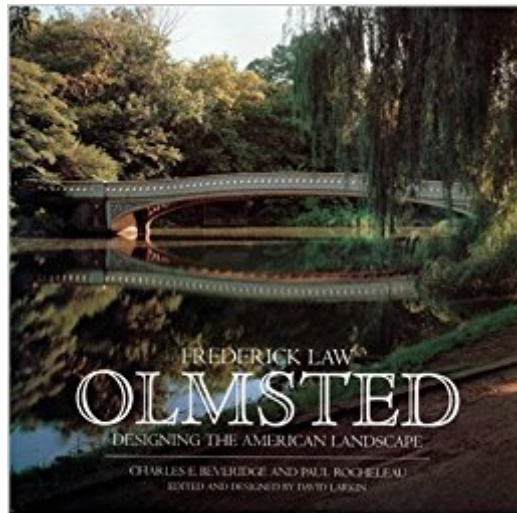




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Frederick Law Olmsted: Designing The American Landscape



Synopsis

A man of passionate vision and drive, Frederick Law Olmsted defined and named the profession of landscape architecture and designed America's most beloved parks and landscapes of the past century--New York's Central Park, Brooklyn's Prospect Park, the U.S. Capitol grounds, the Biltmore Estate, and many others. During a remarkable forty-year career that began in the mid-1800s, Olmsted created the first park systems, urban greenways, and planned suburban residential communities in this country. He was a pivotal figure in the movement to create and preserve natural parks such as Yosemite, Yellowstone, and Niagra Falls. He also contributed to the design of many academic campuses, including Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. Today there is a resurgence of interest in Olmsted's work and legacy in both the United States and Europe. This timely volume presents the breadth of Olmsted's work in beautiful color photographs by Paul Rocheleau and illuminates Olmsted's role as an indefatigable administrator and social reformer. Olmsted's career reflected a deep concern for fostering community and using the restorative effects of natural scenery to counteract the debilitating forces of the modern city.

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Customer Reviews

"Frederick Law Olmsted: Designing the American Landscape" By Chalres E. Beveridge and Paul Rocheleau
Edited and designed by David Larkin
A man of passionate vision and drive, Frederick Law Olmsted defined and named the profession of landscape architecture and designed America's most beloved parks and landscapes of the past century--New York's Central Park, Brooklyn's

Prospect Park, the U.S. Capitol grounds, the Biltmore Estate, and many others. During a remarkable forty-year career that began in the mid-1800s, Olmsted created the first park systems, urban greenways, and suburban residential communities in this country. He was a pivotal figure in the movement to create and preserve natural parks such as Yosemite, Yellowstone, and Niagara Falls; and he contributed to the design of many academic campuses, including Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. Today there is a resurgence of interest in Olmsted's work and legacy in both the United States and Europe. This timely volume, following the format of Rizzoli's successful "Masterworks" series, presents the breadth of Olmsted's work in expansive, beautiful color photographs by Paul Rocheleau, who conceived this book. The engaging text illuminates Olmsted's role as an indefatigable administrator and social reformer, a man who slept a scant few hours each night and rallied around causes ranging from anti-slavery to sanitary regulation. Olmsted's career reflected a deep concern for fostering community and using the restorative effects of natural scenery to counteract the debilitating forces of the modern city. 'Olmsted's goal was to help create an American society where all people had the qualities of gentility,' writes author Beveridge, an eminent Olmsted scholar. Charles E. Beveridge is Series Editor of the Frederick Law Olmsted Papers, Department of History, American University, Washington, D.C. Paul Rocheleau is a senior photographer for "The Magazine Antiques" and the "Smithsonian New England Guides." His growing list of successful books includes "Classic America," "Victorian America," "Frank Lloyd Wright: The Masterworks," and "American Masterworks: The Twentieth-Century House," all for Rizzoli. David Larkin is well known as a designer and director of illustrated books. Working with Paul Rocheleau, he has compiled "Classic America," "Victorian America," "Frank Lloyd Wright: The Masterworks," and "American Masterworks: The Twentieth-Century House," among others.

Charles E. Beveridge is series editor of the Olmsted Papers and research professor of history at American University. He has lectured widely on Olmsted and has served as historical advisor for numerous Olmsted park restoration projects. Charles Rocheleau is a distinguished photographer whose work has been published widely, including Universe's Frank Lloyd Wright: Master Builder. David Larkin is a renowned editor and book designer. He is the author of many bestselling books including Universe's Frank Lloyd Wright: Master Builder.

This book is essential for anyone getting into landscape architecture. My only complaint is that the box it came in was slightly too large for it, so it got bumped around in transit and the corners are banged up a bit.

Frederick Law Olmsted has always been one of my heroes, having put his magic touch on Yosemite National Park, where I worked for four wonderful summers while in college. He continues to be an inspiration to me, and this book does him justice.

If you are a fan of Olmsted or landscape architecture or just wanting to get to know one of the masters, this book provides beautiful photographs of his work and ample descriptive text. Meditative to look at and read!

I wanted a book that featured the work of Frederick Olmsted. This fit the bill, but I guess I was more looking for a coffee table book.

Watched a documentary on the Olmsted family and had to get this book. It's on our coffee table and all our friends love browsing through the incredible photos. A great price and delivered on time and in perfect condition!

Just what I wanted!

Soothing book to enjoy with a cup of coffee and warm blanket. Beautiful pictures.

Love his work - great photos

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