

Ask not what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive... then go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive.
Howard Thurman

LANDSCAPE + URBANISM - SAMANTHA FULLER



Gross Max Landscape Architects

As a student of Landscape Architecture we are always studying new principles of design and the profession. Over the last couple of years professors have been encouraging their students to learn about Landscape Urbanism, a new theory that argues that Landscape, rather than architecture, is more capable of organizing the city and enhancing the urban experience. As cities all over the world are expanding outward instead of up, the landscape has been able to address this shift by becoming the new essential organizing element for the contemporary city. The organization of horizontal surfaces and infrastructure take over the traditional architectural based fabric of the city. Here landscape becomes much more than just parks or gardens. It starts to focus on our transportation fabric such

as freeways, our abandoned industrial sites that would normally never be touched, and our concepts of sprawl and bringing people back to the urban cities, the exurbanites. All of these new ideas and principals are things that our profession needs to follow. It cannot only stay in the classroom discussions, but must breach the academia world and start to overtake the current landscapes we see today. As our world is changing, the ways in which we design and approach our problems must also. Until we are able to practice with these ideas, we will still continue to see the same landscapes being "installed" rather than designed. It is our duty, our right, and our calling to do this. Are you in?

BRADLEY BRIDLE HORSE PARK

Bradley Bridle Park was designed for use by the neighborhood equestrians. The built phase of the park was installed by a local home developer and taken over by the City of Las Vegas. Therefore, the design review processes included both the home developer and the City.

The main amenities provided at the park include a large arena with spectator seating, two round pens, a restroom, an equestrian path, a shaded horse corral, additional horse corrals, hitching posts, shade shelters with associated seating, drinking fountains for horses and people and a parking area that accommodates up to 20 horse trailers.

The equestrian park is enclosed by a white fence which is bordered by a desert streetscape that enhances and provides a friendly front to the neighborhood. Shaded pavilions with picnic areas are located farther from the equestrian activities to allow for non-equestrian users' enjoyment. The equestrian trail within the park is bordered by desert landscape that includes mounding that helps delineate the trail. The trees and shrubs within the park are used sparsely for the safety of the horses and riders. The arenas and round pens include user-activated lighting and user activated watering systems that wet down the areas as needed.



FAVORITE FLORA:

ACER PLATANOIDES - NORWAY MAPLE

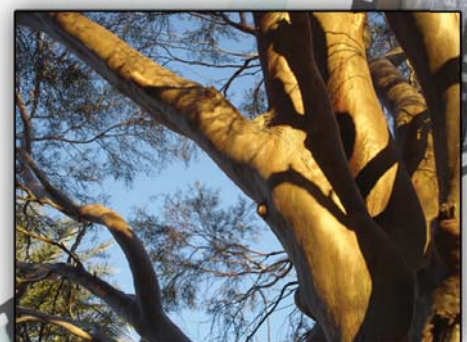


Introduced to the United States in the mid to late 1700's, Justin's favorite flora, is the Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*). As our Minnesota transplant, Justin favors this large deciduous tree because of its brilliant red color in the fall. The Norway Maple usually reaches a height of about 50-60 ft. but can grow as tall as 90 ft. Found in the North and Eastern parts of the U.S. this tree is not suitable for the warm climate of the Southwest. This tree consists of large, 3-5 inch wide leaves, which as I mentioned before, can turn to a stunning red in the fall. Clusters of greenish yellow flowers give this tree some interest in the spring as well. *Acer platanoides* is very tolerant of a variety of soil conditions and with its self sowing seeds has become somewhat of a problematic species in this country.

Introduced as a street tree, the Norway Maple began to spread to outlying forests and woodlands where it has become quite invasive. If you are looking for a Maple to plant in Las Vegas you should probably stop. A Chinese Pistache (*Pistachia chinensis*) or a Red Flame Sumac (*Rhus lanceolata*) would be a desert adapted alternate for a large tree with great fall color.

Next month's Favorite Flora is a great succulent that fits in almost any landscape...

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



ENLIGHTENED
CHANDLER, AZ
SARAH NABER

On March 20th, we will be going on the Fern Canyon hike at Red Rock. If you would like to join in on the fun, please RSVP to sla@southwickla.com by March 15.