

Honorary Membership Nomination Narrative Format

Nominee: **Meg Maguire**
Nominee's Address: 631 Maryland Avenue, NE
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Nominating Trustee: Faye Harwell, Potomac Chapter Trustee

Meg Maguire is a long-time resident of Washington, DC who has devoted over 35 years to protecting the quality of the American Landscape. Her work has been integral to advancing the profession of landscape architecture and its practice. She has championed the safeguarding of natural beauty and community character, context-sensitive highway and transportation design, visual assessment, natural and cultural resource preservation, and outdoor recreation during her exceptional career.

Ms. Maguire attended the University-College of Rhodesia and Nyasaland (University of London), Salisbury, Rhodesia, and then received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Randolph-Macon Women's College, Lynchburg, VA in 1965, followed by a Certificate from the International Institute of Labor Studies, International Labor Organization in Geneva, Switzerland and a Master's degree in sociology from Rutgers University in 1967. After graduating from Rutgers, Ms. Maguire returned to Randolph-Macon College to teach sociology (1967-68) before moving to New York City where she was Budget Analyst with the Office of City Planning (1968-70), then Senior Planner, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration before becoming Assistant General Manager of the State Park and Recreation Commission for the City of New York (1974-77).

In 1977 Ms. Maguire was appointed Deputy Director, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service (HCRS), Department of the Interior, under President Carter, where, until 1981, she managed natural and cultural resource preservation and outdoor recreation programs, including the Land and Water Conservation Fund (\$1.1 billion to state governments for 10,000 projects with 577,000 acres of land acquired for recreation use); Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program (originated legislation and administered \$95 million in grants to 281 cities); Historic Preservation Fund (\$162.5 million to states and the National Trust for Historic Preservation); National Register of Historic Places; and programs for wild and scenic rivers, trails, barrier islands, and national heritage areas. These extraordinary conservation programs continue to affect land management in America today.

Subsequently, as a partner in Maguire/Reeder, Ltd. (1982 – 1994), she produced award-winning international and national environmental video/multi-image presentations for national clients, including The American Institute of Architects, American Planning Association, American Farmland Trust, National Trust for Historic Preservation, National Parks and Conservation Association, Scenic America, National Endowment for the Arts, Population Action International, U.S. Holocaust Museum, the Helen Hayes Awards, the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, and Arena Stage's 40th Anniversary.

In 1983, she established the non-profit *Environmental Images, Inc.* and worked with ASLA and LAF to secure a National Endowment for the Arts Design Arts Program grant to establish “*The Environmental Images Slide Library , Landscape Architecture Slide Collection of Award-Winning Projects of the American Society of Landscape Architects, 1979-1987*”, the first catalogued and publicly-accessible repository of environmental design slides representing the visual heritage of award-winning landscape architecture projects. This repository was given to ASLA in 1994 when she left Maguire/Reeder.

As Senior Program Officer for Federal Agencies and National Nonprofits, AMERICORPS, Corporation for National Service (1994-1995), Ms. Maguire helped start up AmeriCorps, part of President Clinton’s National Service Program, for which she supervised selection and administration of 58 grants totaling \$47 million for FY’95, and led the Federal renewal process for FY’96. Environmental and conservation grantees included the Departments of Agriculture, Interior, Energy, Transportation and EPA.

In Ms. Maguire’s position as President, Scenic America (January, 1996 – October, 2004), she was Chief Executive Officer of the only national nonprofit organization dedicated “to safeguarding natural beauty and community character” by building a citizen movement for scenic conservation through 10 state affiliates and 14 associates. She also worked with allied professional organizations, including ASLA, to provide leadership to promote smart growth; reform the Highway Beautification Act; assist communities with sign control and siting of wireless telecommunication towers; promote statewide programs under ISTEA’s National Scenic Byways Program; designate Last Chance Landscapes; and advocate for context-sensitive highway design and policies to protect the nation’s scenic resources. Programs and conferences included National Scenic Byways; Last Chance Landscapes; California Scenic Conservation Initiative; Scenic Symposium, 2004; and Georgia Scenic Byways Program. Scenic America publications produced under her direction included: *Aesthetics, Community Character and the Law; America the Beautiful: Promise vs. Performance in Federal Policies and Practices for Scenic Conservation; Conserving Our Treasured Places: Managing Visual Quality on Scenic Byways; The Highway Beautification Act: A Broken Law; A Visual Awareness Tool Kit for Communities* for the National Park Service, and Action Guides on scenic easements, overhead utilities, and telecommunications towers, as well as videos on sign control and forest conservation.

Since leaving Scenic America, Ms. Maguire has been practicing as a Community Conservation Consultant, with an emphasis on “sustaining and enhancing places” through “community visioning and scenic by-way resource conservation”, continuing to advance the causes she has supported throughout her career that are so crucial in the advancement of the profession of landscape architecture and its practice. Likewise, throughout her career, she has variously employed and worked with many landscape architects, including ASLA staff, leadership and members.

Meg Maguire’s actions in public and professional service have continually embodied the values and mission of the American Society of Landscape Architects. Her contributions to safeguarding natural beauty and community character, context-sensitive highway and transportation design, visual assessment, natural and cultural resource preservation, and outdoor recreation programs not only reflect and support the values of the landscape architecture profession, but have inspired informed public advocacy for them for a generation. She has been an exemplary leader and is certainly a deserving candidate for Honorary Membership in the Society.