

# American Society of Landscape Architects Headquarters Green Roof

WASHINGTON D.C.



green roof view  
from adjacent building



north mound plantings

Sam Brown



outdoor terrace view framed by gently rolling mounds

Sam Brown



garden entrance enhanced by structure overhead

Paul Warchel



north mound plantings

ASLA

The American Society of Landscape Architects, the national professional association representing landscape architects, replaced its headquarters' 3,300 square foot EPDM membrane roof with a green roof. The green roof demonstrates the environmental, aesthetic, and amenity benefits of a green roof as well as the principal of stewardship on which the ASLA was founded. Funded primarily by ASLA, sponsors and product donors, and grants from the Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grants Program and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the ASLA hired Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates who collaborated with Conservation Design Forum to design and develop specifications for the roof.

The design provided almost complete vegetative coverage for the roof and access for visitors. Two arches on either side of the roof, which screen rooftop HVAC units, supported two different green roof systems: extensive and semi-intensive. A walkable aluminum grate landing suspended above a roof of succulents protected the vegetation while allowing visitors to view the plants from above. An open pavilion housing an access stairwell supported a shade of vines on an overhead trellis structure. The ASLA monitors the roof's stormwater retention performance, and temperature readings will be compared with those from an adjacent non-green roof.

Taking approximately five months to construct, the green roof was dedicated on Earth Day, April 22, 2006.

*client:* American Society of  
Landscape Architects

*project team:* Conservation Design Forum  
*Landscape Architecture / Green Roof Design*

Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates  
Project Lead

DMJM  
Architecture

Robert Sillman Associates  
Structural Engineer

Forrester Construction  
General Contractor

*construction budget:* \$950,000 (2/3 for roof accessibility)

*completion:* 2006

*publications:* Landscape Architecture Magazine, 2006  
Metropolis Magazine, August 2006  
[www.asla.org/land/050205/greenroofcentral.html](http://www.asla.org/land/050205/greenroofcentral.html)