2009 DESIGN AWARDS
The Columbine Memorial was inspired by a community-based design effort to evoke feelings of compassion and to encourage visitors to seek, in their own lives, meaning and understanding amidst tragedy. Throughout the design process, a parents, committee and the design team collaborated to create a memorial honoring the innocent victims of the April 20, 1999 shootings at Columbine High School, representing the community’s effort to heal and their pledge never to forget. Its purpose is not to provide answers, but to encourage introspection and shared memory, allowing the memorial to speak for and about the victims.

Pima Northwest Campus demonstrates the highest level of integrated campus design including strategies for native planting, microclimate design, integration with architecture and native desert landscape. The project balances the needs of campus users and arid design methodologies by enhancing the desert ecology and creating a setting that celebrates the Sonoran Desert. The gathering spaces integrate buildings with the landscape and students with the Sonoran Desert, which provides an unprecedented setting for student lifestyle.
The Arrabelle is in the heart of Vail, Colorado’s Lionshead Village. The 1.7-acre hotel, condo and retail development establishes a foundation for surrounding future redevelopment, and provides an urban counterpoint to the Bavarian-style atmosphere of Vail Village. The primary goal was to stimulate the redevelopment of Lionshead Village by reinventing its core, the original Vail Resorts parcel. One of the tools that Vail Resorts specified to help reinvent Lionshead was a new architectural character and richer streetscape finishes that expand on the Bavarian roots already established along Bridge Street. The design team was tasked with creating world-class spaces with unique amenities to serve as a gateway for the internationally recognized Vail Ski Resort.

The Town of Avon is undergoing a renaissance and is redefining its role as a holistic, sustainable Colorado mountain community. A $30 million capital improvements plan identified by the Avon West Town Center Redevelopment Plan include Avon Station and Lake Street two catalyst projects. The identified goals of these projects were to improve the civic infrastructure through urban design by creating a true sense of place, strengthening connections within and beyond the community, encouraging safe pedestrian and vehicular interaction, and providing public investment in the West Town Center District to further promote private redevelopment.
This project transformed a small local park into a mountain event venue. Once a previously flat and modestly improved site, this town park is now a destination for concerts, winter sledding and festivals. Various areas for performance and social gathering make the park a special place for visitors to enjoy and linger.

The Chapungu Sculpture Park was created on 26 acres to provide a home to showcase the culture of Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia), Africa and its stone sculpture. This park is the first of its kind in the western hemisphere which allows the permanent display of African stone sculpture and discusses the artists, their cultures and beliefs, and helps teach visitors about life in Africa. The final design feature both a manicured area on the northern part of the park and a very natural approach throughout the central and southern parts of the park.
Arista is a 200-acre master planned, mixed-use, transit oriented development in Broomfield, Colorado. It is the first project of its kind along the US 36 corridor. Arista is the creation of a synergistic place incorporating retail, high density residential, office, transportation, entertainment and hotel spaces that are connected with a strong network of parks. The parks system functions as the social backbone of the community with each park serving a different program use and Colorado-based design theme.

This project is a 30-acre multi-use park located in the City of Lakewood that was developed in conjunction with Carma’s new residential community Solterra; site of the 2008 HBA Parade of Homes. The park was on a fast track for design and construction and was completed in approximately 18 months. The park features a number of interpretive demonstration gardens, multi-use fields, shelters and trails that connect to Solterra, Hayden/Green Mountain Park and other nearby open space areas. Monoculture grasses and other native plants were incorporated into the park’s design along with geologic, prairie, riparian and other themed “Oasis Gardens.” The landscape architectural design approach was to develop a primarily passive park with some areas for active use such as the dog park, loop trails and picnic sites.
The Croke Reservoir project was an exercise in realizing potential. As cities become landlocked, the need to look for recreational opportunities within the framework of existing resources becomes more important. This could easily have been a project to stabilize a shoreline. But the City, design team and the community itself came together to capitalize on an under appreciated area by fulfilling the promise of a true urban amenity. By drawing back the curtain of overgrown and degraded vegetation that concealed the reservoir from view, designing active and passive connections along the path, and improving aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat, Croke Reservoir was successfully reintroduced as an integral part of Northglenn's Parks and Open Space system.

A portion of Little Dry Creek in the City of Greenwood Village, Colorado was severely eroded and was threatening to undermine nearby Long Road as well as portions of adjacent private property. The landscape architect collaborated with the city’s civil engineer to develop plans to restore the drainage and protect the roadway and private properties. In addition to protecting the nearby infrastructure from erosion, the project enhanced the ecological function of the drainageway by providing improved wetlands, more diverse habitat, and improved water quality. The design carefully preserved the mature willow and cottonwood trees that help define the character of the site and provide important ecological function.
Design under $500,000

TAXI 2 REDEVELOPMENT & STORMWATER GARDENS

DENVER, COLORADO
WENK ASSOCIATES
MERIT AWARD
LAND STEWARDSHIP AWARD

The TAXI redevelopment establishes a new frontier for urban living and working at Denver’s northern edge, while also “pushing the envelope” in site design and in collaboration between landscape architectural and architectural disciplines. Confronted with multiple challenges, including the need to achieve effective drainage on an essentially flat site, the need to provide for daily workplace parking and service access on a site that also houses private residences, and the need to provide cost-effective solutions for the developer, the landscape architect played a critical role in transforming these challenges into opportunities.

CARBONDALE PROMENADE PARK

CARBONDALE, COLORADO
DHM DESIGN, CARBONDALE
LAND STEWARDSHIP AWARD
MERIT AWARD

CARBONDALE, Colorado chose to locate its new Recreation Center and Promenade Park on an abandoned rail yard site next to Town Hall, one block from the commercial core and adjacent to the regional trail system, which links Carbondale to the entire Roaring Fork River Valley. The site, formerly used as the town snow dump, was transformed into a passive community park and garden demonstrating the broad array of plant communities suitable for the region. The gardens also function as an integral component of the stormwater management system. Beautiful and functional, the park is a pleasant place to visit, providing an important setting for the adjacent community buildings and pedestrian and bicycle connections. The project earned LEED Platinum Certification in 2009.

SIMPSON MINE PARK

LAFAYETTE, COLORADO
ARCHITERRA GROUP
PRESIDENT’S AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Simpson Mine Park is a small neighborhood park located in the Old Town section of the City of Lafayette, Colorado. The park provides an important social gathering and play space for residents of this historic neighborhood. The unique design and integrated artwork located throughout the park are inspired by the rich mining history of the city. These elements impart a sense of place and provide a subtle link to the city’s origins.
CALLAWAY GARDENS LAND MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

A collaborative team working in a charrette based format created a land management and development strategy for the Callaway Gardens land holdings. The project considered the location’s setting as a botanical garden and the impact that future revenue streams in the form of land development might have on the character and quality of the gardens, the use of landscape to define the development plan and phasing strategy, and the use of landscape to define the “addressing” of the neighborhoods.

CENTERRA NATURAL AREA DESIGN GUIDELINES

Unlike squared-off detention boxes covered in turf with a drainpan through the middle, naturally designed ponds and stormflow systems can be beautiful and functional. They can greatly increase wildlife potential and the human experience. The Centerra Guidelines were developed to address this issue. Covering more than 4,000 acres of area, the stormwater guidelines for Centerra in Loveland set forth a comprehensive landscape strategy for use of natural systems and biomimicry in management of detention ponds and conveyance channels. A team consisting of McWhinney Enterprises, BHA Design, wildlife biologist Ray Sperger, and Jim Tolstrup of The High Plains Environmental Center established a creative standard that directs design and management of all stormwater facilities in the master plan area.
Denargo Market is a 32-acre redevelopment north of downtown Denver in an emerging neighborhood called River North, an industrial area home to many artists, fabricators and galleries. The project provides a model for integrating community interests, neighborhood context, city objectives and private development to create a vision for a new urban district. The outcome is a dynamic district that reclaims industrial sites and expands the river corridor to become a vibrant gateway between downtown and River North.

Geos will be the largest net-zero energy, urban mixed-use neighborhood in the United States. Earth and sun power will completely sustain the community’s energy needs, replacing all fossil fuels. The neighborhood is intertwined with natural systems, stormwater-fed landscapes, and civic places. Rain and snowmelt feed street tree rain gardens, percolation parks, plazas and community gardens. Geos received final development approval from the City of Arvada and will begin construction in Fall, 2009.
An important historic ruin, in desperate need of restoration and stabilization, is restored for generations to come. The success of the Redstone Coke Ovens restoration effort stems from four key influencers: a rich industrial history, the clear vision of several dedicated residents, secured funding from state and federal grants, and simple, responsive design solutions. The team embraces the historic landmark as a fundamental link to America’s past and as an integral asset to the Town of Redstone. Signage and interpretive markers integrate with authentic, restoration-driven site enhancements. These features combined, encourage discovery and provide a “tool kit” for understanding and preserving Redstone’s coking history. Mindful of a limited budget and supported by diverse public-private partnerships, the landscape architect develops a site plan that balances restoration and ruin with interactive and meaningful solutions.
The 147-acre Red Butte Ranch encompasses 180° views spanning from Aspen Mountain to Snowmass, with a foreground of sage-covered hillsides and a world-renowned golf course. The predominant pattern developed by the landscape architect borrows from the existing ranch and agrarian setting, and is supplemented by the creation of mini-landscapes that respond to specific programmatic elements, architectural details, and outdoor rooms throughout the site. The design gracefully unites this large site and its numerous landscape types by pushing the intimately scaled garden elements to the front of the view, ensuring that the foreground takes precedence to the view.

The Residence at Wildcat Ridge rests at 9,200 feet in elevation on a 200-acre ridge above the mountain community of Snowmass Village. Because the immediate landscape is so dominant and visually spectacular, the landscape architecture is both respectful of, and scaled appropriately to, its environment. Large expanses of glass, a 12-foot-by-200-foot moss-rock wall, bold plantings, and a folded plate roof—all contemporary icons in this mountainous environment—successfully transition a long and linear architectural piece to the rugged landscape.
Sitting quietly on the banks of the Roaring Fork River in Aspen, Streamside Estate is an elegantly detailed Arts and Crafts-style home. A narrow lot precludes large and abundant gardens, but the surrounding riparian environment provides the space with vertical layers of leafy vegetation and native habitat. A series of contiguous outdoor rooms are delineated by plant materials whose color, texture and growth patterns respond to the colorful seasons of the high country and complement the fine details of the house. The intimately scaled gardens and stream feature unify the home within the existing neighborhood and the adjacent river environment.

The landscape architect was hired to redesign the estate grounds in order to capture and celebrate the incredible views to the Front Range of Colorado. A xeric, yet colorful, landscape palette was used to accent the natural surroundings and create dynamic spaces for entertaining and relaxing. This project was completed in a 6-month time period from beginning of design to completion of construction to meet the client’s demanding schedule.
TWIN RIVERS COMMUNITY PARK BALLFIELDS

Twin Rivers Park Softball Complex is home to over 2,000 games and 20 tournaments each year. The facility is designed to attract the most competitive teams because of its long outfield distances, while also serving all levels of recreational play. Before, after or between games, players, families and friends can picnic in the center of the complex, purchase food or other items from the mobile vending trailers, or relax at the adjacent aquatics/recreation center, mini-golf, picnic and play areas. This facility demonstrates to communities that a functional and attractive ballpark can be designed and constructed with limited financial resources.

CENTENNIAL PARK BALLFIELDS

After years of gradual decline, the Centennial Park Ballfield Complex was renovated and many features were reconstructed in 2004. Located on top of an old landfill, this 5-field youth baseball/softball complex includes a colorful and fun gateway with quotes from famous sports figures, in addition to redesigned areas that provide a comfortable and safe experience for ball players, umpires and spectators. Creative solutions were employed to address the challenges of construction on a landfill and working within the constraints of existing light poles, major utility features and a tight budget.
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