

Chapter 2

Launching Landscape Ecology in America and Learning from Europe

Richard T. T. Forman

Introduction

When asked to write a history, I have always responded that there is simply too much to do for the present and the future. In this case, I realized that some of the important people were no longer active, and that my accumulated old letters, reports, and published materials would be unintelligible or sterile to outside eyes, or simply discarded.

I am not a historian, using rules for evaluating evidence (Forman and Russell 1983). Thus, I simply present the information in a timeline as objectively and accurately as possible. Inevitably authors are filters, and omissions exist for which I apologize. I wish that this could have been written jointly with Frank Golley (who died in 2006), a key American leader during the period of interest. Gray Merriam (Canada) and his work played a major role during a key phase, and Paul Opdam (the Netherlands) has been a leading figure through most of the period. I hope that each will write a history.

Four periods relative to launching landscape ecology in America are recognized in the following timeline:

- Early landscape ecology approaches in Europe: 1938–1972
- Landscape ecology discovered in America: 1972–1980
- Americans discover Europe, “synergizing” landscape ecology: 1981–1982
- Coalescence of the field internationally and in America: 1983–1987

The timeline for this “emergence phase” of landscape ecology in North America runs from circa 1972 to 1987. After 1986–1987, the field takes off in a “rapid growth phase.”

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Overall, people highlighted, considered themselves to be landscape ecologists or recognized their work to be important in landscape ecology. Similarly, cited reports and talks normally have the term “landscape ecology” or something similar in the title or as a prime focus, rather than simply being related to the subject.

Four overviews provided useful background for this historical synopsis: (1) Forman and Godron (1986) and Forman (1995) highlight the roots and foundations of landscape ecology; (2) Schreiber (1990) incisively encapsulates landscape ecology in Europe, especially focusing on Germany. (3) Forman (1990) highlights the 1982–1988 period; and (4) Wiens et al. (2007) select and reprint many of the key articles in and related to the field, and include introductions related to early antecedents, spatial pattern, landscape ecology concepts, scale, landscape pattern, and models. Moss (2000), Bastian (2001), and Wu and Hobbs (2007) provide additional insights.

Finally, following the timelines, I have included two explicitly subjective sections to provide much needed perspective on the litany of facts:

Glimpses of key characters—this introduces 14 important players during the emergence phase of North American landscape ecology; and discoveries of landscape ecology—this highlights three or four times the field developed somewhat independently, and how those developments appear to be related.

Before beginning with the timelines, brief background information on the writer in four areas will greatly enhance the understanding of the timelines and the final sections: (1) *Old field succession and disturbance*—I studied with Heine J. Oosting (1959–1960), worked with Murray F. Buell (1966–1972), and directed the Hutcheson Memorial Forest Center, New Jersey (1972–1984), all icons of old field succession. I worked on patchiness and fire disturbance in the New Jersey Pine Barrens (1979–1982), worked with Steward T. A. Pickett (patch dynamics; circa 1972–1984) (and later in 1985 had a sabbatical with Peter J. Grubb (gap dynamics)); (2) *Island biogeographic theory*—Robert H. MacArthur was on my doctoral committee (1960–1961), and several years later we lived a few blocks apart (1969–circa 1977) (I later wrote part of the *Land Mosaics* book in the library of Edward O. Wilson by his office (1992)); (3) *Gradient analysis*—I worked with Grant Cottam in the University of Wisconsin “Curtis-Cottam school” (1966), and had a sabbatical with Robert H. Whittaker at Cornell University (1971); and (4) *In graduate school at Pennsylvania State University and Duke University (1957–1961)*—I was reasonably familiar with vegetation, climate, soil geography, and zoogeography (including German work), with early work in ecology (e.g., A. Watt), and with vegetation methodology literature (later in the early 1980s, I absorbed the UK quantitative geography literature). Finally, by the early 1970s, I explicitly felt that all of the preceding paradigms were inadequate or misleading to understand readily visible ecological patterns on the land around us.

We now start with the timeline in four phases.

Early Landscape Ecology Approaches in Europe: 1938–1972

(1938–1939) Carl Troll (Germany), geographer and botanist, apparently with newly available aerial photography just before World War II, uses the term “landscape ecology” in passing. Later, he develops it as a concept (1950) and revises it (1966, 1970).

(1967) Ernst Neef (East Germany) publishes the first textbook or handbook on landscape ecology, *Die Theoretischen Grundlagen der Landschaftslehre*, 152 pages (Fig. 2.1).

(Circa 1967) Milan Ruzicka, Czech and Slovakia Socialist Republic (CSSR)—Slovakia, hosts the first of six conferences over a 15-year period on “Problems of Landscape Ecological Research” that apparently mainly focus on land planning, with some ecology included.



Fig. 2.1 Catalytic books during the early period of landscape ecology: (1-5) generally portray the breadth of the field during its emergence phase; and (6) is an early book in the following rapid-growth phase. (1) Ernst Neef (1967), the first text with physical geography strengths; (2) Izaak S. Zonneveld (1979), the second text with land evaluation/planning strengths; (3) S. P. Tjallingii and A. A. de Veer (1982), a breadth of people, disciplines and approaches portrayed under the umbrella of landscape ecology; (4) Zev Naveh and Arthur S. Lieberman (1984), with diverse topics from traditional physical geography to modern ecology; (5) Richard T. T. Forman and Michel Godron (1986), land mosaic approach with the patch-corridor-matrix model for understanding landscapes; and (6) Monica G. Turner (1987), following the First United States Landscape Ecology Symposium, a breadth of American ecological authors and approaches.

(1972) The Netherlands Society for Landscape Ecology is founded perhaps primarily focusing on land planning and evaluation, with some ecology included (600 members by 1981).

(1972) At this point, in addition to physical geography and rural/urban land evaluation/planning, three other fields or perspectives seem to claim at least part of landscape ecology in Europe. “Phytogeography” focuses on mapping, naming, and classifying groups of plant species across the land. Landscape architecture and aesthetics, particularly for small spaces, often incorporates some ecology. Geology, especially geomorphology, analyzes the landscape as a core unit and highlights the key physical dimensions of ecology.

Landscape Ecology Discovered in America: 1972–1980

(Circa 1972–1980) North American ecologists actively publish on the potential applicability of Island Biogeographic Theory (MacArthur and Wilson 1967) on land, especially for protecting nature. An array of valuable studies, for example, J. Brown 1971–1977, J. Terborgh 1974–1980, J. Diamond 1975, Moore and Hooper 1975, D. Simberloff 1976, C. Robbins 1978–1980, M. Usher 1979, P. White 1979, during this period could be labeled pre- or early landscape ecology, but in context seem to be mainly focused on island biogeography and sometimes nature protection. Analogous articles continued on into the 1980s, such as, A. Higgs 1980–1981, G. Peterken 1981, J. Temple 1981–1983, J. Karr 1982, D. Janzen 1983, T. Lovejoy 1983, M. Soule 1985, and D. Wilcove 1985.

(1972) Richard Forman and colleagues at Rutgers University submit a grant proposal to the United States Forest Service to study (surprisingly) “The Effect of Forest Size on the Diversity of Species.” The grant is funded for a multidimensional analysis of old-growth oak woods scattered across a New Jersey corn-and-beans landscape.

(1973–1976) John A. Wiens publishes three pioneering studies on pattern and process in patchy grassland bird communities, thus challenging the prevailing population-ecology models assuming spatial homogeneity, and highlighting the importance of a wide landscape perspective.

(1975–1976) The results for avian diversity and tree diversity relative to the size of woods are published (Forman and Elfstrom 1975; Forman et al. 1976; Galli et al. 1976); the first statistically designed study of patch size and biodiversity on land.

(1976 October–December) A “eureka” moment. In this agricultural landscape with dispersed woods, Forman notices that the number and arrangement of land uses surrounding a patch seem to have a major effect on what is in it. In a voracious search, he finds that hardly any ecological literature on the subject exists. From that moment on, intellectually he is a landscape ecologist, though has never heard the term.

(1978) Pickett and Thompson (1978) publish a key article on patch dynamics, extending and making more spatially explicit an earlier shifting mosaic concept.

(1979, January 11) Letter from Forman to Professor Richard Schlatter provides title of talk for Rutgers College Interdepartmental Faculty Lectures (Rutgers Shop Club), “Time, People, and Interactions among Ecosystems, *or* Toward a Landscape Ecology...”

(1979, April) Following 3 years of intensive study and working with authors, Forman publishes his first edited book, *Pine Barrens: Ecosystem and Landscape*, 601 pages, ecologically analyzing a special New Jersey landscape (500,000 ha).

(1979, April) In the preceding book, the final synthesis chapter by Richard Forman entitled, “The Pine Barrens of New Jersey: An Ecological Mosaic,” is the initial publication specifically outlining the land mosaic concept with the patch-corridor model.

(1979) Eight Forman letters mention landscape ecology to: Michel Godron (France) on February 28 (“...my interest in landscape ecology has grown...”), May 23, July 14 (“...thinking about the landscape ecology book.”), August 25, and October 8; Frederick Schlauch (Long Island, New York) on October 16; and Andrew J. Higgs (UK) September 14, and December 18 (“My major interest currently might be called landscape ecology...”).

(1979) Lectures by Forman with landscape ecology in title: February, Rutgers Interdepartmental Faculty Lecture; November, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech); and November, Torrey Botanical Club, New York.

(1979, May) Michel Godron (France) letter to United States National Science Foundation (NSF) Director, John Brooks, recommending “...to give priority to scientists who work on...landscape ecology...”

(1979) Izaak S. Zonneveld (the Netherlands) publishes the book, *Land Evaluation and Landscape Science*, 134 pages, sometimes considered to be the second landscape ecology textbook (Fig. 2.1).

(1979) A proposed Landscape Ecology Section for the International Congress of Ecology (INTECOL) is discussed at a conference organized by Milan Ruzicka, “Problems of Landscape Ecological Research,” in the High Tatra Mountains, CSSR—Slovakia.

(1980, February) Lecture by Forman at the University of Connecticut, “Time, People, and Interactions among Ecosystems, and the Ecological Mosaic.”

(1980, September) Steward Pickett and Richard Forman participate in a vegetation dynamics conference in Montpellier (France) where several current and future landscape ecology leaders attend. No session on landscape ecology.

(1980) A *Bulletin of the Ecological Society of America* article by Forman (1980) uses the term “landscape ecology,” but probably it is simply copied from a list of ecology research topics in France.

(1980, April–July) A circular by W. Carter Johnson to Richard Forman announcing a 1981 conference held in The Netherlands on “Perspectives in Landscape Ecology.” After these several years of pondering and helping to outline the concept of landscape ecology, this is the first time he notices the term and concept used in Europe, finds it highly appealing, and has an interesting and successful correspondence with the organizers.

Americans Discover Europe, “Synergizing” Landscape Ecology: 1981–1982

(1981, April) An important landscape ecology conference held in Veldhoven, the Netherlands, sponsored by The Netherlands Society of Landscape Ecology, Izaak Zonneveld, host. North Americans present: Canada (Michel Phipps, Robert S. Dorney, Edward B. Wiken) and the United States (Frank B. Golley, David M. Sharpe, Julius G. Y. Fabos, Steven A. Carlson, Richard Forman). Europeans include: East Germany (Ernst Neef, H. Richter), West Germany (Karl-Friedrich Schreiber, Wolfgang Haber, Barbara Ruthsatz), CSSR—Czechoslovakia (Milan Ruzicka, L. Miklos, Hana Rambouskova), Poland (T. Bartkowski), UK (Robert G. H. Bunce, Max D. Hooper), Denmark (Jesper Brandt, Peder Agger), Belgium (Marc Antrop), and the Netherlands (A. P. A. Vink, A. W. L. Veen, E. van der Maarel, Chair G. van Leeuwen, S. P. Tjallingii, Paul Opdam). Frank Golley (the University of Georgia) knows some of the Europeans and helps introduce the North Americans to this array of accomplished international people. Richard Forman gives a lead plenary talk, “Interaction among Landscape Elements: A Core of Landscape Ecology.” Diverse disciplines are welcomed; session on terminology takes place; impressive party is held; forming an International Association for Landscape Ecology is discussed (In January 1982, Forman reviews a draft document).

(1981, April) At the Veldhoven landscape ecology conference, Forman meets the Dutch landscape ecologists, Paul Opdam and colleagues. This group, including Opdam, W. Bert Harms, W. Vos, J. T. R. Kalkhoven, A. Stortelder, D. van Dorp, A. Schotman, publishes from circa 1983 to 1987 a series of articles based on a pioneering large-area, long-term, multidimensional analysis of a heterogeneous agricultural landscape with dispersed woods and hedgerows in the Netherlands.

(1981) Book proceedings of the Veldhoven Conference published, as *Perspectives in Landscape Ecology*, 344 pages (Fig. 2.1), S. P. Tjallingii and A. A. de Veer, editors, which includes articles by North Americans: David Sharpe; Forest Stearns; Robert Burgess and W. Carter Johnson; Julius Fabos and W. Hendrix; Steven Carlson; and Richard Forman (article reprinted in other 1981 and 1982 publications); important book in pinpointing the array of people, disciplines, and approaches for the first time under the umbrella of landscape ecology.

(1981) Edited book by Robert L. Burgess and David M. Sharpe, *Forest Island Dynamics in Man-Dominated Landscapes*, 310 pages, includes articles by Thomas E. Lovejoy, Forest Stearns, Robert M. May, Chandler S. Robbins, W. Carter Johnson, David Sharpe, and Robert Burgess.

(1981, March) Forman and Ralph E. J. Boerner publish a fire ecology article highlighting the concept of a landscape as a mosaic of patches.

(1981) Forman talks on landscape ecology: August, Indiana, Ecological Society of America (ESA) and American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS); and November, Washington, D.C., American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA).

(1981) Preliminary inquiry from a publisher interested in starting a landscape ecology journal to Frank Golley and Richard Forman (subject not pursued).

(1981, November) "Patches and Structural Components for a Landscape Ecology" by Forman and Michel Godron is the first journal article on the subject. Steward Pickett and Mark J. McDonnell (Rutgers University) review the manuscript. Concepts of landscape, edge, patch size/shape/number/origin, configuration, corridor type, network, landscape dynamics, and patch–corridor–matrix model introduced; landscape ecology made more accessible to scientists.

(Circa 1979–1983) A series of important articles by Gray Merriam, Lenore Fahrig, John Wegner, J. D. Middleton, Kathryn E. Freemark, M. Henderson, L. Lefkovitch, and colleagues working in a Southern Ontario agricultural landscape represents the only large-area, long-term, multidimensional landscape ecology work in North America.

(1982, October) Piestany (CSSR—Slovakia) Conference on Landscape Ecological Research Problems, the sixth one, hosted by Milan Ruzicka. East of the "Iron Curtain," attendees come from 15 nations, including: the United States (Frank Golley and Forman), Canada (Michel Phipps and Clayton Rubec), Soviet Union (V. S. Preobrazhensky), and Cuba. Discussion led by I. S. Zonneveld on forming an International Association for Landscape Ecology (IALE). Lively party; also a two-per-nation "ark" evening at Ruzicka's weekend country place (reports on the conference published in 1982 by M. Ruzicka, and 1984 by V. S. Preobrazhensky).

(1982) IALE founded. Statutes and officers approved: President I. S. Zonneveld (the Netherlands); Vice Presidents Karl-Friedrich Schreiber (West Germany) and Richard T. T. Forman (United States); Secretary-General Severin ten Houte de Lange (the Netherlands); and Director of United States Region Frank B. Golley,

(1982, October) Brief report in the *IALE Bulletin* announces the founding of IALE and the *IALE Bulletin*.

(1982) Reports written and distributed by Forman to approximately 50–70 people potentially interested in landscape ecology: January, "The Veldhoven Conference and a Proposed International Association for Landscape Ecology"; and October, "Thoughts about the Piestany Conference."

(1982) Proposal by Paul G. Risser, James R. Karr, and Richard T. T. Forman to the NSF for a United States meeting on landscape ecology (funding approved by NSF Ecology Program Director Gary W. Barrett, January 1983).

Coalescence of the Field Internationally and in America: 1983–1987

(1982, November to 1984, March) Correspondence with Is Zonneveld, Frank Golley, Clayton Rubec, Gray Merriam, and Richard Forman regarding a proposed IALE Region for Canada (inconclusive result).

(Circa 1981–1985) Michel Godron and Forman were intensively working together on a landscape ecology book.

(1983, April) First North American workshop on landscape ecology held at Allerton Park, Illinois, hosted by Paul Risser. Twenty-nine participants including: Gary W. Barrett, Robert Costanza, Richard T. T. Forman, Michel Godron (France), Frank B. Golley, Louis R. Iverson, James Karr, Simon A. Levin, Gray Merriam (Canada), Robert V. O'Neill, David Sharpe, H. Henry Shugart, Carl Steinitz, Jack Ward Thomas, John A. Wiens, Robert Woodmansee. Focus is on spatial pattern effects in large heterogeneous areas, both natural and managed. After years of interactions in Europe and landscape ecology work, Forman learns from the impressive array of people and talents present, encouraging North American colleagues to develop their own flavor of landscape ecology; multidisciplinary perspectives, rather few areas of consensus.

(1983) Reports written and distributed by Forman to people potentially interested in landscape ecology: January, "Description of International Association for Landscape Ecology Founding"; and November, "Information Sources for Landscape Ecology."

(1983, July–November) Frank Golley and Zev Naveh (Israel) correspond in planning a landscape ecology plenary session for a future 1986 INTECOL Congress to be held in Syracuse, New York.

(1983, October) Editorial published in *BioScience* by Richard T. T. Forman, "An Ecology of the Landscape," highlights the field for ecologists and biologists.

(1983, October) IALE Executive Committee meets in Leersum, the Netherlands, host Paul Opdam. President I. S. Zonneveld, Secretary General S. M. ten Houte de Lange; Richard T. T. Forman attends from North America. Group interacts well, creates friendships.

(1983, October) *IALE Bulletin*, Editor Jesper Brandt (Denmark), includes a brief history of IALE, and landscape ecology in the Netherlands; also, an article by Forman on landscape ecology in the United States.

(1983) Reed F. Noss publishes an article in *BioScience* emphasizing that a landscape/regional perspective and analysis is key to protecting species diversity.

(1983–1984) Richard Forman and Gray Merriam separately publish early articles on the ecology of corridors and connectivity in landscapes.

(1984) Paul G. Risser, James R. Karr, and Richard T. T. Forman publish the results of the 1983 Allerton Park Workshop: *Landscape Ecology: Directions and Approaches*, 18 pages.

(1984, January) Milan Ruzicka is appointed as vice president of IALE.

(1984, August) First contributed papers session on landscape ecology at a professional meeting, ESA at Colorado State University; talks by Wiens and Forman.

(1984) Zev Naveh and Arthur S. Lieberman (United States) publish a book, *Landscape Ecology* (Fig. 2.1), with a new approach of drawing on diverse fields, pinpointing key roots from German geography and phytogeography, highlighting “the total human ecosystem,” introducing an array of terminology, and giving some Mediterranean examples.

(1984) Larry D. Harris publishes a book, *The Fragmented Forest*, 210 pages, analyzing the United States Pacific Northwest forest from a landscape ecology, as well as island biogeography, perspective.

(1984, September) Harvard University appoints Richard T. T. Forman, Professor of Advanced Environmental Studies (PAES) in the field of landscape ecology (PAES Professor of Landscape Ecology), which helps to highlight the field.

(1984, October) IALE Conference held in Roskilde, Denmark; Jesper Brandt and Peder Agger, hosts. North Americans present: Gray Merriam and Michel Phipps (Canada); and Mark McDonnell, Vernon Meetenmeyer, and Richard Forman (United States). First IALE General Assembly; ecumenicalism of landscape ecology much in evidence. Good party.

(1984) Editors Jesper Brandt and Peder Agger publish five volumes, *Proceedings of the First International Seminar of Methodology in Landscape Ecology Research and Planning*, from the IALE Conference Roskilde, Denmark.

(1984, December) *IALE Bulletin* publishes a list of contact people in IALE regions worldwide, including Frank Golley for the United States.

(1984) *IALE Bulletin* announces death of Ernst Neef with a description of his contributions.

(1986) Book published by Richard Forman and Michel Godron, *Landscape Ecology*, 619 pages (Fig. 2.1), the first text presenting the “modern” land-mosaic perspective in landscape ecology.

(1986, July) Forman plenary talk on landscape ecology at the Conference on Science in the National Parks, United States National Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado.

(1986) First landscape ecology conference in North America, hosted by Frank B. Golley and Monica G. Turner at University of Georgia. About 100 registrants, ecumenicalism in landscape ecology continues. Plenary talks given by Paul G. Risser, F. Herbert Bormann, Dennis H. Knight, Eugene P. Odum, Darrel Morrison, Richard T. T. Forman. United States Regional Association of the International Association for Landscape Ecology (USIALE) is established, and officers approved: Chair David Sharpe, Monica G. Turner, Joan I. Nassauer, William H. Romme, Jerry F. Franklin, and Paul G. Risser.

(1986) INTECOL and ESA meet jointly in Syracuse, New York. Presentations focused on landscape ecology include: a plenary talk by Zev Naveh, symposium organized by S. M. ten Houte de Lange, symposium talk by Richard Forman, two contributed papers sessions, and two poster sessions, which together highlight landscape ecology in North America and elsewhere.

(1986) Landscape ecologist Robert V. O'Neill and colleagues (United States) publish a book, *A Hierarchical Concept of Ecosystems*, 253 pages, providing valuable theory in landscape ecology.

(1986) Correspondence with Frank Golley, I. S. Zonneveld, Richard Forman, and two publishers interested in a possible journal on landscape ecology.

(1986, November) Symposium on landscape ecology at an ASLA Meeting held in San Francisco. Speakers include: Gary W. Barrett, "Landscape Architecture in the Rural Landscape."

(1987) The journal, *Landscape Ecology*, is established and published in cooperation with IALE, editor-in-chief Frank B. Golley. Editorial board includes previous landscape ecology leaders plus key people from many allied disciplines: Richard Forman, Michel Godron, Gunter Haase (East Germany), Wolfgang Haber, Simon Levin, Eddie van der Maarel, Gray Merriam, Zev Naveh, M. Numata (Japan), A. F. Ramos, Paul Risser, T. Rosswall, Milan Ruzicka, Karl-Friedrich Schreiber, Henry Shugart, Carl Steinitz, I. S. Zonneveld, and Ervin H. Zube. *Landscape Ecology*, first issue, encompassed articles by Jerry F. Franklin, Richard Forman, Robert H. Gardner, Bruce T. Milne, Robert O'Neill, Monica Turner, Ervin Zube, Carol Johnston, Robert J. Naiman, Dirk van Dorp (the Netherlands), and Paul Opdam.

(1987) Edited book published by Monica G. Turner, *Landscape Heterogeneity and Disturbance*, 239 pages (Fig. 2.1), based on the first United States Landscape Ecology Symposium in 1986.

(1987, April) Second USIALE symposium at University of Virginia, hosted by H. Henry Shugart and William E. Odum. About 200 registrants. John A. Wiens elected to USIALE Council.

(1987, April) Two symposia on landscape ecology at an American Association of Geographers meeting held in Portland, Oregon, organized by Vernon Meentemeyer and R. E. Frenkel. Speakers include: E. R. Hobbs, Jerry Franklin, R. A. Roundtree, Robert G. Bailey, Monica Turner, David Sharpe, and Richard T. T. Forman.

(1987, May) Landscape ecologist job advertised in the *ESA Washington Newsletter*.

(1987) The first government agency in North America to establish an official landscape ecology unit, "Applying Landscape Ecology to Managing Temperate Forests," United States. Forest Service, Rhinelander, Wisconsin, is directed by Thomas R. Crow.

(1987, June) Society for Conservation Biology founded in Montana, with many members learning from and contributing to landscape ecology.

(1987) ESA Annual Meeting includes two landscape ecology symposia, organized by Virginia H. Dale and Robert Gardner and by J. Kolasa.

(1987) Book edited by Denis A. Saunders, G. W. Arnold, A. A. Burbidge, and A. J. M. Hopkins, *Nature Conservation: The Role of Remnants of Native Vegetation*, 410 pages, published highlighting landscape ecology and island biogeography research in Australia.

(1987) Landscape ecology symposium on connectivity held in Munster, West Germany, Karl-Friedrich Schreiber, host. About ten Americans attend, including Monica Turner and Richard Forman. At party, attendees from each nation stand and sing a song.

(1987) Landscape ecology courses are taught at the University of Washington, University of New Mexico, Colorado State University, University of Tennessee, and Harvard University.

Three detailed observations related to the timeline seem useful. First, following the Troll tradition, terminology was of much interest in the European meetings, which always included a session for discussing terms. I avoided these, but should have attended one to understand the process. Second, the European meetings also held great parties to build bridges and enhance friendship among participants from so many nations. Third, only five women are mentioned before 1986 (Lenore Fahrig, Kathryn E. Freemark, Anne E. Galli, Hana Rambouskova, and Barbara Ruthsatz). Monica G. Turner and Joan I. Nassauer, impressive leaders and role models, stepped forward in 1986 at the first United States Landscape Ecology Symposium held in Athens, University of Georgia, thus catalyzing the welcome change evident today.

Glimpses of Key Characters

Following the preceding timeline of facts, I now introduce some of the key players using a more personal lens. I have known almost all of the 14 people here for many years and value them, not only as leaders but also as friends. Introductions are in the rough order I met or most interacted with them, and often highlight the way I knew them in circa 1978–1984.

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