

## David Morkel

LLB (Hons), MCD, MLD, MRTPI, CMLI

Director – URBIS Limited

General Manager – URBIS (Shanghai) Limited



David Morkel is a Chartered Landscape Architect (UK) and Chartered Town Planner (UK) and is a Director of URBIS Limited and General Manager of URBIS (Shanghai) Limited. He has over 26 years of international experience (14 working in Hong Kong; 3.5 in the UK; 3.5 in Dubai and 5 in China) during which he has acquired extensive experience of a particularly wide range of projects including residential and commercial developments, public open spaces, government institutional facilities, highway corridors, railways, flood alleviation schemes, waste disposal and mineral extraction projects, habitat recreation and the restoration of historic landscapes. David's projects have won awards worldwide.

In the UK, David's projects numerous landscape planning and assessment projects, landscape and visual impact assessments as well as design of the **London Wetland Centre**; the Countryside Commission's successful **Millennium Greens Programme** funding bid and the **River Thames Design Guidelines**.

In Hong Kong David was the Masterplanner and first phase designer for the **Hong Kong International Wetland Park**, a 65ha wildlife recreational attraction which has gone on to win awards from the US Urban Land Institute, Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects and the Landscape Institute in the UK. His **Landscape Value Mapping Study** of Hong Kong also won top awards from the Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects and the UK Landscape Institute.

As General Manager of URBIS' Shanghai office, he has worked on a variety of parks, commercial, residential and mall projects in Shenzhen, Sanya, Hefei, Suzhou, Daqing, Chengdu, Chongqing, Beijing, Dalian, Guangzhou, Shanghai. This work includes the **Thousand Trees Development** with renowned British designer Thomas Heatherwick. He is currently working on a range of public and private projects in Hong Kong, China and Indonesia.

### EDUCATION/PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Master of Landscape Design, MLD University of Manchester	1993
Bachelor of Landscape Design, BLD (First Class) University of Manchester	1992
Master of Civic Design (MCD), University of Liverpool, Department of Civic Design	1991
Bachelor of Laws LLB (Hons), University College London, Faculty of Laws	1988
Chartered Town Planner, UK (MRTPI)	2009
Chartered Member of the Landscape Institute, UK (CMLI)	1997
Associate Member of the Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects	1998

### PRIZES AND AWARDS

The Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) Examinations Prize	1991
The University of Liverpool Civic Design Scholarship (UK)	1989-91
Economic & Social Research Council Landscape Scholarship (UK)	1991-93

### EMPLOYMENT

1996 - Present	URBIS LIMITED, Hong Kong (Director since 2004)
Apr 2000- Jul 2000	HASELL LIMITED, Hong Kong
1993 - 1996	COBHAM RESOURCE CONSULTANTS, Oxford, United Kingdom

## SELECTED ACTIVE PROJECTS

**PLB(Q) 35/2018 CONSULTANCY SERVICES ON DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR PROMENADES AND MEASURES FOR BETTER WATER LAND INTERFACE**

Client: Development Bureau of the HKSAR Government

Project Director of study to produce Hong Kong's first design guidelines for public waterfronts and promenades, focusing on innovative approaches to the interface between land and sea.. The project will include a review of all public waterfronts in Hong Kong and two pilot areas on Victoria Harbour. It is one of the first projects in Hong Kong to employ the Government's new Design Thinking approach to problem solving.

**CONSULTANCY SERVICES ON THE DESIGNATION OF AGRICULTURAL PRIORITY AREAS IN HONG KONG**

Client: Agriculture &amp; Fisheries Dept. of the HKSAR Government

Project Manager of study to investigate the feasibility of creating proposed Agricultural Protection Areas (APA's) across Hong Kong. The study seeks to define policy incentives and technological developments which will encourage farming uses in those areas. Two stages of Public Engagement exercises provide interactive engagement with key stakeholders.

**CONSULTANCY AGREEMENT NO.9AF129 OPEN SPACE DEVELOPMENT AT HUNG HOM WATERFRONT**

Client: Architectural Services Dept. of the HKSAR Government

Project Director for full service landscape design of important waterfront space on the Victoria Harbour waterfront. The temporary open space will be upgraded in phases to include a promenade, ball courts and changing facilities as well as a landscape design referencing the history of the site as a ship building area.

**THOUSAND TREES MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT, SHANGHAI, PRC**

Client: Tian An China Investments Company Limited

Design Director for major riverside mixed use development, featuring extensive areas of elevated / rooftop planting. URBIS Limited was recommended for this project by Project Architect, Heatherwick Studio. The project is typical of Thomas Heatherwick's innovative and unconventional approach to design and has posed particular challenges to the landscape team in terms of the more than 600 'aerial gardens' which are part of Thomas' vision and also in terms of the exceptional quality of hardworks detailing.

**RH27 SUMMARECON BANDUNG WETLAND AND COMMUNITY PARK, JAVA, INDONESIA**

Client: PT Mahkota Permata Perdana

On the basis of the reputation of the Hong Kong Wetland Park, URBIS was appointed to design a 21 ha wetland in a community park forming the centre of a new town in the highlands of Java. The town will be home to a population of over 60,000 people and the wetland will serve both a water treatment role as well as being a visual amenity at the centre of the new park. The project is particularly challenging due to the low water quality of influent and also due to the storm retention role that the wetland must serve.

**MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL STUDY INTO PLANNING OF INDUSTRIAL ESTATES**

Client: Confidential National Government

URBIS Limited was commissioned by the development agency of a national government as part of a team carrying out a study of best practice in the planning and operation of industrial facilities and estates worldwide. URBIS has been carrying out annually updated research for the last 9 years, looking at the national, regional and local planning of key industries in Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Israel. The study involves the monitoring of several case studies across the region.

**SOUTH EAST NEW TERRITORIES LANDFILL LANDSCAPE RESTORATION, TSEUNG KWAN O, HONG KONG**

Client: Green Valley Landfill Limited

Project Director for the masterplanning and landscape restoration of several phases for a strategic landfill in Tseung Kwan O. URBIS has been working on the progressive restoration of the landfill since 1993, much of which is very technical in nature. The after use of the site will be as a passive recreational area associated with the adjacent Country Park. Ongoing monitoring of planting works has led to the refinement of planting palettes and techniques over the years.

**VANKE XINGLONG LAKE DEVELOPMENT, CHENGDU, SICHUAN, PRC**

Client: Chengdu Vanke Real Estate Co., Ltd.

Lead Designer for Concept Design of 15 ha mixed use lakeside development south of Chengdu, Sichuan. URBIS team included more than 10 landscape architects and support staff. The project landscape included a 5ha multi-level retail spine, entrance plazas, office courtyards and streetscape. URBIS' design included features such as a cantilevered observation tower and iconic arch, extensive water walls and other water features, a Pop-up Museum, multi-use event

lawn and an extensive art programme covering the entire site.



### CHENGDU GLOBAL CITY, CHENGDU, PRC

Client: KWG Property Holding Ltd

Full service landscape design for mixed use commercial / retail / residential development. The project is located adjacent to a future cultural centre and the landscape takes as its conceptual starting point the culture of Chengdu and reinterprets this through sculpture, water features and paving design. The project is notable for a number of hi-tech landscape details including inter-active sculpture.



### M-CUBE DEVELOPMENT, CHONGWENMEN, BEIJING

Client: KWG Property Holding Ltd

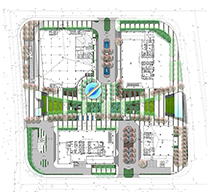
Working with internationally acclaimed Dutch architects MvRdV, URBIS has been commissioned to provide a full landscape service for this prestigious mall development close to Tian An Men Square in central Beijing. The project will include numerous innovative and high-tech landscape details to complement the cutting edge architecture of the development.



### SUZHOU MUDU MALL, JIANGSU, PRC

Client: KWG Property Holding Ltd

URBIS was commissioned to provide a full scope landscape service working alongside internationally acclaimed water feature designers, WET Design on a major new retail development in Suzhou. The project will include a major entrance plaza, sunken retail street, peripheral landscapes and an extensive roof/podium landscape including a dining street, romantic garden and children's play areas.



### INTERNATIONAL METROPOLIS PLAZA, PUDONG, SHANGHAI, PRC

Client: KWG Property Holding Ltd

Full service landscape design for a mixed use commercial development on the Pudong riverfront in Shanghai. The maritime themed landscape includes ground-level landscape and an extensive rooftop / podium landscape as well as a spectacular spiral water feature.



### CHENGDU YUFENG DEVELOPMENT, PRC

Client: KWG Property Holding Ltd

Full service landscape design for a major new mall and hotel development in Chengdu. This extensive development includes innovative and contemporary styled landscape at ground floor level, a sunken F&B street as well as an extensive series of podium roof gardens featuring a romantic garden, outdoor art exhibitions space and dining areas. A 'W Hotel' will also form part of the development, with this landscape.

## SELECTED COMPLETED PROJECTS



### HONG KONG WETLAND PARK, TIN SHUI WAI

Client: Territory Development Department and Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, HKSAR Government

Project Landscape Architect responsible for masterplanning of international standard 67ha recreational facility dedicated to public education on issues of wetland ecology and culture. The project included overall site masterplanning, design of water bodies (freshwater wetland, mangrove and mudflat) water circulation systems, water treatment, conceptual design for visitor centre and visitor attractions and themed areas, pedestrian circulation systems, earthworks and structures. Services also detailed design and construction of the majority of the park area. Multi-award winning project receiving awards from UKLI, HKILA, HKIA, ULI (World), ULI (Asia) and The Waterfront Center, USA.

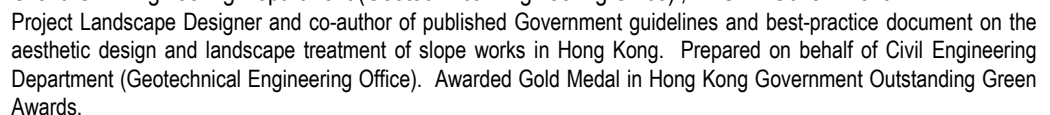
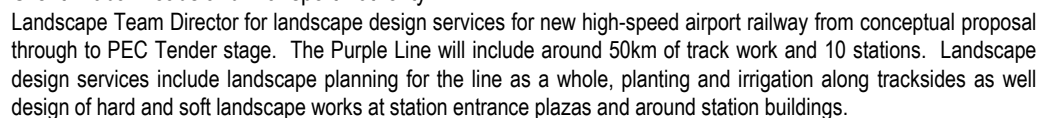
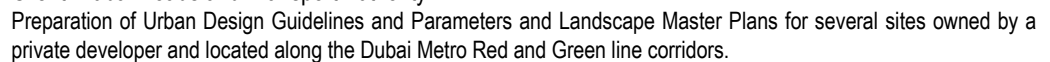
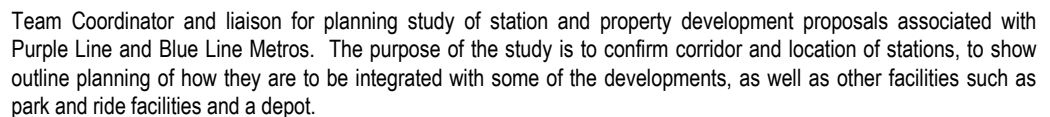
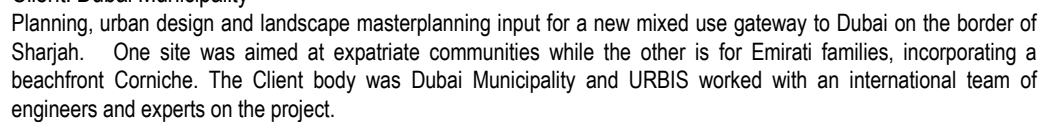
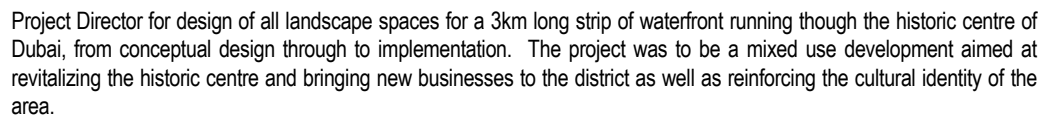
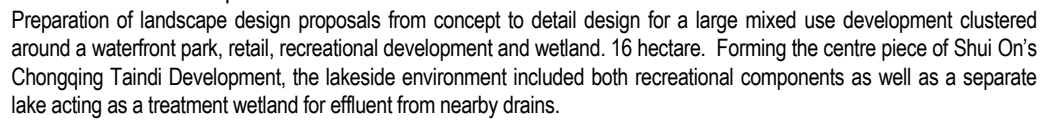


### LANDSCAPE VALUE MAPPING STUDY OF HONG KONG

Client: Planning Department, HKSAR Government

Project Manager for Territory-wide study to map and evaluate all of Hong Kong's landscapes. URBIS is the Lead Consultant of a team comprising landscape architects, urban designers, ecologists, historians and GIS experts. Study output includes a GIS-based map of all of Hong Kong's landscapes as well as an indicator to measure landscape change as part of the SUSDEV21 programme. The Study developed a new methodology to make the evaluation process as transparent as possible and went on to win awards from the UK Landscape Institute and Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects.







### **SANYA HEXIN ISLAND, HAINAN, PRC**

Client: CITS Investment & Development Co. Ltd

URBIS was commissioned by Chinese national tourist authority, to produce concept and schematic landscape design for their new tourist island in Sanya, Hainan Island. The Island is to be a national tourist shopping, dining and entertainment destination, close to an existing CITS mall and coastal resort development. URBIS' landscape design drew inspiration from the local culture and wildlife of Hainan Island to produce a series of waterfront and internal landscapes that celebrate the locality and complement the architecture of the development.



### **CHAOHU PARK, HEFEI, ANHUI, PRC**

Client: Hefei Cheng Xin Investment Development Co Ltd

Conceptual design for a 77 ha park set around a lake which will form the focus for a new development area of Chaohu. The park features both formal gardens as well as extensive areas of natural landscape. The landscape design uses the traditional landscapes of Anhui (pine forest, bamboo forest tea terrace, plum orchard) as a way to develop a landscape typology used across the park. Landscapes employ wholly native species native to Anhui and the design includes a treatment wetland and extensive wetland areas.



### **DAQING LIAN JIE PARK, HEILONGJIANG, PRC**

Client: Daqing Municipality, PRC

URBIS was appointed to carry out Concept, Schematic and Detailed Design Services associated with a new 185 ha public park set around an existing lake. The theme of the park is to be 'Lian Jie' or 'probity' and 'integrity'. As well as being entertained and offering recreational facilities, visitors should be enlightened and educated about the importance of 'Lian Jie'.



### **TIN SHUI WAI NEW TOWN PHASE 2 (RESERVE ZONE) LANDSCAPE DESIGN, NT, HONG KONG**

Client: Territory Development Department, HKSAR Government

Project Landscape Architect for the design and implementation of highways and open space landscapes for the second half of Tin Shui Wai New Town. As well as roadside planting, the works included several small public open spaces, sitting areas and an extensive riverside promenade.



### **WO SHANG WAI WETLAND HOUSING, YUEN LONG, HONG KONG**

Client: Henderson Land Development Co. Ltd.

Project Manager for design of landscape associated with 20ha site in North-west New Territories to be developed for prestige housing with significant freshwater wetland recreation component. Services include conceptual design, site master planning, Landscape Master Plan, S16 Application and Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment.



### **PRIVATE RESIDENCE ON SOUTH BAY ROAD, SOUTH BAY, HONG KONG ISLAND**

Client: Private Owner

Landscape designs for improvement and enhancement of garden of prestigious private residence on the coast of south Hong Kong Island. The design retained the best of the existing mature landscape but enhanced it with a number of contemporary interventions.



### **REFURBISHMENT OF BAMBOO GROVE, KENNEDY ROAD, HONG KONG**

Client: Hysan Properties

Project Manager for refurbishment of external landscape works for prestigious residential property. Works included design and implementation of hard and soft landscape works, play areas and vehicular circulation areas.



### **ARCH SD CONTRACT NO. SS P317 - DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL - EXTENSION BLOCK, , HONG KONG**

Client: Hospitals Authority

Landscape Team Leader for Design and Construction of hospital extension, including external works at ground level, general landscape improvements across the hospital site and two podium / roof gardens. The landscape design explored using landscape as a therapeutic aid for the recovery of patients.



### **VICTORIA PARK (FINAL PHASE) AND CAUSEWAY BAY FLYOVER, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG**

Client: Architectural Services Department & Highways Department, HKSAR Government

Project Director for design and implementation of final phase of regional public open space together with associated flyover and pedestrian footbridge. Project also included design of pavements and hard works, soft landscape design as well as protection of two Government –designated 'Champion Trees' and preparation of contract documentation and supervision services.



### **MIDDLE ROAD CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND, TSIM SHA TSUI, HONG KONG**

Client: KCRC

Landscape Team Project Manager for detailed landscape design and implementation of open space network associated with a KCRC underground railway through the urban area, including a new station in East Tsim Sha Tsui. The landscape works included tree survey / felling applications, re-design of Middle Road Children's Playground and Wing On Plaza Garden on a structural deck and Centenary Garden and Tsim Sha Tsui Promenades (part) as well as surrounding streets. Services also included the supervision of the transplanting of around 250 semi-mature and mature trees.



### **OFFSHORE WINDFARM, SOUTH EAST NEW TERRITORIES, HONG KONG**

Client: Private Developer

Landscape and Visual Assessment as part of EIA for Hong Kong's first proposed offshore windfarm. The assessment drew on empirical cognitive research to establish prevailing public attitudes towards the appearance of windfarms. The project was successfully approved in 2009.



### **AGREEMENT NO. DSP/05/04 - LANDSCAPING AND BUILDING AESTHETICS SERVICES FOR SEWERAGE WORKS, HONG KONG**

Client: Drainage Services Department, HKSAR Government

Project Director for landscape design and supervision services associated with eight new sewerage projects across Hong Kong. Projects include design of pumping station finishes for pumping stations at Ma On Shan and Sai Kung, design of landscape and building finishes for Sha Tin Sewage Treatment Works and implementation supervision of landscape works at five sewage pumping stations across Hong Kong. One of the pumping station designs was subsequently used by Architectural Services Department as an example of good building aesthetics for such structures.



### **KCRC WEST RAIL WETLAND COMPENSATION CONTRACT CC-610, HONG KONG**

Client: KCRC

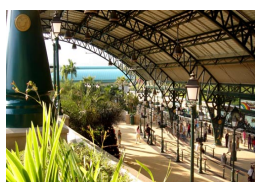
Landscape Project Manager for detailed design and implementation of a linked series of wetland habitats as part of the West Rail ecological mitigation programme. The wetlands included 12 ha of permanent and seasonal marsh, graded to produce specific habitats for targeted wetland species. Services included tree survey and felling application, detailed grading plans, development of hydrological regimes and palettes of specialist wetland plants.



### **KCRC SHATIN TO CENTRAL LINK EIA, HONG KONG**

Client: KCRC

Project Manager Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment and Tree Survey for whole of proposed alignment and works sites for proposed new railway through Kowloon and Hong Kong Island.



### **DISNEYLAND RESORT LINE, LANTAU ISLAND**

Client: MTR Corporation Limited

Full landscape design services for a new 4km railway line connecting new Yam O Station on the Tung Chung Line, to new Disney Station at Hong Kong Disneyland. Includes Victorian style design for Disney Station with extensive planting of palms and exotic plants evoking a Victorian plant conservatory; and extensive planting along the railway tracks adjacent to Inspiration Lake. The design received an **HKILA Award of Merit**.



### **STUDY ON THE EXTENSION OF EXISTING LANDFILLS AND IDENTIFICATION OF POTENTIAL NEW WASTE DISPOSAL SITES, HONG KONG**

Client: Civil Engineering and Development Department, HKSAR Government

Project Landscape Designer in regional study identifying suitable locations for marine and landfill sites throughout Hong Kong. The services included preliminary landscape and visual impact assessment and outline restoration design for several proposed sites.

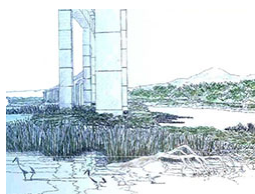




## **IMPROVEMENT TO TUNG CHUNG ROAD BETWEEN LUNG TSENG TAU AND CHEUNG SHA, HONG KONG**

Client: Highways Department, HKSAR Government

Project Director for alignment study, landscape and visual impact assessment, detailed design and implementation of landscape works for a major highway improvement across Lantau Island. The project area included both Lantau Country Parks and ecologically sensitive areas, so landscape proposals have been designed to be as sensitive as possible to these surrounding conditions.



## **STUDY ON WETLAND COMPENSATION, HONG KONG**

Client: Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, HKSAR Government

Region-wide study, developing national strategy for the conservation, enhancement and recreation of wetlands, some of Hong Kong most scarce habitats. Responsible for landscape considerations and for the design and implementation of trials for different methods of wetland recreation and compensation.



## **AGREEMENT NO. 27/2001 - JORDAN VALLEY LANDFILL PARK, HONG KONG**

Client: Environmental Protection Department, HKSAR Government

Landscape Team Manager for conceptual masterplan design and specification of landscape works for restored landfill site in Kowloon. The design for the park had to accommodate technical constraints related to the landfill. It included a large lawn area, playing fields and fitness trail, model car racing circuit and passive recreational facilities.



## **AGREEMENT NO. CE 66/2001 (EP) EIA AND TIA STUDIES FOR YUEN LONG AND KAM TIN SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL STAGE 2**

Client: Drainage Services Department, HKSAR Government

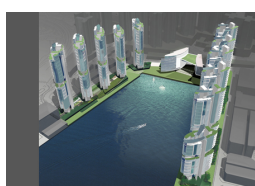
Project Manager for landscape and visual impact assessment and tree survey for strategic sewerage project. Services included design of landscape/visual mitigation measures and compensatory planting.



## **LANDSCAPE DESIGN FOR BLACK POINT POWER STATION, HONG KONG**

Client: China Light & Power

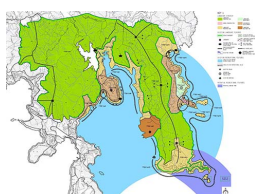
Project Director for landscape design (incl Government submissions) and implementation for landscape upgrading works at major power generation facility. Landscape works aimed to mitigate the overwhelmingly industrial character of the site and provide increased amenity for those working at the facility.



## **YAU TONG BAY DEVELOPMENT PLANNING APPLICATION, HONG KONG**

Client: Henderson Land

Landscape Masterplan, Visual Impact Assessment and associated documentation for waterfront residential development in Hong Kong, consisting of 22 high-rise towers, podium gardens and waterfront / corniche. The project was approved on several occasions and URBIS developed revised proposals for subsequent planning resubmissions.



## **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT STUDY ON HONG KONG ISLAND SOUTH AND LAMMA ISLAND HONG KONG**

Client: Planning Department, HKSAR Government

Project Landscape Designer for strategic planning study identifying areas for future population expansion. Tasks included landscape assessment, landscape and visual impact assessments, tree survey and preparation of a landscape strategy for the whole of Hong Kong Island South and Lamma Island.



## **FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AT WHITEHEAD AND LEE ON, MA ON SHAN, NT HONG KONG**

Client: Civil Engineering and Development Department, HKSAR Government

Landscape and visual impact assessment and landscape design for feasibility study into viability of housing development on site of former Whitehead Detention Centre, on a spectacular site on the coast of Tolo Harbour.



### **ENGINEERING STUDY FOR THE FEASIBILITY OF DEVELOPMENT AT ANDERSON ROAD, KOWLOON HONG KONG**

Client: Civil Engineering and Development Department, HKSAR Government

Landscape and visual impact assessment of proposed site formation works and development of high rise residential development for a population of 43,000 on existing slopes below Anderson Road Quarry.



### **WILDFOWL RESERVE VISITOR CENTRE, BARN ELMS, LONDON, UK**

Client: Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust

Landscape Architect for the masterplanning and detailed design of national wildfowl reserve visitor centre, at Barn Elms, London. Located on the site of four Victorian reservoirs, the project created a variety of habitats for wetland birds as well as a number of visitor experiences based on Wetlands of the World. The project was recently voted the UK's favourite nature reserve.



### **MILLENNIUM GREENS, OPEN SPACES, UK**

Client: Countryside Commission

Landscape Architect producing conceptual designs for five public open spaces as part of the preparation of a submission to the Millennium Commission for the creation of 1000 'Millennium Greens' across the UK. Millennium Greens aimed to celebrate local distinctiveness, sustainability and provide locations for community development. Pilot Greens were in Sydenham (London), Mansfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Isle of Wight and Norwich. The submission behalf of the Countryside Commission to the national Government ultimately successful securing £10 millions funding allowing the national programme to roll out.



### **RIVER THAMES, LANDSCAPE GUIDANCE FOR TIDAL REACHES, LONDON, UK**

Client: National Rivers Authority

Member of a team preparing a strategic and detailed landscape assessment and design guidance for the river Thames landscape through central London on behalf of the National Rivers Authority. The guidelines in particular set development parameters for the development of abandoned and derelict sites along the river of which there were at that point many. The guidelines were published for sale by the National River Authority.



### **WIMBLEDON PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN, LONDON**

Client: English Heritage

Restoration and management plan for historic (16th-20th century) landscape of Wimbledon Park (English Heritage Grade II landscape) designed by Capability Brown, Joseph Paxton and others. Included historic research and assessment of value of remaining historic features.