

**MICHAEL
VAN
VALKENBURGH
ASSOCIATES
INC**

22 January 2018

The Executive Committee and Board of Trustees
The American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye St. NW
Washington, DC 20001

RE: Nomination of Linda Jewell for the ASLA Medal

Dear Committee Members and Trustees:

Linda Jewell's decades of continuously excellent, ground-breaking work in teaching, practice, and writing, as well as her dedication to our profession, epitomize the characteristics of a recipient of the ASLA Medal. With this letter I nominate her for that award.

When the idea of putting Linda's name forward first occurred to me two years ago and I began to seek out letters of support from other leaders in our field, the universal reaction was, "Linda has done so much for the profession—she is perfect for the medal." I'm dedicated to ensuring that this person who is "perfect for the medal" actually receives it. So, I've submitted this nomination before and am submitting it again in hopes of achieving success.

Why am I so determined to see this medal go to Linda? Well, for starters she has been a recognized leader in landscape architecture for decades. As far back as 1985, Landscape Architecture Magazine (LAM) ran a feature article on Linda entitled "Innovative Idealist," with an amazing photograph that captured everything about her: her grace, her intelligence, and her tenacity. That was 33 years ago, and she persists with the same innovation and idealism to this day. Even though I make a point of following what Linda is up to, I'm pretty sure that I'm aware of only a small portion of the contributions she makes to the field, particularly in terms of her selfless support of our professional organizations such as the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA) and the ASLA, as well as other national advocacy and advising work. Her online bio is typically modest on this point, but I know that, at the very least, Linda has provided long-standing service to institutional review boards, such as the Planning & Design Commission at Georgia Tech and the Architecture Commission at the University of Washington.

Linda is an important role model for young landscape architects. In a profession that is still woefully short of woman-owned firms, Linda has founded and run three practices: first her own self-named firm, then Reynolds & Jewell in North Carolina, and since 1993, Freeman & Jewell in California. Her

work with these firms has won numerous design awards, including an ASLA Honor Award for Hartford Riverfront Platform and Theater. Never a blowhard grandstander or a showy trend-follower, Linda's extraordinary professional skills and justified confidence in her own ability give her the patience to listen thoughtfully and to consider, synthesize, and build upon promising ideas in a way that helps push each project to a higher level. It is not surprising that much of her best-known work relates to outdoor theaters, as this is a typology that relies on a profound understanding of landscape history, skill in the blending together of landscape and architecture, an interest in human experience, and technical mastery—all areas of strength for Linda.

I am proud to have known Linda for nearly 30 years, initially as her colleague at Harvard. She is the rare academic who is dedicated to her research and teaching but also has a distinguished career as a practitioner. She was the first woman to chair the Department of Landscape Architecture at Harvard, a position she held from 1987 to 1991. Following Harvard, she was a tenured professor at UC Berkeley, where she served terms as chair of both the landscape architecture department and the urban design program and was a guiding force within the College of Environmental Design. She is now a Professor Emerita of Landscape Architecture and Urban Design.

I have sat in on many reviews with Linda, first at Harvard and, more recently, at Berkeley. She is a brilliant critic of student work, never bringing a personal agenda to her comments, except the agenda of expecting students to do their best and strive to contribute to the profession. In 2008, this lifetime of teaching excellence was recognized when she received the ASLA's Jot Carpenter Teaching Medal. In 2011, she was named a CELA Fellow.

Linda is also widely celebrated as a lucid and inspiring writer who has created a tremendous body of work that is of long-standing importance to our profession. Her seminal essays on construction and technology ran for ten straight years in LAM. These essays have yet to be equaled in terms of their quality, quantity, and profound impact on the field. In 1989 she won the ASLA Presidential Award in Communications for the 10-year run of articles in LAM. Nearly 20 years later, in 2007, she was awarded the ASLA's Bradford Williams Medal for the best article in LAM.

In her role as advisor to the University of Washington and Georgia Tech, Linda, with characteristic diligence and intelligence, has helped preserve and advance the landscape integrity of the campuses. When I appeared before the University of Washington Architecture Commission to present my firm's work on the university's Campus Landscape Framework, Linda brought a scrupulous attention to detail and enthusiasm for excellence to the discussion. Anybody who had seen her in a student review would have expected as much, but, given the context, she notched up the expectations while also providing exceptional insights into the potential of each aspect of our proposal. No one who knows Linda will be surprised to hear that she read our entire 450-page document and then helped lead a day-long seminar to help others understand the challenges and opportunities it presented.

Ever curious about how landscapes are made and used, Linda is also an excellent researcher. Most recently her efforts in this regard have focused on the role of on-site decisions in 1930s Civilian Conservation Corps projects for the National Parks. During her fellowship at the prestigious Dumbarton

Oaks library in the fall of 2015, she continued decades worth of research on her exhibition and book project on American outdoor amphitheaters, entitled "Gathering on the Ground: Experiencing Landscape in American Outdoor Theaters."

Linda's solid base in practice has always been her launchpad for making a mark through her writing, teaching, professional advising, and criticism. For many years I had actually assumed that Linda had already won this award, considering the importance of her body of work and her professional and academic achievements. Yet as I scanned the list of past winners not only was her name absent, but I discovered that only four women have received the medal since it was initiated in 1971. This is a glaring omission that is by no means consistent with the contributions that Linda and other women have made to the profession. Now that we are aware of this egregious oversight, it is easily within our collective power to add Linda's name to the list of recipients, an honor that she well deserves.

By recognizing Linda's long career and substantial achievements in elevating the field of landscape architecture to a new standard, we will shine a light on an important body of work that has advanced our profession. Awarding her the ASLA Medal would cap a long and illustrious career and coincide beautifully with her recent retirement from teaching. I have never written a nomination so happily and I hope that it meets with success.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Michael Van Valkenburgh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Michael Van Valkenburgh, FASLA

Professional/Academic Honors and Grants

2011 Global Scholar Fellow, Fellowship Announced by Tsinghua University, Beijing China

2011 Fellow in the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture

2011 Faculty Advisor, National ASLA Student Honor Award for Wurstershire Sauce, the collaborative construction of a Wurster courtyard bench and teaching table

2008 Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal, National ASLA Award for Sustained Contribution to Landscape Architecture Education

2007 Faculty Co-Advisor, National ASLA Student Honor Award to Leslie Webster for "Remodeling Renewal," a proposal for SF public housing re-design

2007 Bradford Williams Medal, ASLA Award for "The Best Article in Landscape Architecture Magazine in 2006"

2002 Honor Award, North Carolina ASLA, for Symphony Park (Koka Booth) Amphitheatre (with Reynolds & Jewell and William Rawn)

2002 Honor Award for Symphony Park (Koka Booth) Amphitheatre, North Carolina Chapter, American Institute of Architects for Symphony Park (with Reynolds & Jewell and William Rawn)

2002 Honor Award for Symphony Park (Koka Booth) Amphitheatre, United States Institute for Theatre Technology (with Reynolds & Jewell and William Rawn)

2001 Honor Award, Boston Society of Architects for Symphony Park (Koka Booth) Amphitheatre (with Reynolds & Jewell and William Rawn)

2001 Honor Award in Architecture, New England Chapter, AIA, for Symphony Park (Koka Booth) Amphitheatre (with Reynolds & Jewell and William Rawn)

2000 Honor Award, National ASLA, Hartford Riverfront Platform and Theater (with Reynolds & Jewell, Carol Johnson Assoc. and GBQC)

2000 Research Grant (\$20,000) National Center for Preservation Technology and Training: "The Interplay of Drawings and On-Site Decisions in the Outdoor Theater Designs of the New Deal"

1997 Special Recognition from Berkeley School Board for Contributions to Berkeley High School Landscape Proposals

1996 1995/1996 Graham Foundation Research Grant (\$12,000) for Exhibition, "Great Siteworks"

1995 1994/1995 Design Award for Public Open Space from Berkeley Design Advocates for Garden Structure at Karl Linn Garden

1995 1st Place, Oakland Administrative Building, Urban Design and Landscape Architectural Team Member, with Fentress Bradburn Associates

1995 3rd Place, Kennep. Hokkaido City/Park Competition with TODA Corporation, Tokyo Japan

1995 Hubbard Trust grant (\$5,000) to support photography and visits to outdoor theaters on the East Coast

1994 Elected Fellow by the American Society of Landscape Architects in the Categories of Built Work and Professional Instruction

1993 USA Fellowship (\$25,000) from The National Endowment for the Arts to study American Outdoor Theaters

1990 ASLA Merit Award: Design Improvements for Sarah P. Duke Gardens

1989 ASLA Honor Award: Crystal Plaza Park in Arlington, Virginia

1989 ASLA Presidential Award in Design Communication: Ten Years of Landscape Construction articles for Landscape Architecture Magazine

1987 ASLA Merit Award: Skyline Place Parking Deck

1987 Grand Award, National Association of Nurserymen and Landscape Contractors: Crystal Plaza Park in Arlington, Virginia

1985 Merit Award, Copley Square International Competition Boston, Massachusetts

1985 Honor Award, National Association of Nurserymen and Landscape Contractors: Skyline Place Parking Deck

1985 Honor Award, Triangle Council of Governments: North Carolina Microelectric Center

1985 ASLA Award of Special Recognition for Five Year Contribution to Landscape Architecture Magazine

1984 Honor Award, Triangle Council of Governments: Bishop's Park Condominiums

1984 NCASLA Honor Award: Bishop's Park Condominiums

1981 NCASLA Award of Special Recognition: Revised Master Plan for Sarah P. Duke Gardens

1978 Rome Prize, First Alternate, American Academy in Rome

1976 Roosevelt Island Housing Competition, Finalist Scheme Included in the Publication and Exhibition by The Architectural League of New York

Publications

"Subtle Inspirations: The Influence of Japanese Gardens on Mid-Century Modernists." Refereed abstract and presentation at CELA. March 2011.

"D-I-Y Urbanism: Teaching Construction Technology On-Site and in Real Time." Referred abstract and presentation for the panel on "Models for Design Implementation, Practice and Pedagogy" moderated by Jason Kentner. CELA. March 2011.

Mozingo, L. and Jewell, L. Women in Landscape Architecture: Essays on History and Practice. McFarland Press, Fall 2011. (in press)

"A Matter of Inches." Tom Leader Studio: Three Projects. Princeton Arch. Press, 2010. (referred)

Jewell, Linda. Gathering on the Ground: Experiencing Landscape in American Outdoor Theaters. In progress on book manuscript.

Jewell, Linda. "The Spirit of Stone." (A critique of San Francisco's Stern Grove outdoor theater and park) Landscape Architecture. February 2006.

Jewell, Linda and Norcross. Blake Garden: A Landscape of Change. 2006.

Jewell, Linda. "On-site Insight: The Artistic Merits of Facilitating Incremental Design Decisions in the Field." Landscape Review: New Zealand. 2005.

Jewell, Linda and Rasmussen Cancian, Steve. "Keeping the boys busy: Outdoor theatres of the great depression: on-site, incremental design gives form to the complex relationship of site and structure." Studies in the History of Gardens & Designed Landscapes. Taylor & Francis, London, 2004. p. 187-214.

Jewell, Linda. "The American Outdoor Theatre: A Voice for the Landscape in the Collaboration of Site and Structure." Re-envisioning Landscape/Architecture. Spellman, Catherine. Actar Publications, 2003.

Jewell, Linda. "Knight, Emerson (1882-1960) landscape architect conservationist, writer." Pioneers of Landscape Design. Birnbaum, Charles and Karson, Robin. 2000. p. 217-220.

Jewell, Linda. "Outdoor Theaters from the American Outdoor Drama Movement: Models for 21st Century Landscapes." Proceedings, ASLA 1998 National Meeting. 1999.

Jewell, Linda. "Great Siteworks: Two California Outdoor Theaters." Places. October 1996. p. 64-71.

Jewell, Linda. "The Loss of Meaningful Site-to-Structure Relationship in the Design of American Outdoor Theaters." Council of Educators Annual Conference. 1994.

Jewell, Linda. "When Green Isn't Good Enough (A Critique analysis of Yerba Buena Gardens)." Landscape Architecture. August 1994.

Jewell, Linda. "Street Furniture." Process Architecture. No. 117. Tokyo, Japan. 1994.

Jewell, Linda; "Walker and Johnson: A Merger for the Nineties." In Process Architecture. No. 118. Tokyo, Japan. 1994.

Jewell, Linda, Editor. Peter Walker: Experiments in Seriality, Flatness, and Gesture. Rizzoli, 1990.

Jewell, Linda. "Cast Bronze, Brass, Lead and Aluminum." Landscape Architecture. December 1988. p. 120-125.

Jewell, Linda. "Ornamental Metals: Cast Iron." Landscape Architecture. July-August 1987. p. 93-95.

Jewell, Linda. "Ornamental Metals: Wrought Iron." Landscape Architecture. March-April 1987. p. 97-100.

US \$7/CAN \$9

SEPTEMBER 1995

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE



**LINDA JEWELL:
A PROFILE**

Dear Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the nomination of Linda Jewell for the ASLA medal. Simply and concisely stated, Linda Jewell ranks among the half-dozen most important landscape architecture educators of the past 40 or so years in America. That she is an outstanding teacher and a highly respected practitioner (especially in her younger years), as well as an important researcher on outdoor theater and concert spaces are all attributes which have gained her the respect of the academic community and the professional community in landscape architecture. The characteristic which makes Linda unique among the academic community is her very important and useful skill of nurturing combined with a no-nonsense attitude toward both students and faculty. This characterized her very successful leadership of the landscape architecture departments at both Harvard and Berkeley.

Any profession needs to renew itself, and the people who lead this process are the people who lead its academic branch. In this regard, I know of no one who has devoted his or her long professional career more successfully to the furthering of landscape architecture than Linda Jewell. Linda Jewell is fully deserving of being awarded the ASLA medal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Carl', with a stylized, flowing script.

Carl Steinitz

Victoria and Alexander Wiley Professor of Landscape Architecture and Planning Emeritus

Graduate School of Design

Harvard University



OLIN

25 January 2016

ASLA Board of Trustees,

I strongly support the nomination of Linda Jewel for the ASLA Medal. Linda is a credit to our profession, which she has strived to improve throughout her career in numerous ways. She is as amazing as she has been modest and graceful in the conduct and productivity of her career.

I have known Linda since she was a graduate student of mine at Penn on an independent study in her last semester. Her project placed second in a national design competition for housing on Roosevelt Island in New York City – the winning entry was by Jose Luis Sert's firm from Boston and was built. After graduating she went on to teach in North Carolina, but Bob Hanna and I managed to coax her back to Philadelphia to teach design to undergraduates and become the first Campus Landscape Architect at the University of Pennsylvania, where she directed the reconstruction of the campus. I had the pleasure of watching her blossom. She was brilliant at both. The campus was transformed, leading a nationwide trend to undo the wreckage of post-Olmsted developments in American Universities across the country, and it set a precedent for the now common addition of landscape architects to University planning, architecture and development staffs. Her students at Penn went on to win many awards and become leaders in the fields of architecture and landscape architecture – something that has continued for over thirty years.

Following her career at Penn she opened a practice in North Carolina, began building her own award winning designs, and was coaxed into writing for LAM, an activity that was to continue for a decade or so, presenting research and technical help on construction and design that was unprecedented in our field at the time. Because I thought she was one of the most capable, thoughtful and generous people I'd ever seen with students, somehow, in my efforts to raise the level of insight and depth of knowledge of the faculty at Harvard, I managed to lure her to Cambridge to teach. Once again, she was an outstanding success – in this case doing what might be termed National Service, as the Harvard GSD was not necessarily an easy place for a strong woman on the faculty at that time. She was so successful, that when I stepped down as chair, Linda became the Chairman of the Department.

When, like myself, she decided it was someone else's turn, she bravely moved across the country to a quite different part of our national profession and design culture, to the University of California at Berkeley, where she again taught successfully until her recent retirement. To say that she is respected, even beloved, by her students and those who have



had the good fortune to be her colleagues is an understatement. Her list of associations and achievements is surely appended to this nomination. What needs to be made clear, however, is that she is wise, generous, deeply learned, technically sharp, critically astute, ethically irreproachable, and aesthetically superb and refined. Linda is the epitome of a caring and professional landscape architect who has a grasp of the big picture, the full horizon of our field, its ambitions, accomplishments and dilemmas, the purpose of our endeavor to improve the lives of humanity, along with the fine grain nature of what it takes to work toward such a vision through work. She is truly an outstanding member of our profession.

I fully support awarding Linda Jewell the ASLA Medal.

Laurie D. Olin
FASLA, Hon AIA, Hon RIBA, AAAL, AAAS, AAR
Practice Professor of Landscape Architecture, University of Pennsylvania School of Design
Founding partner, the OLIN Studio, Philadelphia

PWP LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

PETER WALKER, FASLA

DOUGLAS FINDLAY, FASLA

DAVID WALKER, FASLA

ADAM GREENSPAN

SANDRA HARRIS

CHRIS DIMOND, FASLA

JULIE CANTER

CONARD LINDGREN

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MICHAEL DELLIS

TODD MEAD

MARTIN POIRIER, FASLA

CARMEN ARROYO

STEVE TYCZ

JANET BEAGLE

EUSTACIA BROSSART

CHELSEA DEWITT

BRIAN GILLET

HEATH HOUSE

LAUREL HUNTER

JUSTIN JACKSON

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SU-JUNG PARK

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CHRIS WALKER

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MI YANG

The Executive Committee and Board of Trustees
The American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

Regarding: Linda Jewell Nomination for ASLA Medal

Dear Committee Members and Trustees:

I have known Linda Jewell for many years – first, through her clear and insightful writings for *Landscape Architecture Magazine* exploring construction techniques; then, as a colleague at the Harvard Graduate School of Design in 1985; and again a year later when she became the Chairman of our Department of Landscape Architecture. We were again colleagues at the University of California at Berkeley from 1997 to 1999. For all these years she has combined skillful administration, dedication to the profession of landscape architecture, and the ability to teach the practical techniques that are essential underpinnings of the practice of elegant design.

We have often hired her students because we know that they have been taught the full spectrum from theoretical, ecological, and social overview and aesthetic experiment all the way to the necessary skills of building, grading, and planting and the important relationship between them all. This vision of landscape is rare in graduates in the last decade, and Linda has achieved a rare accomplishment as both a teacher and administrator. Her special ability to interest and excite students into these possibilities and potentials has been a great gift to the hundreds she has affected.

I have always admired her ability to reach for the highest levels of practice through the careful consideration of practical building skills. I feel that she is the natural heir to the academic leadership provided by Professor Charles Harris over his long career.

Linda is that rare combination of intellect, dedication, and hard work that is so necessary in our world, currently awash with unproven or untested theory that is largely without clinical engagement. These qualities distinguish Linda among today's academics, and she has also been one of the first women to rise to leadership in both teaching and successful practice. In this, she is not only a leader in our field, but an important role model for the hundreds of women who have entered landscape architecture over the past thirty years.

As one might expect, Linda's research interests lie in the relationship of design practice to academic and scholarly work. In this pursuit, she has written about both contemporary built landscapes and traveled widely to explore other cultures and design practices, always looking for the connection between the artistic, the social, and the ecological implications of landscape design. Her interest in the history of outdoor theaters, is an important example.

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page 2 of 2

Linda has also produced important and honored designs, such as Symphony Park (Koka Booth) Theater with William Rahn (AIA and ASLA awards) and the Hartford Riverfront Platform and theater with Carol Johnson Associates. Earlier, she lead the team to rebuild the University of Pennsylvania campus, still an important example to those of us who attempt campus renewal after fifty years of uncontrolled post-war development. This continuing interest and involvement in practice has uniquely informed her academic endeavors.

She has received, in 2007, the Bradford Williams Medal and, in 2008, the Jot Carpenter Teaching Medal. She became an ASLA fellow in 1994. She has received a research grant of \$20,000 from the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, a Graham Foundation Research Grant for the exhibition "Great Siteworks in 1995, and many ASLA design awards for completed works.

Through her considerable efforts of lecturing and public service within the field and the public at large, Linda has been an outstanding spokesman for our profession. Over the years, she has tirelessly served the ASLA in many ways both locally and nationally—a true leader in every sense of the word.

Her high appreciation of design excellence and personal integrity is always expressed in an easy, informal manner—open, warm, good-humored, and with that smiling southern drawl. It has charmed students, clients, and colleagues alike. She has been a remarkably successful advocate for our ideals and the finest model of our profession, for the world outside. I am extremely pleased to recommend her for the ASLA Medal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Peter Walker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "P" and "W".

Peter Walker

PW/jb

ASLA Headquarters
ASLA Medal Nominations c/o Caroline Mitchell
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Letter of support for Linda Jewell, 2017 ASLA Medal

Linda Jewell's lifetime contributions to the profession of landscape architecture span the gamut of our mission—from teaching students at several of the best programs in the nation—NC State, Harvard and Berkeley, to developing new technologies for constructing sustainable landscape designs. She has won numerous national awards for her built landscapes as well as for her teaching. She has headed her own firm as well as the landscape architecture departments at two major universities, Harvard and Berkeley. With all due respect to prior ASLA Medalists, Jewell was a fearless trendsetter and groundbreaker whose impact on the profession deserves recognition. The 1995 *Landscape Architecture* magazine cover of her, standing with her garden tool belt slung from her hips, said it all; so, did the title of its cover article about her, "Innovative Idealist."

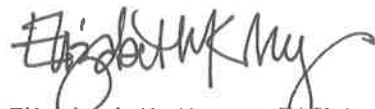
I was introduced to Jewell in the 1980s through her regular *Landscape Architecture* magazine articles on landscape technology. This series taught my generation to be as rigorous in landscape construction as we were with conceptualization; she moved us, and the profession, away from the "standard detail" to the art and craft of making of landscapes. Those articles covered everything from planting in poor urban soils to the use of geotextiles, from detailing pavements to walls, from working with reinforced soils to ornamental metal. Her background in architecture and landscape architecture, and her time spent studying with McHarg at Penn, imbued Jewell's writing with a concern for what we would now call eco-technologies. She brought an environmental ethos into the detailed design and construction process passing this to her accomplished students, such as Meg Calkins, the author of *The Sustainable Sites Handbook*.

Jewell not only taught us through her writing, she inspired me, as a young woman practitioner, to own the process of design from concept to site observation. Those articles were evidence that women had the expertise and ability to design and to construct, to imagine and to realize, the landscape. We benefited from Jewell's extension of that

assumption from her own practice to that of others. Jewell's commitment to integrating design and technology, and to mentoring women in the profession, is unparalleled. I would not be where I am today, Dean of a School of Architecture, without Linda Jewell's example and her mentorship. But I am not alone. The dozens, if not hundreds, of women she has mentored are changing the profession in a myriad of ways as practitioners and academics. We are doing so through our ideas and our skills, our creativity and our technical abilities. We are doing so because of an "innovative idealist" like Linda Jewell who challenged stereotypes in our profession with acumen and tenacity, over decades, whether we know it or not.

Let's make sure we all know of Linda Jewell's lifelong contributions to our profession, this year. Linda Jewell is currently a Fellow at Dumbarton Oaks Research Center for Landscape and Garden Studies working on a long-awaited book on outdoor theaters. She plans to retire from teaching at Berkeley in the next year. This is the year. Linda Jewell for ASLA Medalist in 2016!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth K. Meyer', with a stylized, flowing script.

Elizabeth K. Meyer, FASLA
Dean and Edward E. Elson Professor
Merrill D. Peterson Professor of Landscape Architecture
bmeyer@virginia.edu
Office 434.924.6960

ASLA Headquarters
 ASLA Medal Nominations c/o Caroline Mitchell
 636 Eye Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20001-3736

Letter of Support for Linda Jewell, 2017 ASLA Medal

The ASLA Medal was intended to recognize a landscape architect whose work has had a “unique and lasting” impact on the public and the environment. I honestly cannot imagine a more appropriate recipient for this award than Linda Jewell.

Linda’s impacts on the public and the environment have come from two important areas of her work: detailing and innovative customization of materials, and her exceptional leadership in educational institutions.

First I’d like to describe her pioneering focus on detail and materials in design, which she conveyed with incredible success to several generations of students at Harvard’s GSD when she served as an associate professor, and then as the first woman to lead that Department. Linda was the first in landscape architecture to note that the process of manufacturing mass-produced parts could be slightly altered to generate interesting custom details for site-specific work. She took students on tours of manufacturing plants, showed them how to add small pieces to extruding equipment that would score pavers, explained the cost and customization benefits of cast stone, and introduced vernacular techniques using sawn balusters with doubled patterns for introducing inexpensive detail under railings. By blending financial and aesthetic concerns with a knowledge of culture and technology, Jewell was the first to teach the concepts and value of “mass customization” in the 1980s, before laser cutters, routers and 3D printers brought rapid prototyping to the studio.

Linda’s work on materials and the techniques of manufacturing, disseminated in her classes and in her LA Magazine column, prepared the ground for books about the value and use of new materials in the last 20 years – anticipating, if not initiating, today’s focus on customizable mass manufacturing. Her intelligence about materials and techniques benefited the public by shaping generations of landscape architects who achieved innovations in their practice using an understanding of how contemporary materials could be produced and deployed. From the Berkeley grads who started Parking Day and founded ReBar in San Francisco (now Gehl), to the Harvard grads who founded offices like DIRT Studio and Scape in New York, Linda Jewell’s lessons about detail in public space became a call to action. Those students (Blaine Merkel, Julie Bargmann) combined Linda’s passion for materials with a commitment to ecological urban processes, and generated incredible energy around the profession that sustains much of the

continuing excitement about innovative, performative landscapes today. The innovative use of mass-produced pavers that became one of the materials of choice for stormwater management were first introduced to the profession as something that could be used differently by Linda Jewell. By focusing on detail and mass customization, Linda created the foundation of a powerful movement to create landscapes that do new kinds of work to benefit the environment, as well as the sense of place enjoyed by the public.

Secondly, Linda has had an impact on the public and on environments by leading two important educational institutions – Harvard and Berkeley’s Landscape Architecture departments. In each, she served as a creative “bridge” between people who believed passionately in mission-driven design and people who believed with equal passion that design should be driven by the aspirations of the fine arts. At Harvard, Linda established a creative détente between the ecologists, the strategic planners, and the artists of design. She created a “middle space” among these feuding factions by being gracious and kind to all of her colleagues and students. Her tenure as Chair at Harvard was, in many ways, that Department’s peak period – when no single orthodoxy was allowed to dominate, and students were able to create hybrids of the faculty members’ positions. People as different as Julie Bargmann, Jane Wolff, Mikyoung Kim, and myself – among many talented others – emerged from that period at the GSD. At Berkeley, Linda bridged between the social practices faculty, who believed that the imposition of form without public participation was a travesty, and the designers who wanted freedom to build inspiring personal visions without a committee. Those bridging roles are tough; people sometimes let her genteel personality fool them, but Linda Jewell was a genius at defeating ideological “extremism” that would have harmed the profession, and damaged those departments.

In addition to these significant roles, Linda has been at the center of an informal network of women – mentoring them, helping them identify and pursue roles in firms and in academic departments that they might otherwise not have found. She has helped me find my way in academia, and as a person learning to influence policy – and has helped many others as well, both men and women, to enter and thrive in productive careers. That may be her greatest benefit to the public, and to the environment – to have created so many passionate professionals who look for innovations everywhere, in the smallest details, and try to synthesize rather than divide.

Linda has told me she plans to retire this year from an incomparable career as an academic leader and practitioner. I join many other people in hoping – deeply – that you will recognize her courageous, distinctive and astoundingly successful efforts by awarding her the ASLA Medal in 2016.

Sincerely,



Kristina Hill, PhD
Associate Professor



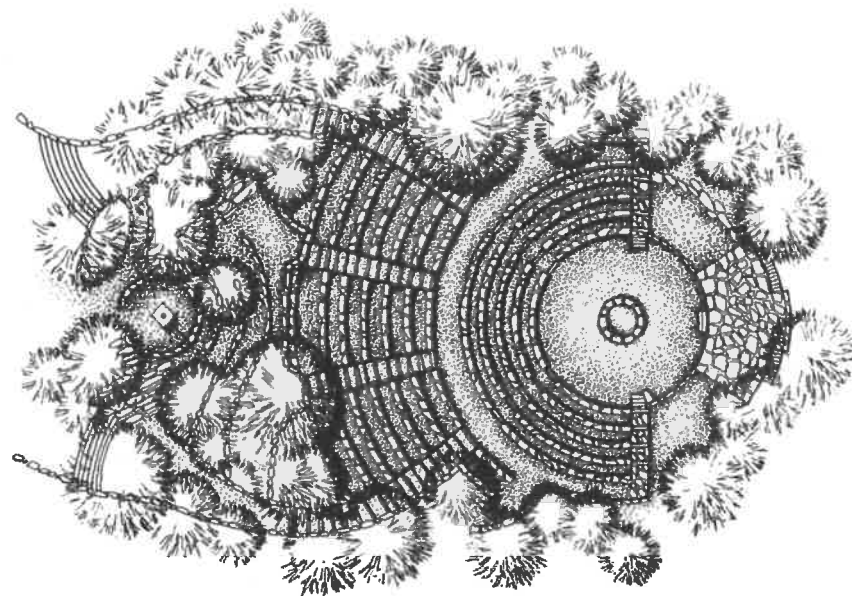
Symphony Park (Koka Booth) Amphitheatre, Cary NC, with Reynolds & Jewell and William Rawn (awarded 2002 NCASLA Honor Award)

02 Koka Booth Theater



2002 Honor Award, North Carolina ASLA, for Symphony Park Amphitheater (with Reynolds & Jewell and William Rawn)

2001 Honor Award, New England Chapter, AIA, for Symphony Park (with Reynolds & Jewell and William Rawn)



S u n r i s e C i r c l e A m p h i t h e a t e r

Boulder, Colorado

Illustration from *Gathering on the Ground: Experiencing Landscape in American Outdoor Theaters* (forthcoming)



Faculty Advisor for Wurstershire Sauce, the collaborative construction of a Wurster courtyard bench and teaching table at UC Berkeley (awarded 2011 National ASLA Student Honor Award)

CONSTRUCTION

By LINDA JEWELL

Planting Trees in City Soils

The urban environment imposes unusual stresses upon trees: soil compaction, pollution, mechanical damage and restricted water and nutrients. As a result of these unfavorable conditions, the average street tree lives only 12 to 18 years; too many of the trees in downtown malls, transitways and plazas die soon after installation.

But urban foresters and soil scientists are developing more precise approaches to the problems and requirements of urban trees. They have demonstrated that a tree's health can be greatly improved by maintenance programs, species selection and specialized planting techniques.

The urban soil

Some soil scientists estimate that 80% of urban vegetation problems can be traced to poor soil. This has a direct impact on a tree's intake of moisture and nutrients and its disposition toward disease. Characteristic problems of urban soils include: (1) variable pH, texture and

nutrient content; (2) low organic matter; (3) high soluble salt content; and (4) compaction and poor drainage.

The heterogeneous distribution of texture, pH and nutrients in urban soils can change radically over a short distance, resulting in extremely varied growth rates. Numerous soil tests may be required to determine the necessary amendments to produce consistent growth. Fertilization, pH adjustment and the addition of organic matter, however, are almost always needed. Typically, urban soils have an organic content less than 1%, as opposed to 5% of the "ideal" soil. Recycling municipal sludge into the soil is one efficient method of improving organic content.

De-icing salts cause injury through aerial distribution and soil accumulation. Although it is important to select resistant species, a planting structure designed to minimize salt accumulation and/or with provisions for annual soil "flushings" improves the chances for success.

Compaction is the most limiting — and most often ignored — characteristic of urban soils. Soil studies in Washington, D.C., indicated only 13-36% pore

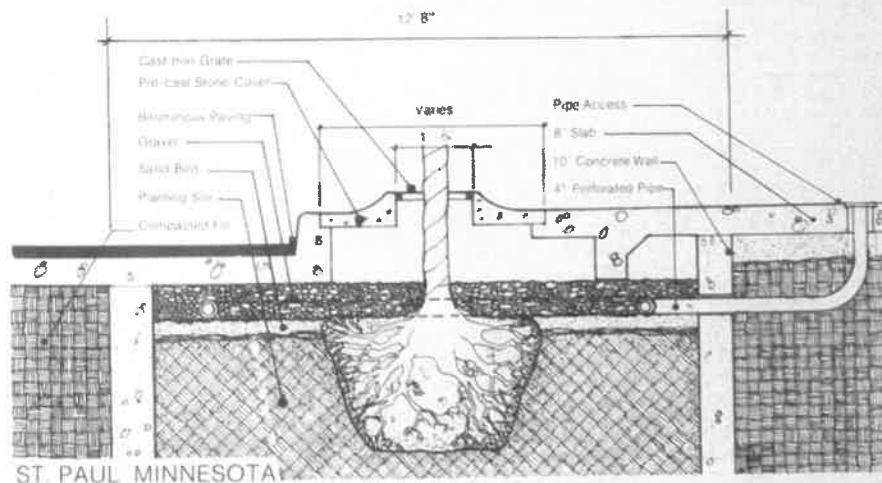
space, rather than the 50% (25% air space; 25% water space) of an ideal soil. This requirement varies with each species, but the growth of most trees will be restricted in a soil where porosity falls below 30%.

Compacted soils also limit the amount of water available to trees. Root penetration and poor aeration are also problems of compacted soils. While oxygen content rarely drops below 15% in the surface of a well-drained soil, it can be as low as 1% in compacted soils under pavement. Monolithic pavements also increase the volume of carbon dioxide in the soil by trapping it beneath the pavement; this further inhibits root development.

Almost all urban soils are poorly drained due to compaction. Therefore, drainage tiles, porous piping, sub-surface grading or other methods of improving aeration and percolation are mandatory to prevent the accumulation of subsurface water.

The tree pit

No prototypical tree pit works for all situations. So urban designers must develop tree pits for each particular site. Urban foresters,



ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA