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the story of the first north american landscape architect and the man behind the creation of new york city s central park
montreal s mount royal and the capitol grounds in washington d c

when george bristol first saw the mountains surrounding east glacier montana in the early summer of 1961 he was in his own

words awed to his depths thus began a love affair with nature and public parks that has endured for more than fifty years this same love affair would lead bristol to become a crusader for america s national parks and later to be largely credited for the rescue of the ailing public park system in his home state in on politics and parks bristol tells his own story in lively prose that includes many intriguing peeks at behind the scenes events in washington austin and elsewhere beginning with his upbringing by a widowed young mother with a passion for music and literature he narrates the converging of influences that led him to an influential political career including active involvement in national campaigns for lyndon b johnson hubert humphrey lloyd bentsen and jimmy carter after working for the democratic national committee and bill clinton s 1992 presidential campaign bristol was asked to join president clinton s administration however what he really wanted was a place on the board of the national park foundation npf with decades old images of glacier still burning brightly in his memory he helped spearhead efforts to elevate the image of the national park service and helped establish a highly successful fundraising strategy for the npf giving both organizations greater national awareness and stature having acquired a well earned reputation for fundraising and effective advocacy bristol soon began to do for his home state what he had done for the npf solidify support and funding for the texas park system over ten years and five legislative sessions bristol through the texas coalition for conservation the nonprofit organization he founded fought for the full claim of texas state parks to the sporting goods tax utilizing his many contacts his well honed political sense and his dogged patience he forged an alliance that would win the day for everyone who loves the state s public lands in 2007 in the last bill passed on the last day of the session the texas legislature nearly doubled the operating budget for parks on politics and parks is at once a lesson in conservation history and a captivating personal memoir that will inform entertain and inspire all those who share bristol s love for the unspoiled beauty of the outdoors and his commitment to preserve that beauty for future generations to learn more about the meadows center for water and the environment sponsors of this book s series please click [here](#)

parks were prominent and indeed controversial features of the medieval countryside but they have been unevenly studied and remain only partly understood stephen mileson provides the first full length study of the subject examining parks across the country and throughout the middle ages in their full social economic jurisdictional and landscape context the first half of the book investigates the purpose of these royal and aristocratic reserves which have been variously claimed as hunting grounds economic assets landscape settings for residences and status symbols an emphasis on the aristocratic passion for the chase as the key motivation for park making provides an important challenge to more recent views and allows for a deeper appreciation of the connection between park making and the expression of power and lordship the second part of the book examines the impact of park creation on wider society from the king and aristocracy to peasants and townsmen instead of the

traditional emphasis on the importance of royal regulation greater attention is paid to the effects of lordly park making on other members of the landed elite and ordinary people these widespread enclosures interfered with customary uses of woodland and waste hunting practices roads and farming not surprisingly they could become a focus for aristocratic feud popular protest and furtive resistance combining historical archaeological and landscape evidence this ground breaking study provides fresh insight into contemporary values and how they helped to shape the medieval landscape

from yellowstone to the great smoky mountains america's national parks are sprawling tracts of serenity most of them carved out of public land for recreation and preservation around the turn of the last century america has changed dramatically since then and so has its conceptions of what parkland ought to be in this book one of our premier environmental historians looks at the new phenomenon of urban parks focusing on san francisco's golden gate national recreation area as a prototype for the twenty first century cobbled together from public and private lands in a politically charged arena the ggnra represents a new direction for parks as it highlights the long standing tension within the national park service between preservation and recreation long a center of conservation the bay area was well positioned for such an innovative concept writing with insight and wit rothman reveals the many complex challenges that local leaders politicians and the nps faced as they attempted to administer sites in this area he tells how representative phillip burton guided a comprehensive bill through congress to establish the park and how he and others expanded the acreage of the ggnra redefined its mission to the public forged an identity for interconnected parks and struggled against formidable odds to obtain the san francisco presidio and convert it into a national park engagingly written the new urban park offers a balanced examination of grassroots politics and its effect on municipal state and federal policy while most national parks dominate the economies of their regions ggnra was from the start tied to the multifaceted needs of its public and political constituents including neighborhood ethnic and labor interests as well as the usual supporters from the conservation movement as a national recreation area ggnra helped redefine that category in the public mind by the dawn of the new century it had already become one of the premier national park areas in terms of visitation now as public lands become increasingly scarce ggnra may well represent the future of national parks in america rothman shows that this model works and his book will be an invaluable resource for planning tomorrow's parks

national book award finalist elizabeth partridge reveals the life and work of frederick law olmsted the designer of central park the united states capitol building's landscape and more nobody could get frederick law olmsted to sit still he was filled with energy adventure and dreams of changing the world as a boy he found refuge in the peace and calm of nature and later as an adult he dreamed of designing and creating access to parks for a growing and changing america when new york city held a

contest for the best park design for what would become central park olmsted won and became the father of landscape architecture he went on to design parks across america including yosemite national park and even the grounds for the united states capitol this scenic biography is lavishly illustrated by becca stadlander and national book award finalist elizabeth partridge brings her renowned lyricism and meticulous research to the visionary who brought parks to the people

one volume reference work on the first twenty five years of the cinema s international emergence from the early 1890s to the mid 1910s

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