

Kyle Theodore, ASLA (right); Todd Theodore, ASLA (below right); and Mark Baker, ASLA (below left), have joined Wood + Partners, Inc., of Hilton Head, South Carolina. Baker is principal, Kyle Theodore is a senior project manager, and Todd Theodore is a senior project manager. All three are leading authorities in parks and recreation design.



The Schneider Corporation of Indianapolis, Indiana, has appointed Nola Albrecht, ASLA, to the position of director, Government and Utility Services.

David C. Racker, FASLA, has joined Gillies Stransky Brems Smith Architects (GSBSA). He will join forces with J. Bruce Jorgenson, ASLA, in directing the Landscape Architecture Section of the firm. GSBSA is a recognized regional leader in energy efficient design and specializes in office, corrections, industrial, and sports projects.



CUH2A, Inc., has named Kevin R. Jelinek, ASLA, an associate with the firm. As senior landscape architect, he is responsible for helping clients to understand the constraints as well as the design opportunities afforded by a site.



# Watcha Gonna Do?

## Landscape Architecture Ethics

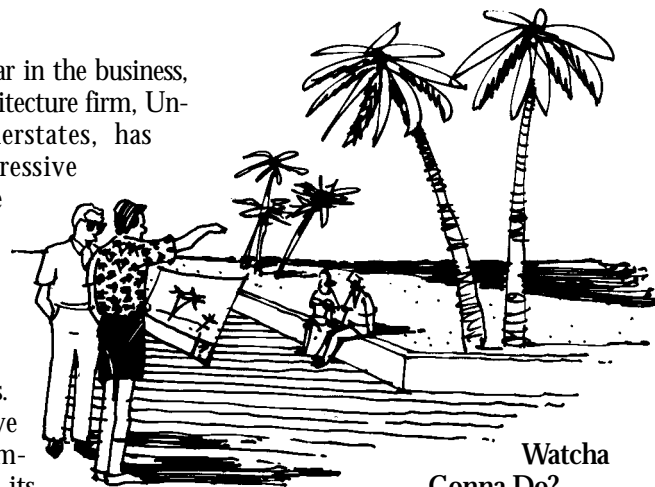
### The Situation

In its fifth year in the business, the landscape architecture firm, Unlicensed in Otherstates, has amassed an impressive portfolio of work. The firm, which is based in California, has wanted for more than a year to get projects in other states that would allow it to expand its horizons. The firm has an active public relations campaign, and, as a result, its reputation precedes it so well that it is subsequently approached by a Florida municipality, Exploited Beach, that wants to improve a streetscape along the northern portion of its beach.

Subsequently, the firm sends a pair of landscape architects to study the site. Even though the site is marred by abandoned buildings and vacant lots, Unlicensed's landscape architects deliver an impressive design that more than addresses the client's concern about the appearance of the corridor. The design is more inspired than others submitted, so Exploited Beach awards the project to Unlicensed in Otherstates.

The plans are sealed by a Florida landscape architect named Seil Fosail, who works in an adjacent township. Fosail, and one of the principals in the firm of Unlicensed in Otherstates, are old college friends. Since Unlicensed in Otherstates is not licensed to practice landscape architecture in the state of Florida, the principal asks Fosail to seal the plans before they are submitted to the Office of the Building Inspector in Exploited Beach.

After he seals the plans, Fosail departs on a 10-day vacation to the Florida Keys paid for by the principal of Unlicensed in Otherstates. Fosail, who is unfamiliar with the project, has sealed the drawings without reviewing or inspecting them. When the Office of the Building Inspector approaches Fosail with some questions about the design, it finds out that he had no real knowledge of the project.



VAN L. COX, ASLA

### Watcha Gonna Do?

Was it acceptable practice for Unlicensed in Otherstates to have another firm which was not involved in the project seal its plans? Has Seil Fosail violated the ASLA Code and Guidelines for Professional Conduct by sealing the plans without any knowledge of the project and without having been directly involved in the project?

### Recommendation of the Ethics Committee

The ASLA Ethics Committee found Seil Fosail in violation of R1.302 of the ASLA Code and Guidelines for Professional Conduct. The rule states: "Members shall not sign or seal drawings, specifications, reports, or other professional work for which they do not have direct professional knowledge or direct supervisory control." The town forwarded the case to the Florida licensing board.

*Editor's Note: One of the objectives of the ASLA Ethics Committee is to educate members about the ASLA Code and Guidelines for Professional Conduct. The code contains important principles relating to duties to clients and to members of the Society. Readers are invited to send their comments on cases appearing in LAND to Managing Editor, 636 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001-3736 or e-mail to bwelsh@asla.org. Members are invited to submit questions regarding ethical matters along with supporting data to Allen Hixon, FASLA, Ethics Committee Chair, c/o ASLA 636 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001-3736.*