Making Educated Decisions 2-- Newly Revised Edition Available

The National Park Service Historic Landscape Initiative is pleased to announce the reprinting of Making Educated Decisions: A Landscape Preservation Bibliography. Over the past two decades, and most recently since the publication of the first edition of Making Educated Decisions: A Landscape Preservation Bibliography, the field of landscape preservation has witnessed a surge in project work and scholarly writing. These recent advancements have further fueled creative practices in landscape architecture, planning, geography, ethnography, historic preservation, archaeology and American history studies, and can be measured by the increased number of technical publications, journal articles, published conference proceedings and even the first books dedicated to specific aspects of the subject.

The topic of landscape preservation and cultural landscapes now appears in more popular magazines such as Preservation, Landscape Architecture, Landscape Design, and Garden Design, among others. This annotated bibliography however, focuses on the former, namely those projects that mirror the National Park Service’s mission emphasizing “a wise use of our land, (and) preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places.”

In response to this recognized need, an increase in published articles and the desire to remain current, Making Educated Decisions has been revised to assist the user in obtaining practical guidance to make informed decisions when researching, planning, managing, interpreting, and undertaking project work for any cultural landscape resource.

In much of this work, the National Park Service (NPS) remains a leader within the field. Since the 1994 publication of Making Educated Decisions, the NPS has continued to direct the way with the preparation of The Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes (1996) and A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports (1999). These two publications, more than any other written work of this period, have created a framework for much of the project work highlighted in this bibliography. For example, a search of the project’s database using the key word “Standards and Guidelines” yields twenty-three citations, while the term “Cultural Landscape Report” yields seventeen.

The impact of the NPS efforts goes beyond these two publications, as illustrated by the contributions of park service employees and NPS project work generated by outside consultants. Examples of such publications include Cultural Resource Management (CRM), George Wright Forum, and the APT Bulletin. Collectively, these three journals alone comprise over 28% of the articles included within this bibliography.

Beyond these specific publications, readers are often challenged by conflicting approaches in landscape preservation literature, practice, policy, and interpretations of the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards. For example, in Pacific Horticulture, a regional journal which focuses on California gardens and landscapes, the use of treatment terminology (e.g. restoration) is often ambiguous, leaving the reader to wonder if the Standards and Guidelines were, in fact, followed.

Announcing Cultural Landscape Currents on Earthworks and Interpreting Industrial Ruins

The Historic Landscape Initiative is pleased to announce the development of the next two Cultural Landscape Currents in our on-line technical series. Unlike the first three Currents, these will highlight work undertaken at National Park Service sites. The first Current, on Virginius Island, will explore the interface between landscape archeology and interpretation while the second one will highlight treatment work at a variety of earthwork sites in both state and national parks.

The Currents and their respective authors are as follows: “Virginius Island: Preserving an Industrial Community in Ruins,” by Maureen Joseph and Perry Wheelock, and “Preserving and Managing Military Earthworks,” by Shaun Eyring and Lucy Lawliss.

Ditch in rear construction along the federal line near Petersburg, VA, 1865. Courtesy Shaun Eyring, NPS.
Welcome to **Vineyard**

At the same time this third edition of Vineyard was being prepared, the National Park Service's Discovery 2000 meeting was taking place in St. Louis, Missouri. At the meeting, several themes about the future of the National Park Service (NPS) were made apparent to the over 1300 attendees. No longer can one organization protect the resources under its care for the use and enjoyment of future generations. The future of the NPS, both in terms of cultural and natural stewardship, will depend increasingly on partnership activities. We, as a public agency, need to partner with public, non-profit, and private organizations to ensure that our parks and special communities do not become islands unto themselves, but rather remain interwoven into other facets of our built and natural environment. With the current impact of sprawl, environmental pollution, devastating natural disasters, and the loss of natural habitats, the future of our cultural landscape legacy depends on the decisions we make today in how we protect and manage the context of interconnected resources.

Throughout this conference the importance of leadership and education were stressed as well as the power and potential of national and international alliances. This issue of Vineyard responds to this challenge by highlighting the partnership efforts of the Historic Landscape Initiative along with our NPS Cultural Landscape Program colleagues in Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and Atlanta. Additionally, a number of national (e.g. CATALOG of Landscape Records in the United States at Wave Hill, the American Society of Landscape Architects), regional (e.g. River Fields, Inc) state (e.g. Kentucky Heritage Council), local (e.g. Dumbarton Oaks, Branch Brook Park Alliance) and academic partnerships (e.g. University of California at Berkeley, University of Wisconsin-Madison) are reported.

Finally, note that all three editions of Vineyard along with our Cultural Landscape Currents series are available on line at www2.cr.nps.gov/hli.

Charles A. Birnbaum, FASLA  
Coordinator, Historic Landscape Initiative

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**Mission of the Historic Landscape Initiative**

The Historic Landscape Initiative develops preservation planning tools that respect and reveal the relationship between Americans and their land.

The Initiative provides essential guidance to accomplish sound preservation practice on a variety of landscapes, from parks and gardens to rural villages and agricultural landscapes.

The Historic Landscape Initiative is committed to ongoing preservation of cultural landscapes that can yield an improved quality of life for all, a sense of place, and identity for future generations.
Making Educated Decisions  
continued from cover

Historic preservation within the field is still emerging. Even though a significant quantity of technical materials has been developed over the last twenty years, professional magazines, such as Landscape Architecture, Preservation, and Landscape Design, often lack clear and accurate critical analysis. For example, Landscape Design published a theme issue on Historic Parks in March 1997. Many of the articles were not included within this publication because they failed to illustrate a preservation planning commitment as a basis to inform treatment decisions. Even worse, new project work was often referred to as a “restoration” project and in many instances appeared to have an adverse affect on the landscape’s integral historic and cultural resources. Overall, out of the 667 bibliographic entries presented herein, only forty-six articles are listed from Landscape Architecture, the predominant publication of the profession in the U.S., only thirty-four from the British publication, Landscape Design, and only one from Preservation.

In addition to the shortcomings of the popular presses, more scholarly publications such as Landscape Journal (11 entries), Studies in the History of Gardens & Designed Landscapes (16 entries), and Garden History (28 entries), rarely address the myriad of issues surrounding the treatment and management of cultural landscapes. Instead these publications emphasize an understanding of a landscape’s evolution over time. In sum, the work often ends with research and may include the development of period plans. This limited perspective implies that the landscape architect or historian who is interested in chronicling a landscape’s continuum over time may not be the same design professional who is developing a “rehabilitation” solution to ensure its change and continuity. Conversely, the landscape preservation projects that have not been included from the popular magazines mentioned earlier, are missing the detailed research and analysis celebrated in these more scholarly journals. The need to better address this multi-disciplinary middle-ground where researcher and practitioner come together is echoed by Delores Hayden in her Foreword to Preserving Cultural Landscapes in America (2000). In the book’s opening sentence Hayden notes that “cultural landscape history enhances the possibilities of creative practice in preservation, design, and planning.” In sum, the treatment and management solutions highlighted in this annotated bibliography all meet Hayden’s challenge.

In addition to these broader commonalities within the fields of history, landscape architecture and historic preservation, smaller patterns emerged within related interest groups and fields. One of the most significant developments has been an increased discourse on the interpretation and management of publicly accessible cultural landscapes. This is most evident in Public Garden, the primary communication organ of the AABGA (American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta.) Founded in 1940, with over 2,700 members, the AABGA recently formed a Historic Landscape Committee in 1996 with the stated purpose of “promoting historic landscapes as cultural resources and fostering the sharing of experiences and information relevant to preservation, restoration and maintenance.” Since the inception of this specialized committee, the Public Garden has had thematic issues and a significant increase in topical es-
Making Educated Decisions
continued from previous page

have been generated in the U.K. over the past five years is an enhanced recognition for community participation. For example, the Hedgerow Incentive Scheme relies upon “voluntary involvement of landowners.” This “grass roots” or “bottom up” approach for making land-use decisions in small towns and rural communities in the U.K. is also the cornerstone of recent American books. This is echoed in Randall Arendt’s Preface to Rural by Design (1994) and the second edition of Saving America’s Countryside (1997). The authors of the latter revisited their 1989 publication because of the “substantial progress in developing more and better organizations” and “increased cooperation between local governments and non-profits.” The successful projects highlighted in these two American books and several recent articles in Planning (“Do Fence Me In: Farmland Preservation in Colorado,” and “Farms Follows Function,”) and the American Planning Journal (“Beauty as Well as Bread,” and “From Landmarks to Landscapes;”) celebrate innovative partnerships between residents, local officials, planning staff and preservation planning professionals. As attested to by recent developments in rural landscape preservation, the benefits of public-private partnerships and multi-disciplinary teams can yield innovative approaches.

This revised edition of Making Educated Decisions also highlights and documents collaborations between those that care for both natural and cultural systems. Beginning with two thematic issues of the George Wright Forum (1996 and 2000) and summarized by Nora Mitchell and Susan Buggey in the latter: “there is now a need to recognize the value of both cultural landscapes and protected landscapes and the convergence in conservation strategies.” This discourse is now being undertaken by, and for, cultural resource specialists in the Forum, while other specialists in the field of ecological restoration are working on similar resources, often considering only its natural and ecological values. As noted in Restoration and Management Notes, articles are as much about culture as nature.

These include: “Revegetating Following Logging on Decomposed Granite” which focuses on California trails and the use of fertilizers and native species; “The Greening of Golden Gate” about community-based restoration at the Presidio, or “Tending the Wilderness” which shows how pre-Columbian peoples shaped the landscape’s ecology.

By including such related journals, Making Educated Decisions 2 hopes to reveal the need for collaboration and illustrates how much we can learn from each other. This is perhaps the greatest development, revealed by the addition of over 150 new articles, many authored by individuals in allied disciplines in just five years.

Cultural landscapes illustrate the tremendous potential for a broad audience, and as such, this publication has been conceived and designed for use by practitioners (landscape architects, horticulturists, architects, planners, archaeologists); stewards (administrators and managers of historic parks and gardens, national park and forests, state historic preservation offices, municipalities, not-for-profit organizations, advocacy groups, professional associations); as well as educators, scholars and students.

In all, this 2nd edition contains 667 annotated citations referenced by subject, author, and geographic indices. The project database has been generated using ProCite bibliographic software. The bibliography is organized alphabetically by author, but can be searched by subject, author, or location utilizing the indices at the end of the book.

For ordering information see The Last Word on page 16.


If you have an article or publication that should be included in this database, please send it on to the Coordinator, Historic Landscape Initiative, National Park Service, Heritage Preservation Services 1849 C Street, NW (NC 320) Washington, DC 20240.

Thomas Dolliver Church: Preserving & Interpreting a Landscape Legacy

As reported in an earlier issue of Vineyard (see Vol. 1, Issue 1) interest in preserving modern landscape architecture is on a steady increase. When considering the preservation and interpretation of the legacy of Thomas Dolliver Church (1902-1978) there are two exciting recent developments. First, on March 27, 2000, the National Register of Historic Places listed the General Motors Technical Facility in Macomb County, MI. A review of this nomination includes a final amendment prior to listing that recognized the property’s significance under “landscape architecture, transportation and engineering.” This addition to include Thomas Church’s landscape architectural contributions is a first-ever acknowledgment for a modern work by this master and serves as an optimistic development that sets a precedent for future listings.

In addition to this recognition, Thomas Church’s legacy is also the subject of the most recent issue of the Studies in the History of Gardens & Designed Landscapes (Vol. 20, No. 2, April-June 2000). This thematic edition, Thomas Dolliver Church, Landscape Architect was guest edited by Marc Treib and is an outgrowth of a symposium organized by Treib at the University of California at Berkeley in 1998. The seven papers that comprise this special edition are as follows: “Thomas Church: Defining Styles—The Early Years,” by Dorothee Imeret; “Just Add Water: The Productive Partnership Between Thomas Church and Sunset Magazine” by Daniel Gregory; “Thomas Church: The Modernist Years” by Marc Treib; “Thomas Church as Author: Publicity and the Professional at Mid-Century” by Dianne Harris; “(Re)Working with Thomas Church” by Ron Herman; “Preserving and Interpreting the Landscape Legacy of Thomas Church” by Charles A. Birnbaum; and “Planting Plans, Photographs and Pencils: The Archives of Thomas Church” by Waverly B. Lowell and Kelcy Shepherd.

The Historic Landscape Initiative was pleased to be a contributor to these efforts. For further information on purchasing a copy of this special edition see The Last Word on page 16.
Virginius Island: Preserving an Industrial Community in Ruins
Maureen Joseph and Perry Wheelock

Virginius Island was surrounded by the U.S. Armory, and was the only privately owned land with developed waterpower industries and mills in the Harpers Ferry. At its peak in the 1850s, Virginius Island had five industries including a sawmill, machine shop, flour mill, cotton mill and iron foundry; an established residential community; and a few stores. The island's location along the Shenandoah River presented prosperity and eventually destruction, due to frequent floods. When the last resident left the island in 1936, the industrial community was in ruins. Since that time, the National Park Service (NPS), has assumed management. In the last eight years, the NPS has instigated a plan to preserve the remaining fragile resources and interpret them to the public. Two subsequent floods in 1996 have caused the NPS to reassess their plans to prevent further deterioration of the island's landscape.

Preserving and Managing Military Earthworks
Shaun Eyring and Lucy Lawliss

This upcoming segment of Currents will focus on the issues of preserving and managing military earthworks in the public domain and the technologies used to achieve the highest level of protection. From early times, ground was consciously shaped by warring men to provide cover and protection before, during and after the battle. Today, these remnant forms are generically referred to as military earthworks and are often the only remaining visible evidence of a battle. Their preservation requires a careful balance of research and documentation, planning, maintenance, and education.

In the United States, numerous historic battlefields held by private, local, state, and federal jurisdictions, contain remnant military earthworks. The National Park Service, for example, manages earthen fortifications in over thirty battlefield parks that include examples from the French and Indian War, the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the War with Mexico, the Civil War, the late nineteenth century coastal defenses, and World War I.

The earthworks Current will contain interactive information on the history and identification of military fortifications and descriptions of the latest technologies for managing earthworks in both forested and open conditions. Case studies from federal, state, and local parks will augment descriptive in-

If you have been involved with a treatment project that would be appropriate to highlight in a future Current contact the Historic Landscape Initiative. To visit the Currents on the web, go to www2.cr.nps.gov/hli/currents.
Branch Brook Park Partnerships—Alliance of Local, State and National Groups Plan to Rehabilitate First Major Urban Park by Olmsted Brothers

James Lecky
Branch Brook Park Alliance

Branch Brook Park consists of over 400 acres of broad vistas, picturesque groupings of plant materials, hidden pools and shaded paths in Newark, New Jersey. Designed by the Olmsted Brothers firm, this nationally-recognized historic designed landscape is the jewel in the crown of the nation’s first county park system. Its well-known collection of nearly 3,000 flowering cherry trees form a unique display in their naturalistic setting, culminating a carefully-orchestrated progression from the formal and exotic treatment of the southern end of the park, to informal and native plantings as the visitor moves north.

Starting in the fall of 1999, an ad-hoc committee of individuals came together as the Branch Brook Park Alliance to help restore, renew, and cooperatively maintain the park. To insure that its designers’ vision endures well into the new millennium, their goal is to raise public awareness and support for the rehabilitation of Branch Brook Park.

Recognizing that the rehabilitation of an historic designed landscape involves research and documentation prior to any work, one of its first goals is to work with the Essex County Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs to develop a comprehensive Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) including a Management Plan for Branch Brook Park.

Ultimately, the Alliance would like to develop a formal partnership structure with Essex County, similar to the Prospect Park Alliance in Brooklyn and the Olmsted Park Conservancy in Louisville, to oversee the implementation of the plan and the ongoing maintenance of the park.

Since last fall, the Alliance has held several meetings to recruit membership from constituencies and park users interested in civic culture, community building, environmentalism, historic preservation and natural history.

Last April, the Coordinator of the NPS Historic Landscape Initiative (HLI), spent two days visiting Branch Brook Park for a first-hand look at this nationally significant landscape. Beginning with a morning walk with some of the Alliance’s stakeholders, the HLI Coordinator noted the landscape’s high degree of integrity and placed the park in the context of other important urban parks in America. For example, one observation was the grouping of most of the active recreation in one area of the park, which has kept large areas of parkland, namely trees over lawn, free of inappropriate intrusions.

Following the walk, the HLI Coordinator began to discuss strategies and opportunities over a lunch at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center. Later that day, at a ceremony announcing the formation of the Alliance, the American Society of Landscape Architects honored Branch Brook Park with its Centennial Medallion. The evening concluded with a public lecture at the Newark Museum’s Billy Johnson Auditorium on the partnerships and strategies that have been used in cities across the country to rehabilitate historic parks.

While the Alliance is working on developing a CLR, it has also begun planning for an expanded Cherry Blossom Festival next spring and increasing public awareness about the history, design and significance of Branch Brook Park by launching a new website (www.connection-newark.org/bbpa).

Although Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. proposed a “Central Park for Newark” for the same site as the future Branch Brook Park in 1868, no work was begun until nearly 30 years later. Since the relatively small area of Newark made comprehensive planning diffi-

TOP: Branch Brook Lake, Branch Brook Park, Newark, NJ
Courtesy Charles A. Birnbaum

LEFT: Bogart and Barrett Plan for Southern and Middle Divisions, Branch Brook Park, Newark, NJ, 1896-97.
Courtesy James Lecky

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IN THE FIELD
cult on the municipal level, public-minded local citizens realized that large-scale projects could be better achieved on a county-wide scale. This foresighted local response to the City Beautiful Movement resulted in the creation of the Essex County Park Commission in 1895.

The Commission’s enduring achievement, the Essex County Park System, is the oldest county park system in the United States. It was designed as a master plan encompassing over thirty elements: small urban parks, larger scenic parks within the city and suburban reservations, all linked by county parkways.

The Olmsted Brothers were formally and continuously associated with the Essex County Park System from 1898 to 1949; thus, the parks designed and built during this period—virtually the entire system as it currently exists—exhibit an unusual degree of coherent planning and continuity of vision.

Branch Brook Park was the earliest component of the comprehensive system. Despite Frederick Law Olmsted Sr.’s prior association with the site, the first plan for the park was developed by Nathan Bogart and John Vaux. Bogart is best known as an engineer on Central and Prospect parks while Vaux laid out such planned communities as Pullman, IL and Chevy Chase, MD. After construction was begun on Bogart and Vaux’s plan (including three bridges designed by Carrère and Hastings), the Park Commission solicited a new design from the Olmsted Brothers firm, which was required to incorporate the built elements of the Bogart and Barrett plan.

Branch Brook Park is among the first major urban parks by the prolific Olmsted Brothers firm. Although comparable in size to its metropolitan area neighbors, Central and Prospect parks designed by Olmsted and Vaux, Branch Brook Park differs from their contained rectangular or polygonal plans.

The overall design was unified by the continuous valley of the land it occupied, the waterway, drives and walks. Despite the differing qualities of each division, John Charles Olmsted wrote: “The lawns and plantations also have throughout such a consistent treatment that the thought would scarcely occur to any one in passing from one division to another that there was more than one park.”

As the primary exponents of the naturalistic park, the Olmsted Brothers were rather condescending about the “garden-like features and ornamentation” of Bogart and Barrett’s design in a 1901 report to the Park Commission. “The Southern Division of Branch Brook Park is designed to be relatively ornate and full of very obvious and tangible special constructions and plantations which are likely to be particularly attractive to the majority of visitors rather than to the smaller number who have a much higher satisfaction and enjoyment of simple naturalistic scenery.”

Today, however, the formal plantings in the Southern Division have disappeared, and except for the built elements—terraces, viaducts, mounds and berms—the area is defined by serpentine paths, a long, narrow lake and trees and shrubs, both original and overgrown, in natural-like groupings.

As John Charles Olmsted noted, the Middle Division was designed to have a character “intermediate between the distinctly artificial style of the Southern Division and the tolerably natural style of the Northern Division.” Irregular groupings and curving lines are more pronounced, but “artificially produced,” gardenesque elements and plantations—such as those with purple, or golden or silver foliage—were permitted, so long as they do not appear as “a collection of such curious freaks of nature.”

The Middle Division is dominated by a long meadow which now contains most of the active recreation in the park bordered by a broad, wandering placid brook. The baseball diamonds and playing fields, while largely confined to this area, are poorly sited—on the edge of the water’s edge, destroying the picturesque views to and from the watercourse.

The Olmsted tradition was best served in the design of the Northern Division, the largest and most truly naturalistic section of Branch Brook Park. Its transformation from swampy lowlands and scruffy fields into an

_The park's layout was dictated by the Branch Brook, a tributary of the First River. The Olmsted Brothers skillfully created broad vistas and picturesque groupings all in the space of a shallow, narrow valley. Up to and during most of the 19th century, this land was sparsely populated, too poor or swampy for farming or development. The Morris Canal curved through the area, almost parallel to the Branch Brook. Its southern portion flanked the industrial development that had existed since colonial times along the First River. Sandstone quarries flourished near the middle portion of the park. An early highway to the west, the Old Road to Bloomfield, crossed what would become the northern limit of the original park._

_The Olmsted firm's design consisted of three divisions: the Southern, from Sussex Avenue to Park Avenue, in which the elaborate "gardenesque" elements of the Bogart and Barrett were retained; the Middle, from Park Avenue to Bloomfield Avenue, which would be a transitional zone, mixing the exotic with the indigenous; and the Northern, from Bloomfield Avenue to Heller Parkway, where the mature vision of the man-made, yet "naturalistic" landscape could be fully realized._

_Two of the four bridges on the park were constructed to carry traffic over the Branch Brook. A stone bridge on Midwood Drive was on the site of the old Bloomfield Avenue Bridge, and the Midwood Drive Bridge was planned to carry traffic over the Branch Brook near the middle portion of the park._

_Courtesy Charles A. Birnbaum_
On January 13, 2001, a one-day conference will be held at the Speed Art Museum in Louisville, Kentucky, to highlight the pioneering landscape architects who created the Country Place Estates along the historic River Road. The conference was developed by the National Park Service Historic Landscape Initiative along with River Fields, one of America’s oldest river conservation groups. This conference builds on the technical assistance work provided by the HLI (featured in the first two issues of Vineyard).

The one-day conference will feature the following speakers and presentations:

**Keynote: The Country Place Era: Estates and their Patrons**

**Mac Griswold** is a garden historian who writes frequently for The New York Times and the Wall Street Journal.

**Louisville’s Unique Legacy: The Designed Estates along River Road**

**Carolyn Brooks** is the director of the Farmington House Museum in Louisville, Kentucky. While serving as a historic preservation consultant she prepared the nomination for the National Register District for the Country estates of River Road.

**The one-day conference will feature the following speakers and presentations:**

- **Mac Griswold**: The Country Place Era: Estates and their Patrons
- **Carolyn Brooks**: Louisville’s Unique Legacy: The Designed Estates along River Road

The day following the conference the Speed Museum will feature two documentaries which highlight the preservation of historic landscapes.

For more information: contact River Fields at 502.583.3060 or email them at: riverflds@aol.com

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**Preserving the Landscape Legacy of the Country Place Era**

**Charles A. Birnbaum, FASLA, Coordinator, Historic Landscape Initiative, NPS.**

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**A Celebration of the Country Place Era: The Designed Landscapes of Louisville’s Historic River Road**

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**Branch Brook Park**

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Balancing New Construction and Landscape Preservation at Dumbarton Oaks

Mark Haskins
Director of Facilities and Services
Dumbarton Oaks, Washington DC

Dumbarton Oaks stands among the greatest examples of 20th-century estate landscapes, the product of an intensive, decades-long collaboration between owner Mildred Bliss and Beatrix Farrand and other landscape architects including Ruth H. Avery, Robert Patterson, Alden Hopkins, Ralph Griswold, and Robert Zion. While known to most for the 11 acres of formal gardens that are visited by over 100,000 people each year, Dumbarton Oaks is a research institution specialized in the areas of Byzantine, Pre-Columbian, and Landscape Architecture studies.

For many years, the institution has grappled with the problem of overcrowding, principally due to the continuous growth of its research library. Since its presentation as a gift to Harvard University in 1940, thousands of books have gradually filled every corner of the Dumbarton Oaks main building, the former Bliss home, crowding research and administrative programs into the ever-shrinking remaining space.

The development of a plan for the construction of new library space has presented itself as a design problem since at least 1976 when a proposal was made to locate new library space under an area of the formal gardens known as the North Vista. That project, which called for a change in the topography of the North Vista and other modifications, drew strong protest from those who felt that it would irreversibly harm the designed landscape. A more recent proposal for underground construction under the North Vista was intended to be more sensitive to the designed landscape in that it proposed to take great effort to restore topography, turf, trees, steps, and walls to their original appearance at the conclusion of construction. Despite a smaller but nevertheless vocal opposition, the 1999 North Vista underground project met with initial success in Federal and District of Columbia regulatory reviews. These reviews occur, despite the fact that Dumbarton Oaks is a privately owned property, because it is located within the National Landmark Georgetown Historic District, its adjacency to Rock Creek Park, and its individual listing as an historic property within the District of Columbia. But while to many observers a North Vista underground library appeared to be on the eve of construction and a core of critics considered ways to forestall the project, Dumbarton Oaks quietly embarked on a fundamental re-evaluation of the problem that it had considered for so long: Where to locate and construct the desperately needed new library? The answer that emerged as a result of this reevaluation is a radical departure from the twice-entertained underground building concept.

In order to answer the question—“where to locate new library space?”—Dumbarton Oaks attacked the problem from two directions. First, an institution and architectural team re-evaluation of available sites was undertaken. A leader in this effort was Jim Urban, FASLA, James Urban Landscape Design, working with George H. Arfman, FAIA and Lee Becker, FAIA, H. Arfman-Cox Architects of Washington, D.C. In the course of this evaluation, a site never before considered emerged as a prime candidate. Behind the building known variously as the Gardener’s Cottage or Guest House, in an area located between the Service Court and Dell, are a series of utility structures, built into and cascading down the hillside. A six-foot-diameter poplar tree had recently been declared a hazard and with its removal, the adjacent site gained attention as a potential location for the library.

While the site seemed to have great potential, eight sites were under feasibility review and no decision was made until another part of the site evaluation, a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) to include historic research, existing conditions documentation, assessment of change, and consideration of potential expansion sites, was able to proceed. Dumbarton Oaks’ decision to undertake a CLR had been arrived at after consultation with our neighbors to the north, the National Park Service, who administer the 27 acres of parkland known as Dumbarton Oaks Park, a division of Rock Creek Park. Originally part of the Bliss estate, when Robert and Mildred Bliss gave their home, library, object collections, upper property and formal gardens to Harvard University to become the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, they deeded the informally designed parklands with its stream, pools, meadows, woodlands, and rustic structures to the National Park Service (NPS), National Capital Region. So it was only natural for Dumbarton Oaks to lean over the fence, so to speak, or more accurately to meet at the newly restored Forsythia Gate that links the two properties, to discuss the proposed project. While the CLR process is used primarily by publicly owned properties, after discussion with the Coordinator for the NPS’s Historic Landscape Initiative, Dumbarton Oaks decided to use this method of research, analysis and synthesis to inform and help guide its decision making in the historic landscape. The HLI provided further assistance in assembling and reviewing a long list of CLR consultants and draft versions of the request for proposals that Dumbarton Oaks developed. A rigorous qualification and selection process followed—the firm of LANDSCAPES, Patricia O’Donnell, FASLA, Principal, working with Lamp Associates, Elizabeth Jo Lamp, project historian, were
selected. The CLR very soon became a critical factor in the selection of the most appropriate site from the cultural landscape perspective.

Having made the decision to explore alternatives to the new library with both the design and CLR teams, respectively, the next question was how to bring the two processes together. The method that was chosen was to approach site and design questions as a master-planning problem. This established a clear set of programmatic and stewardship goals and objectives, while providing a forum for these multidisciplinary teams to work together with Dumbarton Oaks leadership and staff. While both the design team and the cultural landscape team on one hand worked independently on their respective problems, a series of owner-chaired planning meetings brought the two together to discuss findings, evaluate information, test preliminary recommendations, and, in some cases, to critique each other’s work. As the meetings began, the design team architects were the first to admit that they were unfamiliar with the CLR process and methodology, but any initial skepticism quickly gave way to exclamations of endorsement. As a greater body of information was brought to bear, proposals were tested from several points of view including their ability to meet both programmatic needs and the preservation treatment criteria established by the cultural landscape consultants.

The CLR team’s contribution to this process was fundamental. Not only were they crucial in determining the appropriateness of the site, but their input had a significant impact on the development of the parti, and the preliminary and master plan concept for the building. The proposed facility that emerged draws from the historic landscape vocabulary to integrate the new building into its surrounding landscape effectively. However, it is not the purpose or intent of this article to describe the preliminary design that has been shaped by this collaborative process, except in the broadest sense. Suffice it to say that the contrast between the previous and current projects is striking. The relationship to the landscape of the former North Vista projects was to be a non-relationship, in that the building was to be buried and hidden from view. The current project, the product of a collaborative master planning and cultural landscape process between design team and CLR team, fully intends to be a sensitive addition to the landscape, drawing its inspiration from the work that has preceded it. In comparing the two, Dumbarton Oaks’ Director Edward Keenan recently said at an informational presentation to the Maryland and Potomac chapters of the ASLA, “This (new) plan is better in almost every measurable way.” From 1922 to 1967 Mildred Bliss, and after 1940, Harvard University directors and staff, working with talented design professionals such as Beatrix Farrand, shaped a highly detailed, thoughtfully-designed landscape of great significance. At the same time, the Blisses and Harvard University shaped a unique, valuable research institution. Dumbarton Oaks is a place that is held in high esteem and deep regard in the minds and hearts of many. In our current efforts, we fully recognize the need to shape a meaningful project that contributes to this legacy, in a manner consistent with the quality of all the efforts that have made Dumbarton Oaks the place that so many care about today.

Carroll Park Master Plan  
A Case Study of Constituency Based Planning for a Public Cultural Landscape

Myra Brosius  
Landscape Architect  
Baltimore City Department of Planning

In Volume I, Issue 1 of Vineyard, the Baltimore City Department of Planning reported the beginnings of a constituency-based process to create a master plan for Carroll Park, in Baltimore. We are pleased to report the completion of the planning document. These two years have been a time of discovery—how the actions of occupants on the property over the last 250 years influenced the current landscape; who the public is that cares about this place—how they use and value the park today and how we want to manage the resource into the future. Through the planning process, diverse constituencies—from skateboarders to historic preservationists—came together with government stewards—the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation, the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) and a historic preservation consultant to learn, to share perspectives and values and come to consensus on how to manage a landscape treasure.

Since our last report in Vineyard, the design team presented several conceptual ap-
process to better-integrate the mansion
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Cultural Landscapes
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time pertained to the preservation, rehabili-
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buildings. NPS recommended significant changes to the Olmsted-era landscape, and also removing the park-era pathways and roads in the core area around the mansion. The Department of Planning sought to re-examine this plan in the context of current preservation standards for landscapes.

The Maryland Historical Trust maintains a conservation easement over this section of the park and regulators use the Secretary of Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. The Department of Planning used the same Standards, as a basis for decision-making, as well as the accompanying Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes.

The Baltimore City Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation also has regulatory standards for the property which are consistent with the Secretary of Interior Standards, though less detailed.

The Carroll Park Foundation (CPF) has a lease “for the purpose of conducting archaeological and restoration work...in keeping with the spirit and intent of the NPS Master Plan (1988).” CPF wants to “restore the site to an 18th century appearance...[and interpret] 18th century life by means of a living history program with costumed role-players.” The Foundation believes that the historical significance of the Carroll era outweighs the potential loss of extant material that characterize other historical periods, such as the Park Commission/Olmsted era, and therefore that their mission is consistent with the Secretary of Interior Standards.

The Department of Planning, values and respects the evolution of this cultural landscape and thereby values the preservation of elements of the Park Commission/Olmsted layer.

Working towards consensus, a special management zone was established—the Mount Clare mansion and landscape zone, which coincides with the MHT conservation easement. As alternative concepts were developed, the group worked to reconcile the array of constituent values in the mansion zone. Several rounds of discussion took place, with various details examined and re-examined.

A unique challenge in Carroll Park was finding a philosophical basis for managing a cultural landscape that was shaped significantly by various occupants over several historic periods, and that in the modern era was modified to restore eighteenth century elements, creating a landscape that never existed in time. One alternative presented was to preserve the remaining Park Commission era infrastructure, and reconstruct some of the basic circulation pattern and design elements of that era that had been removed in the 1980’s. This approach would restore the basic spatial relationships from the park era, provide pedestrian circulation to the interior of the park, and redirect all vehicular traffic around the one edge of the park, along a re-captured Park Commission carriage way, removing vehicles from the middle of the park. 18th century elements reconstructed in the 1980’s would remain as interpretive elements, but be identified as reconstructions.

Recommendations

In order to reconcile a variety of concerns, while still protecting the existing resource, the final plan for the mansion zone established guided by the Secretary of Interior Standards. A detailed plan was not developed in the Mount Clare zone as part of the master plan, but rather standards were set for future investigations and planning.

In the long term, the intent is to restore the plantation landscape to the extent documentation allows, following the Secretary of Interior Standards and Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes. This goal will be pursued as the Carroll Park Foundation and/or other private entities come forward to partner with the City.

Because of the extensive changes that have occurred to this site over time, current topography and other design features of later eras will be preserved unless evidence directs toward the recapture of authentic conditions to the plantation period. Any restoration or reconstruction work is to be done without conjecture and based on the findings of historical and archaeological research specific to Mount Clare. An interpretation program, while emphasizing the eighteenth century, will also include other eras either on-site or within a visitor’s center through visual materials. A public approval process was outlined.

In the interim, the management of Mount Clare mansion and landscape zone needs to be maintained to a standard that integrates the site into the overall function of the park making the entire area more accessible to the public. Some basic physical changes were recommended in this zone to rehabilitate the area to a more functional park landscape, until such time that a comprehensive plan can be developed based on research findings. These modest changes include downgrading the remaining old Park Commission carriageway to a pedestrian way and re-connecting dead-end pathways in order to retain the spatial integrity of the existing landscape while providing logical and functional circulation system for visitors. The mansion setting should be a beautiful landscape for citizens to enjoy-absent obstructive fencing—both viewed from a distance and for strolling, sitting, and relaxing in. Interpretive material would also be provided to enhance this experience for local and regional visitors.

Responsible stewardship of Carroll Park will require an on-going and diligent review

For further information on this project contact:
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David Carroll, Chair, Carroll Park Foundation, 410.323.5236
In June of 2000, the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (WASLA) initiated an innovative project to establish the Wisconsin Inventory of Landscape Architecture Records. With little knowledge about the existence of documents related to the history of the landscape architecture profession, the Wisconsin Inventory will provide a description of these documents, indicate their location and condition, and evaluate their significance. Wisconsin is one of the few states to take this on, and the Inventory should prove to be an asset to practitioners and scholars in historic research and preservation efforts.

With assistance from the Chapter Initiatives Program from ASLA, the Wisconsin chapter has committed substantial funding for this project, recognizing its importance. The CATALOG of Landscape Records in the United States, located at Wave Hill in Bronx, New York, has also supported the chapter's efforts with advice and guidance.

The first phase, which will conclude in December, includes the design and implementation of a survey and the establishment of an electronic database containing the resulting information. An advisory committee has been formed, consisting of professional archivists and people knowledgeable about historic preservation in Wisconsin.

The questionnaire is being sent out to approximately 1700 different individuals and organizations, including: local municipalities, planning commissions, libraries, area research centers, historical societies, archives, and landscape architects across the state. They are encouraged to fill out the questionnaire and provide descriptive information about the types of documents, the associated landscape architect(s), engineer(s), planner(s), or architect(s), the condition of the actual documents, and their accessibility to the public. The WASLA is interested in finding information about a wide variety of documents, including: master plans, planting plans, planning documents, sketches and drawings, construction documents, photographs, nursery catalogs, plant lists, correspondence, office records, and other related material.

The details regarding the location, access, and updating of the database are still being developed; but linkage to the CATALOG of Landscape Records in the United States is anticipated.

The project is an exciting venture, and is already proving to be a monumental undertaking. The WASLA is hopeful that the establishment of this archival database will be an impetus for the preservation of records related to the history of landscape architecture in Wisconsin. Future phases could include the designation of a repository for some of records being inventoried, as well as the initiation of an on site-survey of both designed and vernacular Wisconsin landscapes.

For more information, Debra Flanders can be reached by email at dflanders@students.wisc.edu
**Historical Context: The Design of the Commemorative Military Park**

Shaun Eyring  
Cultural Landscape Program Leader  
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Battlefield parks represent some of our country's earliest attempts to both preserve and commemorate landscapes. Commemorative elements, which can range from single, small markers to large designed landscapes, often have a dominant presence in today's military landscapes. The National Park Service is undertaking a historic context study to better understand the significance of commemoration at battlefield parks in the Northeast and Southeast Regions. The study encompasses landscape research and historic resource evaluation of the early private and public efforts to assemble, design, and administer military parks from 1865 through 1932. A thorough contextual history and existing conditions documentation of the first five American battlefields to be preserved will be completed. These include Gettysburg, Shiloh, Vicksburg, Chickamauga and Chattanooga, and Antietam. In addition, limited documentation will be completed on the Revolutionary War sites of Valley Forge and Minute Man to broaden the understanding of military site commemoration in America.

Project products will include:

- A comprehensive annotated bibliography associated with design of the military park during this era. Category topics comprise all aspects of the design and preservation of battlefields during this era, including the social contexts that reveal prevailing ideas towards battlefield commemoration.
- Historical research on the private and public roles in establishing, designing and managing battlefield parks from 1865 to 1932; historical research on the era's prevailing design trends and social attitudes to provide an understanding of the overall environment within which these parks evolved; and a chronology of events tracing the acquisition and development of the seven selected battlefields by private commissions and the War Department.
- Existing conditions documentation of the seven project parks including electronic existing conditions plans, period plans, and a summary essay for each park that compares historic field conditions and current conditions.
- A summary essay drawing broad conclusions about the similarities and differences in the landscapes of all military parks studied.
- A list of surviving military parks, both NPS and non-NPS, likely influenced by the private commission/War Department military park design approach.

For further information about the Commemorative Military Park Survey Project, contact Shaun Eyring, Cultural Landscape Program Leader, Philadelphia Support Office at 215-597-8850 or by e-mail shaun_eyring@nps.gov.
Spotlight on the Treatment of Historic Vegetation

Cari Goetcheus and Nick Parash
Landscape Architects
Cultural Landscape Program
National Park Service

The Landscape Lines series covers a broad variety of topics ranging from pollen analysis as an archaeological technique to the methods of graphic documentation to be used in recording a cultural landscape.

The edition of Landscape Lines that is the subject of this Vineyard article explains the investigation of historical significance of vegetation in cultural landscapes, in particular, individual plants and aggregations of plants (figs 1 & 2) and determining appropriate treatment methodologies. This is viewed in the context of recognizing plant features as biotic cultural resources, and their dynamic inherent qualities. With this in mind, understanding the life cycle of plant features, and the degree to which change contributes to or compromises the historic character of a landscape, is integral to developing management programs for cultural landscapes. For example, preservation of a single tree in a designed landscape may be critical to the overall integrity of the design. In contrast, an entire woodlot may have significance, in which case it is necessary to preserve the ecological process of the system rather than an individual tree. Developing an appropriate treatment strategy is crucial in helping these features retain their overall structure and appearance, and continue to contribute to the significance and integrity of the landscape.

This Landscape Lines offers technical guidelines on a series of topics relating to the process of historical research, existing condition investigation, and analysis and evaluation conducted during the preparation of a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) as it relates to vegetative features. Within this 17-page publication, a variety of treatment options for plant features are discussed, including such considerations as protection, maintenance, repair and replacement.

The treatment of plant features is addressed in relation to the primary treatment for a cultural landscape. Within this context, determining the treatment approach for a cultural landscape is influenced by the following:

- integrity and condition of the biotic and abiotic features,
- management objectives for the park,
- type of cultural landscape and significance,
- contemporary use of the landscape.

The preferred treatment option specified in a CLR, guides the management and treatment of the plant features as well. For example, the CLR for the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site in Brookline, MA, proposes restoration of the landscape to its appearance circa 1930 to illustrate the landscape designed and developed by Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. and perpetuated by his sons. As a result, the report prescribes removing over 200 nonhistoric trees and shrubs, and introducing over 800 trees, shrubs, and vines based on the ca. 1930 character of the landscape (see figures 3 & 4).

All treatments for a cultural landscape are represented by a sequence of activities given in order of increasing physical intervention: protect and maintain, repair, replace, design for missing features, and design complete...
moval or replacement of plant features the plant's association with the significance of the site should be considered.

Beyond the implementation of a treatment plan, preserving the culturally derived and naturally occurring processes is the focus of landscape management. When protection and maintenance are regularly practiced, the requirement for repair is infrequent and the cyclical need for replacement can be anticipated. Maintaining accurate plant records is a useful tool in plant management, recording such information such as current condition, anticipated longevity of a plant feature, protection and maintenance regimes, and records of repair and replacement. Also, developing a replacement strategy is particularly important for plants that will be propagated, since cuttings or grafts must be taken from live, healthy tissue, and special growing facilities may need to be used. The changing appearance of a landscape must be anticipated through planning and managed within well-defined parameters that best support the significance of the landscape. By understanding the inherent dynamic qualities of plant features in a landscape, and how vegetative features contribute to the significance of a landscape, well-informed treatment and management decisions which retain the overall character and integrity of cultural landscapes can be made.

The first sequence establishes that significant features, such as plant features, are preserved by regular maintenance and by protecting them from adverse influences. The form, scale, and other significant characteristics of plant features can be protected by good horticultural practices which enhance the longevity of the plant material. Maintenance activities, such as proper irrigation, pruning, dividing, transplanting, mowing, and pest management create a favorable growing environment and promote the health of plants.

The next sequence promotes the repair, or if not possible, the replacement of deteriorated features. The repair of plant features may involve remedial or rejuvenative pruning, cabling, or grafting to remove infection or decay, provide physical support, and promote healing or the regeneration of new tissue. Replacing plant features involves removing a declining plant in a particular location and replanting it with another plant. The designed degree of authenticity of the replacement plant (whether it be genetically identical, taxonomically the same, or a substitute cultivar, variety, species, or genus) is a decision influenced by various factors, but it is primarily based on the association of the plant with the landscape's significance.

Ideally, plant features should be protected, maintained, repaired, and replaced (in-kind or with appropriate substitutions) to accurately preserve the historic character of a cultural landscape. However, under some circumstances plants that are removed are not replaced. For example, if a plant feature threatens the perpetuation of an endangered species, it may not be preserved or replaced. However, prior to decisions considering re-

| Figure 3 (top). BEFORE clearing of recolonizing vegetation; this activity was part of a restoration treatment plan. Frederick Law Olmsted NHS. |
| Figure 4 (bottom). AFTER clearing of recolonizing vegetation. Frederick Law Olmsted NHS. |

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To Order “Making Educated Decisions”


**Thomas Dolliver Church, Landscape Architect**

The special thematic issue of the *Studies in the History of Gardens & Designed Landscapes*, guest edited by Marc Treib, titled, “Thomas Dolliver Church, Landscape Architect,” Volume 20, No. 2, Summer 2000 (ISSN 1460-1176) is available from Taylor & Francis. Go to their website at www.taylorandfrancis.com for further information. The cost for back issues of the journal is around $50/US.

**Branch Brook Park, Newark, New Jersey**

An illustrative brochure of Branch Brook Park featuring an annotated map (measuring 16 by 25 inches) by George Colbert and Guenter Vollath with historic and contemporary photographs is available for $4 folded or $10 flat (suitable for framing). It is available by mail from Friends of Branch Brook Park, c/o Charles F. Cummings, 54 Richmond Street, Newark, NJ, 07103.

**Request for Qualifications: Branch Brook Park CLR/Management Plan**

The Branch Brook Park Alliance—a public-private partnership committed to the rehabilitation of this nationally recognized historic designed landscape—is seeking to retain a consulting firm to provide a cultural landscape report and treatment and management plans for Branch Brook Park. Interested firms should contact Mr. Danny Gale, Managing Director, Branch Brook Park Alliance, c/o Connection Newark, 744 Broad Street, Newark, NJ, 07102, 973.643.1611x106.

**The Wisconsin Inventory of Landscape Architecture Records**

If you would like more information regarding the Wisconsin Inventory of Landscape Architecture Records or would like to request a questionnaire, please write to WILAR, Department of Landscape Architecture, Room 1, Agriculture Hall, 1450 Linden Drive, Madison, WI, 53706 or contact Debra Flanders at 608.231.9774 or by email at dlflanders@students.wisc.edu through December 2000. After December, please send your inquiries to WILAR c/o WASLA, P.O. Box 851, Madison, WI, 53701-0851.

**The Landscape Lines Series**


Do you have a friend or colleague who would like to receive Vineyard?

Send your name, address, phone, and e-mail to Historic Landscape Initiative, Heritage Preservation Services, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, N.W., Suite 330, Washington, D.C. 20240 or e-mail Vineyard@nps.gov.