

Collaboration on Multiple Levels

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Every project is unique, but it is safe to say almost every project requires a collaborative effort. On a large scale, landscape architects frequently collaborate with multi-disciplined teams because of the complexities of design and permitting. The disciplines each bring their unique perspective.

Currently, **Aris Land Studio** is a prime consultant developing plans for **Scofieldtown Park + Yard**. A former landfill, the project in North Stamford involves protection of groundwater, the needs of the public works department, coordination with neighbors, and a plan to serve future generations of Stamford residents. The site will undergo capping and closure as a former landfill, as required by an agreement between the Connecticut Department

of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the City of Stamford. For the project, the City retained the services of TRC Environmental Corporation, to develop and implement the requirements of the proposed closure and capping plan, and Aris Land Studio (ALS), to develop an End-Use Plan.

To assist in the effort, Aris Land Studio assembled a team of highly skilled professionals to assist with landscape architecture and engineering services. Included as subconsultants on the team were:

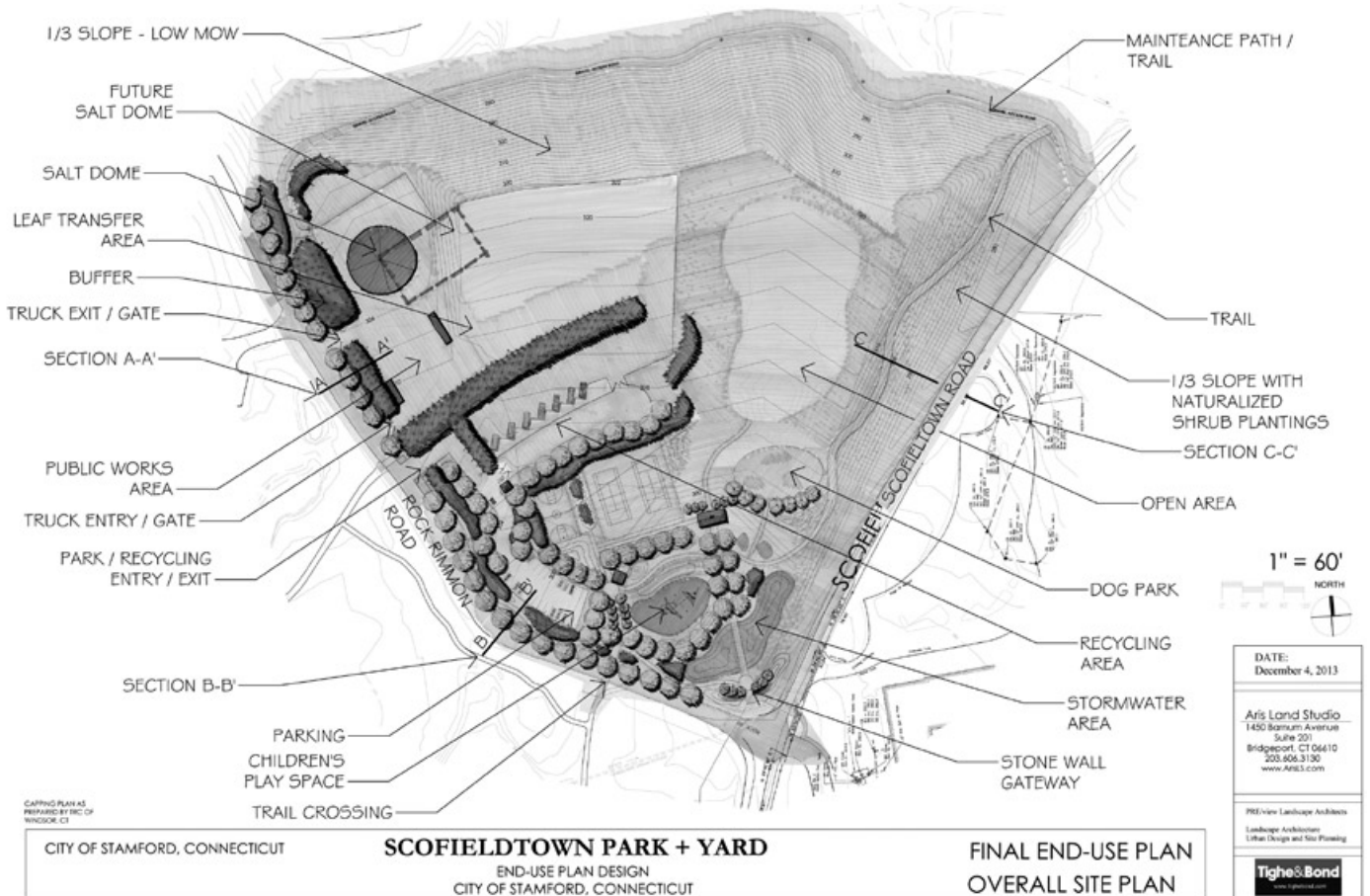
- **PRE/view Landscape Architects**, Bridgeport, CT — Stuart Sachs, RLA, ASLA — a firm with extensive community participation and master plan experience.

- **Tighe & Bond**, Shelton, CT — a multi-disciplined engineering firm experienced in landfill and drainage design.

The process was multi-layered, and included fostering public support of the project, collaborations with neighborhood groups and institutions, planning to address infiltration from the landfill into the groundwater, structural issues associated with construction on the dynamic landform, operational needs of the City, and storage of salt for roadway treatment. All this needed to be accomplished without disturbing the landfill cap.

To address the issues, Aris Land Studio first brought the public and the team together to highlight concerns

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CITY OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

SCOFIELDTOWN PARK + YARD
END-USE PLAN DESIGN
CITY OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

FINAL END-USE PLAN
OVERALL SITE PLAN

Multiple Levels cont'd

from stakeholders, including TRC, as the designers of the landfill cap.

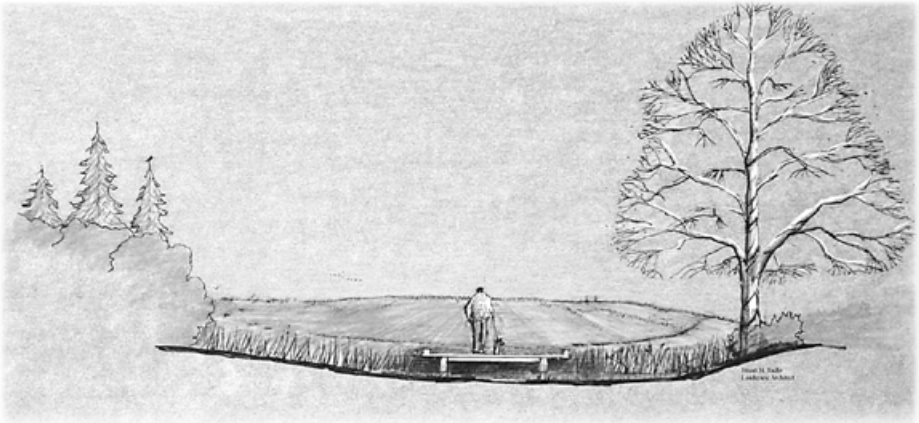
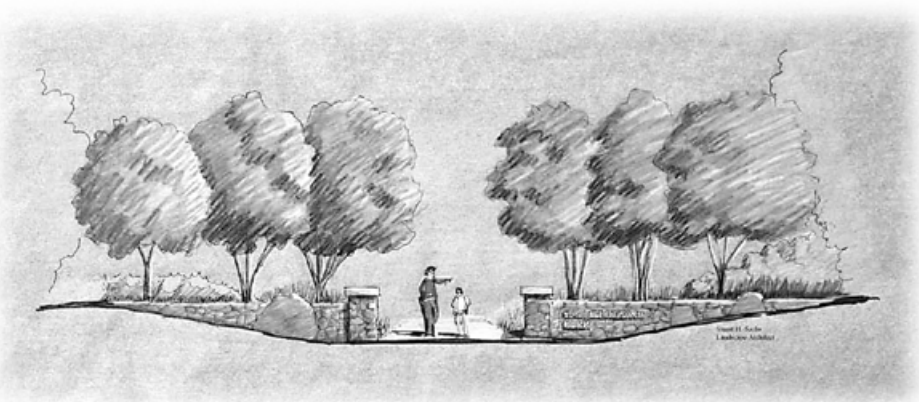
Aris Land Studio's public meeting process is about helping the public realize their opportunities and to provide a venue for dialogue. By thoughtfully listening to the needs of the public and the team participants, and providing timely feedback, the team developed plans that were embraced and supported by the community while meeting the critical engineering needs of the landfill cap.

How does Aris Land Studio conduct the collaborative process? In the instance of Scofieldtown Park + Yard, the process included:

- Public meetings to inform and learn from the public.
- Team meetings to review engineering, operational, and budgetary needs of the City.
- Social media strategies to engage the public and improve communication and dissemination of information (www.Scofieldtownpark.org).

Conceptual designs, sections, and profiles were developed based on the public's response and the landscape architects' evaluation of suggested end-use functions. Aris Land Studio met with the City and TRC after drafting the concept plans to ensure that the end-use functions and capping plan complemented one another and avoided disturbance to the cap. This meeting included landfill specialists from Tighe & Bond. Traffic studies were ultimately conducted on proposed end-use activities by Tighe & Bond to determine traffic generation and parking requirements.

The final park plan, chosen as a result of community input, provides for the needs of the group as a whole, and allows the City to proceed with the engineered capping design plan, addressing current and future issues for the site. These issues include:



- Protection of the landfill cap
- Connectivity to community resources
- Understanding fiscal impacts of designs
- Providing opportunities for public use of the site
- Understanding traffic impacts
- Strategies to address stormwater impacts
- Educational opportunities for the public

- Plantings to create a new and dynamic habitat

Once constructed, Scofieldtown Park + Yard will exemplify successful collaboration by Aris Land Studio with the City of Stamford, TRC, Tighe & Bond, PRE/view Landscape Architecture, and the community.

PROJECT TEAM:

Aris Land Studio – Landscape architects and project managers

PRE/view Landscape Architecture – Public outreach and landscape architecture support

Tighe & Bond – Traffic engineers

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