

What is Landscape Architecture ?

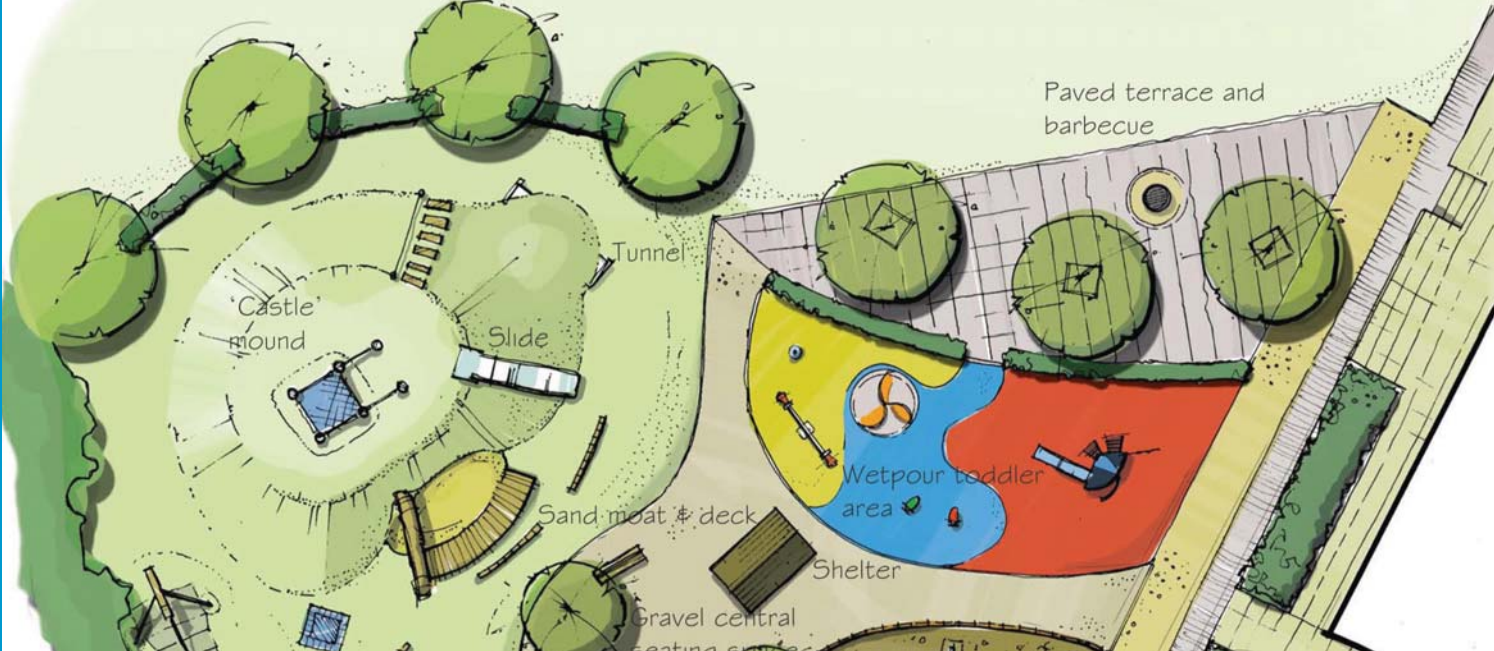
Landscape Architecture combines environment and design. It is about everything outside the front door, both urban and rural. It is the interface between people and nature.

What is a Landscape Architect ?

- A professionally qualified person, who practices Landscape Architecture.
- To become a Chartered Landscape Architect (CMLA) in the UK takes approximately 7 years, which includes studying Landscape Architecture to degree level.
- Landscape architects plan, design and manage outdoor spaces which are both sustainable and aesthetically pleasing.
- Landscape Architects work on all types of structures and external space - large or small, urban, suburban and rural, and with “hard” (built) and “soft” (planted) materials
- Landscape Architects work with architects, town planners, civil engineers and a host of other professionals.
- Landscape Architects have a responsibility to ecology and the environment.
- Landscape Architects can combine their design skills and technical knowledge to create outdoor spaces that people can appreciate and enjoy.

Why use a Landscape Architect to design your play area ?

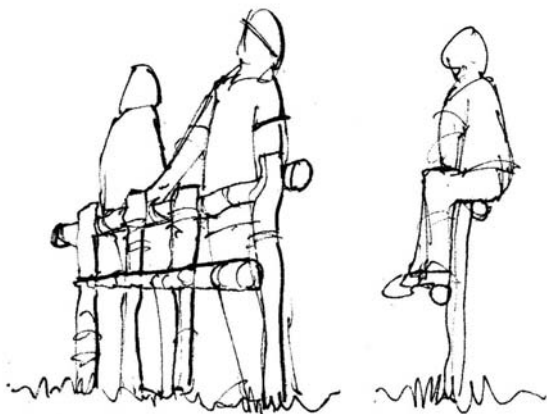
- A Landscape Architect will understand your whole site, its setting, its constraints and opportunities.
- Using their design skills Landscape Architects will conceive an over all concept and prepare a master plan. This will ensure you make the best use of your space, have a play area that is unique to you and will have an identity that will fit in with your landscape.
- They would prepare detailed design drawings and technical specifications from the master plan. A Landscape Architect would then prepare contract documents suitable for tendering a play area project to suitable contractors.
- Using a Landscape Architect will ensure that you are involved in the design process and will have opportunities to see and input to the design as it evolves.
- They can also support and prepare applications for capital and revenue funding grants.



- Landscape Architects will normally carry out a free initial consultation and site visit.
- They should be able to offer a personal service which can mean flexible meeting times to suit committee meetings.
- They will not be allied to any equipment manufacturer and can therefore offer impartial advice. However they should have experience / knowledge of a large range of suppliers.
- They should also be able to advise you on, help out at or run consultations or workshops.
- Having an expert on board who can act as an arbiter or facilitator can often help to resolve community differences.
- They will be able to advise you on construction processes and contracts, gain competitive quotes on designs including equipment installation and landscape works.
- They can supervise construction by play installation companies through to the completion of your project.
- A Landscape Architect will also consult with other interested bodies such as ROSPA and the Police.
- There will be up front costs for advice, design fees and construction supervision. All costs and fees are agreed before design work starts and would be clearly set out against a project brief.

Where should I go from here ?

Anthony Stiff Associates are Landscape Architects based in Oxfordshire. We have designed and implemented many play areas. Experienced in consultations, we can help you through your project to build a new play area or refurbish your existing one from the very beginning. We would be very happy to come out and meet you, free of charge, to talk through how we could help you. If you are interested please contact Carolyn Place.



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