

A PLANNER TO KNOW...

CLARENCE STEIN

Trained as an architect, Stein participated in several of the most influential housing complex designs of the 20th century, including the "garden city" plans for Sunnyside Gardens in Queens, New York; Radburn, New Jersey; Chatham Village in Pittsburgh; and Baldwin Hills Village (known today as Village Green) in Los Angeles. He attended both Columbia University and the *École des Beaux Arts*.

In 1921, he and Henry Wright developed a partnership rooted in Ebenezer Howard's "Garden City" ideals of safe, community-based housing. With Wright, Lewis Mumford, and other colleagues, Stein founded the Regional Planning Association of America in 1923 envisioning widespread reform of U.S. planning and design practices, focusing on high-density urban housing and the residential subdivision. Their designs were successful in great part because of their emphasis on the landscape.

For example, Sunnyside Gardens provided central courtyards where families could gather while the suburban locale of Radburn led to experimentation with peripheral roads and short automobile-friendly cul-de-sacs with a variety of housing unit types. Stein later served with Reginald Johnson as consulting architects for the design of Baldwin Hills Village, in Los Angeles. Stein also authored *Toward New Towns for America*.

The joint work of Stein and Wright changed the way towns are planned, with significant advancements in the methods, policies, and theories undergirding contemporary planning efforts.



CLARENCE STEIN 1882 -1975

About TCLF

A non-profit established in 1998, The Cultural Landscape Foundation® (TCLF) connects people to places. TCLF educates and engages the public to make our shared landscape heritage more visible, identify its value, and empower its stewards. TCLF achieves this mission through the ongoing development of its three core programs:

- ❑ **What's Out There®**, North America's largest and most exhaustive database of cultural landscapes;
- ❑ **Pioneers of American Landscape Design®**, an in-depth multimedia library, inclusive of video oral histories, chronicling the lives of significant landscape architects and educators;
- ❑ **Landslide®**, an ongoing collection of important landscapes and landscape features that are threatened and at-risk.

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