

DOUG HAYS, FASLA

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS



PERSONAL

Married to Andrea Hays, 50 years, Four Children, Five Grandchildren.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture, Virginia Tech, 1974
University of Salzburg, Austria, Study Abroad Program, 1972

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1994-Present Principal, Michael Vergason Landscape Architects, Ltd., Alexandria, Virginia
1986-1994 Vice President, HOH Associates, Inc., Alexandria, Virginia
1985-1986 Landscape Architect assigned to the White House, NPS, Denver Service Center, Falls Church, Virginia
1983-1986 Project Coordinator for the Reconstruction of the Filene Center, Wolf Trap Farm Park, Vienna, Virginia
1978-1983 Associate, EDAW, Inc., Alexandria, Virginia
1974-1978 Landscape Architect, NPS, National Capital Region, Professional Design Services, Washington, DC
1972-1974 Research Assistant, Center for Environmental Studies, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia

PROFESSIONAL LICENCES

Texas, Registered Landscape Architect #2765
Virginia, Registered Landscape Architect #292
Maryland, Registered Landscape Architect #513
Pennsylvania, Registered Landscape Architect #2784
North Carolina, Emeritus Landscape Architect #1517
South Carolina, Emeritus, Landscape Architect #1344
Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards #1622

TEACHING

2012- 2020 Adjunct Faculty, College of Architecture & Urban Studies, Washington Alexandria Architectural Center (WAAC), Graduate School of Landscape Architecture, Virginia Tech

PUBLIC SERVICE

2001-2012 Member, Memorials Committee, The Church at the Falls, Falls Church, Virginia
1997-1998 Member, White House Task Force, Design Guidelines for the Presidents Park and the White House
1991-1992 Chairman, Utilities Committee, Northern Virginia Community Appearance Alliance
1991-1992 Vice President, Member of the Board, Loudoun Memorial Drive Society

PUBLICATIONS

1985 White House Grounds and Garden Booklet. 1980-1984, White House Foundation
1981 Coles Trip Waterfront Program Feasibility Study. Girl Scout Council of the Nations Capital, EDAW, Inc.
1980 Special Streets Plans Study, Independence and Constitution Avenues. National Capital Planning Commission, Washington, DC
1974 Blacksburg Bicycle Trail Development and Study. Blacksburg Planning Department, Blacksburg, Virginia

LECTURES, PRESENTATIONS & DESIGN JURIES

2018 ASLA, Chapter Awards Jury Member
2007 Design DC, AIA Conference, Normandy American Cemetery Visitor Center
2007 Virginia Tech, Alexandria Campus, Thesis Review Critic
2002 Virginia Tech, College of Architecture, Guest Lecture, Gannett/USA Today Headquarters Project
1992 National Stone Association/American Society of Landscape Architects, Student Design Competition Jury
1992 Virginia Urban Forestry Council Symposium, Utility Alignment Mitigation and Restoration of the NVRPA Scenic Easement, Field Presentation
1986 George Washington University Continuing Education Program, Landscape Program Guest Speaker and Critic

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SELECTED HONORS, AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- 2020 American Society of Landscape Architects, National Honor Award, American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial, Washington, DC
- 2019 American Society of Landscape Architects, National Honor Award. Sundance Square Plaza, Fort Worth, Texas
- 2015 Potomac Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects, President's Award. American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial, Washington, DC
- 2014 Potomac Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects, President's Award. Sundance Square Plaza, Fort Worth, Texas
- 2008 American Society of Landscape Architects, National Honor Award. Gannett/USA Today Headquarters McLean, Virginia
- 2008 Potomac Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects, Award of Merit, Gannett/USA Today Headquarters McLean, Virginia
- 2007 American Institute of Architects, Washington, D.C. Chapter, Award of Excellence. Normandy American Cemetery Visitor Center, with SmithGroup Architects
- 2004 Landscape Contractors Association of Maryland, DC, & Virginia, Excellence in Landscape, Grand Award. Johns Hopkins University Open Space Implementation, Baltimore, Maryland
- 2004 American Institute of Architects National Honor Award. Gannett/USA Today Headquarters, McLean, Virginia, with Kohn Pederson Fox Architects
- 2004 Baltimore Chapter, AIA Design Award, Bronx Zoo Master Plan, New York, NY
- 2003 Inform Magazine Honor Award. Gannett/USA Today Headquarters, Mclean, Virginia
- 2002 Potomac Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects, Merit Award. Johns Hopkins Homewood Campus Master Plan, Baltimore, Maryland
- 2002 American Society of Landscape Architects, Potomac & Maryland Chapters, Honor Award. Gannett/USA Today Headquarters McLean, Virginia
- 1992 Northern Virginia Community Appearance Alliance, Honor Award. NVRPA Scenic Conservation Easement Restoration, Leesburg, Virginia
- 1992 Northern Virginia Community Appearance Alliance, Honor Award. Loudoun Memorial Drive, Loudoun County, Virginia
- 1991 American Society of Landscape Architects, National Merit Award. NVRPA Scenic Conservation Easement Restoration, Leesburg, Virginia
- 1991 American Society of Landscape Architects, Potomac Chapter Merit Award. NVRPA Scenic Conservation Easement Restoration, Leesburg, Virginia
- 1991 Post, Buckley, Schuh & Jernigan, Engineers, Fairfax, Virginia, Project Excellence Award. NVRPA Scenic Conservation Easement Restoration, Leesburg, Virginia
- 1991 American Planning Association, Potomac Chapter Honor Award. Lansdowne, Leesburg, Virginia
- 1991 Northern Virginia Community Appearance Alliance, Merit Award. Meadowlark Gardens Arboretum, Vienna, Virginia
- 1984 National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Quality Performance Award. Filene Center, Wolf Trap Farm Park, Vienna, Virginia
- 1981 Vietnam Veterans Memorial Design Competition, National Award. Third Place Team Member, Washington, D.C.
- 1980 American Society of Landscape Architects, Potomac Chapter, Honor Award. Papal Mass on the Mall, Washington, D.C. with Smith Segretti Architects
- 1979 Archbishop James Aloysius Cardinal Hickey, Archdiocese of Washington, Letter of Recognition. Papal Mass on the Mall, Washington, D.C.
- 1979 Landscape Contractors Association of Metropolitan Washington, Environmental Landscape Merit Award. Boeing Computer Center, Vienna, Virginia
- 1975 President Gerald R. Ford, White House, Personal Letter of Recognition, White House Pool, Washington, D.C.
- 1975 Mr. Manus J. Fish, Director, Letter of Commendation. National Capital Region, National Park Service, Department of the Interior
- 1974 Faculty Award of Merit for Outstanding Design Ability and Graphic Expression. Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia
- 1968 Robert Oeshlin Memorial Award for Drawing and Design Excellence. McLean High School, McLean, Virginia

DOUG HAYS, FASLA

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

The White House Grounds and Gardens, Washington, DC

The White House is more than a home to American Presidents; it is a living memorial and is the recognized symbol of the Presidency and the United States throughout the world. Doug Hays began his professional career with the National Capital Region of the National Park Service, which administers the White House Mansion and Grounds. Doug was instrumental in numerous projects that changed the face of the White House Grounds and Gardens during the Presidential terms of Ford, Carter, Reagan, and Clinton. These timeless improvements to the White House are some of his most rewarding accomplishments, but due to security and the sensitive nature of these projects they have gone publicly unrecognized. Highlights include:

- **Presidential Pool and Bath House, 1975**

The original White House pool was closed during the Kennedy administration to serve as the news briefing room. There was renewed interest in the pool during the Ford Administration in 1974. Gerald Ford was an avid swimmer, and so there was an immediate need to replace it. Locating a new pool large enough to swim laps within the confines of the existing grounds was fraught with design difficulties and challenges. Due to security concerns early concepts explored a sunken or enclosed facility with a retractable skylight, however, these designs were discarded, as they would require the relocation of underground utilities at great expense and time, delaying the president's use of the pool. Doug developed a design of a more traditional pool and bathhouse to fit just south of the West Wing without impacting utilities. This solution required creative landscape solutions to screen the pool from the Executive Office Building and protect existing mature trees. Every first family has enjoyed the use of this pool to this day.

- **White House Grounds and Gardens Booklet, 1978-1985**

President Carter would often visit his daughter Amy's tree house and became keenly interested in the botanical beauty, and history of the White House grounds. He often inquired about the names and scientific nomenclature of the plants, as none of them were labeled. This prompted a series of events that would continue as White House traditions for all future Presidents to enjoy. Working with Irvine Williams, Grounds Superintendent of the White House, Doug assisted in the research and historical documentation of the landscape, which led to the development of a comprehensive booklet of the White House Grounds and Gardens. From these records he also personally labeled all the plant material on the grounds. The booklet developed as part of this research was presented to President Carter as a gift from the White House when he left office. This booklet is updated to document the changes during each administration and is presented as a keepsake to each departing President and First Family.

- **President's Terrace and West Wing Garden, 1987**

In 1987, Doug was asked to assist the White House in the redesign of the President's Terrace and West Wing Gardens. During Reagan's second term the entire portion of the grounds south of the West Wing was removed due to deterioration of the waterproofing over the Situation Room. Doug saw the opportunity to replace the small former terrace by extending the privacy of the Presidential study out into the garden with a sunken courtyard. He quickly developed detailed plans that included a fountain, pergola, and other numerous improvements to the West Wing Terrace. During the next eight months, Doug worked two shifts, often over 18 hours a day, as the White House project had to be performed during the evening hours after the President and his staff had left the West Wing offices, allowing him to continue his daily responsibilities at Wolf Trap. These improvements have provided all succeeding Presidents and their families the opportunity to experience the outdoors in a quiet private garden setting without the need for immediate Secret Service presence.

- **Other Significant Grounds Improvements**

During the Reagan Administration Doug worked on important visitor and security improvements throughout the White House Grounds. These included, Redesign the East Wing Front Entry, Restoration of the Children's Garden, and extensive Perimeter Landscape Security and Screening Improvements in cooperation with the Secret Service Technical Security Division.

The Papal Mass on the National Mall, Washington, DC

Late in 1978, Doug joined the newly formed Washington office of EDAW, Inc. as an Associate. Here Doug became an essential part of the firm due to his expertise in project implementation and these talents were quickly put to the test

DOUG HAYS, FASLA

during the fall of 1979 when Pope John Paul II made his first visit to the United States. The Archdiocese of Washington, DC requested EDAW to provide a landscape design for the altar, which was located directly in front of the Smithsonian Castle, between the Washington Monument and the Capitol. The design was to provide a vantage point from which the greatest number of people could view this celebrated event. Doug designed a semi-circular man-made mound that rose 13 feet above ground, framing the liturgical platform designed by Smith Segretti Architects. In addition to developing the landscape design, Doug secured the material and coordinated the installation of more than 7,000 plants and mums in less than two days with student volunteers from local catholic schools. Utilizing the colors of the Vatican the flowers of yellow and white for the altar landscape produced a striking crisp form for an estimated for congregation of 170,000 that celebrated mass to view during the beautiful autumn morning.

The Filene Center, Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, Vienna, Virginia

Wolf Trap was founded in 1966 by the late Catherine Filene Shouse through a donation of 100 acres of her northern Virginia farmland and funds for construction of a theater. Wolf Trap's Filene Center opened in 1971. The Park and performance center is operated through a partnership and collaboration between the National Park Service and the non-profit Wolf Trap Foundation. In 1982, the Filene Center was destroyed by fire. Congress quickly authorized funds for the Foundation to reconstruct the Center but required the National Park Service to approve and monitor the construction.

Based on his experience working on complex, high-visibility projects, the NPS's Denver Service Center offered Doug the position as Project Coordinator for the Filene Center's reconstruction. The project was fast tracked to reopen for the 1984 summer season. Doug's primary responsibilities were as a liaison between the Foundation, Wolf Trap Park and Denver Service Center, which included working and negotiating with both the Foundation's architects and contractors to meet the requirements of the National Park Service in the development of a state-of-the-art outdoor performance center. Doug also developed the final plans for connecting pedestrian circulation and the landscape of the new center to the existing park infrastructure.

The NVRPA Scenic Conservation Easement Restoration, Leesburg, Virginia

When a major developer was forced to cross a park authority's scenic easement to install a sewer line, a chance arose for landscape architects to play a major role. Doug led a team of landscape architects to palliate the effects of a sewer installation and in so doing also altered attitudes regarding utility easements, whose effect on natural areas is too often overlooked or left to engineers. In 1975, this scenic easement in Loudon County, Virginia, was dedicated to the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority on the condition that it remain undisturbed in perpetuity. Portions of the easement were heavily wooded, enclosing a meadow and a cascading stream and boulder field with a historic stonewall. Two landscape architecture firms from Alexandria, Virginia, worked on the project. HOH Associates represented the developer, and Rhodeside & Harwell, Inc., represented the Park Authority.

Their collaboration produced a consensus and benchmark decision: the county sanitation authority agreed to reduce the construction width of the sewer from their standard 75' width to 35'. Doug led the design teams in documenting the existing conditions of the stream and stone wall with a 10'x10' grid combining the field survey records with photos so that each feature could be documented and replaced as accurately as possible after installation of the sewer line. Great care was also taken to protect existing trees during construction. As a result of this effort three primary principles proved crucial to the project's success: Keep construction and easement widths to a minimum, no larger than 35'; Eliminate straight utility swaths keeping them less than 1000' in length by following topography and natural features; and keep openings in and out of woodland areas as narrow as possible.

Gannett/USA Today Headquarters, McLean, Virginia

The Gannett / USA Today Headquarters is a corporate campus located at the confluence of the 270-acre Jones Branch watershed. From planning through final design, the project demonstrates principles of sustainability and responsible stewardship. Doug worked hard to adjust the preferred siting of the building complex from the healthy wooded hilltop to the fill/meadow site below. This shift altered the design strategies for the entire design process. This new siting preserved the hilltop as an ecological and recreational amenity and resulted in a much more temporal landscape. In addition, the project's two-acres of green roofs and garden terraces over structure show creative detailing for energy efficiency and environmental design. Angled stonewalls terrace topography and direct rainwater through riparian step pools connecting to the forebay and regional stormwater management pond. The walls are constructed with the same stone as the building base, visually linking them to the landscape. The entire design shows an integrated collaboration with the architects, KPF, resulting in an approach and solution that weaves the site structure, plantings, and the architecture together in a multi-disciplinary whole.

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The Johns Hopkins University, Homewood Campus, Open Space Master Plan Implementation, Baltimore, Maryland

MVLA was the lead designer of a comprehensive team that transformed the 25-acre campus core in less than 9 months. The primary effort required reinterpreting the place and envisioning what might have been if the ground plane had been designed and built at the same time as the campus buildings. The work involved the removal of several streets and the creation of new drives, courts, quads, and walks. It also included the addition of new lighting, furniture, piers, walls, gates, plantings, and gardens. The landscape improvements and selection of materials are consistently compatible with the character of the buildings resulting in a seamless coherence, that make it appear as if the architecture and landscape were completed as a unified composition.

The Normandy Visitor Center, American Cemetery at Omaha Beach, Colleville-sur-Mer, France

For most visitors, a visit to the American Cemetery at Omaha Beach is an important exposure the historic events that took place in Normandy during WWII. Situated above Omaha Beach, a place where the American military suffered staggering casualties on D-Day, the American Cemetery contains the remains of nearly 10,000 servicemen who died during the Normandy campaign. As a result of renewed interest in the sacrifices of the American military during the Iraq war, Congress authorized funds for a new visitor center. Doug worked with SmithGroup Architects for the American Battlefield Monuments Commission to sensitively locate the Normandy Visitor Center along the northeastern corner of the Cemetery. This siting exposed visitors to the setting, scale, and breath of the initial D-Day assault and subsequent Normandy battles without intruding on the existing cemetery experience.

The siting offered sweeping panoramic views of English Channel, the magnificent seaside cliffs of the Normandy landscape as well as an interpretive setting for greater understanding of the historical events of the Normandy engagement, from land, sea, and air. This location provided an opportunity to experience the French 'Bocage' landscape, capturing the hedgerow setting of the intense Normandy fighting that claimed as many as 29,000 American lives, and an opportunity to experience the dramatic contrasts between the coarse indigenous landscape of Normandy and the lush pastoral beauty of the Cemetery grounds. At the conclusion of a visit, the Sacrifice Gallery of the Visitor Center provides context and emotional connections to the stories of the men interred in the cemetery. The project also used numerous sustainable elements such as indigenous materials, porous pavements, turf overflow parking, and rain gardens as part of the ABMC's efforts to meet the stringent local environmental requirements of the French Littoral.

American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial: 'Fire in the Grove', Washington, D C

This Memorial honors past, present, and future American veterans disabled for life. It expresses our Nation's gratitude, serves as an eternal reminder of the human cost of conflict, and gives the American people a chance to say thank you to disabled veterans for their remarkable contributions to liberty and freedom. Fittingly, the Memorial is located adjacent to the National Mall in view of the Capitol dome.

Disabled veterans are commemorated by a Memorial composed of a central fire amidst a grove of trees, with a reflecting pool, framed by marble and glass walls. The Fire is the Memorial's physical and symbolic centerpiece signifying a central gathering place for family, community, and comrades, while embodying the elemental forces of injury, loss, and renewal. Visible and memorable, the fire is both permanent and dynamic. Surrounded by a basin of water, the flame that rises from the water is intended to be a reminder of the hope that springs from perseverance in the face of adversity. As a hallowed place amid the bustle of the Nation's Capital, a grove of trees stands sentry-like both along and encompassing the pool, framing, and reflecting the views of the Capitol.

The Capitol is framed by glass and marble walls, which represent the strength and fragility of the human spirit. Combined, these elements create a unique and respectful setting to reflect upon and commemorate the great sacrifices of our disabled veterans of yesterday, today, and tomorrow. MVLA was selected as winner of the Memorial Design Competition, teaming up with Larry Kirkland Artist and Cloud Gehshan Environmental Designers and Shalom Baranes as the Architect of Record. Doug has served as Principal and Design Manager for project and has helped shepherd it through the various approval agencies such as the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capitol Planning Commission, the Architect of the Capitol, and the National Park Service. The Memorial was completed and dedicated by President Obama, in 2014.

The Smithsonian Institution, National Zoological Park, Washington, DC and Center for Biological Institute, Front Royal, Virginia

Over a span of almost 15 years, MVLA was a key member of Ayers Saint Gross Architects multidisciplinary team of consultants. Doug has served as the Principal Landscape Architect of numerous studies, plans and projects for the Smithsonian Institution,

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National Zoological Park, and their Biological Institute in Front Royal, Virginia. Highlights of this work encompasses all scales and complexity of design and planning, that included the Master Plans for both the Air & Space Museum, Washington, DC and the Edvar Hazy Air & Space Museum, Fairfax County VA; The National Zoo Comprehensive Facilities Master Plan in 2008; Smithsonian Center for Biological Institute (SCBI) formerly known as the Center for Conservation Studies, (CRC) Master Plan, 2006; SCBI Educational Center, 2012; SCBI Center for Species Survival, Phase I & II, 2016; NZP, NZP Visitor Access and Security Fencing Planning 2018; NZP Perimeter Security Fencing, Implementation Project, Multiple Phases, 2018-2019.

Sundance Square Plaza, Fort Worth, Texas

MVLA was the Landscape Architectural Design firm heading a large multidisciplinary team of consultants for the development of Sundance Square in Fort Worth, Texas. MVLA's design transformed a central downtown surface parking lot into a bustling plaza, full of activities that welcomes thousands of visitors to the heart of Fort Worth each year.

Doug supervised the development of the technically complex set of Construction Documents, that included paving, three fountains, performance stages, walls, furnishings, lighting, and plantings. The project's iconic retractable shade umbrellas are the first to be deployed in the United States and serve as a daily retreat from the hot Texas sun. Its interactive fountains and giant architectural shade umbrellas provide opportunities to play and relax complementing a rich community program that revels in everything from daily exercise to festive, annual celebrations. The former parking lot is now a rich tableau where water, sound, and light form the backdrop for public life.

The Falls Church Anglican, Falls Church, Virginia

The Falls Church is one of the most important historic structures in all Northern Virginia. Established in 1732 by an act of the General Assembly, 'the Church on the road to the falls', as it became to be known, was the seat of the newly formed Truro Parish, which later became Fairfax County. During his brief tenure as a member of the vestry, George Washington recommended commissioning a new brick church. The building was designed in the 'Colonial style' and was constructed in 1768, directly north of the original wood structure. Since that time, The Falls Church has hosted many significant people and events in the developmental history of the region and nation.

Doug's work at the Falls Church began in 1996 with a Master Plan. Since that time, Doug has embraced his role in the stewardship of this historic landscape and has provided on-going assistance to the Church Vestry on numerous projects to improve the grounds and sensitively expand support facilities for a rapidly growing congregation. The improvements focused on circulation and ADA access, church and school programmatic needs, landscape maintenance, historic Cemetery preservation, through mapping and documentation of the graves, and implementation of a signage and plaque system sensitive to the historic setting and character of the Church. These efforts were phased over past 20 years for all visitors and parishioners to enjoy.

The Museum of the Bible, Washington, DC.

MVLA teamed up with SmithGroup and artist, Larry Kirkland, for the conversion of the Historic Brick warehouse and distribution center located at the corner of 4th & D Street SW. Prior to this renovation the building served as the Design Center housing numerous firms, companies, and product representatives for the mid-Atlantic Region. MVLA's role was to support the design team in meeting the stringent new DC-DOEE Stormwater and GAR Compliance guidelines. Doug's design and construction work focused on bio-remediation planters as part of the streetscape surrounding the base of the building, an extensive vegetative roof, and a Biblical Garden as part of the interpretive experience of the Museum.

OTHER CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- The International Spy Museum, Washington, DC
- The Wharf Recreation Pier, Washington, DC
- St. Johns Episcopal Church, Woodland Chapel & Columbarium. McLean, Virginia
- Health Sciences Laboratory and Campus, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia
- Penn State University, Bio-Behavioral Health Building & HUB Quad Revitalization, State College, PA
- Mercersburg Academy Central Quad and Memorial, Mercersburg, Pennsylvania
- Skyland, PUD Redevelopment, Anacostia, DC
- The Bronx Zoo Master Plan, Brooklyn, New York

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