

Architect: DeBoer, Saco Rienk

Birth/Death Dates: 1883 - 1974

Practice Dates: Served as Denver's city landscape architect from 1910 to 1931.

Biographical Information

Saco Rienk DeBoer was born in the village of Ureterp in the Netherlands in 1883. Suffering from tuberculosis, DeBoer moved to America in 1908 in search of dryer conditions to ease his condition. After a brief stay in Maxwell City, New Mexico, DeBoer moved to Denver. He found work at the old city nursery and as a teamster for the Denver City Parks Department. After converting a dump on Cherry Creek into Sunken Gardens Park, DeBoer caught the eye of Mayor Speer. After the death in 1910 of Reinhart Schuetze, the city's first landscape architect, Mayor Speer named De Boer as his successor.

Credited Designs

Project Name	Location	Site No.	Date	Assessment
South Marion Street Parkway (George Kessler and Saco R. DeBoer credited with design)	Denver	5DV5329	1909-1913	National Register
Speer Boulevard (George Kessler and Saco R. DeBoer credited with design)	Denver	5DV5330	1906-1918	National Register
East 6th Avenue Parkway	Denver	5DV5316	1909-1912	National Register
East 7th Avenue Parkway (upper parkway) (The Olmsted Brothers lower parkway constructed in 1912)	Denver	5DV5317	1914-1927	National Register
East 17th Avenue Parkway (Upper parkway, Dahlia St. to Monaco St. Parkway designed by Saco R. DeBoer) (The lower parkway, Colorado Blvd. to Dahlia St., designed by Olmsted Brothers in 1913)	Denver	5DV5318		National Register
Alamo Placita Park	Denver	5DV5306	1927	National Register
Hungarian Freedom Park (Arlington Park)	Denver	5DV5321	1925	National Register
Berkeley Lake Park (Redesigned by Saco R. DeBoer)	Denver	5DV5307	1920s	National Register
Cheesman Park Esplanade	Denver	5DV5309	1912	National Register
City Park (Redesign of segments)	Denver	5DV50	1920s	National Register
Sunken Gardens (George Kessler and Saco R. DeBoer credited with design)	Denver	5DV24	1909-1911	National Register

Information Sources

Denver Park and Parkways Thematic National Register Nomination, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society.

Noel, Thomas J. and Barbara S. Norgren. Denver: The City Beautiful and its Architects, 1893-1941. (Denver: Historic Denver, Inc., 1987).

The Green Thumb. 29 (December 1972).

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