

Thomas Tavella, FASLA
414 Sycamore Lane
Orange, CT 06477

ASLA Medal Nominations c/o Honors and Awards
363 Eye Street
Washington DC 20001-3736

Re: ASLA Medal – Patricia M. O’Donnell, PLA, FASLA, AICP, F.US/ICOMOS

Dear Members of the ASLA Executive Committee and Board of Trustees,

It is my privilege and pleasure to nominate Patricia M. O’Donnell, FASLA for the ASLA Medal. No other individual in the country has done as much for the recognition and active rescue, rehabilitation, restoration, and management for ongoing use of important historic and cultural landscapes than Patricia.

For over four decades, Patricia has dedicated her career to the complex realm of cultural landscapes addressing in projects and volunteer efforts the issues of appreciation, values, preservation, management, and ongoing relevance. She is widely respected as a pioneer in forging a path for landscape architects to be significant members of the preservation community. When Patricia started her career, only buildings were considered important targets for preservation work. She has been a constant voice in changing that viewpoint, first in the United States and then around the globe. As a professional and an advocate for her chosen focus, there is a continuity of efforts and results every step of the way, from her initial work to raise the acknowledgement that landscapes are as important as the building they surround, to the expansion of the recognition that landscapes are cultural assets themselves, even with no buildings, that should be embraced and brought into the future as vital shared places. She then worked to aid in the creation of the guidelines and regulations on how to preserve historic landscapes and manage them into a vibrant future. Now, after more than 600 preservation projects around the world that have garnered 99 awards, she is embracing landscape preservation’s contributions to solving climate change and planetary rights challenges, with the goal of creating a sustainable future for our planet.

Background

Patricia O’Donnell, FASLA, licensed as a landscape architect in over 15 states and the District of Columbia, possesses a professional expertise and talent that is widely recognized across the design and preservation professions and allied fields around the world. Through 40 years of work as a heritage landscape architect and of service as an advocate, instigator and thought leader, she has advanced and disseminated heritage approaches for historic and cultural landscape through works and organizational leadership. She has made a broad, positive impact globally. Through Heritage Landscapes LLC, the office which she founded in 1987, Patricia has led the completion of over 600 preservation-focused national and international planning, design, and implementation projects for valued landscape of heritage across the USA and around the globe.

In honor of Patricia’s body of work and commitment to professional service, she was elevated to Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) in 1995 and in 2017 to Fellow of the US International Council on Monuments and Sites (US/ICOMOS) which focus on World Heritage

Sites. She won an International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) Service Award in 2010 for uplifting cultural landscape understanding and practice within IFLA and an ASLA Service Award in 2017 for her international contributions, particularly on the UNESCO Historic Urban Landscape Recommendations (HUL). Patricia, her small firm, and their projects have garnered 100 awards for planning, research, design, construction, and communications, attesting to the high quality of her professional works. This includes the prestigious 2019 ASLA Firm Award, and for Patricia personally, the National Trust for Historic Preservation Crowninshield Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2021 and the Library of American Landscape History's 2022 Preservation Hero award.

Her project awards have been given by the National Trust, Docomomo, ASLA, seven separate ASLA chapters, Connecticut and Vermont Public Spaces Programs, Pennsylvania and Virginia Historic Preservation Societies, the Preservation League of New York, Pittsburgh History and Landmarks, Midwest Construction, and Garden Clubs of America. This diverse collection attests to her influence as a landscape architect beyond the profession itself. Her clients praise her works for their ability to revitalize, enhance, and advance their valued historic public landscapes.

In collaboration with civic, academic, institutional, government, and non-profit leaders, Patricia works daily to incorporate current imperatives in the preservation of public park, civic space, and corridor cultural landscapes across the USA and beyond. Historic landscape documentation, management and renewal actions under her leadership have aided hundreds of National Register listed places and 40 National Historic Landmarks across the USA and eight World Heritage Sites to move successfully into the future. Her portfolio includes a series of six cultural landscape reports and continuing work at the US Capitol Grounds, with its centerpiece of Capitol Square designed by Frederick Law Olmsted Sr. Diverse planning and implementation undertakings addressed and strengthened 55 other Olmsted-firm designed landscapes, along with additional notable works by Beatrix Farrand, Simonds and Simonds, Fletcher Steele, Ellen Biddle Shipman, Martha B. Hutcheson, Louis I. Kahn, Frank Lloyd Wright and many other important landscape architects and architects. Her works have revitalized public spaces of community heritage as well as iconic cultural and historic landscapes, the grounds of several state capitols, heritage landscapes of US diplomatic sites abroad, and even a Modernist historic square over an underground parking garage – Mellon Square in Pittsburgh.

Leader in Landscape Architecture for Historic Places

Wholly dedicated to heritage places, Patricia views historic and cultural landscapes as our civic commons of intertwined nature and culture. For her, our shared heritage is rooted in the ever-deepening stories of who we are, and the authentic values and meaning of places. Her works emphasize how these historic spaces must address current day uses and needs, including access, inclusion, environmental and social justice, ecological health, and habitat enrichment. Her passion is the stewardship of heritage assets to enhance their long-term prosperity and resilience, as well as that of the communities around them.

As a thought leader, she advances and circulates preservation concepts through works and organizational leadership to make a positive impact on the field. Patricia has a brilliant ability to see through the jumble of time, understand the essence of a place, and propose plans and designs aligned with the highest cultural and historic values the place can offer to stewards and visitors. Her work brings deeper meaning to landscape heritage.

In 1986, she was tapped to chair the US Congressional Technology Transfer Landscape Preservation workshop, aided in its report development, joined the subsequent advocacy group that led to the

creation of the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, and served on its board from 2002 to 2006.

In the mid-1980s, as ASLA Historic Preservation Committee (ASLA HPC) Chair and National Association of Olmsted Parks (NAOP) Board member, she collaborated with NAOP and Olmsted Scholars on a drive for Olmsted historic landscape legislation and funding in the USA. The resulting dialogues with the National Park Service (NPS) highlighted gaps that included no historic designed landscape National Register listing examples, no Historic American Landscape Survey (HALS) documentation program, and no historic landscape program focus or positions within NPS. A near-term outcome of those efforts led to the creation of the NPS Historic Landscape Initiative and NPS Cultural Landscapes Inventory programs and positions, while HALS required 14 years to reach fruition.

In the 1990s, her office prepared the first NPS cultural landscape report (CLR) for the Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site, setting a USA standard that has been used as the guide for subsequent CLRs. She contributed to several committees developing: the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes, 1996; Preservation Brief 36; National Register Bulletins 18 and 30 on Designed and Rural Landscapes; and Making Educated Decisions: A Landscape Preservation Bibliography, 1994.

In 1998, she joined esteemed colleagues to create The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF) as a voice for action on threatened cultural landscapes in the USA, and served for eleven years as one of TCLF's initial board members. From her post as ASLA co-chair for HALS in 1999, she worked with colleagues to execute an agreement between NPS, ASLA and the Library of Congress to create HALS as a permanent repository of nationwide historic landscape documentation, and thereafter supported its initial establishment, guided growth and development of standards, and contributed HALS projects; her latest two submissions were in 2022.

Global Commitment to Historic and Cultural Landscapes

Patricia is a global leader in historic landscape preservation, traveling the world to consult and give *pro bono* expertise on the most difficult design and planning issues of our time. Her work in the arena of heritage conservation applies to all humanity. Her sustained excellence has made tremendous positive impact to historic places. Patricia's work pulls the field of historic landscape preservation forward on an international stage, uniting heritage conservation, sustainability, landscape architecture, and justice for people and planet.

In 2005, Patricia spoke at the World Heritage Centre International Meeting on Contemporary Architecture in Historic Cities in Vienna, adding concepts of urban landscape character, design, and tools for city stewardship into the dialogue. From that intervention, she was invited as a *pro bono* expert to engage and contribute to the global dialogue and crafting of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Historic Urban Landscape Recommendation (HUL), serving on the drafting group for the 2011 approved text. Her speaking engagements and conference contributions since have disseminated HUL guidance globally, providing a foundation for urban heritage conservation and management that is landscape based. In international projects for World Bank teams, she crafted HUL approaches, like the circular model for revitalizing Indian Heritage cities; the redevelopment guidelines for Intramuros, the historic fortified walled city of Manila, Philippines; and the Bhutanese Heritage Act assessment.

In 2005, the USA National Trust for Historic Preservation placed the Ernest Hemingway Museum in Cuba on its Most Endangered Historic Places list. This led to the creation of a team of USA design professional to assist in preserving this significant shared heritage property. Patricia served as the landscape architect on that team, traveling several times to Cuba and collaborating with the Cuban Culture Ministry as the first group of professionals to engage in sanctioned collaboration with Cuban colleagues since the 1959 Cuban revolution, while travel between the two countries was still banned.

In 2006, Patricia revitalized the IFLA Cultural Landscapes Committee, serving as its Chair for nine years, building a global membership network and an information-rich website to share knowledge. She has been an active member of the ICOMOS IFLA International Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscape since 2002 and currently serves as its President, having worked with colleagues to double the memberships in recent years to 250 professionals around the world. Patricia co-leads a new grassroots initiative, OurWorldHeritage a global public dialogue platform in 10 languages that aims to engage civil society to expand the value of heritage, to support knowledge-based decision-making, and to promote good governance. In 2021, monthly on-line debate sessions, webinars and globinars engaged over 300 speakers and several thousand people all over the world to share and learn from each other.

As always, colleagues embrace her skills, elevate her to leadership positions, and integrate her work into their initiatives. Her leadership service in numerous other professional and advocacy organizations uplifts those communities. Patricia uses her participation in these organizations and committees to disseminate her knowledge, encourage others to embrace active listening, grow their influence, and build momentum together.

One of Patricia's ongoing endeavors is her contribution to the 2015 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 2030 Global Agenda. In 2016, she provided the "Inclusive Public Spaces" chapter in *Culture Urban Future*, UNESCO Global Report on Culture for Sustainable Urban Development, and presented at Habitat III, Quito Ecuador for the launch events. She developed a model showing culture and heritage permeating the sustainability pillars of society, economy, and environment. Taking climate change action forward, the model integrates Cultural Diversity (tangible and intangible heritage), and Biodiversity (natural and human-shaped places). Today, Patricia continues to align her office work to these 17 visionary goals and related targets. She serves on the ICOMOS SDGs Focal Group to integrate cultural landscape heritage more fully into an actionable agenda for people, planet, peace and prosperity.

Commitment to Education, Co-Learning, Sharing

Believing that all boats rise together, Patricia shares her wealth of research and information through publications, keynote speeches, conference papers, seminars, field missions, and expert meetings. She began a 40-year commitment to outreach and education in 1981 when she requested the resurrection of the ASLA Historic Preservation Committee (HPC), soon becoming its chairperson. As a graduate student, Patricia co-authored "Landscape Preservation Deserves a Broader Meaning", with colleague Lisa Kunst, in the *Landscape Architecture Magazine* (LAM) January 1981 issue titled "Preservation Leaps the Garden Wall," its first issue focusing on landscape preservation. In 1987, LAM invited her to co-edit with Robert Melnick, the LAM July-August issue titled "Preservation: Defining an Ethic," and contribute an article "A Process for Parks," a glossary of terms, and a future perspective.

Through ASLA HPC teamwork, she chaired ASLA Annual Conference Historic Preservation Symposia from 1987 to 1991, highlighting the importance and value of landscape preservation, raising

awareness, sharing best practices and tools, and spreading examples to improve works within the landscape architecture profession.

Patricia speeches enrich numerous symposia and conferences around the world, with a dozen on-line in just 2021 alone. Invited keynotes, where she freely shares her knowledge and expertise, include UMASS, University of Rhode Island, IFLA World Congresses, ICOMOS General Assemblies, and Scientific Symposia, US/ICOMOS Scientific Symposia, US Tentative List and Working Groups, ICOMOS IFLA ISCCL symposia leadership, and more. She has participated in many education sessions at the ASLA National Conference on Landscape Architecture as well as several ASLA chapter annual conferences. In 1993 she participated in her first UNESCO expert meeting with 25 global colleagues addressing Cultural Landscapes of Universal Value and authored a chapter for the resulting book. Professional and expert meetings where her contributions of presentations, dialogues and workshops include such places as Olinda and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Amedabad, India; Tangier and Chefchoaun, Morocco; Hangzhou, Beijing, and Nanjing, China; Zanzibar, Tanzania; Edirne, Turkey; and Moscow, Russia. Her more than 30 articles and book chapters have inspired many and educated more.

Strongly Recommended

Taken together, Patricia's 40 years of thought leadership and action as a landscape architect advance multiple aspects of heritage preservation from a foundation in cultural landscape preservation to the integration of culture/nature that is so needed to transform lives with respect for our planet and to positively affect the welfare of our society.

Patricia's project list is astounding, including many of the most important historically or culturally significant properties in the United States, including our nation's Capital Grounds, the National Mall, Longue Vue House and Gardens, Bloedel Reserve, Longwood Gardens, Bok Tower Gardens, Valley Forge National Historical Park, Gettysburg National Military Park, Thomas Edison National Historical Park, Bandelier National Monument, Chicago's Jackson Park, New York's Prospect Park, the Louisville, Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Park Systems, and Jefferson's Academical Village at the University of Virginia (a World Heritage site) and many more. Patricia, in collaboration with local, national, and far-reaching clients, including the National Park Service; US State Department; the World Bank; numerous leading design and planning firms; non-profit organizations, including the ASLA, IFLA, ICOMOS, UNESCO, and OurWorldHeritage, has had a significant, transformative, and beneficial impact upon our profession, nation, heritage places, and hundreds of individuals, to a degree that is remarkable, perhaps more than any other individual in our time.

I urge the ASLA Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees to award this remarkable and deserving landscape architect the ASLA Medal.



Thomas Tavella, PLA, FASLA
Tavella Design Group, LLC

Contact Details

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SUPPORT LETTERS

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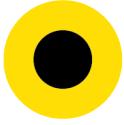
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PHOTO OF PATRICIA M. O'DONNELL, FASLA

FIFTEEN REPRESENTATIVE WORK PHOTOS



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ASLA Medal Nominations c/o Honors and Awards
363 Eye Street
Washington DC 20001-3736

To the Jury,

I support of the nomination of Patricia O'Donnell for the ASLA Medal. No other individual in the country has done as much for the recognition and active rescue, rehabilitation, restoration, and management for ongoing use of historic and cultural landscapes than Patricia O'Donnell and her colleagues at Heritage Landscapes.

30 years ago, the only things deemed worthy of preservation and curatorial management were buildings and objects. O'Donnell has played a major role in changing that, changing the field, changing public perception, changing academia, and in changing the regulatory situation of historic cultural landscapes. I don't know of any other person or design firm today, no matter how good or famous that can over eighty awards for their work in this period. The reach of her firm is now global. O'Donnell today is a highly regarded force in landscape stewardship internationally, participating in conferences and leading projects on every continent. Meticulous research which marshals field surveys, ecological data, cultural, and historical records together with an innate sense of design and art is a hallmark of her work, leading to one successful project after another, and to the firm being the first one that so many other professionals (my own office included) turn to for help when tackling complex historic sites.

The list of her influential projects is a litany of landscapes of great historic significance and meaning across our country and abroad. Just as the Olmsted firm worked across the country for all sectors of society in the production of landscapes of cultural worthwhile inventing an appreciation for such landscapes and establishing a professional apparatus to execute such work, so too has Heritage Landscapes under her leadership in collaboration with the ASLA, the NPS, government agencies, and leading design and planning firms, had a significant and transformative beneficial impact upon our field and nation. I urge the jury to consider Patricia O'Donnell deserving of the ASLA medal.

Sincerely,

Laurie Olin, FASLA, Hon AIA, Hon RIBA, AAAL, AAAS, AAR Emeritus Professor of Landscape Architecture

Department of landscape Architecture and Regional Planning School of Design, University of Pennsylvania



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ASLA Medal Nominations,
c/o Honors and Awards.
636 Eye Street, NW,
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USA.

ASLA MEDAL – PATRICIA M. O’DONNELL, FASLA, AICP, F. US/ICOMOS, IFLA.

Dear Executive Committee members and Board of Trustees,

It is a pleasure and an honor to have the opportunity to support the well-deserved nomination of Patricia O’Donnell for the ASLA Medal. This would be a most fitting recognition. The ASLA Medal is widely respected internationally among landscape architects, as is Patricia O’Donnell’s contribution to landscape architecture.

Patricia has focused her life-time landscape architecture work on cultural landscape: through her company Heritage Landscapes LLC, which she founded two years after gaining her second masters’ qualification in 1987, to her contribution to international work through the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) and the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), which is an advisor to UNESCO on cultural and historic World Heritage Sites. Because I am most familiar with Patricia’s international work, my endorsement for Patricia nomination for the ASLA Medal focuses on that portion of her remarkable work.

There is a close relationship between IFLA and ICOMOS, so I will first recount some of the history of cultural landscape work in IFLA, of which ASLA is a member, and the link with ICOMOS. A Committee for the Preservation of Historic Landscapes was formed by IFLA in 1974 at the suggestion of UNESCO, which had an interest in the topic (as outlined in the history of IFLA book, *IFLA Past, Present and Future*). When IFLA committees were restructured in 1991, two IFLA committees, one for Historic Gardens and Sites, and one for other Historic Landscapes were combined to become the IFLA Committee on Historic Gardens and Landscapes. Prior to this, in 1970, ICOMOS had formed a joint committee with IFLA on Historic Gardens and Sites. In 1999, the ICOMOS Executive Committee approved a name change for the joint committee to the ICOMOS-IFLA International Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes (ISCCL). The name of the solo IFLA committee was also changed to align with that of the ICOMOS-IFLA ISCCL. Both organizations were responding

to the introduction of cultural landscapes as a category in the guidelines of the World Heritage Convention in 1992. This evolution to cultural landscapes in UNESCO, IFLA and ICOMOS, closely aligned with Patricia's work and practice.

IFLA supports their members' interest in cultural landscapes through committees in each region. Patricia contributed to both the Americas region and global committees. In 2006, she took over leadership of the IFLA global Cultural Landscape Committee and continued in that role until 2015. Over these nine years, while chair of this widespread and enthusiastic group, she developed a website for the committee to bring members together, provided papers on cultural landscapes for five IFLA world conferences and supported a mobile workshop at the joint ASLA/IFLA meeting in Minneapolis. However it was her innovative, committed, and strong leadership of this global group which helped grow knowledge, interest and management skills for cultural landscapes for landscape architects throughout the globe, whether it be training workshops she conducted in Malaysia or capability development training she ran in China. During this whole time, Patricia was also an active expert member of the IFLA ICOMOS ISCCL, serving as the treasurer from 2015 to 2017. In 2017, Patricia was elected as the President of the ISCCL.

In both local, regional and international work, Patricia's driving and clear-sighted commitment to her chosen field of landscape architecture has led to broadening of interest and recognition of the multiple and integrated values of cultural landscapes. While she has served both IFLA and ICOMOS as a supportive leader, she has also achieved protection and sound management of cultural landscapes through specific initiatives. These include three areas: the management of Historic Urban Landscapes, the expert assessment of world heritage proposals, and the integration and promotion of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2011, while Patricia was chair of the IFLA Cultural Landscape committee and an expert USA ISCCL voting member, UNESCO approved the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL). Patricia was instrumental in the creation of the HUL principles over a six year period from 2005 to 2011. She was, in the end, one of three primary authors of the final HUL recommendations and the sole landscape architect. In adopting HUL, UNESCO recognised that urban heritage is a social, economic, environmental and cultural asset for cities.

The approach of HUL is a landscape assessment methodology, and Patricia's professional contributions elevate the global application of the use of comprehensive landscape architecture tools and techniques for urban heritage protection and management. Since UNESCO acceptance of HUL, Patricia has been invited to a number of expert workshops, as a co-leader or expert to promote the application of the HUL Guidelines globally. Her work in turn has encouraged many others to apply the methodology in their cities, such as through a Mayors' Forum in Nanjing China and in Tangier, Morocco, where Patricia gave presentations and led discussion

World Heritage property nominations are the role of each country, but Patricia has contributed to the nomination process through field assessments, peer reviews, and desk top evaluations as well as encouraging her ICOMOS and IFLA colleagues to do likewise. This

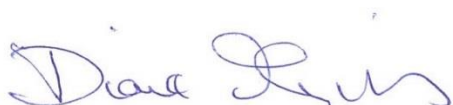
is largely confidential work and so while her contribution, both personal and through leadership has been substantial, it cannot be readily described.

Patricia has promoted the UN Sustainability Goals and their application through IFLA world conferences and workshops, reflecting her interest in sound, sustainable management of cultural landscapes. In a 2018 IFLA keynote address, she stressed that all of us should employ and depict the global goals and targets in our works.

Patricia has also worked to protect and restore global and locally significant landscapes, from her home state of Vermont, to Havana, to Hangzhou, China. However, while her design, and management work, as well as landscape protection achievements have covered an impressive span throughout her 35 years' work, Patricia works not as a campaigner (although I am sure she does this too) but as a considered, expert, and trustworthy advisor to UNESCO and international groups. Her sound and measured approach has enabled changes in understanding and acceptance of the value of cultural landscapes globally and within USA. She is an expert, convincing presenter but has also established rapport and respect with international leaders to achieve much for landscape architecture.

Patricia has achieved success as a ferociously hard worker and as an extremely generous colleague with her time, knowledge and resources: happy to supply papers, slides and images for others to promote landscape architecture, and particularly deepening worldwide understanding of cultural landscapes. She has also supported the role of Indigenous knowledge of land management to encourage different perspectives for addressing such issues as climate change and biodiversity loss. I have immense respect for Patricia and all she has achieved and know that our world is richer for her knowledge, generosity, energy and commitment.

I wholeheartedly endorse her nomination for the ASLA Medal.



Dr Diane Menzies, ONZM,
Past President and Honorary Member International Federation of Landscape Architects
ASLA Honorary Member,
Director, Landcult Ltd.



American Society of Landscape Architects
ASLA Medal Jury
Washington, DC

25 February 2023

Dear Jury members,

It is a pleasure and honour to write in support of the nomination of Patricia M. O'Donnell, Founder, Heritage Landscapes LLC for the ASLA Medal Award. I have known Patricia personally for 18 years and followed her unique professional activities world-wide. The initial meeting was in confronting the issues of urban heritage in the UNESCO World Heritage debate on the developments bordering the Old City of Vienna in 2005 where she showed how the layering of cultural landscapes and understanding their character and features can assist in better managing urban heritage. This approach became the cornerstone of the UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, an international soft law, approved in 2011.

While her national recognition is well evidenced, allow me to add a more global dimension where in her international presentations, she brings to the debate case-studies from her own enormous breadth of national achievements. She has not merely shared these experiences around the world, but also has acted as an inimitable goodwill ambassador in showing the preservation and interpretation of cultural heritage and urban landscapes, to explore and reveal the rich history and culture of the United States.

She contributed to the progression of the UNESCO Historic Urban Landscape Recommendation through its approval in 2011 and application thereafter, and then applied her insights in the support of the UNESCO Sustainable Development Goals developing a simple model showing culture and heritage embracing the sustainable spheres of society, economy, and environment. Patricia currently contributes to the ICOMOS Sustainable Development Goals Focal Group furthering an integrated approach for cultural heritage while leading the campaign to address climate extremes.

Patricia's deep understanding of cultural heritage is matched by her personal commitment to society which has been fully recognized with her election as president of the *joint ICOMOS/IFLA International Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes*. In this role, she has gone beyond the line of duty and been on call to share her experiences around the world, with an ambience that is possible only for the very few. Recently she has been accepted by acclamation to chair the new Board of the *ourworldheritage* initiative, engaging civil society through cross-generational involvement in support for the preservation of the Earth's cultural and natural treasures. Here she is a role-model for the younger generation bringing the democratic values of the United States into her planning and design and showing how historic public spaces must address access, inclusion, and social justice while connecting places of the past that inspire, leading to a future and robust society.

This led to her receiving, in 2021, the Louise du Pont Crowninshield Award of the National Trust, being their highest national honor and awarded for her proven "superlative achievement over time in the preservation and interpretation of our cultural, architectural or maritime heritage."

In short, Patricia would be a worthy recipient of the ASLA Medal for service to her profession and for broader service to our planet and its heritage. She has made outstanding achievements through her work in conservation at all scales, from the detailing of the pathways of history, the renewal of vernacular materials and the regeneration of cultural landscapes, both rural and urban.

I wish the jury every success in honouring Patricia's substantial contributions in the fields of landscape architecture, planning and historic preservation.



Professor Michael Turner
Charge de mission to the Director, UNESCO World Heritage Centre UNESCO Chair in
Urban Design and Conservation Studies
Bezalel, Academy of Arts and Design, Jerusalem

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RE: Nomination of Patricia M. O'Donnell, FASLA, F. US/ICOMOS, AICP

Dear Honors and Awards Committee Members:

It is with great pleasure that I am writing this letter in support of Patricia O'Donnell's nomination for the 2023 ASLA Medal.

I have known and collaborated with Patricia for over thirty years at multiple levels; as collaborating design professionals, board members and supporters of historic resource throughout the United States. Our collaborations have been recognized with several national, regional, state and local awards of planning, design, landscape architecture and preservation excellence.

Patricia is truly a world expert on historic and cultural landscapes, from World Heritage Sites to National Monuments, National Historic Landmarks, National Register resources and sites of historic, architectural and cultural significance. Her work meets and exceeds the highest preservation standards which, in many cases, she helped shape.

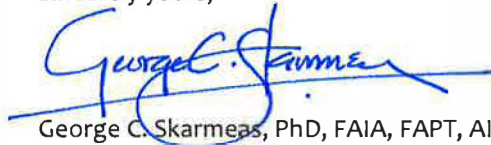
As Chair of the United States Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites [US/ICOMOS], I was the beneficiary of her knowledge and expertise as a member of the Board of Trustees, leading the way in shaping policy and creating new paths forward; paths that are in sync with ICOMOS, the World Heritage Center and the international community at large.

While her expertise, contributions to the profession and the field, as well as national and international practice standards are enormous, it is her ethos and character that have elevated the outcomes of all efforts she has been associated with, along with generations of young professionals she has influenced.

Patricia's life-long personal achievements and contributions should be recognized by the American Society of Landscape Architects and this nomination, and hopefully recognition, is the most appropriate way to accomplish this.

I sincerely hope that you give her nomination the attention it deserves. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,



George C. Skarmeas, PhD, FAIA, FAPT, AICP, NCARB
Partner, Planning & Design Director

Dear ASLA Executive Committee,

I am writing to you today to nominate Patricia O'Donnell, a true leader and changemaker in the landscape architecture sector, for the ASLA Medal.

As you obviously know, having presented the firm with the ASLA 2019 Firm Award, Heritage Landscapes, LLC, which Patricia O'Donnell founded and of which she is the Principal, is an outstanding organization. It's the first landscape architecture firm in the world exclusively focused on the preservation and revitalization of cultural landscapes through interventions consonant with the historic origins of the landscape in question. Heritage Landscapes has completed more than 500 community and cultural preservation plans and projects, both nationally and globally, several of which took place in the city I call home, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

As the founder of the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, the non-profit partner to the City of Pittsburgh to improve and restore our 165 public park system, I can speak firsthand about the impact Patricia O'Donnell has had on our city and on the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy itself. When the Conservancy was first established 26 years ago our group consisted of a handful of people. We had business skills but none of us had the expertise needed to actually restore and rehabilitate our city's historic and treasured park spaces. At a conference in Louisville, I heard Patricia O'Donnell speak about her process for engaging in this work and was so impressed that we retained her services. For many years thereafter Patricia served not only as a provider of excellent professional services on our projects, but also as an informal tutor to me and our staff, and also to the city's parks workforce, teaching us about the philosophical and practical aspects of parks restoration. Her passion for her work is evident and is what motivates her to go beyond the call of duty and devote extra time to elevating the knowledge base of those of us she worked with in Pittsburgh.

Patricia O'Donnell was the lead landscape architect for the restoration of the Reynolds Street Entrance to Frick Park (Innocenti & Webel) — our very first capital project — as well as the Schenley Park Visitor Center and Landscape, Riverview Chapel Shelter and Landscape, the Highland Park Entry Garden, and the Mellon Park (Ferruccio Vitale and others) 2000 Master Plan as well as additional smaller projects. O'Donnell also led the award-winning restoration of Mellon Square in Pittsburgh, a masterpiece of mid-20th century modernist American landscape architecture designed by Simonds & Simonds and Mitchell & Ritchey.

In our 26 years of existence, the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy has grown from an all-volunteer effort of a few dedicated Pittsburghers to a professionally staffed non-profit organization of 35-40. We have completed over 20 significant park capital improvement and restoration projects and raised over \$130 million to improve and restore our park system. Our organization's relationship with the City of Pittsburgh has also grown. Initially we were asked by the city to partner in restoring its four largest parks and now we are partnering on the entire park system, including working with the city in 2019 to successfully pass a city-wide referendum providing a dedicated parks tax.



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In my view, Patricia O'Donnell's work for the Conservancy over a dozen years and her ongoing mentorship of many of us, myself included, is largely responsible for helping the Conservancy become such a trusted resource for the citizens and government of Pittsburgh.

Patricia O'Donnell exemplifies leadership, scholarship, integrity, and perseverance. It is my pleasure to endorse her for the ASLA Medal of Honor.

With sincere gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Meg Cheever'.

Meg Cheever
Founding President, Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy

List of Photo Subjects and Credits

(All Photos and Plans courtesy of Heritage Landscapes except as noted.)

1. Longue Vue, New Orleans, Louisiana, Restored Wild Garden and Hurricane Katrina Recovery, 1997/2006
2. Druid Hill Park, Baltimore, Maryland, Segregated Pool Interpretive Panel, 1999
3. Dunbarton Oaks, Washington, DC, Treatment Plan, 2000
4. Shelburne Farms, Shelburne, Vermont, Aerial Photo, 2000-2022 (M. Webb)
5. Camden Amphitheater, Camden, Maine, Restored, 2005
6. Virginia State Capital Expansion, Richmond, Virginia, Night Photo, 2007 (P. Beaurlin)
7. Lincoln Cottage, Washington, DC, Opening Day, 2008
8. Combined view of the separate treatment plans completed for the Architect of the Capital, Washington DC, 2009/2020
9. Martha B Hutcheson 100 Acre Farm - Bamboo Brook, Chester, New Jersey, Treatment Plan, Construction Photos, and Restored Landscapes, 2009
10. Birmingham Civil Rights World Heritage Nomination, Birmingham, Alabama, Preliminary Plan, 2009
11. National Mall, Washington DC, Mall Mapping and Construction Work, 2009/2014
12. Bloedel Reserve, Washington, Existing Conditions and Light Exposure Change over Time, 2016
13. Mellon Square, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Restored 2016 (Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy)
14. Northern Pass Mapping and Selected Sites, New Hampshire, 2017
15. Patricia in Action – Speaking at Various Events Over the Years



Patricia M. O'Donnell, FASLA (Photo by H. Mehta)



Longue Vue, New Orleans, Louisiana, Restored Wild Garden and Hurricane Katrina Recovery, 1997/2006

For over four decades in the early twentieth century, Druid Hill Park functioned under a policy of racial segregation. The park was heavily used during these years and African-American park users have vivid memories of the tennis courts, playgrounds, picnic areas and especially "Pool Number Two."

As the only outdoor public swimming facility in the City of Baltimore open to black athletes, Pool Number Two served as a training ground for some of the finest competitive swimmers of the era. The lifeguards and young athletes, both men and women, who trained here during summer mornings were compelling role models for the little boys and girls who played under their careful watch when the pool opened to the public at midday. Cornelius "Nick" Johnson recalls, "In the early '40s I saw Gilbert Brown as a lifeguard at the Druid Hill Park pool. I wanted to be like him and grew up to become a lifeguard."

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Women's Free-style at Pool Number Two, 1949. Left to right: Shirley Widgeon, Unknown, Elaine Brown, Audrey Hall, Bobby McGuinn, Cecilia Noel and Shirley Noel.

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"Despite the fact that we experienced segregation and racism, we still thrived and survived to become honorable citizens of this community. And with even today's subtle racism, we are still trying to impart strong values to our youngsters by giving incentives through this memorial to keep the faith."

Elaine W. Brown
third from left above



Pool Number Two at Druid Hill Park, c. 1949

Great Memories under Difficult Times

*"... And Oh, We Had Fun" **

"As a little boy I followed the big boys of the neighborhood. They went to the pool. They made us behave. They kept us safe in the shallow water. They loved us."

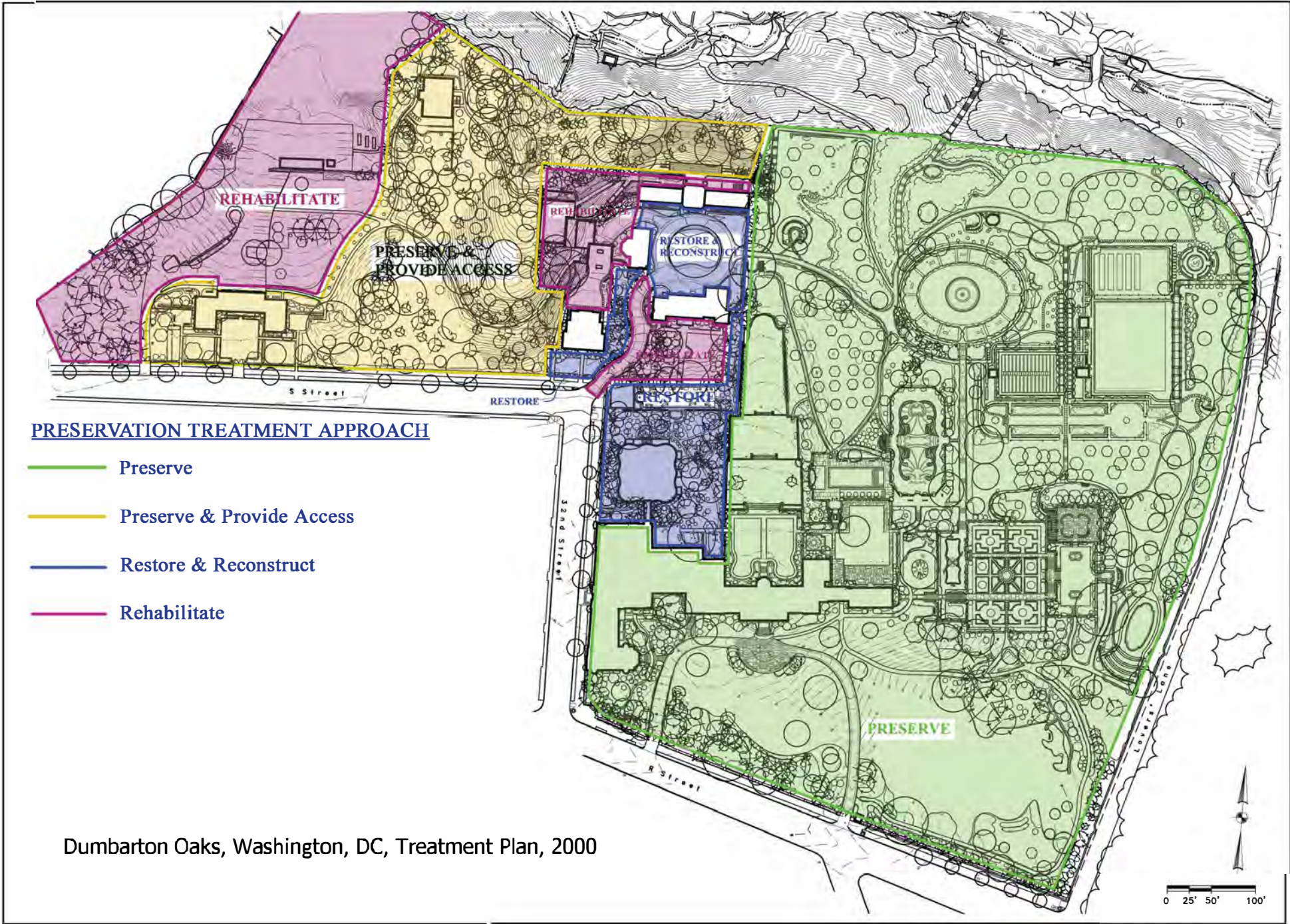
Martin H. Cruise, Sr.

* Corrine "Dimples" Boyd, who as a teenager broke racial and gender boundaries with her swimming records in the 1940s.

Druid Hill Park, Baltimore, Maryland, Segregated Pool Interpretive Panel, 1999

Graphic Design by MONTAIG & INK

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Dumbarton Oaks, Washington, DC, Treatment Plan, 2000



Shelburne Farms, Shelburne, Vermont, On-going Restoration and Update Work, 2000-2023



Martha B. Hutcheson 100 Acre Farm - Bamboo Brook, New Jersey, Treatment Plan, Construction Photos and Restored Landscape, 2009



Camden Amphitheater, Camden Maine, 2005

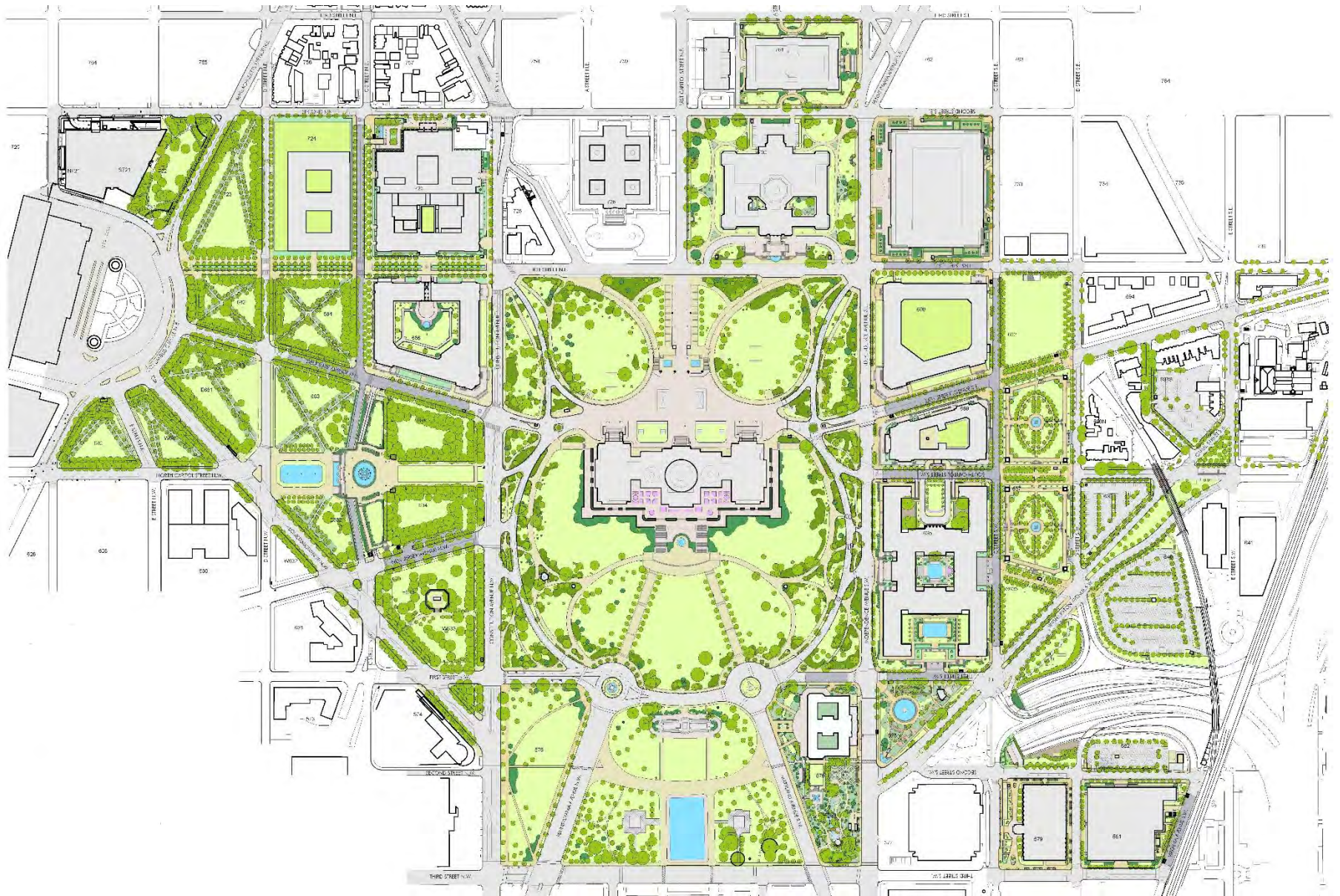


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Virginia State Capital Expansion, Richmond, Virginia, 2007









Lincoln Cottage Restoration Project Opening Day Ceremony, Washington, DC, 2008



A combined view of the separate treatment plans completed for the Architect of the Capital, Washington DC, 2009/2020

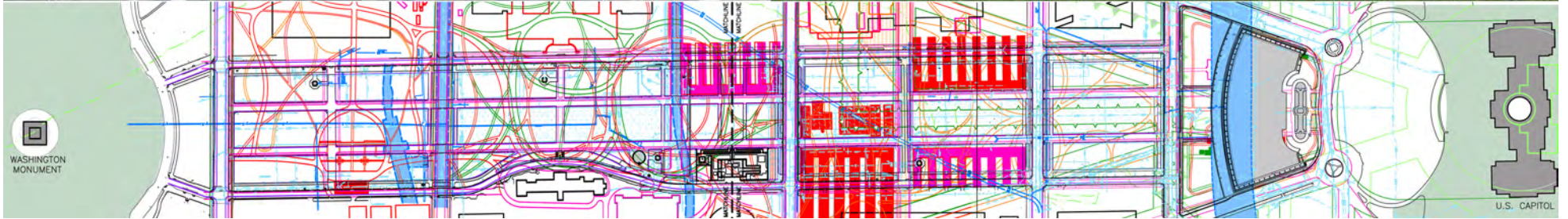


-  Existing National Historic Landmark
-  Birmingham Civil Rights National Register Historic District
-  Proposed World Heritage Property
-  Proposed World Heritage Buffer Zone
-  Proposed Civil Rights National Register Resource
-  Existing National Register Historic Districts

- 1 Birmingham Civil Rights Historic District, Listed
- 2 4th Avenue Historic District, Listed
- 3 Retail & Theater Historic District, Listed
- 4 Downtown Historic District, Listed
- 5 Heaviest Corner on Earth Historic District, Listed
- 6 Morris / 1st Avenue N Historic District, Listed
- 7 Automotive Historic District, Listed
- 8 Phillips High School, In Process

BIRMINGHAM CITY CENTER CIVIL RIGHTS PRELIMINARY PLAN

BIRMINGHAM CIVIL RIGHTS WORLD HERITAGE NOMINATION



National Mall, Washington, DC, Mall Evolution Mapping and Grass Panels Reconstruction, 2009/2014



Bloedel Reserve, Bainbridge Island, Washington
 Existing Conditions & Light Exposure Change over Time, 2016



Mellon Square, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Restored 2016 (Photos Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy)

NH Historic Sites & Cultural Landscapes

Client: State of New Hampshire Counsel for the Public Heritage Landscapes LLC
 Dwg Name: Northern Pass Potential Visual Impact
 Sheet: 3 - South Above Ground
 Date: 15 March 2017

This map of the Lakes Region and Merrimack Valley physiographic regions illustrates the density and distribution of identified historic sites and cultural landscape types with potential visual effect from the proposed Northern Pass Project, based on bare ground viewshed modeling.

Map Data

- █ Areas with Potential Views to Project (Bare Earth Model)
 - ▲ National Register Listed/ Determined Eligible
 - Historic Graveyard
 - Unlisted Historic Resource Identified in State GNIS Data or by Applicant Survey
 - █ Conserved/Public land
 - ⊕ Recreation Site
 - Recreation Area
 - Overlook
 - NH Designated River
 - ◆ Public Water Access
 - Public Waters
 - Scenic Road
 - Trail
 - ⬢ Community Identified Historic Site
 - Community Identified Linear Historic Site
 - Community Identified Historic Area
 - New Hampshire Boundary
- Proposed NPT Centerline**
- Above Ground
 - Under Ground
 - 10-mile NPT Area of Potential Effect

1 in = 5 miles
 0 2.5 5 10 Miles

Locator Map



Sources: NH GRANT, Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, Community Workshop Data Gathered Summer 2016 by Counsel for Public, T.J. Boyle Associates, National Register Information System, Preservation Company





Patricia doing a presentation at the IFLA World Congress, 2018.



Patricia participating in a panel discussion at UNESCO Habitat III, 2016.



Patricia with colleagues at the Ernest Hemingway Museum in Cuba, 2005.



Patricia speaking at the Pittsburgh Shapers Conference, 2009