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DAMON FARBER LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS



Government / Civic Portfolio

Contact

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DAMON FARBER LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Damon Farber is an award winning landscape architecture and site planning firm focused on innovative design, research, and collaboration. Our portfolio includes exceptional outdoor environments of varied scales which reflect sensitivity to the natural environment and a dedication to the needs of our clients. We are an experienced team of landscape architects who explore and understand all contributing influences on a project and develop solutions with long term viability. Our work is enriched through frequent partnerships with allied design professionals, engineers, ecologists, historians and artists.

Damon Farber has significant experience designing civic landscapes. Our work on city halls, fire stations, libraries, plazas, and other projects that perform a civic function have focused on the creation of a quality first impression, space for visitors and staff to enjoy the outdoors, sustainable practices, and solutions that demonstrate a unique sense of place.

Damon Farber’s multifaceted firm strengths include inspiring design, community leadership and engagement, cultural landscapes, campus planning, extraordinary graphic abilities, disciplined materials research, and fiscal responsibility. For over 37 years, our portfolio has consistently reflected a composed clarity and strong contribution to the built environment.

FIRM FACTS

- > Established 1981
- > 37 Years In Service
- > Location: Minneapolis, MN
- > Legal Status: Minnesota S Corporation
- > Ownership: Thomas Whitlock, ASLA
- > 8 Landscape Architects-In-Training
- > 8 Landscape Architects
- > 4 LEED Accredited Professionals
- > Registered in 8 states: MN, IA, SD, ND, IL, MO, KY and PA.

SERVICES

- > Landscape Architecture
- > Site and Master Planning
- > Sustainable Design
- > Urban Design

KEY PRACTICE AREAS

- > Community
- > Corporate
- > Cultural/Historic
- > Education
- > Government
- > Healthcare
- > Housing
- > Mixed-Use
- > Parks & Recreation
- > Transportation
- > Zoo



Government / Civic Project Experience

CIVIC

5th Precinct Station
Minneapolis, MN

Andover Community Center
Andover, MN

Austin Community Center
Austin, MN

Bemidji Event Center
Bemidji, MN

Edina City Hall
Edina, MN

Faribault Reserve Center
Faribault, MN

Hennepin County Government Center
Minneapolis, MN

St Louis Park Campus Landscape Plan
St Louis Park, MN

Hiawatha Maintenance Facility
Minneapolis, MN

Maple Grove City Hall
Maple Grove, MN

Minneapolis Convention Center
Minneapolis, MN

Navarre Fire Station
Wayzata, MN

Ramsey City Hall
Ramsey, MN

Shakopee Public Works Facility
Shakopee, MN

Stillwater Fire Station
Stillwater, MN

Target Center
Minneapolis, MN

LIBRARY

Anoka County
Anoka Public Library

Brooklyn Park County
Brooklyn Park Public Library

Dakota County
Multiple library locations

Hennepin County
Multiple library locations

Ramsey County
Roseville Public Library

Scott County
Shakopee Public Library

Washington County
Park Grove Public Library

PARKS / OPEN SPACE

Central Gym Park
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Excelsior Commons Master Plan
Excelsior, Minnesota

Grams Regional Park Improvements
Sherburne County, Minnesota

Lebanon Hills Regional Park
Dakota County, Minnesota

Minnehaha Regional Park Renovations
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Maple Grove Central Park
Maple Grove, MN

Memorial Park
Granite Falls, MN

Riverfront Park
Mankato, MN

Town Green Amphitheater
Maple Grove, MN

Trane Park
La Crosse, Wisconsin

Veterans Memorial Amphitheater
Wolfe Park, St. Louis Park, MN

Water Works
Minneapolis, MN





Maple Grove Library

Hennepin County Library System

The library is located on the edge of one of Maple Groves Downtown lakes integrating the public realm of the Cities Community Center and the award winning Town Green, also designed by Damon Farber.

- > Community porch on the backside of the library offers sweeping views of the lake and a comfortable outdoor reading space.
- > The front entry offers a more contemporary solution with decorative paver bands, linear massings of native and ornamental grasses, seating, bicycle parking and stainless steel bollards to mark the buildings main entrance.
- > Created a warm and welcoming entry, with covered access from the nearby parking structure and intimate areas for quiet reading. Architectural seat walls reflect materials used in the building blending site with structure.
- > An expansive green roof provides color and minimizes stormwater runoff while reducing the energy consumption of the building.
- > A visually stunning, easy to maintain and function landscape enriches the civic campus and creates another vital community destination.

PROJECT FACTS

- + Completed: 2010
- + Size: 2.5 Acres
- + Budget: \$500,000

REFERENCE

John Wicks - Project Manager
Hennepin County
John.Wicks@co.hennepin.mn.us





Roseville Library Ramsey County Libraries

The Roseville Library Renovation exemplifies the value Landscape Architects bring to extend and support an institution's vision. The facility was recently re-envisioned as a library for the 21st Century, "challenging all stereotypes of what a library should be." Today the landscape engages patrons and educates them about the natural and built environment.

- > Outdoor learning environment was designed for Children's programming, integrating the themes of "The Journey of Water", with Early Literacy. Features include a rain water cistern wrapped in a mosaic of children's drawings, play surfacing which mimics a pond and seating for story hour and performances.
- > Sustainable, watershed and native plant grants contributed to enhanced sustainable features for both the building and the site
- > Parking lot runoff flows into biofiltration gardens that straddle an existing heritage maple or into an infiltration basin. The systems capture and cleanse the stormwater through infiltration prior to connecting to an overflow retention basin.

PROJECT FACTS

- + Location: Roseville, MN
- + Completed: 2010
- + Size: 8 Acres
- + Budget: \$14,000,000

AWARDS

- + ASLA-MN Honor Award
- + LEED Gold Certificate

REFERENCE

Susan M. Nemitz,
Director Roseville Library
651.486.2201





Chaska Truck Station

Minnesota Department of Transportation

The Minnesota Department of Transportation and Carver County set out to build a state of the art, sustainable truck station to serve as a sustainable model for future projects. Damon Farber guided the design and construction of the site for the new facility in Chaska, and delivered an innovative project that clearly illustrates the clients commitment to environmental stewardship and conservation.



- > Dramatic building geometry reflects the surrounding landform and demonstrates how the two are fused together aesthetically and technologically
- > Rainwater travels from the roof, is filtered through the landscape, and ultimately captured to be re-used within the building.
- > Native woodland was preserved, impervious paving was limited, and the native plant palette provides a resilient landscape
- > New truck station exceeded the requirements of the Minnesota B3 sustainable building guidelines

PROJECT FACTS:

- + Location: Chaska, MN
- + Completed: 2012
- + Cost : 7 M
- + 64,000 square feet

REFERENCE:

Peter Vesterholt, Project Manager
Architectural Alliance
Phone: 612.874.4110



Hiawatha Maintenance Facility City of Minneapolis

The Hiawatha Maintenance Facility for the City of Minneapolis aims higher for government type construction in Minnesota as the facility achieved LEED Platinum, one of 9 projects achieving the highest LEED level in the State of Minnesota.

- > More than 90 percent of the demolished material from the previous buildings were recycled or reused in the new construction including 100 percent of the concrete, brick and asphalt
- > Rain gardens, recycled rubber pavers, bio-swales and an underground infiltration basin keeping rainwater on the property and virtually out of the storm sewer
- > Plant materials are native and require no irrigation and provide shading, screening and noise attenuation for neighboring residences
- > The iron fence, that surround the facility, was made from salvaged bridge decking.
- > Guided the redevelopment of the 9 acre site into an efficient one-stop facility providing the necessary office, shop, storage and operational needs for more than seven divisions within Minneapolis Public Works.

PROJECT FACTS

- + Completed: 2010
- + Budget: \$11 million
- + Size: 9 Acres
- + LEED: Platinum Certification





Public Works Facility City of Shakopee

Shakopee's large scale, multi-use public works facility includes office space, public works maintenance space, and associated parking. The facility greatly improved the city's public works division and the city's overall identity among local residents.

PROJECT FACTS

+ Completed: 2004



- > Unique gabion retaining wall doubles as a low seat wall
- > Plaza space used reclaimed harvested fieldstone boulders found on-site
- > Plaza paving and layout visually tie with column spacing and architectural elements to unify the space with the architectural character, making site and building work together harmoniously
- > Earthen berms and heavily landscaped areas screen the utilitarian portions of the building
- > Public access, for local residents to swing in quickly and pay utility bills, was improved by adding a circular drop off drive



Austin YMCA Community Center & Mill Pond Park Master Plan Austin, MN



The new Community and Recreation Center is the culmination of a partnership between the City of Austin, the YMCA, and the all volunteer organization Vision 2020 to build a new safe, affordable, and healthy environment for the community to come together, exercise, and play. Five potential sites were analyzed for suitability, and it was determined to build on the site of a decommissioned power plant downtown. The accessible community destination sits on a picturesque bend in the Cedar River overlooking Mill Pond with connections to trails, parks, downtown, and the nearby Public Library.

- > The new facility aims to bring the diverse community together, the result of a collaboration with the YMCA, City of Austin, Austin Public Schools, Vision 2020, Riverland Community College, The Hormel Foundation, Hormel Foods, and the Development Corporation of Austin.
- > The south entrance features a large public plaza serving as the welcome mat for the community center with upgraded paving, lighting, planting, and site furnishings.
- > Raised pedestrian crosswalks in the parking lot, connecting users to the building with pedestrian safety at the forefront of site design.
- > A landscape rich with native plants, stormwater management infiltration basins in the parking lot, and Public Art at both entry plazas.

PROJECT FACTS:

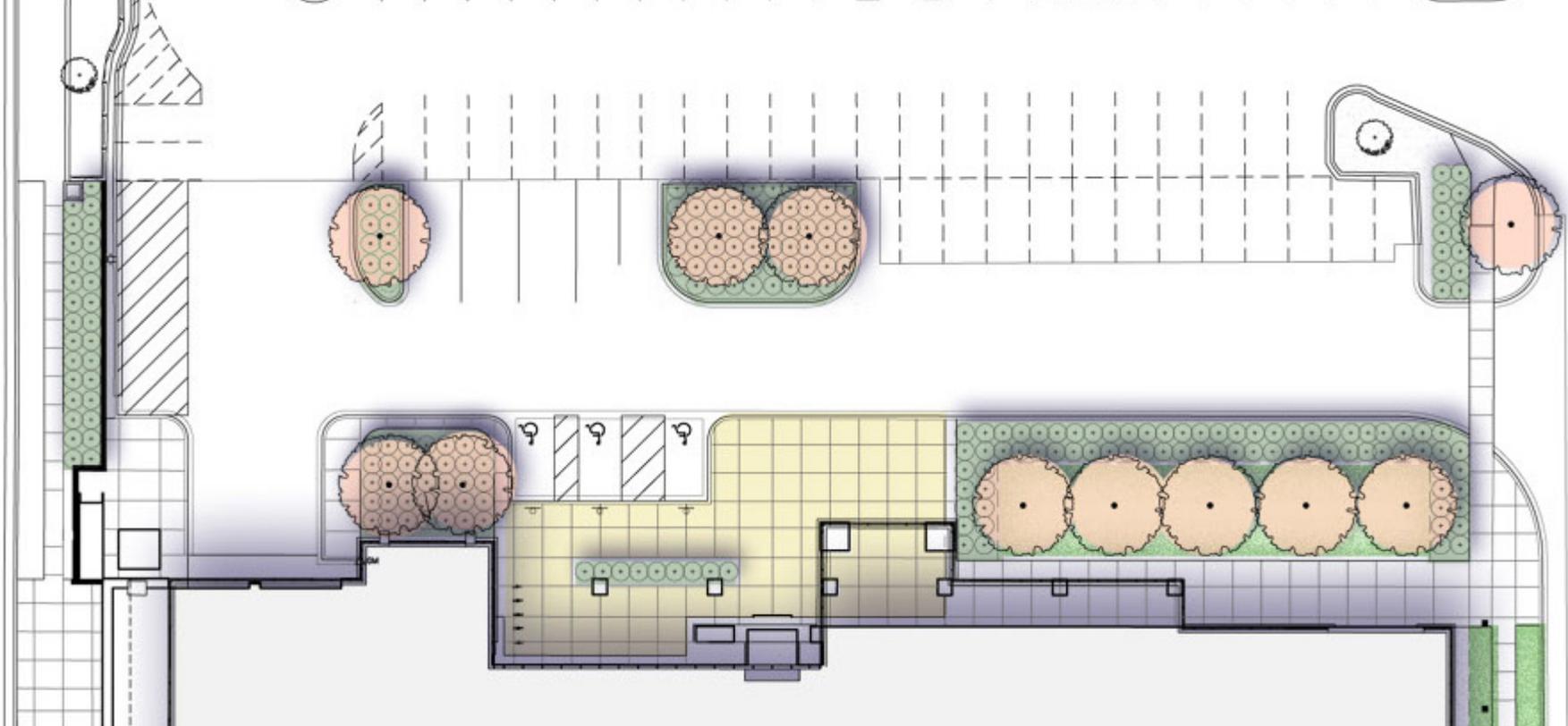
- + Completed: In-Construction
- + Size: 7 acres
- + Bldg Size: 105,000 sf
- + Cost: \$35 million

SCOPE OF WORK:

- + Pre-design with Site Selection
- + Community Outreach
- + Schematic Design
- + Design Development
- + Contract Documents
- + Construction Administration

REFERENCE:

Arlen Schamber
Owners Rep
Phone: 507-993-3985
Email: arschamber@gmail.com



Arlington Hills Community Center St. Paul, Minnesota

Damon Farber Associates worked as a part of a multi-disciplinary design team to design a new Library and Park to replace existing outdated facilities and revitalize this neighborhood on St. Paul's East side. The unique public private partnership included shared facilities for a new city facilities along with several churches and other partners. The process included several community engagement meetings. A master plan was completed and the first phase includes the library and recreation center along with a town square and park.

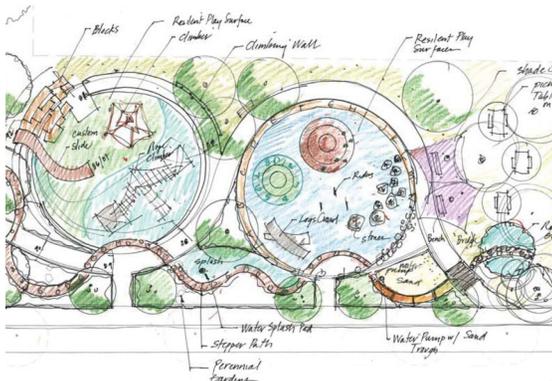
- > The Town Square provides an urban welcoming plaza along Payne Avenue. This area functions for daily parking and book drop, but can be converted into an open space for celebrations and events.
- > A shade filled front patio extends meeting and classroom spaces outside and invites the community to gather under the shade of trees to play chess, chat or read a book
- > A refurbished field and new playground hosts youth sports, family picnics, and creative play
- > The overall project will be a visually stunning, and functional landscape that supports library and park programs and creates a vital community destination for learning, playing and celebrating

PROJECT FACTS

- + Budget: Phase One \$1,500,000
- + Completed: 2013

REFERENCE

Brian C. Tourtelotte
Project Manager
City of St Paul Parks and Recreation





Town Green Amphitheater City of Maple Grove

Damon Farber led the design of a new town green and performance area located in the heart of the city along the east shore of West Arbor Lake between the Maple Grove Government Center and the new Hennepin County Library.

- > Award winning community park with an emphasis on creative art performances
- > Centrally located park is a hub between the Maple Grove Government Center and the new Hennepin County Library
- > Park offers users a variety of trails for biking and walking, plenty of lawn for passive and active play, and many opportunities to sit and enjoy the setting
- > The adjacent lake reflects summer sunsets and fireworks displays put on each summer by the local fire department
- > Featured on the cover of *Architecture Minnesota* and *AcrossAmerica*



PROJECT FACTS

- + Completed: 2011
- + Size: 12.5 acres
- + Budget: \$5,500,000

AWARDS

- + ASLA-MN Merit Award for the Town Green - Maple Grove, MN

REFERENCE

Chuck Stifter, Project Manager
City of Maple Grove, Minnesota
763-494-6503
cstifter@ci.maple-grove.mn.us



Riverfront Park and Vetter Stone Amphitheater City of Mankato



Riverfront Park overlooks downtown Mankato from the revamped “Old Town” along the Mighty Minnesota River. Sustainable design and a reverence for the unique location inspired custom furnishings from salvaged timber, bioswales and infiltration basins blooming with native plants, permeable pavers and an irrigation system that utilizes reclaimed water from the adjacent waste-water treatment plant. Terraced seating for the Vetter Stone Amphitheater, recently named one of the top outdoor concert venues in the state, is crafted from indigenous Mankato-Kasota limestone.

- > Stormwater infiltration basins, bioswales, and permeable pavement cleanse runoff
- > Indigenous limestone and reclaimed Douglas Fir timbers utilized
- > Canoe/kayak launch affords easy access to the Minnesota River
- > River overlook and playground located to take full advantage of views up and down the river, and the adjacent building provides restrooms and bicycle parking
- > Festival plaza and lawn provides space for vendors at large events
- > Amphitheater accommodates 4,000 people on limestone terraces and The Great Lawn an additional 12,000 event goers

PROJECT FACTS

- + Completed: 2010
- + Size: 14 acres
- + Budget: \$3,200,000

REFERENCE

Pat Hentges, City Manager
City of Mankato
507.387.8695
phentges@city.mankato.mn.us



Edina City Hall

City of Edina



The city of Edina decided it was time to replace the older, and outdated city hall. The challenging aspect was developing a site plan for the new city hall next to the existing one which the city would continue to use during construction.

Damon Farber Associates was able to greatly assist in the development of a functional site plan, that allowed the proper staging of construction, and enabled the city continuous operation from the old city hall until the new building was ready.

The design team also saved a number of large mature oak trees that existed on site and incorporated them into the new landscape. The parking lot is organized with a well lit, broad walkway that safely bring employees and visitors to the main building entrance. A formal arrangement of shade trees lines this walkway. Ornamental grasses and evergreen shrubs are used throughout the site to compliment the architecture and provide year-round interest to the building and site.

PROJECT FACTS

- + Completed: 2008
- + Size: 2 acres

REFERENCE

Scott Neal, City Manager
City of Edina
952.826.0401
sneal@EdinaMN.gov



Vadnais Heights City Hall

Vadnais Heights, Minnesota



Vadnais Heights City Hall needed replacement and the City asked Damon Farber Associates to join a multi-disciplinary team to assist in selecting a site for the new City Hall. The City was looking for a facility and site that would reflect their principles related to low impact development, restoring natural environments and something that would showcase the unique natural landscape of the community of Vadnais Heights.

The building was site at the edge of a woodland/wetland complex. The front door provided good visibility and brand identity from the street and also interesting views of the natural landscape adjacent to the woodland/wetland.

Damon Farber Associates worked to restore the riparian landscape around the wetland and restored over 4 acres of native prairie. The result is a facility that integrates with the natural environment, minimizes maintenance, restores habitat and reflects the common values of the community.

PROJECT FACTS

- + Completed: 2003
- + Size: 3 acres

REFERENCE

Kevin Watson, City Manager
City of Vadnais Heights
651.204.6010
kevin.watson@cityvadnaisheights.com



Blue Earth County Justice Center Mankato, Minnesota

The Blue Earth County Justice Center in Mankato was developed with sustainability in mind from day one. Early planning and collaboration between design trades ensured that the county met its goal for LEED certification.

Damon Farber Associates utilized native plants that are well adapted to the Minnesota climate to complement the building and site. Irrigation was limited to key areas and designed for efficiency with water saving technology. Native prairies were reintroduced behind the building creating wildlife habitat and reducing the need for inputs such as fertilizers and water. Infiltration basins are utilized around the site to improve stormwater management, recharge local groundwater levels, and water the landscape.

Site circulation was a key element of the design and DFA helped manage the flow of emergency vehicles, county staff, and visitors to the site. The front entry experience includes pedestrian lighting, seating, specialty lithocrete paving, flag poles, and limestone blocks for natural force protection.

PROJECT FACTS

- + Completed: 2008
- + Size: 30 acres





Houston County Justice Center Caledonia, Minnesota

Damon Farber Associates involvement with the planned Justice Center in Caledonia Minnesota was initiated early as an existing Veteran's Memorial was located on the site for the new facility. Concerned local leaders and Veterans asked DFA for a study of the existing memorial and potential relocation scenarios. The planned building was eventually scaled back so the Memorial could remain in its original location. Site design integrated the Memorial and new Justice Center together with the Court House and adjacent historic 1875 jail into a cohesive county campus.

The site and facility were designed to provide a clear identity for the Sheriff's Office with convenient public access, while also providing secure and separate staff circulation and access to the jail. New parking was provided and pedestrian circulation was thoughtfully integrated to tie the campus buildings together. The landscape was designed with native plants to avoid irrigation, limit maintenance, and be ecologically respectful of the local ecosystem.

PROJECT FACTS

+ Completed: 2015



Tom Whitlock, PLA, ASLA

Principal Landscape Architect



Tom Whitlock is President of Damon Farber, and has over twenty-six years of extensive experience working collaboratively with public clients on award winning projects across the Midwest. As principal-in-charge, he is responsible for ensuring that the firms design work exceeds the expectation of all project stakeholders. Tom has earned a strong reputation as a valuable leader and an effective collaborator.

Tom has worked extensively with local governments to deliver civic projects that reflect the goals of each community, are sustainable, and reflects a unique sense of place. He has been an integral part of Damon Farber since 1993, and became President in the spring of 2011. Tom's work has been recognized by ASLA, AIA and ULI. A University of Minnesota alum, he remains tied to the College of Landscape Architecture and has been published in Landscape Architecture Magazine, Architecture Minnesota, Architecture Week and Fabric Architecture.

Credentials

- > Registered Landscape Architect: MN 26292
- > Minneapolis Downtown Experience Committee Chairperson
- > Minneapolis Downtown Council Board Member
- > Minneapolis Regional Chamber of Commerce Board Member
- > Urban Land Institute Member
- > AIA Allied Member
- > ASLA-MN Trustee and Past President
- > Lambda Alpha International Member
- >

Education

- > BLA Landscape Architecture - University of Minnesota
- > BED Environmental Design - University of Minnesota

Awards

- > American Society of Landscape Architects Minnesota:
 - + Carlton Science Center at 3M World Headquarters, Merit Award 2017
 - + Central Park - City of Maple Grove, Merit Award 2017
 - + Hanifl Family Wild Woods Nature Based Playground - Minnesota Zoo, Merit Award 2016
 - + Nic on Fifth Residential Tower, Merit Award 2015
 - + University of Minnesota Cancer + Cardiovascular Research Building, Award of Excellence 2014
 - + Fairview/Amplatz Children's Hospital at the University of Minnesota - Minneapolis, MN, Merit Award 2014
 - + Ramsey County Roseville Library, Honor Award 2012
 - + Woodland Adventure Playground - Minnesota Zoo, Merit Award 2012
 - + Town Green Park - Maple Grove, MN, Merit Award 2011
 - + Grand Forks Greenway - Grand Forks, ND, Merit Award 2008
 - + The Town Green at Excelsior & Grand - St. Louis Park, MN, Merit Award 2007
- > Southern MN Scene Magazine: Vetter Stone Amphitheater in Mankato, MN, Best Place for Live Music 2013
- > Nation's 1st LEED-ND (Neighborhood Design) Excelsior & Grand, 2005

Relevant Design Experience

- > North Dakota State Capital Circulation Master Plan - Bismarck, ND
- > Austin Community Center - Austin, MN
- > Minnesota History Center Exterior Renovation - St. Paul, MN
- > Maple Grove City Hall - Maple Grove, MN
- > Edina City Hall - Edina, MN
- > Hiawatha Maintenance Facility - Minneapolis, MN (LEED® Platinum)

Relevant MN B3 Sustainable Design Experience

- > Ramsey County Library - Roseville, MN (LEED® Gold)
- > Hennepin County Library - Plymouth, MN
- > Hennepin County Library - Maple Grove, MN
- > Hennepin County Library - Minnetonka, MN
- > MnDOT Truck Facility - Maple Grove, MN

JEAN GARBARINI, ASLA, Principal



Jean Garbarini is a registered Landscape Architect with Historic Landscape Architect Qualifications, and Principal with Damon Farber Associates, a planning and design firm located in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Jean

has over twenty-eight years of experience on a wide range of projects including historic landscape evaluations, rehabilitations, planning, analysis and documentation. Her work on cultural landscapes spans analysis and design for public and private clients. Jean received an ASLA-MN Honor award for her efforts documenting a Historic American Landscapes Survey for a National Historic Landmark in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Her work on civic landscapes has preserved the authenticity of each site, reflected sustainable practices, and resulted in unique design that build community.

CREDENTIALS

- > Registered Landscape Architect: MN 26234, WI 658-14
- > Meets the National Park Service's professional qualification standard for Historic Landscape Architect, as part of the Secretary of Interior's standards for the treatment of historic properties
- > University of Minnesota visiting design critic
- > University of Minnesota guest lecturer

EDUCATION

- > Bachelor of Landscape Architecture - University of Minnesota

AWARDS

- > Joseph Selvaggio Initiative, Cue Award, 2000
- > St. Paul North Quadrant Urban Village, Planning Award, APA 2002
- > Minneapolis Near Northside Master Plan, MASLA Award of Excellence, 2003
- > Joseph Selvaggio Initiative, Cue Award, 2000
- > St. Paul North Quadrant Urban Village, Planning Award, APA 2002
- > Minneapolis Near Northside Master Plan, MASLA Award of Excellence, 2003
- > Private Residence on Kenilworth Creek, MASLA Merit Award, 2003
- > St. Anthony Village Flood Control Project, ACEC Grand Award, 2004
- > St. Anthony Village Flood Control Project, MASLA Merit Award, 2005
- > River Towers Condominiums Courtyard Restoration, HPC Award and MN Preservation Alliance Preservation award, 2006
- > Medtronic Cardiac Rhythm Disease Management Campus, MASLA Merit Award, 2007
- > Benedicta Arts Center Courtyard, MASLA Merit Award, 2010.
- > National Home for Disable Volunteer Soldiers: Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS), MASLA Merit Award, 2013

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- > Water Works Park, Minneapolis, MN
- > Webber Library, Hennepin County Libraries, MN
- > Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies Corporate Campus, Eden Prairie, MN
- > Minneapolis Convention Center Plaza Renovation, Minneapolis, MN

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES:

- > Glensheen Cultural Landscape Report, Duluth, MN
- > Water Works Park, Minneapolis, MN
- > Northrup Mall Historic Assessment, Minneapolis, MN



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