

Transcript: Charlie Challenger recalls the first intake of DipLA students

We were blessed with a bunch of students who were dead keen. If it hadn't been for these people who were dead keen to start I'm quite sure we wouldn't have got off to the basis that we did. Because when they had been trained, or when they had been exposed to landscape architecture – trained is an evocative word which doesn't really – there's a lot more to the training than just being subjected to a course. When they'd been trained they went out into the hard wild world – and it was a bloody hard wild world because nobody was keenly aware of what landscape was about. To the average person in the street landscape was gardening.

We nowadays have got a place in the world but for many years we didn't have and it was a matter of being an apostle and these people really had to go to sell themselves to people who were suspicious of them.

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