



JRA
Spring 2009

*“I love spring anywhere,
but if I could choose,
I would always greet it in a garden.”*

Ruth Stout

Publications

Backyard Solutions “Trends 2008” featured an interview with several designers including Bernard Jacobs, FASLA.



Chicago Tribune, Home and Garden September 7, 2008, Museum of Science and Industry, Smart Home



Awards

Congratulations to the Winners of the 5th Annual CAF 2008 patron of the Year Awards. To our clients who won, Serta International and Andrew Metter Architect and Senior Vice President, Design Director of Architecture and Planning, A. Epstein and Sons International, Inc., for the Serta International Center in Hoffman Estates.



Chicago Park District DuSable Harbor Chicago, Illinois

The Chicago Park District is creating a new boathouse at DuSable Harbor while providing a solution to existing traffic problems for cyclists and pedestrians along the lakefront path. The 3,500 SF building, which will open this spring will have a low profile as it is partially buried into the east side of the current grassy slope. It will be the first Green Building in Grant Park and is seeking Silver LEED certification. The harbor office, outdoor cafe, bathrooms and showers for boaters and the public alike will be housed in the earth-sheltered structure, covered entirely by a sodded green roof, blending with existing lawns. Jacobs/Ryan Associates assisted with the design incorporating a safe viewing area for visitors on the structure while protecting existing plantings. Jacobs/Ryan Associates incorporated green roof and soil erosion prevention with vegetation on the slopes at the new bypass bridge which separates traffic modes. We also incorporated playful large boulder seating areas and convenient access to bicycle parking. Clusters of ornamental trees and large canopy trees are arranged to provide screening of utilities and shade for the path’s users.

Architect: David Woodhouse Architects

Civil Engineer: Terra Engineers

Structural Engineer: CE Anderson





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Museum of Science and Industry Smart Home Chicago, Illinois

The Museum of Science and Industry's mission is to inspire the inventive genius in everyone by presenting a captivating and compelling experience that is real and educational. With over 2,000 exhibits in the museum's main building, the institution is continuously adding new exhibits exploring different technologies. Along with Michele Kaufman, a designer of pre-built environmentally friendly modular housing, Jacobs/Ryan Associates designed a sustainable landscape for the new Smart Home exhibit at the Museum of Science and Industry. The exhibit is located on the east side of the Museum in a courtyard rarely utilized but home to a grove of Bur Oaks, some of which are thought to be over 150 years old. The sustainable site design features permeable paving, energy efficient lighting, native prairies, bio swales, and oak savannah plantings. The landscape and other site elements tell the story of sustainability to Museum visitors in order to see practical applications of Green Technology.



Serta Corporate Headquarters Hoffman Estates, Illinois

Serta Corporate Headquarter building is sited within a prairie landscape overlooking a central wetland. The landscape design aggregates trees into woodland clusters, while leaving the prairie to flourish in the sun it requires. The prairie is seeded with a mix of common prairie grasses including what are known as "native aggressives" for quick establishment. Vegetated swales will carry stormwater to cleanse and infiltrate the subsoil. Close to the building is a zone called a "cultivated prairie" which is planted with potted grasses, forbs and a select number of ornamental plants. A variety of hard surfaces include crushed granite, bluestone chips and Black Mexican River Stones. Consulting with the Village of Hoffman Estates, the Property Owners Association and a Biologist was integral to the approval process for the project.



Architect: Annex 5/A Epstein and Sons, International



Merchandise Mart Apparel Center Chicago, Illinois

Jacobs/Ryan Associates provided design and consulting services to the Merchandise Mart for the installation of a green roof on the third floor of the Apparel Center. Over ten thousand square feet of vegetative mat was installed in the fall of 2007 for the Green Build Conference held in Chicago. The green roof system selected for the project was a built up system, which allowed JRA the opportunity to create green roof art that reflects the meandering nature of the Chicago River. The retrofit green roof was responsible for the building gaining a silver LEED rating and was prominently featured during the 2007 Green Build Conference. Bernard Jacobs, FASLA, the partner in charge has recently lectured at this year's ILCA green roof field day.

Architect: VDT Architects

www.jacobsryan.com



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The Lake House Winnetka, Illinois

The current owner of a historic Benjamin Marshall coach house desired to upgrade the garden in two phases. Phase One completely renovated the gardens and patios at the upper level of the garden, while Phase Two tackled the shoreline bluff, creating terraces and gardens leading down to the beach.

The upper level garden consists of a series of garden rooms starting with a granite driveway with bluestone walks leading to the front door. A perennial garden faces the house. The near upper terrace of bluestone provides an open area for entertaining, and screening of the southern neighbor's property, while leaving open expansive views of the lake. Pilasters, balustrade and ironwork frame the space. The side garden contains a large classical fountain in the sun terrace. The Phase 2 bluff work consists of a small shaded terrace to the north staircase, a large mid-level sun-terrace in a central location, and a stone path which meanders through boulders and plants down to the shore.



Beach Design & Shore Protection: Shabica and Associates, Inc.

Structure Engineers: Brunzell Associates, Ltd.

Wiss Janney Elstner Associates, Inc.

Contractors: SB Adler Homes / Edward E. Gillen Co.

Landscape Contractor: Mariani Landscape

Irrigation Contractor: Halloran & Yauch

NEED NEW PLANT IMAGE

The Frontline of Defense Against Global Climate Change

Our friends at Frank Schmidts and Sons, Co. suppliers of tree liners to nurseries throughout the United States remind us of three great reasons to plant more trees in our cities;

- Trees reduce our carbon footprint by converting CO₂ into oxygen and storing carbon in roots, trunks, and branches.
- Trees save energy, cooling buildings and pavement with shade, and lowering temperatures through evapo-transpiration.
- Trees conserve water by intercepting rainfall, storing the water, cleaning it of contaminants and preventing runoff.

By improving air quality, reducing our reliance on energy and managing stormwater, trees enhance our health, beautify our communities and increase our property values. Planting trees on your site should be your first green initiative. Other green building approaches can include rain gardens and bio-swales, and natural plantings of prairie grasses.

Communications with JRA

Please direct your questions, comments or requests for further information to us by any of the following:

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Contact: Terry Warriner Ryan or Bernard Jacobs