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A Genius for Place Caps Banner Year for LALH

Robin Karson's long-awaited book, *A Genius for Place: American Landscapes of the Country Place Era*, is slated for publication in early December by the University of Massachusetts Press. *A Genius for Place* will be the fifth title released by LALH in 2007, capping the organization's fifteenth anniversary year.

In this beautifully illustrated volume, Karson traces the development of a distinctly American style of landscape design through an analysis of seven country places created by some of the nation's most talented landscape practitioners—from the naturalistic wild gardens of Warren Manning to the mysterious "Prairie style" landscapes of Jens Jensen to the proto-modernist gardens of Fletcher Steele. Analyzing these designs in context with one another and against the backdrop of the professional and cultural currents that shaped larger projects—such as parks, campuses, and planned communities—Karson creates a rich and comprehensive picture of the artistic achievements of the period. Handsome black-and-white images by landscape photographer Carol Betsch illuminate the transporting spirit of these country places today, while hundreds of drawings, plans, and historical photographs bring the past to life.
