

CRAIG OKERSTROM-LANG, RLA, ASLA

President, Okerstrom Lang, Ltd, a full service design office providing Landscape Architecture & Planning services throughout the northeast since 1990.

MAJOR PROJECTS DESIGNED & BUILT OR UNDER CONSTRUCTION

1990 – 2016

1992 Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival & School, Becket, MA: \$275,000 site improvements to campus. Craig Okerstrom-Lang completed all local services associated with bid & award, construction services, permitting, all coordination, site detailing for plans developed by Sasaki Associates (who also completed the Master Plan).

1992-93 Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA, Becket, MA: \$11 million capital campaign initiated from the master plan developed by Okerstrom Lang. Craig Okerstrom-Lang directed a planning team including Schmidt Copeland Parker Stevens, Camp Planners & Architects, Cleveland, Ohio to complete a comprehensive master plan for the 1,100 acre camp (Est. 1896 this YMCA camp provides year-round camp activities for boys & girls in the tri-state region).

1993-2000 Lee Historic Downtown Improvements, Lee, MA: \$1.8 million urban design improvements designed by Okerstrom Lang. Projects include the streetscape face-lift of the Lee Historic District, Phase II streetscape improvements; Lee River Park & Concert Pavilion; Jim Burt Veteran's Memorial; & Lee Town Park Renovation located in the historic district. Received Merit Award in Urban Design from the Boston Society of Landscape Architects in 1996.

1996-98 Burbank Park on Onota Lake: \$1.1 million master plan & restoration of 220 acre park. Craig Okerstrom-Lang directed all efforts to complete a comprehensive site history & master plan for this family-oriented park established in 1888. The park was open to the public in July 1998.

1996-1997 Stockbridge Town Center, Stockbridge, MA: \$600,000. This moved rapidly from start to finish. Okerstrom Lang was retained by the Town of Stockbridge in August 1996 to develop a renovation plan for the Town's Center which is a major tourist destination in Berkshire County. At a series of public hearings, OL presented design approaches in which consensus was reached with the Town residents. The biggest concerns were improvements that fit with the character of Stockbridge, safe, historically appropriate pavements for walkways & increased parking were met. The construction drawings were completed in winter 1997 and the Town Center opened to the public in summer 1997.

2000-2002 Bald Mountain Reserve, Austerlitz, NY: Master Plan designed for 1,200 acre new residential community of seven home sites within 20 minutes of Great Barrington and Lenox. Lots range in price from \$850,000 - \$1.2 million. The land has its own mountains, streams, road network, strict design guidelines for new homes and landscaping with only nine new lots hidden amongst the "site". Our firm developed design guidelines for various elements on the site including horse and hiking trails, vista structures, stone gate houses, gated entrances, etc.

1999-2001 Berkshire Museum Robert A. Wells Entrance Garden, Pittsfield, MA: \$275,000 rehabilitation of the Museum's front entrance plaza. Our design for the ¼ acre plaza created a formal, sloped & heated granite entry leading to the Berkshire Museum Est. 1903. The signature of the Museum is "Wally" a full-size sculpture of a stegosaurus, who is now located in his own plaza with wood and boulder benches for school groups to gather. The entire landscaping is composed of native trees, shrubs, and perennials found in the Berkshires. Grand opening spring 2001. Received Merit Award for Accessible Design in Public Architecture from Mass Architectural Access Board in 2002.

1998-2000 Amelia Park and Amelia's Garden, Westfield, MA: \$6,000,000 Amelia Park Campus which houses state-of-the art indoor and outdoor hockey rinks. The Campus includes the Westfield Boys & Girls Club (circa 1990), and Amelia's Garden a \$1,200,000 private memorial garden, which is the center piece of the campus. This campus is in walking distance of many neighborhoods and has proved to be a wonderful place for special events and weddings.

1998-2003 Streetscape & Urban Design Projects, City of North Adams, MA: \$3,500,000 total spent on streetscape projects which have transformed the City. Okerstrom Lang completed the streetscape design with Tighe & Bond Consulting Engineers (prime consultant to City). Working closely with Town Officials including Mayor John Barrett III and Rich Beatty, Downtown Manager, the restoration and revitalization of the town occurred in many phases over a five-year period.

North Adams projects from 1998-2003 included (5 projects by OL with Tighe & Bond)

Central City Infrastructure Improvements Phase II (new streetscape and lighting system); Central City Infrastructure Improvements Phase III (new streetscape and lighting system; pedestrian linkages to MassMoCA; new traffic signals, etc); Central City Infrastructure Improvements Phase IV (Route 2 conversion to boulevard with large historic street lamps; Center Street public parking lot expansion to 225 spaces and ticket system; new Veterans Memorial Park); New River Park across from The Porches Inn (proposed).

These projects have resulted in a unified streetscape throughout North Adams downtown area including Main Street. It is now very easy to stop, park and shop in the downtown area. New signage by Rich Kraham leads one through the City. North Adams and Mass MoCA have received has received state, national and international recognition for their downtown.

2001-2003 Armory Court, Adams, MA: \$550,000 Streetscape design for total renovation of alleyway link to the Ashuwilliticook Rail Trail and Park Street ("Main Street"). The innovative streetscape design by Okerstrom Lang began as schematic sketches that became reality very quickly. The design includes extensive decorative pavers, metal railings, custom designed lights in bicycle motif; kiosk, portal entry way; construction documents & construction services. The project involved extensive underground utility work including routing the overhead wires underground, new electrical service feeds to the three abutting commercial properties, and a new storm drainage system.

2001-2004 Colle Parking & 2nd Street Alleyway, Turners Falls, MA: \$500,000 Streetscape design which is revitalizing a former rundown neighborhood into new offices in a restored former opera house adjacent to the Shea Theater. Public amenities include demolition of abandoned buildings, new public parking lot, renovation of existing parking lot with new streetscape (lighting, flowering trees, metal railings).

2003-2005 Renfrew Park Master Plan, Adams, MA: \$1,200,000 master plan budget for Renfrew Park was developed in collaboration with local Working Committee made up of representatives from local youth sports organizations and Adams Community Development. Craig Okerstrom-Lang crafted a workable Master Plan that meets the needs of the community. Working on a tight budget, the Phase I Construction Plans were successfully bid out for \$250,000. Phase I includes a 70-car public parking lot, expansion of the skate park and new basketball court which was constructed in summer 2004. Phase II of improvements at Renfrew Park will include a new baseball / football field complex meeting MIAA standards and concession & rest room building. Okerstrom Lang developed a promotional brochure for Renfrew Park in which the "Friends of Renfrew Field" are using for marketing and fund raising efforts

2003 - Current East Road, Alford, MA: This second home is located in a small town in southern Berkshire County in Massachusetts. The house is along a quiet country road winding through the Alford Valley and amongst old New England farms and homes. A master plan was created for 30% of the 22 acre property due to wetlands restrictions. Their wish was to provide a series of outdoor rooms in which flowed from the house and down the sloping hillside. They asked that the swimming pool be at a lower level so as not to interfere with the year-round views from the house. Other requests were for an outdoor shower with changing room; locate a pool barn with a small bathroom and kitchenette to service the pool and provide a large terrace area off the pool with a pergola shade structure. Our clients, along with their two college age sons, had never had a true garden of their own and asked Craig to design and build the "garden of our dreams" but do it as quickly as you can! After a series of concept sketches, a theme evolved using crisp-architectural stone retaining walls to handle the 12' grade elevation change from the house to the pool terrace. This design scheme required raising the overall grade with over 4,000 cubic yards of compacted fill material. Highlights of the overall design include a series of "outdoor rooms" for their use including a shower / changing Cabana, sun terrace, living room terrace, screen porch, pergola at the pool and pool house. This property continues to be the family Berkshire retreat, now for married sons and grandchildren to visit.

2007-2009 Berkshire Theatre Festival, Stockbridge, MA: \$1,000,000 master plan budget for renovations and upgrades to the grounds and campus of this 81 year old summer stock theater on 9 acres. Working with the Executive Committee and Artistic Director various improvements which update and upgrade the patrons' amenities and infrastructure will be built in phases. A 100 year level stormwater system will be installed utilizing various levels of natural drainage systems. From rain gardens swales to bio swales to a water quality swale surrounded by native plantings will reduce the runoff to abutting wetlands. Amenities include a converting an internal road to an all-pedestrian LINK for patrons to walk between the two venues. LED lighting, benches, plantings, accessible walkways, signage and banners will enliven the campus. The Master Plan was awarded a Boston Society of Landscape Architects Planning & Analysis award in 2008.

2008-2010 Lake Mansfield Recreation Area Master Plan, Great Barrington, MA: Master Plan for future improvements to this Town Park and Conservation Forest along the shoreline of Lake Mansfield. A master plan was created and adopted by the Town in 1993-94. Working with the newly formed LMITF, Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force as a Design Advisor, the master plan was updated and illustrates future projects will include shifting of town-owned road 250-300 feet away from the lake edge allowing for an expansion of the Park along the lake, play lawn, kayak launch, public parking utilizing porous paving, natural drainage systems incorporating bio swales and rain gardens. An alternative to repaving a deteriorating road that is built right on the lake edge is to convert the road to one-way traffic. The lakeside lane would be converted to a pedestrian and bike trail with a natural stabilized lake edge. This project is awaiting funding from public and state grants.

2009-2014 Iredale Minerals Corp Master Plan, Great Barrington, MA: Master Plan for the second largest employer in the town who manufacture, market and distribute cosmetic products. Their world headquarters is located along a former residential and industrial neighborhood in which they have purchased and renovated six various buildings to suit their needs. A future property will be the former Bryant elementary school, circa 1895, which will be converted to offices in 2010-11. This future office building is an anchor to the development of the former school buildings by Canus Corporation called "River School" into a mixed use district. The master plan illustrates how these diverse properties will be integrated with streetscape improvements, landscaping, gardens, signage, employee parking, future underground utility connections, etc. OL Ltd completed construction documents for the lighting and landscaping which were installed in 2014 per Gold LEED standards. Iredale moved into their new building in December 2014.

2010 - Current Richmond Farm, Richmond, MA: Master Plan for renovation of late 1800's farm house and dairy property set on a sloping 16 acre property. Our design was implemented in various phases with the main house elliptical drop off and gardens completed first. Lush, summer blooming gardens embrace the house and surround a large outdoor dining area. Old granite street curbs were used for edging along with recycled large marble slabs for entry pads to various doors. A 6,000 SF native plant mitigation area was planted to offset work completed within the River Zone. A second phase of projects were designed and built for the pool house and swimming pool. Carefully sited at the top of soft hillside the pool is not visible from the main house yet the pool house, designed by Green River Design, is slightly visible and has the look of a garden shed. The slope between the pool and the main house lawn is a carefully planned "riot of color" of perennial masses. Plants were selected for their primary color palette and growth height not to exceed 24". Central stone garden steps installed in an "Asian Criss-Cross" pattern over the 5' grade change. Low perennial masses will be planted in manner that tumbles and buries all but 3' in width of the center of the 8' long stone steps. Plants selected for their pastel colors and low growth habits.

2012-current Linden Brook Farm, Great Barrington, MA: Master Plan for a 19.60 acre former farm property set on a rural rolling field site with perimeter streams. Working closely with the owners, David Lanoue, Builder and Jack Sobon, Architect the site is being transformed into a period 1820's farmstead. New structures are hand-hewed timber frames and include a 4,000 SF two bay barn and caretaker's apartment, 900 SF pool house with curved timber roof, brick utility out building and the 7,000 SF main house. All structures are carefully sited per the master plan and MA DEP / Conservation Commission permits within buffer zones of wetlands and intermittent streams. Extensive new landscaping is being installed as site work is completed including trees ranging in size from 18' to 45' tall for immediate effect.

2013 - 2015-Adams Station, MA: OL Ltd has assisted the Town of Adams since 2002 on a variety of design projects. The latest is quite unique in the entire State of Massachusetts: the first ever combined bike and rail trail which will connect Adams and North Adams along a 5.2 mile route. The \$5.5 million bike and rail trail has been designed by MA DOT Region 1. Situated across the street from the Adams Visitor Center, this former car wash is being converted to the new Adams Station which will be the southern stop for the Berkshire Scenic Railroad which is moving permanently to this location from Lenoxdale, MA. The new rail line will also service commercial businesses along its route including Specialty Minerals. A new railroad themed plaza will greet visitors to this train stop. Signage, benches, bike racks, signage, ET all will have a railroad theme. This project received a MA PARC grant in late 2013 for Phase I, \$475,000, which includes land acquisition, design and construction of the plaza and building improvements. The park was completed in spring 2015.

CRAIG OKERSTROM-LANG, RLA, ASLA

EXPERIENCE

1990 - 2016

Okerstrom Lang Ltd Landscape Architects has completed over 450 master plans and garden design projects for private homes. Streetscape and park designs for 50% of the towns in Berkshire County.

1984 - 1990

Director of Construction, Battery Park City Authority
Meyer S. Frucher, President (currently Chairman Philadelphia Stock Exchange)
New York, New York

Major projects designed & built during tenure:

- Phase II Esplanade, \$6 million on 1/8 mile park on the Hudson River
- Liberty Weekend Celebration (1986) for 30,000 people
- South Cove & Esplanade, \$11 million on 3 acre site
- Rector Park, \$2.5 million on 1.5 acre site
- World Financial Center Plaza, \$15 million on 5 acre site
- North Park, \$28 million on 8 acre site on the Hudson River
- Permanent Public Art installations throughout the park system and esplanade including the artists:
 - Siah Armajani / M. Scott Burden, *World Financial Center Plaza*
 - Richard Artschwager, *Sitting Stance*
 - Creative Time, *Art on the Beach (temporary installations)*
 - R.M. Fischer, *Rector Gate*
 - Mary Miss, *South Cove*
 - Tom Otterness, *The Real World*
 - Demetri Porphyrios, *The Pavilion*
 - Ned Smyth, *The Upper Room*

1983 - 1984

Associate
Mark K Morrison & Associates
New York, New York
Associate & Senior Designer responsible for the firm's master planning & design projects, both domestic & in South Africa.

1981 - 1983

Senior Landscape Architect
HLW Haines Lundberg & Waehler, Architects & Engineers
New York, New York
Senior Landscape Architect assigned to a wide variety of projects both domestic & overseas. Focus on research & development facilities for the pharmaceutical industry & urban design projects.

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EXPERIENCE (CON'T)

1978 - 1981

Designer / Landscape Architect

Johnson Johnson & Roy Inc

Landscape Architects & Planners

Division of the SMITH GROUP

Ann Arbor, MI

Junior Designer, then RLA, with the largest landscape architectural firm in the Midwest. Full range of projects from urban design, campus planning, corporate design, international projects.

EDUCATION

1975 Graduated, Northwestern Michigan College, Associate of Arts (Biology & Fine Arts)

1978 Graduated Michigan State University, Bachelor of Landscape Architecture with honors, inducted into Sigma Lambda Alpha

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Great Barrington first Town Manager Selection Committee 1993-94

Great Barrington Design Advisory Committee for Downtown Business District, Chairman, 1991 – 2012

Great Barrington Parks Commission, former

Great Barrington Conservation Commission, former

Great Barrington Historic District Commission, Secretary, Member, 2008 – 2012

Housatonic Boys Basketball League, former Board Member & President (12 years)

Team sponsor of Great Barrington Little League and Housatonic basketball youth teams since 1996

Lake Mansfield Task Force, former Design Advisor

East Mountain Neighborhood Association, founding member

Southern Berkshire Chamber of Commerce, member

Great Barrington Business Improvement District (BID) Steering Committee 2010

Great Barrington Ad Hoc Tree Committee 2010-11, Founding Member, Chairman

Great Barrington Tree Committee, 2011

Great Barrington Parking Task Force, Member, Secretary, Member, 2010 – 2012

Southern Berkshire Chamber of Commerce Main Street Task Force, member 2011 -2015

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COMMUNITY SERVICE

Okerstrom Lang Ltd has donated their time & expertise on over 50 community service projects in Berkshire County; highlighted projects:

Lilac Park Restoration Plan: master plan for total renovation and restoration of Lilac Park in the center of Lenox, MA with the Lenox Garden Club, 1991-93

The Great Barrington Housatonic Riverbank Clean-up: initial trail plan, project visualization and master plans for sites A & B, trail head, cost estimates, 1991-93

Taconic Parking Lot and The Triplex Theater concept plan for Main Street Action Association: initial concept plan for Town use in submitting for development grants, 1991-92

Lake Mansfield Park, Great Barrington, MA: master plan with Peter Jensen, Open Space Management for Lake Mansfield Association, 1992-94

Stockbridge Road Shore Term Master Plan for Stockbridge Road Association, Great Barrington, MA, 2004

Lake Mansfield Recreation Area, Great Barrington, MA: overall concept, illustrations, master plan, cost estimates, 2007-09

Village Overlay District, Great Barrington, MA: presentation graphics, public hearings, etc for new zoning district approved at Town Meeting, 2008-09

Great Barrington Historical Society, Master Plan for the Museum and Research Center at the Wheeler Farmstead, their future headquarters, 2011 – 2014

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP & ASSOCIATIONS

Licensed Landscape Architect	State of Connecticut License No. 00783
Licensed Landscape Architect	State of Massachusetts License No. 1033
Licensed Landscape Architect	State of Michigan License No. 3901000944
Licensed Landscape Architect	State of New York License No. 000979-1
Member	American Society of Landscape Architects
Member	Boston Society of Landscape Architects
Adjunct Professor (1982-84)	City College School of Urban Design, New York, NY
Adjunct Professor (1991-93)	Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
Visiting Lecturer (2000-current)	Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
Trustee (1996 -2000)	Berkshire Botanical Garden, Stockbridge, MA
Instructor / Lecturer (since 1991)	Berkshire Botanical Garden, Stockbridge, MA