

## ASLA Olmsted Medal Nomination: National Association for Olmsted Parks

National Association for Olmsted Parks  
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Washington, D.C.  
President and CEO, Anne Neal Petri

American Society of Landscape Architects  
Olmsted Medal Nominations  
c/o Honors and Awards  
636 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001-3736

It is with great pleasure that the Connecticut, New York, New York-Upstate, and Boston Chapters of the American Society of Landscape Architects nominate the National Association for Olmsted Parks (NAOP) for the 2022 Olmsted Medal. Our chapters, which represent over a thousand Olmsted firm projects, Olmsted Sr.'s birthplace, his first and best known landscape (Central Park), as well as the site of the Olmsted home and office that is now a National Park, recognize NAOP's decades of dedication to both protecting the Olmsted landscape legacy and for aiding landscape stewards and the public who manage and cherish these places.

### Introduction

The National Association for Olmsted Parks (NAOP) is the only national organization solely dedicated to preserving the Olmsted legacy by linking advocacy, research, and education to understand, protect, and steward Olmsted-designed landscapes. For the last 42 years NAOP has undertaken the work to identify and advocate for recognizing the intellectual foundation and landscape legacy of Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. and the work accomplished by his firm across the United States, Canada, and beyond. Established in 1980, NAOP's successful longevity is the result of a vigilant working board, dynamic executive leadership, and a network of contacts who together work to connect a unique collection of cultural landscapes with their intellectual and design foundation. By attracting Olmsted scholars, landscape architects, municipal officials, historical landscape professionals, and citizen advocates, NAOP works to illuminate and make available the Olmsted archives at national and local repositories for the benefit of all. Annual meetings, conferences, and education sessions, publications, and websites are tools NAOP has and continues to employ to connect communities to their Olmsted legacy landscapes and enable today and tomorrow's users and managers the ability to enjoy and care for these irreplaceable parks and landscapes.

As one of the first national non-profits to focus on historic landscapes, NAOP recognized the need to foster the development of park conservancies, "friends" groups, and alliances who would then support local efforts to protect and interpret their own Olmsted heritage. NAOP continues to build and strengthen this network of public, private, and non-profit stewards, which has expanded as people and communities discover their Olmsted landscapes. It assists historic landscape managers—from private homeowners to directors of urban park systems—to successfully apply the available historical materials to inventory and confirm the Olmsted

landscape design and its associated features. When asked, NAOP weighs in on threats to Olmsted legacy landscapes and works to find solutions that protect and enhance the resource. NAOP advocates for historic landscape preservation treatment plans that are grounded in research and encourages conservation and enjoyment of this distinct collection of nature “designed” to enhance our mental and physical health.

In 2022, NAOP is realizing a multi-year goal to inspire and share local efforts to recognize the bicentennial of Olmsted’s birth through its Olmsted 200 outreach and website. By January of 2022, more than 120 organizations representing communities across the country have signed on and are undertaking projects, holding events, and planning celebrations to highlight their Olmsted legacy landscape. Along with local groups, NAOP is gathering a group of national leaders and organizations, including ASLA, to assist in this effort. Through these individuals, organizations, and grass-root efforts, the shared theme that public parks and landscapes are “for all people and essential to our health and daily lives” will reach the largest possible audience. Olmsted’s vision—the power of nature to restore the human spirit—and the work that resulted from his vision is our shared American legacy.

### Background

NAOP was founded in 1980 by resolution when an Erie County legislator invited Olmsted scholars, municipal park leaders, and landscape architects from around the country to rally at Buffalo, New York, to challenge development threats to an Olmsted park. Outcomes from the meeting were the shared recognition of the group’s common challenges, and the need for an organization with a national voice to educate and advocate on behalf of an Olmsted legacy of parks and landscapes that was largely unrecognized. The group’s success at Buffalo prompted the new organization to hold the first Olmsted conference the following year in Boston, and Brookline, Massachusetts. From that meeting forward, NAOP has traveled the country using its annual meetings to foster programs and partner with local organizations around events, exhibits, and symposia, as well as to engage with colleagues and assist local efforts to preserve and steward the Olmsted landscape legacy. From Montreal to Atlanta, from Louisville to Asheville, from Washington, D.C. to Washington State, NAOP has crisscrossed the nation to lend its support, meet friends in the trenches, and give awards on stages, all in the effort to promote and protect Olmsted parks and landscapes. A detailed chronology of NAOP’s evolution is found in a forty-year review they produced: [www.olmsted.org](http://www.olmsted.org)

### Accomplishments

*Research* – the core of NAOP’s mission is to make the wealth of Olmsted materials available to the public and to link the two primary archives: Correspondence files held at the Library of Congress (LOC) in Washington, D.C., with plans, drawings, reports, photo albums, etc., at the National Park Service - Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic (NPS-FLONHS) at Brookline, MA. With access to both collections, the full extent and meaning of proposed projects can be understood and compared to what was built or survived on the ground. In 1987 NAOP along with assistance from the Massachusetts Association for Olmsted Parks (MAOP), published the

first comprehensive list of Olmsted firm projects, by state, and unique job number. The publication was titled:

*The Master List of Design Projects of the Olmsted Firm, 1857 – 1950*, aka the “Green Book” (for its simple green cover).

As the web became a preferred research portal, and archivists and researchers at both LOC and NPS-FLONHS began to understand the breadth of materials in their collections, it became clear that this public resource had to be made web-accessible. It was essential for researchers and others to have easy access to these archives and be able to make informed decisions about travel to both Washington D.C. and Brookline, MA, to see and photograph the paper archives associated with the Olmsted project in question.

To put that information on the web, NAOP partnered with NPS-FLONHS, and in receipt of a three-year matching grant from the NPS-National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, they created:

*Olmsted Research Guide Online (ORGO)* <http://ww3.rediscov.com/olmsted/>

The website provides access to the archival information—correspondence and information about 100,000 plans, drawings, reports, etc. (by title and description)—that verify what can be found in either collection.

With ever growing numbers of researchers and requests coming to NPS-FLONHS, additional information was gleaned as more archival material was reviewed. This required an updated *Master List*. NAOP took on that challenge, and in time for the 150th anniversary of Central Park in 2008, NAOP published an expanded (1857 to 1979—adding more than 20 years of work) and corrected second edition. The four-color illustrated update of the *Master List of Design Projects of the Olmsted Firm* included essays by Olmsted scholars that introduced twelve chapters associated with each landscape type represented by the firms’ work. In addition, the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition included an appendix that covered the “Chronology of the Olmsted Firm” and an “Index to Job Locations” that cross-referenced jobs by states and towns. The effort won state and national awards and has become an essential reference for anyone delving into the Olmsted legacy.

With new technologies available, in 2011, NAOP joined in a collaborative effort with Washington State DOT, NPS-FLONHS, and Friends of Seattle’s Olmsted Parks to develop a web portal where users find Olmsted projects that are georeferenced and linked to contemporary and historic materials. This gives park stewards, government agencies, landscape architects and historians, as well as an interested public, the needed resources to research, assess, and manage their Olmsted landscapes. This effort launched as NAOP’s Olmsted Online in 2013 and is the essential tool to foster education, appreciation, and interaction with the thousands of projects that make up a unique legacy of landscape design. [www.olmstedonline.org](http://www.olmstedonline.org)

## Outreach and Engagement

**Olmsted 200** is the culmination of NAOP's decades-long outreach and engagement efforts. With ten national "founding" partners that include ASLA, Garden Club of America, Trust for Public Land, National Recreation and Park Association, City Parks Alliance, The Cultural Landscape Foundation, and others, NAOP is leading the way to bring the largest coalition of national and grassroots organization together around this unique landscape legacy. To date, more than 120 local and international groups have joined the network and communities everywhere are planning conferences, events, and exhibits, to highlight their special parks and places. Through a new website [www.Olmsted200.org](http://www.Olmsted200.org), NAOP provides toolkits, down-loadable exhibit panels, webinars, original carillon music inspired by Olmsted, e-blasts, etc., to ensure the greatest possible participation in this "creative coalition of landscape architects, design professionals, city planners, public health experts, conservationists, community leaders, historians and educators" who are coming together "to celebrate the life, leadership and enduring influence of American visionary and social reformer Frederick Law Olmsted."

The roots of NAOP's Olmsted 200 outreach and engagement efforts are still growing. From the beginning NAOP has produced regular publications to keep its network informed and involved. It has done this through:

- Publications: *Field Notes*—semi-annual newsletter to share inspiring stories from around the country along with diverse and lively reports on NAOP's efforts to improve and protect the Olmsted landscape legacy. *Workbooks*—Five in-depth looks written by leaders in the field covering technical as well as historical subjects. *Reprints*—a selected Olmsted writing with an introduction by a current practitioner, to show the relevance of Olmsted's thinking as it applies to contemporary issues.
- Annual Meetings, Symposia, Conferences, etc. — NAOP has used its annual meetings as opportunities to engage with local communities around the country and has partnered with ASLA and other national and local organizations to host symposia and conferences with NAOP's coming — in the five years before Covid, NAOP went to Hartford, CT, Rochester, NY, Washington, DC, and Brookline, MA, and at each event offered ASLA-approved contact hours to meet licensing requirements.
- Partnership with Frederick Law Olmsted NHS — over the decades NAOP has maintained a working relationship with the national park to assist with efforts to reach the largest possible audiences with the materials in the park's collections and to accomplish work they could not effectively do in-house. Most recently this has been a five-year effort to complete the scanning and digitization of plans and drawings so that the material could be made web-accessible and through OlmstedOnline, researchers and interested "visitors" can link seamlessly to the digitized material through the unique Olmsted job numbers. NAOP also partnered to bring the park's innovative grade school program to a larger audience with the "Good Neighbors Institute" [www.Olmsted.org/outreach/good-neighbors-institute](http://www.Olmsted.org/outreach/good-neighbors-institute)

## Summary

NAOP has done an outstanding job to share the Olmsted legacy with the greatest number of people for the health and benefit of our communities. By doing this, NAOP highlighted and advanced the unique history of landscape architecture in the United States, and through their education and advocacy efforts to preserve and enhance some of the world's most significant examples of landscape design work, we have benefitted as a profession.

Each day millions of Americans choose to stroll, bicycle, and drive through iconic and scenic landscapes shaped by Olmsted design principles without realizing the commitment and work that made them possible. NAOP has spent forty years working to engage and educate the users to ensure these landscapes are preserved and maintained in perpetuity. In this Olmsted bicentennial year, we are pleased to sign and submit this nomination for your consideration.



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Daniel Granniss, President-Connecticut Chapter, ASLA



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Kaki Martin, President-Boston Society of Landscape Architects-MA and ME Chapter, ASLA



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Carl Carlson, President-New York Chapter, ASLA



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Nicole Cleary, President-New York Upstate, ASLA



Charles Beveridge, Series Editor  
The Papers of Frederick Law Olmsted  
2121 Eisenhower Avenue, Suite 305  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Olmsted Medal Nominations  
Honor and Awards Committee  
636 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Re: Nomination of the National Association for Olmsted Parks

I am pleased to submit a letter in support of the nomination of the National Association for Olmsted Parks (NAOP) for the 2022 ASLA Olmsted Medal. As a founding member of NAOP, and an Olmsted Medal winner, I have been pleased to see NAOP's achievements over the decades as it succeeded in meeting many of the purposes for which it was founded. First of these has been to increase public awareness and appreciation of the profession of landscape architecture, primarily as represented by the legacy of Frederick Law Olmsted, as the founder and leading historical figure of the profession.

Since the early years of the Olmsted revival, beginning with the restoration of Central Park under the direction of Elizabeth Barlow, NAOP has functioned as the most important national point of contact in association with advocating and planning for local groups dedicated to recovering their legacy of Olmsted-designed parks. NAOP has played a leading role in the formation of several statewide organizations that have educated their public concerning the significance of landscape architecture through conferences, lectures, and publications and organizing and restoring archives of city parks departments. It has participated in development of programs for recapturing these spaces, such as the Massachusetts state-wide Olmsted Historic Landscapes Preservation Program that created and published the histories of a dozen public parks in the state including those of the Boston "Emerald Necklace."

I feel special appreciation for these activities of NAOP, since they led to creation of preservation and restoration programs for which I served as historical advisor, giving me the opportunity to work closely with numerous landscape architects on some forty Olmsted-designed parks, estates, and landscapes—thus learning to appreciate and admire how the profession that Olmsted created has come to serve the country as he hoped would be the case.

More personal and professional is my appreciation of the support of NAOP in the preparation of the twelve-volume series of *The Papers of Frederick Law Olmsted*, published by Johns Hopkins University Press. NAOP has served as the institutional sponsor of the project for many years. In recent years NAOP secured the funding needed for preparation of the concluding volumes of the Papers, large-format volumes that provide explanation and commentary on

some 150 commissions accompanied by nearly one thousand historical views and high-resolution scans of plans.

In addition to its important role with the Olmsted Papers project, NAOP produced its own significant publications, chief of which is the *Master List of Design Projects of the Olmsted Firm, 1857-1979*, a comprehensive guide to the more than three thousand projects undertaken by the Olmsted firms covering more than a century of practice. NAOP is currently engaged in important projects that utilize digital technology. A recent collaboration has been with the National Park Service's Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site (FLONHS) in creating the Olmsted Research Guide Online (ORGO) that identifies thousands of documents and plans dealing with individual Olmsted firm projects that are in the FLONHS archives or in manuscript collections in the Library of Congress. NAOP has developed its own digital mechanism, Olmsted Online [www.olmstedonline.org](http://www.olmstedonline.org), which provides convenient access to the digitized FLONHS archives, the digitized correspondence files at the Library of Congress, the relevant Olmsted files from the Smithsonian Archives and relevant National Register of Historic Places listings. Under the leadership of Anne Neal Petri, NAOP has led in negotiations to create a universally available edition of the volumes of Olmsted Papers published by Johns Hopkins University Press.

For all these past and ongoing activities in the interest of the Olmsted legacy of landscape design and the profession of landscape architecture, and most particularly for leading Olmsted 200, I believe NAOP to be a worthy candidate for recipient of the ASLA Olmsted medal in 2022, Olmsted's bicentennial year.

Sincerely,  
Charles E. Beveridge, PhD  
Honorary ASLA



Olmsted Medal Nominations  
Honor and Awards Committee  
636 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001-3736

**Re: Nomination of the National Association for Olmsted Parks—for the Olmsted Medal**

Dear committee members,

I'm writing to encourage you and ASLA to realize a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity this year: Recognize the National Association for Olmsted Parks with the Olmsted Medal, in the year that we celebrate, with great ambition, the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr.'s birth, with many months of programming across the nation. What could be better than this timing?

We have benefitted for more than 40 years from the collective contributions of NAOP to our shared knowledge of the physical, intellectual, and social impacts of Frederick Law Olmsted and his successors on the field of landscape architecture. There is no substitute for the work NAOP has done toward our shared understanding and indeed our lived experience of this legacy.

In my own telling, which appears elsewhere but I will encapsulate here, the alchemy of NAOP's formation materialized two nascent advancements. First, while landscape architects sustained remarkably little interest in Olmsted's career or his accomplishments during the first half of the twentieth century, beginning in the 1950s, scholars in the social sciences prosecuted the rehabilitation of Olmsted as an American reformist. Through dissertations that explored his influence as a progressive journalist, public health advocate, and urban interventionist, they established an intellectual foundation that would later undergird defensible historical narratives for specific parks sites across the nation. Second, because Olmsted's work was being lost through a steady, systemic, nearly apocalyptic impoverishment of the urban American public realm in the 1960s and 70s, these same scholars joined with parks activists to begin the path to rescuing the spaces and systems of Olmsted's great urban works.

This was in some ways a parallel reform movement to Olmsted's. It is well to recall the Central Park of my '70s youth: a broken, degraded relic where illicit or fringe occupations were the order of the day—and a primary reason to go there. In the revival during the 1980s in New York and Brooklyn, Boston and Louisville, especially—but also in many other places—NAOP helped to catalyze the collective effort to return these parks to the vital role in urban public life that Olmsted had originally envisioned. Through their efforts, they educated the public and elected officials about the urgency of need, produced new models of preservation practice, invented creative financing for parks rehabilitation, revolutionized parks governance, and built an ever-growing coalition of devoted citizens who became an even more effective force for change.

This record of advocacy for parks in cities across America continues with great thrust today—currently, on dozens of efforts nationwide. Most of it is voluntary on the part of board members and advisors and friends. It is through partnerships, direct campaigns, and personal and organizational diligence that the work of this group makes a difference, time and again. And, beyond advocacy, the work of NAOP includes educational programs, direct research and case studies, and outreach efforts like Olmsted 200—of which ASLA is a partner.

I want to make special mention of NAOP's monumental Frederick Law Olmsted Papers Project, which has long been a kind of personal intellectual scaffold for me in my work as an academic and in my practice. Olmsted's papers in the Library of Congress number around 24,000 items and nearly 50,000 images, thanks to a judicious gift by Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. The Papers project of documentation and dissemination began in earnest on the sesquicentennial of his birth, precisely 50 years ago; by the mid-1980s, these scholars had helped form the National Association for Olmsted Parks (along with many of its stateside sister organizations). It was this tirelessly dedicated confederation that helped secure the lifeline of support to commission and publish the remaining eight volumes of edited writings and three other companion volumes. As just one case in point, my copy of *Volume II*, published in the early days of this alliance, crucially aided my understanding of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century enslavement and racist practices in Texas during my firm's effort to develop an authentic narrative—one that has never been told to Alamo visitors—which would guide our work on new cultural facilities for the Alamo and Alamo Plaza.

The NAOP Olmsted Papers project is nothing short of a national treasure itself—it was the leveraging effort that allows the continued reconsideration of the forces behind Olmsted's work, his belief systems, his command of capitalist forces and how they could be brought to bear for good, and his overall importance in the modern American story. The community of researchers and writers itself is remarkable, and active, and growing. It is this community that shares the honor in this year of Olmsted's bicentennial, Olmsted 200. NAOP has truly demonstrated environmental leadership, vision, and stewardship. I hope you agree they have earned the immense recognition that comes with ASLA's coveted Olmsted Medal.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and best wishes in your good work.

Sincerely,



Gary R. Hilderbrand FASLA FAAR

Principal, Reed Hilderbrand LLC

Peter Louis Hornbeck Professor in Practice, Harvard Graduate School of Design



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January 28, 2022

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Olmsted Medal Nominations  
c/o Honor and Awards  
636 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20002-3736

Dear Committee Members,

Since arriving at Olmsted Parks Conservancy four years ago, I have been reminded time and again the tremendous resource that is the National Association of Olmsted Parks.

When our organization was founded over 33 years ago, NAOP was instrumental in the development of our *1994 Louisville Olmsted Parks and Parkways Master Plan*. They have supported our local team with historic research, guidance, development of best practices, and national connections.

Olmsted parks are different from other parks. They are historic works of art that must be protected and renewed. This can be a challenging role for local Olmsted park leaders faced with budget cuts and public demands. We must tell the story of why Olmsted parks are special, why they must be protected, and why certain activities or designs may be inappropriate in these spaces. This is a difficult task made easier by the resources and community that NAOP has built.

When COVID struck, parks across the country were deeply impacted. NAOP immediately convened leaders of Olmsted parks across the country for monthly calls. I cannot express how helpful it has been to be a part of such a supportive group of peers. We have had open conversations about our challenges and our victories. We have happily stolen great ideas from each other and lifted each other up during our calls.

I feel blessed to be stewarding our Olmsted park system in Louisville and will be forever grateful to NAOP for the national role they have played in making sure these spaces are around for future generations. I cannot think of a more fitting tribute and recognition of the value they provide than by awarding them the ASLA Olmsted Medal in 2022, the bicentennial of Olmsted's birth.

With gratitude,

Layla George  
President and CEO



# RIVER HERITAGE

CONSERVANCY

February 1, 2022

Olmsted Medal Nominations  
c/o Honor and Awards  
636 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20002-3736

Dear Committee Members,

It is with true pleasure that I write this letter of support for the National Association for Olmsted Parks (NAOP) and its nomination for the Olmsted Medal.

My first exposure to NAOP was at a Chicago conference in the early '80s. It was pure inspiration to meet the early leaders; among them were Charles McLaughlin, Charles Beverage, Arleyn Levee, Patricia O'Donnell, and Marion Pressley. Their organization introduced me to the idea of an Olmsted legacy. From them I understood that Frederick Law Olmsted's legacy is much more than the landscapes he planned, designed, and built. The legacy descends from Olmsted Sr. through his sons and daughter and broadens widely through the Olmsted firm associates who went on to their own influential practices across the nation, forming the very fabric of our communities, cities, and regions. Recognizing this expansive body of Olmstedian work, NAOP chose to use "for" rather than "of" in its name.

Critical to legacy and preservation practice, NAOP has dedicated years of effort to make the original Olmsted materials available to all. These tools include websites, the Master List, OlmstedOnline, and access to a broad network of advocates and professionals. NAOP has pursued technological advances and effective partnerships to continue building out and improving this vital resource. Most important, these powerful tools provide a solid footing for understanding and treating Olmsted landscapes.

As a result, local landscape preservation efforts are strengthened, and professional practices are supported. It is thanks to NAOP's leadership that popular awareness of the Olmsted legacy continues to grow and flourish. Without NAOP's contributions to the field over the past four decades, how much of our nation's treasured Olmsted heritage would have been mistreated or lost?

NAOP is truly the most significant voice in the nation for Olmsted values, principles, and practices. I can't imagine a more laudable candidate for the Olmsted Medal than the National Association for Olmsted Parks.

With appreciation,

Susan Rademacher, Hon. ASLA  
Executive Director, River Heritage Conservancy  
Recipient of the 2022 Historic Preservation Medal, The Garden Club of America





# REPRINTS

Spring, 1998 Vol. 1, No. 1

## "Relation of Park Planning to City and Regional Planning"

by Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.

*As address given at the Joint Conference of the American Institute of Park Executives and the American Civic Association in Washington, D.C., in October, 1924. Reprint from Parks and Recreation official publication, American Institute of Park Executives, January-February, 1925.*

**INTRODUCTION**  
By Ethos Carr

In this address to the American Institute of Park Executives and the American Civic Association, Olmsted describes a mature vision for how park systems should be designed as part of a larger planning process based on a scientific inventory and analysis of the natural and social systems of an entire region. The natural suitability of land, combined with demographic and other relevant data, could determine not only the best locations for different types of parks, but also suggested the most suitable locations for industrial expansion, residential development, transportation corridors, and other aspects of 20th-century urbanization. The careers of

I think it will be best for me to discuss the relation of Park Planning to City and Regional Planning as a matter of general principles, pointing what I have no general references to the Washington situation but not attempting a specific report of that situation as such.


Indeed there are new factors in that situation, both encouraging and otherwise, which would make it hazardous to present clear-cut specific opinions on it without a renewed and thorough study which I have not had opportunity to make. It is my business to form and express such opinions on the basis of an adequate knowledge of all the pertinent facts, and I cannot afford to go off half-cock merely in the hope of

out-door recreation except those which and will be provided for on private initiative and by private means (individual, commercially, or by clubs and similar organizations), and except those which will be provided for by public agencies unconnected with a park system. Among the latter set of exceptions explain them sufficiently. In so far as the popular form of outdoor recreation which consists of riding in automobiles for pleasure and more pleasant surroundings. In so far as the pleasant surroundings is and will be adequate of recreation is and will be adequate upon highways created and maintained primarily for purpose of general travel and the great bulk of this

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR OLMSTED PARKS

## WORKBOOK

Series, Volume 3  
TECHNICAL NOTES



### LANDSCAPE COMPOSITION PRESERVATION TREATMENT

Defining an Ethic for Designed Landscapes  
by Charles A. Birnbaum, ASLA

# FIELD NOTES

National Association for Olmsted Parks  
Dedicated to advancing the Olmsted legacy

FALL 2021 • VOLUME 34, NUMBER 2



# 40 YEARS

1980-2020





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# Celebrating Olmsted

## PARKS FOR ALL PEOPLE



Central Park,  
New York, NY

2022 marks the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Frederick Law Olmsted, social reformer and founder of American landscape architecture. Please join the National Association for Olmsted Parks, partners, friends and the public as we explore Olmsted's living legacy.

NAOP Publications: Samples over 40 years



# FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED

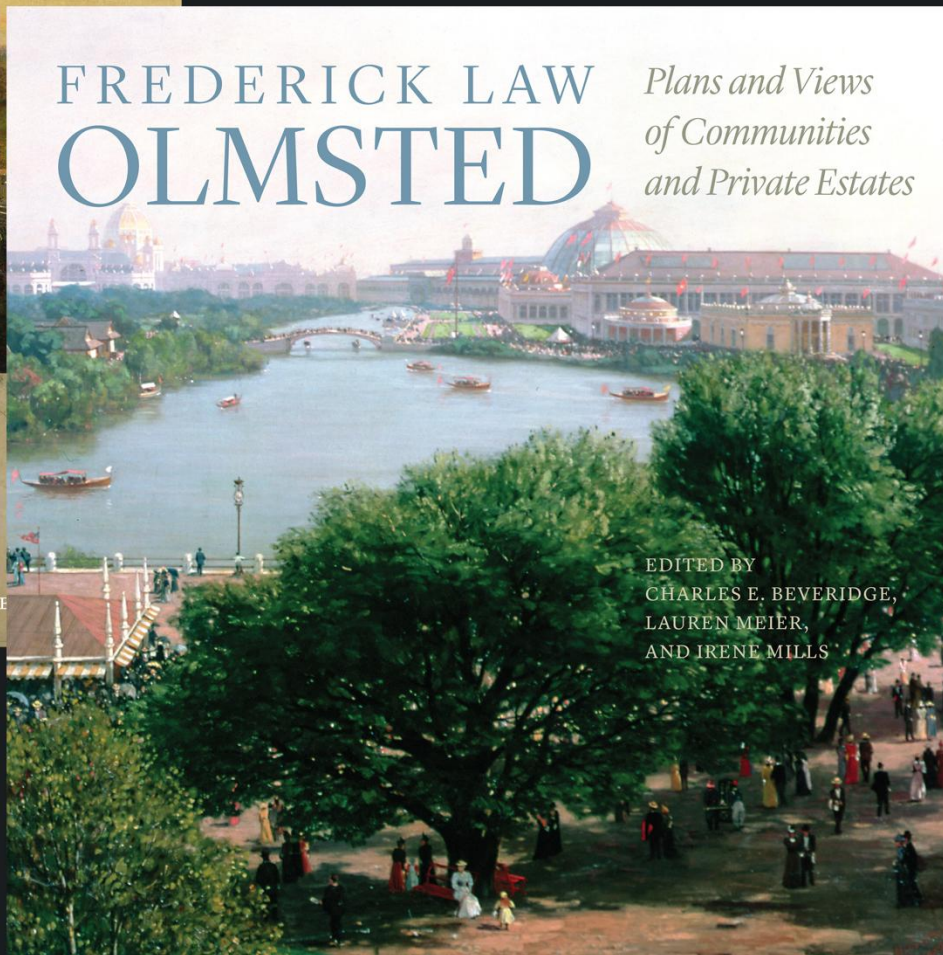
*Plans and Views of Public Parks*



EDITED BY CHARLES E. BEVERIDGE, LAUREN MEIER, AND IRENE MILLS

# FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED

*Plans and Views  
of Communities  
and Private Estates*



EDITED BY  
CHARLES E. BEVERIDGE,  
LAUREN MEIER,  
AND IRENE MILLS


**NAOP Project: Concluding volumes from the Papers of Frederick Law Olmsted, a 40-year project**





NAOP Publication: Master List of Design Projects of the Olmsted Firm - 1st edition 1987 and 2nd edition 2008





NATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION for  
OLMSTED  
PARKS

# OlmstedOnline

Projects of the Olmsted Firm

**WEBSITE IN DEVELOPMENT**  
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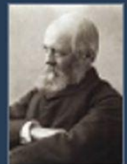


NORTH AMERICA



02691 Cal Anderson Park (formerly called Lincoln Park)



The Lincoln Playground

**The Olmsted Firm**  
 Learn more about the firm that shaped America's landscape.

**NAOP**  
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**Olmsted Archives**   Courtesy of  
 NPS Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site

NAOP Project: OlmstedOnline.org website - landing page - launched 2013





**NAOP Conference & Tour: - Biltmore 1995 - Catherine Joy Johnson**





January 19, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to support the nomination of the National Association for Olmsted Parks (NAOP) for ASLA's Olmsted Medal in 2022. NAOP has been an important partner for Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) for more than four decades.

In 1980, in Buffalo, New York, SPR was among those that gathered to address a crisis facing one of the city's Olmsted parks. NAOP was born from that collaboration between community activists, landscape architects, Olmsted scholars, and SPR. It was clear that those who manage Olmsted parks have a crucial role in preserving our nation's Olmsted legacy.

In 1984, NAOP and SPR collaborated to celebrate the centennial of Seattle's park system. Out of that celebration, the Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks (FSOP) was founded, and has since then continued the work of protecting and promoting the Olmsted vision that underlies Seattle's park system. In our close working relationship over the years, NAOP has deepened the understanding of the Olmsted vision and legacy both locally and nationally.

In 2003 NAOP served as catalyst for Seattle's Olmsted Centennial: over the course of the year, in conjunction with FSOP, we celebrated with more than 50 partners. NAOP's national conference, Our Olmsted Legacy: Learning from the Past, Inspiring the Future—co-hosted by SPR, FSOP, and the Washington Chapter, ALSA—served as the year's focal point.

In 2011, NAOP joined FSOP to secure a Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) grant to develop OlmstedOnline.org, a website that brings together and makes accessible a broad range of information about Olmsted landscapes in Washington and nationwide. This important resource continues to inform our work as we manage both new and historic parks, and respond to development impacts on our park system by other agencies, including WSDOT.

Now, in 2022, with the celebration of Olmsted 200, NAOP has inspired FSOP to partner with SPR to focus on the pressing need to sustain tree canopy in our developed parks, building SPR's capacity to respond proactively to climate change, and building SPR's capacity to help address racial and social inequities within our park system.

We are grateful to NAOP for its dedication and inspiration, and for its ongoing role to promote understanding of the importance of our park system and the vision underlying it.

Sincerely,

*Christopher Williams*

Christopher Williams  
Acting Superintendent  
Seattle Parks and Recreation