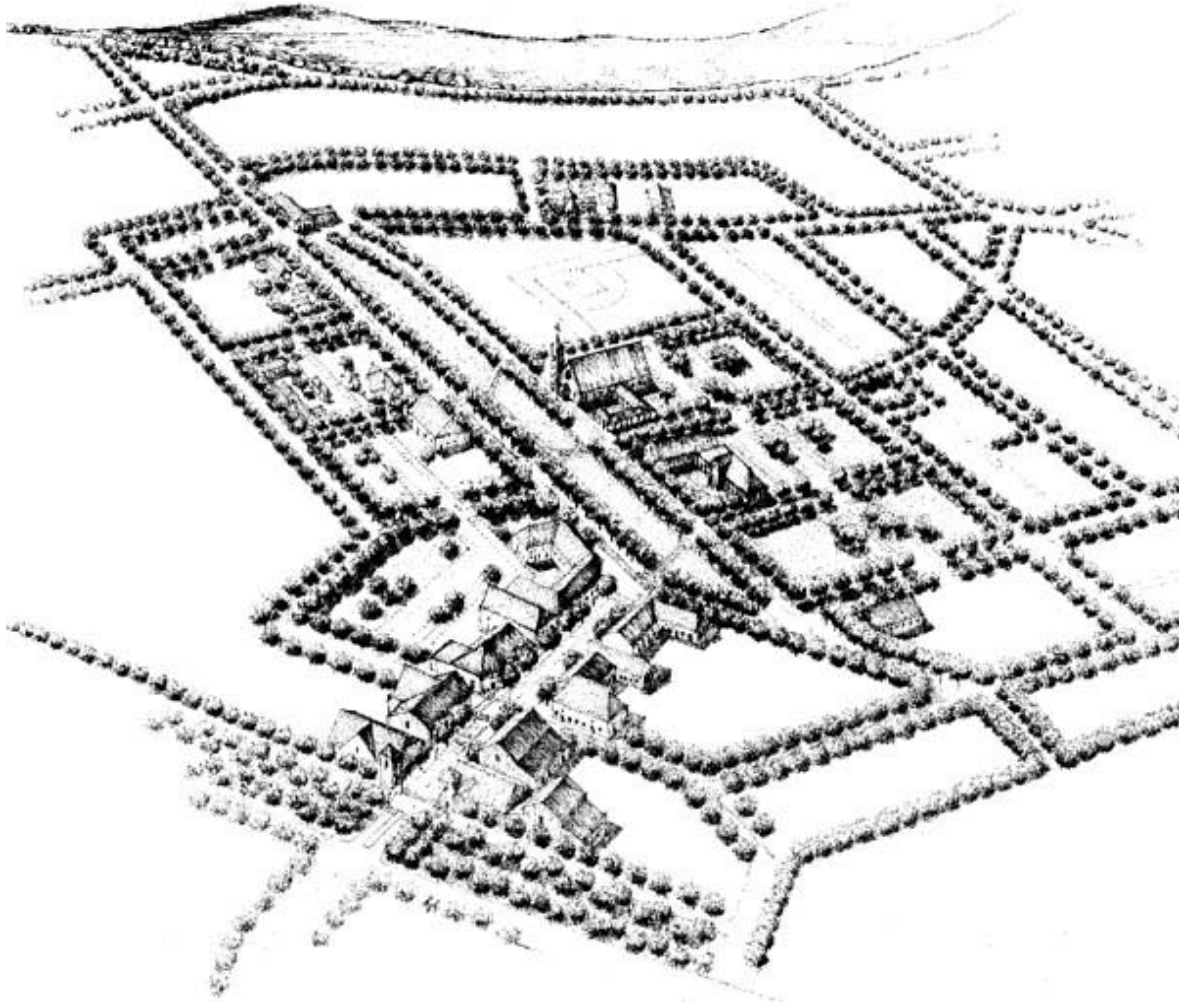




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Overall view of the town center

A NEW HEART FOR CHANNAHON ILLINOIS

Christopher Andrews Architect & Town Planner

1997

In the Winter of 1997 the village of Channahon Illinois, along with the Catholic Diocese of Joliet, sponsored an international competition for the design of a new village center on a hundred This project was awarded an honorable mention award for its ecologically inspired design. This vision for the Channahon Village Center came out of reading of the local landscape patterns and typologies as well an intent to help restore the site's natural ecological patterns of medium to low elevation Oak/Hickory forest, and the integration of a storm drainage system and vegetation network with a coherent street and block layout. The main component of this network, the generous and beautiful tree lined streets, form the fundamental structure of the project. This network is built up over time, corresponding with the stages of site development. The Village Green is the heart of this structure. It connects Central Park to the I & M Canal. Along with the tree lined streets branching off of it, the mid-block automobile parking courts, smaller neighborhood greens and the shared residential backyard swales this system provides for both storm water detention and groundwater recharge.