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Landscape Architecture //

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" LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
MINNEAPOLIS

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
 TYPICAL BRIDGE ON
 SENECA ROAD
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LANDSCAPE
 ARCHITECTURE

GIFT

THE practice of Landscape Architecture as a profession and art is one of the most recent, yet one of the most important to be recognized in America. For many centuries this art has been developed by the highly cultured nations of the eastern world, but in America the former generations have been so occupied with the building up of the country that little thought, until the last few decades, has been given to this outdoor art. The Egyptians, Babylonians, Persians, Greeks, and Romans, and eventually all the civilized nations of Europe gave great attention to the development of Landscape Architecture and produced results which today speak for themselves. In our travels we admire the stately Italian Villas surrounded with their forests of cypresses and with their arrangement of terraces, gardens, fountains, statues, pergolas, etc. We are also impressed with the suburban English cottages covered with vines and with their broad lawns, walks bordered with old fashioned perennial flowers and shade trees. It is with the recognition of these beauties and with the knowledge that the rapid development of this country was crowding the grounds to a minimum that gradually more and more attention has been given to beautifying our cities and towns and making the surroundings of public buildings and private homes as attractive as skill can make them. Already there are a great many accomplishments of which this country can be justly proud, and there is no reason why America should not lead in this profession, as nature has lavishly bestowed great ranges of mountains and hills covered with virgin forest, great rivers, lakes, and water-falls, all of which form the most beautiful natural landscape effects and which only wait to be developed and made available for public and private use.

Landscape Studies

As an Architect studies the design of his building and considers its relation both to an artistic impression and to a practical useful purpose, and as the painter studies his color scheme for the most realistic effect, so the Landscape Architect studies the development of grounds, whether public or private, in their relation to the scheme which will give both the most attractive and practical results. As it is necessary for the Archi-

A Corner of City Flower Garden.

MORELL & NICHOLS. LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

tect to plan for the building, so it is necessary for the Landscape Architect to plan for the grounds at large, and the work of the two should go hand in hand to produce a harmonious whole.

Board of Park Commissioners, Duluth, Minn. One of Ten Bridges on Snively Road.

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City Planning

Up to the present time few of the American cities have been built with a comprehensive plan for future expansion, but with the rapid growth of these cities has come the recognition of the need for looking forward to the future so that the location of Public Buildings, Parks, Boulevards, etc., will be such as to meet the ultimate demands of the city and give a properly focalized scheme. It is with careful study of these needs that the Landscape Architect considers the problems of civic development and plans for the ultimate growth and needs of a community.

Plan for Park on Rocky Hillside.

City Parks

In each city or town there is more and more realization of the need of some larger or smaller Public Parks where the public can enjoy the beauties of nature and gain the recreation which is only to be found among the trees and flowers. A city can have no greater asset than the possession of beautiful Parks, Squares, Children's Playgrounds, Boulevards, etc. Beside the pleasure afforded to the inhabitants themselves, the fame of such civic improvements soon spreads and eventually repays the involved expense many

Arrangement for Small City Park.

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

PLAN FOR IMPROVEMENT

LESTER PARK

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JANUARY 1911

times over. Fortunate is the community which has foreseen this need and secured such spots as possess natural beauties and acquired them before they are destroyed by the expansion of the city. Example of such foresight is well illustrated by the city of Duluth, which has secured the most beautiful ravines with their streams and some of the rocky hillsides which otherwise are of little value and which are being improved as shown by some of the accompanying plans. Such natural beauties offer great opportunities to the Landscape Architect to transform them into natural parks. Although every city cannot be situated so as to possess these natural advantages, there is the greater reason that some areas should be made into charming parks by means of careful planning and development.

Institutions

The need of a Landscape Architect to plan for the development of various kinds of Institutions is seen today in many instances by the sad result which has been the outcome of building from time to time without any given plan for the future growth. It has been the aim of Landscape Architects to study as far as possible the future requirements and ultimate growth of these Institutions and so to plan for their arrangement that as the time goes on and as the Institutions grow, year by year the plan for this arrangement can be followed and thus by looking towards the ultimate scheme can procure a result which will always be harmonious in itself. An illustration of this comprehensive planning for the future growth is shown in the accompanying illustration for the development of the Industrial School for Girls at Sauk Centre, Minnesota.

Arrangement for City Estate.

Private Grounds

One of the largest fields for the Landscape Architect is that of the development of Private Grounds. Whether these be large or small, city or country, it is his aim to produce such surroundings to the home as will give the greatest enjoyment to the owner and furnish him with a bit of nature and its beauty. Whether it be a walk or drive, tiny bird pool or fountain, rustic arbor or pergola, garden gate or massive entrance, flower gardens or formal terraces, or the informal grouping of trees and shrubs that enters into the scheme, it receives his most careful study as to their

City Lot Treatment.

arrangement and with reference to the general color effect, both by foliage and bloom, which will make the ground attractive throughout the entire season. In the treatment of private grounds it is not necessary to discuss the matter of formality or informality, as each has its own merits and every problem must be solved to its own individual advantage. Very often in connection with the house a formal garden will act as an outdoor living room, and will be a great addition to the house itself. An example of such formal arrangement of flower garden in relation to the house on a small private place in the city is shown by the accompanying illustration.

City Grounds Treatment.

Oftentimes two adjoining places can be treated in a co-operative manner and produce a simple open treatment as a whole and thus avoid the division of property into separate schemes with the usual hedge or fence between. In such a case the entire scheme is much simplified as one drive, one garage, and one court serve both properties and each has more room for lawn and garden. The possibilities of such co-operative treatment of two places is shown herewith.

Country Estates

With the growing demand for country life and the country now made so accessible by modern transportation facilities comes the natural growth of the country estate and the possibilities for Landscape Architecture in its largest sphere. Naturally, with the larger grounds, available space can be given over to various games and recreations, and the arrangement of flower gardens, vegetable gardens, orchards, paddocks, and numerous other features in keeping with the country estate can be made in such a manner as to give each its proper place of advantage and produce a scheme from which the owner can derive a maximum

Arrangement for Suburban Estate.

GEBHARD BOHN ESQ.

CRYSTAL BAY LAKE MINNETONKA

GENERAL PLAN

DECEMBER, 1896

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Arrangement for Country Estate.

amount of pleasure and comfort. The possibilities of such development is shown in the accompanying plan of a lake estate, which arrangement should be contrasted with the existing conditions before this scheme was followed, as shown by the survey plan.

Survey of Country Estate.

Public School Grounds, etc.

More and more thought is constantly being given to the surroundings of the public schools. Not only with an object of improving the appearance of the grounds is this attention given, but with the arrangement of children's gardens there is seen direct bearing and influence upon the continued appreciation of nature by the pupils. The work of the children in these small experimental gardens becomes both a source of pleasure and training for later work. Also in this connection comes the planning of children's playgrounds to give them the space due them for enjoyment and in this way make the school and its surroundings a place of attraction and interest to the children.

Arrangement for Playgrounds.

Real Estate Development

Another gradual change which is being noticed in the development of our cities and towns is the planning for real estate development, especially in the residential and suburban districts, so as to make the most of any natural advantages and so arrange the roads and lots in such a way as to conform to the natural topography. In a rolling country the great advantage of this over the usual rectangular blocks can easily be seen and is invariably of great interest to the prospective purchaser in view of the fact that such a scheme gives each lot an individuality of its own and each lot holder has his own peculiar advantages and chance for individual arrangement. A small example of such a scheme is shown in the plan of an attractive piece of property fronting on a lake.

Club Grounds

The same principles as apply to the parks and larger estates make the matter of planning for the development of Club Grounds of great interest, so arranging the location of buildings and spaces for sports as not only to give a feasible practical arrangement, but also to lend that touch of nature which the clubman leaving his business for recreation craves, so that he will feel he is enjoying the true pleasures of country life.

Factory Grounds

Probably no field of the practice has been up to the present time so neglected as that of factory grounds, and yet there is no greater advertising medium and nothing to which a workman will go with greater pride than to the factory whose grounds are made attractive and surrounded with trees, shrubs, flowers, and it has been very markedly demonstrated that the influence of such development extends beyond the beautification of

the factory grounds and extends to the workingman's home where he desires to make his little grounds attractive and bright. It is through this influence that the development of factory grounds is everywhere receiving more and more attention.

Proposed Treatment for Factory Grounds.

Summary It is the aim of the Landscape Architect to meet all problems of development of property, public or private, with the sole aim of planning for that development in such a way as to produce the results which will give the greatest enjoyment and answer all practical needs.

ALEXANDER D M'RAE ESQ.
VANCOUVER B.C.
ENTRANCE GATE
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