



PARIS-LEXINGTON ROAD

PARIS TO LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

WITH H.W. LOCHNER, ENGINEERS
KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET



JONES  JONES
ARCHITECTS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
PLANNERS

Reconstruction of the Paris-Lexington Road, commonly known as Paris Pike, entailed routing and designing an historic highway through the scenic landscape of Kentucky bluegrass country. It was one of the most design-intensive highway projects since the Merritt and Blueridge Parkways of the 1930s.

Improvements to Paris Pike had been delayed for 27 years due to local concern for preserving the character of the heritage corridor. Jones & Jones devised a series of citizen task force meetings, property owner workshops and monthly newsletters during the project which resulted in community ownership of a context-sensitive road design.

As a leading model of place and community-based planning, the project helped spark the “context-sensitive solutions” highway design program now promoted by the Federal Highway Administration and state transportation agencies.

“This is a world-class redesign project...surely...one of North America’s most beautiful highways, a world-class attraction for tourists sick and tired of monotonous Interstates.

—Grady Clay, “Crossing the American Grain,” on NPR’s “Morning Edition”

Environmental Excellence Award, Cultural and Historical Resources, 2003
Federal Highway Administration

Merit Award, Design, 2002
American Society of Landscape Architects

Honor Award, Design with Excellence, 2002
American Society of Landscape Architects
Kentucky Chapter

Merit Award, Planning and Urban Design, 1998
American Society of Landscape Architects

Trailblazer Award for Initiative in QualityTeam Activity, 1996
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials

FACTS

- 12-mile heritage corridor from Paris to Lexington, Kentucky
- Home to thoroughbred horse farms
- Restoration of stone fences along road
- Extensive tree planting

BENEFITS

- Preservation of a signature American landscape
- Improved level of service
- A joy to drive