

Nomination of Randall Arendt

Honorary Membership in the ASLA

Through more than 30 years of work as author, educator and site designer, Randall Arendt has combined rare sensitivities in land conservation, land planning and site design to advance the integration of landscape architecture principles into the practice of land-use planning in small towns and rural communities nationwide.

The logic and creativity of his ideas and approach to design and public policy, and the excellence of his communications skills, have exerted a major influence, and have changed the way many planners think about landscape architecture as an essential element in the design of residential subdivisions. His writings and workshop lectures have also persuaded many planners to update their local land-use regulations to incorporate certain basic principles of landscape architecture into new ordinances so that future neighborhoods will be designed in harmony with the natural environment.

His five books, two CD's, two videotapes, and countless articles have defined and illustrated a more creative, environmentally-responsible approach to land planning. His more than 1000 workshops and conference presentations across this country and Canada have inspired and educated a generation of government, industry and civic leaders as well as design and development professionals, preparing the way and providing practical tools to develop land while respecting and preserving existing natural and cultural features. His design consultancy has brought about collaborative working relationships with planning and landscape architecture professionals in more than 20 states. Essentially self-taught in the field of landscape architecture, Arendt (a town planner by training) has absorbed a great deal through his years of close association with leading landscape architects around the country.

Arendt's first book, a collaborative effort with two landscape architects (*Dealing with Change in the Connecticut River Valley: A Design Manual for Conservation and Development*), has received four awards, including an ASLA Professional Award, and one from the Boston Society of Architects stating that the book "*exerted an uncommon influence on public awareness of our built environment.*"

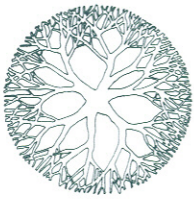
His *Rural by Design: Maintaining Small Town Character* is designated by the American Planning Association as one of 39 books in "*the planner's essential library.*" In addition it should be noted that ASLA co-published his third and fourth books (*Conservation Design for Subdivisions: A Practical Guide for Creating Open Space Networks* and *Growing Greener: Putting Conservation into Local Plans and Ordinances*). As you might recall, his work and third book were profiled in a seven-page feature article published in *Landscape Architecture*, in July 1997. In his books, lectures, and workshops, he has continuously expounded his strongly-held belief that landscape architects should be named in municipal ordinances as the lead designers of conservation subdivisions, with engineers playing a subordinate, supporting role on the planning team, until the stage when streets and utility details are prepared.

In addition, Arendt has contributed to the education of designers as Adjunct Professor of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning at the University of Massachusetts/Amherst, and has served as a member of ASLA's Professional Awards jury.

Last year, Arendt was named a fellow of the Royal Institute of Town Planners in London. (It should be noted that his election was particularly significant because the Institute appoints only one or two Fellows annually, and that distinction is almost never accorded to planners working outside the U.K.)

In addition to this recognition of his work in the United Kingdom, Arendt's work is also known in countries as distant as China, where a three-page interview with him recently appeared in *Urban Planning Overseas*, published in Beijing. Preliminary discussions have also been initiated by the Chinese, requesting permission to publish a Chinese translation of Arendt's *Rural by Design*.

By advancing conservation design principles in practicable and appealing ways, Arendt sets the stage for a landscape architecture that informs the design and development of sustainable and livable communities—earning him the respect of leading landscape architects in this country as evidenced by the accompanying letters of support and testimonials. As one who has witnessed the influence he has had upon both the planning and landscape architecture professions, it is a great honor to nominate him for your consideration.



Dodson Associates, Ltd.
Landscape Architecture & Planning

July 8, 2004

American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Dear ASLA,

I am writing in support of honorary membership for Randall Arendt in the ASLA. Through more than 30 years of work as author, educator and site designer, Randall has brought unique skills in land conservation, land planning and site design to advance the integration of landscape architecture with land-use planning in small towns and rural communities nationwide.

His talented approach to design and public policy and his strong communications skills have helped change the way many planners think about landscape architecture as an essential element in the design of residential subdivisions. His writings and workshop lectures have also persuaded many planners to update their local land-use regulations to incorporate certain basic principles of landscape architecture into new ordinances so that future neighborhoods will be designed in harmony with the natural environment.

His five books, two CD's, two videotapes, and countless articles have defined and illustrated a more creative approach to land planning. His more than 1000 workshops and conference presentations across this country and Canada have inspired and educated a generation of government, industry and civic leaders as well as design and development professionals, preparing the way and providing practical tools to develop land while respecting and preserving existing natural and cultural features. His planning practice has brought about collaborative working relationships with planning and landscape architecture professionals in more than 20 states. Essentially self-taught in the field of landscape architecture, Randall (a town planner by training) has absorbed a great deal through his years of close association with leading landscape architects around the country.

Arendt got his start in publications as the editor and publicist of *Dealing with Change in the Connecticut River Valley: A Design Manual for Conservation and Development*, principally written, planned and designed by Dodson Associates and conceived by planner Robert Yaro, then director of the Center for Rural Massachusetts at the University of Massachusetts. Randall learned many of his physical planning and design skills from Dodson Associates and sharpened his planning skills working with Yaro on this project. The book established the major themes and design concepts for his later work. It has received four awards, including an ASLA Professional Award, and one from the Boston Society of Architects stating that the book "*exerted an uncommon*

influence on public awareness of our built environment.” His first stand-alone publication: *Rural by Design: Maintaining Small Town Character* included chapters by Dodson, Yaro and Christine Reid. It has been designated by the American Planning Association as one of 39 books in “*the planner’s essential library.*” In addition it should be noted that ASLA co-published his third and fourth books (*Conservation Design for Subdivisions: A Practical Guide for Creating Open Space Networks* and *Growing Greener: Putting Conservation into Local Plans and Ordinances*). As you might recall, his work and third book were profiled in a seven-page feature article published in *Landscape Architecture*, in July 1997. In his books, lectures, and workshops, he has continuously expounded his strongly-held belief that landscape architects should be named in municipal ordinances as the lead designers of conservation subdivisions, with engineers playing a subordinate, supporting role on the planning team, until the stage when streets and utility details are prepared.

In addition, Arendt has contributed to the education of designers as Adjunct Professor of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning at the University of Massachusetts/Amherst, and has served as a member of ASLA’s Professional Awards jury. In recognition of his professional achievements, last year he was named a fellow of the Royal Town Planning Institute, in London.

By advancing conservation design principles in practicable and appealing ways, Arendt sets the stage for a landscape architecture that informs the design and development of sustainable and livable communities -- earning him the respect of leading landscape architects in this country as evidenced by the accompanying letters of support and testimonials. As one who has witnessed the influence he has had upon both the planning and landscape architecture professions, it is a great honor to nominate him for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Harry L. Dodson



UNIVERSITY of
MASSACHUSETTS
109 Hills North
111 Infirmary Way, Ofc 1
Amherst, MA 01003-9328

Landscape Architecture
and Regional Planning

voice: 413.545.2255
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July 22, 2004

Dear Board of Trustees of ASLA:

This is a letter of support for Randall Arendt's nomination for the Honorary Membership of ASLA by your board. I have known Mr. Arendt since over two decades. I have witnessed his remarkable accomplishments since he co-authored his first major and influential work of a design manual for our Connecticut Valley.

I have read the majority of his books and manuals. I was among the many people using his writings in my courses for at least twenty years. Based on my long association with him and his work, I do support his nomination with great enthusiasm to become an honorary member of the ASLA.

My support for his selection has three reasons: First for his achievement internationally; second for his tremendous influence and contribution to conservation design; and thirdly for his future potential to aid our profession, landscape architecture.

On the international significance of his work:

His most recent writing has just been published this May in the International Journal of Landscape Planning in a book size volume #68 of this journal. As you are aware this journal is the international forum for our profession Landscape Architecture. This publication is a "refereed journal" which represents high quality writing.

On his influence and contribution to conservation design:

His over 1,000 prolific publications and workshops in North America have influenced our profession significantly. His work is similar to two other giants, namely, Kevin Lynch and William H. White. Many of us who are writing and publishing for our profession feel strongly, that Lynch's site planning & White's Last Landscape should have been written by members of landscape architecture.

I see similarly, that the excellent writing and superb graphic illustrations of Randall Arendt are truly significant publications and do support fully the principles and the best practice of landscape architecture. In fact his writings, workshops and presentations throughout the USA provide a "notable service" for the members of ASLA, who have been influenced by the good work of Randall.

On his future potential:

An honorary membership would make Randall Arendt as one of us. We, as a profession, have benefited a lot from the honorary membership of the late William White. Randall Arendt is currently at his prime. I do anticipate that he will have another 1000 workshops and presentations as an honorary member of our profession.

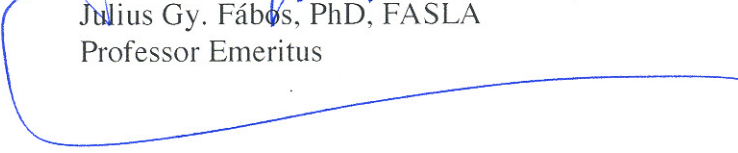
In summary, I strongly believe that his work represents the type of “notable service to landscape architecture” which is the key criteria of ASLA to award the Honorary Membership to non-landscape architects.

I do hope that your board will grant this award for Randall Arendt.

Sincerely yours,



Julius Gy. Fábos, PhD, FASLA
Professor Emeritus



July 18, 2004

Mr. Barry Starke, FASLA
Earth Design Associates
4499 Old Auburn Road
Casanova, Virginia 20139

GREENWAYS
I N C O R P O R A T E D

Open Space Planning
Multi-Objective Trail Design
Landscape Architecture

RE: Letter of Reference for Randall Arendt
Delivery by E-mail: Earthdgn@aol.com

Dear Barry:

This letter is provided in support of Randall Arendt's nomination for "honorary membership" in the American Society of Landscape Architects. I have known Randall and worked with him since 1992 and have the highest degree of admiration for his work, and his contributions to the profession of Landscape Architecture.

As I understand, the purpose of honorary membership is "to recognize persons other than landscape architects whose achievements of national or international significance or influence have provided notable service to the profession of landscape architecture." Randall Arendt most certainly meets these criteria and is widely regarded as one of the most influential land planners of our time.

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The logic and creativity of his ideas and approach to design and public policy, and the excellence of his communications skills, have exerted a major influence, and have changed the way many planners think about landscape architecture as an essential element in the design of residential subdivisions. His writings and workshop lectures have also persuaded many planners to update their local land-use regulations to incorporate certain basic principles of landscape architecture into new ordinances so that future neighborhoods will be designed in harmony with the natural environment.

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Durham, North Carolina 27713
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fax: (919) 484-3003
WebSite: www.greenways.com

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By advancing conservation design principles in practicable and appealing ways, Randall sets the stage for a landscape architecture that informs the design and development of sustainable and livable communities -- earning him the respect of leading landscape architects in this country as evidenced by the accompanying letters of support and testimonials.

I am not only a professional advocate for Randall; I am also a resident in one of the community's that he designed, Colvard Farms, in Durham, NC. It is a privilege for me to support Randall Arendt's nomination for honorary membership in ASLA.

Sincerely,

Charles A. Flink, FASLA
President



The University of Georgia

College of Environment and Design

July 21, 2004

Board of Trustees
American Society of Landscape Architecture

To The Board:

With this letter, I wish to strongly endorse the candidacy of Mr. Randall Arendt for Honorary Membership in the American Society of Landscape Architects. His work over the past three decades has certainly had a profound effect on the field of landscape planning and site design, leading to the preservation of the unique character of the landscape where his principles have been applied.

I first came to be aware of Randall's work through his writing. Subsequently, we were both on an ASLA Awards Program jury, and I valued his astute observations and expertise in that setting very much.

His work is exemplary in that it considers the unique character of the landscapes in which he is working, and has the effect of preserving that character, while still accommodating the need for development. The impact of his actual practice has been multiplied many times over through his outstanding communication skills, whether in his books, his teaching and lecturing in academic settings, or lecturing and conducting workshops with citizen groups. Within the last two years, I have heard him speak both to an audience of students and faculty members at the University of Georgia, and to an audience of Athens planners and interested citizens. In each case, he demonstrated a unique ability to "connect" with the diverse audiences.

These abilities, as well as the direct impact of the application of his planning and design principles on the quality of the landscape, make him a prime candidate for honorary membership in the American Society of Landscape Architects. In fact, if anything, such membership is overdue. He has my strongest endorsement for this honor.

Respectfully submitted,

Darrel Morrison, FASLA
Professor Emeritus and former Dean

Phone: (706) 769-6003

August 6, 2004

Board of Trustees
American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye Street, NW,
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Board Members:


I am writing in support of the election of Randall Arendt as an Honorary Member of the American Society of Landscape Architects. I have known and worked with Randall over the past 25 years and cannot think of anyone better suited for this high honor.

Throughout his career, Randall has been a relentless advocate of environmentally conscious land use planning upon which he has had a tremendous impact throughout this country and abroad. He has written countless articles and numerous books on the subject of conservation design and rural areas preservation planning. He has been able to use his knowledge and unique communication skills to educate an extraordinary number of non-professionals about the concepts of conservation planning and design in an easily understood format, thus elevating public awareness of proper planning and design.

Randall has long been an advocate of teamwork between planners and landscape architects, and never misses an opportunity to promote the use of landscape architects in the design and use of land. Although Randall is a planner, not a landscape architect, he is so closely allied with our profession that I once introduced him at an ASLA annual meeting educational session as “educated as a planner, but born a landscape architect”. By honoring Randall in this way, ASLA has the distinct opportunity of making him one of us.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Barry W. Starke, FASLA, AICP
Past-President ASLA

BWS/sgm

**EARTH
DESIGN
ASSOCIATES, INC.**

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LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE / LAND USE PLANNING / ARCHITECTURE

