



**Megan Fitzpatrick** is the Director of Preservation and Research at Landmark West! (LW!). Having studied Archaeology and History and obtained a master's degree in World Heritage Management and Conservation in Ireland, Megan turned her focus to historic preservation when she moved to New York in 2022. She has volunteered with cultural heritage conservation organizations in Europe, including an Irish-based nonprofit promoting the craft of dry stone walling in Ireland. In her role at LW!, she pursues her passion for historic preservation with an emphasis on civic participation, local communities, and sustainable development.

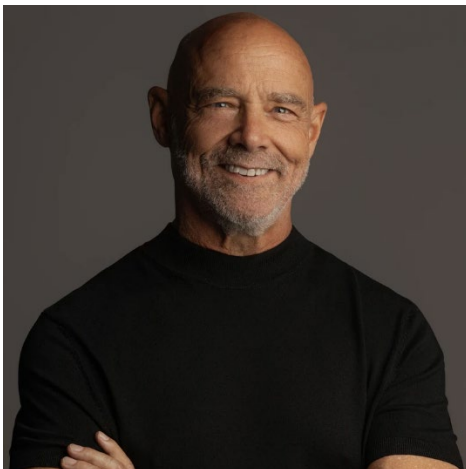


**Ron Henderson** is a landscape architect and educator. He is founding principal of LIRIO Landscape Architecture where his work - including CityWalk Providence, Gardens of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Elizabethan Theater at Chateau d'Hardelot, and China Pavilion Roof Garden at the 2010 Shanghai Expo - has been widely recognized in North America, Europe, and Asia. His work with Japanese master gardeners and indigenous Japanese horticulture techniques has conserved legacy trees at Roger Williams Park (Providence, RI), Pennsylvania State University, the Alfred Caldwell Farm, the US National Arboretum, the US Capitol Grounds and Arboretum, and the Library of Congress. He is well-known for his botanical sketchbooks and Sakura Orihon, the exhibition of his Japanese cherry blossom sketchbooks at the United States National Arboretum, received the ASLA Honor Award for Communication. Henderson has held academic appointments at Rhode Island School of Design, Tsingua University, Pennsylvania State University and he is currently Professor of Landscape Architecture + Urbanism at Illinois Institute of Technology where he also serves as the Inaugural Director of Research for the university's Alphawood Arboretum. He is the author of the books *The Gardens of Suzhou* and *30 Trees* and co-translator of the seminal book *Analysis of the Traditional Chinese Garden*.



**Mitchell Silver** is an award-winning planner with over 40 years of experience. He is internationally recognized for his leadership and contributions to contemporary planning issues. Mitchell is a prolific public speaker and strategic advisor specializing in urban planning, parks, placemaking, and implementation strategies. Known by his colleagues as a passionate communicator, creative thinker, problem-solver, and visionary leader, he has been at the center of many cutting-edge trends, transformative solutions, and visionary plans in the United States and abroad. Mitchell served as Commissioner of the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, a principal at McAdams, Chief Planning Officer in Raleigh, NC, president of the American Planning Association, the American Institute of Certified Planners, and president/co-chair of the City Parks Alliance.

Mitchell is one of the nation's most celebrated urban thinkers. He was selected to Planetizen's (PLAN-NET-TI-ZEN) list of the 100 Most Influential Urbanists in the world. In addition, he has been honored as one of the top 100 City Innovators in the world by UBM Future Cities, and the *Urban Times* named him one of the top international thought leaders of the built environment. He taught urban planning at Harvard University's School of Design. He is currently a Professor of Practice at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



**Spencer Tunnell** began his private practice in landscape architecture in 1988. In addition to tackling all aspects of contemporary design, his firm has specialized in historic restoration for projects as diverse as the Nathaniel Russell house in Charleston, the Peters House for SCAD in Atlanta, Philip Shutze's Boxwood Garden at Swan House, the 1959 modernist landscape designed by Edward Daugherty for architect Cecil Alexander, and the Shutze designed Goodrum House landscape for the Watson-Brown Foundation.

From 1998-2002, the firm developed a Master Plan and three phases of implementation for the Atlanta Botanical Garden. Since 1998, Spencer has worked on the implementation of the rehabilitation of the Olmsted Linear Park in Druid Hills. In March 2012, the project was awarded the Marguerite Williams Award, the top honor awarded by the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation.

Spencer is the past chair of the Atlanta Urban Design Commission, has taught at the College of Environment and Design at the University of Georgia and Georgia State University. Spencer has collaborated on a number of books, including Olmsted's Linear Park (with co-author Jennifer Richardson) and Architecture of the Last Colony: Georgia's Historic Places, 1733-2000 for the Georgia Trust. Spencer is the 2025 recipient of the Clermont H. Lee Georgia Award, the highest honor given by the Georgia Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects.