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为人类创造理想环境

Creating the Ideal Environment for Human Beings

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摘要 ……

作为一家拥有50余年历史的环境景观规划设计公司，EDSA在大型综合开发、旅游度假、居住环境、市政，以及公园与娱乐项目中所展现出的无与伦比的创造力获得了广泛认可。此次访谈中，EDSA董事B·斯科特·拉蒙特对EDSA在中国市场的实践活动进行了回顾，对中国城市建设中存在的问题进行了评价，并介绍了EDSA在中国的未来发展计划。

关键词 ……

中国；EDSA；全方位；项目类型；可持续性；挑战

Abstract ……

As an environmental landscape planning and design firm that has a history over 50 years, EDSA has been widely recognized for their unparalleled creativity in large-scale comprehensive development project, tourism and resort project, residential project, municipal project, and park and recreation projects. In this interview, B. Scott LaMont, the principal of EDSA, reviews EDSA's practices in China, evaluates the issues in China's urban construction, and introduces EDSA's future plans in to China's design market.

Key words ……

China; EDSA; Full-Service; Project Type; Sustainability; Challenge

您自2008年开始将工作室的工作重心转移到中国市场，您能否介绍一下您所参与的印象最为深刻的中国项目？

B·斯科特·拉蒙特（以下简称拉蒙特）：我认为EDSA最具影响力的项目就是我在中国参与的第一个项目。在拥有多年的海外实践经历后，来自中国的南方建筑设计院邀请我加入他们的卧龙湾国际商务中心项目团队。卧龙湾位于一个占地1500hm²的中央商务区内，包括一个超过40hm²的混合功能开发用地，并将成为大连长远发展规划的一部分。这个项目对于EDSA具有重要的意义，因为它赋予了EDSA一个能够在社会、环境与经济结构等方面对如此众多的使用人群产生影响的机遇。我们获得了与当地政府直接沟通的机会，我们的角色也成功地转变为“公共开放空间、景观，以及步行社区的倡导者”。我们不仅努力实现该目标，还通过创造场所精神来将这片场地缔造成为一个理想的居住地。

2013年EDSA成立了上海办公室，EDSA正式入驻上海的原因有哪些？中国的设计市场对于EDSA而言意味着什么？

拉蒙特：基于EDSA的企业文化和50余年的全球经验，我们的策略是将上海工作室打造成为一个全方位的设计和施工管理机构。上海工作室拥有来自美国的领导团队和国际化的训练有素的工作人员，能够为中国当地客户提供最好的设计和规划服务，以及通过更加有效的沟通方式，从而确保预期的设计原则和项目元素得到顺利实施。

对于我们的全球实践来说，中国是一个关键的市场，但更重要的是，中国是一个值得我们密切关注的地方。在过去的这些年中，我们的全体员工都受到了中国的多样性、文化与精神的启发。我们的团队已经与这片土地建立了深厚的情谊。我们决定以高质量的设计来帮助中国塑造未来的景观，并确保不断增长的人口能够生活在一个有意义的环境之中。

EDSA在中国的项目主要侧重于哪些类型？在中国的实践中，EDSA一般会参与项目的哪些阶段？

拉蒙特：我们在中国的项目涵盖从大尺度的规划，到小尺度的、以深入设计为主的项目。这些项目之间的内在共同点是我们对在社区规划中如何营造归属感的准确理解，并以一个坚定的指导性愿景贯穿于整个设计过程。

基于从大尺度规划项目和深入设计项目中积累的工作经验，我们很自然地会涉及到从分析到规划，到深入设计，最终到实施的所有设计阶段。多年以来，我们发现设计过程中的一个重要环节就是合作。EDSA的创始人爱德华·斯通先生曾经教导我们如何成为出色的合作者，因为一个团队能够比个人拥有更多的作为。他还告诉我们，设计并不应该是排他的，而是具有包容性的。我们将这一理念应用于项目中，积极促进与来自各个学科的、具有丰富专业知识的当地团队的合作，从而确保

我们的项目得以顺利实施。

随着EDSA上海工作室的成立，我们现在能够在施工过程中提供更多的现场服务，从而能够看到我们的项目建造在实现与客户共同愿景的基础之上。

EDSA在中国的实践过程中遇到过哪些阻力与挑战，又有哪些收获？在与中国设计师和甲方的合作过程中您最深刻的体会有哪些？

拉蒙特：作为外国设计师的挑战之一就是不要害怕问“为什么”。偶尔会出现项目既有的导则和要求与客户的项目核心目标相悖的情况。作为国际化的设计师，我们有责任弄清楚这些问题，并合理地假设提出质疑，以帮助项目实现其最大潜力，从而更好地为客户以及未来的居住者和到访者服务。

中国拥有很多天才的本土设计师，我们有幸与许多优秀的团队协同合作。令我们感到非常兴奋的是，我们能够运用当地团队的本土知识和经验，并将其与我们对于国际化设计和开发的深刻理解相结合。专业知识和技能的融合赋予我们机会来创造真正具有意义的场所。

您会通过哪些途径来理解中国项目中的历史和文化背景，并在项目予以回应？

拉蒙特：在EDSA，我们相信如果想要真正

理解一个项目，我们必须花时间来对场地进行考察，不仅要了解物质空间的动态过程，还应理解场地的区域背景以及文化特征。在最近的一次现场调研中，我们在西双版纳的热带雨林山地中徒步行走了好几天。在整个旅程中，我们参观了当地的山村并去到村长家中拜访。这是一次非常难忘而令人感动的经历。实际上，我们还有幸参加了当地的新年庆祝活动。在这些村庄中，我们的团队对当地的建筑和房屋布局进行了研究，了解了他们的公共和私人开放空间是如何如此完美地镶嵌在陡峭的山坡上的方法和原因。他们做得太棒了！我们决定借鉴他们的方法、生活方式和传统来指导未来的设计工作。

您认为中国不同于其他设计市场的特点有哪些？

拉蒙特：撇开设计风格不谈，中国目前的开发量和城市化速度是全世界前所未有的。人们对绿色空间和公共空间可达性的需求是巨大的。这引发了对旅游、居住、商业、零售业以及环境相关的基础设施的庞大需求。

这里的发展速度是惊人的。中国在过去的20年内完成了美国在过去的80年所完成的建设量。专家称到2020年，中国的大部分人口将会居住在城市地区。这赋予了开发商和设计师（如EDSA的设计师）巨大的责任。随着中国城市化的增长，我们今

天所创造的空间将会变得更加重要。我们需要预见未来的城市格局，从而为子孙后代创造可持续的城市环境。

您认为中国城市建设和景观行业存在哪些问题？

拉蒙特：品质。在考虑设计的品质和实施之上，设计师往往面临着巨大的“速成”压力。我们所处理的场所都是要具有长期使用寿命的，因此我们应该提倡通过适当设计、设立（或建立）开发标准以及必要的施工周期来实现这一目标。世界上每一个项目都会面临工期的压力，但是我们必须始终坚持我们的项目愿景和设计目标，以确保这种压力不会阻碍这些目标的顺利实现。

您如何看待一些人将中国比作是设计师的“Playground”这一观点？

拉蒙特：我不赞同这一观点。将中国称为

1. EDSA上海工作室。图中的两个橄榄球头盔分别代表设计师考特尼和徐一宁的母校球队，窗外可俯瞰南京西路步行街的风景。© EDSA
2. EDSA上海工作室的设计师在讨论项目方案。© EDSA
3. EDSA手绘平面图 © EDSA
1. EDSA Shanghai studio. The two football helmets represent the alma mater football teams of Courtney and Yining Xu, respectively; the landscape of Nanjing West Pedestrian Street can be viewed from the office. © EDSA
2. Designers are discussing the scheme in EDSA Shanghai studio. © EDSA
3. Hand-drawn sketch plans by designers of EDSA © EDSA



“Playground”即意味着我们正在进行的工作是“Play”的一部分，事实上并非如此。我们正在为真实的人群创造真实的场地和令人向往的空间，同时也要为我们所创造的环境负责。然而，我认同在中国，设计师更加雄心勃勃，敢于将他们的创造力发挥到淋漓尽致；这是一件了不起的事情，并且能够引导卓越的创新设计。

您认为外国设计师的涌入对中国带来了哪些影响？

拉蒙特：机遇。在过去的这些年中，中国已经敞开她的大门并接纳了国外设计团队，并将这个国家最重要的一些项目委托给我们。这是一种很好的机遇，现在世界各地的人们都意识到了这一点。

EDSA在中国未来的战略规划有哪些？

拉蒙特：中国是一个了不起的国家，她的景观与人民是如此的多样化，就像我的祖国——美国一样。EDSA在中国未来的计划是继续拓展美国团队在中国的实践，以及



中国本地工作室的实践。我们目前在中国进行的项目已经在全国各地为我们建立了许多非常重要的联系和友谊。在继续关注中国的同时，我们的视野将从中国市场拓展到整个亚洲。东南亚与日本也是我们未来的发展重点。我们已经参与了这些地区的许多项目，并将继续寻找那些能够令我们有所作为的具有挑战性的工作。**LAF**

4. 位于中国三亚的海南清水湾奥特瑞格度假村是一座具有乡村热带风情的夏威夷主题度假村。© EDSA
5. 中国大连钻石湾效果图。该项目在城市的核心区和周边步行社区中创造了一个充满活力的海滨中心。© EDSA
4. A rustic tropical, Hawaiian design motif influences defining spaces at the Hainan Qingshui Bay Outrigger Resort in Sanya, China. © EDSA
5. The rendering of for Diamond Bay in Dalian, China, illustrates the creation of a vibrant waterfront center anchored by a mixed use core and surrounding walkable neighborhoods. © EDSA



You have focused your studio's work on China since 2008. Could you make a brief introduction of your most impressive project?

B. Scott LAMONT (LAMONT hereafter): The project that I feel EDSA has had an opportunity to make the greatest impact, was also the first project I worked on here in China. After practicing abroad for many years, I was invited by the South Architecture Design Institute to join their team for the Dalian Wolong Bay International Business Center. Wolong Bay is within a 1,500 hectares Central Business District and will include over 40 hectares of mixed use development as part of Dalian's long-term growth plan. This project was significant because EDSA was given the opportunity to influence the social, environmental and economic fabric for such a large number of people. We had a chance to work directly with the local government and our role became that of “advocates of the public open space, landscape and walkability of the community”. We endeavored to not only hit the development targets but also make the project a great place to live by creating meaningful places.

EDSA founded its Shanghai studio in 2013, what was the reason attached you to establish this EDSA's branch in Shanghai? How much the China means to EDSA?

LAMONT: Our strategy is to grow the office into a full-service design and construction administration studio grounded in EDSA's culture and over 50 years of worldwide experience. The Shanghai studio brings United States leadership and internationally trained staff providing the best in design and planning expertise, and a more efficient means for our local clients. It also provides our clients with a more efficient means



by which to ensure intended design tenets and programmed elements are successfully implemented.

China is a key market for our worldwide practice, but more importantly she is a place we care deeply about. Over the years our entire staff has been inspired by China's diversity, culture and spirit. Our teams have developed strong friendships here and we

6. 大连卧龙湾中央公园展示了人行线性公园和开放空间如何将居民区和办公楼与公共滨水区相连接。© EDSA
7. 通过将绿道系统与重要的公共空间——如地区体育馆——相连接，创造出一个具有凝聚力的宜居社区。© EDSA
8. 通过一个展现特定历史事件的广场，体现了主要的滨水公园对大连悠久文化的尊重。© EDSA
6. This central park perspective of Dalian Wolong Bay shows how the pedestrian linear park and open space reaches out to connect residential and office areas to the public waterfront. © EDSA
7. By connecting greenway systems to important public spaces, such as the regional sports complex, a cohesive, livable community is created. © EDSA
8. The main waterfront park pays respect to the cultural past of Dalian by providing a bold destination for programmed events. © EDSA

are dedicated to high quality design to help shape the future landscape of China and ensure that the growing population thrives in environments that make sense.

We would like to know what types of project EDSA mainly focuses on in China? In your design practice in China, which phases do you usually get involved in?

LAMONT: Our projects in China range in scale from large scale planning exercises to smaller, more detailed design oriented projects. The common thread between projects of this nature is our definitive understanding to hospitality of community planning, letting a solid vision guide us throughout the design process.

With working in both large scale planning and detailed design projects, we are naturally moving through all phases of the design from analysis to planning to detailed design and implementation. Over the years, we have found that an important part of that design process is collaboration. Edward Stone, the founder of EDSA, taught us how to be great collaborators and that we could accomplish more as a team than as an individual. He also taught us that design is not exclusive, it is inclusive. We apply this philosophy to our projects, fostering collaboration with local team members and great expertise in

their disciplines to help insure our project's successful implementation.

With the establishment of EDSA's Shanghai studio, we now can provide more hands-on service during the construction process to see our projects built to the standards of our shared vision with the clients.

What is the biggest obstacle or challenge you have encountered and experience you have harvested in your practice in China? What is the most impression you ever have during the cooperation with Chinese clients and designers?

LAMONT: One of our challenges as foreign designers is to not be afraid to ask "why". Occasionally there are project guidelines or requirements that are provided that may be in contrast with our client's key goals for a project. As international designers, it is our responsibility to question these issues and to respectfully challenge the assumptions to help a project achieve its fullest potential for the client, and the future residents and guests.

There are many talented local designers in China and we have been fortunate to work with many great teams. It is very exciting when we can leverage a local team's regional knowledge and experience and combine it with our deep understanding of international design and development. The blending of this

expertise is what gives us the opportunity to create truly meaningful places.

How do you understand and respond to the specific history and cultural context of each project site in China?

LAMONT: At EDSA we believe that if we are going to understand a project we have to spend time on the site, learning about the dynamics of the physical property, and understanding its regional context and cultural aspects. During a recent trip, we were hiking for days on end in the rain forested mountains of Xishuangbanna. Throughout the journey, we spent time in the local mountain villages, and visited with village leaders in their homes. It was a very memorable and bonding experience. In fact, we had the opportunity to share in their local New Year's celebration. In the villages, our team studied their architecture and the patterns of the settlements, learning how and why their public and private open spaces were configured so perfectly on the steep hillsides. They had it so brilliant! And we were determined to let their approach, lifestyle and traditions guide our future design work.

What is the most significant difference between China and other EDSA's target bases?



LAMONT: Design style aside, the amount of development and rate of urbanization that is occurring in China is unmatched in the world. The need for green spaces and public accessibility is tremendous. This puts a huge demand on all infrastructures related to tourism, residential, commercial, retail and / or environmental.

The rate of growth and development here is breathtaking. What China has accomplished in the last 20 years took the US over 80 years. Experts say that much of China's population is expected to live in urban areas by 2020. This places great responsibility in the hands of both developer and designers like EDSA. As the urbanization in China increases, the significance of the spaces we create today will become even more important. We need to visualize the future urban fabric to create sustainable environments that will be enjoyed by future generations.

What do you think are the important issues in the industries of urban construction and landscape design in China?

LAMONT: Quality. There is an enormous "to be done" pressure that often takes precedence over the quality of design and implementation. We are developing places that are meant to last a lifetime and we should advocate for appropriate design, standards of development and necessary construction periods to allow this to be realized. Every project in the world has deadline pressure, but we have to keep focused on our project vision and design goals, and make sure that this pressure does not prohibit the proper execution of those goals.

Do you agree with the view that China is a "Playground" for designers?

LAMONT: No. To call China a "Playground"



would indicate that the work we are doing is part of a game, it is not. We are creating real places and destinations for real people and we are responsible for the environments we create. However, I do agree that in China, designers are more spirited and often courageous to use their creativity to the fullest; this is a great thing and can lead to superior innovative designs.

What influence do you think has the surge of the engagement of foreign designers brought to China?

LAMONT: Opportunity. Over the past several years, China has opened its doors and has embraced our foreign design teams and in many cases, and have entrusted us to work on some of the country's most important projects. This is a great opportunity and many people around the world understand this.

What are EDSA's future plans in China?

LAMONT: China is an amazing country whose landscape and people are as diverse as those in my home country, the United States. Our future plans in China are to continue to grow our practice from our United States and

local offices here in China. We are dedicated to the work we are doing here, having forged many great relationships and friendships around the country. While we remain focused on China, our vision for growth in this market extends throughout Asia. Southeast Asia and Japan are also a focus of our future expansion. We are already engaged on many projects in these areas and continue to look for challenging work where we can make a difference. **LAF**

9. 在西双版纳项目的现场调研中，EDSA团队通过物质空间分析和定性分析来决定项目的发展机遇和可行性，并记录下周围邻近用地的地形、植被、环境、历史和地质特征。© EDSA
10. 当设计师能够体验当地的风俗、传统和历史时，当地村庄为我们的团队提供了设计灵感，并为规划方法带来了一种可靠性。© EDSA
11. 被雨水淋湿的速写本记录下我们的设计想法、元素和愿景，这些将为项目的整体设计带来帮助。© EDSA
9. During a site visit, EDSA team performs physical and qualitative analysis to determine development opportunities and project feasibility, documenting topography, vegetation, environmental, historic and geological features along with surrounding adjacent land uses. © EDSA
10. Local villages provide design inspiration and bring a sense of authenticity to planning approaches when designers can experience their customs, traditions and history. © EDSA
11. The rain spotted sketchbook which captures hand drawings of ideas, elements and vision will aid in the overall design of the project. © EDSA