

Jean Vissering Landscape Architecture

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RESUME

EDUCATION

Master of Landscape Architecture - 1975, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC,
American Society of Landscape Architects Book Award.

Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture - 1972, University of Massachusetts, Amherst,
MA. Cum Laude. Honors Thesis on Pedestrian Environments.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS

Professional Consulting: Visual Resource Planning and Visual Impact Assessment Projects

- Visual assessment of the Deerfield Wind Project on behalf of Iberdrola. The project is proposed within the Green Mountain National Forest and is currently under review by the Vermont Public Service Board and the GMNF.
- Visual Impact Assessment for Granite Reliable Wind Park in Coos County, NH now under review by the NH Siting Evaluation Committee, on behalf of Noble Environmental Energy.
- Visual Assessment of proposed Fuel Station, Convenience Store and Restaurant Facility for Friends of Ferrisburgh.
- Visual Impact Assessment of the proposed Kibby Wind Energy Project in the Boundary Mountains of Maine on behalf of TransCanada (Approved by Maine LURC).
- Visual Impact Assessment of the proposed Redington and Black Nubble Wind projects on behalf of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (Maine LURC concurred with my findings).
- Visual impact assessment of a proposed subdivision adjacent to Interstate 91 in Windsor Vermont District for the District #2 Environmental Commission.
- Appointed as member of the National Academy of Science Wind Energy Committee which produced a report, *Environmental Impacts of Wind-Energy Projects* (National Research Council of the National Academies 2007).
- Visual Impact assessment of a small wind turbine in Huntington for the Foundation for a Sustainable Future. The turbine would provide power for demonstrating sustainable agricultural practices.
- Aesthetic review under §248 of the Vermont Electric Coop (VELCO) Northwest Reliability Project for the Addison County Regional Planning Commission.
- Preliminary assessment of a proposed wind energy project in the vicinity of Jordanville and Cherry Valley, NY for Otsego 2000.
- Assisted the Bennington Regional Commission and the Town of Manchester in a public

information and review process by providing information regarding the aesthetic effects of the proposed Little Equinox Wind Energy Project.

- Scenic evaluation methodology and protection strategies for the Town of Huntington's Conservation Commission to be used as a tool for prioritizing conservation efforts.
- Visual assessment for the proposed Glebe Mountain wind project on behalf of the Town of Londonderry.
- Presentation to Scenic America's Board of Directors and Affiliates of the visual issues involved in wind energy development at their annual meeting in Washington, D.C.
- Visual assessment methodology for the Public Service Board, published as a brochure: *Siting a Wind Turbine on Your Property*; designed to encourage the sensitive siting of small wind turbines to protect scenic views.
- Prepared the report, *Wind Energy and Vermont's Scenic Landscape*, for the Vermont Public Service Department summarizing discussions among stakeholders concerning the visual impacts of wind energy. The guidelines are intended for use by the PSB, prospective developers, and by local and regional planning organizations.
- *Open Space Plan Views and Vistas Study* for the City of Montpelier's Conservation Commission. The Study recommended priorities for green space and open space protection.
- Review of numerous projects for aesthetic impacts under Vermont's Land Use Law, Act 250. Examples include Old Stone House Subdivision in South Burlington, a proposed RV park in Sharon, a wind turbine in Middlebury, Pittsford Post Office, a proposed gas station in Hartland, the Sheffield Quarry, and a Bell Atlantic Communications Tower in Sharon.
- "Scenic Resource Evaluation Process": a team project to develop guidelines for Vermont Agency of Natural Resources' review of Act 250 projects.

Professional Consulting: Design and Planning Projects

- Work with the Trust for Public Land to facilitate discussions with stakeholders for the development and conservation of Sabin's Pasture, a 100 acre parcel in Montpelier. Development alternatives illustrated compact neighborhood design of up to 300 mixed use and affordable housing units, recreation paths and storm water retention areas.
- Design of a ceremonial garden the Center for Victims of Violent Crimes to honor those who have been affected by violent crimes. The garden is under construction and is located on State property near the State House in Montpelier.
- Re-Design of City Hall Plaza in Montpelier
- Street Tree Plan for Route 2 in Plainfield, VT
- Design for Martin Bridge Park for the Town of Marshfield; park focus includes trails, parking and handicapped access to a historic covered bridge.
- Currently working with the Town of East Montpelier to enhance the village center in coordination with AOT (pro bono)
- Elm Court Park: a small pocket park developed by the Trust for Public Land and the City of Montpelier. The park demonstrates ecological approaches to design and contains a butterfly garden.
- Turntable Park, Stonecutters Way, Montpelier: design for restoration of an historic turntable, along with accommodation of recreational and theatrical use of a small park.

(Designed in collaboration with the Office of Robert White).

- Design and construction supervision for numerous residential and institutional projects.
- Randolph Family Housing and Templeton Court, landscape design for low-income housing projects in Randolph and White River Junction, VT.
- Plainfield Common, a public riverside park and small formalized parking area in the village center of Plainfield; this project involved extensive public involvement
- Streetscape Master Plan for Chelsea village: village plantings and hardscape improvements for the village center's greens and streets, as well as for several parks and public areas.
- Street tree inventory and plan for the City of Montpelier.
- Conservation and development plans for landholdings in various towns including Hardwick and Calais. Plans provide for the protection of important resources including scenic values, agricultural lands, wetlands, and valuable forestland while identifying appropriate areas for development.

Teaching Experience

- **2000-2007:** Landscape Design courses at Studio Place Arts in Barre.
- **1982 -1997: Lecturer (University of Vermont, School of Natural Resources and Department of Plant and Soil Science)**
I taught a variety of courses depending on the semester and year. Courses included *Park and Recreation Design* (Recreation Management); *Landscape Design Studio*, and *Colloquium in Ecological Landscape Design* (Plant and Soil Science), and *Visual Resource Planning and Management* (Natural Resources graduate level), and *Environmental Aesthetics and Planning* (Natural Resources). I also organized a seminar and lecture series for Shelburne Farms and for Plant and Soil Science focusing on topics in Sustainable and Ecological Landscape Design. I assisted graduate students in Natural Resources Planning and served on several graduate committees.
- **1996: Faculty (Vermont Design Institute)**
Faculty facilitator for a summer workshop on finding patterns in rural landscapes and historic town centers which could be used as a planning and design tool.
- **1995: Lecturer (Norwich University, Department of Architecture)**
Course in Landscape Design, the first to be taught in the school.

Additional Experience

- **1981 - 1982: State Lands Planner (Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation)**
Preparation and Coordination of all land management plans for the Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation; review of plans under Act 250 and Act 248 for aesthetic impacts; provided design services and related expertise to other Agency departments and to municipalities.

- **1978 - 1981: Park Planner (VT. Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation)**
Design of state park facilities including site analysis, working drawings, grading plans, construction details, planting plans, and supervision of construction. Reviewed plans under Act 250 for aesthetic impacts. Instrumental in organizing a new state lands management unit.

PUBLICATIONS AND ILLUSTRATIONS

Environmental Impacts of Wind-Energy Projects, National Research Council of the National Academies, May 2007

Sabin's Pasture: A Vision for Development and Conservation, Central Vermont Community Land Trust, March 2003.

Siting a Wind Turbine on Your Property: Putting Two Good Things Together, Small Wind Technology & Vermont's Scenic Landscape, Public Service Board, December 2002

Wind Energy and Vermont's Scenic Landscape: A Discussion Based on the Woodbury Stakeholder Workshops, Vermont Public Service Department, August 2002.

Scenic Resource Evaluation Process, Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, July 1, 1990. Guidelines to be used by the Agency of Natural Resources in reviewing visual impacts of development projects under Act 250 in areas of regional and statewide scenic significance.

"Impact Assessment of Timber Harvesting Activity in Vermont: Final Report-March 1990": a research project conducted by the University of Vermont on behalf of the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation. My focus was the visual impacts of timber harvesting.

"Landscapes, Scenic Corridors and Visual Resources": a chapter of the 1989 Vermont Recreation Plan which outlines a five year plan for protecting and enhancing scenic resources in Vermont.

"Healing Springs Nature Trail Guide": Guide for a nature trail at Shaftsbury State Park including text, illustrations (I also designed the trail and bridges).

"The View from the Sidewalk": a walking tour emphasizing the interconnections of environment and culture that shaped the cityscape of Raleigh, North Carolina, text and illustrations. Published by the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce.

Illustrations for other books, guides and newsletters.