



Providing prestige in professional land planning and design."

Community Design/Streetscapes

Hays LAS Background

The team at Hays LAS has a passion for Community Design and Streetscapes that comes from being a part of small town fabric. Growing up in and around small a town in Ohio, firm principal Gabe Hays became intimately familiar with the social significance placed on hometown. This strong admiration for small, uniquely American towns led to the establishment of Hays LAS located on historic Route 40 in the City of St. Clairsville, Ohio.

Beginnings

Hays' experience with community/ street-scape projects started with an inventory of Carnegie, PA. This served as an education in the challenges of closing a street in favor of a pedestrian only corridor.

One of the first Hays LAS projects in 1998 was a small walking tour and bike trail hub that incorporated historic, recycled, stone sidewalk paving.



The first community wide planning project encompassed the small community of Adena, Ohio in which unique brick streets and small park spaces were proposed to be preserved and enhanced.



HAYS

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE STUDIO, LTD.

Hays LAS Philosophy

During the early 1990's, there was a proliferation of community streetscape projects in Eastern Ohio being rubberstamped with design sameness. In response, principal Gabe Hays formulated his philosophy of community design as a cultural landscape. This philosophy was outlined in a lecture

entitled **"Avoiding Cookie Cutter Streetscape Designs, Building Successful Communities- Preservation and Revitalization Strategies,"** presented at the Ohio Historic Society's annual conference in May of 2000.



The Hays LAS philosophy uses the heritage and the sense of place unique to each community to create community design that includes all parks, streetscapes and public areas of a town. Additionally, this approach addresses ordinances, interpretation, and project approach.

In a recent constructed example of Hays LAS community design work, Wheeling Heritage Port Phase III, the use of heritage guiding design is apparent. At Water Street, the sidewalks include the full-scale footprint of the railroad and train cars, in the original location, inlaid with brick. The logo of each railroad that ran through Wheeling is engraved between each car for interpretation.