

INCOMING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome Jim Donovan

Hi! This is my first message as the new President of the Vermont Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects. To begin, I want to heartily thank Hannah Loope for her efforts over the previous year as Chapter President. She did a great job of moving forward on many of the items in the Chapter's Strategic Plan. I also want to welcome her into her new position on the Executive Board as Past President.

I want to thank Scott Wunderle, Richard Amore, and Kelly Ogradnik for their work on the Executive Board as they retire from their positions. My thanks goes to Scott for his extensive service to the Chapter, most recently as President Elect, then President, and finally Past President. He is retiring from the Executive Board after many years of service, with a long list of accomplishments. Richard has served as our Member at Large for two terms and has taken on numerous efforts, most recently coordinating the submission of three sites for the Historic American Landscape Survey (See the related article on our HALS submissions elsewhere in the Newsletter). Lastly, a big thanks for Kelly for taking on the arduous task of being Chapter Secretary! She has been instrumental in keeping our members informed of all of the relevant things happening in Vermont, getting the Chapter Newsletter out on time and in beautiful shape, taking minutes from Executive Board meetings, and assisting in many other Chapter tasks. Thanks you again to all three of you; you will be greatly missed!

Next I want to welcome Annie White as a new Member at Large on the Executive Board. We had no one run for this position in this year's elections. When the Executive Board invited volunteers for this position after the election, Annie stepped up. She is a new member of ASLA who recently

completed her PhD at the University of Vermont and founded Nectar Landscape Design Studio. Our bylaws allowed the Executive Board appoint Annie to fill the empty position. Look for more information on Annie in future VTASLA newsletters.

Lastly, a big thanks to Ann Milovsoroff and Michael McCormick for continuing in their respective positions of Chapter Trustee and Chapter Treasurer. I thank them for their past work and look forward to continuing to work with them during the coming year.

With the help of the current Executive Board, I hope to work on reversing the current trend of declining membership. We currently have 57 members, but ten years ago had 65. While the actual numbers don't seem too different, it does represent over a 10% reduction in membership in just a few years.

I also hope to help the Chapter provide more of the useful benefits and activities for our members in the next 12 months than it has offered in the past. I hope to present you with more information on this in the coming months.

Finally, the Executive Board still has the position of Chapter Secretary open. We are reviewing the work load assigned to this office with the goal of making it more equitable with the responsibilities of the other offices on the Board. We are hoping that one of our members will be inspired in the next few weeks and volunteer to step into this position.

Thanks to all of you for your membership in ASLA. We hope that our Chapter will continue to be a useful, relevant portion of your professional life in 2017.

Jim Donovan, FASLA

2016-2017 VTASLA EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Member at Large: <i>Annie White</i>	802.777.1350	<i>annie@nectarvt.com</i>

PARTNERSHIP DOCUMENTS VERMONT HISTORIC LANDSCAPES

Award-Winning HALS Submissions & 2017 Call for Submissions / Volunteers

During the past few decades, the concept of historic preservation has grown beyond protecting a single building or urban district to include the historic landscape that provides the setting and context for a property as well as much larger landscapes that have regional and national significance. In response to this growing interest in the historic preservation and documentation of landscapes, the American Society of Landscape Architects worked with the National Park Service to create a national program. In 2000, the National Park Service established the [Historic American Landscapes Survey \(HALS\)](#) to document historic landscapes in the United States. The [Vermont Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects](#) (VTASLA), the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development and Division for Historic Preservation documented three historic Vermont landscapes this summer for the HALS. For the first time in Vermont, we documented the following three historic landscapes. A huge thanks goes out to Richard Amore, Gail Henderson-King and Devon Colman for their significant time spent on the submissions.



Greatwood Gardens at Goddard College, Plainfield, VT

Greatwood Gardens at Goddard College in Plainfield

The Greatwood Estate Gardens, designed in the Italianate style by the noted Boston landscape architect Arthur A. Shurcliff, are remarkable for Vermont, a small, rural state with very few historic estate gardens. Arthur Asahel Shurcliff (1870-1957) was born in Boston, earned an engineering degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1894, another degree from Harvard University and joined Fredrick Law Olmsted's firm in Brookline, Massachusetts in 1896. In 1904, he established his own landscape practice in Boston. Shurcliff served as President of the American Society of Landscape Architects from 1928 to 1932. His work included major works for the Metropolitan District Commission and the Metropolitan Planning Board in Boston in the fields of town planning, engineering, and landscape and park design.

He was the chief landscape architect for the restoration at Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia from its inception in 1928 until 1941. The Goddard College Greatwood Estate Campus, including the gardens, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1996. Goddard College is aware of the historic significance of the Greatwood Campus and is conducting on-going repairs to structures as funding allows.



Justin Morrill Estate and Gardens, Strafford, VT

Justin Morrill Estate and Gardens in Strafford

The Justin Smith Morrill Homestead (the "Homestead") was designated a National Historic Landmark on September 22, 1960, and listed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966. The property is located in Strafford, Vermont, and was the residence of Senator Justin Smith Morrill (1810-1898). As a member of the U.S. Congress and later the Senate, Morrill sponsored legislation that established the nation's Land Grant Colleges and forever changed the nation's higher education system. The Homestead is one of the finest examples of a mid-19th century Victorian-era gentleman's farm existing in New England. The Homestead was donated to the State of Vermont in 1969 and has been operated as a State-owned historic site since that time. **We are excited to announce that this submission received an Honorable Mention Award from the National Park Service, and was awarded at the annual meeting in New Orleans!**

Taylor Park in St. Albans

Laid out as the town common in 1792, Taylor Park is a rectangular green space approximately five acres in size located at the center of the City of St. Albans, Vermont. The park got its name from Colonel Holloway Taylor, who donated the land that currently makes up the park to the



Taylor Park, St. Albans, VT

City in 1870. Today, it is the focal point of St. Albans and is listed as a contributing resource to the St. Albans Historic District listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The buildings on Main and Church Streets that border Taylor Park create a courtyard, reinforcing the aesthetic value of this open space in a downtown environment. Taylor Park is the central public gathering place for St. Albans and serves as the physical, historic and cultural center of the city. It provides today's residents and visitors with a valuable place to gather, recreate, celebrate and engage in community life.

2017 HALS CHALLENGE ANNOUNCED

The 8th annual HALS Challenge focuses on the documentation of a historic city or town park. In 2016, the National Park Service celebrated its centennial with the FIND YOUR PARK movement to spread the word about the amazing national parks and the inspirational stories they tell about our diverse cultural heritage. Find Your Park is about more than just national parks! It's also about local parks and the many ways that the American public can connect with history and culture and make new discoveries. With more than 80% of Americans living in urban areas, urban parks are becoming more important than ever.

Each state is challenged to complete at least one HALS short format history to document these beloved resources. Preservation Through Documentation!

We need your help! To volunteer or learn more about VTASLA HALS submissions, contact [Gail Henderson-King](#) or [Richard Amore](#).

VTASLA IN THE COMMUNITY

Integrated Arts Academy Master Plan

The Integrated Arts Academy (IAA), nestled into the diverse Old North End neighborhood of Burlington, is a magnet school that serves as the only integrated arts-focused elementary school in the state of Vermont. Led by Principal Bobby Riley, a 2016 National Distinguished Principal Award-winner, the IAA also won the 2016 Let's Move! Active Schools National Award. To foster an active student body, the school's curricula includes spending a significant amount of time in the urban school grounds. Furthermore, the school grounds serve as a community hub for before- and after- school activities. The school's current grounds contain out-of-date, unsafe play structures, and provide a limited amount of shade. In the heart of the Old North End neighborhood, the school's location on the corner of a busy intersection could be better separated. The IAA is seeking input from this charrette to solicit funding and community support to create a safe and dynamic outdoor space for play and learning, and to provide a neighborhood center for outdoor activities.

In early June, volunteers from VTASLA, parents, and members of the community held a student activity as part of the end-of-semester field day. Students were asked to discuss or draw an ideal play environment and favorite activities outside, as well as choose preferred images of inspirational play structures from prepared posters. In addition to student input, teachers and staff were sent questionnaires inviting observations and suggestions about the current school grounds and facilities. Next steps include hosting a design meeting with Principal Riley and teacher representatives to review key opportunities and concerns, developing the concept plan and detailed documentation, and presenting these ideas to the school community.

If anyone would like to be involved in the IAA Charette process, please contact: [Hannah Loope](#) for more information.



Students participating in a drawing activity during IAA Field Day

VTASLA ADVOCATES FOR LAs!

February 14, 2017

Back in August, Jim Donovan participated in the ASLA Advocacy Summit in Indianapolis, Indiana. He brought back several ideas on how to engage our legislators more effectively on issues important to Vermont landscape architects. He was also one of the more senior attendees who shared their experiences in advocacy and lobbying learned during our long licensure efforts. Other chapters' representatives welcomed the ideas and suggestions that VTASLA provided.

The VTASLA Advocacy Committee is working to incorporate the ideas gathered at the Advocacy Summit into our efforts here in Vermont. As part of that work, the Chapter has scheduled an **Advocacy Day Breakfast** for legislators in the State House for **February 14, 2017**. In addition to reintroducing landscape architecture to new and returning legislators, we will be discussing ideas for innovative stormwater management, placement of alternative energy facilities and possibly other issues relevant to our profession.

Stay tuned for more information. Member volunteers will be needed!

CHARRETTE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Vergennes, Nov 12

St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Vergennes seeks volunteers for a design charrette on Sat. November 12th, 10am to 5pm.

This fall we are looking to gather ideas about how to upgrade or redevelop our buildings and grounds so that our church can better serve the community of Vergennes. The charrette will help us translate those ideas into design concepts and then outline a plan for action.

The charrette team will include church members and leaders as well as representatives from the greater Vergennes community. We would welcome anyone with relevant skills or experience: architects, landscape architects, engineers, historic preservationists, cost estimators, designers, grant writers, wealthy patrons of historic buildings ;), etc.

Our historic church (c.1831), Parish Hall, and Rectory are on the town green and adjacent to the Vergennes Opera House (www.saintpaulsvergennes.org). This charrette is part of a two-year effort supported by Partners for Sacred Places (<http://www.sacredplaces.org/>).

Contact David Hohenschau david@communityworkshopllc.com if you are interested or have questions.

VTASLA AWARDS PROGRAM

Schedule and Program Updates

The VTASLA Board has done some rescheduling of the awards programs. The new schedule is meant to create a more consistent yearly schedule between the Chapter Awards and the Public Places Awards. With the new schedule, both award solicitations will go out in the fall - the Chapter Awards one year and the Public Places Awards in the alternate year. The presentation of the awards will happen in the early spring, to allow them to be presented during a ceremony at the State House, if desired.

In the next few weeks, the solicitations for the Public Places Awards will be announced. VTASLA has worked with the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Council to craft a Memorandum of Understanding between the other sponsors so that each clearly understands what is expected of them as co-sponsors of the Public Places Awards. The Public Places Awards will be presented at 4 PM on February 14, 2017 in the Cedar Creek Room of the Vermont State House. This awards program is open to anyone in Vermont.

The Chapter Awards solicitation for entries will be circulated to VTASLA members in the fall of 2017. You have a whole year to think about what you want to submit! The presentation of the awards will be in the early spring of 2018. The Awards Committee is considering the option of presenting the awards at an afternoon ceremony at the State House, similar to the Public Places Awards ceremony. It would be a shorter event than our typical awards banquet that we have had in the past, but it would bring more visibility to the awards. Alternately, the Awards Committee has considered inviting more legislators and local government officials to the awards banquet as an alternate means of increasing the publicity and awareness of the Chapter Award program and winners.

Your thoughts on the options are welcome - please send them to [Jim Donovan](mailto:Jim.Donovan@vtasla.org).

VTASLA HOLIDAY PARTY

Your Input is Needed

Last year, in a break with tradition, the VTASLA Holiday Party was held in early January, AFTER the holidays. The Executive Board is wondering if this scheduling works better for our members, or if the typical date for the holiday party during the first or second week in December would still be preferred.

Let us know what works for you! Please send your preference soon to bikeped@gmavt.net. Thanks!

MEMBER PROFILE

Sophie Nichol Sauve

TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOURSELF: WHERE ARE YOU FROM, WHAT THINGS DO YOU LOVE?

I was born and raised in Cornwall, Ontario along the St. Lawrence Seaway and am 13th generation French Canadian. However, I feel I 'grew up' in Aalborg, Denmark where I spent a year in high school as an exchange student. There, I fell in love with cycling as a mode of transportation with its abundance of cycle tracks, epic placemaking and fabulous culture. Beer, cheese and good people on a bicycle – what else is there to want in life?

After Denmark, I hopped around for both study and work, living in Ottawa, Winnipeg, Toronto, Scotland, and Ecuador before making the move 'south' to Phoenix. One might say I have a travel bug, but I say it's more of a disease and my small boys have seemed to cure it as we've been in VT for over 5 years. I love beautiful places that are pedestrian friendly and have gathering places as centers such as pedestrian-only streets, year-round farmers markets, and parks that transform into festival venues on a yearly basis. I love places that are connected and where multi-modal transportation isn't met with negativity and questioning, but is part of the natural progression of town planning and the only challenge is HOW to make it better for everyone. I've never owned a car (I technically borrow Richard's to get to work) and was a bike commuter in some of the nastiest cities in North America and am proud of it. I miss living in large walkable cities where I had to take the time to look around and spontaneously interact with strangers just to get to work.

WHERE DO YOU PRACTICE AND WHAT IS YOUR ROLE?

I am now the only landscape designer (I'm working on my license!) for DuBois & King in Randolph. I work with Lucy Gibson in the Transportation Division on several bike/pedestrian planning studies, green stormwater infrastructure implementation and traffic calming strategies, among others. One of my favorite tasks is attending meetings with community leaders working to improve mobility and connections for everyone. I am sometimes amazed at my naivety, as am I constantly surprised by all the nay-sayers and NIMBY out there when it comes to improving a place. Another favorite task is being able to blast Shakira and work on photosimulations late at night.

WHAT BROUGHT YOU TO LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE?

After my undergrad I worked as a Landmine Ambassador in Ontario. I traveled to schools to talk to Canadian children



Sophie riding her bicycle with her son, Julien, on a co-rider.

about Canada's role in the anti-landmine campaign and our responsibility for cleaning up countries that are littered with anti-personnel mines. I visited so many schools that were like my school growing up: hardtop and lawn. Triggering terrible flashbacks of soaking wet boots because of deep water puddles and absolutely nothing to do in the schoolyard moved me to enter landscape architecture to redesign places for children to play and imagine.

And of course, Denmark had a huge impact, where my attraction to urbanism and design flourished.

IS THERE SOMEONE WHO HAS INFLUENCED YOU THE MOST PROFESSIONALLY?

There are several! On a superstar level, I often turn to Claude Cormier to inspire my creativity. James Corner and Jan Gehl inspire my thinking when I need to have a "YES!" this is what I think moment. On a reality level, I've been inspired by the leaders I've worked with. Stephanie Snow when I worked at PMA Landscape Architects in Toronto demonstrated leadership in how to work within the business to do what you ultimately want to do. Shawn Byron when I was at Design Workshop in Phoenix is an exemplary project manager with great people-pleasing skills and mentorship. Joseph Charles when I was at Design Workshop in Santa Fe with his design skills and incredible patience. And now, at DuBois & King with Lucy Gibson who has a special knack in bridging transportation engineering and placemaking.

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NEWS YOU CAN USE

From ASLA National

EXECUTIVE OFFICES: EVP Nancy Somerville, FASLA, presented testimony on the FBI Square Guidelines at the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPCC) meeting in D.C. last week. The testimony focused on maintaining the Kiley-designed plaza and tree plantings on the Pennsylvania Avenue side of the FBI building, as well as the need to include environmental sustainability concerns in the recommendations. The FBI Building will be sold to a developer as part of a land exchange arrangement for relocating the FBI to a larger facility in the D.C. suburbs. The U.S. General Services Administration is pushing for a substantial reduction in the sidewalk area to maximize revenue from the land sale. NCPCC has proposed a compromise that retains two of the three rows of trees and provides some protection for the viewshed.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE: On September 27, the Obama administration announced ***"New Efforts to Increase National Preparedness by Building Community Capacity to Recover from Disasters."*** The Built Environment section of the [U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit](#) was officially announced by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the [White House](#). ASLA's contribution focused on built environment issues and case studies for the topic area.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS: The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) recently announced that ***16 transportation planning organizations around the country will receive a share of \$14.7 million in grants to support comprehensive planning projects that improve access to public transit.*** The funds are made available through FTA's Transit-Oriented Development Planning Pilot Program for communities that are developing new or expanded mass transit systems. ASLA advocates on behalf this program and continues to urge Congress to provide adequate funding. A [list of selected projects](#) is available.

The House of Representatives leadership is planning on bringing a ***National Park Service Centennial Challenge bill*** to the floor when they return for a lame duck session in November. ASLA and other coalition members are preparing a strategic grassroots campaign to keep the momentum going in favor of the legislation. Stay tuned for iAdvocate alerts on the issue in the coming days.

The D.C. City Council is considering the Regulation of Landscape Architecture and Professional Design Firms Act of 2016. ***This bill would establish landscape architecture licensing in the District of Columbia.*** [State Government Affairs Director Elizabeth Hebron](#): (202) 216-2324.

ASLA FELLOWS

Nominations

Nominations are currently open for Fellows in the American Society of Landscape Architects. To be eligible, ASLA members must have been FULL members for 10 years. Years as a student or associate member of ASLA do not count towards the 10 year requirement. ASLA HQ has provided the Executive Board with a list of VTASLA members who, according to their records, meet the 10 year requirement.

The submittal of nominations from the Chapter needs to come from the Executive Committee. Due to this reason, the President and Past President will be sending letters to eligible members to let them know about their eligibility and inquiring about their interest in potentially putting forth a nomination. The Chapter currently has 9 fellows and would love to have 10 or 11.

For more information on other requirements please contact Hannah Loope, Jim Donovan, or Ann Milovsoroff.

EVENT RECAP

2016 Doug Crowell Lecture

On Thursday, October 6, our dynamic guest Hitesh Mehta, FASLA, presented a selection from his body of ecotourism work through the lens "Design as a Tool for Poverty Alleviation and Biodiversity Conservation".

Through planning and design project examples across the globe, centered in Africa, Hitesh advocated for designs that support rural economies, keeping small communities intact and in place without need to seek jobs in growing urban areas. He described a planning and design process that unifies and strengthens each community with a common vision, while creating desirable eco-tourism destinations that for minimal development footprints and ecological impact.

Continuing the energy from the social hour, we had a wonderfully diverse audience with many new faces who fostered an extended and vibrant discussion after the lecture. Many thanks to all who attended, assisted in the setup, and who welcomed Hitesh into our community!

Stay tuned for information on the 2017 Doug Crowell Lecture which will be held in the fall of 2017.

MEMBER PROFILE

Sophie Nichol Sauve

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WHAT IS THE MOST INTERESTING OR UNIQUE PROJECT YOU HAVE WORKED ON PROFESSIONALLY?

My practicum topic, to complete my MLandArch, was on women and outdoor public space. I explored how little literature exists on women in the profession of landscape architecture and how cities were just not designed with women in mind, especially in North America. I compared Cornwall, Aalborg and Bangkok, Thailand on several design and cultural issues and communicated my findings through a quilt. Through a conference at Berkeley, I met a fabulous group of professionals who were working on a related topic, and I achieved my childhood dream of being published.

As for a project in an office environment, I worked on the design of the approach to the Lara Croft Ride at Canada's Wonderland outside Toronto. This entailed working with the Principal of the firm on a planting plan for plants that needed to survive our northern climate but needed to look 'tropical'.

IF YOU HAD ADVICE FOR SOMEONE JUST ENTERING THE PROFESSION, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

If you are ready to start seeing every single detail in the world differently and with constant analysis, then this profession is for you. Unlike other professions, you can never leave your job 'at work' and for that, I am grateful.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE TOOL AT YOUR JOB?

The undo button...

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PLANT MATERIAL?

To me, the best landscapes are edible. What can beat being immersed in the smell of tomato plants at mid-summer or medicinal plants such as lavender in the fall? I just don't get excited about weeding a planting of perennials as I do a vegetable garden. Sorry fellow master gardeners! Sorry critters, I like food too!

If I really need to choose a plant material, I would spec tall grasses. Not only are they great for stormwater runoff out of parking lots, but they dance in the wind and remind me of the prairies.

LAF CALL FOR PROPOSALS

\$25k Fellowship for Landscape Professionals



The Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF) is thrilled to announce its new LAF Fellowship for Innovation and Leadership. This \$25,000 year-long fellowship is an opportunity for mid-career and senior-level landscape architects to explore, research, develop, and test the next big ideas and initiatives that will bring about positive change and expand the impact of landscape architecture.

The inaugural cohort of the LAF Fellowship for Innovation and Leadership will run April 2017 – May 2018. Three to five fellowships will be awarded through a competitive application process based on a proposed project. Over the course of the fellowship year, selected Fellows dedicate approximately 3-months' time to project work and participate in 3 three-day residencies in Washington, D.C., as well as monthly conference calls.

Application materials are due December 1, 2016.

For more information, visit: www.lafoundation.org/laf-fellowship

CALENDAR

Upcoming Events

2016 VERMONT STATEWIDE HOUSING CONFERENCE

DATE: November 14-15, 2016
LOCATION: Burlington, VT
MORE INFO: [Click here for more information](#)

VERMONT PLANNERS ASSOCIATION FALL CONFERENCE

DATE: November 18, 2016
LOCATION: Randolph, VT
MORE INFO: [Click here for more information](#)



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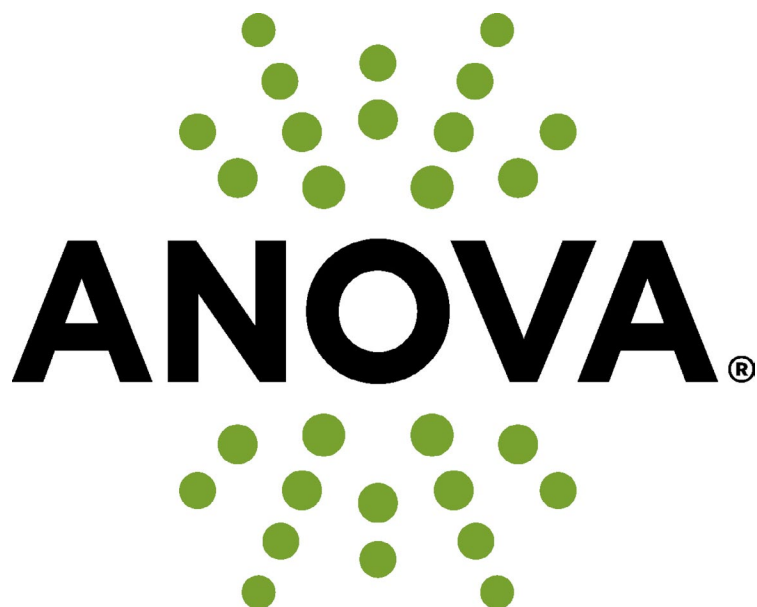
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Contact Charlene Vera at charlenev@victorstanley.com

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