



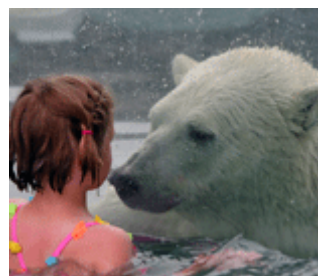
**Ursa International • GETTING CLOSE TO WILDLIFE**



**firm profile**



**Spring 2016**





# FIRM PROFILE

## WHO WE ARE

**U**rsa International offers strong leadership in planning and building tomorrow's conservation/education facilities in National Parks, Zoological Parks, Museums, Aquariums, Botanical Gardens, Private Wildlife Reserves and Nature Centers, worldwide.

Ursa was established in 1994, drawing together the experience and passions of **Nevin and Gail Lash**. Nevin had spent ten years as Senior Associate/Landscape Architect at CLRdesign, Inc. where he was project manager on many of CLR's award winning projects. Gail Lash was the Zoo Biologist at Zoo Atlanta, where she coordinated the Zoo's construction projects for five years during the \$25 million redevelopment after over 10 years as a Zoo Keeper. Together they understand both sides of the zoo design experience and can lead effective projects.

Since then, the Lash's have worked with over 50 institutions on over 80 projects in 12 countries during the last 30 years. That level of diversity and repeating clients have made it possible to understand the needs of today's zoos all over the world. The issues are always the same, and careful listening and quick and flexible responses always set the stage for our work.

Ursa is particularly skilled in implementing a "team approach" to achieve client's goals for complex projects. We collaborate with selected professionals, assembled from a wide range of disciplines, to maximize creativity and effectiveness.



North Carolina Zoo, Polar Bear Expansion

## References

Please contact any of our previous clients for references or these fine folks:

Marshall Judges  
Zoo New England  
617-989-3735

Dr. Terry Maple  
Zoo Consultant  
561-533-0887

Dr. Dwight Lawson  
Oklahoma City Zoo  
405-425-0230

Dr. Mike Maunder  
Florida International University  
305-348-4801

## Scope of Work:

### I. Concept Planning:

A series of intensive on-site Workshops from Programming, to Concept Planning and Design to quickly determine a project's scope, budget and development program. Each workshop is summarized by a Workshop Manual, that reviews the entire session's progress and points to the goals and objectives of the next workshop.

### II. Master Planning:

A series of intensive on-site Workshops from review of Concept Planning and Institutional goals and objectives, the Master Planning workshops look at Programming, Planning, Design and Design Development Phases to move quickly but comprehensively through the complex design issues of the project. Each of these workshops are summarized by a Workshop Manual, that reviews the entire session's progress and points to the goals and objectives of the next workshop.

### III. Exhibit Design

The following represents some of the technical services that Ursa and our consultants will be responsible during Exhibit Design Projects:

#### Biological Criteria Programming:

These include detailed program requirements for design criteria based on the biological and psychological needs of the specific animal. Behavioral enrichment, social needs, temperature requirements, as well as physical size and abilities of the animal are considered. USDA regulations and AZA recommendations are also considered in programming.

#### Habitat and Visitor Design:

These include interior/exterior animal landscapes and exhibit furnishings such as artificial rocks, caves, water features, trees, landscape simulation and nontoxic plant materials, substrates, and perches. Extensive scale modeling and detailed site sketching are required to provide direction for each special exhibit contractor. With the assistance from one of our consultants we offer Architectural Renderings and Artist Perspectives for fundraising efforts.

#### Animal Security Systems:

These include interior/exterior animal barriers, caging, doors, observation, and day-to-day management systems. Continually changing standards for keeper safety and animal welfare require more complex materials, equipment and layouts. This element requires considerable design time with keepers and trainers.



# I. CONCEPT PLANNING

## A. WHAT WE DO: CONCEPT PLANNING

Concept Planning starts with the institution - you, the client. While knowledgeable, the director and staff have the training and experience to generate ideas, insight and in-depth understanding for the questions facing the institution, a facilitator is generally needed to bring the group to consensus and to document the product. Our workshop process has proven to be successful, in multiple institutions, and in several countries around the world, at doing just that. We can help you answer the question - What's Next?.

We act as your "in-house" planning office: to work with your staff, to coordinate and facilitate information gathering group workshops, and to document the ideas and criteria for possible further development. We will work to gather ideas and feedback from a wide range of staff, with special meetings for special groups.

Once we have completed generating ideas, we facilitate consensus-building activities where the staff works together to agree on their ...next great thing!. Using a variety of group activities that are designed to allow the Institution to acquire ownership of it's ideas, and see them illustrated on their site.



## CONCEPT PLANNING WORKSHOPS

### *Workshop based Design Process*

Using a series of intensive on-site Workshops, from Blue Sky Visioning, Deep Water Analysis, Pre-Programming and Concept Design Phases, Ursa and the client team move quickly but comprehensively through the initial design process of a project.

Each of these workshops are summarized by a Workshop Manual, that reviews the entire session's progress and points to the goals and objectives of the next workshop. During the period between workshops, Ursa refines the planning documents and accurately depicts the design intent and concept. Ursa works with you to determine how many workshops are needed for your project's goals to be met. At the end of these workshops, we pull together a final report that can be used for a variety of promotional uses. Depending on the project, renderings or models can be assembled to visually represent the ideas to a wider audience.

While the Concept Plan is complete, the project needs further design and development to get it built (see Master Planning and Zoological Design pages). It will, however, answer the question - What's Next? and help you get the financial support you need to assemble a full design team to take it through construction.

### Selected Concept Planning Projects:

Zoo New England, Boston, MA.

- \* **Gorilla Management Plan**
- \* **Tiger Exhibit 1 & 2**
- \* **Black Bear Exhibit**

Rome Zoo "Bioparco", Rome, Italy

- \* **Concept Master Plan**
- \* **Brown Bear Exhibit**
- \* **Great Ape Exhibit**
- \* **Savanna Exhibit**
- \* **Pygmy Hippo Exhibit**

Chimp Haven. Shreveport, LA.

- \* **Concept Master Plan**
- \* **Visitor Access Plan**
- \* **Education Center**

North Carolina Zoological Park, Asheville, N.C.

- \* **Chimpanzee Exhibit**
- \* **Australian Outback**
- \* **Polar Bear Expansion**

The New Hope Zoo, Kingston, Jamaica

- \* **Concept Master Plan**
- \* **Phase I Concept Plan**

Cape May County Park/Zoo, N.J.

- \* **Master Concept Plan**
- \* **Concept Plan Update**

Zoo Atlanta, Atlanta, GA.

- \* **Parakeet Walkabout Aviary**
- \* **KidZone Concept Plan**
- \* **Rollins Children's Zoo**
- \* **Warthog/Mongoose Exhibit**
- \* **The Living Tree House**
- \* **Komodo Exhibit**
- \* **Outback Station**

Roger Williams Park Zoo, Providence, RI

- \* **Polar Bear and surrounding exhibits**

Charles Paddock Zoo, Atascadero, CA .

- \* **Concept Master Plan**

Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International Ruhengeri, Rwanda

- \* **Mountain Gorilla Discovery Center**
- \* **Operational Headquarters**

Zoo Ljubjana, Ljubljana, Slovenia

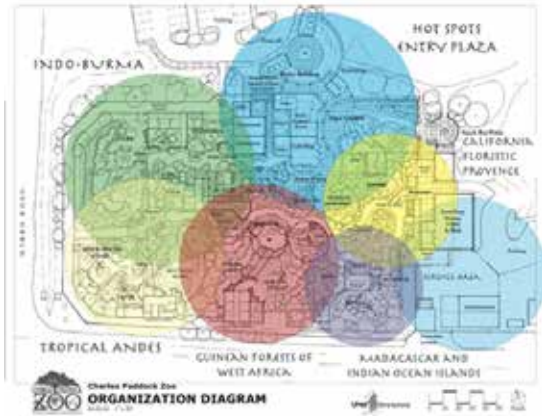
- \* **Chimpanzee Complex**
- \* **Savannah Exhibit**
- \* **Master Concept Plan**

Park Tsimbazaza, Antananarivo, Madagascar

- \* **Concept Exhibit Plans**

# II. MASTER PLANNING

## A. WHAT WE DO: MASTER PLANNING



Master Planning requires the skills and input from a wide range of professional fields: owner's representatives in facility management and administration, research, fund-raising, visitor services, marketing, education, engineering and in zoological instances, animal management/husbandry professionals and veterinary sciences. As consultants, we count on experts in the field and the client to bring forward the needed criteria to make the plan fit the application. Using an interactive workshop format, Ursa weaves together all of the important elements to create individually tailored Master Plans for our clients. Selected Zoological Master Plans that we have assisted on or managed:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Rome Zoo "Bioparco"<br>Rome, Italy                                      | Zoo Ljubjana<br>Ljubjana, Slovenia                                    |
| Zoo Atlanta Redevelopment<br>Atlanta Georgia                            | Roger Williams Park Zoo<br>"North American Trail"<br>Providence, R.I. |
| Brandywine Zoo<br>Wilmington, Delaware                                  | Cape May County Zoo<br>Cape May Courthouse, NJ                        |
| Return to Hope Zoo<br>Kingston, Jamaica                                 | Cherokee Wildlife Park<br>Cherokee, North Carolina                    |
| Chimp Haven Sanctuary<br>Shreveport, Louisiana                          | The Birmingham Ecoplex<br>Birmingham, Alabama                         |
| Chicago Zoological Park<br>"African Scenes"<br>Chicago, Illinois        | Birmingham Zoo<br>Birmingham, Alabama                                 |
| Lincoln Park Zoological Park<br>"Heart of the Zoo"<br>Chicago, Illinois | Park Tsimbazaza<br>Antananarivo, Madagascar                           |
| Brook Run Park<br>Atlanta, Georgia                                      | Honolulu Zoo<br>"Tropical Forest Zone"<br>Honolulu, Hawaii            |
| Charles Paddock Zoo<br>Atascadero, California                           | Los Angeles Zoo<br>Los Angeles, California                            |
| Mogambe Wildlife Sanctuary<br>Dar es Salaam, Tanzania                   | Uganda Wildlife Center<br>Entebbe, Uganda                             |

### PLANNING WORKSHOPS

Workshop-based Design Process with Client Team

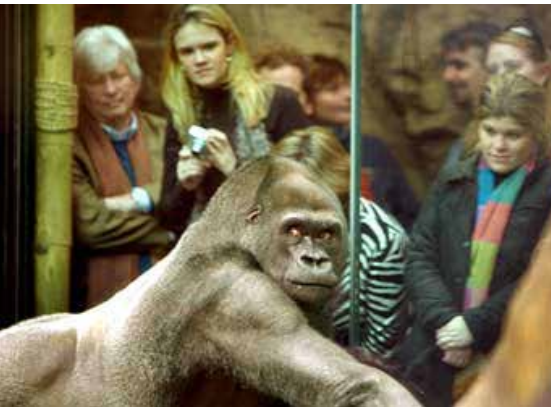
A series of intensive on-site Workshops from, Programming, Concept Planning and Draft Master Plan Phases moves quickly but comprehensively through the complex design issues to arrive at an approved Master Plan

Each of these workshops are summarized by a Workshop Manual, which reviews the entire session's progress and points to the goals and objectives of the next workshop. During the period between workshops, Ursa refines the design documents and accurately depicts the design.

# III. EXHIBIT DESIGN

## WHAT WE DO: EXHIBIT DESIGN

Exhibit Design involves the detail planning and design for renovations to or new facilities for a wide range of animals and their habitats. This involves site selection, analysis and site planning, as well as biological programming and determining appropriate sizes, barriers, exhibit features and countless other detail issues. Ursa collaborates with other design team members to facilitate the creation of new exhibits for a wide range of institutions.



Bioparco/Rome Zoo  
Rome, Italy

- **Italian Brown Bear**
- **Great Apes**

Brookfield Zoo  
Chicago, Illinois

- **Giraffe/Kopje Exhibits**

Chimp Haven  
Shreveport, Louisiana

- **Chimpanzee Habitats**

Dallas Zoo  
Dallas, Texas

- **Endangered Tiger Exhibit**
- **Primate Row**

Denver Zoo  
Denver, Colorado

- **Primate Panorama**

Franklin Park Zoo  
Boston, MA. Tropical Forest

- **Gorilla Exhibit**
- **Siberian Tiger Exhibit**
- **Australia Walkabout**

North Carolina Zoo  
Asheboro, North Carolina

- **Kibale Forest Chimp Exhibit**
- **Australian Outback Exhibit**
- **Polar Bear Expansion**
- **Ocelot Exhibit**

Polar Bear Sanctuary  
Cochrane, Ontario

- **Swim with the Polar Bear**

Seneca Park Zoo  
Rochester, NY

- **Rocky Coast**

Stone Zoo  
Stoneham, MA

- **Treasures of the Sierra Madre**
- **Black Bear Exhibit**
- **Gibbon and Otter Exhibits**

Woodland Park Zoo  
Seattle, Washington

- **Northern Trail**

Zoo Atlanta  
Atlanta Georgia

- **Masai Mara - Savanna Exhibits**
- **Gorillas of Cameroon**
- **Orangs of Ketambe**
- **Tiger Forest**
- **Flamingo Pool**
- **Endangered Species Carousel**
- **Norfolk Southern Train Station**
- **KidZone Exhibits**
- **Living Treehouse**
- **Monkeys of Makakou**
- **Komodo Dragon Complex**
- **Warthog/Meerkat Exhibit**
- **Boundless Budgies**
- **Carnivore Complex**
- **Elephant Savanna Expansion Entry Plaza and Cyclorama**

### DESIGN WORKSHOPS

Workshop-based Design Process with Client Team

A series of intensive on-site Workshops from Programming, Schematics and Design Development Phases to move quickly but comprehensively through the complex design issues of the project.

Each of these are summarized by a Workshop Manual, which reviews the entire session's progress and points to the goals and objectives of the next workshop. During the period between workshops, Ursa refines the design documents and accurately depicts the design intent and concept.



# PLANNING APPROACH

## HOW WE GET THERE: OUR CORE VALUES

*We believe that, to design and plan animal facilities is one of the most fulfilling endeavors we, as landscape architects and biologists, can participate in. It provides real results for wildlife conservation, can enrich the lives of visitors from all over the world, and promote peace and global understanding. While we hold high expectations for our work, we also know that it takes people with a shared vision to achieve its most successful products. As a Planning Approach we consider the following principals in our design work:*

### 1. Listening to our Clients

Clients want to hire the most qualified, most experienced, most awarded consultants for their projects; then they tell them how they want their exhibit to look, work and feel – and they should ! They should get what they want – they are professionals – they have been in the business longer than most Zoo Architects, seen more zoos, worked directly with the animals, studied what they do and know what they need. As a Zoo designer, the client is our expert, we are only the facilitators, and we take on the burden of making sure that all the right questions are asked and answered before construction begins, and make sure that at the end of the project, the credit goes to the zoo staff and donors. By listening to our clients we gain experience, but not expertise. Together we create exhibits which best reach their audience.

### 2. Experience the Site

Every site has a special feature. Whether it is a particular view, a particularly attractive tree, or a special topography or rock formation, each site has features that needs to be celebrated and enhanced. As designers, it is our role to identify those features, protect them from harm, and create opportunities for your visitors to experience them. Sometime a tree is just a tree, but sometimes it's the "Elder's tree", or the Leopard's perch, or a dramatic entry or backdrop. Before you can plan or program, you have to experience and love. And every site has something to love.

### 3. Understand the "Ecotourist"

We consider Zoo Visitors to be Ecotourists, and we understand them; we are Ecotourists! We have been on safari in Western Uganda, photographed Grizzly Bears at Brooks Falls, studied Lemurs in Madagascar, climbed volcanos on Lombok, and ridden Elephants in Chang Mai, and we understand what an Ecotourist wants. They want authentic experiences. They don't need elaborate accommodations or fine dining, they want to experience real places with real people that have real passion for what they are doing. To share an encounter with a Polar Bear, and understand what makes him tic, and to meet the folks who are responsible for his care, are what are important to the tourist.

### 4. Watch your Visitors

What do your visitors want? They want to see the animals without having to look too hard, or wait too long. They want to be able to see an animal within a naturalistic environment where there are no visible barriers or service buildings, and they want a close-up experience. They want to feel like they are there at the right time, experiencing some rare behavior, and seeing the largest specimen of a species. They want to feel like their family is the only one at this particular site, and their experience is unique. They want to be able to learn something that they can tell the guys back home, but most importantly, they don't want to look dumb in front of their kids! The exhibit must meet the needs of all visitors, from the Ph.D.'s to the 2 year olds, and everyone in between.

### 5. Pay attention to the Details

By spending a day with a zoo keeper, you understand what are important to them – DRAINS! They don't want them in the middle of the room – where architects want to put them – they want them in the corners or better still, shallow, wide trench drains outside the caging, with big basket strainers at the low spot. This is very important to Keepers. They spend a lot of time cleaning up after animals, and they want their facility to be very efficient. Another important area of concern are the animal transfer doors. Keepers want to see both sides of any door, no blind corners – they want to be in the central position to see what animal is coming and going, and who is where and to be completely safe while doing that. Animal doors have to be in just the right place, be just the right weight, and not jamb or bind or collect debris. It is our job to "get inside Keepers heads" and design the service buildings as if we were the ones who would operate it every day.

### 6. Serve all your Clients

These kind of projects are not simple. They have multiple clients. Projects have administrative directors and staff of the facility with their concerns, donors or the funding agency with their concerns, animal keepers with their concerns, visitors with their concerns, and the animals with their concerns. Each one needs 100% of our attention, and each one needs to be taken seriously. For us, we need not provide a WIN-WIN solution, we need to look for Total Synergy; a WIN-WIN-WIN-WIN-WIN-WIN solution!

### 7. Create a Strong Team and Unique Design Process

At the beginning of any project we assemble the very best partners that are best suited to that specific job. Here we believe we have done that. Then, when selected, together with the client, we develop a tailored design process. Each project is different and we must work together to create a specific schedule based on that project's need.



## Gail Y. B. Lash, Ph. D.

### President

---

#### **Education/Degrees:**

Spring 2003  
Ph.D. in Forest Resources,  
Minor in Anthropology,  
University of Georgia, Athens, GA.

Spring 1993  
Master of Science in Technology and Science Policy,  
Georgia Institute of Technology,  
Atlanta, GA.

Spring 1976  
Bachelor of Science in Zoology,  
Minor in Art/Design,  
Duke University, Durham, NC.

#### **Professional Memberships**

- American and International Society of Primatologists
- American Zoo and Aquarium Association
- Association of Third World Studies
- Community Consultants: Technical Associate
- North American Association for Environmental Education
- Society for Conservation Biology
- The International Ecotourism Society

#### **Publications**

Bruner, G. Y. and L. Meller, 1992. "Convergent evolution in design philosophy of Gorilla habitats," *International Zoo Yearbook* (1992) 31:213-221.

Bruner, G. Y., 1993. Evaluating a Model of Private-Ownership Conservation: Ecotourism in the Community Baboon Sanctuary in Belize. MS Thesis, Georgia Institute of Technology.

Forthman, D. L., McManamon, R., Levi, U. A., and Bruner, G. Y., 1995. "Interdisciplinary Issues in the Design of Mammal Exhibits (Excluding Marine Mammals and Primates)," IN *Captive Conservation of Endangered Species In Captivity: An Interdisciplinary Approach.*, Gibbons Jr., E., Demerest, eds., SUNY Press.

Lash, G. Y. B. and A. D. Austin, 2003. REAP: Rural Ecotourism Assessment Program. A Guide to Working with Communities to Assess Ecotourism As a Tool for Sustainable Development. EplerWood International: Burlington, VT.

Lash, G. Y. B. and P. Black, 2004. Red Wolves: Creating Economic Opportunity Through Ecotourism in Rural North Carolina. Washington, DC: Defenders of Wildlife, in press.

Dr. Lash uses her organizational, analytical, and (fun and effective!) people skills to do community development, ecotourism planning, and zoo design. She focuses her biological and economic policy background to work with people worldwide to create environmentally-sensitive and culturally-sensitive development which conserves natural ecosystems while enhancing the lives of people close to the land. Her work has taken her to Madagascar, Belize, Indonesia, and Ecuador. She has presented at conferences in Belize, Ecuador, Thailand, Brazil, and The United Nations.

As a Community Planner, Gail brings to Ursa twelve years of experience in ecotourism planning, specializing in community-based ecotourism development and natural resource economics of communities in and near private and public forest reserves and parks. Working with individuals, community focal groups, and agencies, Gail facilitates participatory consensus of community goals and developmental options to uplift human spirits, economies, and the natural environment.

As a Zoo Design Biologist, Gail brings to Ursa thirteen years of work experience in zoos: eight years as an Animal Keeper at Houston Zoological Gardens and Los Angeles Zoo with many species, and five years at Zoo Atlanta as a Biologist coordinating the design and construction of naturalized habitats for zoo animals and visitors. She integrates her knowledge of captive animal husbandry, behavioral design criteria and her skills in evaluation and research design when working on Ursa zoo projects.

Additionally, her theatrical experience has contributed to the design of creative and interactive interpretations of conservation concepts for the general public. Using her training in theater, Gail has written and acted in conservation skits, and has given many conservation education talks to students and the general public. Gail presents conference and university lectures on zoo design, animal behavior, and ecotourism planning, and represents The International Ecotourism Society (TIES) as a Research Associate.

Since forming Ursa International in 1994 with her husband (zoo designer/landscape architect), Nevin Lash, she brings to the company her knowledge of captive animal husbandry, behavioral design criteria, her skills in evaluation and research design, and her international knowledge of ecotourism development and management.

Gail's dissertation, "Sustaining Our Spirit, Ecotourism on Privately-Owned Rural Lands and Protected Areas" is behind her and is now devoted her energies towards sustaining Ursa International as a leader in conservation planning and design, as well as her focus on integrating Peace into Zoos and other conservation organizations.



## **Nevin Lash, ASLA, AZA**

---

### **Principal**

#### **Professional Registration:**

Landscape Architect  
• Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
• State of Georgia

#### **Education:**

December 1977, cum laude  
Bachelor of Landscape Architecture  
University of Massachusetts  
Amherst, Massachusetts

#### **Professional Organizations:**

• American Zoo and Aquarium Association  
• American Society of Landscape Architects  
• ZooLex, Zoo Design Organization

#### **Publications:**

Lash, N. 2001, "Zoo Design: Renovation" in The Encyclopedia of World Zoo's. Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers, Chicago.

Lash, N. 2001, "Zoo Gardens" in The Encyclopedia of World Zoo's. Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers, Chicago.

Lash, N. 1997, "Enclosure Design For Great Apes", American Society of Primatology Conference Proceedings, 1997

Ogden, J. J., Lash, N., Meller, L., and Wall, V. 1996, *Gorilla Husbandry Manual*, Design Chapter, Gorilla Species Survival Plan, Wildlife Conservation Society, Daniel Worton, editor. NY

Lash, N., Coe, J.C., 1992, "Landscape Design for Landscape Immersion", AAZPA Conference Proceedings 1992

#### **Honors and Awards:**

1989 AAZPA Exhibit Design Award:  
Gorillas of Cameroon, Zoo Atlanta

1990 AAZPA Exhibit Design Award:  
Masai Mara, Zoo Atlanta

1994 AZA Exhibit Design Award:  
Habitat Africa!, Brookfield Zoo

1995 AZA Exhibit Design Award:  
Northern Trail, Woodland Park Zoo

2004 ASLA Planning Award:  
Brook Run Master Plan

2007 ASLA Planning Award:  
Brandywine Zoo Master Plan

2009 BSLA (Boston Society) Planning Award:  
Trailside Center Master Plan

Mr. Lash has over thirty-five years of Environmental Planning and Landscape Architectural experience. During that time, he has been involved with projects ranging in scale from residential garden design, major corporate campus development, commercial and mixed-use planning to regional environmental assessments. During the ten years associated with CLRdesign (a nationally recognized zoo design firm), he specialized in the design of "landscape immersion" zoos. This experience brought together his interests in ecology, environmental education and conservation of natural resources with those of park planning and design.

While at CLRdesign, he was responsible for managing multi-million dollar projects as the prime contractor, supervising not only his own staff of five to ten professionals, but coordinating the efforts of the entire design team. To meet the needs of all users, zoo projects typically utilized special consultants including life support engineering, interpretive planning/design, and exhibit fabricators who need to be integrated into each project. He has developed a knowledge of all facets of a project, including programming, animal holding criteria, cost estimating, project management, scheduling, as well as each discipline's scope of work. This has led to his success at keeping projects on-budget and on-time.

Mr. Lash has participated in Master Plans (with CLRdesign) for such zoos as Zoo Atlanta, Chicago's Brookfield Zoo and Lincoln Park, the Los Angeles Zoo, the Honolulu Zoo and Parc Tsimbazaza in Madagascar. He has also participated in the detail design and construction documentation of major exhibits such as Northern Trail, an Alaskan taiga exhibit at the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle, an Asian Tropical Forest Exhibit in Honolulu, African Savanna Exhibits at Chicago's Brookfield Zoo and more, including all of the redevelopment of Zoo Atlanta; East African, West African and Asian exhibits, Visitor Services and Animal Facilities.

Since forming Ursa International with his wife and partner in 1994, he has aimed at reaching a broader audience. Utilizing his skills in programming and design, he continues to work with other conservation-minded organizations to bring "landscape immersion" and environmentally sensitive planning into each project. As Ursa, Mr. Lash has received commissions with the Rome Zoo, Dallas Zoo, North Carolina Zoo, Zoo Atlanta, Chimp Haven, Zoo New England as well as several other conservation organizations including the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International, Conservation International and Turtle Survival Alliance. He recently completed an expansion to the North Carolina Zoo's Polar Bear Exhibit. He is currently working with Chimp Haven on another ambitious expansion as well as a transformational project at Zoo Atlanta to enlarge the Savanna exhibit to including a breeding center for African Elephants.

Mr. Lash has traveled extensively around the world, and studied many varied ecosystems and their inhabitants (the flora, fauna and human populations). He believes that each project can incorporate a site's natural beauty, express a client's environmental ethic, and successfully attract visitors.





# PROJECT EXPERIENCE

---

## Ursa International, 1994 to present

### *Selected Projects*

**Bioparco Rome Zoo**, Bioparco Sp.A, Rome, 1999-2001  
Master Plan, Bear Exhibit, Great Ape Exhibit, Rome, Italy  
Prime Contractor with Bessio Studio, Rome  
Budget: Planning and Design Only

**Blue Hills Reservation**, Boston, MA. 2008  
Trailside Center and Wildlife Park Master Plan  
Project Budget: \$17,300,000

**Brandywine Zoo**, Delaware Parks Department, 2005-2006  
Master Plan, Wilmington, Delaware  
Consultant to MESA Landscape Architecture  
Planning Budget: \$24,000,000

**Brook Run Nature Park**, Dunwoody Trust, 2002-2003  
Master Plan, Atlanta, Georgia  
Consultant to EDAW, Inc., Atlanta  
Planning Budget: \$32,000,000

**Cape May Zoo**, Cape May County Parks Department, 2004-2006  
Master Plan, Phase I projects, Cape May, New Jersey  
Consultant to Atlantis Architects, Philadelphia  
Planning Budget: \$65,000,000

**Charles Paddock Zoo**, Zoological Society, 2004  
Concept Master Plan, Atascadero, California  
Prime Contractor  
Planning Budget: \$24,000,000

**Clark's Trading Post**, Lincoln, New Hampshire, 2007  
Concept Master Plan: Black Bear Habitats and Show  
Prime Contractor  
Planning Budget: \$1,000,000

**Chimp Haven Sanctuary**, Chimp Haven, Inc., 1997-2015  
Concept Plans, Master Plans, Implementation Plans, Phase I & II  
Shreveport, Louisiana  
Prime Contractor & subconsultant to Perkins + Will, Houston, TX  
Construction Budget: \$11,600,000

**Dallas Zoo**, City of Dallas Parks Department, 1996-1998  
Tiger Exhibit, Primate Row, Dallas, TX  
Consultant to F&S Architects, Dallas, TX  
Construction Budget: \$4,500,000

**Hope Zoo**, Environmental Foundation of Jamaica, 2001 & 2011  
Concept & Development Plan, Phase I, Kingston, Jamaica, West Indies  
Prime Contractor  
Budget: Planning and Design Only

**Duke Primate Center**, Duke University, 1998-1999  
Concept Plan, Durham, North Carolina  
Prime Contractor  
Budget: Planning and Design Only

**Karisoke Research Center**, Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund Int', 2003-2010  
Concept Plans and Programming, Ruhengeri, Rwanda  
Planning Budget: \$10,000,000

**National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium**, 2009-present  
Mississippi Plaza, Dubuque, IA. design and construction drawings  
Prime Contractor and Sub to Durrant, Inc.  
Construction Budget: \$2,000,000

**North Carolina Zoo**, Asheboro, NC, 1996-1999  
Chimpanzee Exhibit and Conservation Holding  
Consultant to TRP Architects, Greensboro, North Carolina  
Construction Budget: \$2,500,000

**North Carolina Zoo**, Asheboro, NC, 2007-2014  
Polar Bear Expansion Concept Plan  
Prime Contractor for Concept, Consultant on Design  
Construction Budget: \$8,500,000

**Presidential Palace at Iavoloha**, Conservation International  
Vitrine de Madagascar Concept Plan, 2007  
Prime Contract  
Planning Budget: \$6,000,000

**Polar Bear Conservation Center**, Town of Cochrane, 2002  
Concept Plan, Phase I Design, Cochrane Ontario  
Consultant to ANO Architects, Timmons, Ontario, Canada  
Construction Budget: \$4,000,000

**Roger Williams Park Zoo**, Zoological Society 2005  
North American Trail Master Plan, Providence, R.I.  
Prime Contractor with EDAW, Inc.  
Planning Budget: \$14,500,000

**Seminole Village**, Hard Rock Casino, Seminole, 2004-2005  
Animal Programming, Fort Lauderdale, Florida  
Consultant to Morris Architects, Orlando, Florida  
Budget: Planning and Design Only



# PROJECT EXPERIENCE

---

## Ursa International

*Selected Projects* (continued)

### **Uganda Wildlife Education Center**, Uganda Wildlife, 1998

Concept Plans, Entebbe, Uganda

Prime Contractor with North Carolina Zoo

Planning Budget: Planning and Design Only

### **Ulsan Park**, Ulsan, South Korea, 1997

Native Wildlife Design Program, Ulsan, South Korea

Consultant to Oikos Architects

Budget: Planning and Design Only

### **White Oak Flats**, Eastern Band of the Cherokee, 2005-2006

Concept Plan, Business Plan, Cherokee, North Carolina

Prime Contractor

Planning Budget: \$45,000,000

### **Zoo Atlanta**, Atlanta, Georgia, 1994 - 2019

Savanna Expansion and Cyclorama Plaza, 2014+

Splash Fountain, 2013

Trader's Alley, 2012, Complex Carnivores, 2011

Boundless Budgies and Bird Management Area, 2008

Warthog/Meerkat Exhibits, 2007

Komodo Dragon Exhibit, 2005

KidZone Master Plan, 2004

The Living Treehouse, 2004

Rollins Family Children's Zoo, 2003

Norfolk Southern Train Depot/Plaza, 1997

Endangered Species Carousel House, 1997

Entry Plaza Trellis, 1996

Egleston's Wash Station, 1996

Monkeys of Makokou Expansion, 1995

Orangutans of Ketambe Renovation, 1994

Prime Contractor and Consultant to local Architects

Construction Budget: Range from \$50,000, \$20,000,000

### **Zoo Ljubljana**, Ljubljana, Slovenia, 2005-2007

Chimpanzee Exhibit Concept Plan, Master Plan, Concept Plans for Services, Bear/Wolf Exhibit.

Prime Contractor

Planning Budgets only

### **Zoo New England**, Boston, MA, 2002-2010

Treasures of the Sierra Madre Exhibit (Stone Zoo), 2002/3

Gorilla Management Plan, (Franklin Park Zoo) 2005/6

Tiger Exhibit, (Franklin Park Zoo) 2003-2006

Black Bear and Otter Exhibit, (Stone Zoo) 2008

Gibbon Exhibit (Stone Zoo) 2009

Aussy Aviary, (Franklin Park Zoo ) 2010

Prime Contractor & Consultant to Perkins+Will, Boston

Construction Budgets: \$140K - \$3,600,000 range

## CLRdesign, Inc. 1986-1994

121 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA. 19107

215-564-0250 (Jon Coe, Gary Lee, Rodney Robinson)

*Senior Associate*

### Selected Projects

#### **Birmingham Zoo and Birmingham Ecoplex**, 1993-1994

Master Plan, Birmingham, Alabama

Prime Contractor, Project Manager/ Landscape Architect

Budget: Range \$25M for Zoo to \$85M for Ecoplex

#### **Brookfield Zoo**, Zoological Society, 1990-1993

Habitat Africa! Exhibit Chicago, Illinois

Prime Contractor, Project Manager/ Landscape Architect

Construction Budget: \$8,000,000

#### **Denver Zoo**, Denver Zoological Society, 1990-1994

Primate Panorama Exhibit, Denver, Colorado

Prime Contractor, Project Manager/ Landscape Architect

Construction Budget: \$15,000,000

#### **Honolulu Zoo**, Honolulu Zoo Society, 1989-1991

Tropical Forest Exhibit, Honolulu, Hawaii

Prime Contractor, Project Manager/ Landscape Architect

Budget: \$10,500,000

#### **Los Angeles Zoo**, City of Los Angeles, 1991-1992

Master Plan, Los Angeles, California

Prime Contractor, Project Manager/ Landscape Architect

Master Plan Budget: \$100,000,000

#### **Seneca Park Zoo**, Rochester Country Park, 1992-1994

Rocky Coast Exhibit, Rochester, New York

Prime Contractor, Project Manager/ Landscape Architect

Construction Budget: \$8,500,000

#### **Woodland Park Zoo**, City of Seattle Parks, 1988-1994

Northern Trail Exhibit, Seattle, Washington

Prime Contractor, Project Manager/ Landscape Architect

Construction Budget: \$5,500,000

#### **Zoo Atlanta Redevelopment**, Atlanta, GA 1986-1992

Master Plan 1986, Entry Plaza, 1987

Gorillas of Cameroon Exhibit, 1988

Orangutans of Ketambe Exhibit, 1989

Massai Mara Exhibit, 1990

Monkeys of Makokou and Tiger Forest Exhibits, 1992

Prime Contractor, Project Manager/ Landscape Architect

Construction Budget: \$25,000,000 public/private funding

# TESTIMONIALS

---

*As a way to get to know us better, we've included a series of testimonials and comments from our clients over the years. We are always thrilled to hear good things, but for us it's all part of what we strive to do for our clients and projects. We love this work and are glad to get this sort of encouragement.*

*Thank you so much for caring about making sure the habitat has what it needs in terms of structure and safety for the animals. The changes you have made will make a difference and we appreciate your attention to detail. You were definitely the right person for the job and it has been a joy to work with you on this project.*

Dr. Kimberly McElveen Columbus State University Senior Director for Student Engagement

*Like you, I am concerned about the future of zoos. They are becoming far too commercial. And I do wish they would employ designers with the combination of empathy and creativity that you have.*

David Hancocks, Director of the Open Range Zoo, at Werribee, Australia, Architect and Author

*Firstly congratulations - all at Kampong enjoyed working with you and the Kampong board was happy with your work - it is all about trust!*

Dr. Mike Maunder, Florida International University, Associate Dean for Research Engagement

*You and I have been in sync on several matters. I always carefully consider your suggestions because I know you understand things from my point of view.*

Jeff Owen, Keeper Supervisor: Polar Bear, North Carolina Zoo

*Everyone on the staff was very pleased with the time they spent with you. They are so thrilled to be working with someone who will listen to them. Thank you for working so well with everyone. I look forward to this moving forward soon.*

Diane DeBruno, Executive Director, Micke Grove Zoo Society

*As a team, Nevin and Gail, comfortably meet the requirements of 'project technical director' and certainly have excellent international experience and qualification in the unique field of zoo planning and ex situ endangered species management. They also possess an extensive network of international professional colleagues including myself upon whom they can call for specialized advice. On a personal level you will find them collaborative, congenial and easy to work with as well as highly professional.*

Jon Charles Coe, Principal, Jon Coe Design

*You worked incredibly well with all levels of staff, incorporating ideas and making everyone feel that their opinion was valuable. As always, you worked well with local contractors to obtain good cost estimates. This work was a wonderful investment for Chimp Haven, as a short time later a tremendous need arose for housing for 100 chimpanzees from the federal government. The Master Site Plan resulted in successful agreements for the retirement of these chimpanzees to Chimp Haven and construction is currently under way.*

Linda Brent, Ph.D., ex-president of Chimp Haven, Inc. Shreveport, Louisiana

*Nevin, is a creative, innovative person who brings great inter-personal skills to his exhibit design work. He listens well to the internal and other stakeholder teams to achieve well thought out and imaginative designs. He produces first rate work at a reasonable price. He is also adept at working in multi-cultural settings.*

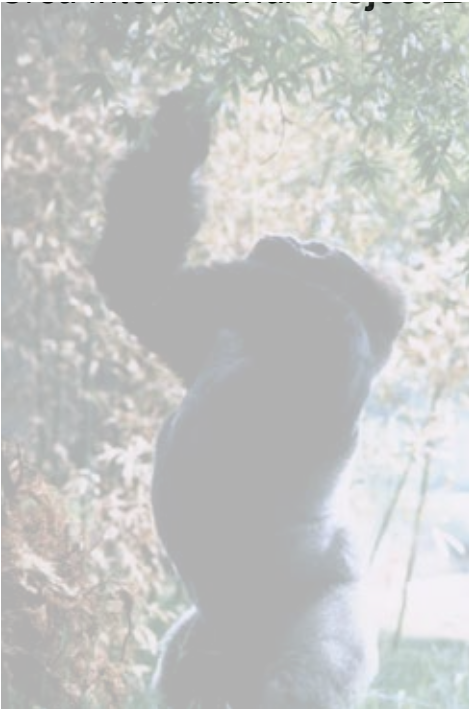
Clare Richardson, CEO at Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International

*Nevin provides project teams with an almost encyclopedic amount of knowledge about the design of zoological exhibits. He then applies that knowledge through creative solutions that carefully balance the needs of the animals, the functionality of their exhibits, and the experience of the visitor. He is easy to work with and helps create a positive, cooperative environment on any project team that helps it to deliver the best project possible to the client.*

Pete Choquette, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, Architecture and Consulting Department Manager, The Epsten Group

*You bring a unique experiential perspective to the work; you don't just replicate what you see at every other Zoos... and when asked to deliver full products on half budgets, you always keep the experience intact...effectively managing multiple strong personalities, with a clear focus on animal health and the visitor experience.*

Shelly Lakly, Ph.D., ex-Vice President Education and Conservation Programs, Zoo Atlanta



## Ursa International • GETTING CLOSE TO WILDLIFE

