



# THE PALIMPSEST

ALLIANCE FOR  
HISTORIC  
LANDSCAPE  
PRESERVATION

CONSERVING CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

THE  
SUMMER  
ISSUE  
2020



# AHLP President's Message



*Dear valued members of  
The Alliance for Historic  
Landscape Preservation,*

I hope that this message finds you and yours well, and that you have found ways to adapt to all the changes caused by the global COVID-19 pandemic. For those of you whom I have not had the pleasure to meet, I am the incoming president of the AHLP and a faculty member in the School of Environmental Design and Rural Planning at the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada. While I am a fairly recent member of the Alliance, joining the board of the AHLP in 2016 during our annual meeting in Chicago, my interests in landscape history and the conservation of cultural landscapes extends back almost twenty years in professional practice, teaching, and scholarly work.

My sincerest gratitude goes to our outgoing president Brenda Williams, whose thoughtful and passionate leadership of the AHLP serves as inspiration for my tenure. I would like to also recognize Brenda for her recent lifetime achievement award issued by the Wisconsin State Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects. Recognition from one's peers is a significant and meaningful accolade. Congratulations Brenda for an award well earned!

As members of the AHLP, you may start to notice some changes in how we communicate with you. We are in the process of a substantial renovation of our website ([www.ahlp.org](http://www.ahlp.org)) and thanks to the dedicated efforts of Gina Chorover and others, we will be implementing new membership management software that will not only simplify membership renewals, but we hope will also create a sense of shared community for alliance members. Please take a moment to read Gina's piece about this membership platform within the newsletter.

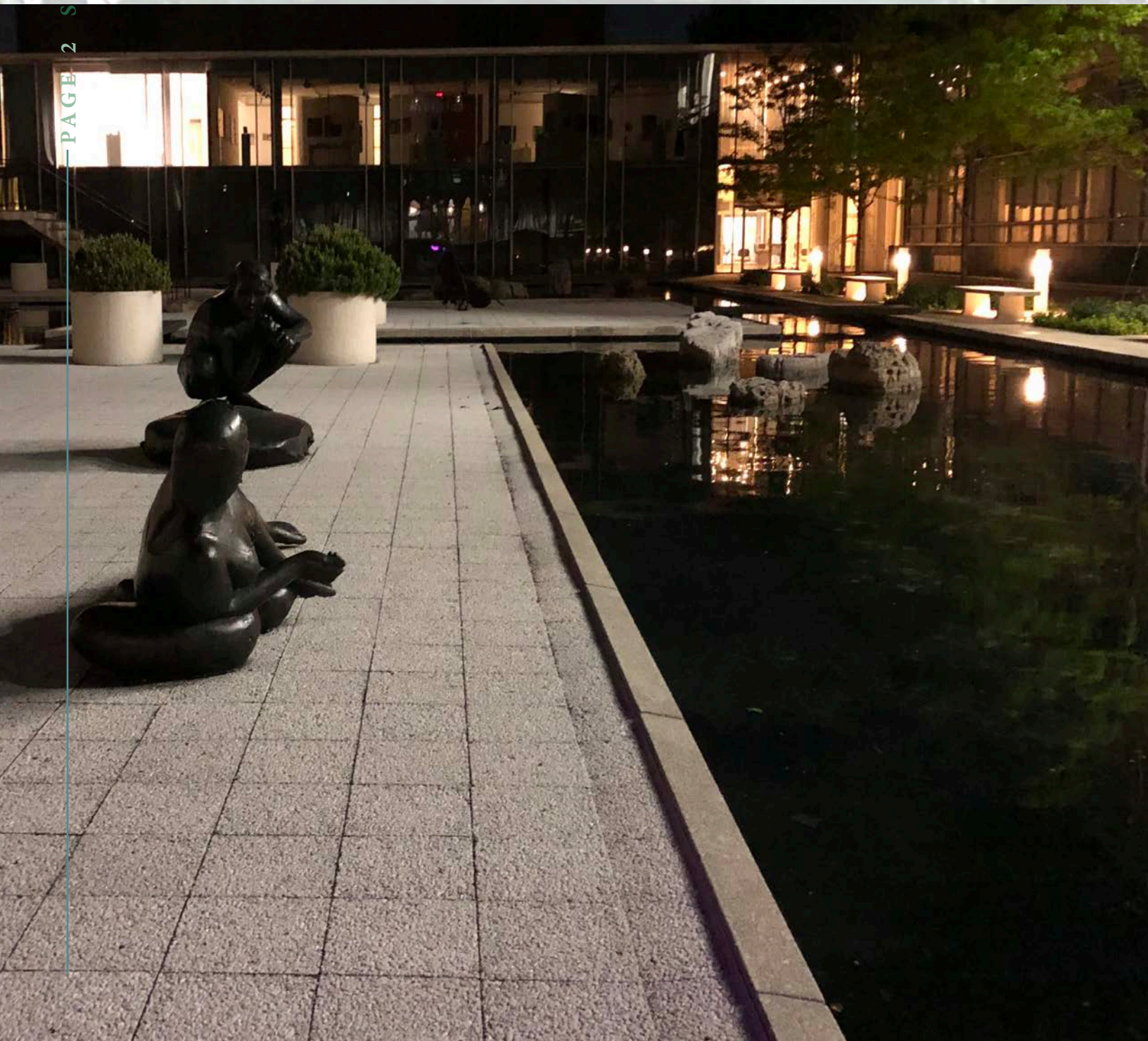
At the early stages of the Coronavirus outbreak, the Board of Directors for the Alliance had to make the difficult decision whether or not to hold our annual meeting slated for Natchitoches,

Louisiana in March 2020. As many of you who have planned a conference know, the canceling of an annual meeting is disheartening and a difficult decision. Our deepest thanks go to Deborah Dietrich-Smith of the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training in the National Park Service for her efforts in planning the conference, and for her patience, understanding, and willingness to consider hosting the conference in Natchitoches in 2021. We have not yet set a date, as we are monitoring conditions and do not yet have clarity on when it will be safe for our members to gather. We are considering on-line options as well and will communicate as soon as we have a firm message to share. Once that is the case, we will issue a limited call for papers, allowing the selected presenters from the canceled 2020 annual meeting the right of first refusal for 2021. We believe that this is the fairest way that we can both accommodate those of you who submitted and were selected to present for 2020, and still allow for some additional presentation opportunities for 2021.

The COVID-19 pandemic has served as a harsh mirror, reflecting the lived realities of our increasingly fragmented society. The international protests in support of Black Lives Matter, the forced removal of protestors from Lafayette Square in Washington D.C., and the toppling of monuments to the Confederacy are all indications of the critical conversations that must occur regarding social inequities and the right to public space. Important historic and culturally significant landscapes, contested or not, reveal how we understand who we are and what we value. Now is the time for engagement with the built environment and I encourage you to find the time and energy for such important professional activities. For an intriguing example of this work, please refer to Angelina Jones' overview regarding the segregation walls in Arlington County, Virginia in this newsletter.

Wishing you the very best during these difficult times,

*Dr. Martin Holland*







# ANNUAL MEETING 2019

## DETROIT, MICHIGAN



The Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation: Conserving Cultural Landscapes met for its 2019 Annual Conference in Detroit, Michigan from 23-25 May 2019.

The theme of the conference was "Detroit as a Cultural Landscape Palimpsest." We immersed ourselves in a wide range of cultural landscapes to understand the city's – and the region's – rich history.

The group spent three days together at events, site visits, and presentations, focused on cultural landscapes throughout the city. We learned how the City of Detroit is addressing dramatic demographic and economic change through innovative approaches to create a positive, resilient future, while embracing, celebrating, and preserving cultural heritage. Following the palimpsest theme, the Detroit landscapes were viewed each day through the lens of a different time span.

We learned of the importance of the Detroit region to Indigenous communities, and ways current

Indigenous Peoples are continuing relationships with the landscape. The Honorable Grand Chief Ted Roll of the Wyandotte of Anderdon Nation, and Joshua Garcia, Wyandotte Nation Youth-Intern Ambassador, introduced us to the land of the Anishinabeg (First People). Representing the voices of Indigenous communities directly associated with the area, they led visits to, and taught us about, Wyandot sites.

Scott Bentley, Superintendent of the River Raisin National Battlefield Park, took us on a journey beginning in the early seventeenth century (and the Iroquoian Wars) to the establishment of New France (in 1671) and its implications in what is now the Detroit area. The landscape's abundant natural resources and strategic location proved vital to the eighteenth century fur trade economy and to subsequent European settlement. Fort Detroit became a contested territory between French, British, and American armies and their Indigenous allies. Vestiges of war, removal of Indigenous Peoples, European settlement, and development, remain in the landscape.

Tom Berlucchi (Chairman, Historic Fort Wayne Coalition) and Jim Conway (Manager Historic Fort Wayne, City of Detroit) led us on a visit of historic Fort Wayne.

To establish the geopolitical 'baseline' for the conference, Paul Sewick presented an overview of "The Inception of Detroit's Grid." He explained the eighteenth century ribbon farms, the arrival of the US government (read 'army'), and the establishment of Fort Detroit in 1796. He then told us of the plan for Detroit initiated by Augustus B. Woodward, a unified system of diagonal streets and grand public circles laid out in a symmetrical pattern, effectively the organizational system of the city today. His well-researched blog, Detroit Urbanism, is excellent (check it out here: <http://detroiturbanism.blogspot.com>). We walked part of the grid with historian Ruth Mills, visiting iconic buildings, lively urban parks, and inspirational alleys along the way, then headed to Frederick Law Olmsted's Belle Isle. There we learned of the Olmsted designed public park that encompasses

the entire island and visited the conservatory and the aquarium.

Community historian and activist Jamon Jordan took us to several sites north of Midtown, explaining early city policies that limited opportunities for minority citizens and eventually led to a rebellion in 1967. We visited the neighborhood where Motown was born, in a home that is part of a cluster of businesses run in residences by minority owners, to circumvent discriminatory past city ordinances. The area is slated for nomination to the National Register as a historic district.

The history of the automobile industry is tangible in Detroit landscapes. Although we did not have time to connect with the wide range of industry-related sites, we visited the Ford Piquette Plant where we learned about the origins of the automobile. An optional tour took us to Fair Lane, the home of Henry and Clara Ford, where the estate landscape on the Rouge River was designed by landscape architect Jens Jensen.



# ANNUAL MEETING 2019

## DETROIT MICHIGAN

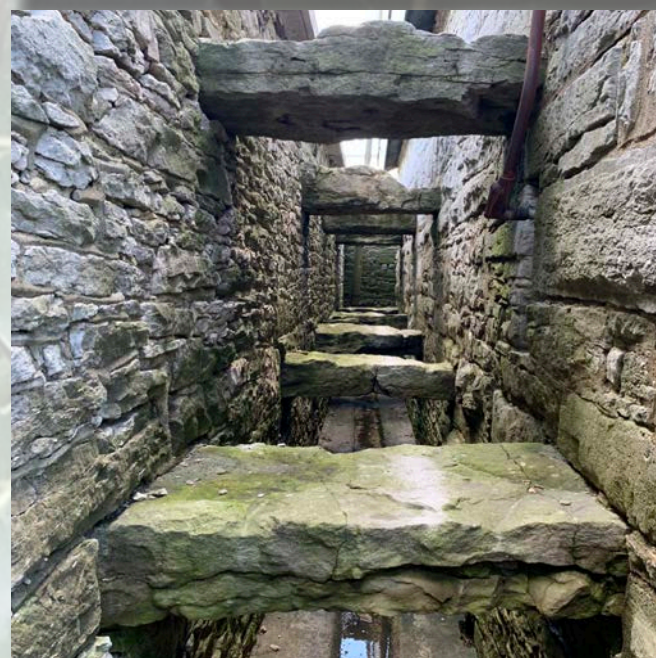
Our focus on the third and final day of the conference looked toward the future as we learned about planning, design, and actions underway to prepare Detroit for an inspiring future. Michael Johnson spoke to us about the focus of planning on Detroit's neighborhoods. We visited the Fitzgerald neighborhood where community organizers introduced us to the new Ella Fitzgerald Park and other work occurring to enhance the neighborhood, including the new community center Neighborhood HomeBase.

Maura Rockcastle, ASLA, and Kemba Braynon, AIA, provided an on-site overview of two of the finalist proposals for the DIA Plaza and Midtown Cultural Connections competition. Kristen Nyht, AIA, introduced us to the exciting work of the Ford Company at Michigan Central Station and the Ford Corktown Campus. We then proceeded to Lafayette Park, the Midcentury Modern National Historic Landmark development designed by Mies van der Rohe, Alfred Caldwell, and Ludwig Hilberseimer.

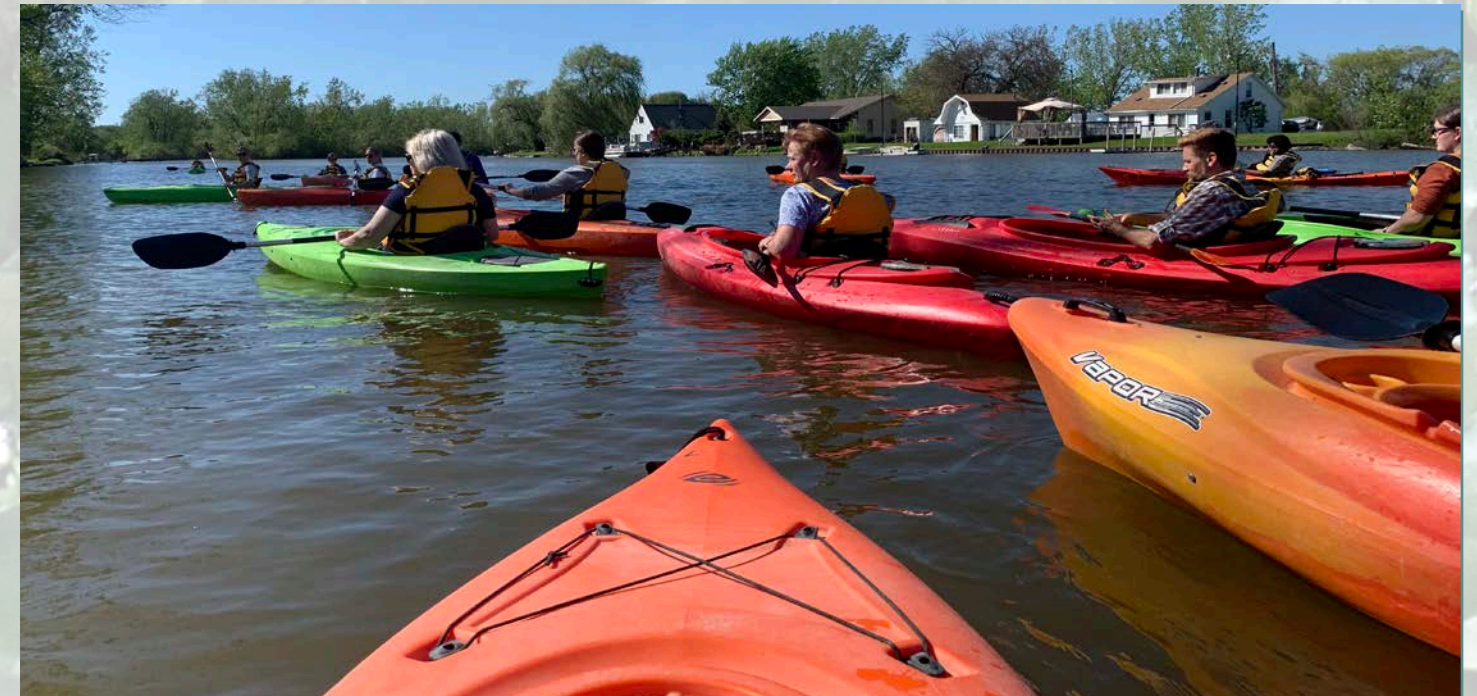
Our meetings were held at the McGregor Memorial Conference Center, a stunning National Historic Landmark designed by architect Minoru Yamasaki. The building is set in a landscape framed by terraces and a recently restored reflecting pool. It is on the campus of Wayne State University, in the heart of Detroit's

Midtown neighborhood. Dr. Dale Gyure led the group on a walking tour of the campus focused on buildings and spaces of significance.

We kicked off the conference at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History ([www.thewright.org](http://www.thewright.org)) and finished our time in Detroit with a lovely banquet at the Cadieux Cafe where we experienced Flemish culture with traditional food and Feather Bowling ([www.cadieuxcafe.com](http://www.cadieuxcafe.com)). We will all have fond memories of our time together in Detroit for a long time to come.



The star-fort walls at Historic Fort Wayne are double-reinforced and quite impressive.



Alliance members paddled to view a remnant segment of corduroy road at the Hulls Trace Unit of River Raisin National Battlefield Park.



Mies van der Rohe's townhouse and Alfred Caldwell's landscape at Lafayette Park.



Formal gardens and Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory at Belle Isle Park.



Joshua Garcia, Wyandotte Nation Youth-Intern Ambassador, introduced us to the land of the Anishinabeg (First People)



# DORNA ESHRATI



## Meet our 2019 Student Scholar

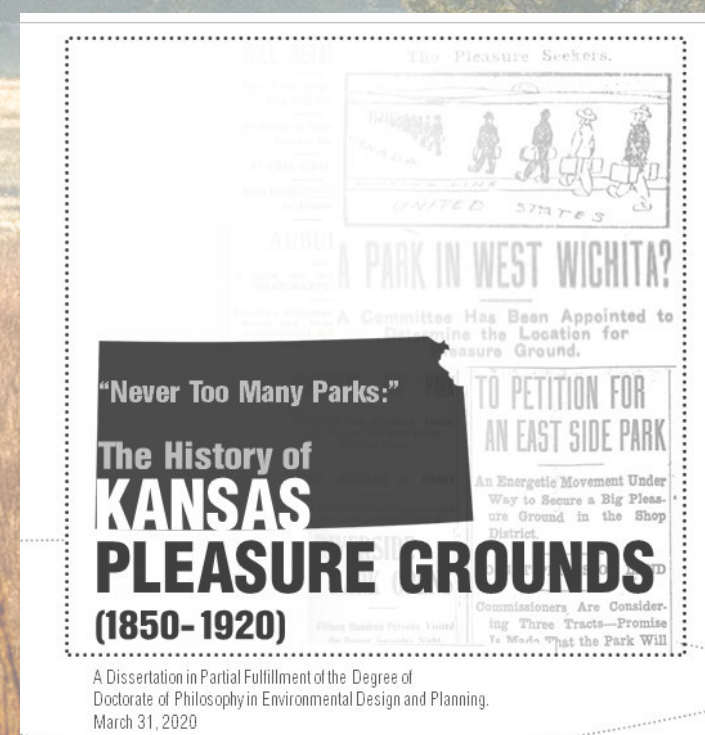
Dorna Eshrati was the recipient of the AHLP student scholarship in 2019. She shared her Ph.D. research on the history of the 19th century public parks, known as “pleasure grounds,” in Kansas. In Spring 2020, Dorna received her Ph.D. in Environmental Design and Planning from the College of Architecture, Planning and Design at Kansas State University. In August, she started a new position as an assistant professor in Landscape Architecture at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana.

The full text of her dissertation entitled “Never too many parks”: The history of Kansas pleasure grounds (1850-1920) can found at <https://krex.k-state.edu/dspace/handle/2097/40547>

## PRESENTATION HIGHLIGHTS

The opening of Birkenhead Park in Liverpool, England as the first urban park accessible for all classes of people, rural cemeteries with passive green recreational spaces, and the design of New York’s Central Park were the driving forces of the nineteenth-century pleasure ground movement in North America. The movement first attracted attention in major cities of the east coast where the rural pastoral landscapes of the pleasure grounds were a response to the challenges of living in dense urban environments. Modeled after New York’s Central Park, visitors to nineteenth-century pleasure grounds could enjoy fresh air and recreational activities such as strolling, picnicking, listening to concerts, and boating. For residents of smaller towns in newly-established states such as Kansas, these places were a symbol of modernity and civilization and were widely embraced. Pleasure grounds also helped to boost Kansans’ sense of pride in their cities and generate economic revenues. Newspapers, city officials, businesses – most notably railroad companies, property owners, and other public-spirited citizens, were the main advocates of creating and improving parks in Kansas in the nineteenth century.

Despite different motives, the pleasure grounds of Kansas and those of the east coast had almost the same characteristics and hosted the same kind of leisure activities, sports, and community gatherings. Their pastoral picturesque landscapes had meandering walkways and allées surrounded by groves of trees, meadows, shrubberies, flowerbeds, lakes, and rivers. They were equipped with amenities including bathhouses, bathing



beaches, baseball diamonds, bicycle race tracks, dance pavilions, children’s playgrounds, outdoor auditoriums, and animal exhibits or zoos. These amenities were accessible by foot, public transportation, and later private automobiles. Such spaces and features of pleasure grounds have remained relevant since the nineteenth century and are still being enjoyed in today’s city parks. And that is why Kansans “never breed regrets” for creating “too many parks.”

This study aimed to highlight Kansans’ extraordinary effort in shaping their living environment and bring attention to the rich but often neglected history of man-made landscapes in Kansas. Throughout the time this research was done, many people expressed

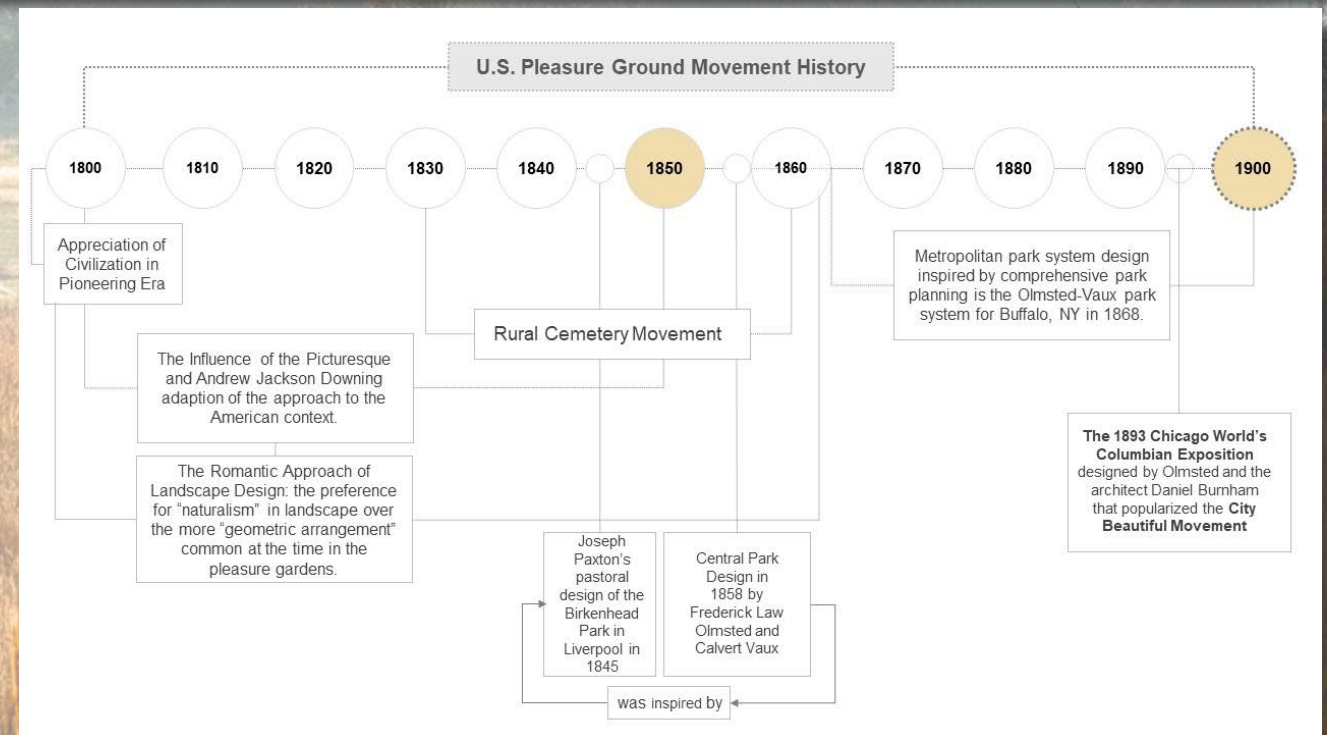
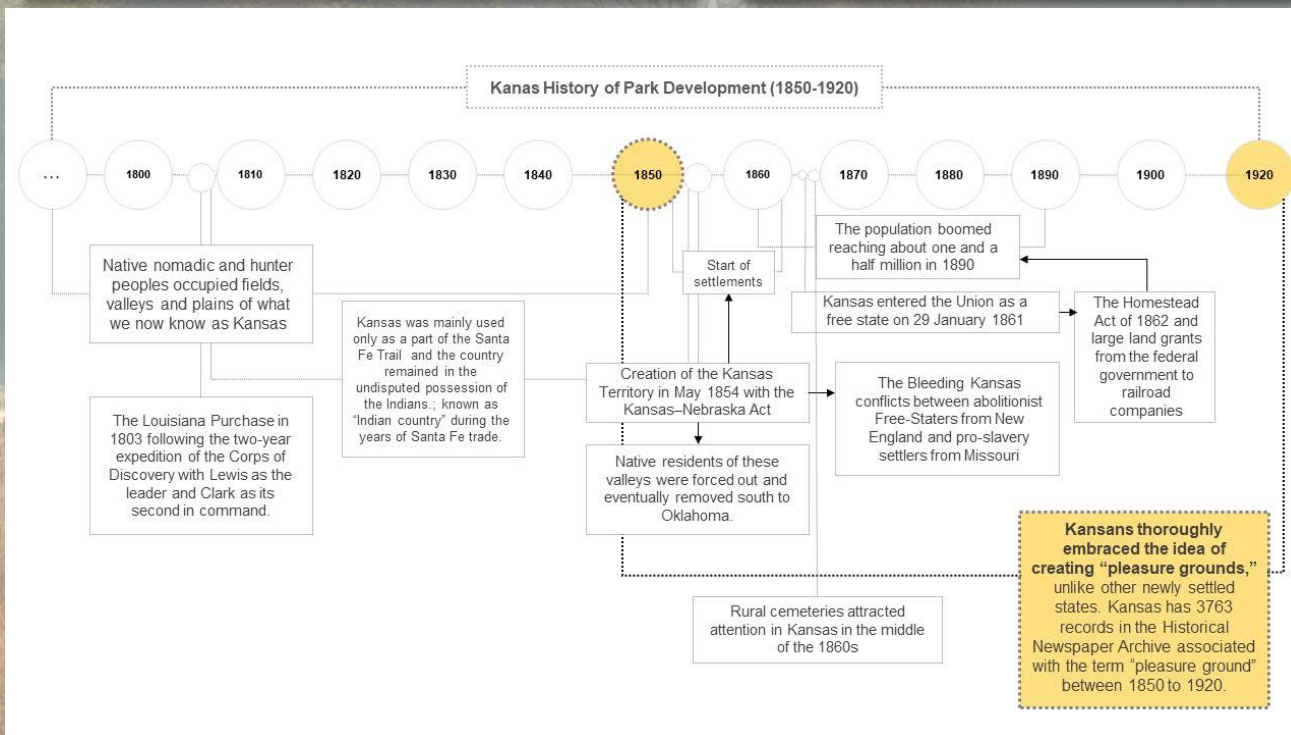


surprise at the choice of Kansas as a case study for historical research on designed landscapes. A typical reaction was wide eyes and hesitantly questioning “why Kansas?” They ask because today’s parks do not look particularly special or remarkable. However, the results of this study show the unexpected richness of designed landscapes and people’s eagerness to make Kansas cities and towns beautiful through the nineteenth-century park movement. It is hoped that this research will be the start of a shift in attitudes toward our less represented landscapes and help to realize a day when people would not only say but firmly believe “why not Kansas?”

Every landscape matters. As academics and professionals, we should act upon the concept of inclusion and promote underrepresented landscapes through design, research, and community engagement. Such efforts can help stimulate a change in our stereotypical images of underrepresented places, making them prized locations for travel and living, boosting local people’s sense of attachment, and making small towns and cities again a source of pride for their residents.

## Pleasure grounds of the 19<sup>th</sup> century were

“vast landscapes of alternating trees and meadows, undulating hills, slowly meandering waterways, and broad reflecting pools – an idealized agrarian scene, orderly but without the fussy decorations of architecture, sculpture, or flower beds, where sedate family and church groups could stroll, picnic, listen to concerts, go boating” and where people could enjoy “fresh air . . . and sunshine right in the city to alleviate the problems of city life” (Cranz, 1982).





# MADDIE CLARK



## Meet our 2019 Student Scholar

When she joined us in Detroit in 2019, Maddie was a landscape architecture student at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. Since then she has gone on to become an Undergraduate Olmsted Scholar Finalist and now works at Design Workshop in Chicago, Illinois. Her interests lie in researching and spatially analyzing how historical shifts in policy, economics, and technology affect our environments and how we can invite new infrastructure models that empower human and non-human communities.

## PRESENTATION HIGHLIGHTS

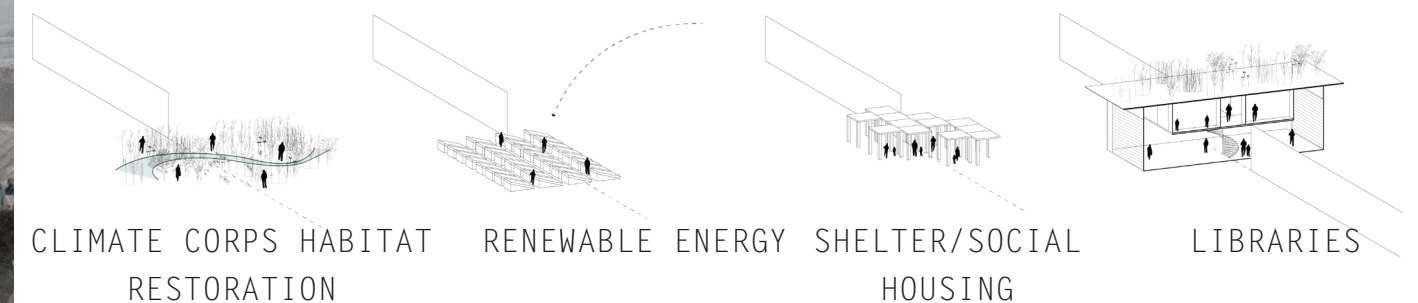
Maddie's presentation focused on a work in progress entitled "Understanding Contested Space: Analysis of the Sand Diego-Tijuana Border Region." The project questions what happens when infrastructure is equated with politics and power. This project was driven by two main questions: How does politicized infrastructure impact the utility and quality of space within a region?; and How do these politicized spaces drive the cultural narrative?

This project understands these landscapes through their constant evolution under political pressures. It is important to study this evolution and question spatial repercussions of a narrative driven by a conflict between two nations. Examination of the effects of infrastructure along the US/Mexico border provides insights that equate peace with security, conflict, and disparity. The disrupted dialogue between the two nations has shifted and disturbed the social and ecological systems of the region around the border. The project spatially analyzed and represented how these systems are disrupted on a series of different scales.

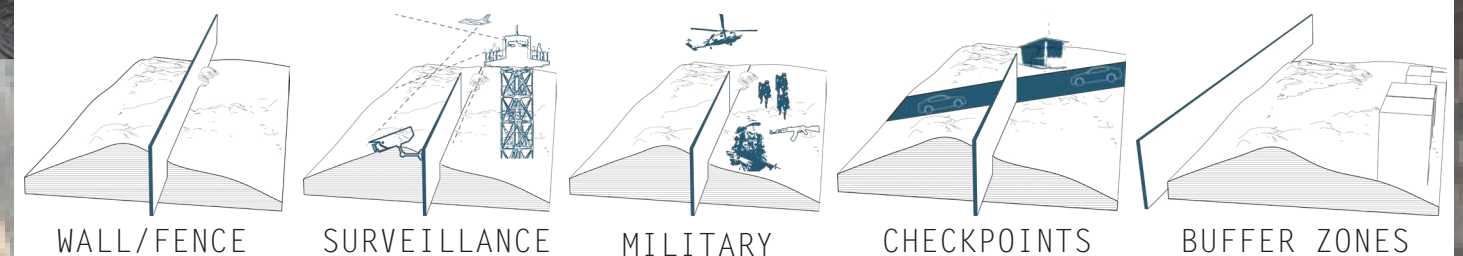
The result is a speculative solution that questions what would happen if we implemented a new set of infrastructure typologies that embrace the constant flux between two sides. In doing so, we invite new sets of relationships that go beyond borders to build a shared experience and future for the region.

# STATELESSNESS

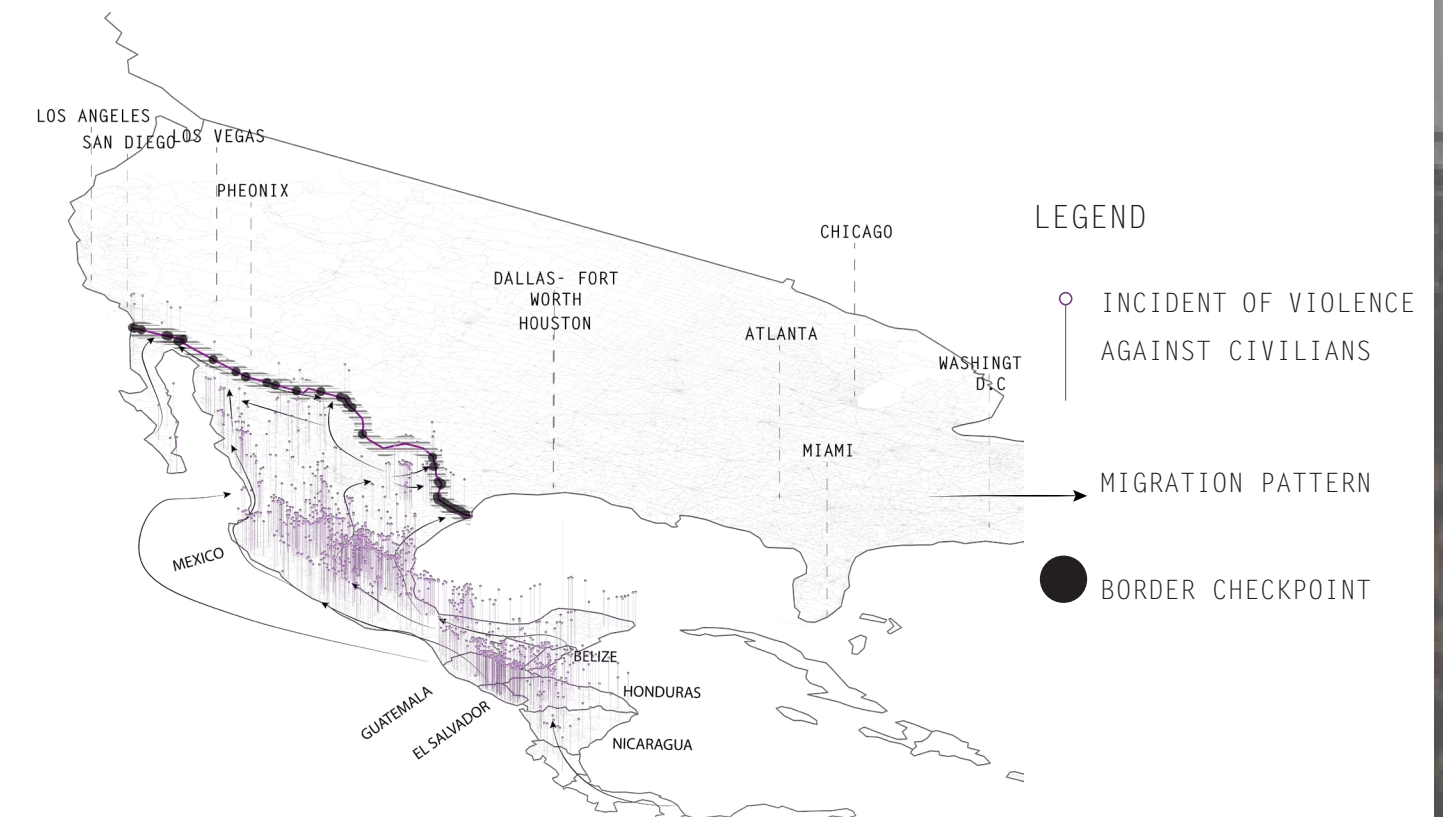
## NEW INFRASTRUCTURE TYPOLOGIES:



## CONFLICT INFRASTRUCTURES



## VIOLENCE AGAINST CIVILIANS AND MIGRATION PATTERNS IN CENTRAL AMERICA IN 2019





# WORK IN PROGRESS HIGHLIGHT

## Identifying and Preserving 20th Century Segregation Barriers in Arlington Co., VA Angelina R. Jones

The early- and mid-20th century evolution of Arlington County's landscape from rural to suburban was marred by the practice of racial segregation. In Arlington, segregation was enforced through Jim Crow laws enabled by the Virginia Constitution of 1902 and subsequent 1912 amendments, but also perpetuated by private citizens and speculative developers who rapidly subdivided the once agrarian landscape. This research was instigated by multiple conversations between the author and Luis Araya, who has worked for Arlington County's Department of Environmental Services for more than four decades and has first-hand knowledge of the County's legacy segregation infrastructure and the steps that the County has taken to modify and mitigate its impacts.

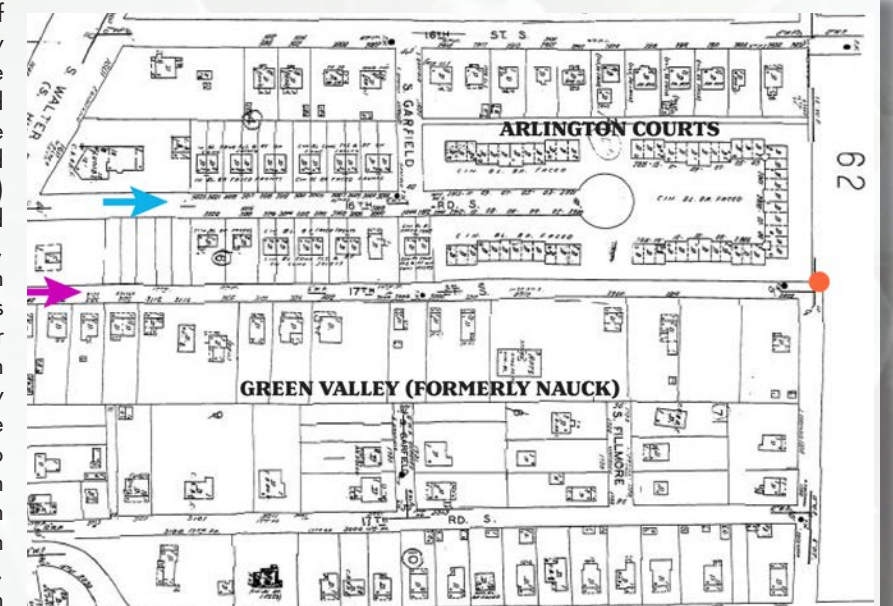
This work identifies and describes remnants of segregation borders, boundaries, and barriers in Arlington, originally erected by white private property owners in coordination with the County to eliminate access between white properties and neighboring black communities. Borders were delineated through a variety of means, including roads platted with dead-ends, unbuildable strips of land, lots oriented to face away from segregated black neighborhoods, and privacy walls or fences. The varied and often fragmentary nature of these barriers built on private property necessitates careful deed research, inspection of the current physical landscape, and the testimony of community members who endured racial segregation, to identify their remnants.

My ongoing research focuses on three such barriers bordering two historically black neighborhoods in Arlington County, Hall's Hill/High View Park and Green Valley (formerly Nauck), and explores: 1) the history of how these barriers were formed, both physically and through deed restrictions; 2) the existing conditions of former segregation infrastructure in the present-day landscape; and 3) interpretation opportunities they present.



Above Left: 1962 aerial of Arlington County. The blue arrows point to North Culpeper Street that provided no outlet outside the black neighborhood other than to the arterial corridor of Lee Highway (U.S. Route 29), effectively cutting off through traffic to the surrounding segregated white residential neighborhoods. The pink arrow points to the Hall's Hill/High View Park segregation wall. Right: 1969 aerial of Arlington County. The blue arrow points to the realignment of North Culpeper Street. The pink arrow points to the connection through the segregation wall of this street to North Abingdon Street, which created direct vehicular access between Hall's Hill/High View Park and Woodlawn. Source: Arlington County Maps, Historic Aerial Photographs, <https://maps.arlingtonva.us/>.

Right: 1959 insurance atlas of Arlington County. The blue arrow points to 16th Road South, the parcels of which are oriented with the rear lots facing the historically black neighborhood of Green Valley (formerly Nauck) along 17th Street South, denoted by the pink arrow. Historically, the only connection between these neighboring streets was the arterial corridor of Walter Reed Drive, but between 1967 and 1969 the County installed a footpath to increase connectivity between the two streets. The present-day location of the footpath is denoted with an orange circle. Source: Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Insurance Maps of Arlington County, VA, 1959, Plates 44.



Above: Photograph of the footpath that Arlington County, Virginia created between 1967 and 1969 to increase connectivity between 17th Street South and 16th Road South. You can see a portion of the backside of the Arlington Courts garden apartment complex, built in 1948 and surrounded by privacy fencing, on the left side of the photo. Source: Historic Preservation Program, Arlington County, Virginia.



Above: Extant portion of the segregation wall near the intersection of 17th Road North and North Culpeper Street that historically divided Hall's Hill/High View Park and Woodlawn. This portion of the wall is constructed of CMU blocks, but other portions are constructed of wooden boards or other masonry materials. The interpretive panel that the County installed in 2016 can be seen on the left side of the photo. Source: Historic Preservation Program, Arlington County, Virginia.



# MEMBER NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & REQUESTS

## *Congratulations Carrie Gregory*

AHLP Past President Carrie Gregory started a new position as a Historic Buildings Specialist at the Los Alamos National Laboratory in May 2020. The Laboratory was established in 1943 to develop the world's first atomic weapon as part of the top-secret Manhattan Project and now serves as a multidisciplinary research institution engaged in strategic science on behalf of national security. Located in northern New Mexico, USA, the Laboratory encompasses 40 square miles, includes about 1,000 facilities, and is home to a portion of the Manhattan Project National Historical Park. As a part of the Cultural Resources Program, Carrie will play a key role in National Historic Preservation Act compliance and support the Laboratory's mission critical programs and projects. Congratulations Carrie!

## *Brenda Williams and Laura Knott Honored by ASLA*

AHLP Past President Brenda Williams, a principal and director of preservation planning at Quinn Evans, has been selected as one of the American Society of Landscape Architects' (ASLA) 2020 Class of Fellows. In addition, she was honored by the Wisconsin Chapter of ASLA in February 2020 with a Life Achievement Award in recognition of a career advancing the profession of Landscape Architecture in Wisconsin through extraordinary leadership and professional works. Congratulations Brenda!

AHLP member Laura Knott has been selected as one of 19 professionals nationwide to the ASLA 2020 Class of Fellows. Congratulations Laura!

## *Congratulations Arne Alanen*

The International Planning History Society awarded its 2020 prize for best edited book in planning history to "Iconic Planned Communities and the Challenge of Change," published by the University of Pennsylvania Press in 2019. The volume includes essays about twenty-three iconic communities, built on six continents from the early nineteenth to the late twentieth centuries. Among the essays is one by long-time AHLP member Arnold (Arne) Alanen, "Tapiola: From Garden City to National Landscape Icon in Finland."



Tapiola bicycle and pedestrian path, 2011.



Tapiola walk up apartments and boulder, 1968.

## *Historic Sites in New Children's Book*

Lydia Malone (nee Nabors) established the first virtual Summer Reading Program for the Museum of Florida History in July 2020. Inspired by the theme "Imagine Your Story: Fantasy, Legends, and Folklore," she wrote and illustrated a children's book featuring Artie the Alligator's visits to Florida "castles." Many of the sites have historic landscapes. The book is available as a free PDF download at <https://museumoffloridahistory.com/learn/summer-reading-program/>

## *Preservation Profiles*

The US National Preservation Institute has initiated a podcast series. You can listen to episodes on the website, or if you prefer, in a podcast app. Guests featured in this six-episode season: Susan West Montgomery, Robert G. "Bob" Stanton, Laura Trieschmann, Eric Hemenway, Marsh Davis, and Tanya Denckla Cobb. Learn about their preservation philosophies, inspiration, and accomplishments. Episodes will touch on advocacy, laws and regulations, preservation planning, intangible aspects of historic preservation stewardship, and more. Explore why preservation matters to podcast guests, how it can make a difference in improving the future quality of life for people in communities around the country, and what links preservation to this year's history in the making—from the pandemic to protests on social inequality and racism. Transcripts will be available for all episodes. <https://preservationprofiles.org/episodes/trailer-preservation-profiles-s1!72d7a>. Thank you AHLP member Darwina Neal for sharing this information.

## *Diana Painter Seeking Input*

Hello, I am recording and evaluating a suburban shopping mall in the Carmel Valley designed by Olof Dahlstrand, a Frank Lloyd Wright devotee. He also designed the landscape which is, amazingly, quite intact.

His archives are at the Environmental Design Library at UC Berkeley which is of course closed right now.

I am looking for some general resources to provide context for mid-century suburban commercial landscape design for this project and would appreciate some advice. I am an architectural historian but also have training in landscape architecture. Nonetheless, it is not my specialty.

What I have in terms of general resources is, "Preserving Modern Landscape Architecture II," (Birnbaum); "Modern Landscape Architecture: A Critical Review" (Trieb); and "Modern Public Gardens" (on Royston, Rainey and Miller), as well as period guides.

Any advice is welcome. I can be reached at [diana@preservationplans.com](mailto:diana@preservationplans.com).





# AHLP NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## *The Hugh C. Miller Student Scholarship*

In recognition of his role as a founding member of the Alliance, and his professional career supporting historic resources and cultural landscapes, the AHLP named one of our student scholarships for Hugh Miller, FAIA, FAPTI. In these challenging times, please consider making a modest donation to ensure the on-going viability of this important Scholarship Fund.

## *Congratulations AHLP 2020 Student Scholars*

For the past several years, the generous support of our members has allowed the AHLP to provide two scholarships to support currently enrolled university students in attending and presenting their research at our annual meeting. This year's scholarships were awarded to Lena Bohman, a graduate student in the Master of Library and Information Sciences program at the University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign, and Beth Bray, a student in the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture program at the University of Guelph, Ontario.

Bohman holds a B.A. in American Studies from Brown University and has worked as an intern for the Missouri Historical Society, where she engaged in research on the history of St. Louis' ethnic communities. Her proposal for the AHLP annual meeting focuses on how histories of segregation and injustice based on race and class impinge on present-day programming and preservation in historic rural cemeteries such as Mount Auburn and Green-wood.

## *2020 Student Scholars (continued)*

Bray's research explores similar themes by examining publicly-funded historic sites and museums connected with Black history in Nova Scotia versus the narratives associated with Acadian and Highlander culture.

We hope both Beth and Lena will be able to join us and present at the 2021 meeting.



Lena Bohman,  
University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign



Beth Bray  
University of Guelph, Ontario

## *New Membership Software is Adopted by the Alliance*

This past spring, the AHLP Directors voted to adopt a new membership software, Wild Apricot, to better manage our member communication and renewal process. Wild Apricot will enable us to create a new AHLP website with links to membership accounts, events, the newsletter, donations, and archives – a one stop shop for our members. We are in the process of transferring membership information to the new platform, building the backend financial system and creating the website, which will likely look very much like our current website.

We are anticipating that the new system will be ready for testing in the early fall and that it will be fully operational later in the fall. All current and recent past members will receive an email from the system when it's ready to go, inviting members to log in and view their accounts. At this juncture, members will have a chance to update and correct their contact information.

Membership renewal emails will be sent automatically in early January. All membership expiration dates have been set for January 31. Once members renew their memberships online, the new expiration date will be one year from that renewal date. For example, if you renew your membership on January 15, 2021, your new expiration date will be January 15, 2022.

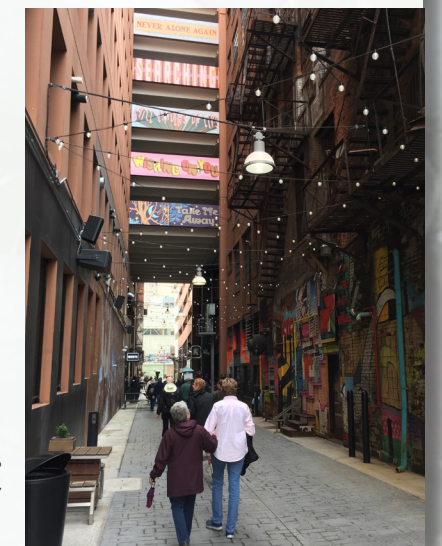
The system will handle group memberships a bit differently than how AHLP has handled them in the past. We have two group membership levels – family (2 persons) and institutional (up to 3 persons). The system will require one person to be the "bundle administrator", basically

managing the group membership. These were preset by the transition team but can be changed once members log onto the system. The bundle administrator will be able to add members to their "bundle" up to the limit allowed. More details on how these bundles work will be sent out when the system is live. Individual memberships will not change.

The Wild Apricot system allows only one currency to be used for membership payments and donations and event registrations. Because most of our members reside in the US, we have opted to use the US dollar as our currency. This will mean that Canadian members can pay with a credit card but that the charges will be paid in US dollars.

We are hoping that the transition is smooth but having been through a few software transitions, I know there will be bumps in the road. More information will be forthcoming this fall. We are excited about the ability of Wild Apricot to better manage our membership rolls and we hope this provides our members with better access to your own information and our documents.

-Gina Chorover



AHLP members  
exploring a lively  
alley in Detroit.



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## About the Alliance

The Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation: Conserving Cultural Landscapes, is an interdisciplinary professional organization which provides a forum for communication and exchange of information among its members. It is dedicated to the preservation and conservation of historic landscapes in all their variety, from formal gardens and public parks to rural expanses.

The Alliance was formed in 1978 when a small group of people from a variety of backgrounds met at New Harmony, Indiana, to share their mutual interests and concerns about the growing fields of landscape preservation. From this initial symposium came recognition of the need for increased communication and understanding regarding historic landscapes and a commitment to the interdisciplinary nature of the field.

The Alliance established a strong tradition over the past 40 years meeting to connect in the spirit of our founding members. More information about sites we have visited, and topics we have addressed, is available on the organization web site at: <http://ahlp.org/annual-meetings/past-meetings/>.



AHLP members at the Inn on Ferry Street in Detroit, 2019.

## Strategic Planning Update

In Detroit 2019, the AHLP Board of Directors and invited participants met to revisit and refresh the Strategic Plan developed the previous year in Tucson. Among a number of objectives for this session were the following:

- Review the status of the five-year strategic plan goals and what had changed since Tucson;
- Identify overlaps in the goal objectives and tactics;
- Prioritize the objectives and confirm project leadership; and,
- Address process and communication concerns, and agree on a realistic and workable follow up and communication schedule.

Each goal has champions and team members assigned to them. Those teams have fine-tuned the goals, developed the objectives and tasks necessary to bring them to reality, and executed many of them. Some of those accomplishments to date include:

- A new mission and guiding principles;
- Plans for updated communication strategies and ways to keep members informed and connected with each other and with our collaborators;
- Work to clarify and delegate some of the work currently done by the Board but which could more effectively be done by other members and volunteers; and,
- A variety of initiatives designed to truly enhance the membership experience.

The four (4) goals and their respective champions are:

Goal I: Define the essence of the Alliance as a cultural landscape collaborative so that can it can be understood, valued, protected and shared.

## Strategic Planning Update (cont)

Champions: Martin Holland and Ted MacLachlan

Goal II: Define our collaborative and the best ways to engage and communicate with them.

Champions: Eric MacDonald and John Zvonar

Goal III: Nurture and sustain the board and engage others to assist.

Champions: Cheryl Miller and Michelle Reid

Goal IV: Enhance the membership 'Family' experience.

Champions: Brenda Williams and Susan Burke

John Zvonar has accepted the role of the overall Strategic Planning Process Champion – to oversee and champion the overall strategic plan and process – with Jaime Luria in support. In this capacity, John will drive the coordination and communication needed to keep the Board informed and on track going forward.

Additional volunteers are always appreciated! **Please contact John at: [john.zvonar@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:john.zvonar@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca), if you would like to get involved!**

## A Note from the Editors

We are excited to revive the AHLP newsletter in a new format and distribution approach and look forward to developing two editions each year.

Do you have ideas for improvements to the newsletter? Do you have news to share with our membership?

Please contact us!

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ALLIANCE FOR  
HISTORIC  
LANDSCAPE  
PRESERVATION

*CONSERVING CULTURAL LANDSCAPES*

THE  
SUMMER  
ISSUE  
2020