HONOR AWARD

ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY CAMPUS

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Landscape Architect:

Peter Lindsay Schaudt Landscape Architecture, Inc.

Client:

Illinois Institute of Technology

Architects:

O.M.A.; Murphy/Jahn Architects; Krueck + Sexton Architects

Engineers:

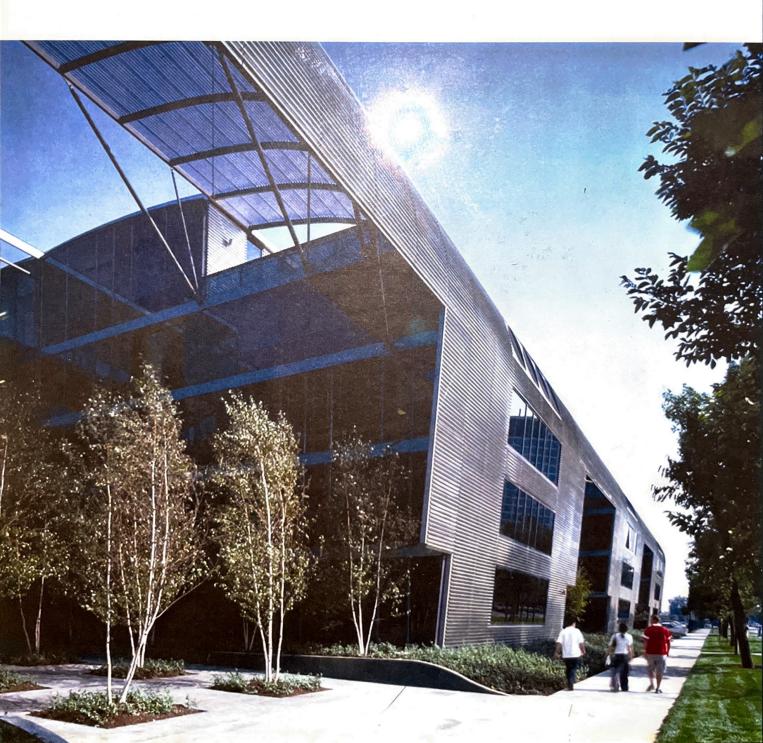
Terra Engineering; Jose DeAvila; Daniel Creaney; Graef, Anhalt, Schloemer Rob Ebl, Inc.; Christy Webber; Clarence Davis Co.; Church Landscape

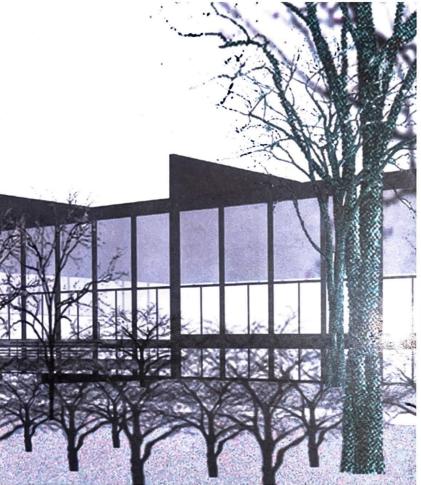
Contractors: Other Consultants:

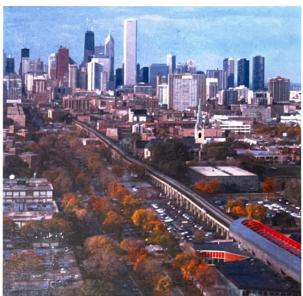
James Urban, FASLA; Naturescape Design; Chuck Stewart

Category:

Design









Not many years ago, the campus of the Illinois Institute of Technology lay in disrepair. Just east of the Dan Ryan Expressway, streets and parking lots dominated the pockmarked south side site originally designed by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and landscape architect Alfred Caldwell. The elevated, or "L" train, bisected the campus, and declining plant material contributed to a seemingly blighted area.

Working with a team to create a master plan for the campus, Chicago's Peter Lindsay Schaudt Landscape Architecture sought to renew Mies' vision of a campus characterized by author Phyllis Lambert as flowing "like water around stones into the open and compressed spaces created by buildings sliding past one another".

Though Caldwell never developed a landscape master plan for the IIT campus, Schaudt set about to restore Caldwell's concept of horizontality and penchant

for using native plants. Along State Street, on-street parking was eliminated, allowing space for a reinterpretation of Caldwell's landscape; the widened parkways and new median enabled Schaudt to connect the two sides of the campus.

Schaudt's team created a dense placement of shade and flowering trees to define IIT's central open space around Crown Hall. Topographically, the sloped perimeter of the field creates a sense of enclosure and provides places for limestone slab and lawn seating while the center of the field invites activity. Adjacent to the campus' new dormitories, Schaudt created a courtyard bosque of white-barked birch trees to contract with the plaza's dark pavement.

While still a work in progress, Schaudt's work begins to fulfill the legacy of Mies and Caldwell.