Compromise to Preserve Ries Legacy

Story and Photos by Julie Hutchinson

Emerging blades of crocus planted long ago pierce the soil in the front yard of the house on the 700 block of Franklin Street. At the curb, a dumpster overflows with construction and landscape debris, mute testimony to the passing of an era here.

But this is not just another aging Capitol Hill house passing into young hands with modern ideas and the money to make them real. The limbs and dead foliage in the dumpster aren’t just any old garden debris.

This house and the controversy over its gardens represent the continuing struggle in Capitol Hill neighborhoods between preserving the past and building for the present. However, a recently forged agreement holds the promise of a united vision for the Franklin Street property.

Since 1936, this house at 737 Franklin and its gardens were home to Jane Silverstein Ries, a Denver legend and the first woman to receive a Colorado landscape architect’s license. Her landscape-design work lives on in thousands of public and private gardens in Denver, from Circle Drive estates to a mortuary parking lot. Ries’ Franklin Street house, built by her parents in 1936, was declared a Denver landmark in 1992. Ries, now 95, suffers from Alzheimer’s and has been moved to a nursing home.

Long before her family sold her home in November, Ries’ advancing illness had taken its toll on the house and gardens, where for decades she had indulged her passion for landscape plants and native stone.

Yet some neighbors, and others who worked with Ries over the years, were dismayed when the home’s new owner, Doug McCartney, had workers cut back overgrown shrubbery, vines and ground cover in December, fearing the extensive clean-up wiped the yard clean of Ries’ vision. (The rear gardens were not touched and will remain intact, McCartney said.)

But, in an agreement that pays tribute to Ries’ influence over generations of landscape architects, McCartney and those who guard Ries’ legacy have arrived at a compromise. As the ground thaws, they’re inventorying what remains in gardens and working out a plan to update front and back come spring in a way that “Jane would approve,” said Catharine Mitchell, a landscape architect and president of the Jane Silverstein Ries Foundation.

Since 1992 the foundation has distributed scholarships in landscape architecture and

Legacy continued on page 3
Rocky Mountain Exposures

In this issue you will find some useful information from a recent survey that was conducted by David Fraistat at the City of Littleton. The survey polled Landscape Architects and Arborists on issues relative to tree species, planting details and maintenance. It is interesting to see the commonalities and differences that the survey showed. We hope to continue to provide items of interest that members can learn from in the Newsletter. Many thanks to Brian Braa and Josh Mehlem for their efforts with editing and laying out our newsletter.

I hope that you were able to attend the CCASLA Awards Banquet and the ProGreen Expo this year. There were some great speakers and events at ProGreen and the Awards Banquet featured some great works of Landscape Architecture as always. We hope you enjoy a summary of them in this issue if you were not able to attend. Next year’s awards will be postponed slightly as we plan to have out next Awards Banquet in conjunction with American Institute of Architects Annual Meeting in the late summer or early fall of 2006. I am discussing the possibility of jurying the awards with the New York State Chapter President.

We were honored to have Mark Gelertner, Dean of the University of Colorado at Denver, College of Architecture and Planning speak and host the Award Banquet at the Tivoli. We also enjoyed having Dennis Carmichael, FASLA our ASLA National President as our keynote speaker. The Contractor/Supplier of the year went to Vivian Kovacs from Landscape Forms. This was an award long past due as Vivian’s involvement and support of the Chapter has been invaluable for many years. Gail Barry won the award for Volunteer of Year for her service to the Chapter as Treasurer and key coordinator in the Garden Tour and other events for many years. Her doors have always been open to the Chapter and she is always the best host.

Mark your calendars for the 2005 Garden Tour, on Sunday June 26th. Also plan to attend CCASLA’s Golf Tournament on August 26th. This year we hope to have sun instead of rain on that day. Actually we’ll take the rain anytime we can get it right?

This year, as a goal, the Chapter is planning to have four "mixers" that allow members to meet each other. Our first such mixer took place during the ProGreen Expo at the Wynkoop Brewery, and was great to just relax and enjoy each other’s company during that busy week. I hope to see more of you at our next mixer, tentatively scheduled in April during Landscape Architecture Month, and also at a mixer set in June around the time of the Garden Tour. This year we have contributed funding and volunteers to the Doors Open Denver (DOD) program taking place on April 16th and 17th. DOD will be a free, city-wide annual event celebrating Denver’s built environment, hopefully creating access, awareness and excitement about good design. I hope you can volunteer one or both of these days to help give people access to Denver’s hidden gems and buildings that people see all the time but never have the excuse to enter.

I had the honor of attending the Fellows Dinner again this year at The Brown Palace and enjoyed getting to know the new Fellows Patrick Shea, Todd Johnson and Jerry Adamson, Cathy Mitchell, JSR Foundation President attended, as well and gave a great presentation on the Foundation and our goals for the upcoming year.

Our Secretary Mark Taylor is in the process of beginning the daunting task of setting up a Chapter Archive. If you served on the Excom in the past and have items of interest, please get them to Mark so he can fill his basement and empty yours. Thanks Mark!

Past President Matt Spidel and I recently met with a representative from the Department of Regulatory Agencies who is reviewing the Colorado Council of Landscape Architects

Presidents Letter continued on page 3
(CCLA) request for Sunrise of Licensure for Landscape Architects in Colorado. The review will be complete in June when DORA will recommend for or against Licensure. Thanks to the many efforts of CCLA and others we are one step closer to gaining licensure in Colorado. Volunteers are always needed to help with the efforts and if you are interested please contact Craig Coronato or Ron Bevans.

President Elect Jane Kulik and Dana Stillman, ASLA among others, have been working hard on updating CCASLA's website. Check out the latest changes very soon at ccaslao.org and enjoy this issue of Exposures.

Best Regards,

John M Birkey, ASLA

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Legacy continued from page 1

conferred an annual award for stewardship of the land. One way the foundation raises money is by selling silver vase brooches modeled after the one Ries wore daily with a bit of fresh greenery.

McCartney said he tried to do the right thing when he bought Ries' house, planning the remodel to showcase the home's original wood floors and molding and walnut interior doors. His intention for the front garden was not, he says, to scrape it but to trim overgrowth, clear walkways and expose the home's windows and brickwork. Aware of the home's landmark status, McCartney followed requirements to submit changes requiring building permits to the Denver Landmark Commission for approvals, which were granted. But the house's landmark designation does not extend to controlling changes to the gardens.

Ries began her career in 1932, when most Denver home landscapes consisted of turf, foundation plantings and a straight walkway from sidewalk to front door. Ries defined her landscapes with brick or flagstone walls and added angled or curved walks. She chose plants that would thrive in Denver's clay soil and dry climate and sought alternatives to thirsty, boring expanses of lawn.

Working from her garage studio, Ries evolved into one of Denver's most sought-after landscape architects. Hundreds of landscape plans stored in the studio and all her professional papers have been donated to the Western History Department of the Denver Public Library. Ries also will be included in the second volume of Charles A. Birnbaum's sweeping "Pioneers of American Landscape Design."

Meanwhile, reminders of Ries turn up everywhere on the Franklin Street property as its new owner works to add modern touches like a dishwasher, a new furnace, new baths, additional closets and a very fancy kitchen range (Ries hated to cook and had no stove in her kitchen).

In the basement, McCartney has uncovered windows tagged with a trademark Ries label explaining where they came from and the date they were stored. North-facing interior windows are decorated with another Ries touch—dried leaves held with frosted paper. Along the path to the front door, sunlight reflects off an aluminum ID tag engraved with Ries' easily recognized printing: "Clematis paniculata on trellis."

The whole neighborhood will be watching the old house on Franklin this spring as it emerges from its extreme makeover. And those guarding the Ries legacy are hopeful the front yard once again will pay fitting tribute to the woman whose vision lives on in Capitol Hill.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This article originally appeared in the February 2005 edition of Life on Capitol Hill.

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Firm News

DTJ Design

Best in American Living Award

In recognition of the nation's best new housing designs, the Best in American Living Awards (BALA) were presented on January 12, 2005 at an award ceremony in Orlando. DTJ DESIGN won a Silver Award for Mill Creek in Lancaster, PA, for Best Smart
Growth Community.

Sponsored by Professional Builder magazine and the National Association of Home Builders, the BALA program showcases homes that illustrate design quality, achieve success in the marketplace, and exemplify the "Best in American Living." A total of 104 award winners in 41 categories were chosen from more than 490 entries. Winners were featured in the January issue of Professional Builder Magazine.

CCASLA Awards

DTJ DESIGN was honored with one honor award and three merit awards from the Colorado Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (CCASLA). Palmilla, an upscale residential community in La Quinta, California, received an honor award for landscape design.

Also recognized with merit awards were Building Community, a new book written by DTJ principal Thomas W. Kopf; the Village at Autumn Lake in Owasse, WI, for planning and urban design; and Brighton Beach Club in Brighton, CO, for landscape design.

New Principal

The Board of Directors at DTJ DESIGN, Inc., elected Chris Moore as a Principal. Moore, with DTJ since 1998, is a senior planner and landscape architect with over 10-years of experience in the industry.

Moore has been instrumental in the growth of DTJ's national design practice. He specializes in concept visioning and design-sensitive projects. With national and international experience, Moore is committed to designing quality residential, resort, and mixed-use places. He is an active member of the Design and Land Development committees of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) and is the NAHB Awards (BALA) subcommittee chairman.

DTJ DESIGN is an award-winning firm that provides architecture, planning, and landscape architecture for clients nationwide.

Nuszer Kopatz

Firm Hires COMMUNITY VISIONING' Studio Director

Nuszer Kopatz Urban Design Associates has recently hired Jessica Kramer to manage the firm's 'Community Visioning' studio. Kramer is a community visioning specialist and landscape architect with more than nine years of professional experience. Prior to her position with Nuszer Kopatz, Kramer practiced environmental graphic design, landscape architecture, and planning with several nationally renowned design firms.

The Community Visioning studio provides project planning through the integration of environmental graphic design, signage, and wayfinding in all phases of landscape architecture. Nuszer Kopatz is a Denver-based land planning, landscape architecture, and community visioning firm, partnering with builders and developers to create diverse, next-generation communities that achieve an ideal balance of...
Stan Clauson Associates

Stan Clauson Associates, LLC announces the following new personnel additions to the firm:

Devin Gardiner joined the firm in May of 2004 as a Landscape Architect and Environmental Planner. He is a 2004 graduate of Utah State University with a Bachelors Degree in Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning. His previous experience includes several years working for a design/build firm and assisting in the design of the 43 acre wetland addition to the Mallard Springs Wildlife Management Area in Fort Myron, Utah. Devin has also spent summers studying landscape architecture and working on projects abroad in South America. He is a member of the American Society of Landscape Architecture and Society for Ecological Restoration. He is currently involved with the Snowmass Village Entryway Masterplan, several residential landscape design projects in Aspen, and assisting with the Steamboat Springs Mountain Town Sub-Area Improvements Plan.

Suzanne Bott, AICP, joined the firm in January as a Senior Planner. She graduated from CU-

Boulder (Geography), CU-Denver (Masters in Planning), and Colorado State (PhD in Resource Management) with expertise in human-environmental systems and environmental design. Suzanne is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners and has more than 20 years experience, including working as a land planner for Park City, Utah, and as an urban designer and conservation planner for the non-profit Sonoran Institute in Tucson. Suzanne will be working on a wide range of projects including the Steamboat Springs base area improvements, historic preservation, and master plans.

Stan Clauson Associates, LLC is a full-service planning and landscape architecture firm in Aspen, Colorado. It was founded in 1978 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and has evolved to specialize in planning, permitting, and design for resort environments.

Rowan Design and Consulting

ROWAN Design and Consulting, a landscape architecture firm in Trinidad, Colorado, is currently working on plans for a park in downtown Trinidad. Having completed a conceptual design, the firm has been selected for design development and construction documentation for the park. The project is on the site of a former concrete plant and could include a playground, interactive water feature,
bocci court, and pedestrian bridge. The conceptual design of the park would also be compatible with a temporary ice arena if funding becomes available for this use in the future.

CLC Associates

Firm Celebrates 20th Anniversary

CLC Associates, a 110-person engineering, architecture, planning, landscape architecture, and surveying firm, celebrated its 20th anniversary at the end of 2004. Founded in Colorado in December, 1984, the firm has continually expanded its offerings and geographic coverage and now serves the western United States through four full-service offices: Denver, Phoenix, Salt Lake City, and Spokane.

CLC initially began as a surveying firm, added civil engineering during its first year, quickly added planning and landscape architecture services, and finally merged with MH Architects in 1994. While the firm maintained only one office for the first

15 years, it quickly expanded through purchasing a Spokane engineering firm in 1999, opened a Salt Lake City office in 2001, and added a Phoenix office in 2004.

Throughout its history, CLC has focused primarily on the retail and commercial development markets. The firm’s client list of over 2,000 projects in the past ten years includes Kohl’s Department Stores, Bank One, Cabela’s, Marriott, Brinker International Restaurants, Target, Hilton, Home Depot, and Wal-Mart as well as local, regional, and national real estate development companies.

In addition to retail and commercial development, CLC has established itself in the redevelopment of existing properties with the completion of over 2,000,000 square feet of redevelopment in the past seven years. CLC’s practice also includes planning and designing mixed-use developments. The firm’s most recent work includes a major regional activity center, The Southlands. This 276-acre mixed-use development will eventually contain 1.5 million square feet of retail and commercial space, and a residential component.

According to founder, Steven E. Wilson, “It’s been an exciting opportunity to grow the firm from its small initial size in 1984 to its current capacity of 110 staff and...
four offices. Our success is directly attributed to our outstanding staff, the commitment of senior management, and our client service philosophy.

LOCAL AND NATIONAL NEWS

Arborist/Landscape Architect Survey
Summary by Brian Brau

The Front Range Urban Forestry Council recently conducted its COLORADO FRONT RANGE TREE PLANTING SURVEY, surveying both arborists and landscape architects. While it is interesting to see the differences in what both groups think is important, it is also entertaining to see the commonalities.

In terms of species selection, arborists prefer Bur Oak (Quercus macrocarpa), Kentucky Coffee tree (Gymnocladus dioicus), Linden (Tilia), Catalpa (Catalpa speciosa), Hackberry (Celtis occidentalis), and Honeylocust (Gleditsia triacanthos). Landscape Architects typically choose Linden (Tilia), Green Ash (Fraxinus pennsylvanica), Bur Oak (Quercus macrocarpa), Autumn Blaze Maple (Acer x freemanii), and Honeylocust (Gleditsia triacanthos).

Ornamental trees preferred by arborists include Hawthorn (Crataegus), Crabapple (Malus) and Pear (Pyrus calleryana). Landscape Architects favor Hawthorn (Crataegus), Crabapple (Malus), and Pear (Pyrus calleryana), Serviceberry (Amelanchier) and Birch (Betula).

Evergreen trees usually specified by arborists include Austrian Pine (Pinus nigra), Colorado Blue Spruce (Picea pungens), Ponderosa Pine (Pinus ponderosa), Southwestern White Pine (Pinus strobus), Pinyon Pine (Pinus edulis), and Scotch Pine (Pinus sylvestris). Landscape Architects favor Austrian Pine (Pinus nigra), Colorado Blue Spruce (Picea pungens), Ponderosa Pine (Pinus ponderosa), White/Concolor Fir (Abies concolor), Pinyon Pine (Pinus edulis), Limber Pine (Pinus flexilis), and Bristlecone Pine (Pinus aristata).

The top trees not recommended by arborists include Russian Olive (invasive), Silver Maple (weak wood and prone to chlorosis), Autumn Blaze Maple (prone to chlorosis and dieback, overused, pH sensitive), and Cottonwoods (weak wood and produce suckers). Landscape architects avoid Russian Olive, Silver Maple, and Cottonwoods.

Trees listed by arborists as winners during drought include Bur Oak, Hackberry, Honeylocust, Kentucky Coffee tree, Hawthorns, and Swamp White Oak. Landscape architects listed drought-hardy trees as Hackberry, Ash, Austrian Pine, Hawthorns, and Honeylocust.

Trees that are not drought-hardy according to arborists include Colorado Blue Spruce (borers, low vigor), Norway Maples (leaf scorch, low vigor), Populus species (dieback, high losses), Lindens (leaf scorch, low vigor), and Silver Maple (not drought tolerant). Landscape Architects believe the following trees should not be used: Ponderosa Pine (not completely drought tolerant, poor root establishment), Aspen, Birch, and Linden.

With regards to planting details, most arborists recommend complete removal of wirebaskets, while landscape architects typically specify top and sides only. Arborists specify burlap removal on the top and sides, while landscape architects typically list the top only. Existing soil was preferred as a back fill mix by both...
groups, and neither group typically specifies fertilizer of mycorrhiza in back fill mix. Tree stakes of both deciduous and evergreens is usually specified by arborists and landscape architects, while structural pruning after the third year was only listed as a requirement by arborists. Planting elevation in relation to existing grade is typically specified 2-3" above. Arborists prefer a 4' radius mulch ring, while landscape architects typically specify 3'. Tree wraps are required by both groups, especially when trees are planted in the fall. Arborists most often specify 2" caliper trees, while the landscape architects surveyed usually require 2.5".

With regards to irrigation, arborists typically specify tree bubblers while landscape architects usually list spray heads. For tree protection, arborists typically specify drape as the tree protection zone, using T-post and fence as the preferred protection method.

More information:
Colorado Tree Coalition:
www.coloradotrees.org
ISA Tree Planting and Care Information:
www.treesaregood.com
Structural Pruning (Dr. Ed Gilman):
hort.ifas.ufl.edu/woody/pruning/index.htm
GreenCo Best Mgmt. Practices (BMPs):
www.greenco.org
CSU Extension Tree Information:
www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/garden/pubgard.html#tree

Landscape Architecture Department 'Perfect' Accreditation Board (LAAB) involves many stages including a very thorough self-evaluation of the program that involved students, faculty, practitioners, and external constituents. The program was required to respond to specific questions and provide detailed data as prescribed in the half-inch thick double-sided LAAB Self-Evaluation Report Manual," he explained. The completed self-evaluation report is twice that size, covering such areas as curriculum, administration, program mission, quality of faculty and the department's relationship with the professional and local community. After months of preparation on the part of the department and the four 14-hour days of

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review by the three-person accreditation board, the report was filed and finalized. The result? Under "Recommendations Affecting Accreditation," where any program deficiencies would be noted, the only word listed is "NONE."
The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board visiting team members included Marcha Johnson, PhD, ASLA, from New York City Parks and Recreation, Jack Crowley, dean, University of Georgia College of Environmental Design, and Professor Les H. Smith, ASLA, educator and team chair from Ball State University. In their overall analysis, the experts stated, "the review team found the program to be vital and healthy, fueled by highly competent faculty and an energetic student body. The team observed a program united in forwarding the unique and essential role of landscape architecture in promoting new and cutting-edge urbanization practices." Says Bressler, "You can see in this report that we have met every standard. We scored 100 percent. [The team] had collectively visited 21 other schools prior to their visit here and they told us unofficially that we the first and only school to have scored 100 percent."

As part of the preparations for the reaccreditation team's visit, the department was required to exhibit course syllabi, student-generated studio work and research papers and projects representative of all its courses. "The very best as well as what they deemed second best, "They said the work they saw exhibited by the students can hang on the walls of any university in the country and be competitive," Bressler said. The team further told Bressler that graduates of the landscape architecture department could compete very well in the job market with graduates from any other institution in the country including those in the Ivy League.

Landscape architecture and architecture graduate students work collaboratively on the design of a residential community in southeast Denver.

The strengths of the Department of Landscape Architecture, as cited by the LAAB, lie in the productivity of its faculty, students, and graduates; the quality of the program's curriculum; depth, collaboration, and delivery; a supportive administrative structure within the college, and its involvement in significant issues associated with Colorado's rapidly growing urban landscape. The final report by the accreditation board recognized that "student projects indicate a focus on the department's mission and objectives to concentrate on issues of concern to the expanding Denver area, particularly ecological changes in an urbanizing region, water conservation and management of water resources, attention to underserved segments of the urban community, historic and cultural preservation, and research supporting the design professions."

Bressler said innovations and research by faculty members are aspects that put the department on top. He cited Lois Brink, associate professor, as an example of a dedicated faculty member who, over the past eight years, has designed and implemented about $10 million worth of "learning landscapes" that enable Denver Public School elementary students to take an active learning role while they play and exercise.

About the students, the final LAAB report states that they...
"demonstrated through several types of studio, research, and design projects, and technical skills, facility with both hand and computer graphics, and imaginative conceptual work at a variety of scales."

The graduate-level program is capped at 85 students given the current faculty ratios and physical space. The Master of Landscape Architecture program has grown from about 45 students in 1997 when Bressler came on board to the 85 currently enrolled. "We were generating 750 credit hours a semester, now we're at about 1,350 credit hours, which represents about a 45 percent increase in enrollment."

Editor's Note: This article was reprinted from Skylines, a publication produced for the Chancellor's Office of the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center. Questions on this article should be sent to Skylines@cudenver.edu.

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Trustee's Report
From Ron Blevens

As your Chapter Trustee, it is my role to report the activities associated with the governance and programs of ASLA at the national level. Please feel free to contact myself or another Chapter Executive Committee member if there are issues with respect to the National organization. The Board of Trustees gathered at the Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City to conduct the business of the Society. The following is a report on some of the action and discussion items:

Program and Operations Report. Executive Vice President Nancy Somerville reported on progress in key areas, including government affairs, public relations, and professional practice. Among the highlights, Somerville noted that membership growth is on track to reach 15,000 by year end (and in fact did surpass 15,000 members at the end of 2004); a new staff position has been added to Landscape Architecture to support the growing editorial content that has been enabled by growth in advertising; and two staff are now in place to support ASLA's professional practice initiatives and the Professional Interest Groups. To add resources to and continue to enhance priority programs, an additional federal lobbyist position is budgeted for 2005 and an additional public relations position is budgeted for 2006. Nancy discussed ASLA's progress in relationship building and how those partnering efforts are contributing to the Society's visibility and effectiveness. Education VP Hanna reported on the Council on Education's initiatives, including development of program support action items, distance education standards, and the white paper on faculty credentials.

Licensure Issues/Update. State Government Affairs Manager Lent provided a status report on licensure activities, including the successful summer Licensure
Committee's discussions and recommendations: In order to use the ASLA logo, a firm must satisfy both of the following criteria: 1) Fifty percent of the firm's principals/owners must be members (any category) of ASLA; and 2) At least one principal/owner must be a Full Member of ASLA. The Board approved the recommended criteria as presented. A revision to the bylaws at the Mid-year meeting in May is required to finalize the recommendation.

CELA President Kenneth R. Brooks, ASLA, briefed the Board on CELA's initiatives. The mission of CELA is to advocate for landscape architecture academic programs, provide a forum for dialogue for and about landscape architectural education, and foster and disseminate landscape architectural scholarship. CELA initiatives include: participation in the Landscape Architecture Body of Knowledge; development of information and data base projects on key terms within the discipline; journals related to landscape architecture, international studies, and distance education. CELA is promoting a closer relationship with the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board.

Green Roof Task Force (GRTF) Report. GRTF Chair J. Kipp Shrack, FASLA, presented the report of the task force and the task force's recommendation that ASLA proceed with the green roof demonstration project. Review by a structural engineer indicates that the roof can support the additional dead load required by a green roof system. The total project cost is estimated to be between $125,000 to $160,000. The Board approved the project and the task force's recommendations with the additional charge that grant opportunities for the project be investigated and pursued.

Report on the Landscape Architecture Body of Knowledge (LABOK).
ASLA representative on the LABOK Task Force Brian Orland, FASLA, provided a background of the LABOK study, which was an outgrowth of
of discussions regarding LAAB's 1999 revisions to the accreditation standards. The purpose of the study is to identify the body of knowledge of landscape architecture and to identify core competencies necessary for entry-level employment in the profession of landscape architecture. In November 2003, a lengthy survey was sent out to over 1,200 landscape architects; the consultant, The Chauncey Group International, tabulated results in the spring of 2004. Since then, Chauncey and LABOK Task Force members have been working to complete a final report that includes examples of how the report data may be interpreted. The final report will be available this fall.

Federal Government Affairs Update and Legislative Agenda Breakout Discussion Groups. Government Affairs Chair Angela Dye, ASLA, and Government Affairs Director Welch reviewed progress on legislative issues during 2004 and provided background for the breakout session discussions on 2005 legislative priorities. In 2005, ASLA will continue promotion of Historic American Landscapes Survey funding and stay involved throughout TEA-21 negotiations. Top priorities as identified by the trustees were: active living by design; security design; water issues; and smart growth/urban planning.

Public Relations

Chairperson's Report
From Courtney McRitchard

Doors Open Denver
As part of Landscape Architecture Month, CCASLA will be a sponsor of Doors Open Denver (DOD). On April 16th and 17th, 2005, the Denver Office of Culture Affairs will host the first annual DOD to celebrate our city's architecture, urban design and interior spaces.

Modeled after successful programs in Toronto, London and New York, Doors Open Denver will offer local residents and visitors the opportunity to experience the built environment by participating in free tours and site visits. The goal is to enable the public to view the built environment in a new way—from inside many buildings that are not ordinarily or are only partially open to the public. By providing unique access to Denver's architectural heritage, we hope to inspire a dialogue about what makes Denver such a great city to live, work and play.

CCASLA is in the process of creating tours throughout the city that highlight the work of local landscape architects. We are seeking volunteer "expert guides" to take a group (size of the volunteer's choice) on one or more of these tours. For more information, see www.doorsopen.denver.org. If you would like to participate as a tour guide or have any suggestions, please email Courtney at: cmrdesign@comcast.net.

West High School

With CCASLA's assistance, a master plan was recently completed to support renovation of Denver's West High School. West High School is one of four original Denver Public Schools (DPS) facilities. The school is located near 8th Avenue and Speer Boulevard, adjacent to a Denver Park known as the Sunken Gardens. The plan takes advantage of this proximity, trying to integrate West's landscape with the Gardens.

CCASLA has been working with West's administration, Denver Parks and Recreation, and DPS facilities personnel for the past two years to craft this plan, and those involved with the project are looking to go further. University of Denver's Vice Chancellor will be helping with fundraising efforts to support designing and building the project, and a Request For Proposal for construction documents will be issued (hopefully) by Fall, 2005.

If you are interested in learn-
ROCKY MOUNTAIN EXPOSURES

ing more about this effort, the plan and a Powerpoint presentation explaining it will be available from www.ccasl.org in the next few months. Contact Courtney at cmrdesign@comcast.net with any questions you might have.

CALENDAR

CSU LA Days 2005

The Student Chapter of ASLA at Colorado State University (CSU) would like to invite you to their annual Landscape Architecture Days. The following professionals in the field of Landscape Architecture have been invited to speak spanning four days.

March 30 - Thomas Wang
March 31 - Michael Van Valkenburgh
April 1 - Jennifer Guthrie of Gustafson Guthrie Nichol Ltd
April 2 - Andrea Cochran

All events listed above are scheduled for 7pm. For locations and more specific information, please visit the department website, http://www.colostate.edu/depts/larch/. We hope you will join us at LA Days!

LARE Review Session

A Landscape Architecture Registration Exam (LARE) review session is being planned for this spring. The session is tentatively scheduled for April 9th-10th and will be held at the University of Colorado at Denver College of Architecture and Planning. The instructors, Greg Cieciek and Josh Rowland, are both licensed landscape architects and have experience teaching LARE review sessions.

Once the details of the class are finalized, information will be posted on www.ccasl.org.

For more information, please contact Stacey Weaks, CCASLA Vice President of Education at (520) 622-9565, or email him at sweaks@norisdulce.com

Subscribe to the Green Scene Newsletter written by CSU Cooperative Extension Personnel. This timely update on research and technical issues is produced by Green CO Foundation eight times a year, March through October. Call 303 850-7587 to subscribe for fax or e-mail copy at the member rate of $25.00. It is no longer mailed.

Announcements

THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN LAND USE INSTITUTE

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Sessions Include:

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Tools for Taming Exurban Sprawl at the County Level

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Make No Small Plans: Innovative Western Planned Communities

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CCASLA Chapter Photos:

taken by Matt Spidel:
Alex Schatz at the Legislative Breakfast, Promoting Licensure for Landscape Architects.
2005 CCASLA AWARDS

Members and guests of the Colorado Chapter gathered in January at a banquet room in the University of Colorado at Denver's Tivoli complex to honor the 2005 CCASLA Professional Design Awards winners. 27 awards were presented for excellence in design, planning, research, and communication, and residential design. A jury of North Carolina ASLA chapter members judged this year's awards. Honor awards represent the best of each award category, and merit awards were given to projects having aspects of distinction.

Several projects were given the special "Land Stewardship Designation," recognizing designs that enhance or protect environmental aspects of the landscape. In addition, awards were presented to the Colorado Chapter Volunteer of the Year, and the Contractor/Supplier of the year.

Details of the President's Award of Excellence winners and Honor Award winners are described in this issue of Exposures. Merit Award winners and Landscape Stewardship Designation winners will be described in a future issue.

For those that received an award, congratulations! Entrants that were unsuccessful should resubmit their entry next year as many juries view projects differently.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR
Gail Barry - Chapter Treasurer

CONTRACTOR/SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR
Vivian Kovacs - Landscape Forms, Inc.

DESIGN ($500,000+ CONSTRUCTION BUDGET)

President's Award of Excellence
Stapleton West Crescent - Nuszer Kopatz Urban Design Associates

Honor Awards
Aurora Xeriscape Demonstration Garden - BHA Design, Inc.
Cemetery Lane Pedestrian Trail - City of Aspen Parks Department
Palmilla - DTJ Design

Merit Awards
Stapleton Westerly Creek - EDAW, Inc. (Denver)
Brighton Beach Club - DTJ Design
Frederik Meijer Children's Garden - EDAW, Inc. (Fort Collins)
The Gardens on El Paseo - Design Workshop (Denver)
Northern Colorado Water Conservation District - BHA Design, Inc.

Land Stewardship Designation
Stapleton Westerly Creek - EDAW, Inc. (Denver)
DESIGN (UNDER $500,000 CONSTRUCTION BUDGET)

Honor Awards
Ute Cemetery Restoration - BHA Design, Inc.

Merit Awards
Country Club Lane - The Norris Dullea Company

PLANNING AND URBAN DESIGN

President's Award Of Excellence
Yampa River Management Plan - EDAW, Inc. (Fort Collins)

Honor Awards
The Game Plan - Wenk Associates, Inc.
Coal Fired Power Plant Site Selection Study - EDAW, Inc. (Denver)
Union Park Design Guidelines - RNL Design

Merit Awards
Lowry Redevelopment Parks and Open Space Master Plan - Wenk Associates, Inc.
Santa Fe Community College District Plan - Design Workshop, Inc. (Denver)
University of Kentucky Arboretum Children's Garden Master Plan - EDAW, Inc.
(Fort Collins)
Village at Autumn Lake - DTJ Design

Land Stewardship Designation
Yampa River Management Plan - EDAW, Inc. Fort Collins

RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATION

Merit Awards
Building Community - Tom Kopf
Town of Superior Interpretive Signs - The Norris Dullea Company

RESIDENTIAL DESIGN

Honor Awards
Blum Residence - Design Workshop, Inc. (Denver)
Littleton Residence - DHM Design

Merit Awards
Cherry Hills Residence - DHM Design
Indian Trails Residence - Hershberger Design
ANNOUNCEMENTS

CCASLA AWARDS

Design - President’s Award Of Excellence:
*Stapleton West Crescent*, Denver, CO
Nuszer Kopatz Urban Design Associates (Denver, CO)

Located on the central axis framed by Stapleton’s East 29th Avenue Town Center, The West Crescent was designed to function as a highly animated public space linking the Town Center to the adjacent Founder’s Green Park. In this key location, the finished space acts as an important identifier for the entire Stapleton Community. The finished plaza truly embodies the Stapleton Vision by utilizing artful design to create delightful spaces that enhance community life while exhibiting sustainable practices.

Design - Honor Award:
*Aurora Xeriscape Demonstration Garden*, Aurora, CO
BHA Design, Inc. ( Ft. Collins, CO)

In 2002, the city of Aurora decided to increase its commitment to reducing excessive water use in the landscape as one of many means to reduce water consumption, and engaged the primary landscape architect to prepare a fast-track design for a 3.1-acre Xeriscape Demonstration Garden at their new Aurora Municipal Center. A Master Plan of the garden was prepared for an approximately 6-acre site with a 3.1-acre first phase. The challenge was to move beyond the typical Xeriscape concepts and create an image that was not only drought tolerant but also created a beautiful setting that would engage visitors and create excitement about the potential a xeric garden could bring.

Design - Honor Award:
*Cemetery Lane Pedestrian Trail*, Aspen, CO. City of Aspen Parks Department

where a trail did not previously exist. The Cemetery Lane Pedestrian Trail is a key community trail connection that provides a diverse trail use experience to the user, whether walking along a tree lined edge designed to catch and collect stormwater or biking through treetops and overlooking large landscape vistas. This trail project embodies the success possible when local residents and local government are fully committed to build a public amenity that meets a public need and minimizes the effect on the surrounding landscape.

The city of Aspen sought to create a safe, detached pedestrian trail with street tree plantings and drainage condition improvements.
runoff. Using water features at key gathering spots and entries provided welcome relief from the heat and further integrated water as a design element throughout the site.

Design - Honor Award: Ute Cemetery Restoration, Aspen, CO. BHA Design, Inc. (Fr. Collins, CO)

As Aspen's oldest graveyard, there are probably over 200 early American souls buried on Ute Cemetery's plant and mountain-bike trail covered hillside. The City of Aspen wanted to identify the cemetery and yet keep a low profile. To accomplish this, the landscape architects scale and image. Additionally, the landscape architect created a series of small gravel pathways and established a maintenance and operations manual to allow interpretation and to ensure the cemetery was properly maintained after the initial restoration work was completed. A small fence reflecting the character of the historic fence was also designed and installed to mark the site's boundaries. Lastly, a walking brochure was created by the landscape architect to provide an interpretive experience describing the history of the site as well as the rules for use of the property.

Planning And Urban Design - President's Award Of Excellence: Yampa River Management Plan, Steamboat Springs, CO. EDAW, Inc. (Fort Collins, CO)

The Yampa River is a vital element of the Steamboat Springs community. However, increasing recreational demands created the need to develop a management framework to protect the health of this priceless resource. The resulting Yampa River Management Plan represents a joint effort between planners, landscape architects, environmental planners, biologists, the city, the county and the state. This plan reflects significant cooperation among disciplines and citizens in balancing complex issues. The landscape architect/planner coordinated efforts between the city, a citizen's advisory committee and the public; understood local issues; fostered big ideas; pushed the envelope; and

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Announcements

created a plan that respects the river's users and its natural environment.

Rocky Mountain Exposures

trails and urban wildlife. "From Mountains to Plains" emphasizes management of Denver's 14,000 acres of mountain parks as part of a regional natural and recreational system, encouraging intergovernmental partnerships for planning, funding, and managing natural open space.

Planning And Urban Design - Honor Award:
The Game Plan
Wenk Associates, Inc. (Denver, CO)

The Game Plan, has created a compelling physical vision for Denver's public open space system. Its physical vision of "A City in a Park" offers recommendations at three scales, from the immediate neighborhood, to the community, to the surrounding region, emphasizing the connections between them. "Green Neighborhoods" improve street tree canopy cover, provide "breathing spaces" in unlikely places (carriage lots, school yards, the public realm of the street and plaza), and cultivate and preserve natural open space close to where people live. "A Connected City" creates new links between neighborhoods and a strong urban core via a system of "green streets", which retrofit existing infrastructure for pedestrian use. The City's gulches and creeks are woven together as an urban waterway system supporting a 44,500 square mile study area for a new 400 megawatt coal-fired power plant, balancing engineering and operational requirements while minimizing land use and environmental impacts. The project utilized an extensive public involvement process to gain consensus and approval for the facility at the preferred location at multiple community meetings. EDAW demonstrated the use of GIS as an effective planning tool for managing large land areas and comparing common criteria for multiple sites. This helped minimize impacts and resulted in a net present value savings of more than $200 million by identifying sites adjacent to transmission and rail infrastructure.

Planning And Urban Design - Honor Award
Coal Fired Power Plant Site Selection Study, IL, IA, MN, WI. EDAW, Inc. (Denver, CO)

EDAW was tasked with identifying alternative sites within Las Vegas, Nevada. The guidelines instruct developers and designers in every aspect of the design of the landscape, streetscape and buildings in Union Park's 61-acre mixed-use urban village. They will result in a place with environmental sensitivity and human convenience, comfort and delight. This high quality urban environment is intended to achieve an overall LEED objective addressing site-wide and building-specific development. The landscape
ROCKY MOUNTAIN EXPOSURES

This, a significant effort was devoted to sculpting the land and introducing a new order and meaning to an otherwise homogeneous landscape. In addition, the designers utilized their expertise and understanding of plant associations and symbiotic relationships as found in nature, knowledge that was necessary in selecting the species that would later make up the plant palette and aid in establishing a believable order in the final planting design composition.

Residential Design - Honor Award
Blum Residence, Aspen, CO
Design Workshop, Inc. (Denver, CO)

The Blum Residence is located on a high plateau at the upper end of the Roaring Fork Valley. The goal of this design was to create microclimates that reflect landscape topologies found in the Rocky Mountains. Streams, ponds, woodland forest, wildflower meadows and rock outcroppings represent the basic ingredients needed to establish the proposed landscape, and the challenge for the landscape architect was to recreate such microclimates in a semi-arid south facing pasture. To accomplish interest, and the Landscape Architect’s expertise proved invaluable in site layout and detailed design of courtyards, gardens and water features throughout the property.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DHM Design (Denver, CO)
The private residence is located on the 7-acre site of an old tree farm, where many large canopy trees still exist along the perimeter of the property. The Mediterranean style residence, guesthouse, recording studio and horse stable step down the existing hillside overlooking an existing 1/2-acre irrigation pond. The design concept was based upon the need to physically and visually connect the buildings and site amenities with the landscape, while providing large entertainment areas and a variety of smaller intimate private spaces for the owner. The large size of the buildings required outdoor spaces that were grand in scale, detail and...
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American Society of Landscape Architects

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NOTICE OF SOLICITATION
2005 JSR AWARD NOMINATIONS:

The Award Committee of the Jane Silverstein Ries Foundation is soliciting nominations for the 2005 Award. Attached please find a copy of the nomination form. Please duplicate as required, and submit with additional supportive material to Bob Smith, 1390 Lawrence Street, Suite 100 Denver, Colorado 80204, or FAX your information to (303)892-4984. For more information contact Bob Smith (303)892-5566. Deadline: May 26, 2005.

PURPOSE OF THE AWARD:

The Jane Silverstein Ries Award was established in 1983 by the Colorado Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (CCASLA) to recognize the contributions that Jane Silverstein Ries has made over the years to the profession of landscape architecture, and the Colorado community and environment. In 1997 CCASLA established the Jane Silverstein Ries Foundation to sustain the purpose and integrity of the JSR Award into perpetuity.

Each year the award is given to a person, group, or organization that demonstrates a pioneering sense of awareness and stewardship of land use values in the Rocky Mountain region.

After the initial award was presented to Jane Silverstein Ries it was determined to reserve the award for persons outside the profession. Additional criteria for evaluating the applicants includes (a) impact on the Rocky Mountain region, (b) pioneering effort, (c) scope of accomplishment, (d) demonstrated sense of land-use awareness, (e) long-term accomplishment, and (f) compatibility of accomplishments to goals of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS:

1983 Jane Silverstein Ries, CCASLA award first recipient
1984 Joanne Ditter, environmental columnist for the Denver Post
1985 Joe Shoemaker, chairperson, Platte River Greenway Foundation
1986 George Kelly, Rocky Mountain horticulturist
1987 Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs
1988 Colorado Inactive Mine Reclamation Program
1989 Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado
1990 The Nature Conservancy
1991 The Park People
1992 Citizens for Great Outdoors Colorado
1993 Ralph Tripoli, Colorado Department of Transportation
1994 Don and Carolyn Etter
1995 Maggie Fox
1996 Ray plants and the Jefferson County Open Space Program
1997 Tweet Kimball
1998 The Honorable Wellington E. Webb, Mayor City of Denver
1999 Terry Minger
2000 John Fielder, Nature Photographer & Political Activist
2001 Water Conservation Section, Denver Water
2002 Colorado Division: Trust for Public Land
2003 The Larimer County Parks and Open Lands Department
2005
NOMINATION FORM

Nomination For: ________________________ Telephone: ________________________

Address: ______________________________

City/State/Zip: ________________________

Submit to: Jane Silverstein Ries Foundation, c/o Bob Smith, DHM Design, 1390 Lawrence Street, Suite 100, Denver, Colorado 80204 or FAX your nomination to (303) 892-4984. For more information, call Bob Smith, (303) 892-5566.

DEADLINE: May 26, 2005.

In the space provided, describe why the nominee should be considered for this award. Be specific as to their contributions. Please Type. If additional space is needed attach number sheets. Attach any other pertinent information on your nominee.

Nominator's Signature ___________________________ Date: _____________

Typed Name: ___________________________ Telephone: ___________________________

Business or Organization: ___________________________

Address: ___________________________

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