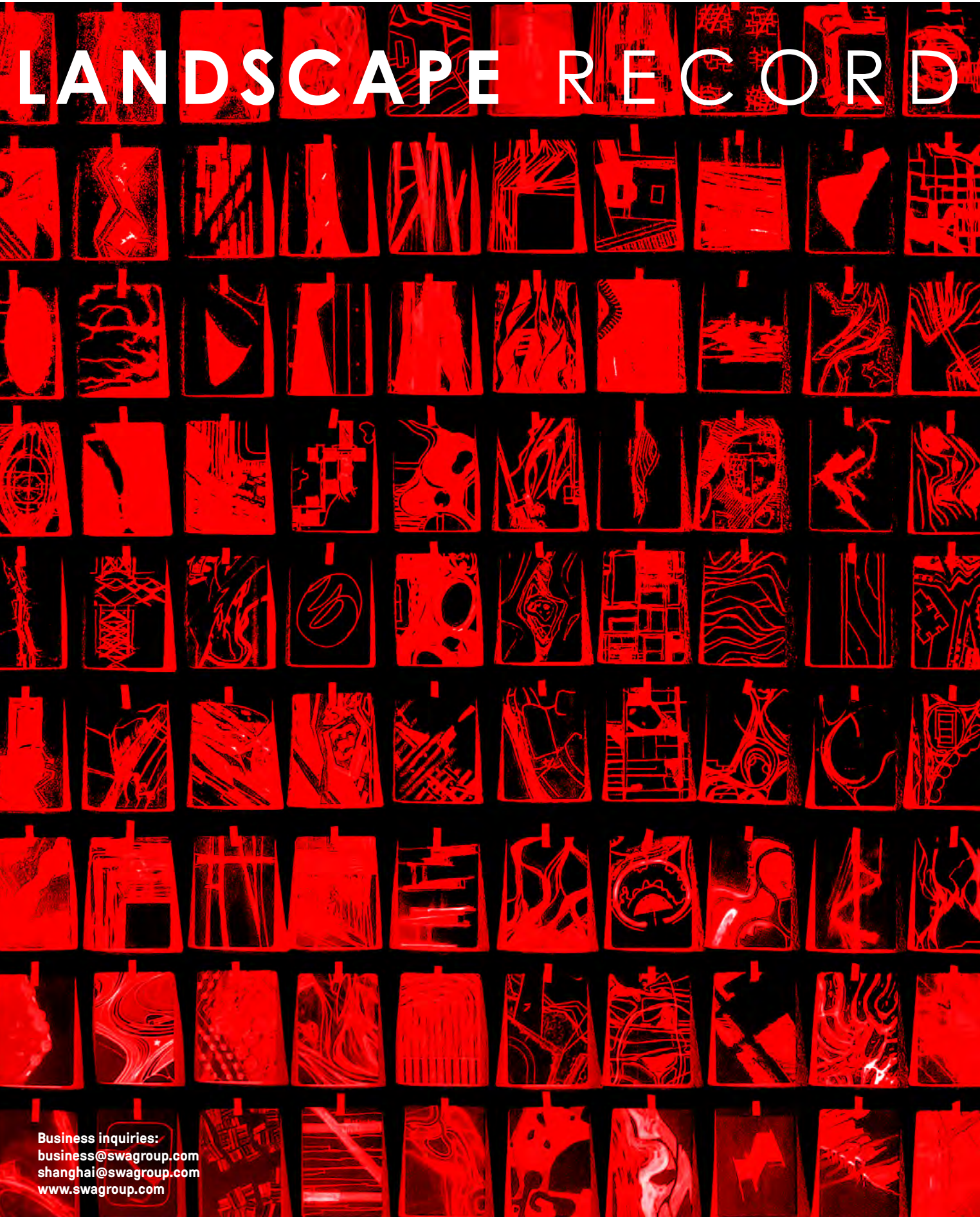


LANDSCAPE RECORD

swa@60



Vol. 6

2017.04



ON THE COVER: SWA@60 abstraction of "Wings Over Water" sculpture
THIS PAGE: Photo of the Houston studio
OPPOSITE PAGE: "Traces," a collection of SWA sketches, courtesy of Emily Schlickman

swa@60

SWA@60 celebrates a significant milestone in the firm's evolution. Shown here are 60 brief glimpses into what makes SWA unique as a landscape architecture, urban design and planning practice. Read it from back to front, or front to back, put it down, and pick it up at your leisure. The order of the items is inconsequential but their cumulative value demonstrates who we are: an energetic design collective with tons of talent, new ideas, and a passion for imaginative and innovative place-making.

IDEAS Blog: a platform for SWA's staff to share ideas with the world. <http://www.ideas.swagroup.com> IDEAS BLOG

Asterisk: Pages displaying this symbol include an award mention



- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 Milestones: Gerdo Aquino, CEO | 40 Driven by Data | 18 High-impact Experience, Low-impact Environmental Design |
| 60 Collective Creativity | 39 Getting It Built: The Metamorphosis of an Idea | 17 Step by Step |
| 59 Summer Student Program | 38 Harmonizing Development & Topography | 16 IDEAS BLOG: Prioritizing Human Sustainability |
| 58 Reinventing the Rooftop | 37 Redesigned and Reborn | 15 Growing Together: Landscape and Urbanism |
| 57 Urban Shangri-La | 36 Investigate the Past to Inform the Future | 14 Research Informs Design: Small Places with Big Impact |
| 56 Committed to Competitions | 35 A Two-way Street | 13 Life is a Stage |
| 55 Green Infrastructure | 34 IDEAS BLOG: Climate Change and Landscape Architecture | 12 High-performance, High-visibility: Sports Venues that Score |
| 54 Responsible Urban Growth | 33 (Park)ing Day | 11 City Frameworks |
| 53 XL Lab: Probing the Profession | 32 "Around the Corner and Across the World" | 10 A Civic Paradigm for the Retail Experience |
| 52 Plaza with a Purpose | 31 Taking Care of Business: Corporate Campus 2.0 | 09 Stretching the Imagination |
| 51 A Corporate Retreat that Delivers | 30 High-tech Nature | 08 Drones: Changing Up Our View |
| 50 IDEAS BLOG: "Supreme Value of Intangible Legacies" | 29 Social Impact Design Initiative | 07 Designing for a Modern City |
| 49 Landscapes for Urban Living | 28 Flooding by Design | 06 Energizing a Community |
| 48 Largest Planned Net-Zero Community in the U.S. | 27 Complex Ground-scapes for the Supertalls | 05 Edible Landscape |
| 47 Projects: SWA Catalog | 26 Just Passing Through | 04 Design Excellence: Validation Over Vanity |
| 46 More than Meets the Eye | 25 Studio Culture | 03 Integrating Agriculture: Reinventing Suburbs, Rethinking Tourism |
| 45 More than a Park | 24 IDEAS BLOG: Landscape Futures | 02 Leadership |
| 44 Redefining Resorts: 5-Star Sustainability | 23 A Good Neighbor | 01 All for One: Diversity by Design |
| 43 Nature and the City | 22 10 Drought-tolerant California Plants | |
| 42 From Blight to Delight: Extreme Waterfront Rescues | 21 Landscape Infrastructure | |
| 41 Thomas Balsley, FASLA, Joins SWA | 20 Landscapes for Health and Well-being | |
| | 19 Rising Tides, Rethinking Housing | |

All images copyright SWA, Photographers: David Lloyd, Jonnu Singleton, Bill Tatham, and Tom Fox
Writers: Julie Eakin, Fran Hegeler; graphic design: Paul Wehby
www.swagroup.com

swa@60



Milestones provide an opportunity to reflect, and as SWA marks its sixtieth anniversary we took a moment to explore what distinguishes our practice of landscape architecture, planning and urban design.

With six decades of history and scores of award-winning projects, our reputation often precedes us. And while SWA's DNA of design excellence has remained constant, the firm itself continues to evolve and change.

SWA@60 provides sixty distinct glimpses of the firm—a visual exploration of our projects, ideas, process, and culture—that together reveal a holistic impression of who we are and what matters to us today.

Gerdo Aquino, CEO SWA

Gerdo is a principal designer as well as an academic design critic and lecturer. He is passionate about applied research, and is currently focused on how various landscape infrastructures can enhance the public realm.



60

Collective Creativity

In a profession where so many firms are organized around the vision of a single designer, SWA has always counted on and celebrated the ideas and talents of many working collaboratively. Designer-entrepreneurs. Makers. Experimenters. Thinkers. Risk takers. Masters and apprentices, alike. As we strive for excellence, SWA draws upon the diverse array of perspectives within the firm. And as an employee-owned company, everyone has a personal stake in all that we do.

59

Summer Student Program

For nearly 40 years, SWA has offered an eight-week educational program for graduate students in landscape architecture, planning and urban design. Each summer, selected students spend four weeks working together on a collective design problem in the real world, followed by a four-week internship in one of the SWA studios. Many return to work for the firm after their graduation.

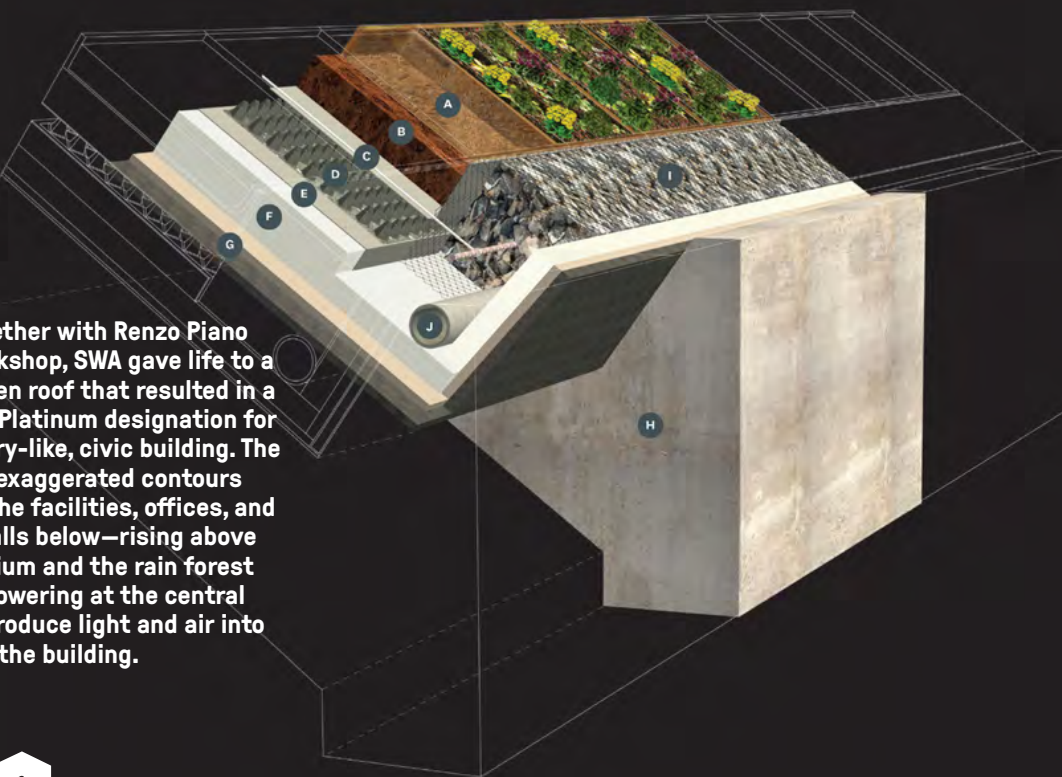
58

Reinventing the Rooftop: California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California

Working together with Renzo Piano Building Workshop, SWA gave life to a 2.5-acre green roof that resulted in a double LEED Platinum designation for the laboratory-like, civic building. The living roof's exaggerated contours conform to the facilities, offices, and exhibition halls below—rising above the planetarium and the rain forest exhibit and lowering at the central piazza to introduce light and air into the heart of the building.



ASLA National Honor Award, 2009



57

Urban Shangri-La: Chongqing Dongyuan 1891, Chongqing, China

The design concept for this unique linear site, tucked between the Yangtze River and Nan Mountain, unites a one-kilometer retail/commercial corridor with four high-rise residences to create the experience of Shangri-La in an urban center. The spatial layout features a series of courtyards connected by various water features and interpretive screens that seamlessly blend building with landscape. Details evoke the natural scenery of the nearby river and mountain, inspiring people to find inner peace in this urban refuge.

Urban
Shangri-La



Real Estate Design China
Award, Gold, 2016

56

Committed to Competitions

Competitions enable our design studios to flex their innovation muscles, stretching ideas beyond what is typically encouraged in commissions. Whether it's testing the boundaries of materials, evoking a compelling story or collaborating beyond the edges of our discipline, competitions spark our imagination, challenge our talent and give rise to new ways of thinking that inform all of our work. SWA's Shanghai studio recently won five major design competitions, some of which are shown here.

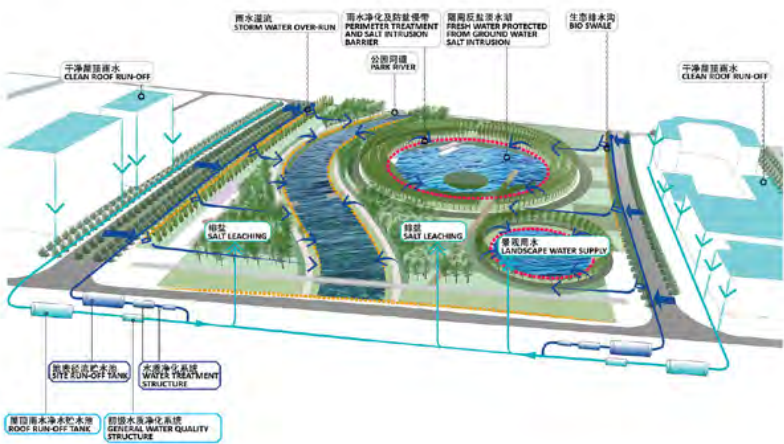
Prince Bay Waterfront, Shekou, Shenzhen, China
The centerpiece of SWA's competition entry is a celebratory gateway for Shenzhen's urban regeneration, where an industrial port district converges with an emerging cultural area on the Prince Bay Waterfront. The new development introduces a ferry and cruise ship terminal and will double the size of the current urban area. Improvements to the linear waterfront park enable industrial and cultural uses to coexist and thrive.



ASLA Texas Chapter, Merit Award, 2015



Lingang Landscape Belt, Shanghai, China
A “Sponge City” initiative, this competition entry envisions a landscape ring to relieve the impacts of development on a central lake. This super-scale park reorganizes the open space system to provide both a natural means for cleaning polluted water and a varied recreational experience for residents.



Committed to Competitions

Sino-Singapore Friendship Park, Tianjin, China
Friendship Park commemorates the eight-year partnership between China and Singapore and the realization of the emerging Sino-Singapore Tianjin Eco City. SWA's competition entry envisions more than twenty interpretive places and experiences related to Singapore's ecosystems, from an art flower plaza to an eco-pond. Shown here is the interior of a sculptural greenhouse displaying plants from Singapore and more arid locales.

55

Green Infrastructure: Ningbo Eco-corridor, Ningbo, China

Through a tapestry of topography, hydrology, and vegetation, an uninhabitable brownfield is transformed into a linear “living filter,” creating vital contiguous habitat for native flora and fauna amidst a rapidly urbanizing environment. The corridor also enhances public health, provides beautiful public spaces, and raises the bar globally for sustainable development. Rarely seen local wildlife has returned following the first phase, a testament to the health of the restored natural systems, waterways, and habitats of the site. Ningbo Eco-Corridor exemplifies the economic and quality of life successes that green infrastructure can offer.



2016 ASLA National
Award Winner, General
Design

Green Infrastructure

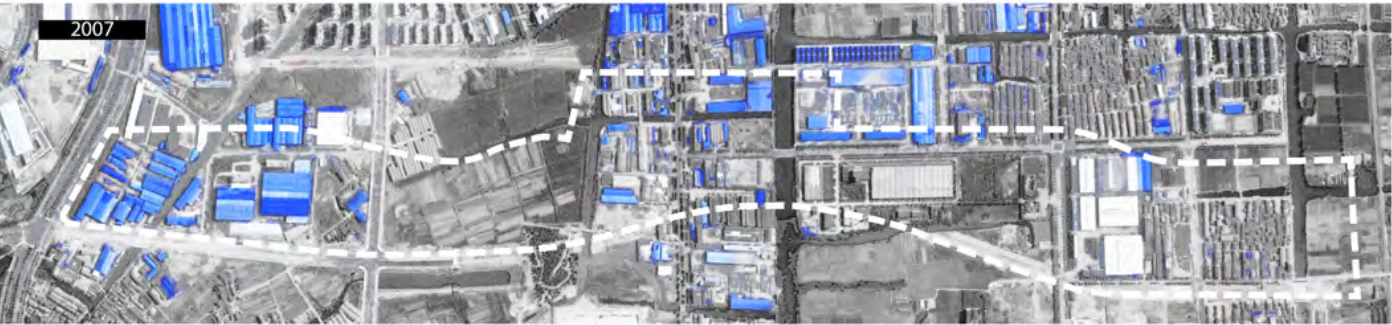


It is an exciting time to be a landscape architect. We are the ideal advocates to recognize opportunities to redefine infrastructure by resurrecting the invisible, near-forgotten natural systems now so greatly at risk.

—Hui-Li Lee, SWA Principal Designer



Site before intervention



54

Responsible Urban Growth: Suzhou Center, Suzhou, China

New landscape connective tissue marks Suzhou as an intersection of old and new cultural and historic heritage. With Suzhou Center, the urban landscape of the Central Business District will be seamlessly linked to the waterfront open spaces in order to harmonize natural greenery with high-density development. The design provides outdoor recreational spaces to facilitate

the interaction and communication between people and their environment. To mitigate pollution from urban development, a series of bio-filtration channels follow a meandering course, cleansing the water through ecological processes for good environmental stewardship and a safe and inviting water's edge.

Responsible Urban Growth



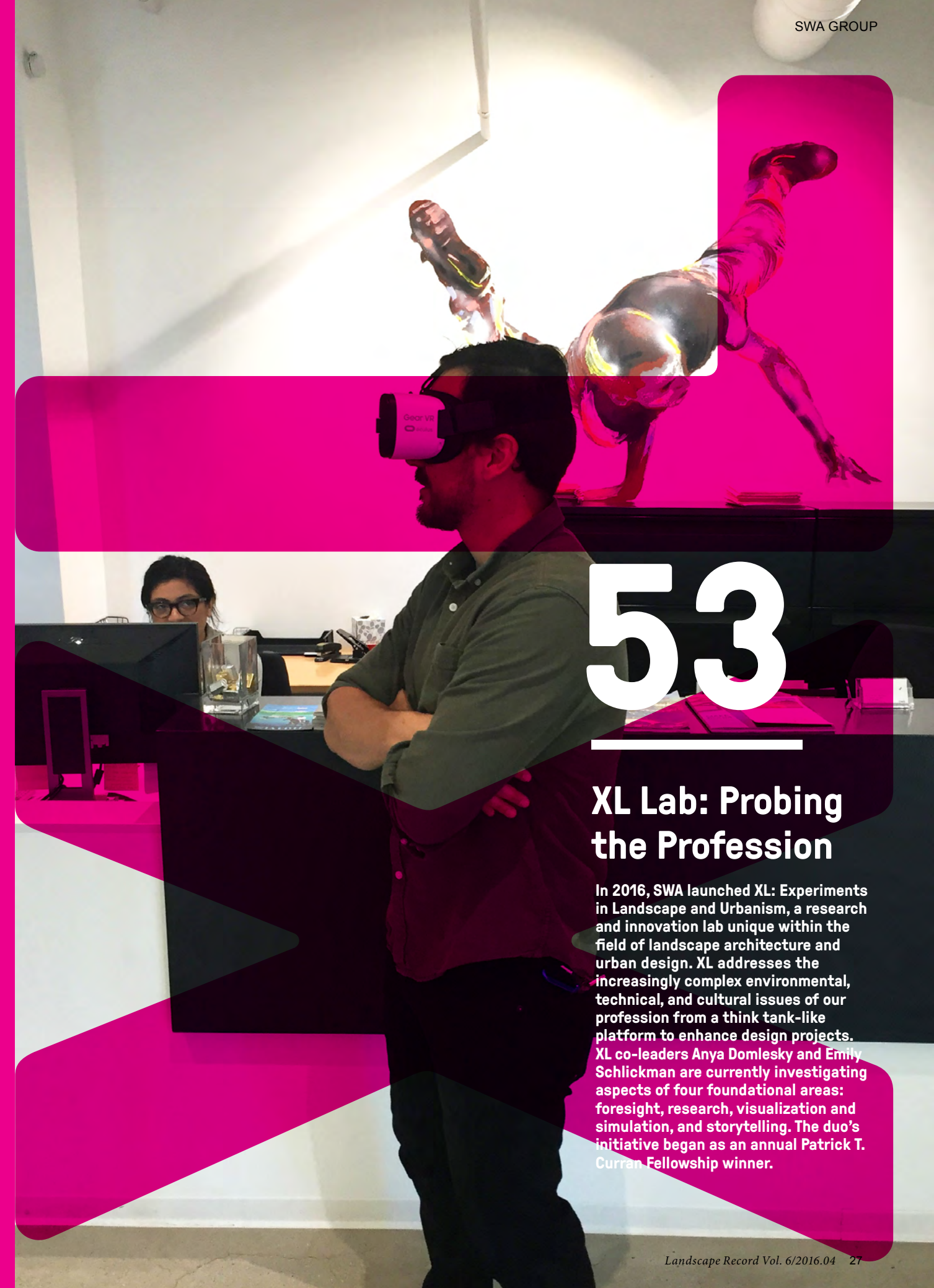
MIPIM Asia Awards,
Gold Award, 2016



53

XL Lab: Probing the Profession

In 2016, SWA launched XL: Experiments in Landscape and Urbanism, a research and innovation lab unique within the field of landscape architecture and urban design. XL addresses the increasingly complex environmental, technical, and cultural issues of our profession from a think tank-like platform to enhance design projects. XL co-leaders Anya Domlesky and Emily Schlickman are currently investigating aspects of four foundational areas: foresight, research, visualization and simulation, and storytelling. The duo's initiative began as an annual Patrick T. Curran Fellowship winner.





52

Plaza with a Purpose: Avenida Houston, Houston, Texas

This vital new plaza transforms what was once four lanes of traffic into an expressive public gathering space in front of the city's convention center, with completion just in time to serve as the gateway to the 2017 Super Bowl festivities. The plaza's design recalls the city's dualistic identities, nature and industry, plus migration (a flyover path for birds) and immigration (the city's diverse population). Close collaboration with artists resulted in several public art pieces, including "Wings Over Water," a gigantic kinetic bird sculpture that has become the plaza's signature attraction.

51

A Corporate Retreat that Delivers: Deloitte University, Westlake, Texas

Deloitte's 107-acre corporate training facility and retreat center accommodates new employee training, team building and continuing education workshops in indoor/outdoor classroom facilities in a working ranch setting. SWA's scope of services included site selection and landscape architecture to help the company create a real "retreat" where employees can interact in a completely different setting. Natural habitat is conserved, its resources providing opportunities for reflection, environmental education, and the university's other functional needs.



ASLA Texas Chapter,
Award of Excellence, 2013

IDEAS BLOG

50

The Supreme Value of Intangible Legacies



As designers we are defined by our victories and learn from our losses, assuming our humility can overstep pride. My hope for us, however, lays in our intangible legacies rather than built victories, and I believe that such successes will allow us to become industry leaders in the truest sense. After traveling to Africa back in October, my life has been forever changed. The village where our church group stayed was the epitome of adversity – people lived in straw-thatched mud huts with dirt floors and had limited access to water at great distances from their homes. Food came at a price often too high to pay, exacerbated by starved crops and livestock. Children, including many with special needs, went without basic education as school fees were too great. Tiny, dusty feet walked among aimlessly wandering cattle searching for anything to eat. Shade was sparse, especially along the barren hillsides, but in its refuge could be found odd friendships between thin puppies, baby goats, and chickens.

In the face of this extreme adversity, the joy of the villagers seemed uncanny. I spent an afternoon speaking with a man constructing a small building in which to help feed people via

the local church. He explained his construction process and we were able to re-strategize a few building hurdles in order to anticipate and withstand the impending rainy season. That collaboration was one of the greatest moments of my career. The beauty of hope is that it traverses every landscape and supersedes any present reality. We have the unique privilege as designers and place makers to first understand our clients' realities before making assumptions. Our pro-bono work offers a great platform for us to generate intangible legacies by genuinely getting to know the people we're providing for. We've been able to see how our thoughtful approaches have benefited future generations, and to us, it's been well worth the extra hours.

May we continue to forge into the most challenging and ever-changing climates within which we operate, and do so with a bent toward the people to whom we're in service. Creating legacy should be so much more than the orchestration of tangible things to make places.

Amanda Kronk is a former designer in the Dallas studio.

49

Landscapes for Urban Living

Whether open space or pocket park, vibrant streetscape or intimate plaza, how landscape connects to and integrates with residential areas has a profound influence on the livability of cities.



LA Plaza Cultura, Los Angeles, California

The heart of this transit-oriented, mixed-use downtown development is an historic paseo enabling a pedestrian connection from Union Station to the Fort Moore Memorial. Interpretive signage, paving inlays, cultural iconography, and traditional building materials honor the cultures who have come together to form this diverse area of Los Angeles. Far above the ground plane, more than a dozen roof decks provide settings for social interaction and recreation.



The Sovereign at Regent Square, Houston, Texas

This multi-family apartment building located within a mixed-use development incorporates outdoor living spaces, such as this deck amidst a formal pool shaded by a bosque of palms. A large event lawn stretches to the north, offering a gracious spill-out space from adjacent indoor venue spaces. Wide sidewalks, street tree plantings, and a zero-foot building setback lend an urbane setting and human scale to the street.

48

Largest Planned Net-Zero Community in the U.S.: UC Davis West Village, Davis, California

Realized through a unique university/developer partnership, this project provided housing for 3,000 students and 500 faculty and staff members, a mixed-use retail area, extensive parks and an open space network—all without using more energy than it produced. SWA's master plan focused on housing affordability, quality of place, and environmental responsiveness to ensure the success of this experimental pedestrian- and bike-friendly neighborhood.



SCUP Excellence in
Landscape Architecture
Honor Award, Open Space
Planning and Design, 2015



47

Projects: SWA Catalog

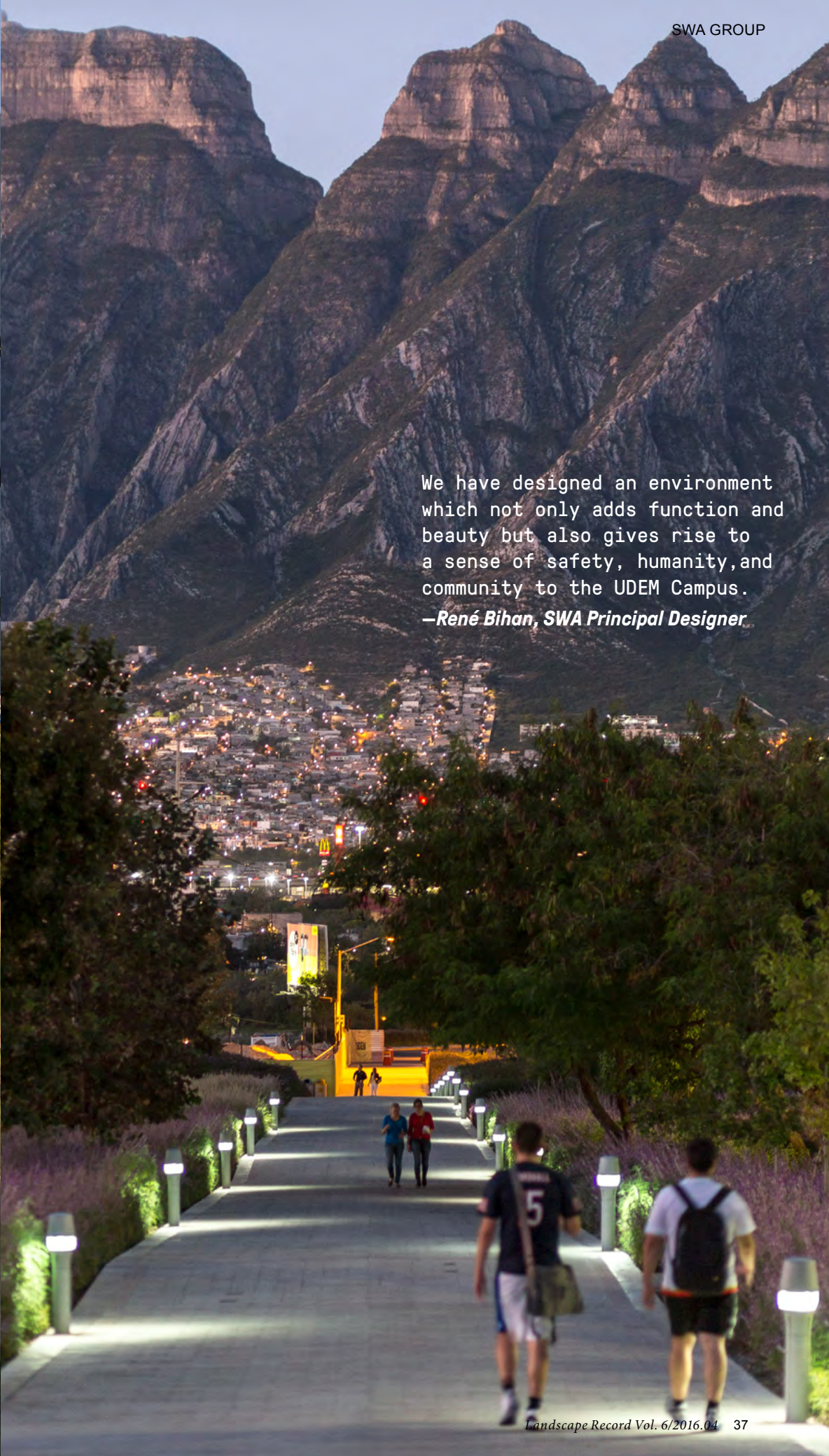
With a robust design culture and an even more robust curiosity, SWA actively takes stock of the work at the company. Twice a year, in anticipation of the semi-annual principals meeting, all of the studios contribute to Projects, a publication that shows drawings and photos of the firm's new commissions. A few copies of the book are distributed to each studio, so that staff can explore the work across the firm.



46

More than Meets the Eye: Universidad de Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico

Beyond the striking Tadao Ando-designed “Gate of Creation” arts building is a 247-acre campus in transition. SWA’s efforts as master planner focus on improving the sustainability of the site, including guiding a shift from a vehicular orientation to one that encourages pedestrian, bicycle and transit use. Indigenous plant materials and natural water retention and filtration for low-maintenance landscaping are among the sustainable strategies in play.



We have designed an environment which not only adds function and beauty but also gives rise to a sense of safety, humanity, and community to the UDEM Campus.
—René Bihan, SWA Principal Designer

45

More than a Park: Buffalo Bayou Park, Houston, Texas

A neglected network of marshes in Houston is transformed into a celebrated 160-acre public park that doubles as habitat and storm water management. Channels were stabilized, enhancing the bayou's natural meanders and offering increased resiliency against floodwaters while revealing the hidden beauty of a significant waterway. Mowed turf is reduced by half and replaced with riparian woodlands and naturalized

meadows, further enriching habitat and stabilizing the landscape. Lighting, plantings and walkways are all designed to withstand the natural, periodic flooding of the bayou. The project integrates continuous pedestrian and bike trails, public art and special maintenance and safety provisions, allowing the public to access and enjoy what was formerly forbidden territory.



Best of Urban Design
Award, The Architect's
Newspaper, 2015



More than
a Park



People are realizing that we don't have infinite amounts of money for infrastructure and we don't have infinite amounts of land in these urban areas, so you've got to be creative about finding joint uses.
—Kevin Shanley, former SWA CEO

44

Redefining Resorts: 5-Star Sustainability

Successful resorts offer visitors a place to cast away worldly cares and to recharge amidst distinctive natural beauty. For host communities, resorts are often important sources of economic development, though their presence can sometimes compromise the very environment that attracted them. SWA's landscape planning and design treads lightly on the land, designing for long-term environmental health and sustainability and creating an ambience that celebrates a location's unique characteristics.



Mukul, Guacalito, Nicaragua

Sustainable design principles for this 25-acre luxury resort start with the landscape itself, nestling structures into the hillside with design that optimizes natural ventilation, collects rainwater for treatment and re-use, harnesses solar power, and employs electrical vehicles and bicycles for transportation. A remarkable environmental initiative involves a partnership with farmers to protect the water sources of local residents. Financial incentives encourage the preservation of trees, the reforestation of barren areas and water catchment strategies. Mukul's support for the local community extends to educational opportunities and furnishing the resort with products of local artisans.

Redefining Resorts

Las Ventanas al Paraíso, Cabo San Lucas, Mexico

Before Las Ventanas was created in the '60s, resorts came in one flavor: tropical. This property celebrated the indigenous plants and materials found on-site for a stunning, modernist, sustainable result. Las Ventanas is continuously ranked among the top 10 resorts in the world.



U.S. News & World Report,
Second Best Hotel in
Mexico Award, 2017

43

Nature and the City: OCT Bay, Shenzhen, China

Amidst a booming city, the 1.25-square-kilometer OCT Bay introduces a substantial natural sanctuary alongside a mixed-use cultural and entertainment destination with public plazas, park space, resort destinations and ecological preserves. A 685,000-square-meter habitat of wetland woods and lake houses dozens of species, and also serves to filter and polish urban runoff. It is China's only inner-city coast mangrove wetland. Exterior spaces double as park and are organized by intimate zones, courtyards and large public plazas to accommodate both daily and special events.



ASLA Texas Chapter, Honor Award, 2014



Nature and the City



The idea of creating a development with two distinct and equal parts—one urbanized and the other ecological—originated from the site and its unique contextual setting. This is the place where the expanding city meets the sea and allowing space for these disparate collectives to co-exist side by side has been beneficial for the environment and the city.

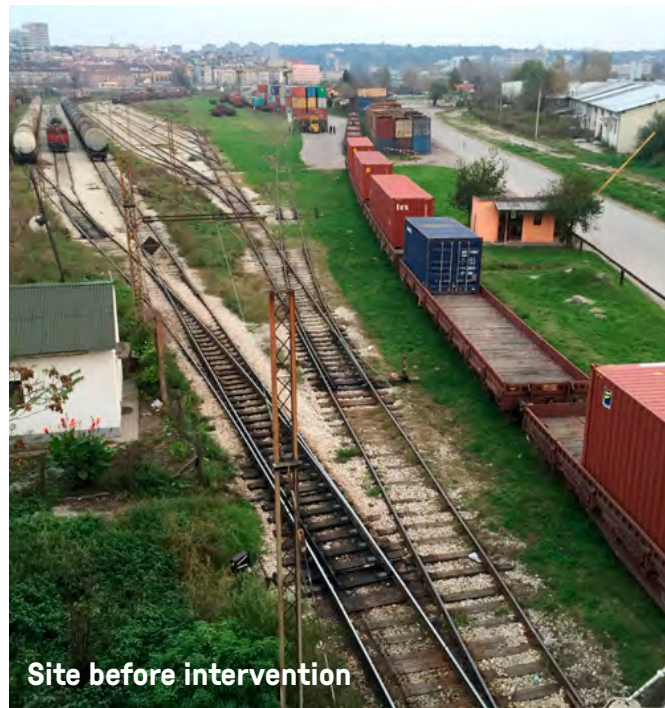
—David Thompson, SWA Principal Designer



42

From Blight to Delight: Extreme Waterfront Rescues

Succeeding at high-performance design requires knowing when to employ both low- and high-tech measures to transform compromised waterways into life-giving forces. And recognizing that significant change requires time. SWA excels at this kind of transformation, both environmental and functional, with interventions that keep an ear to the history of each site and an eye to its future requirements.



Site before intervention



Sava Promenada, Belgrade, Serbia
The new 200-meter Sava Promenada honors the city's historic core, reconnecting it to the water, and transforms a post-industrial landscape into an amenity-laden open space. Fixtures fabricated from abandoned rail parts honor the site's past and a mobile, underwater wall rises when needed to help mitigate storm damage.

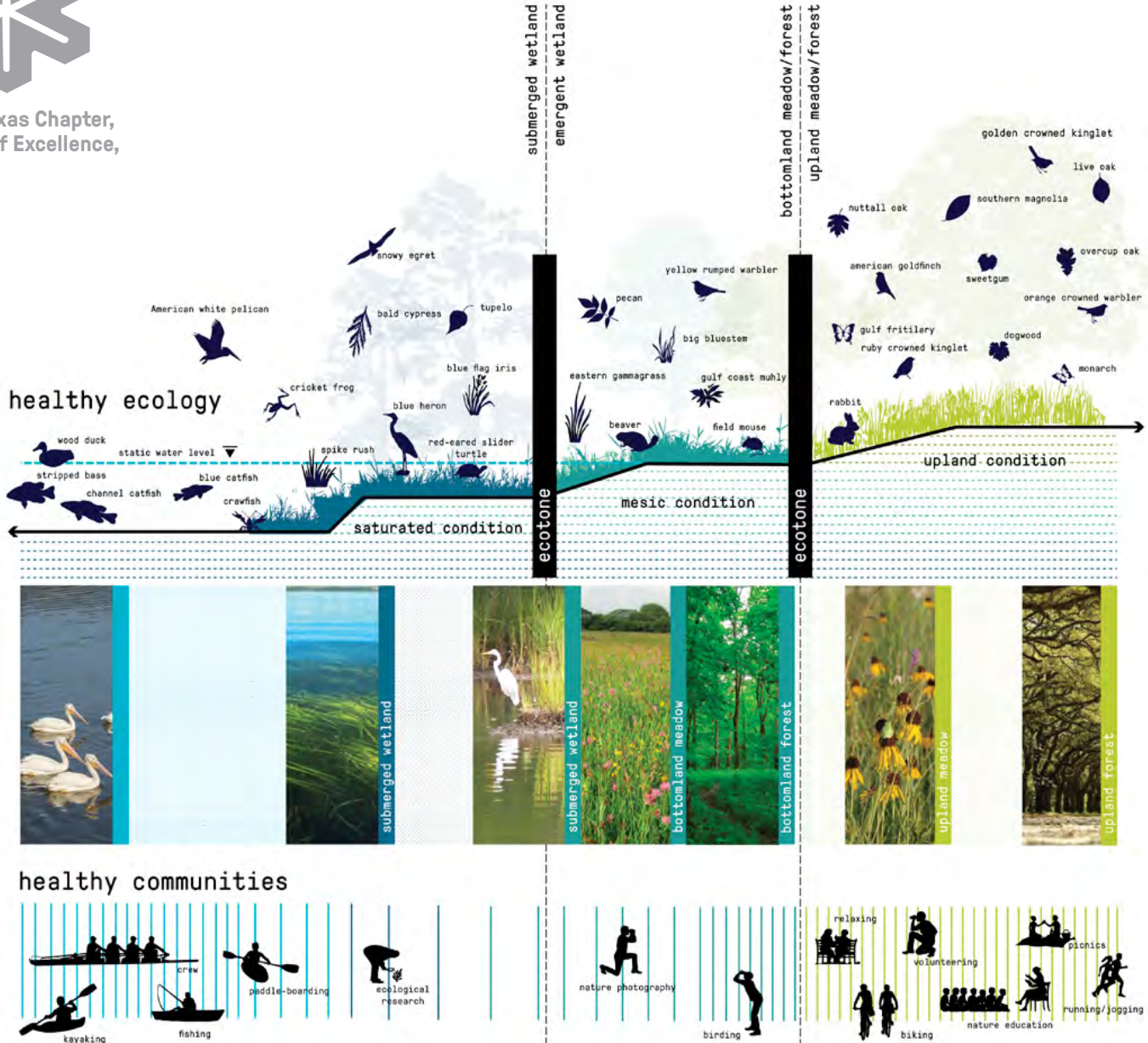
From Blight to Delight

Shenzhen Bay, Shenzhen, China.
The 15-kkilometer Shenzhen Bay Coast master plan restores 30 years of aggressive bay fill with a mangrove coastline and marsh habitat, deepens the bay to reverse siltation, infuses quality urban living space into the Shekou postindustrial harbor area, and provides public access to these newly created waterfront parks and promenades.

Baton Rouge Lakes, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
The 275-acre Baton Rouge Lakes system master plan provides sound ecological restoration to heal dying lakes while celebrating regional ecological and cultural heritage. Using nature as a catalyst, the park provides habitat infrastructure for migratory birds and aquatic wildlife, enabling visitors to experience Louisiana in a new way. Phase one corrects water quality issues; phase two provides safe pedestrian, bike, and vehicular connectivity; phase three will produce recreational opportunities.



ASLA Texas Chapter,
Award of Excellence,
2016



41

Thomas Balsley, FASLA, Joins SWA

SWA recently welcomed Thomas Balsley, FASLA, as a new principal, extending our community of practice. Winner of the prestigious ASLA Design Medal in 2015, Tom is renowned for his design of scores of public spaces that are at once pragmatic and delightfully imaginative. Shown here is Hunter's Point South Waterfront Park, in Queens, New York.

SWA's approach to design is complementary to the practice we built at Thomas Balsley Associates.

—Thomas Balsley, SWA Principal Designer

Co-designed by Weiss/Manfredi and SWA Principal Thomas Balsley while with Thomas Balsley Associates.



Honor Award, The Waterfront Center, 2014



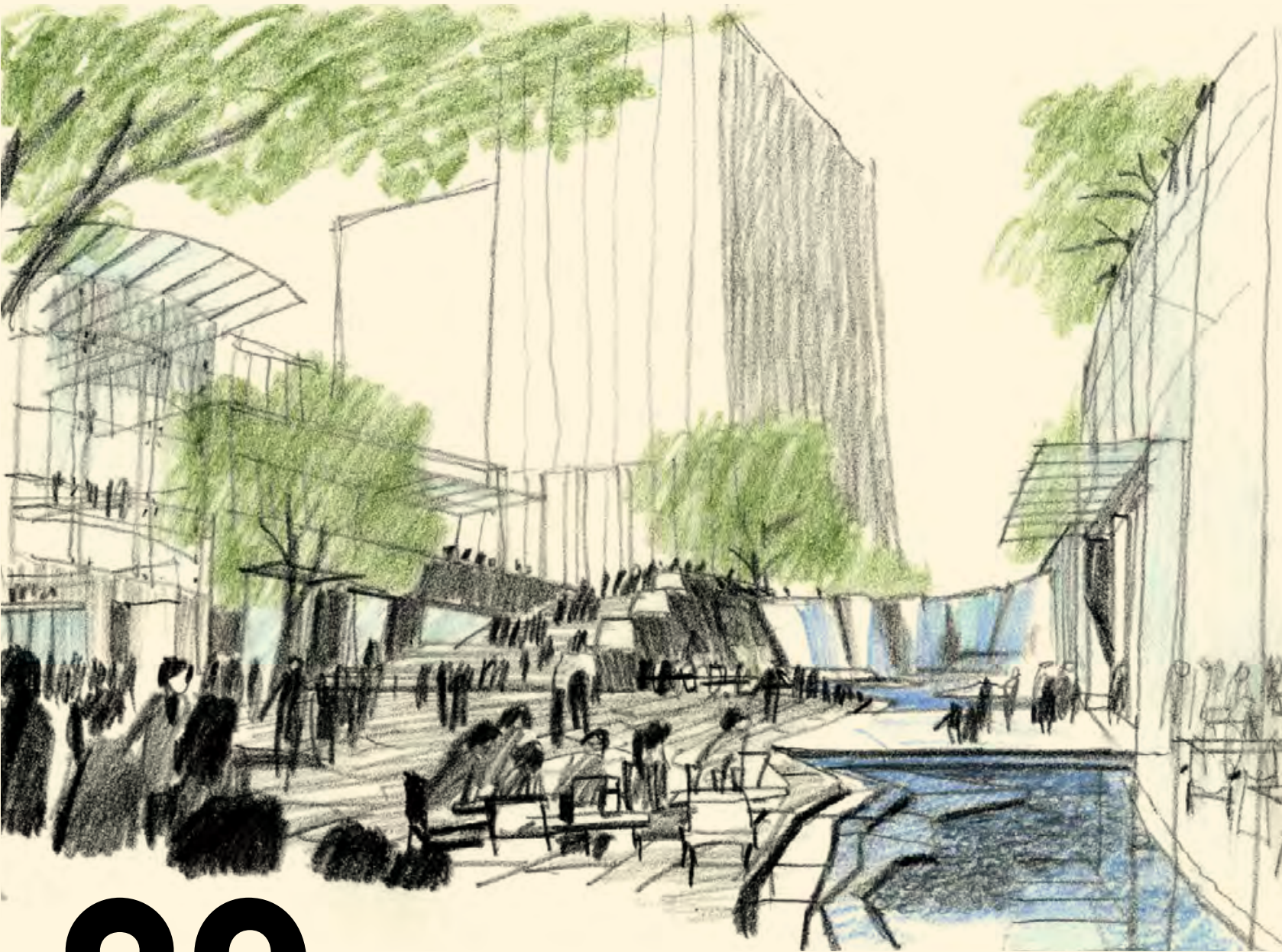
40

Driven by Data: Bayou Greenways, Houston, Texas

Numbers can often tell a compelling story. Our designers used metrics in their renderings of this significant ongoing environmental restoration in Houston to drive home the facts: people with safe access to quality urban open space have the opportunity for much better health than those in underserved communities. Bayou Greenways offers 150 miles of hike and bike trails along the city's historic waterways. Houston's residents supported this initiative at the polls and our designers are delivering on that promise.



ASLA National Honor Award, 2016, Analysis & Planning



39

Getting It Built: The Metamorphosis of an Idea

Schematic design captures the vision of a client, but producing the built reality takes a different kind of creativity—one requiring experience, skills and patience. Shown here is the six-year process to make the central fountain at City Creek Center, a transformative mixed-use project in downtown Salt Lake City. Designed to recall and re-create the mountain creek that once flowed

there, its site at the juncture of several buildings, and the size and complexity of its design, required that the fountain take many forms, from early sketches and renderings to models, both digital and physical. The heart of a 25-acre master planning and design exercise, the fountain is composed of locally quarried boulders. It was first constructed off-site then dry assembled on-site.



Building Stone Institute,
Stone Project of the
Year, 2012

38

Harmonizing Development & Topography: Fuzhou Vanke City, Fuzhou, China

Bordering the Dazhang River and consisting of a 45-hectare watershed area surrounded by 12 small hills, the development features a boutique hotel, a shopping street, clubhouses, residential high-rises, townhouses, and detached homes. Housing clusters follow the site's natural topography and a central lake is leveraged as a public open space that unifies the entire community. Sub-watersheds are designed as neighborhood parks with connections to the lake area. Hilltops and ridges are incorporated into the neighborhood parks via an extensive trail network to form a larger recreational system.



ASLA Southern California
Chapter, Honor Award,
2016



Harmonizing Development & Topography



37

Redesigned and Reborn: San Jacinto Plaza, El Paso, Texas

SWA's redesign of San Jacinto Plaza, a beloved, if tired, 100-year-old gathering place, rejuvenated El Paso's downtown business district with a vital place that continues to celebrate the city's history. The project relied on an intensive community process involving input from a wide range of constituents, and has served to draw many people downtown. Active programming, environmental and economic sustainability, and great design have become the de facto criteria for catalyzing urban activity.



36

Investigate the Past to Inform the Future

Designing landscape is inherently dynamic: plants mature, materials weather and sites evolve. Curious to learn from our work over time, SWA instigated a post-occupancy initiative to annually revisit and document key built projects 10 or more years old. Shown is today's view of the 1970s design for Weyerhaeuser Headquarters—a collaboration with SOM in which building and landscape merge, as green roof terraces extend the edifice into the surrounding hillside. Findings show that after 50 years, the project's design, materials and forms retained their integrity and a mossy patina enhanced its character.

35

A Two-way Street: SWA Internships

A commitment to teaching is deeply embedded in SWA's culture. Many of the firm's leaders teach and lecture, and all of the firm's studios regularly invite student designers to work as interns. Students spend several months learning SWA's working methods and developing their skills. SWA studios, in turn, benefit from the injection of energy and exploration of ideas. Representation is a constantly changing aspect of design and students are often at the forefront of innovation, as can be seen in this arresting rendering that depicts the impact of discarded tires.



IDEAS BLOG

34

Climate Change and Landscape Architecture: Will You Be Part of the Solution?

The potentially catastrophic effects of climate change on our planet's ecosystems, and especially on the Greenland and Antarctic icecaps—a rise in sea levels measured not in inches but in tens of feet—might well be the biggest challenge to face mankind. Consider the stress that wartime refugees are currently placing on European countries; now imagine the social and economic chaos that will occur if tens of millions are displaced around the world's littoral cities, where first, second, and third world coastal cities could find themselves submerged, along with all the infrastructure that supports those cities! How can a Landscape Architect reduce CO₂ (Carbon Dioxide), CH₄ (Methane) and other even more potent greenhouse gasses in the atmosphere? There are three basic things to do: Learn, Advocate, and Act Professionally. (The following list of ideas applies to the first objective and is intended to prime the pump for discussion, research, refinement, expansion and implementation.)

LEARN: Becoming deeply knowledgeable about how climate change will affect your career for better and for worse; figure out where you can find good information, and engage in critical dialog about climate change because this is an emerging science; there will be competing theories and competing solutions and you will be called upon by your clients and your communities to have answers.

- What is YOUR own personal carbon footprint?
 - What tools are available to determine your footprint?
 - What are the elements in your lifestyle that produce the most CO₂?
 - What are the steps you can take to most reduce your production of CO₂?
- What is the direct carbon footprint of your office and of your professional activities (travel, etc.)?
 - How can your office reduce their production of CO₂?
- What is the carbon footprint of your city, and how does it measure up against other cities in the US, and against other cities worldwide?
- What/who are the largest global producers of CO₂?
 - Where is the low-hanging fruit to go after first?
 - What are the tools that could reduce this production of CO₂?
- Who are the largest producers of CO₂ in your state, and in your community? What are the tools that could reduce their production of CO₂?

Kevin Shanley is the former CEO of SWA.

33

PARK(ing) Day, San Francisco, California

(Park)ing Day is an annual event in cities world-wide where metered parking spots are transformed into parks for a day, and it has quickly become an institution among designers. SWA's versions over the past decade have celebrated beekeeping and goat-herding, plus music, coffee-drinking and, of course, lounging. The current movement of urban Parklets (permanent green installations within parking spaces) grew from the success of (Park)ing Day. It's energizing to create a great design in a matter of days instead of years!

32

Around the Corner and Across the World

That's how SWA associate Dhaval Barbhaya replied when asked where the firm works.

This map uses GPS to show the locations of SWA projects over the past 20 years: 10,000 projects, 80 countries and counting.

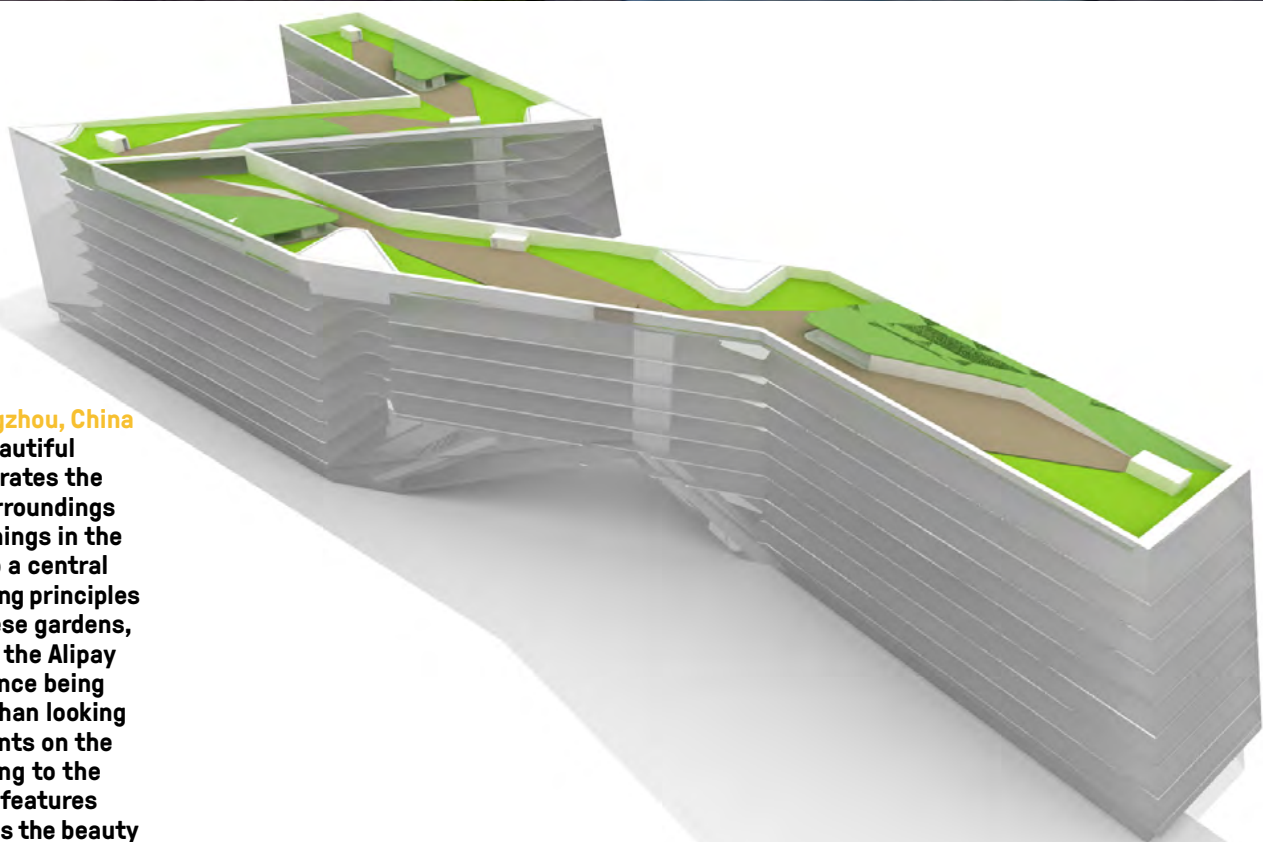
31

Taking Care of Business: The Corporate Campus 2.0

Corporations are increasingly integrating landscape as part of their workplace strategy to attract and retain talent as well as establish themselves as forward-thinking brands.

Poly Dawangling, Beijing, China

Located between three prominent towers, this project transforms space characterized by exposed building infrastructure—HVAC vents, car ramps, civil defense exits—into a beautiful sculptural courtyard. Landscape is envisioned as a carpet draped over these elements to create visual interest and places for rest and reflection.



Alipay Headquarters, Hangzhou, China

In a city famous for its beautiful landscapes, the site integrates the richness of its natural surroundings into its open spaces. Openings in the building direct people into a central public open space area. Using principles from the traditional Chinese gardens, employees and visitors at the Alipay Headquarters will experience being inside the garden rather than looking at it from the outside. Plants on the site are arranged according to the layout of landform, water features and stone pavers to express the beauty of the plants and their seasonal changes.

Taking Care of Business

Symantec Chengdu, Chengdu, China
SWA's landscape design is akin to a "brocade" that weaves together the building and site program, and offers an oasis amid the dense, urban locale. An extensive water filtration garden mitigates stormwater runoff while an intricately programmed roof garden connects building and site, creating functional and environmentally sensitive urban outdoor spaces and connecting the site to the larger city.

**Samsung American Headquarters,
San Jose, California**
To harmonize with the architectural expression that encourages communication and interaction, SWA created a band of landscape inspired by the city's symbolic Guadalupe River. Fields of hardscape, softscape, and water features flow along the band, causing the character of outdoor space to morph from urban to naturalistic. Four main areas feature distinct identities: Gateway Plaza, Courtyard, Campus Quad, and Samsung Gardens.

29

High-tech Nature: IDEA Green, Shanghai, China

The Urban Best Practices Area was a district within the Shanghai 2010 World Expo that focused on green technology from around the world. After the conclusion of the Expo, a competition was held to transform the site into a creative innovative campus. SWA led a team that created a new urban center and public open space that received the first LEED ND Platinum Award in China's history.



ASLA Texas Chapter,
Award of Excellence,
2016

30

Social Impact Design Initiative

SWA believes that outdoor space is essential to the well-being of communities, and our studios engage in pro-bono efforts to help those who couldn't otherwise engage professionals. These projects vary greatly, from helping prisoners to learn gardening skills and experience pride of place to assisting underserved urban communities applying for development grants to soliciting material donations to realize our design visions in low-income areas. Community engagement is the lifeblood of these efforts.

28

Flooding by Design: Changsha Baxizhou Island, Changsha, China



Rosa Barba Landscape
Prize Finalist, 2016

The 63.3-hectare Baxizhou Island, on the Xiang River, is a private refuge covered with poplar trees and abandoned structures. Grass-lined channels are submerged under shallow water the majority of the year; however, during the flood season, river water will intentionally submerge the entire channel network for approximately 20 to 30 days. Terraced edges now create a multi-level wetland system around the island, allowing ecology to thrive; the south wetland islands and peninsulas are linked by a meandering boardwalk network to take it all in. Their elevation is slightly lower than the island to allow seasonal flooding of the marshes during the high-water season and to support various emergent wetland plants.



27

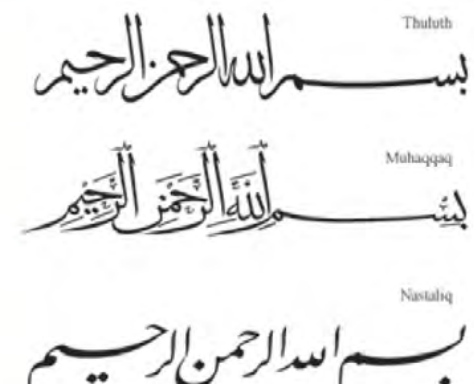
Complex Ground-scapes for the Supertalls

Imagine these unique efforts as enormous green roofs: the structure beneath these buildings is so extensive, there's limited soil depth throughout the deck. SWA principal designer John Wong designed the landscapes for the world's three tallest skyscrapers.



Burj Khalifa, Dubai, UAE

To provide shade and designate the tower's hotel, residential and office spokes, Burj Khalifa's 27-acre landscape features three discrete areas with drought-tolerant gardens using Islamic motifs. Nearly half of the 138 cubic meters (m³) of water required annually for irrigation comes from the building's air-conditioning condensation.



Complex Ground-scapes

Nanchang Greenland Central Plaza, Nanchang, China

Central Plaza creates a window to the city and a connection between old and new. The landscape links a vibrant retail environment with appealing, shaded outdoor spaces for pedestrians and dramatic use of water, paving and planting to integrate the towers and retail buildings.

26

Just Passing Through: ARTIC, Anaheim, California

The new HOK-designed Anaheim Regional Transportation Intermodal Center is expected to see 10,000 passengers a day when it's fully operational. SWA worked with Parsons Brinkerhoff to plan the 16-acre hub for 10 modes of transportation so that it's prepared to accommodate everyone from sports fans at the adjacent Honda Center to long-distance travelers on high-speed rails to points north. Ceremonial date palms along the entry drive serve as way finders for drop-offs and pick-ups.



25

Studio Culture

Bound together by a storied history, strong personal relationships and a common commitment to design excellence, SWA practices as a network of eight studios—each with its own ideas and personality. The studio approach enables our principals and design talent to thrive in boutique environments that are supported by a core of shared resources. Clients benefit from the firm's broader network of resources, while also experiencing the personal responsiveness of a studio.





IDEAS BLOG

24

Landscape Futures

At the turn of this century, we are a society focused on reconnecting with ourselves, our ethnicity, the environment, and each other. In a traditional sense, our minds must be freed through the freedom of the body, and a park is a place that can allow this to happen. Arcadian city parks of green open lawns and axial cross paths have given way to 21st-century, highly designed, \$20-million-an-acre, intensely programmed, public/private urban destinations, and we're just starting. What will the 22nd-century urban park look like?

Meanwhile, rapid advancements in technology continue to deepen our understanding of the world by providing us with big data related to climate change and super storms, drone-based, high-resolution, digital 3D mapping of complex terrain to inform adaptive landscapes, and Uber-based, autonomous electric vehicles. As our cities become denser, expect stricter regulations on our natural resources to balance the needs and wants of their communities. The landscape of the future will be challenging to imagine. Park design in the 22nd century will lie at the nexus of four important considerations: mobility, ecology, programming, and financing. As independent considerations, these are simple mechanisms achieving a singular result. However, as a combined system moving at the same pace as our culture, these mechanisms could yield real breakthroughs for future park

design and further reinforce the role of the landscape architect as the lead consultant overseeing large, complex, public realm projects.

The work of landscape architects today will serve as the foundation for future innovation. I'm inspired by our peers in design and engineering, the arts and sciences. I'm inspired by civic leaders who understand the role of the landscape architect in helping to make their cities more livable. Finally, I'm impressed with the younger generation of landscape architects around the world. Wherever my travels take me, I inevitably meet bright young designers with big ideas and who are imbued with the kind of confidence and charisma it takes to change the world. We need all of you to continue thinking BIG, to explore the future of the landscape in a projective, experimental way, unhindered by preconceptions or rules, to take some risk and fail along the way, only to pick yourself up and become stronger. Landscape architects are the future. Believe it.

Gerdo Aquino is CEO of SWA.

23

A Good Neighbor: Dai Nippon Printing Co.'s Urban Forest, Tokyo, Japan

Vertical development and underground production modernization made possible this publicly accessible open space on DNP's newly renovated world headquarters site in Tokyo. Over half of 5.4 hectares previously covered by buildings are now planted with native trees, shrubs, and ground cover, creating a unique urban forest with pathways and small plazas for the 10,000 DNP employees and their neighbors.

A Good Neighbor

To recreate the native forest, SWA developed “native” soil profile and natural drainage processes to promote infiltration and reduce runoff. Natural stormwater management processes are designed to retain all rainfall on the site. Hardscape areas are minimized to reduce surface run-off as well as heat island effect with much of it shaded by planting.



MIPIM Asia, Best Futura Mega Project, Gold Award, 2013

IDEAS BLOG

22

10 Drought-tolerant California Plants

When we enjoy urban California's verdant neighborhoods, fantastic parks, and green lawns we easily forget that most of this luxuriant vegetation is the result of irrigation. In times of intense drought like the one the entire West Coast is experiencing, it's dismaying to learn that about half of the water the state uses in urban areas is for watering landscapes.

Part of the problem is that most of California's ornamental landscape is created with species that are not native to this part of the world. While this vegetation has adapted very well to the local temperatures, it requires a substantial amount of water to survive. How do we keep California green and keep a sensitive attitude toward the limited amount of water available in the state?

One sensible way to address the issue is to turn to native plants. These plants are, in fact, the ones that best respond to the long Californian dry season, requiring very little, if any, water. The downside is that their ornamental qualities are often not as rewarding as those of the standard ornamental species: many of them have a limited blooming season and often die back in the summer, making the seasonal landscape look like an unappealing, burnt-out mess.

While this is the case for many native species, on the other hand, several will stay green throughout the year with very little, if any, water, and will reward a water-sensitive landscape with many interesting features. Here are ten native species providing fantastic ornamental features that easily rival the ones displayed by standard ornamental plants.

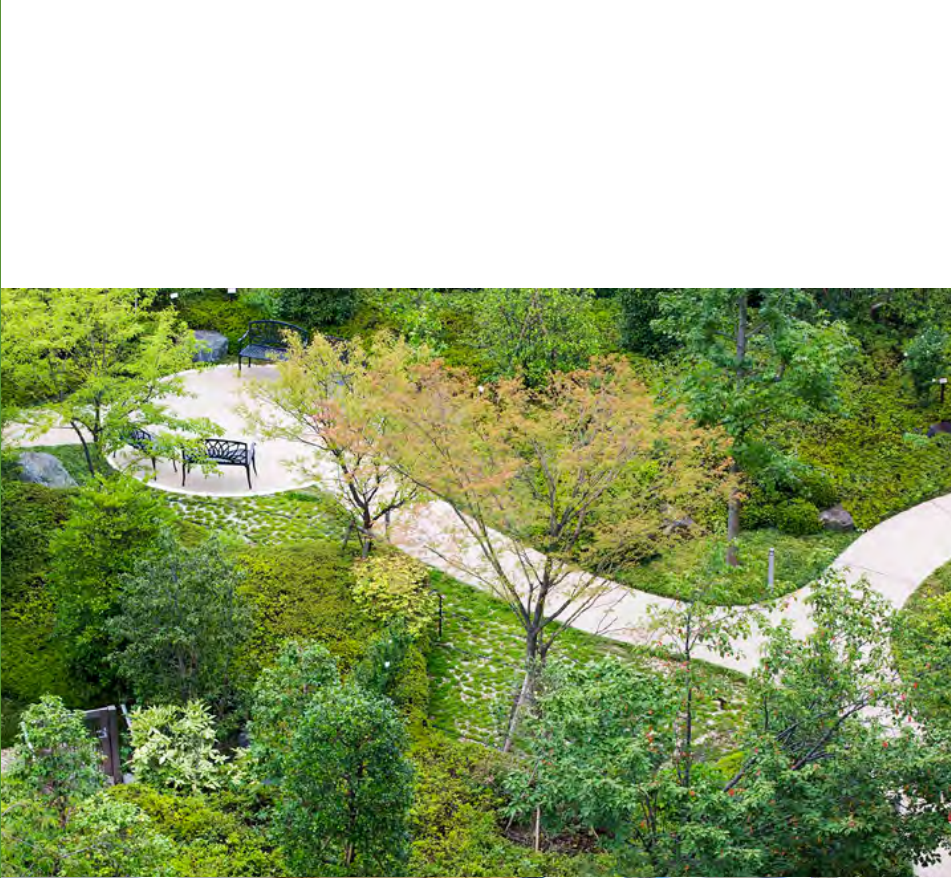
1. *Aesculus californica* – California Buckeye.
2. *Arbutus 'Marina'* – Marina strawberry tree.
3. *Fremontodendron x 'California glory'* – Flannel bush.
4. *Carpenteria californica* – Bush anemone.
5. *Rosa californica 'Elsie'*
6. *Ceanothus thyrsiflorus 'Blue Mound'*.
7. *Epilobium canum 'Catalina'* – Catalina Fuchsia.
8. *Salvia spathacea* – Hummingbird sage.
9. *Leymus condensatus 'Canyon Prince'*
10. *Carex divulsa* – Berkeley sedge.

Sergio Lima is an Associate in the Sausalito studio of SWA.

21

Landscape Infrastructure: Case Studies by SWA

As the rise of urbanization continues, this publication signifies SWA's growing commitment to create landscapes that transcend a single purpose and function as part of greater systems. The book was issued in two editions and uses the firm's work as case studies in which ecological, urban, cultural and artistic considerations are explored and combined to greater effect, resulting in landscapes that function as infrastructure, and place-making that is both poetic and pragmatic.



20

Landscapes for Health and Well-being: Sun City Kashiwa, Kashiwa, Japan

Elderly residents living in Japan's Sun City continuum care facilities benefit from sophisticated landscape design to awaken their senses and connect them with nature. At the heart of Sun City Kashiwa, a terraced outdoor common space features a dramatic pond and mountain-inspired rock formation with multiple cascading waterfalls within a four-season view garden.



19

Rising Tides, Rethinking Housing: Mega Margin, Bay Area, California



A thought leadership exercise imagines how the San Francisco Bay Area could respond to anticipated rising tides to solve another difficult problem in the region: the need for housing. SWA's designers imagined transforming the region's interior shoreline of San Francisco Bay with a series of belts. A green "buffer" belt to absorb the water, and a "density" belt to replace what is currently low-density housing.

18

High-impact Experience, Low-impact Environmental Design: Raycom City, Hefei, China

Raycom City's one-kilometer-long park and retail promenade include a string of five special places connected by rain gardens, groves of large canopy trees, continuous paths and social spaces, plus a two-lane Green Street. Envisioned as a living sculpture, this verdant corridor skillfully deploys low-impact environmental design that seamlessly addresses storm-water management. Access to the subway and bus system and provision for electric scooter and bicycle use are encouraged in the accessible design, advancing a healthy lifestyle for local inhabitants.



ASLA Northern California Chapter, Honor Award, 2016



High-impact Experience



17

Step by Step: Shanghai International Dance Center, Shanghai, China

The landscape design reinforces the graceful and curving forms of the architecture while defining clear outdoor spaces. These forms extend through the site, expressing the kinetic, and movement-driven theme of the project and linking the various program areas. Interwoven landscape elements such as benches, planting hedges, rows of trees and pedestrian walkways create interesting views and dynamic experiences. This state-of-the-art facility for teaching, study, research and innovation reintroduces dance education and performance as an invaluable gift for the public to enjoy.



IDEAS BLOG

16

Prioritizing Human Sustainability

A new 50-acre arts district near downtown Chengdu is capitalizing on the city's momentum as a prime destination for living, shopping, and entertainment and will offer space for residences, offices, retail, and a multi-functional media center.

In addition to designing environmentally responsible public spaces, touring the local attractions underscored the importance of making spaces that have the potential to become memorable expressions of the region's history, culture, and identity. Residents of Chengdu cannot live without the following social catalysts that generate energy and add grace to their city; establishing a hospitable environment in urban neighborhoods should allow for economic, environmental, and social sustainability.

Tea Culture: Similar to the music and brunch scene in New Orleans, locals enjoy spending time with families and friends sipping tea and chatting. Such recreational spots add a crowning touch to the landscape and create endless design opportunities to give a full and pleasurable expression of the place.

Opera Culture: Signature places for hot-pot and morning dim-sum often have in-restaurant stages available for evening shows and the performances inspired us to create such zones in our outdoor environments.

Food Culture: Chengdu's cuisine is extremely unique and diverse: two essential options are "spicy" and "humb." Locals attribute their love of spicy food to the climate and humidity. Natives enjoy spending most of their time outside so having outdoor seating becomes crucial for many restaurants. Although food trucks were not often seen there, the culture inspired us to introduce some into urban spaces.

Understanding the needs of all area users is crucial to integrating development into a neighborhood so that it creates economic, social, and environmental benefits for its residents. The ideal environmental design combines art and ecology; it's imperative to have an insight into the human element in sustainability, in addition to the functionality of urban spaces and how people interact with them.

Dixi Wang is a designer in the Houston studio.



15

Growing Together: Landscape and Urbanism, Changsha, China



SWA has forged strong relationships with rapidly growing cities in China, and—through multiple major commissions—our work has helped to shape their urban form to cultural and environmental advantage. In Changsha, for example, our planning and design framework has envisioned multiple districts, each responsive to its existing conditions yet connected to the broader city. Shown here is the plan for Liuyang River Waterfront, a 10-kilometer green belt in which city and park are fused into a multi-functional landscape tapestry. Four strategies are deployed to connect the city to its waterfront in ways that encourage access and anticipate flooding.



ASLA National Honor Award,
Analysis and Planning, 2013

14

Research Informs Design—Small Places with Big Impact: Capital Plaza, New York, New York

Located in the lively and diverse Chelsea neighborhood, this small plaza offers a place of respite and pause, and is peopled at nearly all hours of the day, regardless of the season. Its success rests primarily on the research that led to its design program and its range of seating options. Curved, battered planter walls slice through the plaza, organizing it into distinct areas with varying degrees of intimacy and enclosure.



ASLA National Honor Award, 2005, General Design

Designed by SWA Principal Thomas Balsley, while with Thomas Balsley Associates.

13

Life is a Stage: Hunan TV Studios, Changsha, China

This playful landscape design for Hunan TV's new Changsha production facility establishes a presence night and day. It is open to the public and flexible enough to accommodate many uses—entertainment. A grand promenade climbs 20 meters along the building's axis, cracking the formal building massing with an interactive outdoor space that also extends to the indoor stages. Seven sunken gardens below the promenade respond to seven discreet building forms, one of which is a contemporary museum. Hanging greenery and green walls lend visual interest and give visitors relief from the scorching climate.



12

High-performance, High-visibility: Sports Venues that Score

Designing high-profile venues means creating a memorable visitor experience and meeting precise technical requirements. Relating a facility to its site is fundamental to its success, experienced both in person and on camera. SWA understands how to ground facilities—whether in the mountains or in the city—to minimize environmental impacts and maximize the experience for everyone.

2018 Winter Olympics Nordic Events Venues, PyeongChang, Korea

SWA's master plan and landscape concept design connects the Ski Jumping, Cross Country and Biathlon stadia and associated facilities via a curving promenade that enhances circulation and "people-watching" views for the 2018 Winter Olympics. To maintain the natural beauty of this hilly forested site, the design team advanced a compact, walkable development pattern with minimal grading, reforestation, and waterway restoration.



Golden State Warriors Stadium, San Francisco, California

The urban open spaces associated with the Warriors' new Event Center and Mixed-Use Development must address the ebb and flow of stadium events and create a great neighborhood public space. The landscape weaves together the edges of the site with the interior public spaces via an embedded steel header that guides visitors up the sloped walkway into the main event plaza, wraps around the arena, and connects to the southeastern plaza. Movable furnishings accommodate day-to-day usage and undergo a complete transformation for events. Stormwater is treated via bio-filtration basins both within the site and on the arena roof, which form a green infrastructure ring around the arena.

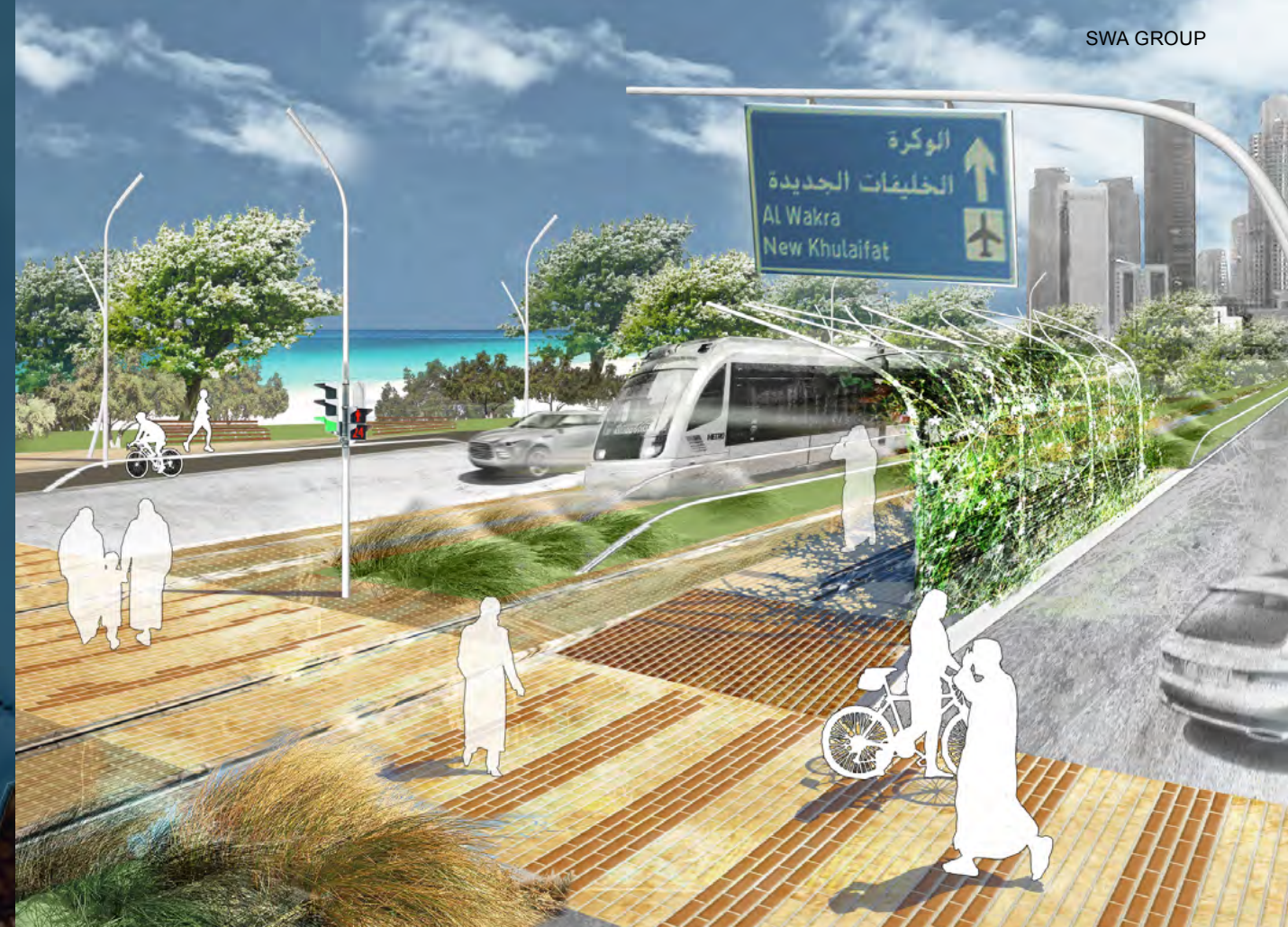


11

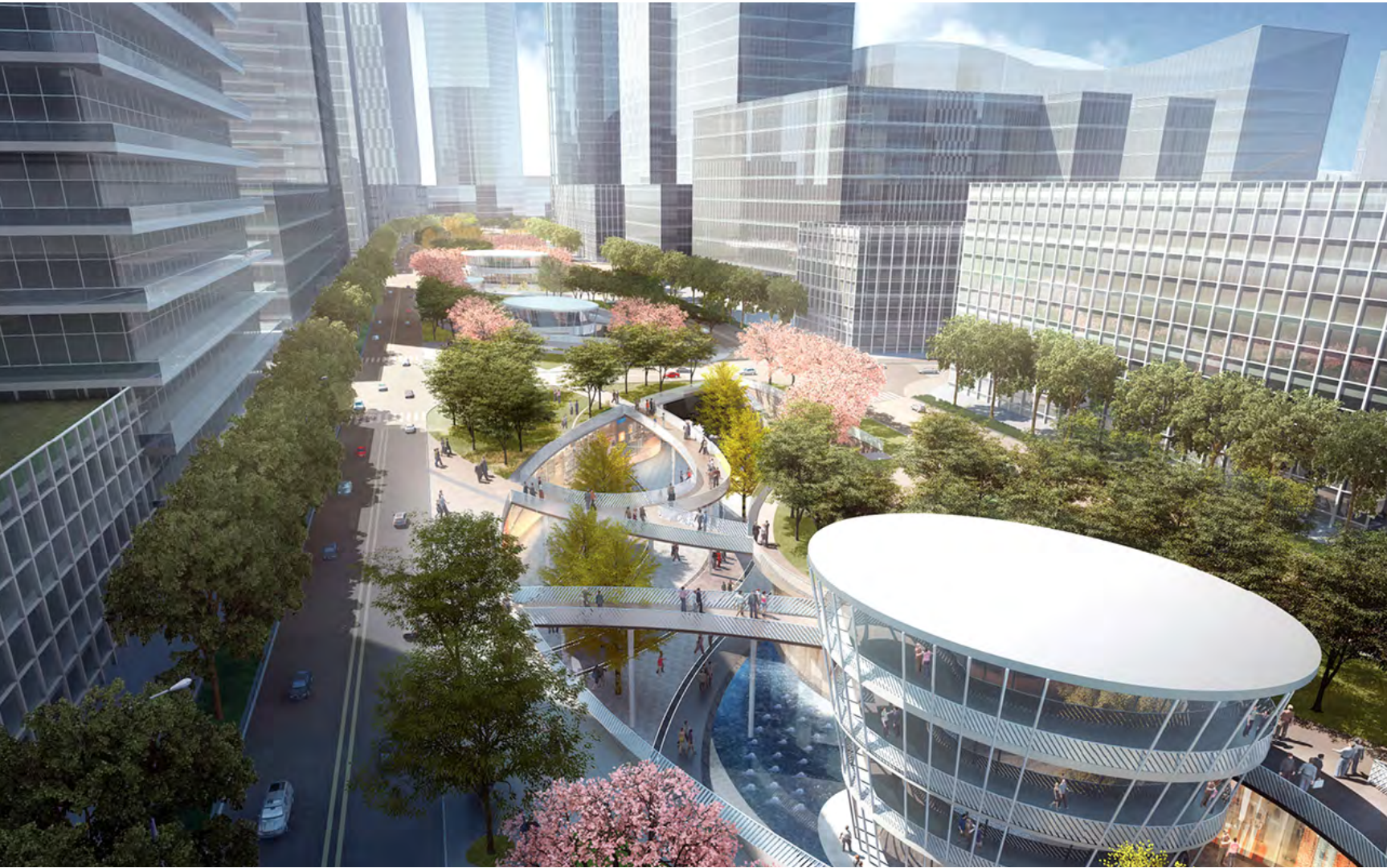
City Frameworks

SWA's planning and urban design work confers an overarching perspective, thinking systemically about a place. Sometimes this means supplying vast spaces with a backbone on which to grow or expand. Sometimes we are hired to remedy something that's not working, or update it for today's functionality. Sometimes we're working on a blank canvas, etching the bold strokes that determine how a place is conceived as a collection of integrated systems, natural and man-made. Our work looks at the interface of waterfront, transit networks, open space, urban districts or neighborhood communities, and even anticipates related development down to the building massing for businesses, housing and schools. Sometimes we are invited back to design projects within these frameworks. Sometimes they are finessed by others over decades. Urban design opportunities shape cities' horizons and offer valuable lessons about how development can best unfold over time.

Doha Public Realm Consulting and Design, Doha, Qatar
Qatar's National Vision 2030 provides a framework for strategies and implementation related to social, economic, environmental, and human development. Vignettes shown here suggest public realm place-making that enables the city to reclaim cultural heritage compromised in its rapid push toward modernity.



City Frameworks



Wuhan Central Axis, Wuhan, China

Regeneration of this site includes bold, multi-layered improvements both experiential and environmental. Sky bridges at street junctures and large sunken spaces are introduced to enhance connectivity throughout the site. Also introduced is a comprehensive system for storm water management that combines traditional and green infrastructure approaches, incorporating wetlands and bio-retention systems into the landscape design.



Haicang New Town, Fu-Jian Province, China

The Haicang Urban Center uses water-based landscape infrastructure to enhance economic value, provide public open space, and re-establish degraded aquatic habitat. The design creates an identity for Haicang based on its marine heritage, and also creates additional land value by increasing the amount of waterfront real estate. Scientific investigation and governmental coordination were incorporated in the planning to create a multi-faceted urbanization and restoration strategy. The adopted plan has become a model for local urban planning and implementation is now underway.



ASLA Texas Chapter,
Merit Award, 2003

10

A Civic Paradigm for the Retail Experience

Today's successful commercial environments are differentiated by the distinct experiences they create for customers, over and above those of branded retail tenants. Increasingly, the landscaped common areas are part of the draw. Water features, interesting plantings, outdoor rooms, sculpture and outdoor art, pathways for promenading all combine to create a unique sense of place akin to the public square.

Downtown Summerlin, Las Vegas, Nevada

This 109-acre, high-end retail and entertainment center forms the heart of a 22,500-acre master-planned community. The landscape design provides comfort and shade and draws upon the natural desert environment as a visual source for materials, colors, and textures. By distilling the surroundings into their simplest forms—desert floor, canyon wall, and sky—the landscape design presents a unique retail environment with spaces that reflect the natural environment, as well as the history and heritage of iconic Las Vegas, while remaining autonomous from both.



ASLA Southern
California Chapter,
Merit Award, 2016

A Civic Paradigm

Monet 2.0 at Victoria Gardens, Orange County, California
After 10 active years, a popular Southern California shopping district needed a modern upgrade to remain competitive. Monet 2.0 at Victoria Gardens refreshes a three-block streetscape and plaza with a focus on its future users. The result highlights the social landscape and blurs the distinction between retail and recreation, using the timeless appeal of natural materials.

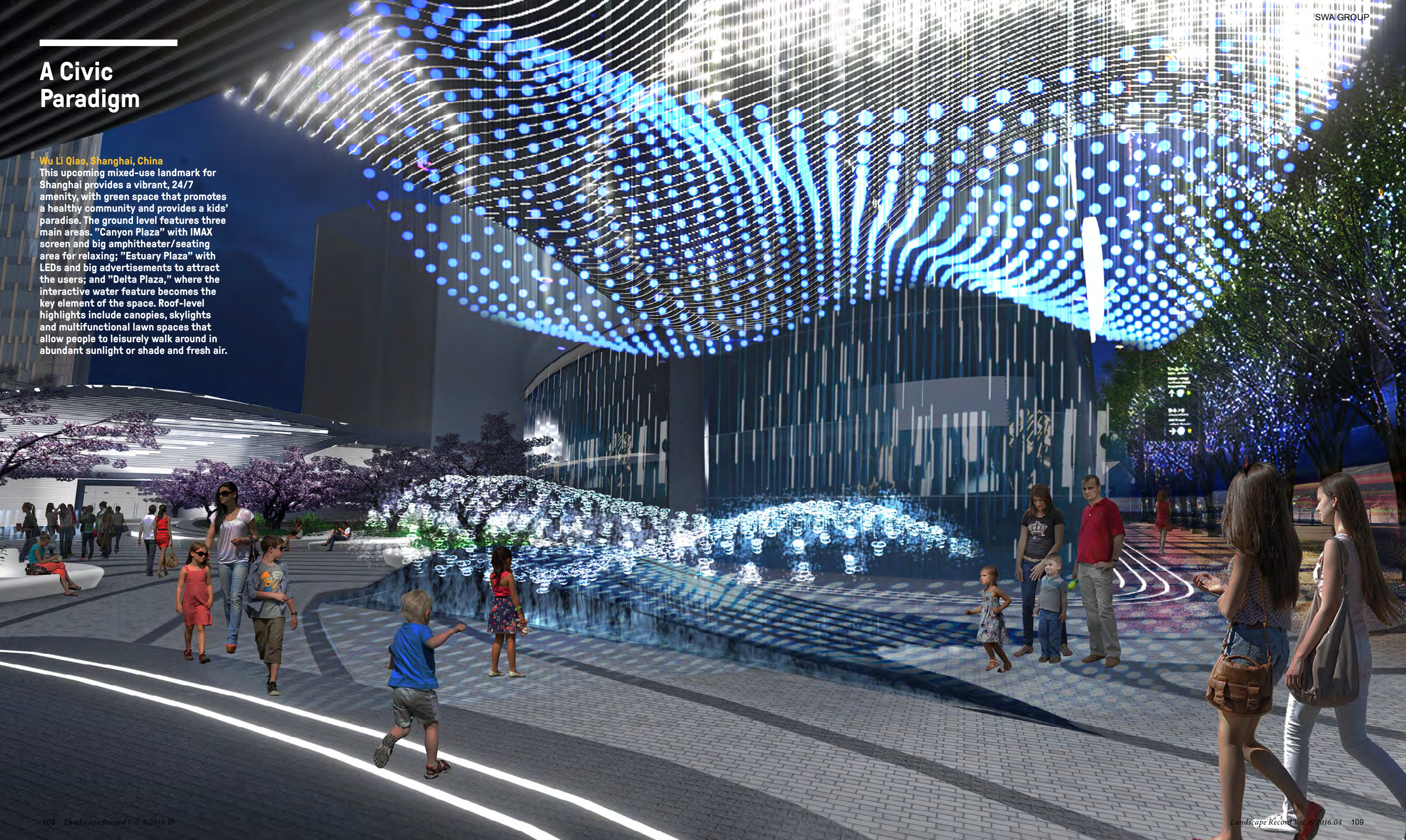


ASLA Southern
California Chapter,
Merit Award 2016

A Civic Paradigm

Wu Li Qiao, Shanghai, China

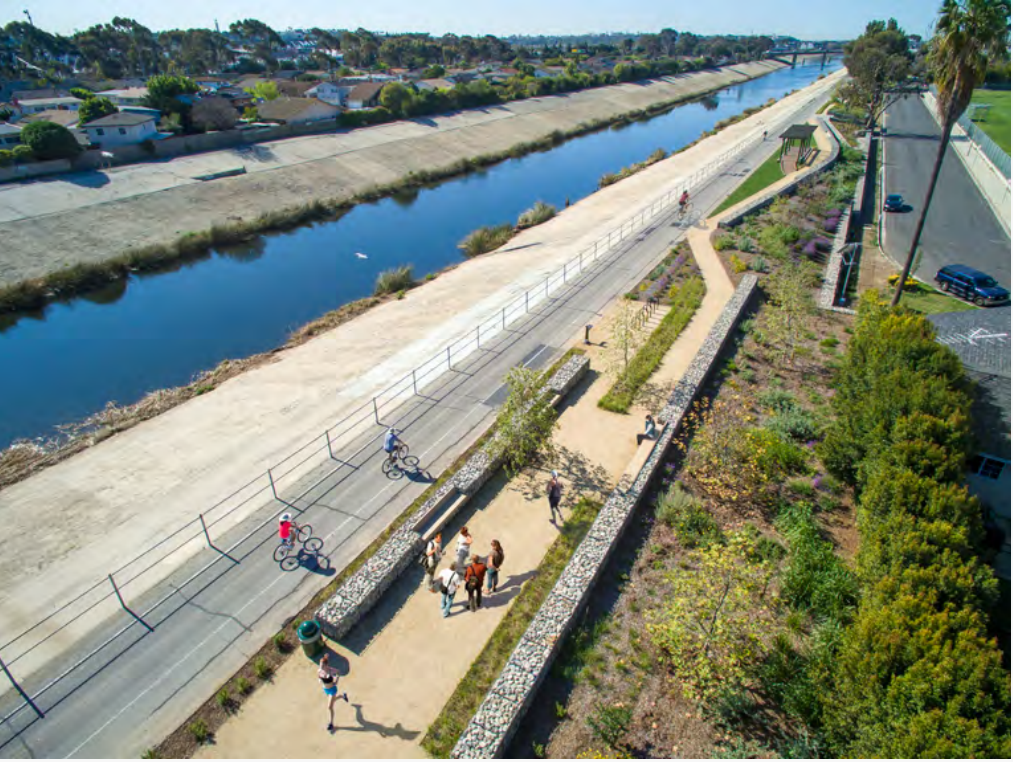
This upcoming mixed-use landmark for Shanghai provides a vibrant, 24/7 amenity, with green space that promotes a healthy community and provides a kids' paradise. The ground level features three main areas: "Canyon Plaza" with IMAX screen and big amphitheater/seating area for relaxing; "Estuary Plaza" with LEDs and big advertisements to attract the users; and "Delta Plaza," where the interactive water feature becomes the key element of the space. Roof-level highlights include canopies, skylights and multifunctional lawn spaces that allow people to leisurely walk around in abundant sunlight or shade and fresh air.



09

Stretching the Imagination: Pershing Square Competition Finalist

Imagination is the door to possibility. This competition entry by the SWA/Morphosis team imagines new life for a neglected central space in downtown Los Angeles. In addition to introducing programmatic and pragmatic improvements, designers explored the idea of Ecotopia, which called for botanical gardens, water pools and a green lawn, and a stormwater collection system.



08

Drones: Changing Up Our View

Documenting our work-in-progress as well as after completion—is an essential part of our culture. The advent and adoption of drone photography by our staff has enabled image capture to influence how we see and design.



Shown in the background is our design for Milton Street Park, a linear slice along the river in Los Angeles.



ASLA Southern California Chapter, Merit Award, 2016

07

Designing for a Modern City: Thousand Lantern Lake Park System, Nanhai, China

The Thousand Lantern Lake Park system is the physical and psychic infrastructure that has ensured Nanhai's vitality during transformative urbanization. Master planning and urban design envisioned commercial and civic buildings and discrete public spaces as arranged within a large park setting characterized by lakes and waterways. The waterways connect these elements, providing transportation and drainage networks that run through the entire 286-acre (116-hectare) formerly industrial site. Central to the city's identity is the park's centerpiece, Citizen's Plaza on Thousand-Lantern Lake, which provides an active and memorable public gathering space that transitions from day to night with a unique streetscape and lighting elements.



06

Energizing a Community: Guthrie Green Park, Tulsa, Oklahoma

Once the site of a truck loading facility, Guthrie Green is a lively new, outdoor “living room” for the city’s emerging arts district and its community. The project transforms the 2.7-acre site and repurposes a loading dock for a multi-purpose pavilion with a solar roof. Supported by State Energy Grant funds, a grid of 500-foot deep geothermal wells provide heating and cooling for adjacent

buildings, offsetting the need for traditional energy sources. Interactive fountains, a lawn amphitheater, a café, and vine-covered green “rooms” provide a variety of settings for recreation. Guthrie Green supports a robust program of performances, films, public markets, exercise classes, and exhibits.



Center for Active
Design (CAD) Award
of Excellence, 2015

05

Edible Landscape: Dallas Arboretum Food & Herb Garden, Dallas, Texas

This Food & Herb Garden is envisioned as a potager/kitchen garden that will educate visitors about plants and herbs that can be grown in their own backyard and used for daily cooking. The project will contain gardens, event space, and a state-of-the-art pavilion with a demonstration kitchen. The design for this two-acre parcel located on the property's eastern edge proposes a tall stand of existing trees to be thinned and trimmed, unveiling a beautiful view to the open water of White Rock Lake and the Dallas Skyline beyond. Renowned garden designer P. Allen Smith will design the planting portions of the garden.



04

Design Excellence: Validation Over Vanity

Design excellence is an exciting, if demanding, ambition and it drives nearly everything we do at SWA. Because landscapes are the experiential glue of people's daily experience, our aim is to create arrestingly beautiful settings that are also environmentally sound, functionally appropriate, and socially relevant. Our company culture encourages us to constantly seek new ideas and approaches to problem solving and place-making—and our projects are, in turn, consistently recognized with awards from client and peer organizations alike.

In our 60 years of practice, SWA has received scores of ASLA awards, and more than 50 at the national level.



03

Integrating Agriculture: Reinventing Suburbs, Rethinking Tourism

SWA has been instrumental in pioneering new models of development that integrate agriculture, weaving together land uses often deemed incompatible. In the United States, new community development, sometimes called "agri-hoods," seek a mix of uses that include harnessing natural systems and keeping land productive. In China, this idea is amplified by also introducing tourism to promote a healthy lifestyle.

The farm was conceived as an integral part of the community, and included a teaching and learning component. It served as a small-scale transition to the adjacent agriculture lands.

—Joe Runco, SWA Principal Designer

THE Cannery

The Cannery, Davis, California

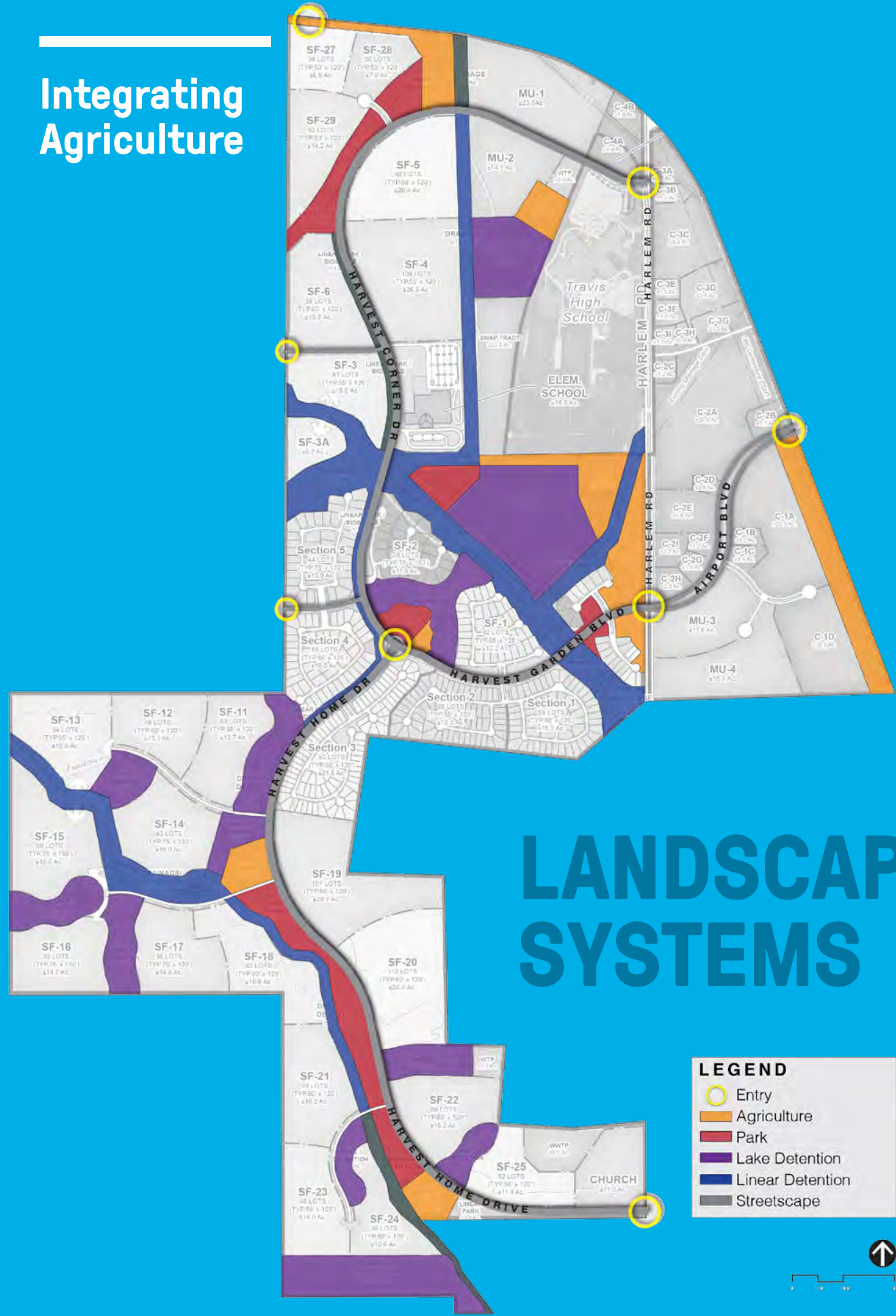
In Davis, California, the Cannery transforms a 100-acre former factory site into a planned development that combines residential with urban farming and park land, its "smart growth" approach achieving a relatively higher density (9.7 units per acre) with a variety of housing types than is typical of suburbs.



Pacific Coast
Builders Conference
Gold Nugget Grand
Award, Best On the
Boards Site Plan,
2014



Integrating Agriculture



Harvest Green, Houston, Texas

Harvest Green is the first community supported agricultural master-planned community in Houston. This 1,300-acre development is home to 280 acres of green space featuring a community farm, waterways and parks—which together support healthy living through miles of hike and bike trails, local farm-fresh food and agriculture based social events. Healthy ecosystems are promoted through low impact development, natural systems restoration and edible plant communities.



Integrating Agriculture

China National Travel Service (CTS), Anji, China
Mountains, water and agriculture are the defining characteristics of Anji, considered one of the most beautiful farm villages in China. Here, productive tea terrace, bamboo forest, and rice fields are central to the local community, which is expanded to accommodate tourism and compact residential development. A new resort is seamlessly integrated, promoting a healthy, country lifestyle and offering a convenient holiday destination within three hours of Shanghai, Hangzhou and Ningbo.

02

Leadership

At SWA, strong professional leadership means...

Investing ourselves in the design of every project in our studios.

Engaging in design competitions to test ideas, stay sharp.

Investigating new materials and ways of working.

Lecturing at universities and peer organizations to share what we've learned.

Demonstrating to clients and stakeholders that their investment in GOOD design is worth it.

Mentoring our staff to grow professionally and personally.

Seeking interesting partners to collaborate on projects.

Publishing our ideas and work.

Reflecting the diversity of our staff and clients in the firm's principal group.

Leadership means always looking ahead.



01

All for One: Diversity by Design

Walking through an SWA studio, you are likely to encounter a variety of people working collaboratively. You might hear multiple languages. Talent comes to us in many forms, and our culture celebrates the different perspectives, skills and ideas that give rise to great design and innovation. At 60, SWA's employee population of 205 is roughly 40 percent women, 40 percent non-white. Our principal group comes close to reflecting the firm's diversity, with women and non-white representation at 26 percent and 35 percent, respectively. The firm's commitment to mentoring, design excellence and entrepreneurship results in many designers choosing to grow their career at the firm.



00

Connect with SWA

Dallas: +1.214.954.0016
Houston: +1.713.868.1676
Laguna Beach: +1.949.497.5471
Los Angeles: +1.213.236.9090
Sausalito: +1.415.332.5100
San Francisco: +1.415.836.8770
Shanghai: +86.21.6074.5050
New York: (SWA/Balsley) +1.212.684.9230

Business inquiries:
business@swagroup.com
shanghai@swagroup.com

www.swagroup.com