

## Landscape Architecture and the Law

### Understanding the Practice of Landscape Architecture

In New York State, a landscape architect is a qualified professional who has been awarded a license and who, in order to render or offer to render services, holds registration which must be renewed every three years. Like architects and engineers, landscape architects are licensed by the State to protect public health, safety, and welfare.

The practice of Landscape Architecture is defined as the performance of services in connection with:

- The development of land areas including the preservation, enhancement or determination of proper land uses, natural land features, ground cover and planting; and
- Naturalistic and aesthetic values; and
- The settings, approaches or environment for structures or other improvements; and
- Natural drainage; and
- The consideration and determination of inherent problems of the land relating to the erosion, wear and tear, blight or other hazards; and
- The practice includes the location and arrangement of such tangible objects and features as are incidental and necessary to the purposes outlined in the law (not to include the design of structures or facilities with separate and self contained purposes as are included in the practice of engineering or architecture).

Landscape Architects sign and seal site plans, grading plans, landscape planting plans, details, and irrigation plans and details. Landscape architects are responsible for the implementation as well as understanding of all outdoor architecture and their relationship with the local surrounding and natural systems.

Services provided by any gardener, nurseryman, landscape designer, horticulturist, arborist, forester, tree expert, or landscape contractor shall not be described as "Landscape Architecture" unless the individual is licensed and registered to practice as a Landscape Architect in New York State.

A golf course architect must be licensed as a Landscape Architect to practice in New York State.

Landscape Architects, like Architects and Engineers, must complete 12 hours of continuing education each year in order to renew their license every three years and remain in good standing.

### The Practice of Landscape Architecture & Use of The Title "Landscape Architect"

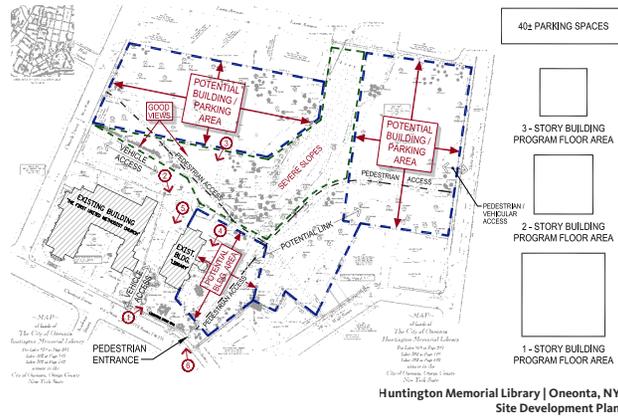
Title VIII of the New York State Education Law addresses the professions and under Article 148, Section 7322, protects the practice of Landscape Architecture, and requires that only licensed, registered Landscape Architects may render or offer to render landscape architectural services.

New York State law also protects the use of the title "Landscape Architect" and prohibits anyone who is not a licensed Landscape Architect from using this title in any way (Article 148, Section 7322).

### Reporting Professional Misconduct or Illegal Practice

You may verify the licensure/registration of a landscape architect by calling the State Education Department (518) 474-3817. If you suspect illegal practice by a non licensed individual or business, you may call (1-800) 442-8106 or (212) 951-6400 to report illegal practice or professional misconduct

A public service announcement from the New York State Council of Landscape Architects  
**NYSCLA**  
50 State Street, 5th Floor, Albany, New York 12207 (518) 465-5176  
<http://www.nyscla.org>



Huntington Memorial Library | Oneonta, NY  
Site Development Plan



Glenwood Hills | Morganton, NC  
Site Development Plan



Easton Town Center | Columbus, OH

## Landscape Architecture and the Law

### Understanding the Practice of Landscape Architecture



Ulster County Dept. of the Environment Raingarden | Kingston, NY



Access Ramp at the River Campus - University of Rochester



Stream Restoration

Also refer to New York State Education Department (NYSED) to find your  
Local licensed Landscape Architects  
<http://www.op.nysed.gov/opsearches.htm>



**Expertise**

Landscape Architects Offer Expertise in a Variety of Subject Areas including:

**Sustainable Design**

**Site Development Planning**

**Land Use Analysis**

**Erosion Control**

**Grading and Drainage**

**Site Accessibility + Circulation**

**Environmental Impact Statements**

**Stormwater Management + Pollution Prevention Plan**

**Green Infrastructure**

**Site Security + Safety**

**Vegetative Manage**

**Wetlands Protection + Enhancement**

**Low Impact Development**

**Land + Campus Planning**

**Athletic Complexes**

**Irrigation Design**



Battery Bosque | New York, NY



Lion's Court - Columbia University | New York, NY



Gateway Shopping Center - Wetland Mitigation | Brooklyn, NY



Lincoln Center | New York, NY



Van Slooten Realty | Port Henry, NY



685 3rd Ave. Vest Pocket Park | New York, NY

