



244 Westchester Avenue is a focal point along the Platinum Mile.



Initial stages of a Platinum Mile site.

excavation to reshape the land. He stockpiles debris. Rock, especially, has become a low maintenance focal point of his very natural, flowing designs using rock sculptures and different colored gravels with plant material.

In order to hone this rock use technique, Joe DeLaurentis got his blasting license. Ed has been self-educated in his profession, rely-

ing on his own creative sense, art and sculpture courses and an over 400-book library on landscape design. He is also a participating member of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. DeLaurentis said private sector work provides the greatest challenge.

In one office complex with sub-grade office space, DeLaurentis designed a moat with rock gardens so that office personnel

would have something other than the brick wall on the opposite side of the complex to look at.

A company spokesperson said DeLaurentis has a knack for solving troublesome problems that his working associates utilize frequently. Joe, besides blasting, has become a knowledgeable horticulturist and specifically hand-picks plant material for each project.

The company prides itself on having the right equipment to do the job. Equipment includes a hydro-seeder, rake tractor, paving equipment, tractors, loaders, backhoes, rollers, mulchers and hydraulic excavators.

Because of the tenacity and foresight of two brothers, DeLaurentis Construction Co., Inc. has realized many of its goals. The challenges, however, still exist; one in particular to Ed DeLaurentis.

"I think one of the greatest challenges is the social commitment we have made to enhance and beautify any project we're involved in." **WTT**

Union Carbide

Unique landscaping stresses native plant material in North Carolina's Research Triangle Park

By Sandra Ladendorf



The Union Carbide building sits nestled in a natural setting in Research Triangle Park, NC.

Companies located in the Research Triangle Park of North Carolina have chosen uniquely different styles of landscaping.

One building sits stark and barren in a desert-like setting; another is landscaped formally. Union Carbide has taken yet another approach in designing the new headquarters for its agricultural division. The division is involved in research, development, engineering and marketing of agricultural products, including insecticides, herbicides and

Sandra Ladendorf is a journalist and freelance writer based in Chapel Hill, NC.

plant growth regulators.

Research Triangle Park contains research development and scientifically-oriented production facilities for 40 companies located on 5,200 acres in the triangle formed by Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill.

Union Carbide's agricultural division's management, its landscaping committee and architect Bruce Brodt were unanimously in favor of leaving the 51-acre site as untouched as possible.

"We wanted the building to look natural in the landscaping," said Brodt. The building sits in a woodland of loblolly pines, dogwoods, redbuds and other foliage

native to North Carolina.

General project manager Les Paulsen, the Carbider who supervised the construction of the new building, insisted that the destruction of trees be kept to a minimum. The building's contractor was liable up to \$250 for any trees injured or destroyed in the roped off woodland area Paulsen had designated. Paulsen did, however, have to destroy the majority of a colony of redbuds in order to construct the new driveway directly opposite IBM's entrance on T.W. Alexander Drive.

The architects conceded only one markedly formal piece at the

site -- the entrance driveway. Brodt felt strongly that the driveway should be a straight dual carriageway with a line of native willow oaks up the center dividing strip. The slopes on each side of the roadway are turf-covered. The design then returns to the informal, natural woodland setting with irregular drifts of sweet gum, dogwood, redbud, fringe tree, magnolia, sourwood and other native trees.

In designing the driveway entrance and the rest of the grounds, the landscaping committee began with an initial plan from the architect's office. That plan evolved and changed.

Bowing to budgetary pressures, the committee reduced the size specifications of all plantings. Union Carbide declined commenting on the cost of the entire landscaping project. A.B. Rose Co. of Rocky Mount, NC, was chosen as the landscape contractor.

Barbara Emerson, a senior product specialist for Carbide and a member of that landscaping committee, put her Cornell degree in landscape design to good use as she coordinated and expedited the landscaping efforts at the new site.

"Using small trees and shrubs is a blessing in disguise," she said. "Younger plant material adapts more quickly."

The North Carolina Botanical Garden, which specializes in native plants and the North Carolina State University Horticultural Science faculty were consulted before Emerson selected the plant varieties.

A sharp cut between the entrance parking lot and the greenhouse wing presented the greatest challenge to the landscaping team. Native trees and shrubs were literally left "high and dry" atop the 12 by 200-foot peninsula.

The steep bank facing the building is now planted with *Pinus virginiana*, *Juniperus Wiltoni* 'Blue Rug', *J. Sargentii* and *J. chinensis*, 'Sea Foam' to provide varying textures and color while retaining

the slope. Some pyracanthas and wax myrtles have been added for height and color.

Boulders left by the excavation have been judiciously grouped into the slope to look as though they had merely been uncovered.

"They add an informal architectural element and a sense of

seeding with Kentucky 31 fescue. For trees and shrubs, planting high and mulching heavily is generally the rule in the Piedmont. Despite careful planting in the fall of 1981, a number of shrubs drowned during the unusually wet summer that followed. More drainage in several locations and



A stand of native foliage on the Carbide grounds.



Barbara Emerson and Ed Levy of Union Carbide confer with John Walters of A.B. Rose Co., Rocky Mount, NC, who handles maintenance of the grounds.

reason," says Emerson, "They help connect the cultivated plants with the native woodland."

The Carbide site is located in the Piedmont section of North Carolina where the soil is a heavy red clay with low fertility and containing almost no organic matter.

To modify this soil in the lawn areas, A.B. Rose rototilled lime and fertilizer into the top six inches of the clay. Two inches of topsoil was then added before

more irrigation were two corrections Ed Levy, Carbide's maintenance supervisor provided after working at the new location for a year.

"Today, areas of too much or too little water have been eliminated," Levy said.

Levy maintains he is very satisfied with the maintenance of the grounds, which is still handled by A.B. Rose Co. Mowing is done on a weekly basis at a three-inch height during the growing season, using hand mowers and a Toro Groundsmaster 72 diesel. Weed control around mulched trees and shrubs is handled by spot applications of contact herbicides.

Levy and Emerson continue to cooperate on additions to the landscaping. While they have planted hundreds of bulbs and annuals for color near the building's entrance, the emphasis this year remains on the insect-resistant, drought-resistant, adaptable native North Carolina trees and shrubs.

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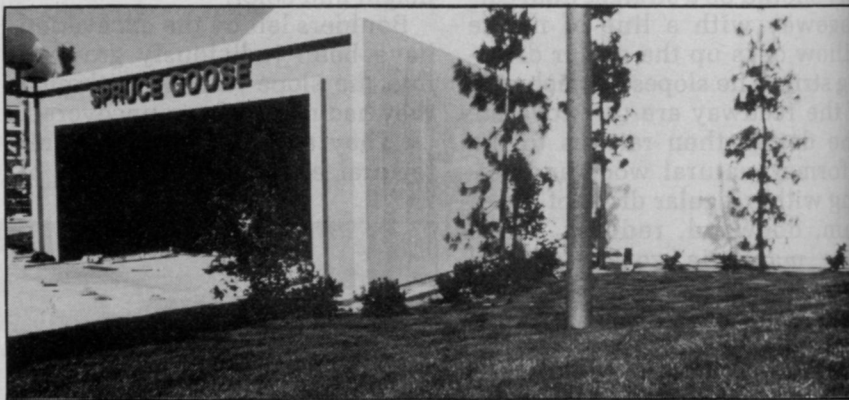
Sprucing up a roost for the Goose

How do you landscape the world's largest nest? Landscape Architect Ron Sidell was faced with that question when he was hired as a consultant to the \$200,000 landscape renovation project for the Queen Mary/Spruce Goose display in Long Beach, CA.

Howard Hughes' plywood plane was given a new home last spring when the Wrather Corp. erected a dome to display the mammoth aircraft. As part of a 10-year development improvement plan, the landscaping surrounding the dome, the Queen Mary dock and the English village setting was renovated.

The 20,000 square feet of turf at the site was bluegrass, but "We wanted to make it (the turf) public so people could picnic and relax under shade trees," Sidell says. "With the anticipated increase in traffic, we needed a hardier turfgrass than bluegrass."

Another consideration along the Pacific waterfront site was high winds coming inland. "These daily winds are so severe that we had to devise a special layout for our irrigation sys-



The Spruce Goose display at Long Beach CA. opened last May. A \$200,000 landscape renovation job complimented the "nest."

tem" to offset the drying out, Sidell recalls.

To meet those requirements he chose Southland Sod Farms' Marathon Sod for the new turf. Marathon has an extensive deep root system, Sidell notes, which complimented the irrigation system installed to offset those drying winds.

Sidell also incorporated a year-

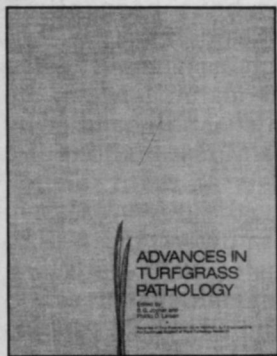
round color program for the foliage installed at the site.

Although the Spruce Goose flew only once, with the eccentric millionaire at the controls, its presence in Long Beach has brought 5-6,000 tourists in on an average weekday. Before the new 'nest' was built, the Queen Mary received that number of visitors on weekends.

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| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

North Central Turfgrass Exposition, Arlington Park Hotel, Arlington Heights, IL. **Nov. 1-3.** Contact Dr. Thomas W. Fermanian, University of Illinois, 1060 Horticulture Field Lab, 1701 S. Orchard St., Urbana, IL 61801. (217) 333-7847.

Annual Arizona Landscape Awards Program, Rio Rico Resort, Tucson, AZ. **Nov. 5.** Contact Dick Lambert, ALCA, PO Box 27312, Tempe, AZ 85282. (602) 968-8179.

National Institute on Park and Grounds Management/Sports Turf Managers Association. **Nov. 6-10.** Contact National Institute, Box 1936, Appleton, WI 54913 (414) 733-2301.

California Landscape Contractors Association Convention, Hyatt Lake Tahoe. **Nov. 10-13.** Contact Bob Gouley (916) 448-CLCA.

1983 Oklahoma Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show, Camelot Tulsa. **Nov. 14-16.** Contact Dr. Robert L. Green, 360 Ag Hall, Stillwater, OK 74078.

Greenhouse and Landscape Maintenance Conference, Salt Lake City Tri-Arc Travelodge, **Nov. 15-16.** Contact Dr. Dallas L. Holmes, Utah State University, UMC 50A, Logan, UT 84322.

9th Annual Professional Landscape Management School, Indiana State University - Evansville, **Nov. 15-16.** Contact Allen Boger, Extension Agent, Horticulture Room 202, City-County Building, Evansville, IN 47708.

Arbor Expo, Philadelphia Civic Cen-

ter, **Nov. 17-19.** Contact Daryl Komar, Conference Management Corp. 17 Washington St., Norwalk, CT 06854. (203) 852-0500.

Agri-Turf Irrigation Exposition & Technical Conference, Currigan Exhibition Hall, Denver, Co. **Dec. 4-7.** Karen Noyes, director of meetings, (301) 871-1200.

Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Conference, Cincinnati Convention Center, Cincinnati, OH. **Dec. 5-8.** Contact Dr. John Street, OTF, 2021 Coffey Rd., Columbus, OH 43210.

New Jersey Turfgrass Expo '83, Resorts International Hotel, Atlantic City, NJ. **Dec. 5-8** Contact Dr. Henry W. Indyk, Soils and Crops Department, Cook College, PO Box 231, New Brunswick, NJ 08903. (201) 932-9453.

North Central Weed Control Conference, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Columbus, OH. **Dec. 6-8.** Contact Clause Cruse, NCWCC Business Manager, 309 W. Clark St., Champaign, IL 61820.

Pennsylvania Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show, Hershey Lodge & Convention Center, Hershey, PA. **Dec. 12-15.** Contact Christine E. King, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council, 412 Blanchard St., Bellefonte, PA 16832. (814) 355-8010.

Fourteenth Annual Turfgrass Conference, Center for Continuing Education, University of Georgia, Athens, GA. **Dec. 14-15.** Contact Gilbert Landry Jr., University of Georgia College of Agriculture, Athens, GA.

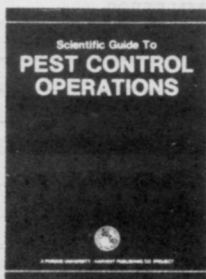
22nd Annual North Carolina Turfgrass Conference, Pinehurst Hotel, Pinehurst, NC. **Jan. 3-5.** Contact W.B. Gilbert, 1119 Williams Hall, N.C. State University, Raleigh, NC 27650. (919) 737-2657.

Maryland Turfgrass '84, Baltimore Convention Center, **Jan. 9-11.** Contact Cherly Gaultney, Box 223, White Marsh, MD 21162. (301) 335-3700.

24th Annual Virginia Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show, Williamsburg Hilton and National Conference Center, Williamsburg, VA. **Jan. 18-20.** Contact Dr. John R. Hall, III, Agronomy Dept. VPI&SU, Blacksburg, VA 24061-7294. (703) 961-5797.

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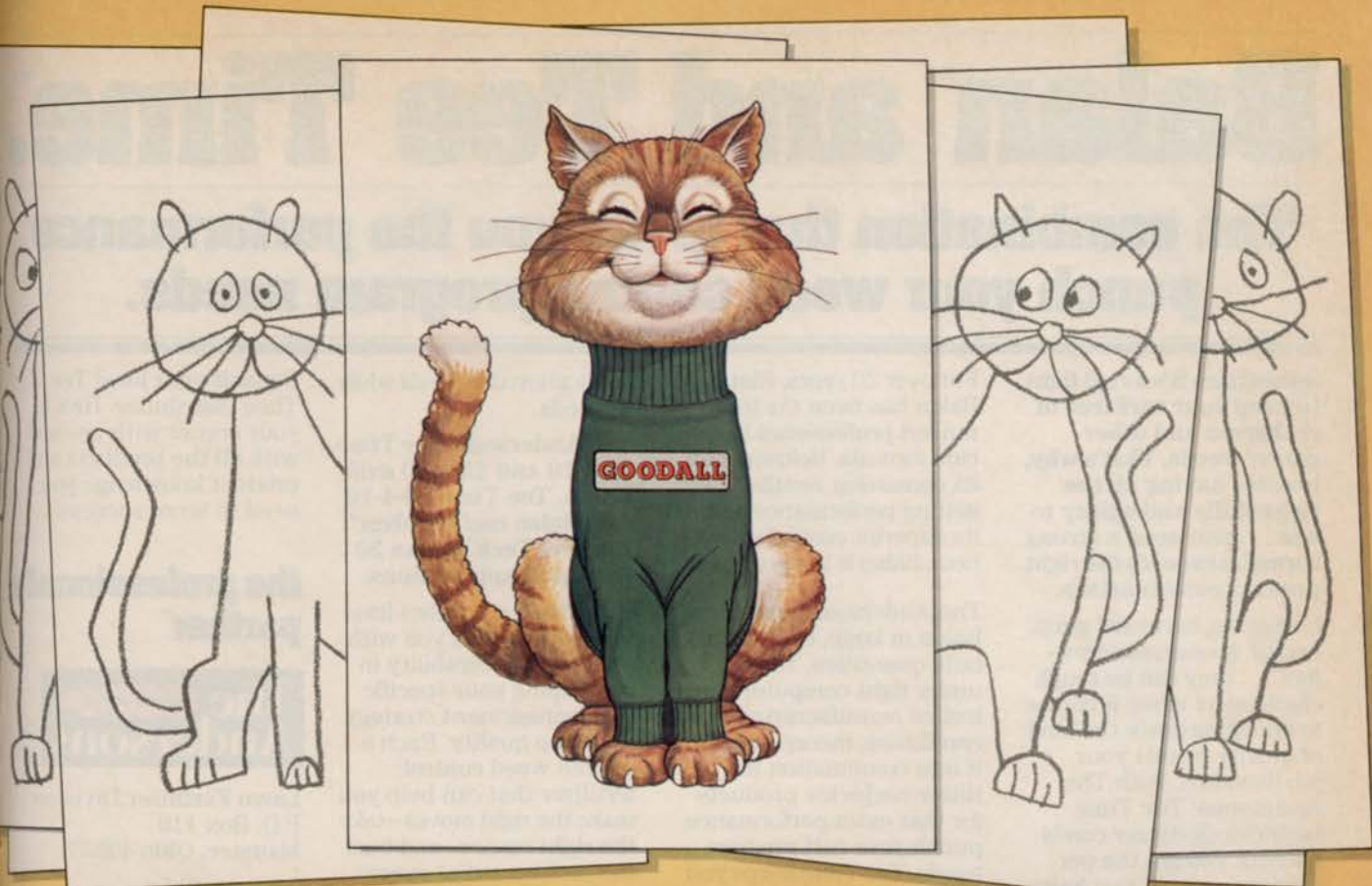
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