

American Society of Landscape Architects Firm Award Submittal

2011

JJR

landscape architecture
planning
urban design
civil engineering
environmental science



Lakeshore State Park, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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Firm History

50 Years: Advancing the profession through environmentally responsive practice, leadership, service and education.

Innovative Beginnings—1961–1979

“Our primary design focus is land and the interrelationships of the many elements both built and natural which occur upon it”.

JJR Statement of Purpose, 1965

As JJR marks its 50th year, it actually celebrates a longer legacy of creative talent. Even upon its founding, William J. Johnson Associates represented years of professional experience in the field of landscape architecture. As the firm grew, that pool of talent continued to broaden and deepen—first into the partnership of Johnson, Johnson and Roy, and today into the multidisciplinary practice of JJR.

Michigan native **William Johnson**, FASLA, embarked on a career in landscape architecture and stood out almost immediately. After obtaining a Bachelor’s degree from Michigan State University, Johnson went on to obtain an MLA from Harvard University in 1957.

Johnson returned to Michigan and founded William J. Johnson Associates in Ann Arbor in 1960. The following year, Johnson united with his brother **Carl Johnson**, FASLA, and another colleague, **Clarence Roy**, FASLA, to form what would become one of the most distinguished landscape architecture firms in the country: Johnson, Johnson & Roy.



Carl Johnson, Clarence Roy and William Johnson circa 1963

While growing their nascent firm, both Johnson brothers also served as professors of landscape architecture at the University of Michigan. Discussions of land use at the U of M campus proved so compelling, they soon approached the University’s Board of Regents about developing a comprehensive land use plan for the central campus.

Their approach was unconventional and pioneering. They created a framework plan that placed developmental decisions in an environmental context, looking not only at an overlay of current environmental elements that impacted a site, but also at how this could determine the future horizons of growth. The resulting framework successfully guided University development for the next 40 years.

The landmark 1963 University of Michigan plan garnered the firm national recognition in campus planning, which spurred the growth of the firm and ultimately expanded its geographic reach to over 220 institutions of higher learning across the country.

The environmental framework concept became the hallmark of JJR’s work. It not only guided campus planning, it guided long term land-use planning that could improve human relationships with the land, such as the “Guidelines for Tourism in the Upper Peninsula,” 1966.

In addition to its planning work, the firm also developed a reputation for design excellence, garnering awards for its civic spaces, corporate headquarters, parks and gardens throughout the 1970s. The firm’s environmentally sensitive approach to the design of the Miner’s Castle Area of Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore in Michigan received national acclaim, which led to projects in new geographies. Carl Johnson developed a special attachment to the southwest through master plans for the Arizona-Sonoran Desert Museum in Tucson, the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix, and Garden of the Gods in Colorado.

By the early 1970s, JJR had grown to 30 people. In 1972, the firm joined forces with the highly regarded architectural practice of Smith, Hinchman & Grylls (SHG), later known as SmithGroup. SmithGroup comprised an affiliation of physical design services firms throughout the United States, providing vast new potential for JJR.

By the mid-1970s, JJR was serving clients across the U.S., in Europe and the Middle East. At about the same time, William Johnson retired from the firm to assume the post of Dean, School of Natural Resources at the University of Michigan.

Growth and Expansion—1980–1998

“We tend at times, I suspect, to forget the importance of real experience and a favorable track record. We have much to be proud of.”

Bill McGibbon, 1986



Bill McGibbon (left) with George Sass (center) and Tim Larsen, 1989

By 1980, under the leadership of President **Bill McGibbon**, who joined JJR as a landscape architect in the late 1960s, it was clear that JJR’s ever-widening client base demanded offices beyond Ann Arbor. Clarence Roy started its Dallas practice in 1981. With a staff of 44, Bill was supported by **Tim Larsen**, ASLA, as Director of Operations. **George Sass**, ASLA, a talented designer, rounded out the leadership team.

Through Bill’s business initiative, JJR began strategically expanding its core services and talent pool. By the mid-1980s new discipline leadership in civil engineering and environmental science was added to the firm with Fred Klancnik, P.E. and Don Tilton, Ph.D., respectively. These leaders were successful in growing not only their disciplines, but also expanding the firm into new interdisciplinary project types, including waterfronts, environmental restoration, and NEPA compliance.

JJR’s campus practice continued to thrive under the leadership of Dick Rigerink, ASLA, especially at the University of Michigan where the Medical Campus Master Plan was completed in 1980, the North Campus Master Plan in 1984, the Central Campus Planning Update in 1987, and the South Campus Planning Study in 1991.

Corporations continued to be important clients with JC Penneys, Ralston Purina, Comerica, and the Kresge Foundation Headquarters all completed during this period. The Sear Headquarters project was ahead of its time in using wetlands and native plantings as an integral part of the development’s stormwater strategy. The W.K. Kellogg Foundation Headquarters led to the creation of a linear park along Battle Creek itself that literally and figuratively merged the Foundation with the community.

McGibbon’s business strategy was so successful that by 1990 the firm had almost doubled in size to 80 staff in two locations. In the early 1990s, the geographic expansion continued with the opening of a Chicago office in 1991, then Madison in 1993. Following on the success of the Sears Headquarters project, Deb Mitchell, FASLA, moved to lead the Chicago office. Fred Klancnik, P.E., FASCE moved to Wisconsin to open the Madison office and to lead the further expansion of the waterfront practice in the Great Lakes and beyond. Both of these new locations continued to spur company growth so that by the end of the decade the firm had grown another 40% to 114 staff.

The growth and success of JJR’s interdisciplinary mix continued through the 1990s and provided the firm with more complex environmental opportunities, such as the Crosswinds Marsh Interpretive Preserve, a 1999 ASLA President’s Award of Excellence winner. Begun as a wetland mitigation issue for runway expansion at Detroit Metro Airport, JJR created a 476-acre offsite wetland mitigation bank—the largest in the Midwest. The firm’s services started with site research and selection and continued through master planning, permitting, implementation, and monitoring. The careful monitoring and data collection provides a database of measurable restoration outcomes and became a core part of JJR’s environmentally based approach.

Throughout the 1990s, JJR continued to garner awards from ASLA, but increasingly the awards came from other national professional organizations as well, such as The Waterfront Center, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the US Department of Transportation.

Both Carl and Clarence retired from the firm in 1989 and 1992 respectively. Deb Mitchell, FASLA, served as ASLA President in 1992–1993. With Bill McGibbon moving on to other roles within SmithGroup, **George Sass**, FASLA, became President of JJR in 1995.

Firm History

Evolution—1999–2010

“Our firm’s long history of successful projects gives us the experience, the confidence and the genuine enthusiasm to address new challenges.”

Fred Klancnik, JJR President, 2011



Deb Mitchell, Fred Klancnik and Tom Mroz, 2008

In 1999 **Fred Klancnik**, P.E., F.ASCE, became JJR’s next President. A proven studio and waterfront practice leader, with both a B.S.C.E. and M.B.A. from the University of Wisconsin, Fred brought the necessary technical, business and people skills for leading an ever more complex and growing interdisciplinary JJR practice within the SmithGroup framework. As part of the leadership team, Fred enlisted **Tom Mroz**, ASLA, who with both a M.L.A. and M.B.A. from the University of Michigan, serves as the firm’s Chief Financial Officer. **Deb Mitchell**, FASLA, rounded out the leadership team as Director of Design.

The first half of the decade involved managing growth. Both the Chicago and Madison studios doubled in size. While the second half of the decade proved more challenging given the deep economic recession, JJR’s office directors and national practice leaders provided much needed leadership and stability moving forward.

Seeking to expand beyond the upper Midwest, JJR started in Phoenix, where Carl Johnson spent part of each year in retirement. The firm merged with Floor Associates, a practice with a similar commitment to environmental/landscape sustainability, in 2008. JJR is currently building a new studio in Washington, DC with its SmithGroup partners.

The firm continues to advance an integrated planning and design approach, tackling increasingly sophisticated and environmentally complex projects through a fusion of landscape architecture, civil engineering, planning, and environmental science. Continued advances in JJR’s portfolio this decade include:

- **Campus Planning**—The University of Michigan Central Campus was recognized in 2003 with a national Merit Award for Excellence in Planning by the Society for College and University Planning and American Institute of Architects. JJR developed the Campus Sustainability Guidelines for the University of Connecticut in 2004 and the Energy and Water Use Plan for Indiana University—Bloomington in 2009.
- **Waterfronts**—Bay Harbor Resort Community, Michigan, received the ULI Award for Excellence in 2003. The Concordia University, Wisconsin, Lakeshore Environmental Enhancement and Education Project received the 2010 ASCE Award of Merit. The Northerly Island Framework Plan in Chicago and Milwaukee’s Lakeshore State Park both received the Award of Excellence from their ASLA State Chapters in 2010.
- **Civic Spaces**—Lost Dog Wash Trailhead in Scottsdale received a 2008 ASLA Honor Award in design for its environmentally sensitive desert restoration. The Portage Lakefront Park and Riverwalk in northwest Indiana (developed in conjunction with the NPS) received LEED Gold certification in 2010. Dequindre Cut Greenway, a rails-to-trails project in Detroit, received a 2010 Honorable Mention from the Livability/Sustainability Transportation Planning Excellence Awards by the APA, FHWA, and FTA.

2011—JJR’s 50th Anniversary

“JJR is the only large firm in the upper Midwest to have successfully adopted a broad, contemporary, professional, multidisciplinary approach to design and client service.”

Elen Deming, ASLA, Professor & Head, Department of Landscape Architecture, UIUC.

Entering its 50th year in 2011, JJR has a staff of approximately 130 professionals in offices across the U.S. The firm’s client list continues to grow across the nation and, increasingly, around the globe, including projects in South Korea, China, Qatar, Panama, and Canada.

Over the life of the practice, JJR’s professionals have maintained the firm’s core values of environmental sensitivity and stewardship while embracing change and fostering new generations of leadership to meet the challenges of the future. These values speak to an overarching environmental ethic, a legacy of professional leadership for clients and society, and ongoing support for education and outreach—all serving to advance the practice and profession of landscape architecture.



East Detroit RiverWalk, Detroit, Michigan

Achievements

Awards

JJR's collaborative and interdisciplinary work has been recognized with more than 250 professional planning and design awards. In 2010 JJR received 28 awards, including three national awards and two Chapter ASLA Awards of Excellence. The Michigan Chapter ASLA also awarded JJR with its Firm of the Year Award in recognition of the firm's 50 years of sustained contribution to the profession of landscape architecture in Michigan and nationwide. The ASLA's Wisconsin Chapter has announced a similar award of recognition for 2011.

We have been honored with planning and design awards from the following organizations:

American Society of Landscape Architects: National Level

American Society of Landscape Architects: Chapter Level

- Arizona
- Florida
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Michigan
- North Carolina
- Texas
- Wisconsin

Other Professional Organizations

- American Association of Nurserymen
- American Institute of Architects
- American Planning Association
- American Public Works Association
- American Road and Transportation Builders Association
- American Society of Civil Engineers
- Associated Landscape Contractors of America
- Association of University-Related Research Parks
- Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
- Federal Highway Administration
- Federal Transit Administration
- National Trust for Historic Preservation
- Society for College and University Planning
- States Organization for Boating Access
- The Waterfront Center
- Urban Land Institute
- U.S. Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Department of H.U.D.
- U.S. Department of Transportation

Registrations/Accreditations

As a prerequisite for advancement with our firm, registration is a must for our employees. JJR's landscape architects are registered in 24 states plus Canada. Firmwide we have 38 Registered Landscape Architects representing 30% of our staff. Our 17 Registered Civil Engineers are registered in 27 states.

Our portfolio of work showcasing sustainable design principles dates back to the 1960s, and we currently have 38 LEED Accredited Professionals (LEED AP) as a continued commitment to green building practices.

Professional Outreach

JJR remains committed to the advancement of the profession through our active involvement in related industry and professional organizations. In 2010 JJR made over 15 presentations at national conferences. JJR continues to stretch the reach of the profession of Landscape Architecture in these organizations:

- American Association of Community Colleges
- American Association for University Research Parks
- American Planning Association
- American Society of Civil Engineers
- American Society of Landscape Architects
- American Water Resource Association
- Association of Coastal Engineers
- Association of Marina Industries
- Congress for New Urbanism
- Construction Specifications Institute
- International Council of Shopping Centers
- National Recreation and Parks Association
- Permanent International Association of Navigation Congress
- States Organization for Boating Access
- Society for College and University Planning
- Society of Ecological Restoration
- Society of Wetland Scientists
- The Waterfront Center
- Urban Land Institute
- U.S. Green Building Council

In 2003, JJR was one of the first firms to join The Master Landscape Architect Series by Images Publishing to create a JJR monograph titled "Creativity through Collaboration", which was distributed internationally.

Educational Advancement

JJR is actively engaged with the Landscape Architecture programs in our home states of Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin and Arizona. JJR volunteers to give office tours for students, as well as classroom lectures and design critiques when requested. In addition, JJR has made a long-term financial commitment to both the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and to the University of Michigan: the JJR/Deb Mitchell Lecture at UIUC, and the JJR/Roy Lecture at Michigan.

For over a decade, JJR has maintained a formal summer internship program which takes applications from landscape architecture students from across the country each year. Based on need, each office takes one or more interns, providing an engaging on-the-job mentorship experience for students prior to graduation. Many of these students go on to become employees at JJR.

Contributions To The Profession

Peer Recognition

Throughout our history, JJR's leaders have been recognized by their professional colleagues for their contributions to the profession through various honors, including the following:

- Kristina Floor, ASLA Fellow 2009
- Carl Johnson, ASLA Medal 2000
- Deb Mitchell, The President's Medal 1996
- George Sass, ASLA Fellow 1996
- Deb Mitchell, ASLA Fellow 1992
- Jim Christman, ASLA Fellow 1988
- Bill Johnson, ASLA Medal 1986
- Clarence Roy, ASLA Fellow 1984
- Carl Johnson, ASLA Fellow 1979
- Bill Johnson, ASLA Fellow 1973

Service

JJR's leadership over the life of the firm encourages active participation in ASLA and other professional societies. As a result, giving back to the profession is an important part of our culture. JJR's staff in our multiple office locations have played an active role in their local ASLA chapters, several going on to serve as Chapter President. When Deb Mitchell was elected ASLA President in 1992–1993, JJR was an honored and enthusiastic supporter.

JJR has been a member of ASLA's CEO Round Table since its inception. Deb Mitchell has been JJR's representative to this body for the past decade.

Support

JJR's founding principals (Johnson, Johnson and Roy) believed in the importance of advancing the profession and were attracted to the mission of the Landscape Architecture Foundation from the beginning. Both Bill Johnson and Deb Mitchell served as LAF President: Bill in the mid-1980s, Deb in 2000. In 1986, Carl Johnson and Clarence Roy initiated an internal fund-raising effort, including many of the firm's principals, to create the JJR Research Grant, dedicated to funding research that advances the profession's body of knowledge on issues of sustainability. In 2000, JJR joined the LAF's Second Century campaign as a major donor. These efforts, coupled with a bequest, allowed the JJR Research Grant to provide financial support for three publications of the Land and Community Case Study Series.

In 2009, a substantial bequest from Clarence and Ruth Roy became the largest in LAF history. As a result, the JJR Research Grant was renamed the JJR/Roy Fund. In 2010, JJR and LAF agreed to dedicate a portion of the JJR/Roy Fund as a Founding Partner of the Landscape Performance Series, providing an online library of case studies and metrics for sustainable site design and restoration.



Principals



Deb Mitchell, FASLA, LEED AP
Senior Vice President & Director of Design
Joined JJR: 1989

Deb is Director of Design and leader of the Cities & Communities national practice. Her award winning projects include the AT&T Performing Arts Center in Dallas, and the Near North Redevelopment Initiative, Northerly Island Framework Plan, and Sears Headquarters in Chicago. Active in ASLA for many years, she served as ASLA President in 1992–1993 and LAF President from 2000–2001. She received an M.L.A. from the University of Illinois.



Tom Mroz, ASLA, LEED AP
Senior Vice President & Chief Financial Officer
Joined JJR: 1983

Tom is committed to ensuring the firm's growth and business operations remain stable and profitable. He oversees the operations of the Accounting, Human Resources, and IT staff. He regularly works with staff in all offices on contracts, project management and budgeting, personnel and legal issues. His level-headed counsel has earned him respect throughout the firm. Tom received an M.L.A. and M.B.A. from the University of Michigan.



Fred Klancnik, P.E., FASCE, Affiliate ASLA
President & Principal Civil Engineer
Joined JJR: 1985

President since 1999, Fred is a recognized national leader in waterfront planning and design, providing strong leadership on urban waterfront revitalization, lakefront parks, resort communities, and marina projects. Award winning projects include the Milwaukee Downtown Lakefront Redevelopment, Racine Downtown Harbor Area Revitalization, and Chicago's Northerly Island Framework Plan. Fred serves on the SmithGroup Board of Directors. Fred received his B.S.C.E. and M.B.A. from the University of Wisconsin.



Kristina Floor, FASLA, LEED AP
Vice President
Joined JJR: 2008

Kristina serves as the design leader and Co-Director of the Phoenix studio. Kris' strong hardscape design skills and knowledge of indigenous plant materials of multiple regions have resulted in expressive landscapes with an inherent sense of design. In recognition of her award-winning project portfolio, Kristina was inducted as an ASLA Fellow in 2009.



Hank Byma, ASLA
Vice President
Joined JJR: 1989

As Co-Director of the Ann Arbor studio, Hank focuses on the design and construction of mixed-use projects and large-scale resorts such as the Bay Harbor Resort Community, recognized with the 2003 ULI Award of Excellence. Hank continues to work on national cemeteries across the country after receiving the 1988 Presidential Design Award for Fort Custer National Cemetery.



Bill Patek, ASLA, LEED AP
Vice President
Joined JJR: 2003

As Co-Director of the Madison studio, Bill has extensive experience leading a wide range of planning and design projects for corporate and campus clients. His work includes major public/private partnership design initiatives for the University of Wisconsin system and the development of Epic Corporation's HQ and national training campus.



Paul Wiese, RLA, LEED AP
Vice President
Joined JJR: 1984

In addition to being the Co-Director of the Chicago studio, Paul is JJR's go-to person for collegiate athletics and recreation projects. He has worked on countless master planning and implementation projects for college campuses, many involving improvements to NCAA athletic facilities. Paul's 20-year design relationship with Loyola University Chicago exemplifies his commitment to client service.



Chris Brown, ASLA, LEED AP
Vice President
Joined JJR: 2008

As Co-Director of the Phoenix Studio, Chris is responsible for directing projects through all phases of the design and documentation process. Recognized for his sensitivity to conserving the desert environment, the Lost Dog Wash Trailhead in Scottsdale received a 2008 ASLA Honor Award. The Gateway to the McDowell Sonoran Preserve received a 2010 Arizona Chapter ASLA Honor Award.



Pat Doher, P.E., LEED AP
Senior Vice President

Joined JJR: 1988

Pat serves as the Co-Studio Director of the Ann Arbor office. He leads multi-disciplinary teams through complex projects involving brownfields and river and lakefront recreation, often serving as the client's trusted advisor through the decision-making process. Such high visibility projects include Navy Pier Rehabilitation, Visteon Corporate Headquarters, and the Detroit East Riverwalk. Pat serves on the SmithGroup Board of Directors.



Bill Brose, P.E.
Vice President

Joined JJR: 1993

Bill is one of the country's most accomplished marina/harbor designers and a co-author of the update of the ASCE Manual of Engineering Practice 50, Planning and Design Guidelines for Small Craft Harbors. Bill's coastal engineering expertise has played a pivotal role in JJR's award-winning shoreline restoration and urban waterfront revitalization efforts over the past two decades.



Neal Billetdeaux, ASLA, LEED AP
Principal

Joined JJR: 1990

Neal's background in ecology gives him a unique understanding of how environmental issues play an important role in today's planning projects. He works on projects ranging from habitat restoration to site planning and design with an emphasis on ecosystem and stormwater management. Neal sits on the U.S.G.B.C. LEED Sustainable Sites Technical Advisory Group.



Gregg Calpino, ASLA, LEED AP
Principal

Joined JJR: 1999

Gregg's passion is the master planning and design of large urban parks involving interdisciplinary teams that integrate hydrological and environmental engineering with ecological and landscape sensitivity. His award-winning projects include the Northerly Island Framework Plan, Portage Lakefront Park and Riverwalk, and The Marquette Plan Lakeshore Reinvestment Strategy.



Jack Cox, P.E.
Principal

Joined JJR: 2010

Jack brings internationally recognized credentials in waterfront development, including coastal dynamics, harbor tranquility, breakwaters, fixed and floating marine structures, dredge material disposal, shore protection, port planning, marina design, and risk analysis. He works from the beginning of ecologically sensitive planning through final design and construction.



Doug Denison
Principal

Joined JJR: 1989

As the senior environmental scientist, Doug leads a variety of projects including environmental impact statements, endangered species habitat evaluation, water resource analysis, mitigation design and construction oversight, and aquatic ecology evaluations. He is a leading Great Lakes scientist and has played a pivotal role in advancing JJR's interdisciplinary fusion of landscape architecture and environmental science.



Connie Dimond
Principal

Joined JJR: 1988

As a senior landscape architect Connie has extensive planning and management experience in preparing master plans for downtown and neighborhood revitalization, college and university campuses, and mixed-use developments. She regularly leads planning workshops in which participants help establish objectives, evaluate alternatives and reach consensus-based decisions.



Bob Doyle, RLA
Principal

Joined JJR: 2006

Bob designs and manages complex projects including parks and recreation, campus improvements, community planning and urban design, brownfield redevelopment and waterfronts. His work includes major waterfront revitalization efforts along the Detroit River, including design and implementation of an innovative urban wetland for Detroit's Milliken State Park.

Principals



Paul Evanoff, RLA, LEED AP
Principal

Joined JJR: 1985

In his role as Landscape Architecture Discipline Leader, Paul brings extensive field experience coupled with preparation of design and construction documents. His expertise in ecological restoration is exemplified by the national ASLA award-winning project Crosswinds Marsh.



Bernie Fekete, P.E.
Principal

Joined JJR: 1988

Bernie has led numerous outstanding projects to success that include site investigations and evaluations, land use planning, site layout, access and parking, stormwater management, infrastructure evaluation and design, earth retention systems and other site work. He also leads the firm's Quality Assurance Program to ensure the highest quality technical documentation.



Ed Freer, RLA
Principal

Joined JJR: 1994

Ed is highly accomplished at facilitating a consensus vision and broad community support for urban design and redevelopment initiatives. His many award winning designs include Lakeshore State Park, Milwaukee; Connecting Cleveland—The Waterfront District Plan; South Pier District Redevelopment, Sheboygan; and Concordia University's Lakefront Enhancement.



Barry Gazso, RLA
Principal

Joined JJR: 1986

As a Senior Landscape Architect, Barry excels at creating preliminary and final design, design details, and construction documents for corporate and university campuses, including the University of Michigan Wave Field Sculpture, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation Headquarters in Battle Creek, and the Chrysler World Headquarters in Auburn Hills, Michigan.



Mary Jukuri, ASLA
Principal

Joined JJR: 1988

As a Senior Campus Planner, Mary leads a broad range of campus and research park master plans for universities, communities and the private sector. Mary is skilled at looking at the big picture and synthesizing the input of many constituents into one coherent story. Her strong communication skills allow her to gain consensus with client and community groups.



Neal Kessler, ASLA
Principal

Joined JJR: 2003

As co-leader of the Campus National Practice, Neal brings his ability to translate an understanding of campus trends with campus metrics to bring added value to the master planning process of each unique institution, whether it is public or private, two-or four-year, academic research and technology-based, or a healthcare campus.



Doug Kozma, RLA
Principal

Joined JJR: 1996

Doug is co-leader of the Campus National Practice. He is a passionate, broad-scale problem solver and known for his enthusiasm and "can-do" attitude. He channels his energy into integrated higher education planning, including commissions in more than 17 states for public, private, and community colleges. He currently serves on SCUP's North Central Regional Council.



John Kretschman, P.E.
Principal

Joined JJR: 1999

John brings design and construction management experience in the areas of waterfront and municipal infrastructure, parks and recreation, subdivision and development, campus facility design, and stormwater facilities. John serves as the Civil Engineering Discipline Leader, advancing the discipline's technical expertise and quality assurance program across the company.



Mark Lodewyck, P.E.

Principal

Joined JJR: 1989

Mark has a diverse background in site development, transportation, and water resources. His breadth of experience encompasses the entire development process starting with site selection and proceeding through engineering design and project construction. He provides expert legal testimony to MDOT and private corporations on site development and water resources.



Bruce Lunde

Principal

Joined JJR: 2004

As an industry leader in marine design and construction, Bruce's expertise includes project management, planning, feasibility studies, cost estimating, budgeting and scheduling, design, management of engineering teams, contract and contractor oversight, and general project construction management and orchestration.



Mark O'Leary

Principal

Joined JJR: 2010

Mark is an environmental scientist and expert in natural areas management and restoration. He has served as ecologist for some of the country's benchmark urban environmental efforts, including New York's High Line Park, Chicago's Northerly Island, and Arlington's Johnson Creek in conjunction with the Dallas Cowboy's new stadium.



Merrill St. Leger-Demian, AICP, LEED AP

Principal

Joined JJR: 2003

Merrill St. Leger-Demian has led innovative community planning, campus planning, and federal planning projects in the Washington DC region and around the country. These projects include the sustainable redevelopment of the Frederick campus of the National Cancer Institute, and a transit-oriented development plan for DC's Brookland/ CUA Metro Station area.



Dale Sass, ASLA

Principal

Joined JJR: 1967

Having been involved in many of JJR's highest profile national and international projects, Dale brings extensive experience in preparing master plans for university campuses and technology park projects. His sensitivity to natural and cultural environmental features and ability to balance man and nature are exceptional. His outstanding talents as a planner have been recognized in by several national awards.



Mike Stirk

Principal

Joined JJR: 2010

Mike is a civil engineer experienced in the design and construction of planned public spaces, transportation infrastructure, site development, stormwater management, and stream bank stabilization. Mike's projects benefit from his experience with creative thought, design processes, construction methods, program organization and project management.



Dan Williams, ASLA

Principal

Joined JJR: 1997

Dan's exceptional digital graphic art and illustration skills aid clients in quickly understanding and visualizing the proposed design. Offering particular expertise in park and waterfront work, Dan is an outstanding collaborator, able to advance client's projects from master planning all the way through design and construction.

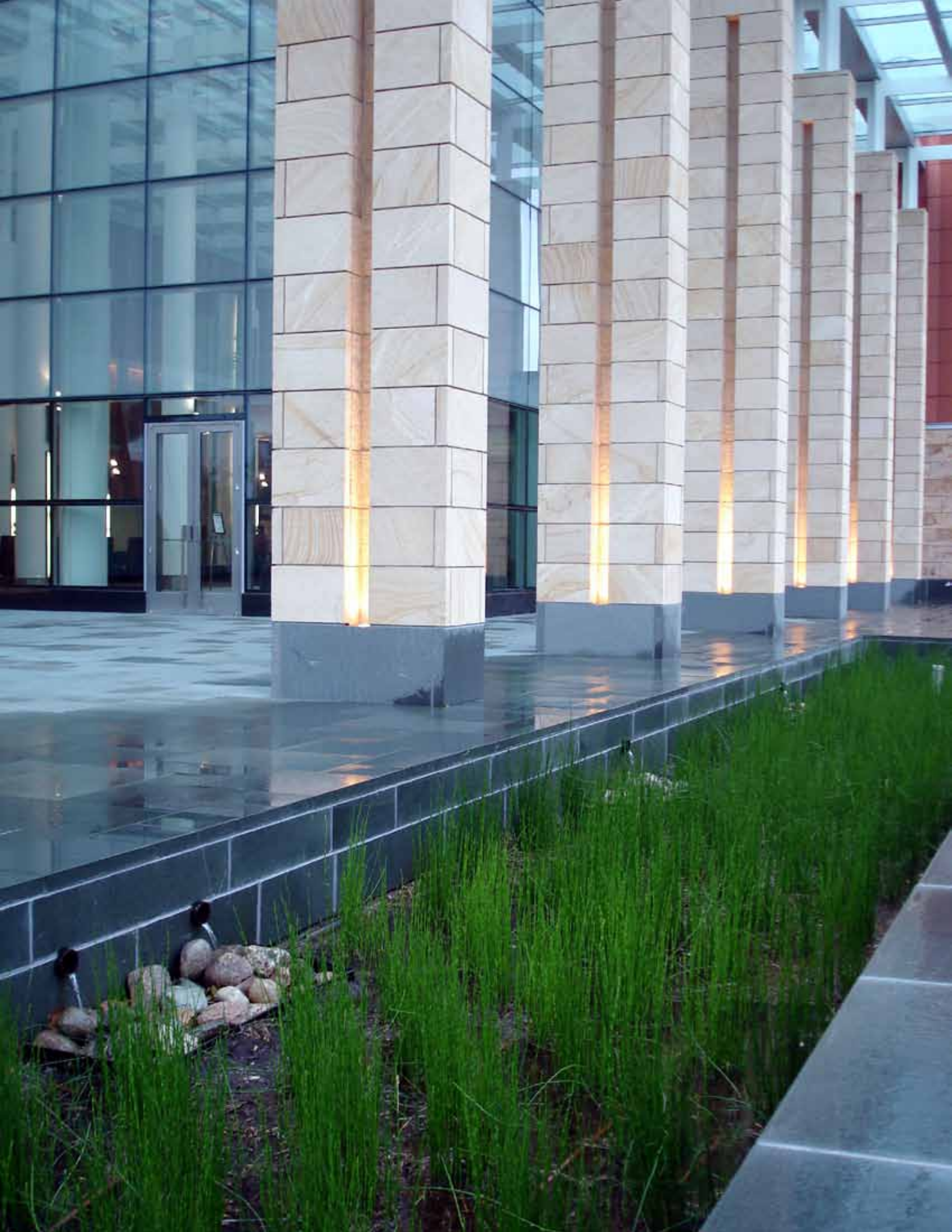


Cheryl Zuellig, ASLA

Principal

Joined JJR: 2001

Cheryl works with communities and multiple stakeholder groups to develop sustainable solutions that benefit the economy, improve the environment, and enhance the quality of life of residents and visitors. She is an experience project leader and facilitator for public planning efforts and helps communities develop and implement consensus-based planning solutions.



University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, Michigan

1963—Present

Building upon an enduring legacy

JJR's very first commission in 1961 came from the University of Michigan, which sought to address the growth of the university as it spilled beyond its traditional central campus and into the burgeoning city of Ann Arbor. JJR responded with a campus plan that blended both form and function within a versatile environmental and development framework. Basing decisions on hard data, the University of Michigan plan created a clear road map for both progress and preservation.

Even many decades after its original development, JJR's framework plan continued to guide the evolving needs of the University of Michigan. JJR has been commissioned time and time again to update and extend this planning vision, completing the Medical Campus Master Plan in 1980, the North Campus Master Plan in 1984, the Central Campus Planning Update in 1987, and the South Campus Planning Study in 1991. The firm has also provided site design for many of the University's signature buildings and public spaces.

JJR continues to build upon this legacy with the site design for the Ross School of Business. Located in the heart of the University of Michigan's dense urban core, the site design features a progressive stormwater design that showcases several sustainable "firsts" for the campus.

Earning a LEED silver rating, the Ross School of Business is topped with an extensive, 25,000 square-foot green roof system that spans the new teaching facility and existing business school library. Infiltration planters manage stormwater as close to the source as possible and highlight stormwater as it leaves the building. Pervious concrete is used for walkways, plazas and other surfaces, the first use of pervious concrete on campus and one of the first applications in the state. The design serves as a model for innovative approaches to stormwater management in the Midwest. As it did 50 years ago, JJR is working with the University of Michigan to guide its growth with purpose and relevance that will continue to serve it well into the future.



1999 ASLA Centennial Medallion

2003 Merit Award for Excellence in Planning,
Society for College and University Planning



Chicago Lakefront

Chicago, Illinois

1968—Present

Five decades of establishing a city's guiding waterfront framework

The City of Chicago has a long history of visionary public park planning. None less than Frederick Law Olmsted designed Jackson Park, one of the country's preeminent urban waterfront parks, along Lake Michigan in the 1890s. In the 1960s, the city asked JJR to revisit the Jackson Park plan to preserve and renew its heritage. So began one of the firm's most rewarding and long-standing relationships. Over the last 50 years, JJR has advanced Chicago's legacy of imaginative park planning, while defining an innovative approach to the preservation of its Lake Michigan waterfront for public access and enjoyment.

To this day, advocates of open space and recreation cite JJR's pioneering 1968 study, *A Progress Report on the Future of Chicago's Lakefront*, which recommended unbroken public access to community and lakefront parks. Recognizing that Chicago's 24-mile stretch of Lake Michigan shore was among its greatest public resources, JJR's plan called for its predominant character to be that of open space, emphasizing the development of strong physical linkages between the shoreline and Chicago's neighborhoods. Using classic framework planning methodology, JJR laid out principles decades ago that continue to guide Chicago's waterfront development today.

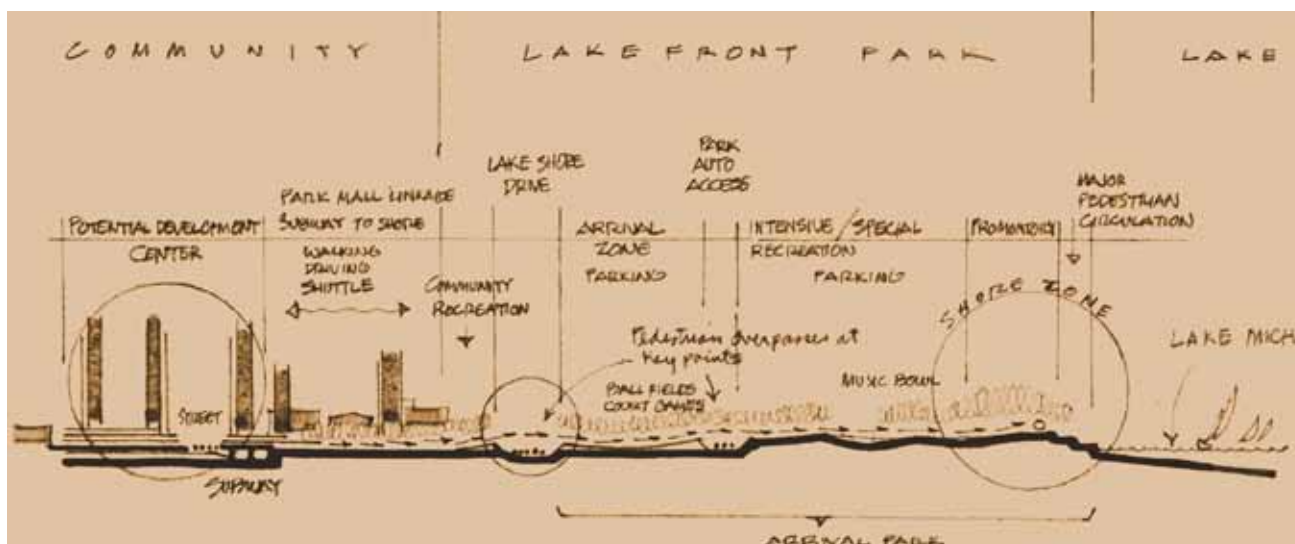
With the South Lakefront Framework Plan of 2001, JJR took an even broader look at Jackson Park, helping to integrate it more effectively with Washington Park and the

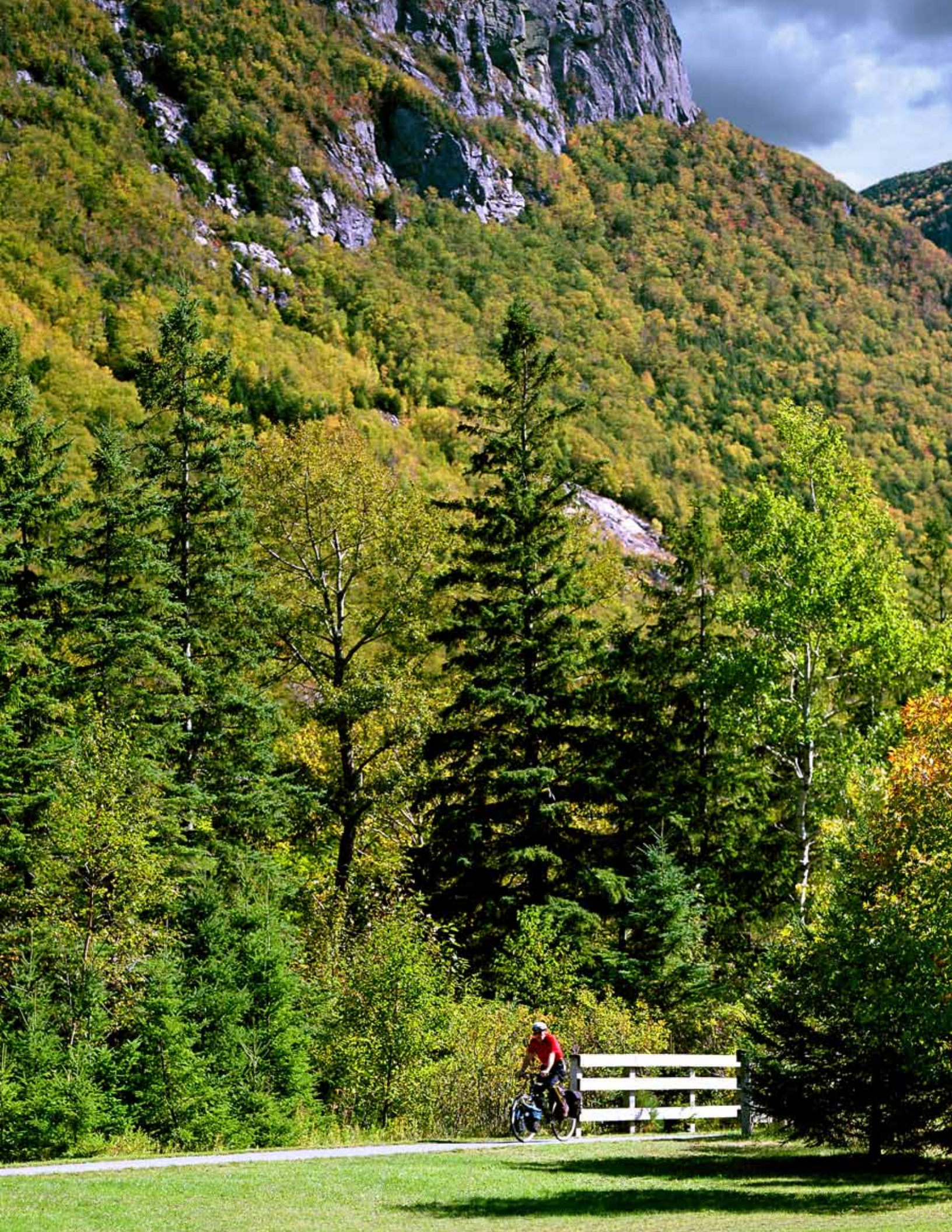
South Shore Cultural Center. The significant community participation and input fostered through this process further advanced the city's guiding public agenda for its waterfront, demonstrating JJR's maturation as facilitators.

The Lakefront Harbor Framework Plan of 2007 mapped out the future for Chicago's entire municipal harbor system, which ranks as one of the largest harbor systems in the United States and is a major source of income for the Chicago Park District. JJR's interdisciplinary team fused coastal engineering and marina/park design with detailed market and pro forma analysis, coming up with a plan to expand the existing 5,100 boat system by an additional 50 percent over the next 20 years.

Like virtually all of JJR's waterfront recommendations for Chicago, these plans are moving forward to implementation, including the construction of a new harbor at 31st Street and the city's first downtown transient dockage at Navy Pier. From the boldest concepts to the smallest details, JJR's plans and designs continue to emphasize new opportunities and linkages to help Chicagoans connect to their Lake Michigan heritage and make the most of this incredible natural resource.

2001 Honor Award—Planning & Analysis, South Lakefront Framework Plan, Illinois Chapter ASLA





Franconia Notch

White Mountains, New Hampshire

1982–1986

From controversy to consensus and a scenic corridor legacy

From the very beginning, this New Hampshire highway project stirred controversy and required compromise. The state sought to complete the final 11-mile link of Interstate 93 south through the White Mountains. To the chagrin of many, Franconia Notch—a state park and national scenic area beloved by the region—was deemed the only feasible route through the area’s mountainous terrain.

The state contracted with JJR to create a highway right-of-way that would be feasible from an engineering standpoint and safe for vehicular traffic, while preserving—and celebrating—the area’s natural beauty.

JJR began by conducting a complete environmental impact statement, testing a variety of road alignment alternatives, and assessing the topography of trees and boulders to see how it could best safeguard the fragile environment. The firm’s goal was to make the road right-of-way and areas around park facilities look as natural and undisturbed as possible. JJR staff walked each mile of the 10-mile route, individually tagging trees and directing the placement of stones and boulders to look as if they tumbled naturally down the mountain.

JJR’s plan called for a variety of interpretive facilities, and a 9-mile bicycle trail with attractive wood bridges. Design details specified for steel highway bridges to be painted a subtle chocolate brown, and abutments faced with irregularly shaped granite (rather than traditional raw concrete) to mimic the natural surroundings.

Originally viewed as an adversary by environmental groups, JJR instead proved to be a vital ally. In the end, all the interested parties worked together to create a safe transportation corridor that winds through what remains an environmental jewel in New Hampshire’s White Mountains.

“As a result of your participation, New Hampshire will have a better park and a better highway than most of us believed possible. The Notch will be better in ways we did not even know were possible. This is the highest praise of all.”

Paul O. Bofinger, President/Forester Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests



1999 ASLA Centennial Medallion

1989 Merit Awards in Landscape Architecture and Site Design and Implementation, ASLA

1988 Certificate of Appreciation, ASCE



Forest Park Beach Restoration

Lake Forest, Illinois

1985–1987

Restoring an eroding shoreline to a valued community asset

Concerned with the severe erosion of its Lake Michigan beach, the city of Lake Forest, Illinois retained JJR as part of an interdisciplinary team to investigate ways to restore, protect and enhance this beloved community resource. JJR's unusual approach initially raised some skepticism—but the end result was a tremendous success that returned Lake Forest's beach to its residents for generations to come.

Once a broad ribbon of sand at the base of a bluff, Lake Forest's 3,400-foot shoreline at Forest Park Beach was slowly devoured by a combination of record-high lake levels, wave action, storm damage, and nearby man-made structures that cut off natural sand deposits known as "littoral drift." Consequently, by the mid-1980s, the sandy beach that once graced the bottom of the Forest Park bluff was reduced to a thin line of gravel just a few feet wide.

JJR's master plan called for offshore rubble-mound breakwaters and onshore stone revetments to dissipate the energy of incoming waves. The beach would be restored by adding sand along the shoreline in a scalloped pattern, and allowing natural wave action—diffracted and weakened by the breakwaters—to shape it. To back up the master plan, JJR conducted hydraulic model testing, using a 100-foot by 100-foot wave tank with lake-bottom topography and shoreline contours that exactly replicated Lake Forest conditions.

The plan did indeed work brilliantly, returning the wide, soft beach prized by Lake Forest residents—one that has withstood over 25 years of exposure to wind and waves. The next phase of JJR's planning and design added several amenities to the renewed lakeshore, including a protected boat basin and launch area, beach house and landscaped lawn area, wood walkways and overlook decks, and a popular waterfront promenade.

The project became a benchmark for Lake Michigan shoreline restoration and established JJR as a leading interdisciplinary waterfront expert. Subsequent commissions have included shoreline stabilization to save endangered historic lighthouses in the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, and the restoration of Concordia University Wisconsin's failing bluff—a project that received a 2010 national Merit Award from the American Society of Civil Engineers.



"It's a trailblazer kind of project. There probably aren't a dozen things similar to it anywhere."

Dr. Charles Collinson, Chicago Shoreline Protection Commission

1987 Honorable Mention, The Waterfront Center



Kellogg Headquarters

Battle Creek, Michigan

1989–1991

Linking private development with community good

The Kellogg Headquarters and adjacent riverfront park stand as a fine example of what beneficial land development can do when civic-minded private corporations and government come together for the good of the community. JJR's master plan and design for the property both literally and figuratively merged the new Kellogg Foundation headquarters with the community. The river banks—which had been reduced to a ditch-like cement drainage way—were restored to create a scenic landscape corridor on both sides of the river, featuring a number of sites for public gathering, recreation and historic interpretation.

The Kellogg Foundation headquarters building occupies the south side of the river. On the north side, the Foundation agreed to extend an existing linear park through its company property. This linear park became the focal point of the development. The historic W.K. Kellogg home was relocated to the site, surrounded by a two-acre period garden. The Kellogg Community Garden provides a colorful, classic landscape that is open to the public and offers lovely views from across the river.

The area also features a sculpture and interpretive information about Battle Creek's role as a stop on the Underground Railroad. Barrier-free bicycle and pedestrian paths line both river banks, linking the Kellogg property to downtown districts. When work uncovered an old mill race, the Foundation invested \$1.2 million to create Mill Race Park. This downtown gathering place features a recreated mill race channel and 30-foot-high water wall. Metal relief sculptures flank the wall and explain the site's role in Battle Creek history.

Together, these developments continue to serve as premier community gathering spots, providing ongoing vitality to downtown Battle Creek.



1999 ASLA Centennial Medallion
1997 Honor Award, Michigan Chapter ASLA
1991 Outstanding Achievement Award,
Engineering Society of Detroit



Crosswinds Marsh

New Boston, Michigan

1990–1995

Demonstrating the ongoing success—and measurable results—of wetland mitigation

Crosswinds Marsh represents one of the largest wetland mitigation projects in the country, created to meet environmental regulations for the expansion of the Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport. It was an unequivocal success from the beginning. JJR's design far exceeded the environmental requirements, creating a fully functioning natural system that has restored habitat for native flora and fauna, provides environmental learning opportunities, and accommodates multiple public recreational uses.

JJR combined multiple agricultural and residential land parcels—including more than 100 acres of historical wetland habitat that had previously been drained—to create the 1,050-acre wetland ecosystem. More than 750,000 cubic yards of soil were excavated, and careful grading sculpted the land into its new form. Hydrologic and hydraulic modeling led to the creation of three types of wetland communities: emergent, wet meadow and forested. Once native plants were established (including more than 300,000 aquatic plants, 10,000 seedlings and 300 acres of wetland seed), the natural systems were able to function on their own, without the need for dykes, pumps or other man-made systems.

Part of the Wayne County Parks System, Crosswinds Marsh serves as an excellent living laboratory for wetland mitigation. On-site monitoring equipment provides hard data on how well the system functions ecologically. Biological surveys have identified the presence of more than 200 species of birds, 170 species of plants, 20 fish, 30 mammals, 21 reptiles and amphibians, and 70 species of butterflies and dragonflies. An aggressive management plan controls invasive species, critical to the restoration's success.

While prioritizing ecological function over recreation, Crosswinds Marsh nonetheless provides recreational opportunities for more than 15,000 visitors annually. The preserve includes hiking trails, equestrian paths, fishing docks, canoe routes and observation platforms, while limiting visitor access to sensitive areas. It also offers a variety of educational opportunities, including interpretive signage along trails and a screen house to host naturalist programs.



1999 President's Award of Excellence, ASLA
2001 Honor Award, The Waterfront Center
2000 Merit Award, U.S. Dept. of Transportation



Indiana University

Bloomington, Indiana

2008–2009

Establishing a forward-looking sustainable framework for a historic campus

Indiana University's flagship Bloomington campus (IUB) is consistently ranked as one of the top 10 most beautiful campuses in the country. JJR worked with IUB to create the most comprehensive campus master plan in university history. Among its goals: address the need for additional research and academic space and preserve vital architectural and landscape heritage while establishing a forward-looking sustainable framework.

JJR's master plan achieves these goals by taking an integrated, long-term view of the campus as a diverse, dense, and sustainable environment. It views the campus as a series of neighborhoods, creating new space for interdisciplinary collaboration, and breaking the mold of single-use zoning with denser communities of living, learning, recreational, and social experiences brought closer to the core.

The plan also reflects a holistic and cutting-edge commitment to sustainable initiatives. The campus stormwater and hydrology plan, for example, integrates the ecological restoration of the Jordan River with a coordinated strategy of constructed wetlands, bioswales, rain gardens, green roofs and pervious pavements. This approach can accommodate 25-percent growth while reducing impervious surfaces by 50 percent, returning campus run-off to pre-settlement rates.

By tracking the results across a variety of categories—including energy and water use reduction, land utilization, habitat value, and transportation demand management—

IUB's plan clearly demonstrates the long-term benefits of sustainable practices. Just like JJR's Sustainable Guidelines for the University of Connecticut, the IUB plan has helped leverage and advance a transformative commitment to sustainable campus growth and development.



Unlike many campus master plans that gather dust, I literally carry this one to every meeting . . . It is my magic sword and my magic shield as I advocate for campus sustainability . . .

When our Campus Sustainability Advisory Board formulated its 2020 Vision for sustainability and 20 Goals for 2020 last year, the majority of the goals were lifted right out of the Campus Master Plan. Somehow, our master planning team predicted our use of AASHE STARS before it was even available as a campus sustainability metric. This helped me win support for our participation as a STARS Charter Participant and subsequent submission for our Silver STARS certification.

When I look back on all our office was able to accomplish in less than two years, I have to give a lot of credit to this visionary blueprint, which allowed us to hit the ground running.

William M. Brown, AIA, LEED AP
IUB Director of Sustainability



Lost Dog Wash and Gateway Trailheads, McDowell Sonoran Desert Preserve

Scottsdale, Arizona

2003–2010

Minimizing the human footprint in a delicate desert environment

JJR’s award-winning work for the McDowell Sonoran Preserve began with the creation of sustainable site access and design standards in 2003. When completed, the Preserve will encompass approximately 1/3 of Scottsdale’s total land area and at 36,400 acres will be one of the largest urban preserves in the country.

Like all of the firm’s trailhead designs to date, the Gateway to the McDowell Sonoran Preserve reflects a careful juggling act. It provides barrier-free public access to more than 45 miles of trails in the preserve, yet treads carefully on the fragile landscape to establish the necessary entry drive, parking and visitor amenities.

The plan achieved its goals with an innovative design, careful construction and a thoughtful climate action plan. The surrounding desert context was the touchstone for all site and architectural improvements. The entry drive, parking and buildings integrate with the natural drainage patterns of the native arroyos, minimizing grading and the subsequent impact on habitat. Areas disturbed during construction were carefully restored by replanting more than 1,500 cacti, along with the trees, shrubs, seeds and the natural desert surface salvaged from the site.

More than 70 percent of building materials came from the site or were locally sourced. Excavation materials were used for the rammed earth walls of trailhead structures. Stabilized granite parking areas and trail surfaces, which increase percolation and minimize surface runoff and heat gain, utilized screened site soils to match the adjacent colors and textures of the desert floor. With the exception of potable water, facilities operate off the grid; composting toilets eliminate the need for installation of municipal sewer lines, rain barrels provide drip irrigation for new plantings, and a solar array powers lighting and a drinking fountain chiller.

True to its name, this facility is indeed a gateway to the preserve’s trails and to a better understanding of the desert ecosystem. As our society experiences continued growth and expansion, it demonstrates how well-planned designs can respect fragile ecosystems while providing access, education and appreciation for local habitats.



2010 Environmental Design Excellence Award,
Valley Forward Association

2008 Honor Award, ASLA

2008 President’s Award, Arizona Chapter ASLA



BILL W. SINGSPEAR OPERA HOUSE

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
LANDMARK FUND
FOUNDATION
FOUNDATION

AT&T Center for the Performing Arts

Dallas, Texas

2004–2009

Uniting city residents and arts amenities through a welcoming urban oasis

The public-space anchor of the Dallas Arts District, the Elaine D. and Charles A. Sammons Park unifies the four venues of the AT&T Performing Arts Center: the Winspear Opera House, Dee and Charles Wyle Theatre, Annette Strauss Artist Square and City Performance Hall. It provides a grand civic space for outdoor concerts and other events, as well as for general public enjoyment.

Building consensus often is one of the biggest challenges with large public projects. With an international team of consultants, a diverse board and numerous interested community groups, the Sammons Park project had to please many different people with differing expectations. The design team utilized a highly engaging process, facilitating a fluid exchange of information and regularly scheduled meetings to keep interested parties informed. State-of-the-art three-dimensional renderings and digital fly-throughs clearly communicated the plan's detail and character, helping to forge clear consensus for the final design.

Major portions of the project site are built over underground parking, making much of the park an intensive green roof. The design incorporates Texas native perennial plantings and the careful installation of 76 mature trees for immediate visual impact. Dallas is also known for its short, intense rainfall events, so stormwater catchment and storage was critical to a working design. Stormwater is caught in one-half-inch-wide slot drains integrated into the concrete paving at discrete intervals down the length of the slope. (Water is retained in a large unseen storage tank, then pumped into the sewer system.) The effect is clean and uncluttered, complementing the surrounding architecture.

The park has succeeded in furthering the Performing Arts Center's public-oriented mission of establishing an inviting urban oasis in the heart of Dallas. With its engaging mix of gathering/activity and performance areas and striking urban character, the park provides a compelling public-space complement to the Arts District and the downtown Dallas experience.



We have been very fortunate on this project to attract and secure the finest design talent and technical consultants from all over the world . . . JJR played a critical role in this project, because we needed someone U.S.-based so that we could take some of those international ideas and make them as real as possible here.

Doug Curtis, Vice President for Design and Construction

2010 Merit Award, Illinois Chapter ASLA



Northerly Island

Chicago, Illinois

2007–2011

Writing the next chapter in Chicago's dynamic waterfront history

Northerly Island, a 91-acre man-made island in Lake Michigan, is one of Chicago's last large tracts of undeveloped open space. It represents an incredible opportunity to enhance Chicago's already world-class lakefront.

The Chicago Park District selected JJR to lead the design team and guide the new park planning and visioning process for Northerly Island. Public meetings and input sessions established clear goals for the island's future: create a benchmark urban destination exemplifying best practices in ecological sustainability and restoration.

The final framework plan establishes four major zones, transitioning from active urban use at the north end to natural passive use at the south, and from woodland to waterfront. The northern zone includes a new amphitheater, a harbor walk connecting restaurants and shops, and an outdoor educational and events pavilion. The southern zone gives visitors a naturalistic landscape of tall grass prairie, oak-hickory woodland, marsh and savanna. The Chicago skyline seems to rise from the expanse of prairie, celebrating the juxtaposition of urban and wild places.

Northerly Island's boldest design element is a barrier reef complex on the southeast side of the island. The reef creates a 50-acre freshwater lagoon, providing habitat for fish and wildlife and calm water for kayakers and swimmers. This approach creates natural shoreline that supports increased biodiversity and minimizes the need for hard-edge protection measures. The resulting plan creates a unique urban eco-park that underscores Chicago's claim as the "greenest city in the world."



2010 President's Award, Illinois Chapter, ASLA
2011 President's Award, Wisconsin Chapter, ASLA



JJR

landscape architecture
planning
urban design
civil engineering
environmental science