

## projects

### The Frog Pond Renovation on Boston Common

location  
client  
completion date

Boston, Massachusetts  
Boston Parks and Recreation  
1996



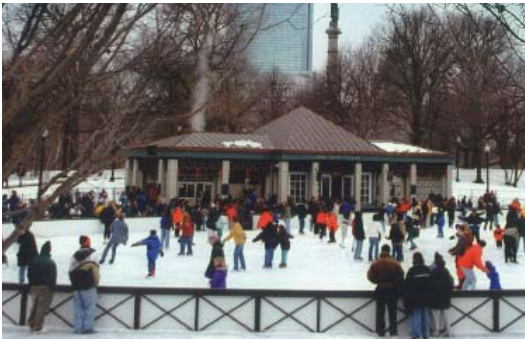
### The Frog Pond Renovation on Boston Common

Founded in 1634, Boston Common is one of America's most significant historic landscapes and public open spaces. Once a mustering point and burial ground, the Common now serves as the city's premier urban oasis and neighborhood park. The Common's Frog Pond, originally a natural marsh and then formalized 1848, gradually fell into disrepair over succeeding years.

Copley Wolff Design Group's restored the Frog Pond's original plume and concrete basin, and proposed the addition of new site amenities. An adjustable nozzle attached to the historic plume forms a children's spray fountain in the summer months; refrigeration coils embedded in the concrete slab create an ice skating rink in the winter months. These additions along with the restored reflecting pool make the Frog Pond a four-season amenity to be enjoyed by all of Boston's citizens and visitors.

As an historically significant site, proposed improvements required extensive reviews by interested constituencies. Many meetings were held to discuss the design of the new and restored landscape elements.

With a fast track schedule from the project start in the Fall of 1995, the newly renovated Frog Pond was ready for its scheduled opening in December 1996 and met with universal praise and numerous awards, including a Preservation Award from the Preservation Alliance and an Urban Landscape Award from the Massachusetts Horticultural Society.



*“Copley Wolff and city leaders addressed the problem with impressive skills and sensitivity. While the project was complex and fraught with many difficulties, the resultant design and program have exceeded our highest hopes.”*

Henry Lee, President, The Friends of the Public Garden and Common