

Kim Sorvig

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EDUCATION

Master of Landscape Architecture - University of Pennsylvania: 1986

Kew Diploma in Horticulture - Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England: 1982
3-year Master's-level course: horticulture, botany, plant ecology, & botanic gardens mgmt.

Japanese Gardening Apprenticeship - Mishima, Japan: 1975-76
At Ryu-taku-ji, a traditional Zen temple near Mt. Fuji.

B.A., Humanities and Social Sciences - Colorado State University: 1975

REGISTRATION & MEMBERSHIP

Registered Landscape Architect, NM: 1994

Uniform National Exam & PA Registration: 1990

International Association of Landscape Ecologists: since 1986

RECENT AWARDS & GRANTS

JB Jackson Endowment, 1999 research grant, "Relocating History" (living history museums).

Graham Foundation for Advanced Study in the Arts, 1998 research grant support for
Sustainable Landscape Construction: A Guide to Green Building Outdoors

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Asst. Professor, Architecture & Planning, University of New Mexico - 1996 to present;
primary focus on research & publication; teaching on adjunct basis

Asst. Professor, Architecture & Planning, University of New Mexico - 1992 to 1996
With responsibility for studio, seminar, and lecture teaching in Landscape Architecture, Urban Design,
Interpretive Design, and Appropriate Ecological Technology. Course titles on request.

Contributing Editor, *Landscape Architecture Magazine* - 1992 to present

Consulting Environmental Designer - 1980 to present

Specializing in the *sustainable design of meaningful, interpretive, and historic landscapes*.

- National Parks System Advisory Board (chartered by US Congress); invited to join Sub-Committee on Sustainability & Environmental Leadership, July, 2001
- Reviewer, 1000 Friends of NM Project Endorsement Program (on-going)
- Consultant, Green Building Advisor software revision, Florida workshop Jan 2000
- Consultant, US Green Building Council's LEED voluntary standards, 1999
- Santa Fe Botanic Garden; conceptual interpretive master plan 2000
- Historic Santa Fe Foundation; invited to prepare historic/cultural landscape inventory for 5 HSFF properties, in preparation for nomination to National Register (pending)
- Rio Grande Botanical Gardens Asian Gardens, interp/conceptual design, Albuquerque
- Las Aves Wildlife Rescue Facility, Espanola NM, master plan (pro bono)
- Barnes Arboretum restoration, Philadelphia
- Hammond Museum & Japanese Garden Restoration, New York / Interp Master Plan
- Meditation Garden for London Zen Society
- Consultant to I.L. McHarg & NYC Parks Dept vegetation inventory of Riverdale Park
- Consultant, Mayor's Advisory Committee on Parks and Recreation Policy, Philadelphia.

Senior Project Designer - Synterra Ltd., Philadelphia, PA: 1986 to 1991

Duties: landscape planning, interpretation, design, & construction inspection; client, community, & agency liaison; Landscape Architectural staff supervision (2-5 full-time + 3-6 part-time); preparation of proposals, RFQ's, contracts, specifications; CAD system development, programming, & management; staff training. [Project listings on following page.](#)

Selected list of Synterra Projects Managed by KS:

- *Roxbury Heritage State Park, Boston, MA*: "Historic renewal" park in Boston, part of Massachusetts' very successful Heritage State Park program. Sorvig's landscape-history concept was highly praised by community activists, state representatives, archaeologists. AIA Citation for Excellence in Urban Design.
- *Vine Street Expressway, Philadelphia, PA*: landscape design, community interaction, & construction observation on "the most complex urban highway project ever undertaken by PaDOT." (*Phila Inquirer, Wall St Jnl* on req.)
- *St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, Philadelphia, PA*: site design; staff/family plaza.
- *U.S. Embassy, San Salvador*: plant-selection and prelim design consultant, 3DI, Houston.
- *Montgomery County (MD) Dept. of Transp*: On retainer for design, community interaction, and policy dev'mt.
- *The "Blue Route", Philadelphia, PA*: supervision, troubleshooting, and 'addendum' designs for major, controversial project, including wetlands re-creation & streambank revegetation.
- *Piers 9 and 11, Philadelphia, PA*: Landuse history/design consultant to Radnor Corp. and Alesker Rieff Dundon, Architects; for adaptive re-use, historic Delaware River waterfront.

Related work experience: landscape construction/maintenance supervisor, tree surgeon, greenhouse tech.

Selected PUBLICATIONS

Over 55 books, chapters, & articles in national publications. Titles relevant to interpretive design include:

- "**Nature/Culture/Words/Landscapes**" Linguistic history of terms "nature" & "culture." *Landscape Jnl*, (in press)
- "**Inner-City Nature**" Los Angeles park challenges stereotypes about nature and the poor. *Landscape Arch*, (in press)
- "**A Different Nature: The Paradoxical World of Zoos**" book review, *Landscape Architecture*, September 2001
- "**Landscape & Sustainability**" book review, *Landscape Architecture*, August 2001
- "**Renewing Zion**" National Park & gateway community reinterpret "sustainable." *Landscape Arch*, Nov 2001
- "**Restoring Nature: Perspectives from the Social Sciences**" book review. *Landscape Architecture*, July 2001
- Sustainable Landscape Construction: A Guide to Green Building Outdoors***
Island Press, August 2000. Co-author William Thompson. University text in US and 7 other countries.
- "**Sustainability Disdained**" AZ sustainable design standards rejected by public. *Landscape Arch*, Sept 2001
- "**Desert Meets Desert**" and "**Cultured Nature**" Zoo design, Phoenix & Portland. *Landscape Arch*, May, July 2000
- "**Santa Fe Fake: Reconsidering the Meaning of Vernacular-based Architecture**" Proceedings, American Collegiate Schools of Architecture SW Region conference, 1997
- "**The Magical Realist Landscape**" 1991, Univ. of Minnesota School of Architecture (invited paper, presented at *The Avant-garde & The Landscape* conference, 1989 and published in proceedings)
- To Heal Kent State*** 1990, Worldview Press, Philadelphia. Based on design journals from memorial competition. Design process as a response to tragedy and controversy. Favorably reviewed by *Small Press Book Review*, *West Coast Review of Books*, etc, and selected for inclusion in the ASLA's "L.A. Book Review."
- Sustainable Building Technical Manual, Chapter 7, "Site Materials & Equipment"*** Public Technology Inc, US Green Building Council, and US Dept. of Energy 1996
- "**Habitat for Botany**" *Landscape Architecture*, Jan. 1994 (Review of Albuquerque's new interpretive "Bio-Park")
- "**Approaching St. Anthony Falls**" 1990, Report/proposal to Minnesota Historical Society.
- "**Landscape as History in Roxbury**" 1989, Illustrated report to Massachusetts Dept. of Envir. Mgmt.
- "**How Landscape Shaped Girard Piers' History**" 1988, Research for Radnor Corp., Philadelphia, PA.
- "**Born-again Flamingos on Prime Time**" Oct. 8, 1986, Philadelphia. 'After Dark.' Art criticism, Phila weekly.
- Land-use Suitability Analysis on the Intergraph Computer***. 1985, Training manual, U. Penn Dept L.A..
- "**Zen Gardens**," 1985, in *Brooklyn Botanic Gardens Handbook of Japanese Gardening*.

Technical columns have covered stormwater/waste-treatment wetlands; greenwalls; traditional path surfacings; outdoor interpretive signage systems; fiberoptic & low-voltage lighting; solar power for landscape use; adobe & earth-building in historic and modern landscapes; GPS (global positioning); etc.

Selected PROFESSIONAL & PUBLIC SEMINARS and LECTURES

- "**Relocating History: The Landscapes of Living History Museums**" UNM, date pending, 2002
- "**Meaning, Beauty & Sustainability in the Built Environment**" **First Annual SmithGroup/JRR Lecture**
by invitation, Univ. Illinois, Nov. 2001
- "**Sustainable Landscape Construction for Public Lands Managers**" Invited presentation, US Dept. of Interior Environment Conference, May 2001; repeat invitation, DOI conference April 2002
- "**Landscapes and Linguistics: If design really were a language**" Keynote address for *March 1995* conference
"The Language of Landscape Architecture" Lincoln University, Christchurch, New Zealand.
- "**Sentido y Lugar: Interpretacion de Paisajes**" April 1994, and 2nd invitation May 1998. Univ. de Guadalajara, Mexico, Facultad de Arquitectura. Condensed 3-week Spanish version of UNM seminar *Meaning & Place*.
- "**Zen Mind in the Garden**" November 1990, Invited keynote speaker for "The Japanese Garden in America" 3-day seminar, Boston, NYC, and Washington, D.C.; sponsored by NY Botanic Gardens.