
LA2
Landscape & Aquatic
Architecture

LA² Landscape & Aquatic Architecture

Pawel Gradowski

Landscape Architect
BLA, SACLAP, BCSLA, IFLA

senior practitioner, experience and qualifications

CONTACT DETAILS

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E: pawel@LASquare.org W: http://LASquare.org

Pawel Gradowski has been practicing landscape architecture for over 30 years.

- Established LASquare in Joburg after relocating to South Africa from Canada in 2015
- Partner at Durante Kreuk Ltd. In Vancouver, Canada. 2008 - 2015
- Senior practitioner since 1997.
- Eight years of practical experience in construction services, operating his own design-build firm in Toronto. 1989-1997

Specializes in landscape design for:

- Single and multi-family housing
- City parks and promenades
- Various sports and recreational facilities
- Industrial facilities
- Commercial plazas and shopping malls,
- Hotels, casinos and vacation resorts,
- Streetscapes, roadway and trail systems,
- Schools and civic centres

Experienced in:

- Consulting services,
- Landscape Architecture design
- Project management.

Uniquely skilled in design of:

- Rainwater harvesting systems
- Water features design and supporting engineering.
- Designing synthetic turf and natural play fields,
- Sport facilities for track-and-field with rubberized surfacing

Pawel gained local experience while working together with Newton Landscape Architects, Silverhorns Consulting, Kamadi Consulting, SRK, MVE Engineering, Profica, Batley and Partners, Messaris Wapenaar Cole Architects and other local firms.

Taking the role of the project manager and the lead Landscape Architect, Pawel participated in several large public sector projects in Tshwane, Ekurhuleni, Johannesburg, Mvezo and other SA locations.

In Canada, for over 25 years, his experience focused on projects within several urban centres, where Pawel took the role of prime consultant, providing landscape architecture design and complete management of projects. This was inclusive of client consultations, conceptual and detail design development, consultant team coordination, contract documents preparation, facilitating the tendering process and awarding of projects. Pawel's oversight included comprehensive reviews, monitoring of installed work and site management.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelor in Landscape Architecture - Guelph, Ontario, Canada
- Member - South African Council for the Landscape Architectural Profession (SACLAP)
- Member - British Columbia Society of Landscape Architects (BCSLA)
- Member - Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA)
- Member - International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA)
- Master Municipal Contract Doc. - Certified Contract Administrator
- Rainwater Harvesting - ARCSA Accredited Professional
- Certified in Advanced Fluid Engineering

DESIGN AWARDS

- Fitzsimmons Walk -Gold Georgie Award, Best Townhouse Development Design,
- Springbook Estates - Gold Georgie Award, Best Multi-Family Landscape Design,
- University Marketplace - Urban Development Institute Award, Best Mixed-Use Development

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- IFLA-Americas - Communication co-chair, 2014 - 2016
- Director - CSLA Representative for BC, 2008 - 2014
- Resort Municipality of Whistler, BC, Canada Advisory Design Panel, 2012 - 2014
- President, BCSLA, 2006 - 2007
- Director, BCSLA, 2002 - 2006
- Surrey, BC, Canada Advisory Design Panel, 2004 - 2006
- BCLNA Judging Panel
- BC Landscape Standards Development Committee

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SELECTION OF PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Housing developments:
- HQ Sandton - Johannesburg, SA
- University Marketplace - Vancouver, Canada (AWARD)
- Springbrook Estates - Richmond, Canada (AWARD)
- Fitzsimons Walk - Richmiond, Canada (AWARD)
- Olympic Village for 2010 Olimpics - Vancouver, Canada
- Tides - Port Moody, Canada
- Ocean Walk - Richmond, Canada
- Evelyn Drive - West Vancouver, Canada
- Victoria Hill - New Westminster, Canada

Community Parks:
- Indwe Park - Liberty HQ Bammfontein, Johannesburg, SA
- Blesbok, Elsburg, Congo, Mashimong, other - Ekurhuleni, SA
- Nelson Park, Douglas Park - City of Vancouver,CAN
- Richard Bullpit Park, Routley Park - City of Langley, CAN
- Various neighbourhood parks in Maple Ridge, Surrey, Burnaby, Coquitlam and Port Moody,Canada

Hospitals:
- Center for Brain Health - Vancouver, Canada
- Children & Women Hospital - Vancouver, Canada
- Royal Jubilee Hospital - Victoria, Canada

Hotels/Resorts:
- Four Seasons Hotel - Whistler, Canada
- Hilton Hotel - Whistler, Canada
- Pan Pacific Hotel - Whistler, Canada

Recreational Facilities:
- MacLeod Park Sport Park - Pit Meadows, Canada
- South Aldergrove Sport Park - Surrey, Canada
- Vancouver Tennis club - Vancouver, Canada
- Southlands Horse Riding Club - Vancouver, Canada

Shopping Malls:
- South Point Exchange - Surrey, Canada
- Brentwood Mall - Burnaby, Canada
- Uptown Mall - Victoria, Canada
- Park Royal - West Vancouver, Canada

Casinos:
- MR Gaming Center - Maple Ridge, Canada
- View Royal Casino - Burnaby, Canada
- Grand Villa Casino - Burnaby, Canada

Synthetic Turf Play-fields:
- Jericho Beach Park - Vancouver, Canada
- Memorial South Park - Vancouver, Canada
- Port Moody Town Centre - Port Moody, Canada
- Glenlyon Norfolk School - Private School in Victoria, Canada
- Ambleside - West Vancouver, Canada

Water Features:
- Indiwe Park - Liberty HQ Bammfontein, Johannesburg, SA
- Olympic Village - Vancouver, Canada
- Ocean Walk - Richmond, Canada
- OMA - Vancouver, Canada
- Sasamat Gardens - Vancouver, Canada
- City Point - Surrey, Canada
- Thompson River University - Kelowna, Canada







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hq sandton, johannesburg, south africa

Located within the most modern part of Johannesburg, this multifamily residential project has been designed for young professionals as the primary group of residents in mind. This contemporary, horseshoe-shaped, 10-storey building provides small and medium-sized apartments, but delivers a large, semi-private outdoor space with elaborate amenities that can be accessed by all residents and their guests. Landscape design for this building includes two swimming pool facilities; formal and informal dining opportunities; active and passive recreation areas; party platform that is ready for large and small gatherings and a sizable open lawn that can facilitate a number of activities. This stylish building provides its residents with access to the largest green-roof in Johannesburg. Some of the outdoor amenities include: water features that provide gentle, ambient noise; small private patios for the selected units; an elevated walkway at the roof garden that allows for enjoying a magnificent view; a dedicated braai (BBQ) area that can accommodate several groups of users; fire pits with seating opportunities; gathering places with and without weather protection; outdoor bar area on the green-roof and a playground for kids on the ground level.

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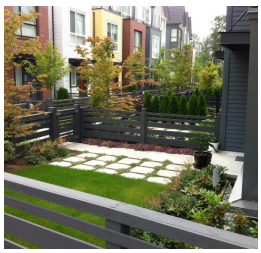
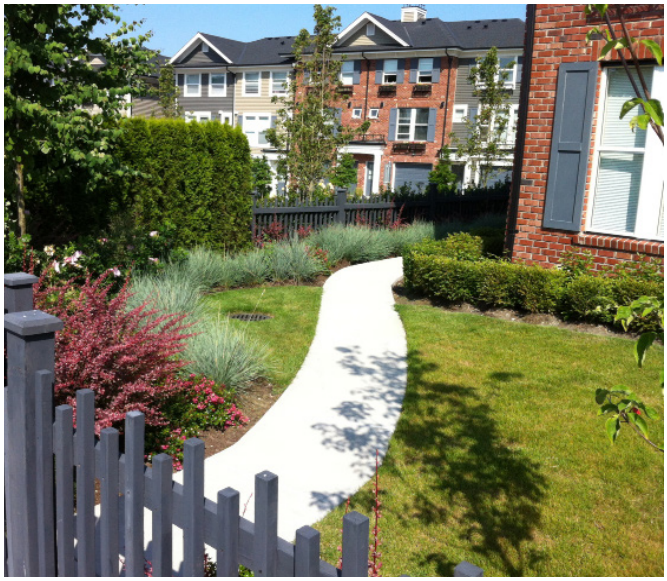


multifamily residential projects, british columbia, canada



Landscape design for a multifamily, residential development must provide attractive and easy to maintain features at the common areas. Considering that the owners of units with a ground floor access to a private garden may have their own preferences for the landscape treatment; the landscape design should provide a solution that creates a unity for the overall design, and yet allow for some degree of alterations that would encourage each owner to make his garden unique.

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klahanie, port moody, bc, canada

This large residential complex is located adjacent to a very environmentally sensitive estuary. All storm water from this large site is collected to undergo a purification process by running through a series of bio-filtration ponds. Pawel working together with an Environmental Consultant led the Environmental Impact Assessment process and developed a design for a constructed wetland that also works as wildlife sanctuary. In addition, this entire water purification complex can be observed by the public from a series of raised platforms and a bridge, allowing for education of the local community.

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one madison avenue, burnaby, bc, canada


In this project a series of residential towers required a design solution that would allow for safe collection and disposal of storm water from all paved and roofed areas of the site into the adjacent, sensitive fish-habitat creek. After an extensive environmental impact assessment, the design solution provides for a series of bio-filtration ponds and that allow for the required storm water purifying process. In addition, the newly created natural buffer created a wildlife and bird habitat.



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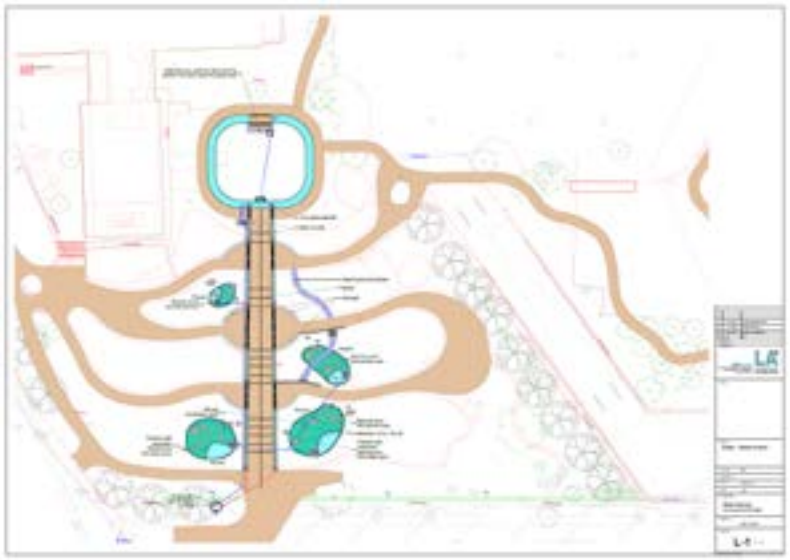
indwe park, liberty life hq, johannesburg, south africa

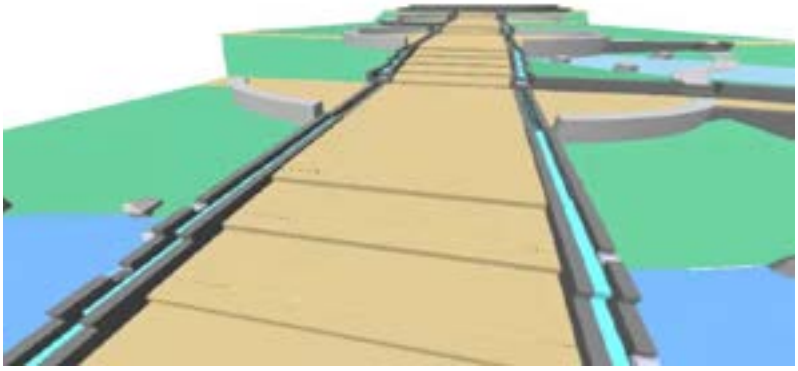
Indwe park is located within the grounds of the head quarters of Liberty Life and neigbours the University of Witswatersrand. Working with the team that included Batley and Partners as the leading architects and James Delaney as the artistic consultant, LASquare provided the design for an elaborate water feature and hard landscape elements for the adjacent areas. 3D modeling for the proposed solution was created by LASquare to support the presentation of the conceptual design.

The central walkway with cascading water channels on either side and the easy accessible meandering path was designed to create the main focal point of the park.

To invite visitors to engage with the water, the recirculating system incorporates waterfalls and bio-filtration to naturally keep the system clean and chemical-free.

The main concept of this park was to create a safe and tranquil hub, away from the bustle of the inner city for students, workers from nearby offices and the public.





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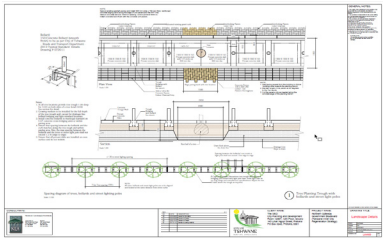
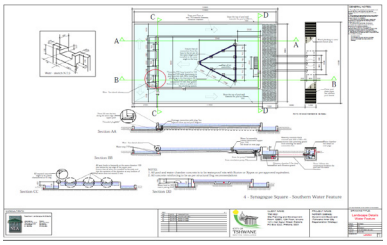


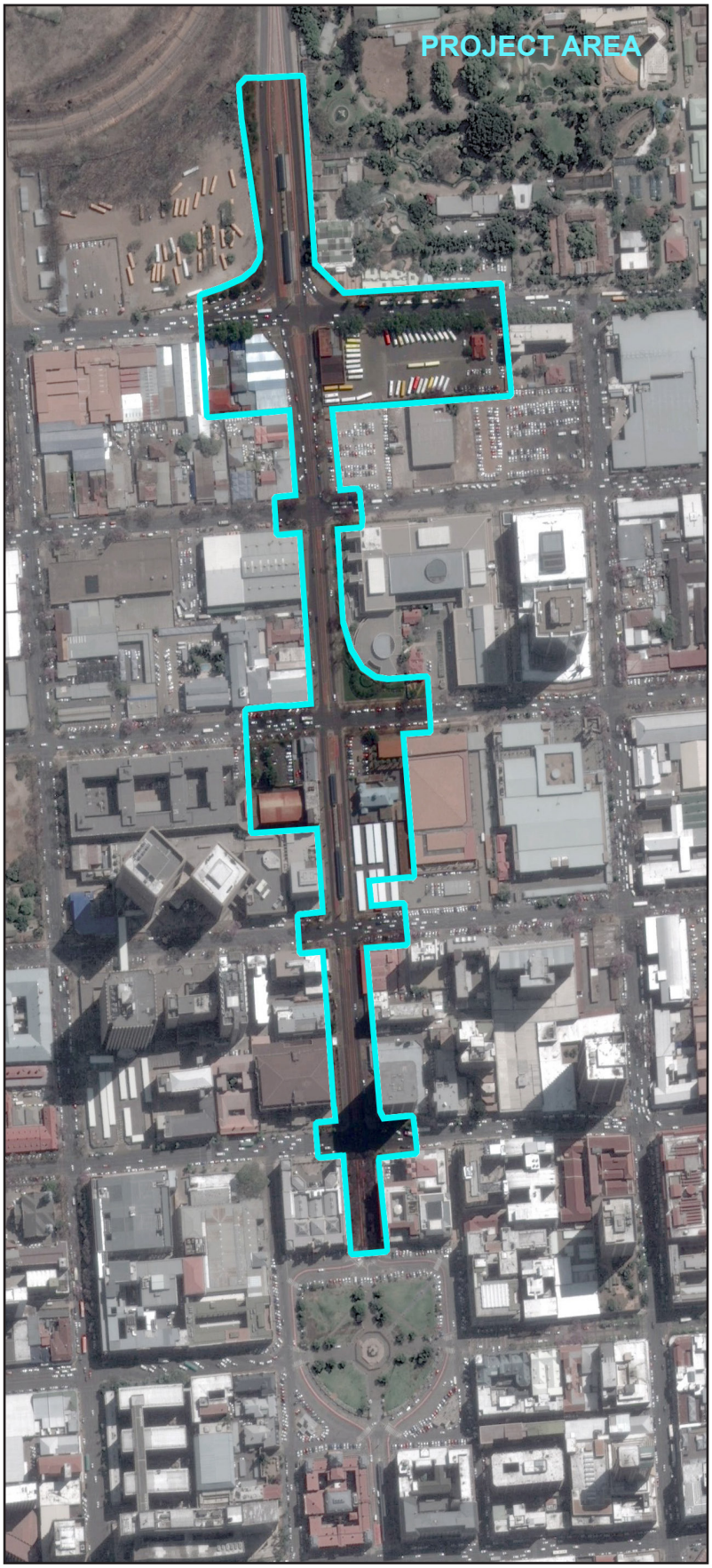


northern gateway, city of tshwane

Pawel worked on the Northern Gateway project with Newton Landscape Architects, acting as the lead project manager for the landscape architecture components in this large public sector project. This design encompasses five city blocks and two large squares, aiming at creating the new gateway for City of Tshwane.

The redevelopment of an active public space within an existing urban fabric includes, upgrades to a boulevard for the new government precinct; a new bus transit lane; creation of nodes designated for public art, enhancement to the pedestrian routes; provision of new infrastructures for active and passive recreation and various activities engaging the public. Also, collection and retention of rainwater from the entire site allows for an environmentally friendly irrigation system for the new planting and for operation of two water features. Several existing heritage structures that played a significant role in the history of this area needed to be incorporated into the design. The enhancement required new programming enabling the redeveloped precinct to become a vibrant public amenity.

Pawel's role was to oversee the complete landscape design process including: coordination of all work with the design team, coordinate project details with various city departments and manage the production of working drawings.



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ksb pumps, ekurhuleni, south africa

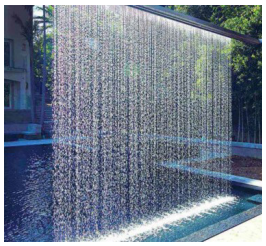
The goal of this project, located within the industrial area of Germiston in Ekurhuleni, aims at converting two outdated industrial structures into modern office buildings surrounded with an attractive landscape.

Some of the existing factory structures have been already demolished, leaving only selected steel structures and an industrial concrete floor on the ground. The existing structures will be incorporated into the landscape design, repurposing their functions into attractive and functional feature. The existing concrete floor will be partially removed and relocated within the site, creating room for soft landscape treatment.

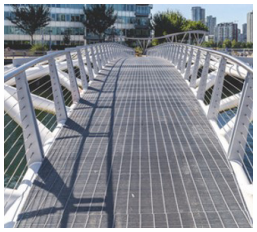
A large water feature with three connected pools and a centrally located roofed gazebo, will provide an opportunity to the Client, who manufactures industrial pump and filter products, to display and promote some of their products.

A large, underground cistern has been designed for harvesting rainwater from the roofs of the buildings and all hard and soft landscaped areas. The collected and pre-filtered runoff will be used for landscape irrigation system; compensating evaporation loss in the water feature; for all pump demonstrations at a specially designated facility; and for selected uses at the office building.

The soft landscape at this site will consist of mostly indigenous plants that are drought resistant and provide attractive setting throughout the year.



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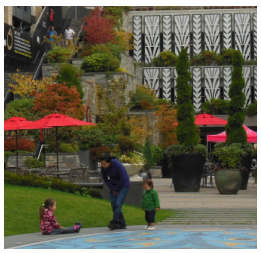
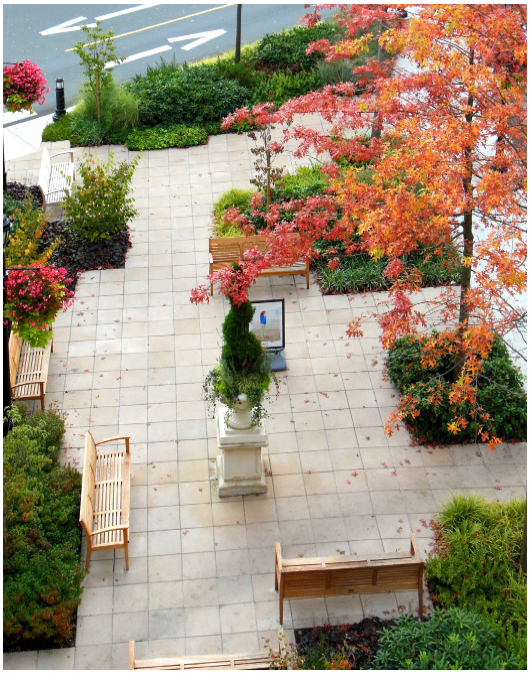


pubic amenits, british columbioa, canada



Commercial plazas, shopping malls, city squares and many other places that serve as public amenities, require careful selection of features and landscape design that is attractive all year round, easy to maintain, sturdy and provides safe environment for the public. Involvement of landscape architect at the earliest stages of project development assure good integration of all infrastructures necessary for attaining vigorous and healthy landscapes.

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the village at park royal shopping centre, west vancouver, canada

The Village at Park Royal in West Vancouver replaced an old strip-mall with unique character buildings and required a major revisions to hard and soft landscape. The main goal of this project was to create an attractive public place that would enhance the shopping experience and invite visitors to spend their leisure time at the local cafes and restaurants or to enjoy a stroll through the vibrant, safe and welcoming public area.

The central point of attraction at The Village incorporated an engaging water feature that provides 'animation' to the plaza, which is adjacent to the intersection of two main pedestrian traffic routes. This plaza design, provided several geometric shapes of large granite blocks that are juxtaposed to the 'organic-form' and partially planted water feature edges. The granite stone blocks placed within the accessible shallow water that meanders through the planted space, creates an inviting landscape with playful opportunity for interactivity with water.

This water feature together with the extensive hard and soft landscaping treatment for The Village grounds became essential for the overall improvements for this section of the shopping mall. The Village at Park Royal is now considered as one of the most successful and attractive shopping centres in the Vancouver area. Pawel provided the design, working drawings and field monitoring services for the water feature and all hard and soft landscape components for this project.

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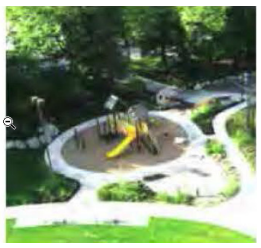

selected hospitals, greater vancouver area, canada

Landscape areas adjacent to a hospital should comprise of an easy to navigate, accessible and attractive space that engages the senses in a high quality experience. Hospital patients, personnel and visitors should also have access to a "healing garden", where they can pause for a moment and relax their mind by focusing on surroundings that stimulate calmness and provoke sense of safety.

When designing for hospital grounds, Pawel works in close collaboration with a variety of people, including hospital personnel; various consultants; patients; community groups and specialized contractors to achieve the best possible design solution.

The site-specific programming for all features selected for the hospital grounds needs to respond to the unique type of medical services that are being offered at each facility. In some units (i.e. mental health) the design features must be considered very carefully to ensure the safety and welfare of all patients and personnel.

At the **Children's and Women's Hospital** in Vancouver (above), carefully selected components of the landscape, provide opportunities for kids to create and discover. The playground and the adjacent recreational lawn, located within the attractive swaths of planting that offers a variety of fragrances, textures, and seasonal colour; provide children and adults with opportunities to play in organized or spontaneous sports and games. Meandering paths and boardwalks connect these spaces, while providing seating opportunities and playfully linking to the surrounding facilities.

The Healing Garden in the **Delta Hospital** was focused on creating a usable exterior courtyard for both patients and visitors as part of the new hospital entry extension. The hospital courtyard design was based on providing a therapeutic place for relaxation, meeting and visual interest for the surrounding rooms and facilities enclosing the space. It provides both, a great outside amenity space and unique visual backdrop to the new hospital entrance area. Although patient safety and movement was the primary concern in the design of the courtyard, all efforts were made to provide a variety of unique spaces through the use of different surface materials, landscape structures, water features, and plant material.

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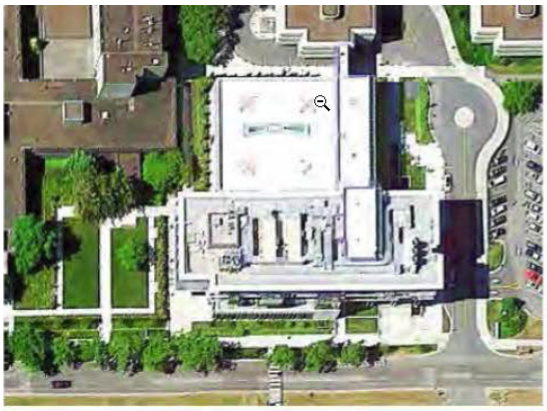
djavad mowafoghian - centre for brain health, vancouver, canada





The goal for the landscape design at this specialized medical centre project, located at the heart of University of British Columbia, was to evoke the sense of calmness and elegance. The design at the main entrance to the hospital consist of a large stepping water feature with three shimmering waterfalls, a pedestrian bridge over the water, custom designed benches, landscape lighting system and an attractive planting scheme. All the areas surrounding this modern building are complemented with high sustainability components. Pawel provided the landscape design and complete overview of implementation, for all landscape features.

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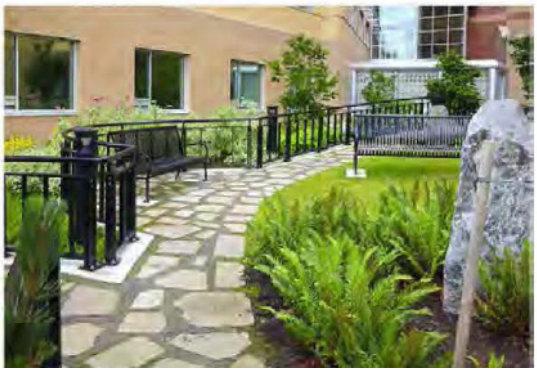
royal jubilee hospital, victoria, canada




Modernization project for the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria, allowed for the restoring and partial redesign of the existing hospital grounds. The new landscape design provides a number of functional and attractive open spaces, each offering a unique programming for the patients, personnel and for the visitors. While some encourage social interaction, other offer privacy for visiting the patients or discussing personal matters with a doctor. All of these social functions are supported by specially design landscape features. The carefully selected location of the benches and positioning of the curving, stone-faced walls allow for increased privacy. A metal trellises offers shade and rain protection allowing for social interaction in the garden. A cascading waterfall and planting located within the enclosed area provide an oasis of tranquility, allowing for a moment of reflection away from the noisy streets and the busy parking.

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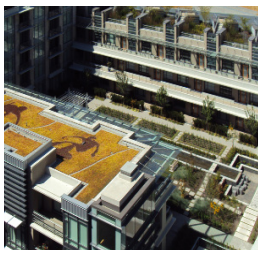


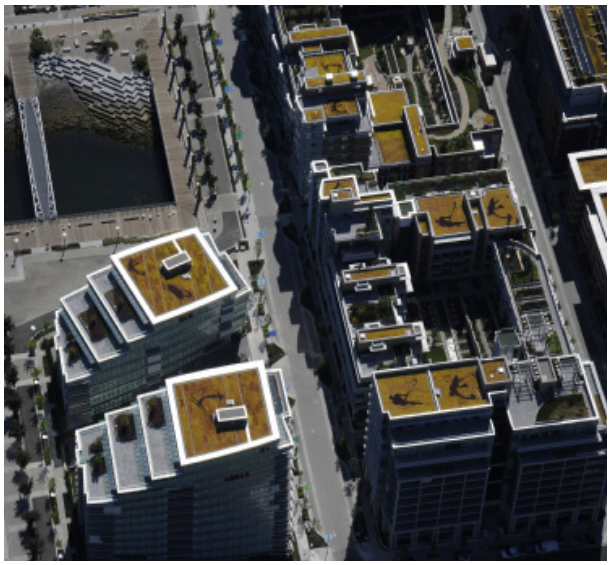

landscape on structures, british columbia, canada

All landscapes installed on buildings or raised structures, have to be closely coordinated with the architectural and engineered components.

Plants growing in these unique conditions, not having access to the ground water or the ability for natural drainage, have to rely on irrigation system and drainage provided artificially.

In projects, where the provision of healthy growing environment for plants is not possible, landscape architect may provide attractive solutions that do not require any plant material.



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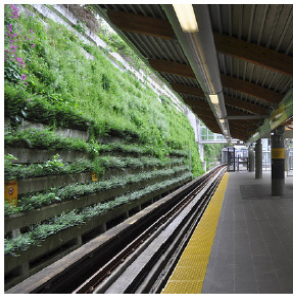
skytrain - light rail transit, greater vancouver area, canada

Pawel was actively involved in the design and development of the two of three currently existing lines for the Vancouver SkyTrain System. SkyTrain is a mostly elevated or underground light rail transit (LRT) system that runs through the Greater Vancouver area. The "Millennium" line was completed in 2000 and the "Canada" line was developed for the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics.

Eleven unique designs for new SkyTrain stations along the "Millennium" line were developed by four design teams, selected by the City. Each team consisted of an architect, landscape architect, various engineers, an artist providing a public-art piece for each station and several other supporting consultants. Pawel was selected as the landscape architect for three of the four design teams. He provided hard and soft landscape design and comprehensive construction monitoring for the eight LRT stations and for a significant portion of the landscape treatment, along the elevated line.

Pawel's landscape design includes, site grading of the area surrounding the elevated station; all paving design and selection for paving materials; public access stairs to the stations; selection of green-wall and retaining wall systems; bike racks and bike lockers; site furnishing; selection of planting material and the irrigation systems.



Prior to the development of detailed design for the "Canada" line, this project required an indepth analysis of the existing landscape conditions along portions of the proposed route. This was due to the majority of LRT tracks being designed in a shallow, excavated tunnel. Pawel was involved in the feasibility study to preserve the existing landscape along the proposed corridor. This analysis allowed for the protection of valuable, existing landscape including the heritage trees. Pawel was also involved in the design for portions of the overall landscape treatment along this line, which was required at only a few stations that are elevated or located on street level.

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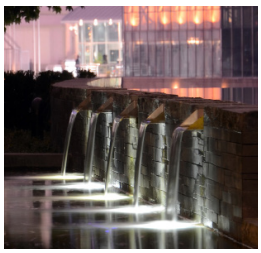
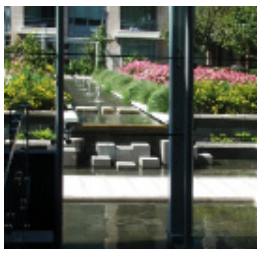
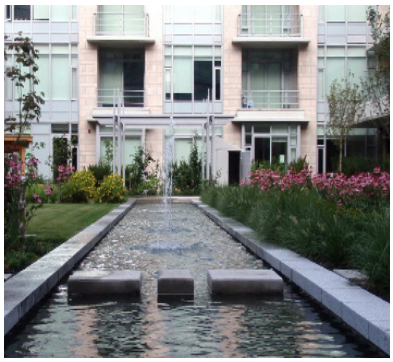




rainwater harvesting, olympic village, vancouver, canada

While the demand for potable water is constantly rising in urban centres, the supply of this resource faces a number of challenges. Therefore, rainwater harvesting for non-potable purposes is a fast growing industry that mitigates this problem. Pawel's extensive experience in designing well-balanced water harvesting systems; based on the local meteorological and evapotranspiration data; unique characteristics of the collection area and estimated water requirements for irrigation or other uses; allows him to assist the clients in optimizing the size of the collection tank, maintaining good quality of the harvested water and significantly reducing the use of potable water.



The Olympic Village built for 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, Canada is one of Pawel's biggest rainwater harvesting projects that suports the irrigation system and toilet flushing requirements for the entire complex. The rainwater from all hard surfaces and the landscaped green-roofs is collected in ten large cisterns located below the buildings. Attractive water features incorporated in each of the ten, independent systems allow for maintaining and monitoring the quality of water. This large rainwater harvesting system saves a significant volume of potable water, while it is aesthetically incorporated in the landscape features of this popular, public space.

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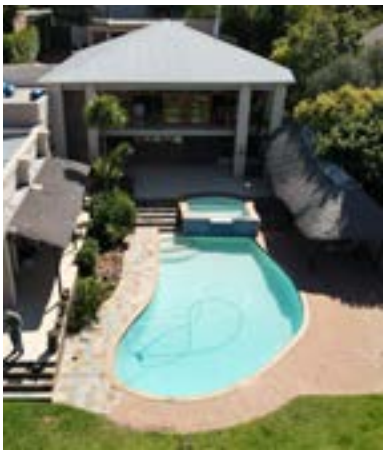
rainwater harvesting/residential pool, johannesburg, sa

This project lis ocated in the Johannesburg's Observatory area. The outdated backyard with a large, old swimming pool and the narrow, dysfunctional patio had to be modernized.



The following were the key objectives for the new design:
- reduce the size of the pool from ±120.000 to ±50,000 liters
- redesign the backyard to provide a large, usable space for family gatherings
- increased privacy of the yard
- introduce rainwater harvesting measures allowing for collecting the runoff from the large roof and the hard landscape area. Water will be used for topping-up the pool and for the new irrigation system for the garden
- add outdoor fire pit and braai (BBQ) area
- link the adjacent cottage building with the pool area

LASquare redesigned the backyard and assisted during the construction process. The existing pool has been rebuilt into two vital components: a new 3m x 11m swimming pool and a large, underground water storage that can harvest up to ± 75,000 liters of rainwater.

The new, rectangular pool is partially located inside the old structure and includes:
- a shallow(±0.5m) area for the kids
- a deeper (±1.8m to 3m) swimming area, which is protected with an underwater net
- an 'infinity edge' section with a catchment that doubles as a wadding area for small kids
- colour LED underwater lights and rope-lighting at the outside perimeter of the pool

The water storage area is divided into two sections. The larger chamber collects rainwater that is partially filtered via the gravel sump. From this chamber water goes through a sand filter and is collected in the second, smaller section. The double-filtered water is than used for the irrigation and the pool. Both underground, concrete tanks are covered with a new decking that is built from the composite material. A section of the decking can be open to access both the tanks. A small water feature in the adjacent planter allows for monitoring the quality of the stored water. The gas fireplace eliminates the risk of ashes fcontaminating the pool. The new, raised planter edge provides ample sitting opportunity adjacent to the colorful vegetation.

LA² Landscape & Aquatic Architecture

Pawel Gradowski

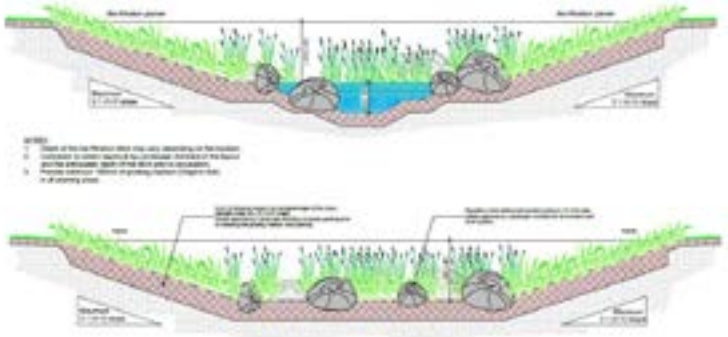
Landscape Architect
BLA, SACLAP, BCSLA, IFLA

constructed wetlands, south africa

The ever-increasing area of paved surfacing in the rapidly expanding urban communities results in a growing number of engineered stormwater structures, which are designed to manage the runoff flowing from the roads and hard landscape areas. Water mixed with various pollutants from the impervious surfaces is removed by an underground storm system and does not infiltrate the subgrades. This results in three major problems:

- surges of runoff that increase erosion of the land
- growing pollution of rivers and lakes that collect the runoff
- reduction of natural infiltration into the subgrades that maintains levels of groundwater table.

Badly designed stormwater management is one of the key issues that negatively impacts natural environment and results in its ecological degradation.



Detail 1 - Sections through Bio-Filtration area

A **natural wetland** is a distinct ecosystem that is flooded by water, either permanently or seasonally, and provides a valuable habitat for wildlife. Therefore, these wetlands are protected by various legislations and cannot be used for bio-filtering polluted runoffs. However, **constructed wetlands** are artificially created and are primarily designed to treat sewage, greywater, stormwater or industrial wastewater.

LASquare has been involved in a number of projects where the creation of constructed wetlands was the main objective of the landscape design. These activities include:

- designing for bio-filtration systems that clean the water before it is collected in the storm sewers
- daylighting of selected sections of existing underground storm lines or open, concrete-paved channels and converting them into constructed wetlands
- designing of detention ponds that slow down the peak flows after large rain events
- designing of trash catchment systems that capture litter flowing the in the stormwater
- reclamation of rivers and lakes that have been contaminated by urban or industrial runoff

In urban developments, there is a large number of small rivers and their seemingly insignificant tributaries that are hidden underground and flow through the engineered storm systems. Eventually, the runoff is brought to the surface from the buried pipes, where it naturally meanders through the open land. The impact of the accumulated waste is the most visible at these locations.

Natural and constructed wetlands absorb a large volume of pollutants dissolved in water, slow down the flows that result in the reduced peak of runoff and allow for water to infiltrate into the subgrades.

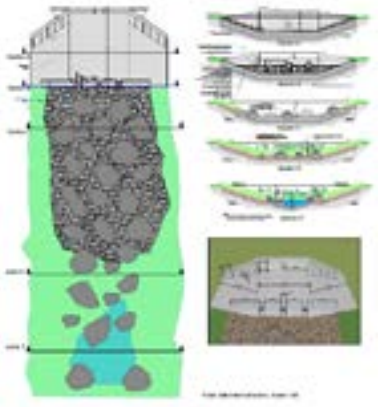
LA²
Landscape & Aquatic
Architecture

Pawel Gradowski

Landscape Architect
BLA, SACLAP, BCSLA, IFLA

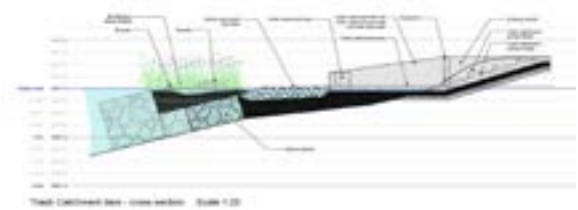
boksburg lake, ekurhuleni, south africa

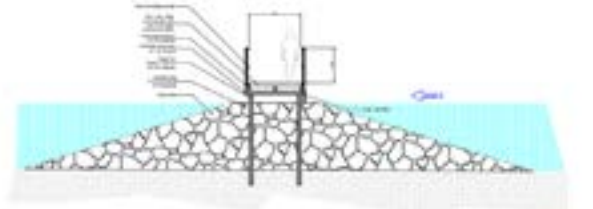
Boksburg Lake was man-made in the early 1900's and over the years has run into significant problems with the substantial accumulation of organic sediments on the lake floor and with various types of water pollution.



LASquare, working in a team with Kamadi Consulting and SRK Engineering, developed a new masterplan for the rehabilitation of the lake. The proposed solution implements a variety of engineered and natural methods that will gradually remove the organic sedimentation, eliminate pollutants from the water, minimize future accumulation of organic and mineral deposits and restore a healthy ecological balance of the water that will improve conditions for wildlife in the lake and its perimeter.

Water aerators installed on the lake surface will gradually oxidize its water and remove the majority of the organic sediment from its floor. A system of trash catchments installed at all storm drainage outflows will reduce future accumulation of waste. An introduction of floating islands and the construction of planted islands along the lake perimeter allows for an increased bio-filtration process. A system of small pumps will force water circulation in the lake to ensure that all these interventions continue to improve the quality of whole body of water in the lake.



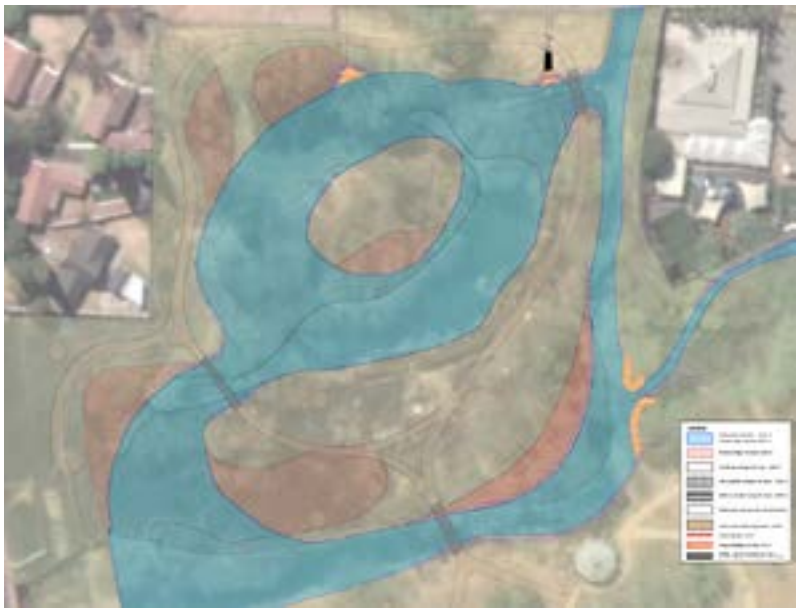


LA^2
Landscape & Aquatic Architecture

Pawel Gradowski

Landscape Architect
BLA, SACLAP, BCSLA, IFLA

bio-filtration in pubic parks, city of ekurhuleni, south africa



Water pollution in the form of raw sewage, chemical spills and accumulating trash, is a major problem in many large urban communities. Contaminated runoff flows from various hard surfaces through catch basins and underground storm lines into open streams and channels. The unfiltered water eventually finds its way into rivers and lakes, creating an ecological crisis. This creates two major problems:

- contamination of water
- strong surges of runoff that erodes river banks, resulting in siltation and destruction of the aquatic environment

In many cities, open storm structures are surrounded by undeveloped green spaces and commonly function as urban parks. The involvement of Landscape Architects that are experienced in aquatic design are critical in mitigating these challenges to provide functional open spaces while protecting the environment.

Creating attenuation ponds by widening water channels and slowing down their flows with strategically installed natural boulders will minimise the peak-flows and reduce erosion.

A proper selection of wetland vegetation growing along the edges of streams and ponds will further slow down the flow and provide a natural bio-filtration process by absorbing pollutants dissolved in water. This will also provide a habitat for small wildlife and create attractive features for park visitors.

LASquare assisted the City of Ekurhuleni in the development of several community parks by incorporating innovative structures for trash catchment, designing detention ponds and constructed wetlands, which are necessary to clean the water and to reduce the peak runoff.

LA2
Landscape & Aquatic
Architecture

Pawel Gradowski

Landscape Architect
BLA, SACLAP, BCSLA, IFLA

blesbok park, ekurhuleni, south africa

The Blesbok Park within the Tembisa neighbourhood has been developed within a large open space that encompasses a heavily polluted stormwater channel located between three low-income communities.

The two main objectives to the design were:

- to address the stormwater pollution of Blesbok stream that is flowing into the Jukskei river
- to provide a recreational facility for the neighbouring three communities.

The masterplan for the project developed by Pawel Gradowski working in tandem with Silverhorns Consulting, resolved these issues by providing landscape design that incorporated:

- trash catchment structures that capture debris flowing in to the stream from the adjacent streets
- an extensive bio-filtration system of plants along the reshaped stream banks that will reduce its flow rate and absorb several pollutants dissolved in the water
- playgrounds and various rectreation amenities
- a network of trails and several pedestrian bridges linked the three communities by providing easy access to all shared amenities and inviting visitors to engage in active recreation.

LA2
Landscape & Aquatic
Architecture

Pawel Gradowski

Landscape Architect
BLA, SACLAP, BCSLA, IFLA

elsburg park, ekurhuleni, south africa

Elsburg Park, located at the edge of Cinderella Dam Lake, has been re-developed to protect the lake from polluted runoff flowing from the neighbourhood and to provide recreational amenity to the local residents and students from the adjacent school. In addition, a large portion of the park grounds was infested with alien invasive species that had to be removed. The project was designed to be implemented in two phases.

The first phase had been completed in 2020 and included the following:

- removing of the invasive species
- removing concrete aprons from the existing drainage channels
- installation of innovative trash catchments structures
- planting the reshaped banks and floor of the channels with bio-filtration plant material
- installation of selected portions of pedestrian trails with picnic pads and benches throughout the park, which invites visitors to explore its grounds and promotes active recreation.


Stormwater outflow prior to intervention

LA2
Landscape & Aquatic
Architecture

Pawel Gradowski

Landscape Architect
BLA, SACLAP, BCSLA, IFLA

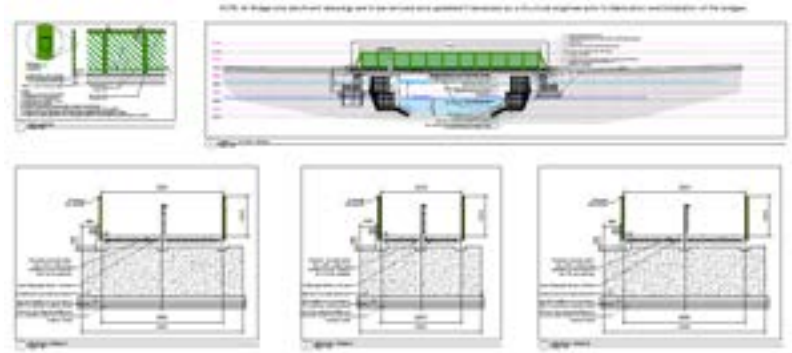
horwood park, ekurhuleni, south africa

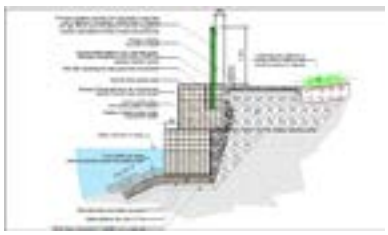
Horwood park, located within the Edenvale community, had been recently upgraded with a new set of recreation amenities and associated system of pathways. After the phase one work had been completed, Pawel Gradowski had been appointed to provide a landscape design for the overgrown and undeveloped portion of the park that included a series stagnant, polluted ponds and the river meandering between large, invasive trees.

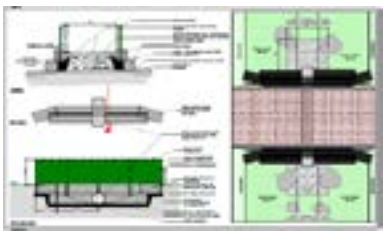
Pawel Gradowski provided the new landscape design that included the hydrological and environmental analysis of the area, and provided solutions that resulted in developing an attractive extension of the existing park.

The new design included:

- revisions to the shape of the river and creation of a large attenuation pond
- creative solutions for slowing down the flow of the river
- new measures for erosion control that protected the river banks
- a large constructed wetland
- a birds-sanctuary island
- three pedestrian bridges with a series of paved pathways that invite visitors to safely explore the natural section of this park.







LA2
Landscape & Aquatic Architecture

Pawel Gradowski

Landscape Architect
BLA, SACLAP, BCSLA, IFLA

welgedacht circle park, ekurhuleni, south africa

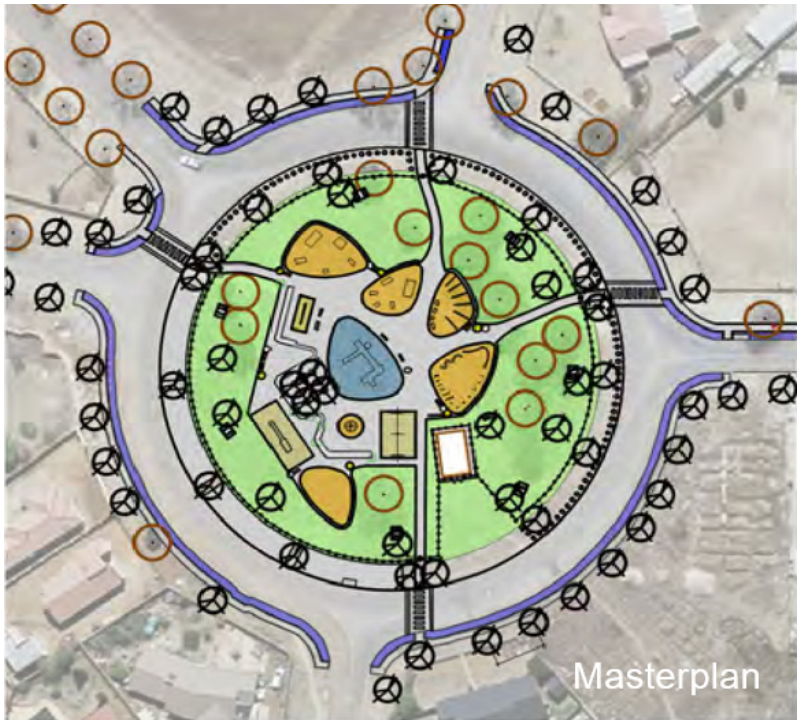
This new park built in the heart of Welgedacht transformed an unused open area into a vibrant playground.

LASquare working in conjunction with Kamadi Consulting was commissioned to design a multi-functional facility that provides a picnic area, pedestrian and bicycle pathways connecting two parks and new recreation nodes for children and active youth.

The installation included solar lighting, new play equipment and an outdoor fitness gym. The play area is set in partial shade, provided by existing and new trees. Playing children are protected by a fence and a set of bollards.

Soft landscape is complemented by paved pathways and seating areas furnished with benches, bins and braai stands.

The project ensured that the community were consulted from the outset and were beneficiaries of the jobs created during the construction of the project.

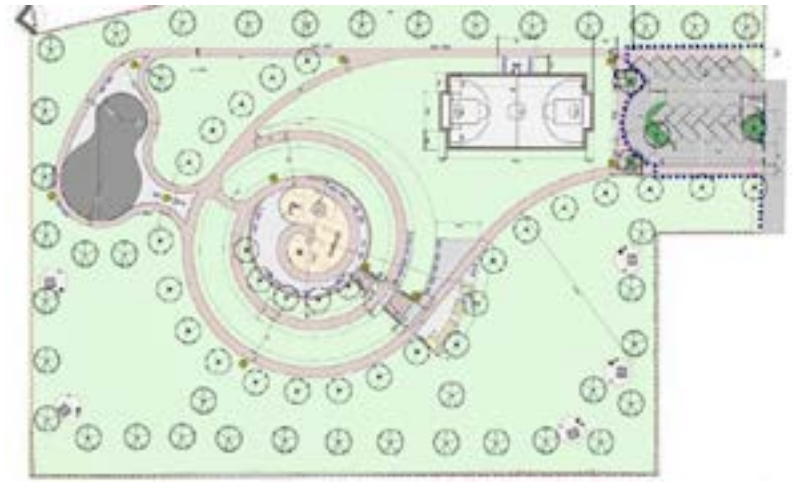


LA² Landscape & Aquatic Architecture

Pawel Gradowski

Landscape Architect
BLA, SACLAP, BCSLA, IFLA

congo park, ekurhuleni, south africa



This neighborhood park in Vosloorus provides much needed recreational amenity to the local low-income community and the adjacent public school.

LASquare working in team with Silverhorns Consulting provided the design for this functional park that offers a multi-sports court; picnic areas; children playground; skate park and outoor gym equipment for the active youth.

Reshaping of this gently sloping property and creating a raised platform with a number of benches and the playground equipment in the center of the park, allows for good visibility throughout the entire site, thus improving the safety of visitors and effective ability of parents for monitoring of all activities.

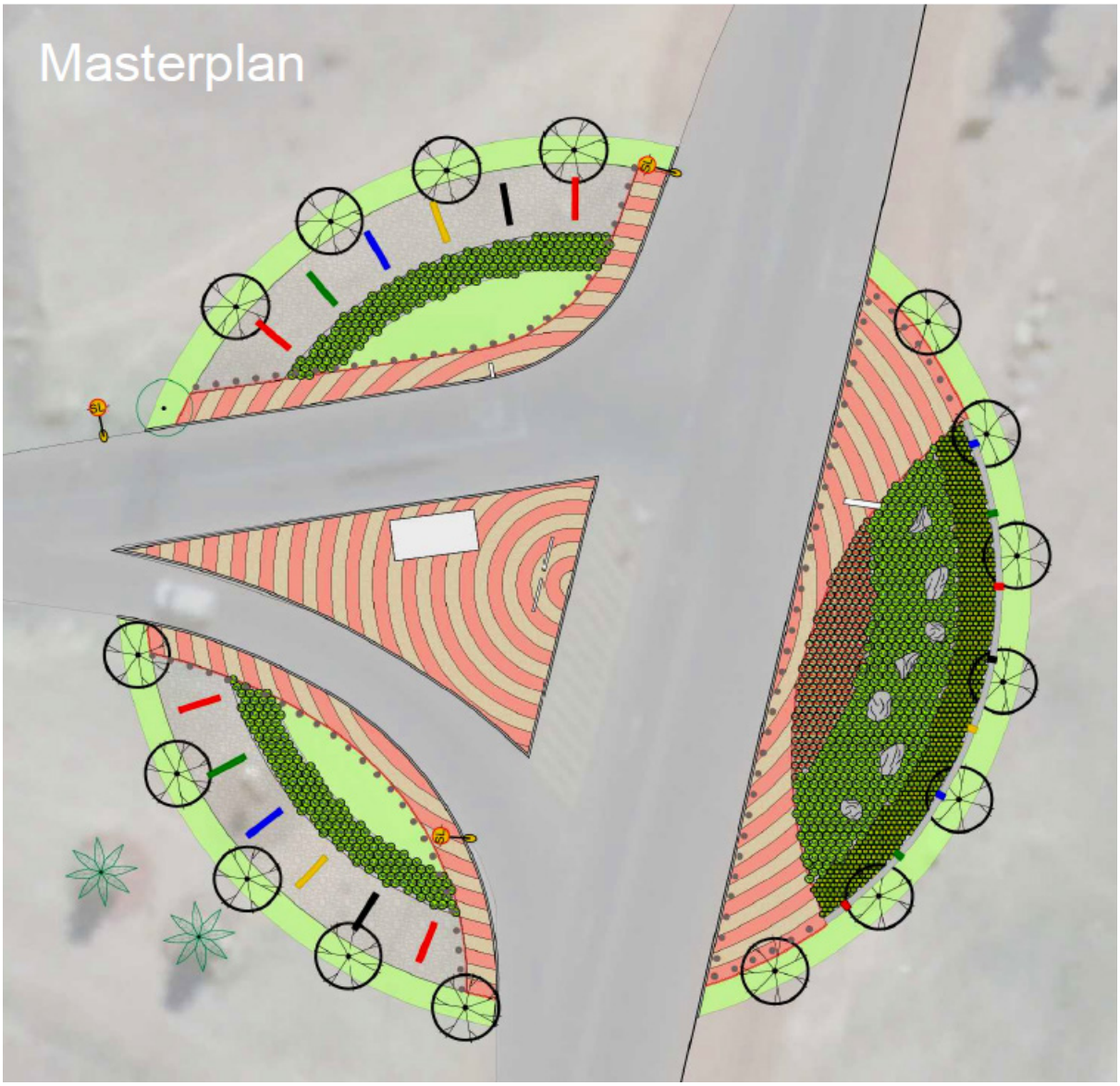
The natural subgrades at this site contain a significant number of large boulders, which were utilized to create an informal play and recreation area. The majority of local visitors will come to the park on foot; however, the provision of small parking area was intended to serve the community during organized events.

LA2
Landscape & Aquatic Architecture

Pawel Gradowski

Landscape Architect
BLA, SACLAP, BCSLA, IFLA

tsakane gateways, ekurhuleni, south africa



The landscape upgrades for the highway gateway into Tsakane was to improve the aesthetics along the intersection.

LASquare working together with Kamadi Consulting was commissioned for the landscape design and the management of the construction process. The design elements embraced the corporate identity of the City of Ekuruhleni, ensured that traffic was not disrupted and that the informal vendors were accommodated.

The project entailed the installation of decorative walls in the colours of the city's logo, patterned paving, trees and drought tolerant, indigenous groundcovers.

The striking walls are embedded amongst the attractive landscape that is protected from cars by a series of bollards and provides for a well-functioning intersection that warmly welcomes residents and visitors into Tsakane

LA2 Landscape & Aquatic Architecture

Pawel Gradowski

Landscape Architect
BLA, SACLAP, BCSLA, IFLA

cemeteries, ekurhuleni, south africa

Various religions and associated with them burial traditions play a significant part in the process of developing a masterplan for cemeteries. Considerations for easy wayfinding to the graves; accessibility for vehicles and associated parking space; administration and maintenance of the grounds; safety of the visitors together with addressing stormwater management issues; completing environmental and geotechnical studies; investigating demographics of the adjacent communities and resolving a number of technical issues are only some of the critical elements that have to be resolved during the initial stage of the design process. Unique needs of various ethnic groups that will be burying their relatives and friends, combined with their vision of dignity for the deceased, require a thorough analysis of their cultural background. The final masterplan must resolve all of the above issues, while providing an aesthetic and economically viable solution that will be gradually implemented over a long period of time, until the cemetery will reach its full capacity.

The masterplan for Putfontein Cemetery, proposes a new, 32 ha burial grounds that are located at the north boundaries of Benoni. This design provides ± 60,000 burial sites, all requires amenities, ample parking at the main entry and throughout the grounds. The masterplan also incorporates an existing wetland area, adapting it into an ecological sanctuary for local wildlife.

The 58 ha Koppiesfontein Cemetery is proposed to be located half-way between Vosloorus and Heidelberg - two communities with uniquely different traditions and ethnic background. The masterplan for the cemetery provides ±116,000 burial sites, with all amenities serving both communities. The design of the grounds is based on the fusion of two themes - 'assegai' a southern Africa's traditional spear and the symbol of infinity. A gently sloping site provides an opportunity to incorporate an attractive view of the terrain located far beyond the cemetery grounds, which provokes sense of peace and serenity.

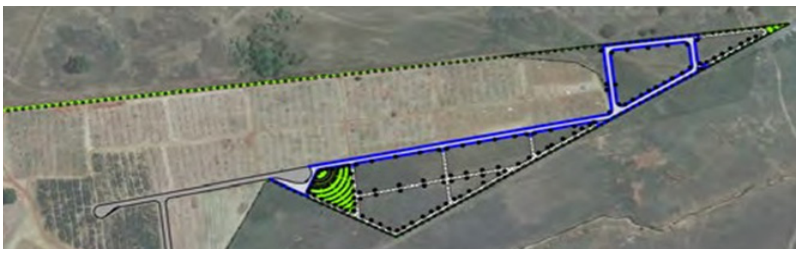
Koppiesfontein Cemetery Masterplan

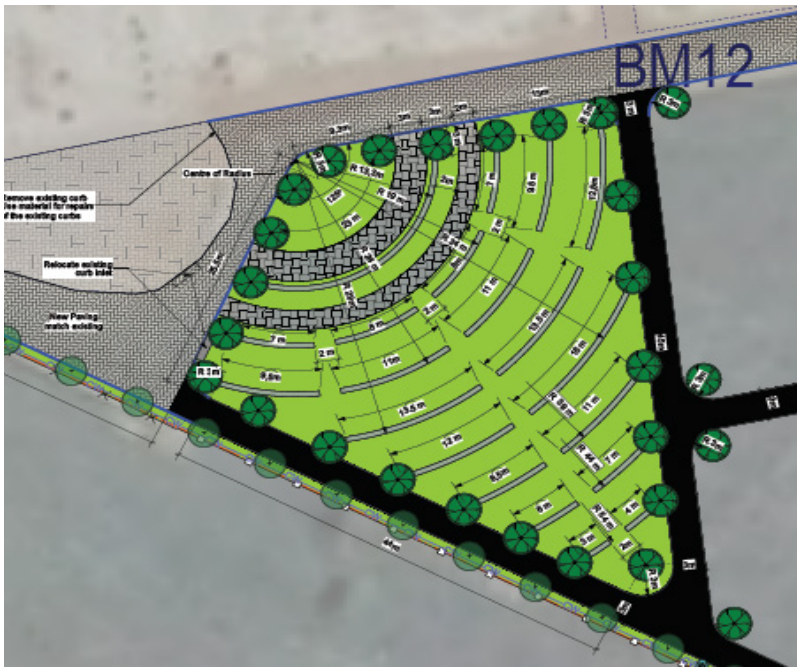
LA²
Landscape & Aquatic Architecture

Pawel Gradowski

Landscape Architect
BLA, SACLAP, BCSLA, IFLA

brakpan cemetery, ekurhuleni, south africa





The Brakpan Cemetery expansion project was aimed at increasing burial space and restoring the sanctity of the cemetery.

LASquare in conjunction with Kamadi Consulting was commissioned to incorporate the pockets of under-utilized areas along the southern and eastern sections of the cemetery to include new gravesites and to include memorial walls for residents who are opting for alternative burial methods.

The expansion included the planting of a rich tree canopy, improving security with a concrete palisade fence, constructing a paved road network with parking, and the installation of new water and sewer lines in preparation for the new ablution facilities.

The curved rows of the memorial walls in dark stone (shown below still under construction) are separated by green-lawned pathways to provide for quiet reflection in the cemetery.

LA²
Landscape & Aquatic Architecture

Pawel Gradowski

Landscape Architect
BLA, SACLAP, BCSLA, IFLA



water features, complete design packages



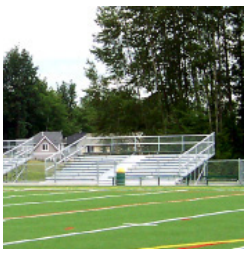



Pawel has developed his expertise in developing end-to-end design packages for water features. His ability to provide comprehensive water feature designs including all engineering aspects of the installation process, allows him to effectively meet the aesthetic, functional and mechanical requirements of a particular system. His insight, experience and expertise in water feature installations provides for designs with practical and efficient systems. Starting from preliminary conceptual drawings and design evaluations, through complete packages of working drawings (including the selection and sizing of mechanical components) followed by field reviews that see the project through its installation and startup, Pawel provides this specialized service based on his unique understanding and extensive experience in all aspects of water feature design.

LA 2
Landscape & Aquatic Architecture

Pawel Gradowski

Landscape Architect
BLA, SACLAP, BCSLA, IFLA


synthetic turf play fields, british columbia, canada

PITT MEADOWS SEC. SCHOOL
PITT MEADOWS, BC:
Project Role - Prime Consutant
Project Budget - C$ 1.6M
Client - SD42 /RMPLS

AMBLESIDE PARK
WEST VANCOUVER, BC:
Project Role - Prime Consutant
Project Budget - C$ 700,000
Client - District of West Vancover

JERICHO BEACH PARK
VANCOUVER, BC:
Project Role - Prime Consutant
Project Budget - C$ 2.0M
Client - Vancouver Park Board

MEMORIAL SOUTH PARK
VANCOUVER, BC:
Project Role - Prime Consutant
Project Budget - C$ 2.0M
Client - Vancouver Park Board

PORT MOODY TOWN CENTRE
PORT MOODY, BC:
Project Role - Prime Consutant
Project Budget - C$ 1.0M
Client - City of Port Moody

GLENLYON NORFOLK SCHOOL
VICTORIA, BC:
Project Role - Prime Consutant
Project Budget - C$ 1.5 M
Client - Glenlyon Norfolk School

BROOKS SECONDARY SCHOOL
POWELL RIVER, BC:
Project Role - Prime Consutant
Project Budget - C$ 1.2 M
Client - School District 47

WESTVIEW SECONDARY SCHOOL
MAPLE RIDGE, BC:
Project Role - Prime Consutant
Project Budget - C$ 1.4 M
Client - SD42 /RMPLS

RICHMOND SECONDARY SCHOOL
RICHMOND, BC:
Project Role - Prime Consutant
Project Budget - C$ 1.3 M
Client - School District 38

S.T.R. SECONDARY SCHOOL
MAPLE RIDGE, BC:
Project Role - Prime Consutant
Project Budget - C$ 1.2 M
Client - SD42 /RMPLS

LA 2
Landscape & Aquatic Architecture

Pawel Gradowski

Landscape Architect
BLA, SACLAP, BCSLA, IFLA

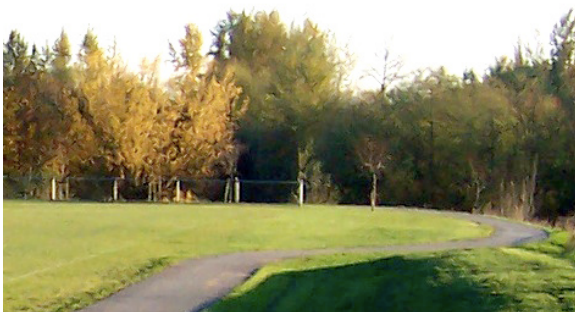


south aldergrove athletic park, aldergrove, canada

The challenge for the South Aldergrove Athletic Park was to design a park that could hold regional sporting events on a site with inadequate storm water infrastructure, in close proximity to an environmentally sensitive area that included an existing indigenous forest, a bird habitat with wildflower meadows and a natural wetland. The goal of this project was to meet the sports programming requirements and maximise the visual qualities of the park, while protecting the meadows and areas for indigenous planting that created terrestrial habitats and foraging opportunities for wildlife.

Pawel started this project by providing a stakeholders engagement feasibility study for various storm water management options. The selected option incorporated the storm and irrigation runoff infiltrating into the subgrades that supply groundwater to the adjacent wetland. The design ensures that during significant rain events the peak-flows are discharged into a series of cascading, planted ponds, before the runoff reaches the wetland area. This enables the slowing-down of the flow and bio-filtrating the water, thus protecting the healthy habitat of aquatic life in the wetlands. This design solution also preserved significant areas of older trees and met the program's requirements of four soccer fields, four baseball diamonds, a clubhouse and a parking area with a large rain shelter.

Working drawings and contract management for this project was implemented in three phases over 5 years period. Each phase was implemented by different contractors, requiring a new tendering process for each phase. The total implementation budget for all three phases was 1.8 million dollars, excluding the club house that was constructed on a separate contract.

LA2
Landscape & Aquatic Architecture

Pawel Gradowski

Landscape Architect
BLA, SACLAP, BCSLA, IFLA

matlala park, ekurhuleni, south africa

The Matlala Park is located within the Kwa-Thema community. The upgrades to the previously completed phase of this project required landscape design for the development of three main components:

- Sport and recreation elements were to include a skate park, a large playfield, a paved, multipurpose sport court and fenced basketball and tennis courts.
- Extension to the existing system of pathways, which had to include and new linkage of the park with the adjacent road via two, new pedestrian bridges over an existing stormwater channel.
- Cost-effective and practical solution to the significant pollution of the channel that was contaminated with raw sewage and trash.

Pawel Gradowski's new design provided innovative solutions to these challenges, which also maximised local job-creation, new skills training opportunities for the local community and included creative solutions to the bio-filtration and trash catchment requirements. Two new pedestrian bridges and a system of pathways allowed for easy access to this new park with valuable sport and recreational amenities.

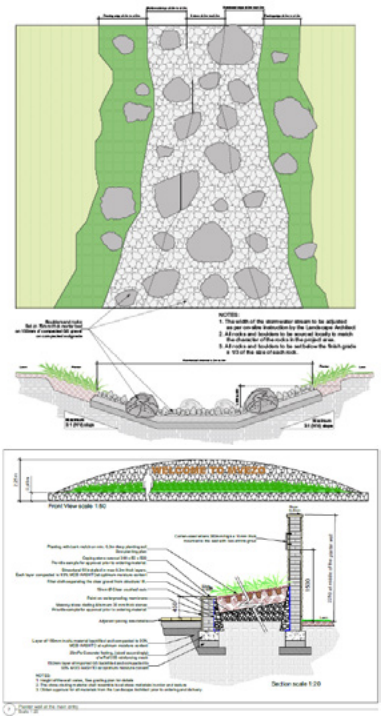
LA 2
Landscape & Aquatic Architecture

Pawel Gradowski

Landscape Architect
BLA, SACLAP, BCSLA, IFLA

Mandela museum, mvezo, ministry of environment, south africa

Mvezo is the birth place of Nelson Mandela. The existing museum and associated facilities needed modernizing and improvements to this World tourism destination.



Pawel Gradowski working in conjunction with Silverhorns Consulting and MVE Engineering was commissioned to develop a new masterplan that will incorporate:

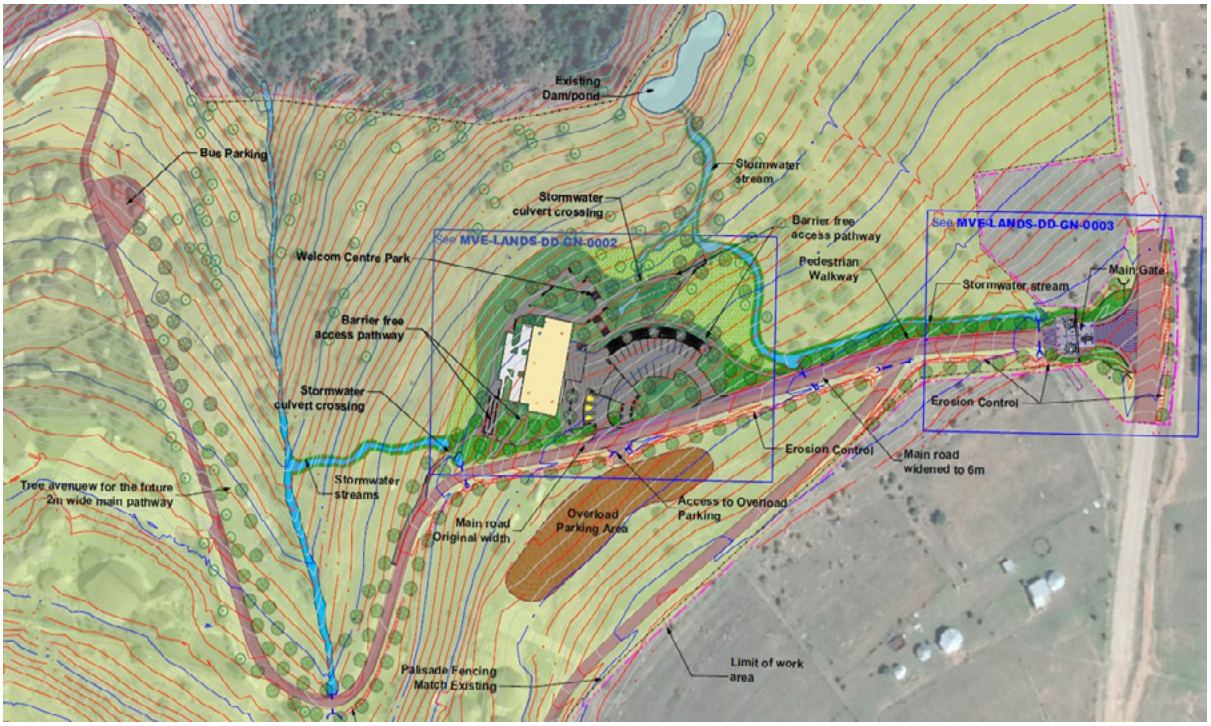
- new entry gateways to the site
- new park adjacent to the existing Welcome Centre
- parking area for the visitors
- improvements to the storm water management infrastructure
- create an inviting setting for visitors

Other critical objectives of the proposed solution had to:

- maximize job-creation for the local community
- protect and/or improve the local environment
- maximize rainwater harvesting opportunities
- incorporate bio-filtration systems into the site drainage

Pawel Gradowski took the role of the leading landscape architect and provided the masterplan design for the entire site, the detailed construction drawings and specifications for the construction of the Phase One area.

The project completed its approval process in 2022 and is now awaiting the start of the construction phase.



Pawel Gradowski

Landscape Architect

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