



2022 ASLA Fellows Announced



William A Green, of the University of Rhode Island elected to prestigious American Society of Landscape Architects Council of Fellows

Rhode Island, July, 2022 – The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) announced the election of William Greene of The University of Rhode Island as one of 27 ASLA Fellows. ASLA Fellows are recognized for their exceptional contributions to the landscape architecture profession and society at large. Election to the ASLA Council of Fellows is among the highest honors the ASLA bestows on members and is based on their works, leadership/management, knowledge and service.

“Every landscape architect helps shape their community for the better, and ASLA Fellows represent the most accomplished and respected professionals in their field,” said ASLA President Eugenia Martin, FASLA. “Their exceptional contributions from coast to coast and internationally have helped advance equity, environmental sustainability and excellence in design and planning. Congratulations to the 2022 class of ASLA Fellows!”

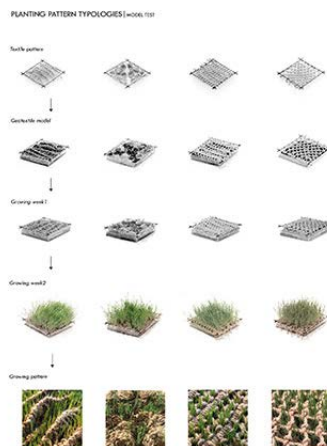
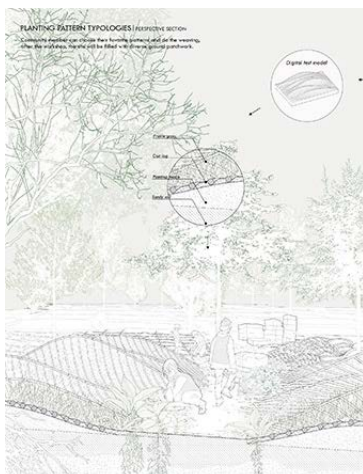
“ASLA works tirelessly to support its members and amplify the good they do in the world, so naming a new class of fellows is a joyful reminder of everything that landscape architects accomplish,” said ASLA CEO Torey Carter-Conneen (@toreycarter). “We extend our warmest thanks to the new class of ASLA Fellows for exemplifying the best in the field.”

In his 41 years in the profession, Green has dedicated himself to championing sustainable design and to the insightful training of future landscape architects. To read more about William’s contributions read the [URI announcement here](#).

ASLA Fellows will be elevated during a special investiture ceremony at the 2022 Conference on Landscape Architecture, which will be held in San Francisco Nov. 11-14, 2022.

More Reasons to Celebrate!

RISD Student receives Award of Excellence



Yuxiao liao from Rhode Island School of Design received the Award of excellence for her project Ground Patchwork in the 2022 WLA Student Awards under the Research topic.

Jury Comments: “The physical models are great to see in a time when everything is produced on the computer in design. The woven kit-of-parts textiles appear to be of natural materials that can naturally degrade but it is not explicitly stated from what they are made.” and “Nice material-driven approach to adaptive management solutions.”

Check out the announcement and all of the winners [here](#), and find even more ASLA student winners on page 6.

Be a Part of RIASLA Executive Committee

Help grow the Landscape Architecture Community in Rhode Island

Over the past few years RIASLA Ex Comm has been working to connect the Landscape Architecture community within the state. We have been involved with student work and portfolio reviews, scholarship opportunities, bay clean ups, the Olmsted challenge for the celebration of Olmsted 200, and events to connect our community.

This last spring we gathered at the Shepherd's Run Winery, toured the facilities and gardens designed by Beatrix Farrand. This fall we are planning another event to gather in Providence and tour some local sites and projects.

To keep this community growing and connected we need your help. There are currently a few positions open within the Ex Comm as well as opportunities to help with planning specific events.

If you would like to be involved and interested in what is available please reach out to:

rhodeislandasla@gmail.com



Image from the Shepherd's Run event



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Needham Accessible Trail, BETA Group

RIASLA Merit Award Highlight



Image from [BETA Group](#)

Project Statement:

The project is about mobility, getting to the water and enjoying nature. Starting with a derelict foot path and access to two inactive wells, the Town of Needham envisioned a fully accessible trail around its reservoir to serve and be an amenity to all members of the community. This project is a stated goal in the Needham Trail Master Plan. The Accessible Trail is now a well-loved and used amenity in the community.

Project Narrative:

There was an existing unimproved path around much of the existing town reservoir. The path area was generally flat with some low and seasonally saturated areas. The path was not accessible – it was narrow, the surface was not firm or stable, there are areas of exposed white pine and red maple roots, and there was no direct access to the water's edge.

Recent Use of Site - Before this project was initiated the site was used for walking, the annual town fishing derby, model boat racing, and ice skating when weather or surface allowed.

History of Site - The seven-acre Reservoir was built around 1910. The reservoir was designed to hold nine million gallons of water. This served as the Town's water supply until the early 1960's. The open water is surrounded by mature woodlands and wetlands. The dam along the southwest side of the reservoir contains a stone core wall. The reservoir empties into Alder Brook which further connects to the Charles River.

Existing Wells - The existing site included two, inactive, 25- foot diameter hand dug wells (built circa 1913). Well abandonments were previously approved by DEP and this project removed a portion, filled, and then capped the wells. In-house civil engineers performed this design.

Process - The project was managed by the Town's Conservation Commission agent and their Recreation Department. The Landscape Architect led the design project management, design, coordinated permitting, prepared various presentations



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Patents pending.

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to the Town, prepared construction plans and bid documents and provided construction phase services.

Project Narrative:

Visitors to the new trail are assigned dedicated accessible and non-accessible spaces within the existing Public Services Building parking lot. An entrance sign with map greets users and a ramp with railings brings them up to the beginning of the trail on top of the dam.

The Ledge - Once on top of the dam, visitors see a large boulder sitting at the edge of the water. If the new path was sited between the ledge and the parking lot it would have meant removing a number of trees and a known turtle nesting site so the landscape architect suggested that the path be situated on the water side of the boulder. A large deck supported by helical piles for viewing the water, fishing and remote-control boat racing was added.

The trail continues along to an upland area that is wooded with mature Eastern White Pine (*Pinus strobus*) and Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*). The trail in this section is constructed out of a locally sourced dense graded stone which provides a firm and stable surface. Wood posts with a rope rail were designed and installed along all at grade sections of the trail.

Fishing Dock - An opportunity to gain additional access to the water presented itself as the trail continues. A flat worn path led to the water and a wooden boardwalk and fishing platform were installed out over the water's edge. This deck is also supported by helical piles. A wood curb is installed along the edges of this deck. People fishing added sections of cut logs



Image from [BETA Group](#)

(from a tree that fell during a storm) and repurposed them as seating.

The Wetland - This section of trail runs through vegetated wetlands and seasonally flooded areas. An elevated boardwalk was selected as a solution to traverse these areas however, the question of construction and costs needed to be worked out. The landscape architect researched options and developed two possible solutions. The first was a traditional method of helical piles. It would require significant machinery, additional clearing

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and potential damage to the wetlands. The alternate option and ultimate solution uses a premanufactured metal deck frame that sits on pan feet. This was able to be installed one section after another without undo damage or unnecessary clearing within the wetlands. Adjustments to the height of each leg and foot can be made to address issues of settlement allowing a continuous smooth surface. Wood decking and curb edging was added.

The Wells - As previously mentioned, two existing wells were along the northern edge of the site. The wells are off the edge of the trail. The wells were removed, and the landscape architect

provided grading design and wetland restoration plantings for these areas. Grading includes elevation connections to the surrounding wetlands as well as providing a series of hummocks and depressed areas.

The existing trail connects to a town-owned golf practice at this juncture. For safety reasons, the Town wanted to keep these two areas and activities separate. Native plantings were added to block the connection.



Image from [BETA](#)

Student Awards

Congratulations to the students at both RISD and URI who received ASLA student Honor and Merit awards for their hard work over their academic careers

Rhode Island School Of Design

HONOR:

Yumeng Yan
Jinghan (Zoey) Zhou

MERIT

Lulu Hou
(Nora) Ruoyuan Chen

University of Rhode Island

HONOR:

Paige Shepard

MERIT

Nelson Vargas

The Olmsted Challenge

As outlined in the Winter 2022 Newsletter, RIASLA is celebrating the birth of Frederick Law Olmsted by celebrating his work within our amazing State. To do this, we have asked firms to share projects they have worked on that are connected to Olmsted or The Olmsted Brothers. How to submit a project can be found on the [RIASLA website](https://www.riasla.org).

Goddard Memorial State Park, Warwick RI Landscape Elements LLC

Goddard Memorial State Park has been a state park since 1927 when the state of Rhode Island received almost 490 acres of land on Ives Road in the Potowomut section of Warwick via donation from the estate of Colonel Robert Hale Ives Goddard.

The Goddard family were prominent in Rhode Island history. Robert's father, William Goddard, was the first chancellor of Brown University and also publisher of the first Rhode Island newspaper, the Providence Gazette. Robert Goddard served as a colonel in the Civil War and was a military aid to RI General Ambrose Burnside. Robert also served in the RI state Senate as an independent in 1907-08.

The estate on Ives road came to the Goddard family via the marriage of William Goddard to Charlotte Ives. Charlotte's father, Thomas Poynton Ives acquired the land via his marriage to Hope Brown, daughter of Nicholas Brown, one of Rhode Island's four noted Brown brothers. In 1792, Nicholas bought up indebted lands owned by British loyalist Richard Green. These lands included acreage in Potowomut Neck. The Brown/Ives estate that was built here became known as "Hopelands".

A generation after Charlotte Ives Goddard, the property passed to the next daughter Hope Brown Ives and her husband Henry C. Russell who built a mansion that was known as "the Oaks". Mr. Russell collected specimen trees from all over the world and at one time there were 62 deciduous and 19 evergreen varieties of trees on the estate.

The Olmsted involvement with this property goes back to a series of letters between Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., and Robert. H. T. Goddard beginning in 1886. Olmsted visited the estate and sent a letter recommending proposed replacement plantings for some of the specimen trees that had been planted by Henry C. Russell

The Olmsted Brothers firm became involved with the design of the property in 1928 as a project commission for the Metropolitan Park Commission. In a letter dated January 28, 1928, the firm transmitted ideas and an accompanying "sketch plan" completed by Mr. Gallagher who worked at the Olmsted Brothers firm. The sketch plan proposed the following improvements.

- The bathing beach at Long Point is "very clearly the area adapted to the most active interest of the public. Here the crowds of daily visitors would find most of their attractions and comforts, and so located with reference to one another as to form a fairly compact scheme, and thus a single district readily administered."
- "The breezy situation at Long Point, (where) we would propose a Pavilion or Casino, providing wide verandas for shelter, toilets, and refreshments."
- "In the region eastward of the bath house, appears a logical location for the parking of automobiles."
- "an approach driveway that enters the park soon after coming to it on the highway... to display agreeably the latent beauty of the landscape of the park."
- The extreme easterly section of the park should be reserved as a "wilderness area".
- The large area of open land between the highway and the proposed line of the approach drive offers numerous opportunities for recreational uses... out-door games, tennis."
- A "belt of enclosing planting along the line" of the Mr. Ives Goddard property (the estate house) and "the highway frontage to give proper seclusion."

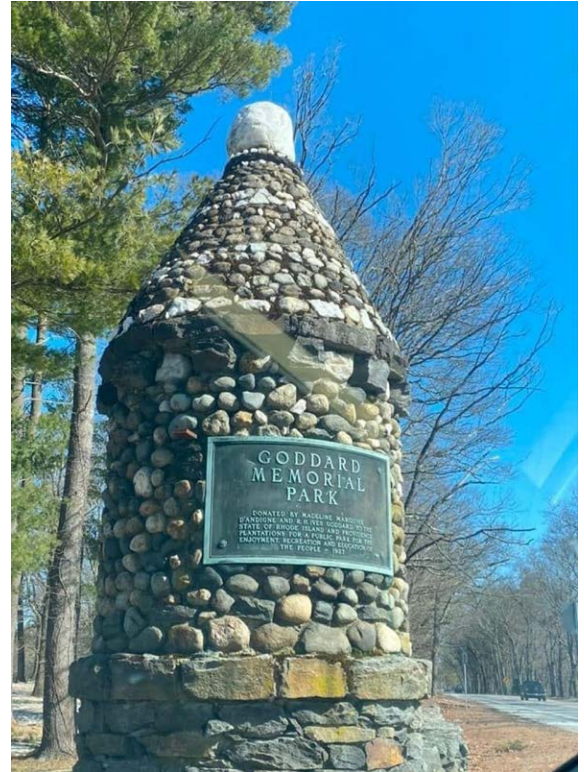


Image: Goddard Memorial State Park Pillar

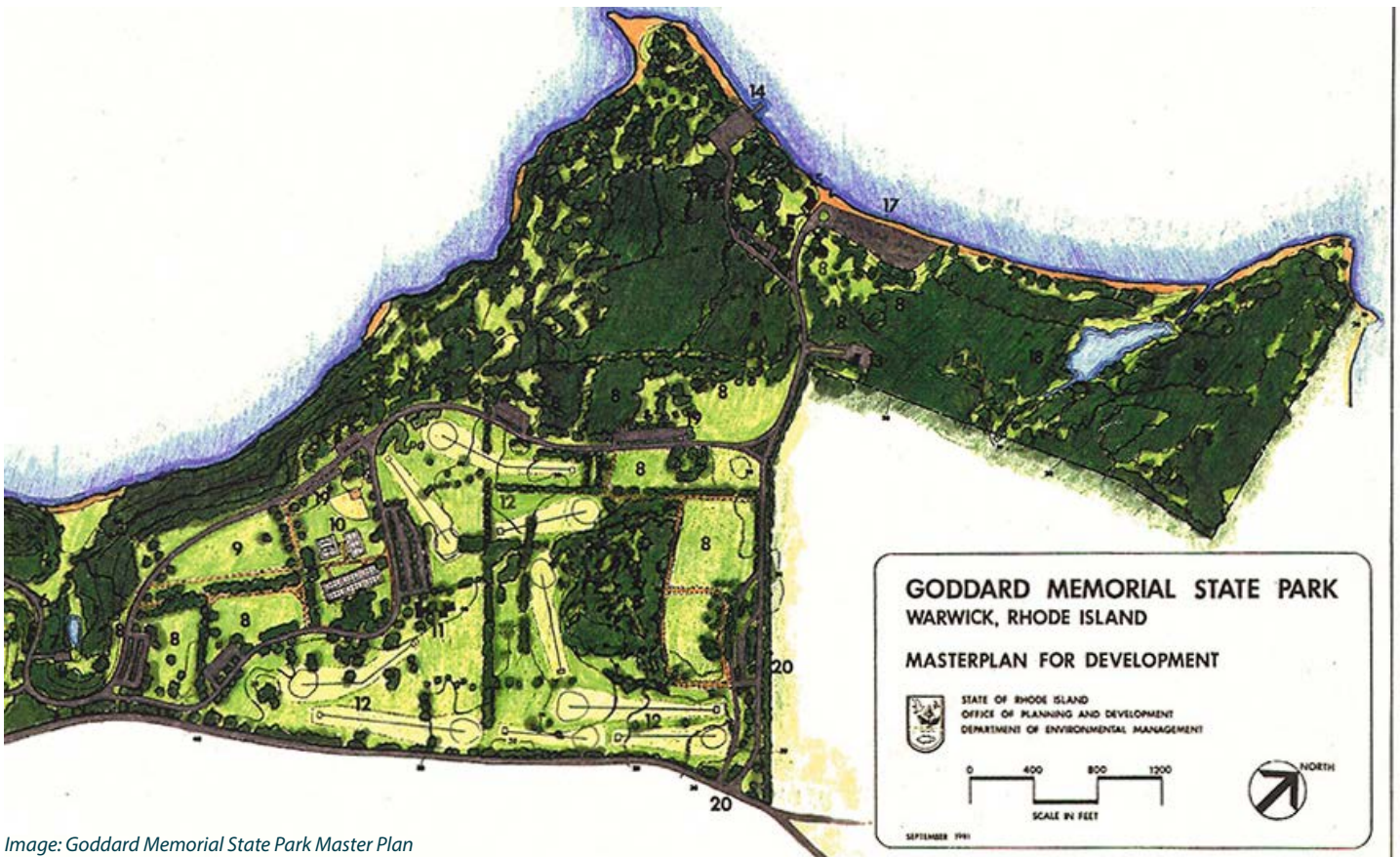


Image: Goddard Memorial State Park Master Plan

The current layout of Goddard Park remains fairly true to the 1928 Olmsted proposed scheme. An updated master plan of the park was done in 1978 to address the traffic issues created by the large volume of visitors. The plan maintained all of the Olmsted Brothers concepts but reworked the traffic patterns to provide easier access for visitors and emergency vehicles.

The open areas between the “highway and the Goddard estate” remain open for picnicking and games. The 9-hole golf course was added in the 1950’s. The beach front area continues to serve visitors with a boardwalk and bath house that were both renovated in the 1980’s. Unfortunately the mansion known as the Oaks, burned down in 1975.

The historic carousel building which is located on the road to the beach at Long Point, was originally at Rocky Point Park and contained an historic Loof carousel. The Carousel is now located at Crescent Park in East Providence. The Goddard Carousel building was placed at its current site in 1931, the year before the park officially opened to the public in 1932.

Currently a beach front master plan is in process under the guidance of the RI department of Environmental Management. This plan looks to redesign the beach front area to accommodate sea level rise with new access points to the water and a new bathhouse constructed at a higher elevation.

The project team for the master plan includes Brewster Thornton Group Architects, Fuss and O’Neill and Landscape Elements LLC



Image: Goddard Memorial State Park

New England Climate Summit



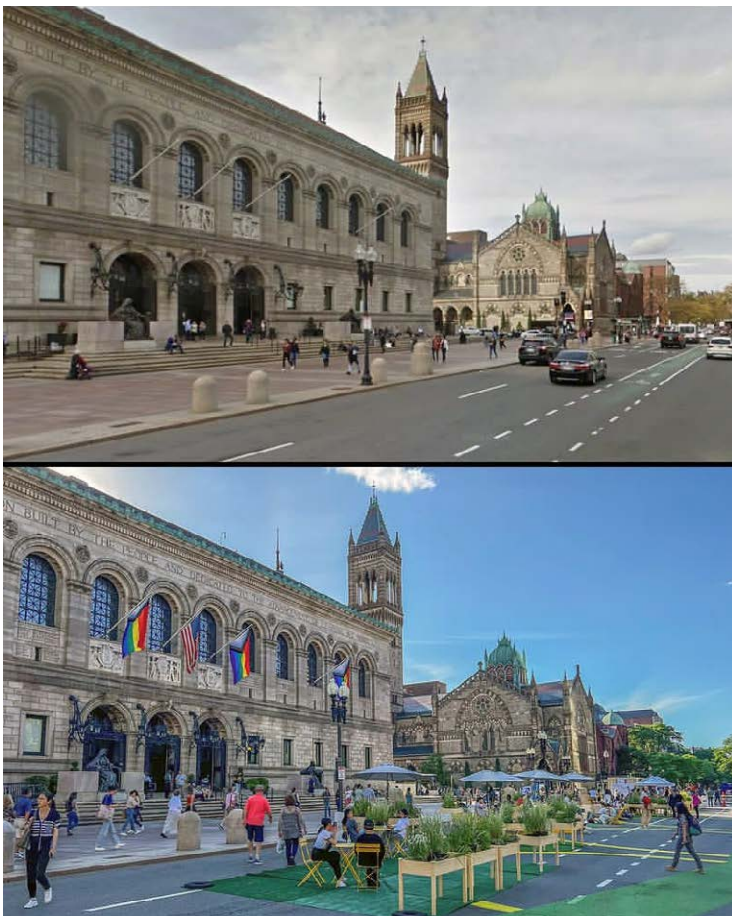
On June 13th, 2022 ASLA chapters across New England came together to host the New England Climate Action Summit. This is part of a larger series of regional climate action summits sponsored by ASLA's [Climate Action Committee](#). The summit was only one day and had 152 unique attendees! The schedule included two keynote talks including one by Rhode Island's own, Shaun O'Rourke of the [Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank](#). It also had break-out rooms and an inspiring set of lightning-round presentations from practitioners and allied professionals showcasing climate-focused work across New England.

The full summit recording may be accessed with a password for ASLA members [here](#).

You can view the other national regional climate summits on the ASLA website [here](#).

Copley Connect Pilot

Designed by RI's Goode Landscape Studio



Copley Connect, the pilot program that turned a stretch of Dartmouth Street outside the Boston Public Library's flagship branch into a European-style plaza with café seating, food trucks, and performances, gained a lot of attention recently. The temporary parklet explored utilizing the street for pedestrians instead of vehicles and received positive feedback for the change in space. Unfortunately the pop is no longer installed but information about the space, and reactions to the change can be found at the links below. Great work [Goode Landscape Studio](#)!

[The Boston Globe](#)

[WBUR](#)

[Daily Free Press](#)

[CBS Boston \(Video\)](#)

[NBC Boston](#)

Image from before and after