indirectly by collecting special dues and providing information about registration in other states.

The Chapter initiated a revenue generation program which increased chapter dues, reduced costs for programs to channel more income to registration, and solicited sponsors from landscape industry suppliers and contractors to contribute to our licensure effort.

The Chapter presented reasons for endorsement of the Registration cause at Chapter-sponsored membership meetings and forums, discussing the importance of licensure and the need to pass a special dues increase for financing the effort and hiring a lobbyist. We were successful in getting membership support and passed the dues increase as a special assessment for 3 years. The dues were collected by National ASLA and returned to the Chapter.

GENERAL TIME LINE

1982 – 1984

Develop strategies and organization for licensure, reorganize the chapter and improve financials. Mark Hunner, President; Jim Gamble, VP.

1988 – 1989

Organize Registration Committee, Promote licensure among LA's pass 3 year dues special assessment for pursuit of registration, begin networking into other organizations particularly green industry and architects/engineers. Jim Gamble Pres.; Jim Ash, VP; Mark Hunner, Immediate Past Pres.

1984 – 1986

Membership continues to grow, registration effort continues with last ditch negotiations with green industry as momentum grows for passage of the Registration Bill. Passage in 1989 of the Illinois Landscape Architecture Licensing Act of 1989. Sue Jacobson President, Bob Zolomij, VP; Jim Ash, Immediate Past Pres.

Political Strategies

The registration effort stayed at a low profile until relationships, funding, and an understanding of the primary areas to address with opponents developed. Further, a continuing funding mechanism and a steering committee of strong LA license advocates needed to be put in place. It is important to note that not all landscape architects were in support of securing a registration act and we needed to convince many to back the effort. To achieve this goal, a Registration Committee of leaders in the LA community formed and the work was spread throughout the organization.

This effort became a groundswell movement with the ILASLA continuing the pursuit of registration over multiple years. The two year chapter officer terms allowed active participation of presidents for 6 years on this committee providing continuity of the registration effort.

Language Changes to the Act

Initially, the Registration Committee intended the Act to be a "practice act" limiting the practice of landscape architects in Illinois to those who passed a uniform national exam thereby meeting requirements for expertise. This uniform national exam, developed and administered by the Council of Landscape Architecture Boards (CLARB), was accepted throughout the country for testing landscape architects who met experience and education requirements. As the registration efforts progressed, two realities emerged.

Allied professions and some practicing landscape architects were in opposition to any license law. The American Nurseryman's Association

and the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association have tremendous clout with legislators and it was important to find a compromise. Out of fairness, it was decided that anyone engaged in the landscape industry would be allowed to register as a Landscape Architect under a Grandfather Clause which permitted open registration for 2 years after passage of the act.

The second concession in the law evolved primarily to appease architects, engineers, and associated professionals. This concession meant that the Registration Committee agreed to only pursue a Title Act and not a Practice Act.

The result of this process ended in the successful passage of the *Illinois Landscape Architecture Licensing Act of 1989*. The process strengthened the ILASLA Chapter both financially and socially. Many old programs were improved, new membership activities added, and some outdated activities were dropped. The Title Act creates an awareness of the practice of landscape architecture, differentiating it from contracting and design/build practices which have different licensing criteria.

Following passage of the *Illinois Landscape Architecture Licensing Act of 1989*, it became necessary to create a State of Illinois Department of Regulation Landscape Architecture Registration Board to administer the law. It took a full year to seat a board and promulgate rules for administration so implementation was not until 1991. Four landscape architects plus one non-landscape architect comprised the first board. Serving on the original Board were Jim Gamble; Gary Kessler, Chair; Terry Ryan, Gary Bollier; Dan Baechle (attorney with DCFS as citizen participant). Due to issues with state

Registration Committee Members:

JIM GAMBLE: Chapter President and Chair and founder of the Registration Committee provided 6 years of continuity of efforts with Chapter leaders, members, lobbyists, and fund raising. Jim's involvement began in 1982 when as Vice President/President Elect, under Mark Hunner, they shared the common goal to achieve IL LA registration. Note, at that time Chapter officers served 2 year terms which was helpful in sustaining a pursuit for registration.

PAUL HANDING: Perkins and Will Architects LA was very effective on the Architects/Engineers Council where he served for many years. The AE Council would not formally recognize Landscape Architects by allowing us a voting seat on the Council, but they did allow attendance and participation at their meetings. Their lobbyist, Sherry Norvell, knew John Cook and provided us insight into the temperament of the A/E Council relative to registration.

TERRY RYAN: Terry was invaluable in reading the mood of legislators and aided in selecting our lobbyist, Dan Pierce. Terry also headed up some fund raising activities with the invaluable help of Jerry Milewski and Dan Wanzung.

GARY KESSLER AND JIM ASH: Both served on the Registration Committee to help with U of I and downstate member involvement. Jim and Gary both became chapter presidents and Gary served on the State of IL LA Registration Board and was the first Board Chair.

BOB ZOLOMIJ: Bob was Jim's partner at LDC and was part of that firm's commitment to the success of licensure. Bob was a liaison with prior students, in Design/Build (ILCA), the University, and he was poised strategically to become President of ILASLA.

MARK HUNNER AND JOHN COOK: Both served on the Registration Committee. Mark coordinated with American Association of Nurseryman and ILCA. John had insights from previous efforts as well as excellent contacts in the legislature and with the architects and engineers lobbyist.

1988 – 1989

Membership continues to grow, registration effort continues with last ditch negotiations with green industry as momentum grows for passage of the Registration Bill. Passage in 1989 of the *Illinois Landscape Architecture Licensing Act of 1989*. Sue Jacobson, President, Bob Zolomij, VP; Jim Ash, Immediate Past Pres.

1990 – 1991

Membership advocacy strong, plans for National ASLA convention in Chicago, Creation of the Registration Board occurs with implementation of the LA Board in 1991. Bob Zolomij, President; Gary Kessler, VP (and Chair of LA Licensing Board); Sue Jacobson, Immediate Past Pres.

1992 – 1995

Chapter membership stays strong, Gary Kessler, President; Steven Halberg, VP; Robert Zolomij, immediate Past Pres.

government, many of us stayed on the Board for 10 years, the maximum allowed. Board members were involved in actions with the State's attorney investigating grievances with the law. Demonstrating a need to protect the public health, safety, and welfare is necessary in order to survive a state sunset review.

2008 Chapter Licensure Efforts: 2008 JCG Presidency

In 2007, Brian Hopkins asked Jim Gamble to run for Vice President/President Elect and serve with Ann Viger when the Chapter attempted upgrading the LA Title Act to a Practice Act. Timing for the upgrade was chosen partly because the Landscape Architecture Act was under threat of being Sunset under State of Illinois Sunset legislation in an effort to save money by eliminating unneeded registration boards.

Brian established much of the liaison and support and we had meetings with the lobbyist and legislators in Springfield and submitted revised language which the lobbyist negotiated with other design professionals. Heath Wright and Jeff Mitchell were also helpful members aiding the effort. Zale Glauberman and Mike Kreloff were the Chapter lobbyists and well connected

at the State. Funding, always an issue, was not as critical as before; John Harris with a5 was very helpful in this regard. Landscape Architects came to the support of various legislators by attending their campaign fundraisers. Julia Lent from ASLA national assisted the Chapter with her legal expertise.

Brian Hopkins and others organized grass roots involvement from chapter members in the 2008 effort with member support surpassing that of 1989. Two important factors were the size of ILASLA-- our chapter had grown in membership and income over the years-- and that the national ASLA had by that time recognized the need to support each state's licensure and advocacy efforts.

Unfortunately, during joint meetings with ILCA and ANA there was no acceptance of the change to a Practice Act by the associated industries and the other design professionals. Due to the threat of Sunset legislation, opposition from nurseryman, ILCA and other design professionals, and negative feedback from legislators, the effort was stopped. Instead, ILASLA decided to work to sustain and strengthen the Title Act and to require a registration stamp/seal be on work.



JAMES C. GAMBLE, *ASLA*, president of *Land Design Collaborative, Inc.*, an *LA* firm celebrating its 28th year in 2014. Jim has *CLARB* Certification and is a licensed Landscape Architect in Ohio, Illinois, and Indiana. He has served on the Illinois Department of Regulation Landscape Architecture Registration Board and on the Illinois Chapter *ASLA* Executive Committee, holding all chapter offices including two terms as chapter president. Jim is committed to collaborations among landscape architects and other design professionals and assisted in founding Evanston's recycling and public arts programs.

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