HALS News

Release date: For Immediate Release - November, 22 2014
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Documenting Landscapes of the New Deal 2014 Results & New 2015 HALS Challenge: Documenting Modernist Landscapes

The Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS) was created in 2000 as a federal program to document historic landscapes in the United States and its territories. Documentation is critical to preserving these significant sites for the benefit of future generations. Like its companion programs, the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) and the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER), HALS produces written and graphic records used by educators, land managers, and preservation planners as well as the general public. The National Park Service (NPS) administers the planning and operation of HALS, standardizes formats and develops guidelines for recording landscapes, and catalogs and/or publishes the information when appropriate (www.nps.gov/hdp/standards/halsguidelines.htm). The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) provides professional guidance and technical advice for the program through its Historic Preservation Professional Practice Network. The Library of Congress (LOC) accepts and preserves HALS documents, furnishes reproductions of material, and makes records available to the public (www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/hh/).

Results of the 5th annual HALS Challenge were announced at the HALS Meeting of the Denver, CO ASLA Annual Meeting and Expo on Saturday, November 22, 2014. Congratulations to the winners! Sponsored by the National Park Service, cash prizes were awarded to the top 3 submissions. This challenge resulted in the donation of 47 impressive HALS short format historical reports and 6 drawing sheets and 4 sets of large format photographs to the HALS collection.

2014 HALS Challenge: Documenting Landscapes of the New Deal, Sponsored by HALS-NPS:
1st Place: Allegheny National Forest, CCC Camp ANF-1, Duhring, PA, HALS PA-25, by Ann E. Komara, ASLA, Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture, with assistance from Susan Martino, Jennifer L. Thomas, et al - MLA Students, College of Architecture and Planning University of Colorado Denver.
2nd Place: Mount Tamalpais State Park, The Mountain Theater, Mill Valley, CA,HALS CA-107, by Douglas Nelson, ASLA, Principal, RHAA Landscape Architects.
Honorable Mentions: The Arizona, Florida, Louisiana, and Ohio HALS reports listed below.

The other 44 wonderful short form history entries for 2014 included: University of Montevallo-Montevallo, AL; The Tucson Plant Materials Center-Tucson, AZ; Tumacácori National Historical Park-Tumacácori-Carmen, AZ; Phoenix Historic Homesteads-Phoenix, AZ; Prescott Armory Historic District-Prescott, AZ; Colossal Cave Mountain Park-Vail, AZ; South Mountain Park, Entry Complex-Phoenix, AZ; Kinishba Ruins-Vicinity of Fort Apache, AZ; Alvarado Park-Richmond, CA; Griffith Park Zoo-Los Angeles, CA; Oakland Municipal Rose Garden-Oakland, CA;Tehachapi Regional Recreation Area-Oakland, CA; Tule Elk State Reserve-Buttonwillow vicinity, CA; Macedonia Brook State Park, CCC Road-Kent, CT; Fort Clinch State Park-Fernandina Beach, FL; Highlands Hammock State Park-Sebring, FL; Ravine Gardens State Park-Palatka, FL; Florida Caverns State Park-Marianna, FL; O’Leno State Park-High Springs, FL; Gold Head Branch State Park-Keystone Heights, FL; Hillsborough River State Park-Thonotosassa, FL; Myakka River State Park-Sarasota, FL; Torreya State Park-Bristol, FL; Aia Moana Park-Honolulu, HI; Fullersburg Woods Preserve-Oak Brook, IL; McDowell Grove Forest Preserve-Naperville, IL; York Woods Forest Preserve-Oak Brook, IL; Gum Springs Recreation Area-Winnifield, LA; Itasca State Park, Headwaters of the Mississippi River-Park Rapids MN; Cooper River-River-Pennsauken Township, NJ; Eastern New Mexico State Park-Portales, NM; Everett Forest Tree Nursery-Peninsula, OH; Doubling Gap Dam-Lower Mifflin Township, PA; North Park-Allison Park, PA; Poinsett State Park-Wedgefield, SC; Table Rock State Park-Pickens, SC; Edisto Beach State Park-Edisto Island, SC; Lake Greenwood State Park-Ninety Six, SC; Lake Hiddenwood State Park, The National Youth Administration (NYA) Park Walls-Selbyville vicinity, SD; Gregory Buttes Stone Steps-Gregory, SC; Molstad Lake Park-Mobridge vicinity, SD; Park Road 4-Burnet vicinity, TX; Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, CCC Terraces-Fruit Heights, UT; Guernsey State Park-Guerney, WY

The HALS office is continuing the challenge again in 2015 with a new theme, Documenting Modernist Landscapes. Short format histories should be submitted to HALS at the NPS no later than July 31, 2015 (c/o Chris Stevens, 202-354-2146, Chris_Stevens@nps.gov). Sponsored by HALS, cash prizes will again be awarded to the top three submissions. Results will be announced at the Chicago 2015 ASLA Annual Meeting and Expo during the HALS Challenge. Good luck and thank you for helping to preserve American landscapes!

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA ™
The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.
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Ann Komara and Maureen Cameron accepting the award from Paul Dolinsky, Chief of HALS, at the 2014 HALS Meeting at the annual ASLA Meeting and Expo in Denver.

2nd Place - Mount Tamalpais State Park, The Mountain Theater, Mill Valley, CA, HALS CA-107, by Douglas Nelson, ASLA, Principal, RHAA Landscape Architects.

Douglas Nelson accepting the award from Paul Dolinsky, Chief of HALS, at the 2014 HALS Meeting at the annual ASLA Meeting and Expo in Denver.


Marion Pressley accepting the award from Paul Dolinsky, Chief of HALS, at the 2014 HALS Meeting at the annual ASLA Meeting and Expo in Denver.

Honorable Mention - Arizona New Deal Landscapes: The Tucson Plant Materials Center HALS AZ-11; Tumacacori National Historical Park HALS AZ-12; Phoenix Historic Homesteads HALS AZ-13; Prescott Armory Historic District HALS AZ-14; Colossal Cave Mountain Park HALS AZ-15; South Mountain Park, Entry Complex HALS AZ-16 & Kinishba Ruins HALS AZ-17, by Aaron Allan, Gina Chorover, Jim Coffman, Helen Erickson, Caryn Logan Heaps & Jennifer M. Levslik with University of Arizona Student Team Members: Ismat Ayman Abdulhamid, Jeff Braun, Megan Brooks, Alexis Cardenas, Rebecca Caroli, Cannon S. Daughtrey, Deryn Davidson, Jonathan Dugan, Allison Dunn, Elondra Ome Eichenberger, Cristina Urias Espinoza, Starr Herr-Cardillo, Brianna Lehman, Steven Santillian, Barry Price Steinbrecher, Stephanie Stiscia & Cortney West and Arizona State University Team Members: Jasmine Ballard, Corinna Barber, Jordan Buckley, Dallen Olsen, Peter Price, Christine Seime & Erin Torchia.

Helen Erickson and Brianna Lehman accepting the award from Paul Dolinsky, Chief of HALS, at the 2014 HALS Meeting at the annual ASLA Meeting and Expo in Denver.

Paul Dolinsky, Chief of HALS, Ann Mullins, CO/WY HALS Liaison, and Helen Erickson, AZ HALS Volunteer, chat at the HALS Booth while a visitor browses the online HALS collection at the Library of Congress (www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/hhh/) in the ASLA Commons area of the annual Expo.