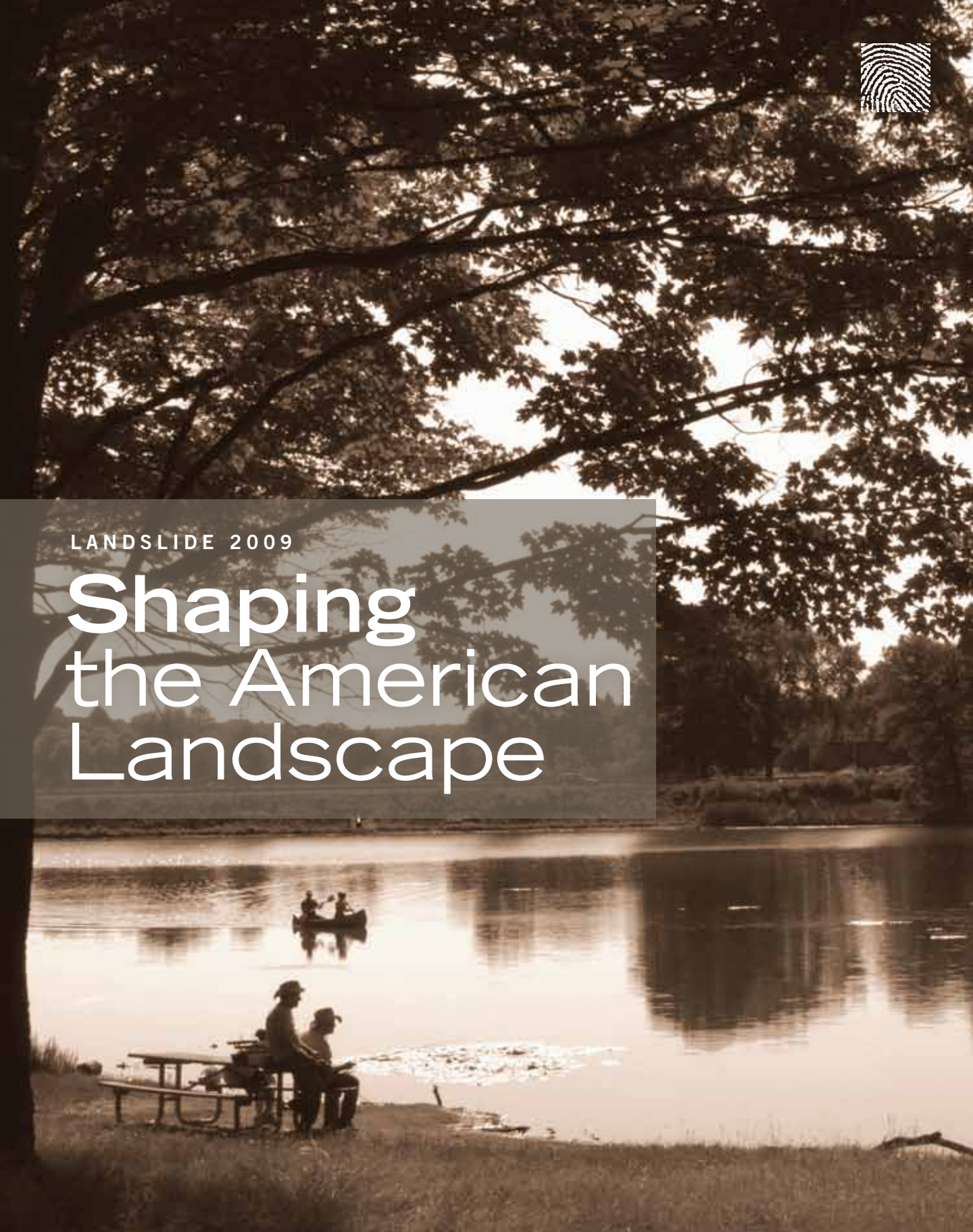
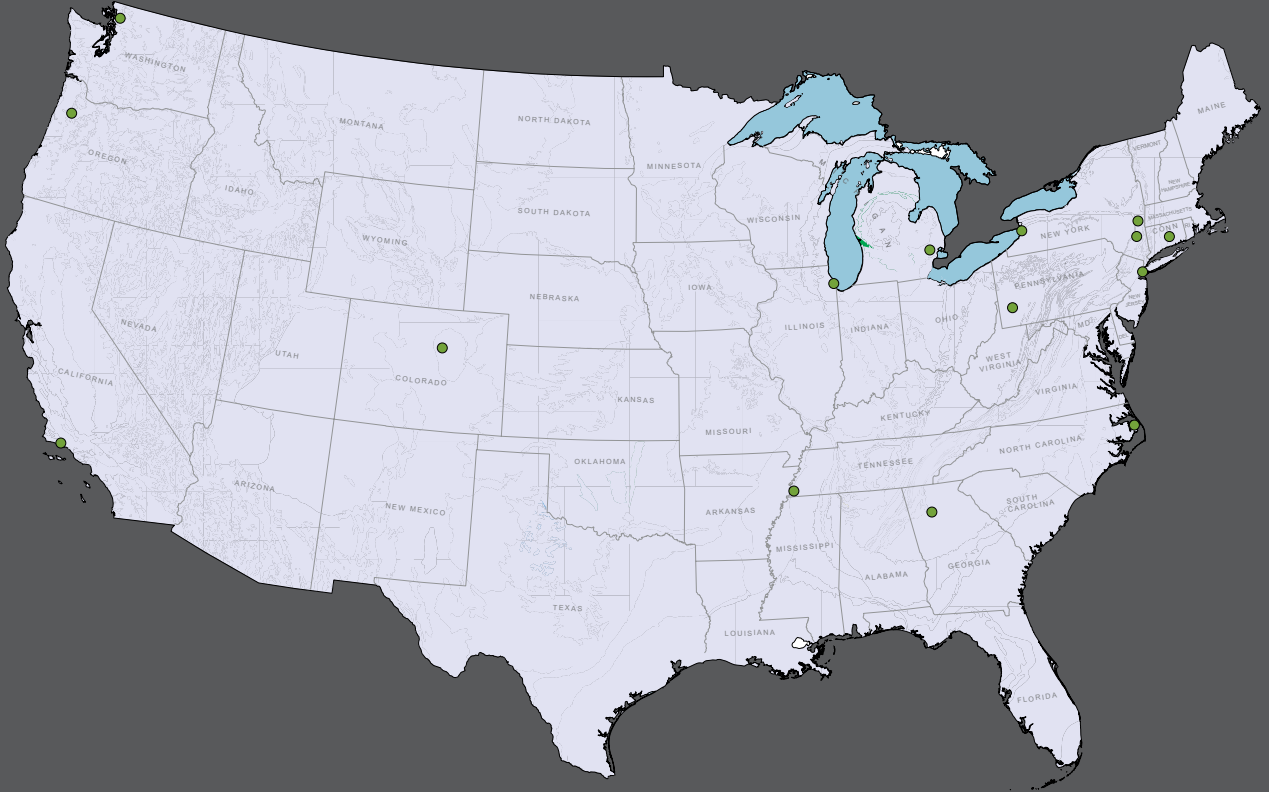




LANDSLIDE 2009

# Shaping the American Landscape





## Landslide 2009 Sites

### **16th Street Mall**

Denver, CO

### **City of Hartford Parks System**

Hartford, CT

### **The Elizabethan Gardens**

Manteo, NC

### **Lord and Schryver Legacy**

Salem, OR

### **North and South Parks**

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### **Santa Barbara Botanic Garden**

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### **Scripps Estate**

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### **Washington Park**

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### **Washington Square Village**

New York, NY

### **Wilderstein**

Rhinebeck, NY

# Shaping the American Landscape

The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF) established the annual *Landslide* program in 2002 to focus attention on culturally significant landscapes at risk for alteration or destruction. This year, to reach and inspire an ever-expanding audience, TCLF weds our *Pioneers of American Landscape Design* publication series and annual *Landslide* initiative.

Organized under the theme, *Shaping the American Landscape*, this year's program shines a spotlight on great places designed by seminal and regionally influential landscape figures, which are threatened with change. These estate gardens, public plazas, institutional grounds, park systems, and cemetery designs have influenced our country's collective landscape legacy. With this latest *Landslide* effort, these landscapes vividly come alive, with stories of those pioneering individuals who created them and those championing their survival today.



## Newly Released!

Spanning 250 years of design, the book *Shaping the American Landscape* (University of Virginia Press) explores the lives and work of 149 professionals who shaped both the land itself and our ideas of what the American landscape means.

Order Your Copy at [www.tclf.org](http://www.tclf.org)



Photos © Harry Zernike

New York, NY

# Washington Square Village

Designed by: Sasaki Walker & Associates

The 1 ½-acre roof garden at Washington Square Village, sited between two 17-story apartment buildings housing more than 1,200 families, serves as an oasis of nature within the busy Greenwich Village area of New York City. Completed in 1959, the design is an early project for two great masters of the Modern movement that displays an exceptional harmony of architecture, landscape architecture, and art. Today, the modernist design is threatened by the current owner's proposal to insert a series of buildings, ranging from five to twenty stories, into the garden spaces.

Hartford, CT

# City of Hartford Parks System

Designed by: Charles Eliot, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., John Charles Olmsted, Jacob Weidenmann, and Theodore Wirth

Hartford is not only blessed with the first municipal park (Bushnell Park, 1854) and first municipal rose garden (Elizabeth Park, 1904) in America, it also boasts an unrivaled legacy of parks and boulevards that span several decades of involvement of all three Olmsteds, ranging from small-scale squares and greens (Barnard Park, c1865) to large-scale municipal works such as Keney Park (1896), the 693-acre career capstone of Charles Eliot's tenure with the Olmsted office. Today, with diminished municipal funds, these parks are dying a quiet death.

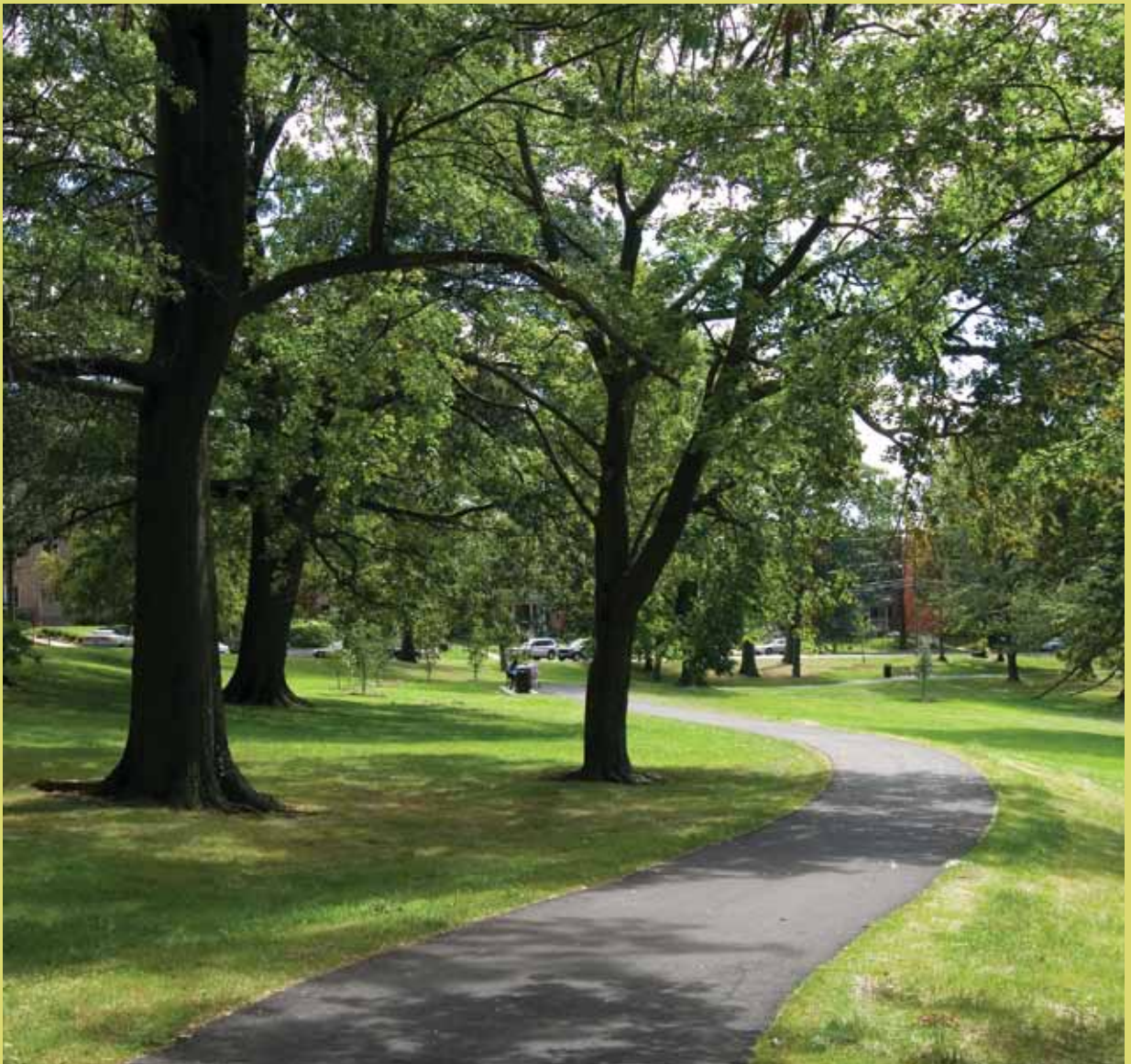


Photo © John Groo, courtesy City of Hartford



Atlanta, GA

## Oakland Cemetery

In 1850, the City of Atlanta purchased six acres on the edge of its city limits to serve as a public burial ground for a young, but fast-growing town of 2,500 citizens. Designed as an alternative to traditional and often crowded church graveyards, Oakland was meant to provide comfort to the bereaved as well as a space for passive enjoyment for local residents. In 2008, a devastating tornado toppled centuries-old trees and monuments and, while the cemetery has again opened to visitors as a public park and heritage tourism destination, much work remains.

See also *Riverside Cemetery*

Photos by (top) Dinny Addison and (left) Kevin Kuharic, courtesy Historic Oakland Foundation  
(Opposite) Photo by Brian Faix, courtesy Richardson Center Corporation

Buffalo, NY

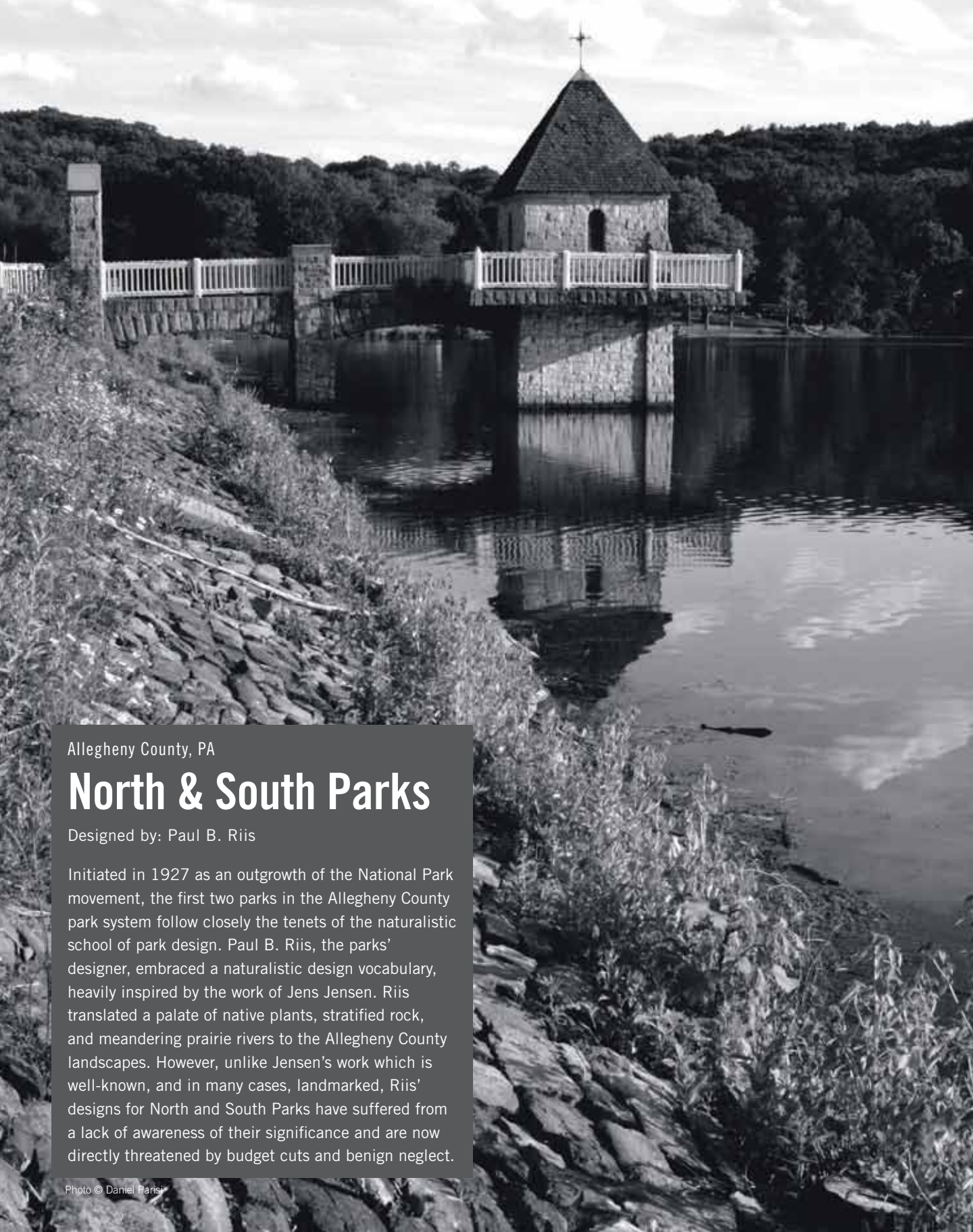
# Richardson Olmsted Complex

Designed by: Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., H.H. Richardson, and Calvert Vaux

Completed in 1890 as the Buffalo State Asylum for the Insane, The Richardson Olmsted Complex was a partnership between noted architect H.H. Richardson and landscape architects Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux. The complex, with its signature Gothic towers, became a National Historic Landmark in 1986. However, after decades of programmatic downsizing and benign neglect, supporters now hope to rejuvenate the site.

*See also **Northern State Hospital***





Allegheny County, PA

## North & South Parks

Designed by: Paul B. Riis

Initiated in 1927 as an outgrowth of the National Park movement, the first two parks in the Allegheny County park system follow closely the tenets of the naturalistic school of park design. Paul B. Riis, the parks' designer, embraced a naturalistic design vocabulary, heavily inspired by the work of Jens Jensen. Riis translated a palate of native plants, stratified rock, and meandering prairie rivers to the Allegheny County landscapes. However, unlike Jensen's work which is well-known, and in many cases, landmarked, Riis' designs for North and South Parks have suffered from a lack of awareness of their significance and are now directly threatened by budget cuts and benign neglect.



Denver, CO

# 16th Street Mall

Designed by: Hanna/Olin and I.M. Pei and Partners

Denver, like many American cities, suffered a severe economic decline during the 1970s as businesses and residents moved to the suburbs. As a remedy, Denver initiated a massive revitalization effort with construction of the 16th Street Mall. Designed with custom paving and street furniture, the Mall was meant to provide an inviting pedestrian thoroughfare and connect two of the city's most prominent Modern designs, Zeckendorf Plaza and Skyline Park. Today, of these three landmarks, only the Mall remains and current recommendations to rehabilitate the site threaten to irreversibly change this historic landscape.



Photos courtesy (top) Ann Mullins and (above) OLIN



Photo courtesy William E. Scripps Estate

Lake Orion, MI

# Scripps Estate

Designed by: Bryant Fleming

William E. Scripps founded his estate as a working farm in 1916. Ten years later, when he undertook construction of the main house, Scripps hired Bryant Fleming to design nearly 75 acres of natural and formal gardens that incorporated his conservation-minded plans for the larger estate. With a supportive and wealthy patron, Fleming, a renowned landscape architect of the Country Place Era, was able to integrate the most refined elements of his design vocabulary. Today, a lack of understanding of the site's origins has led to inconsistent and sometimes misguided maintenance, threatening the site's integrity.

Santa Barbara, CA

# Santa Barbara Botanic Garden

Designed by: Elizabeth de Forest, Lockwood de Forest, Jr., and Beatrix Farrand

One of the first botanic gardens in America to be planted solely with native plants, the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden's design and plant palette represent a unique collaboration between Lockwood de Forest, Jr. and Beatrix Farrand. In addition to the site specific work at the garden, Lockwood and his wife Elizabeth de Forest popularized the ideas and experiments taking place at the garden in their publication, *The Santa Barbara Gardener*. Proposed alterations to the historic core of the garden now threaten to irreversibly destroy this design legacy.

Photo courtesy Paulina Conn





Photos courtesy (top) the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site, National Park Service and (above) Chicago Park District

Chicago, IL

## Washington Park

Designed by: H.W.S. Cleveland, Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., and Calvert Vaux

The extensive South Park System in Chicago was designed by Olmsted and Vaux and constructed under the supervision of H.W.S. Cleveland. A cornerstone of that system, Washington Park, was laid out in 1871 and is considered one of the great “country parks” designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. along with Central and Prospect Park in New York and Franklin Park in Boston. However, if Chicago is successful in its bid to host the 2016 Olympics, 100 acres of meadow landscape could be developed as an 80,000-seat stadium.

Salem, OR

# Lord and Schryver Legacy

Designed by: Elizabeth Lord and Edith Schryver

As principals of the first professional, woman-owned practice in the Pacific Northwest, Elizabeth Lord and Edith Schryver encouraged propagation of new plant varieties by working with local growers to introduce many East Coast plant species into the Northwest. The resulting subtle, but distinctly regional plant palette influenced the work of countless designers. Today, their legacy is threatened by a lack of awareness of their significant contributions to the landscape architecture profession.



Photos courtesy Lord and Schryver Conservancy



Hudson, NY

# Olana

Designed by: Frederic E. Church and Calvert Vaux

The eminent Hudson River School painter Frederic Edwin Church designed his family home and studio in collaboration with Calvert Vaux. The result is a remarkable melding of Persian architecture, integrating much of the artist's own work and embracing unrivaled panoramic views of the vast Hudson Valley. Unfortunately, recent winter storms have decimated the estate's mature tree canopy, leaving many trees and significant portions of the under plantings vulnerable to disease and infestation.

See also ***Wilderstein***

See more online...  
[www.tclf.org/landslide](http://www.tclf.org/landslide)



Memphis, TN

## Overton Park

Designed by: George E. Kessler and Lawrence Sheridan



Manteo, NC

## The Elizabethan Gardens

Designed by: Innocenti and Webel



Denver, CO

## Riverside Cemetery



Rhinebeck, NY

## Wilderstein

Designed by: Calvert Vaux and Downing Vaux



Sedro Woolley, WA

## Northern State Hospital

Designed by: Olmsted Brothers



## The Cultural Landscape Foundation

established in 1998, is the only not-for-profit foundation in America dedicated to increasing the public's awareness of the important legacy of cultural landscapes and to helping save them for the future.

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