



THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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Submission

ID: 264393

Awards Program Information

Organization: **The American Institute of Architects**Application: **2012 Fellowship and Honorary Fellowship**

Nominee Information

*** = Required Field**

Please enter your name as you wish it to appear on your official citation and any announcements should you be elevated to Fellowship.

*First Name Lesley

Middle Name / Initial

*Last Name / Surname Bain

Firm Name Weinstein A|U

*City Seattle

*State WA

Province (Outside US)

*Country United States of America

*Nominated By Chapter

*Nominee's assigned AIA Chapter AIA Seattle

*Date nominee became AIA member 1996

Please list the Name and Location of the educational institution, the Number of Years attended and the Degree received. Please list in chronological order. Secondary education first, most recent education last.

*Nominee's Education Yale University, New Haven, CT
1973–1977 (4 years)
Bachelor of Arts, Urban Design with Honors

École de Beaux Arts Américaine
Summer, 1987

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
1985–1988 (3 years)
Master of Architecture

State(s) or territory(ies) where nominee is licensed to practice architecture.

*Practice Washington

*Nominee is engaged in the profession of architecture as: Principal, Architect and Urban Designer

Example: Firm owner, designer, educator, government architect, etc.

Please list the Firm and Number of Years. Please list in chronological order starting with most recent.

*Work History Weinstein A|U, Seattle, WA, Principal: 8 Years, Associate: 8 Years
Cecil & Rizvi Inc., Boston, Massachusetts, Associate: 4 Years
Santos, Levy and Associates, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Associate: 4 Years
Milton Glaser, New York, New York, Designer: 3 Years

Sponsor

*Sponsor Name Lee Copeland, FAIA

Sponsor Firm Name Mithun

Sponsor City Seattle

Sponsor State WA

Fellowship Nominee Information

*Nominee Name Lesley Bain

Category of Nomination

1. To promote the aesthetic, scientific, and practical efficiency of the profession

1. Promote urban design

Describe how the nominee's work may be considered notable and how it has advanced the profession of architecture in a 25 to 35 word statement.

*Summary Statement Lesley has transformed Seattle's public realm through design projects, legislative tools and community advocacy. She brings those lessons learned to a national audience, focusing on the enormous untapped potential of the STREET as public space.

25 September 2012

Ms. Linda Searl, FAIA, Chair of the Jury of Fellows
The American Institute of Architects

Re: Lesley Bain

Dear Ms. Searl,

I am delighted and honored to serve as sponsor for Lesley Bain's nomination to the College of Fellows in recognition of her outstanding career in architecture and urban design. She was a graduate student of mine at the University of Pennsylvania and we worked together in my practice in Seattle. We continue to associate through the AIA and other urban design efforts in the Pacific Northwest.

Lesley has a unique combination of skills that make her an effective advocate for the quality of the public realm. These highly visible projects require the ability to listen well, to absorb complex issues--often with contradictory agendas--and to come up with site-specific, creative, supportable outcomes. Lesley brings people together with a collaborative style of leadership resulting in "win-win" solutions.

These "wins" have resulted in a better public realm for Seattle. Lesley sees untapped potential for and has the persistence needed to carry projects to fruition. Neglected alleys become neighborhood focal points. Highway infrastructure projects become green assets. Residential projects are designed to invigorate the streets and sidewalks and invite the public to cross the threshold of the property line into and through sites.

Lesley has created tools to magnify the impact of her project work. She has authored numerous master plans and design guidelines that embed the quality of the public realm in the regulatory process. Models such as the Terry Avenue North Master Plan are cited as exemplars of reusing streets as public space.

Lesley has achieved National recognition and stature as the lead author of *Living Streets: Strategies for Crafting Public Space*, published by John Wiley and Sons in 2012. This book, the result of years of Lesley's design and advocacy work in the public realm, has been distributed nationally and internationally--to universities, and architecture and planning firms across the country. She has been invited to speak at national conventions and leading architecture firms.

In a time when the quality of urban life represents our best hope for a sustainable future, Lesley is a role model for our profession. As architects, we are the link between the design of the public realm and the critical adjacent architecture. She is helping us discover and better use a great urban resource--the STREET.

I look forward to her elevation as a Fellow in the American Institute of Architects.

Sincerely,



Lee G. Copeland, FAIA
Consulting Principal

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1 | SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS

Lesley has transformed Seattle's public realm through design projects, legislative tools and community advocacy. She brings those lessons learned to a national audience, focusing on the enormous untapped potential of the STREET as public space.

A passionate and successful advocate for urban life, Lesley has found in her native Seattle a fertile laboratory to influence new models of urban life and provide the kind of leadership that is increasingly needed from the architecture community. The palette of opportunity runs from working with communities to transformation of the small nooks of neighborhoods and alleys to working with city and state agencies on bold moves of new urban infrastructure. Her work includes award-winning mixed-use architecture that breathes life into the edges of the public realm, and brings the activities of street life into and through their site. She has written policies, guidelines and master plans that put the public realm at the heart of design.

Lesley recognized that the right-of-way is a critical and under-recognized resource for transforming cities into desirable, walkable, and sustainable places to live. Her projects, her writing, and speaking are helping designers, elected officials, city staff and communities discover the opportunities of the street as public space, and raise the quality of urban life.

Lesley's work puts architects at the forefront of designing streets as public spaces.

As lead author of *Living Streets: Strategies for Crafting Public Space*, published by John Wiley and Sons in spring of 2012, her impact is being felt worldwide. The book comes from years of Lesley's design and advocacy work in the public realm. *Living Streets* is already in libraries in Australia, the Middle East, Asia, and North America. It is a new acquisition in dozens of universities, such as MIT, Penn, Berkeley and Columbia. Design and planning firms across the country have added it to their professional libraries, and she has influenced a wide breadth of audiences by speaking at national conventions and leading architecture firms.

A major U.S. city has relied on Lesley to lead the urban design for integrating the most challenging infrastructure projects into the city as assets for the public realm.

Local and state agencies have relied on Lesley for many of the challenging urban design problems of the last decade. Lesley took on the politically charged North Waterfront Access project in order to clear the way for the Seattle Art Museum's Olympic Sculpture Park. The City of Seattle asked Lesley to lead the urban design for the very challenging task of integrating a 14-mile monorail planned for Seattle's Downtown and urban neighborhoods. In 2010, the Washington State Department of Transportation asked Lesley to oversee the urban design of a \$4 billion infrastructure project that redefines neighborhoods at the south and north portals of a new tunnel below the city. This work has earned her invitations as a national expert to review and influence major infrastructure projects through the American Architecture Foundation's Sustainable Cities Design Academy.

Lesley's impact has been increased by going beyond her own work to creating a framework for the work of others.

Lesley authored the Citywide Design Guidelines for City of Seattle, which focus on the public realm, and will influence the design of most private development for years to come. She led the formulation of the first street master plan for Seattle, making the most pedestrian-friendly street possible at the heart of the burgeoning South Lake Union neighborhood. These guidelines are referenced as best practices nationally, and she has been an invited speaker at national conferences including Railvolution and the national American Planning Association.

The role of architects in the quality of public realm of cities and their streets is critical to the quality of urban life and a sustainable future. Lesley's work and influence leads the way.

2.1 | SIGNIFICANT WORK — PROJECTS

Street as Public Realm



Terry Avenue North Street Master Plan | Seattle, WA | 2002

Project Lead, Urban Design Lead

The master plan for a key street in a booming Seattle neighborhood explored how close an American city could get to a European-style pedestrian street. Now partially built out with Amazon.com's headquarters, new biotech facilities and a new streetcar, the Terry Avenue Master Plan is used as a national model for conceptual thinking and better street design.



Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement Project | Seattle, WA | 2012

Urban Design Lead

After the Nisqually earthquake, the City of Seattle decided to take down the damaged Alaskan Way Viaduct and relocate the highway into a 1.7 mile tunnel below Downtown. Lesley led urban design for the Washington State Department of Transportation and their consultant team for the north and south tunnel portal areas of this \$4 billion project, including rebuilding streets reconnecting long neglected neighborhoods.



2nd Street Project | Langley, WA | 2012

Urban Design Lead

Langley is a waterfront town on Whidbey Island that takes pride in being a community centered on the arts. This project took advantage of the need for maintenance to reconsider the function and design of a major street in the town to integrate art, landscape, civic buildings, stores, and a web of narrow pedestrian routes that connect the town.



Chinatown Historic Alley Revitalization | Seattle, WA | 2012

Urban Design Lead

For decades, Chinatown's alleys were filled with shops, apartments and activity. The revitalization project produced a design concept, a strategy and stronger community relationships to bring these alleys back to life. The vision is attracting grant money and private donations for its implementation. *With Nakano Associates, landscape architects.*



Redmond Central Connector Master Plan | Redmond, WA | 2011

Urban Design Lead

Redmond, Washington, home of Microsoft, has a downtown split by unused railroad tracks. The Redmond Central Connector reconnects the downtown with a new public space. The Connector technically includes a pedestrian and bicycle trail, but it is woven through spaces to linger. *With Berger Partnership, landscape architects.*



Seattle Center Theater Commons | Seattle, WA | 2010

Urban Design and Architecture Lead

The architectural component of Theater Commons involved working with Intiman Theater and the Seattle Repertory Theater on adaptations to their buildings in response to the new landscape between them. *With GGN, Ltd.*



Seattle Center Theater District | Seattle, WA | 2001

The Theater District concept plan took on the challenge of reinventing the Mercer Street corridor so that, over time, it would become the high quality environment connecting many of the city's premier performing arts venues. *With GGN, Ltd.*

2.1 | SIGNIFICANT WORK — PROJECTS

Street as Public Realm



Seattle Center Skatepark | Seattle, WA | 2010

Urban Design and Architecture Lead

This unique skatepark is designed as a skate plaza – friendly to skaters of all ages and abilities, open to viewing, and integrated into its surroundings. Located at a key entry to Seattle Center, the skatepark incorporates artwork throughout. Because the skatepark is over the ceiling of a below-grade service building, new construction techniques were developed using stacked and carved foam.



Broad Street Green at Seattle Center | Seattle, WA | 2008

Urban Design and Architecture Lead

The first project done under the new Century 21 Master Plan, this project leveraged the need to fix the drainage on close to 2 acres at the east edge of Seattle Center, creating a sweeping edge with new pedestrian space, dramatic lighting, and sustainable handling of stormwater via runnels and rain gardens.



Cornish College of the Arts Streetscape Design | Seattle, WA | 2011

Urban Design Lead

Cornish College of the Arts is developing an urban campus, where streets serve as open space. This street redesign removed lanes and some parking space in order to create an art plaza, seating, and large landscaped areas. With GGN, Ltd, landscape architects.



Magnolia Bridge Relocation Project | Seattle, WA | 2004

Urban Design Lead

With earthquake and mudslide damage, the City of Seattle looked at numerous options for relocating and rebuilding the bridge to the Magnolia neighborhood. Part of the area planned by the Olmsteds in 1903, the planning included improving pedestrian and bicycle connections along the north end of Elliott Bay.



Pacific Northwest Baseball Stadium, Pedestrian Connections | Seattle, WA | 1998

Urban Design

Public benefits were required as part of the construction of Seattle's new baseball stadium. This project studied options for pedestrian improvements in the three adjacent neighborhoods that would tie the stadium into its context. Gaps in the Pedestrian system were remedied, and the historic character of Occidental Avenue re-established.



McClellan Town Center Planning & Light Rail Station | Seattle, WA | 2004

Urban Design

The project included planning for the station area for the first stop in the Rainier Valley, and urban design for the station and surrounding area. The light rail station and the urban design implementation incorporated Olmsted's Cheasty Boulevard, and significantly improved the public spaces in this emerging, diverse neighborhood.



North Waterfront Access Project | Seattle, WA | 2001

Project Manager & Urban Design Lead

A contentious situation arose when the freight mobility interests proposed grade separation along the north end of Seattle's waterfront. The proposed bridge would have severed important connections from the neighborhood to the waterfront, and have seriously impacted the ability of the Seattle Art Museum to design the Olympic Sculpture Park. The project found alternatives to meeting transportation needs without the proposed bridge.

2.1 | SIGNIFICANT WORK — PROJECTS

Integrating Architecture and the Street



Stadium Terrace | Seattle, WA | 2012

Principal-in-Charge, Urban Design Lead

This mixed-use project renovates a 1903 brick plumbing warehouse and adds seven floors of new residences above. The design emphasizes the unusual geometry of the building, and adds life to the street with new restaurants and commercial space. The project is adjacent to the new shared-use street that will be created with the removal of the Alaskan Way Viaduct.



Agnes Lofts | Seattle, WA | 2006

Principal-in-Charge, Urban Design Lead

Agnes Lofts is an infill project that is part of a larger complex of old and new buildings in the Pike-Pine neighborhood. Twenty-four double height loft units are above commercial and restaurant uses that open to the street. Key to the project is a public circulation project through the block.

Awards: 2009 AIA Northwest and Pacific Region Design Awards Citation
2008 AIA Seattle Commendation Award



The Pearl Apartments | Seattle, WA | 2008

Principal-in-Charge, Urban Design Lead

This mixed-use building added eighty units of housing to the Capitol Hill neighborhood, with restaurant and commercial space at the street. The C-shaped building is centered on an internal courtyard for residents, and looks outward to downtown and the Olympic Mountains and maximizes activities along three major streets.



The Bel Roy Apartments | Seattle, WA | 2011

Principal-in-Charge, Urban Design Lead

One of Seattle's best example of Art Deco architecture is the cornerstone of this grouping of buildings. The project renovated the original 1931 building, and added new point-block circulation buildings with landscaped pathways and gardens. The street is enlivened with stoops at the residential entries and a cafe with a seating garden. A rezone was obtained in order to construct the project.



The Bernard Apartments | Seattle, WA | 2007

Principal-in-Charge, Urban Design Lead

The sixty units in this building replaced a parking lot in an older residential neighborhood near Seattle Center. Live-work units face the sidewalk, and extra landscape will fill in the gap along the tree-lined street.



2026 East Madison Apartments | Seattle, WA | 2009

Principal-in-Charge, Urban Design Lead

With 222 units, this project design uses multiple strategies to break down the scale of the architecture and to extend the public realm along the streets and through the project. A double-height space at the entry offers covered public open space for a rainy climate.

Awards: 2011 AIA Seattle Honor Award, Citation
2011 AIA Future Shack Award



11th & Pike Mixed Use Building | Seattle WA | 2009

Principal-in-Charge, Urban Design Lead

The third in a set of three inter-related projects, the building and open space work together to complete a set of connected public spaces through the block.

2.1 | SIGNIFICANT WORK — PROJECTS

Legislative Tools for the Public Realm

Citywide Design Guidelines | Seattle, WA | 2010

Urban Design Lead

Lesley led a two-phase project that evaluated Seattle's design guidelines and reconceived the organization and content of the citywide guidelines. The result was to shift the framework of evaluation and approval of all sizeable projects outside of the Downtown.

University of Washington Campus Plan | Seattle, WA | 2003

Urban Design

Major institutions in Seattle are required to prepare a master plan to direct their growth. This plan, still in effect, considered the form of the campus and its future development. With Lee Copeland, University of Washington Campus Architect.

Duke University Master Plan | Durham, NC | 2000

Urban Design

The master plan was designed to assist decision makers in directing development of their campus and facilities, preserving the historic areas and the character of the University within a forested setting. The plan identified opportunities to strengthen pedestrian zones and campus form with new development.

West Seattle Water Taxi Plan | Seattle, WA | 2007

Urban Design Lead

At the request of community activists, Lesley helped put forth a vision of water transit that utilized Port property for a substantial year-round water connection across Elliott Bay. The proposal makes use of an underutilized park, and includes surface transit and commuter parking on adjacent vacant land.

Monorail Urban Design | Seattle, WA | 2005

Urban Design Lead

After voters passed the initiative for constructing a 14-mile monorail through the city, Lesley took on the challenging role of integrating an elevated transportation system. She led the City's urban design efforts, creating design guidelines and working with citizens, elected officials, and the system designers.

Belltown Viaduct Lands Study | Seattle, WA | 2010

Principal-in-Charge

One of Seattle's densest neighborhoods, Belltown lacks open space. Lesley worked with the neighborhood to maximize opportunities for using the land that becomes available with the removal of the Alaskan Way Viaduct, and advocated for the neighborhood's interests. *With the waterfront planning.*

Century 21 Design Guidelines | Seattle, WA | 2009

Urban Design Lead

An outgrowth of the Century 21 Master Plan, these guidelines specified design issues for development with the various zones of the Seattle Center campus. Design guidelines addressed architecture, landscape, signage and lighting.

Transit Friendly Design Guidelines | Seattle, WA | 2008

Urban Design Lead

Sponsored by King County's Metro Transit and City of Seattle, the guidelines are a coordinated inter-agency effort to create an urban environment that welcomes and encourages transit riders. The document covers transit facilities, streetscapes and buildings.

Virginia Mason Design Guidelines | Seattle, WA | 2012

Urban Design Lead

As part of the medical center's master plan, a set of design guidelines was encouraged by the City. These guidelines stress attention to the design of the streetscape and public realm and human scale in the architecture.

2.1 | SIGNIFICANT WORK — SPEAKING

“The Land8 Webinar ‘Living Streets’ was great. It was a great lead up to the ‘Creating Walkable Communities’ workshop at UMass Dartmouth on the following day.”
— Mary Rapoza, National Association of Women in Landscape

NATIONAL

Land8 Webinar

Living Streets: Strategies for Crafting Public Space, national audience of over 100 landscape architects.

NATIONAL

Vimeo, Land8 2012 Webinar

Living Streets: Strategies for Crafting Public Space

LONG BEACH, CA

2012 Pro-walk Pro-bike Conference

Long Beach California, *Living Streets* with Darby Watson, Senior Urban Planner, Arup, San Francisco

CHELAN, WA

Revitalize WA, Speaker

Living Cities Competition-Winning Entries, Chelan, Washington, with Andy Brown, Graham Babba Architects, and Josh Brevoort, Zero Plus Architects

PORTLAND, OR

2012 Living Futures Conference

Session Organizer, *Living Streets*, Portland, Oregon

PORTLAND, OR

2012 Government Confluence

Invited Speaker. *Nature in Neighborhoods: Managing Public Spaces to Create Greater Community Value*, Organized by Cascadia Green Building Council and Portland Metro.

SEATTLE, WA

Olson Kundig Architects

Invited speaker, *Beyond the Property Lines*, June 2012

PHILADELPHIA, PA

Sustainable Cities Design Academy

Philadelphia, Invited urban design expert, 2011

SEATTLE, WA

Society for College and University Planning

2011 Pacific Regional Conference, Walking tour speaker, South Lake Union Neighborhood, Jill Morelli, FAIA, coordinator, with Ron Rochon, The Miller Hull Partnership

SEATTLE, WA

Pecha Kucha Seattle

Invited speaker, *Accidental Discoveries*, August 2011

SEATTLE, WA

VIA Architects

Seattle and Vancouver, Invited speaker, *Reconnecting the City*, October 2011

WASHINGTON, DC

Sustainable Cities Design Academy

Washington DC, Invited urban design expert, 2010; Railvolution 2010, Portland, Oregon, Invited panelist, *Design Guidelines for Transit Oriented Development*

SEATTLE, WA

Sustainable Cities Design Academy

Seattle, team participant, *Uptown Triangle*, 2009

SEATTLE, WA

AIA Livable Communities Conference

Working, *Walking Waterfront* co-lead, 2006

“Seattle’s most interesting architects, developers, artists and creatives will explore the intersection of art, design and architecture in the public realm”
— Pecha Kucha Volume 32.

2.1 | SIGNIFICANT WORK — JURIES

ARIZONA **AIA Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona, Architectural Award Jury, 2011**

Jury: Tom Kundig, Olson Kundig Architects
Susan Jones, Atelier Jones
Jay Deguchi, Suyama Peterson Deguchi
Mike Jobes, Miller Hull Architects
Lesley Bain, Weinstein A|U Speaker at awards presentation

COLORADO **AIA Colorado West, Grand Junction CO, 2009**

Jury: Kirsten Murray
Olson Sundberg Kundig Allen
Jury Chair Scott Wolf
Miller Hull Partnership
Owen Richards, Owen Richards Architects

SEATTLE **Daily Journal of Commerce, Project of the Month Jury, 2009**

Jury: Lesley Bain, Weinstein A|U
Don Brubeck, Bassetti Architects
Cath Brunner, 4Culture

NATIONAL **AIA Gold Medal/Firm of the Year, Jury Member, 2008**

Lesley was asked to be on the jury to select candidates for final recommendation by the AIA National Board. Renzo Piano, Hon FAIA, was honored with the 2008 Gold Medal, and Kieran Timberlake Associates was named the 2008 Firm of the Year.
Jury: Buzz Yudell, Chair

MONTANA **AIA Montana Awards of Excellence, Jury Member, 2008**

Lesley served the jury for the Montana State Design Awards, announced September 2008.
Jury: Grace Kim, Schemata Workshop, Jury Chair
Kate Diamond, NBBJ
Lesley Bain, Weinstein A|U
Mary Johnston, Johnston Architects

SEATTLE **Daily Journal of Commerce, Project of the Month Jury, 2002**

Jury: Jim Suehiro, NBBJ
Lesley Bain, Weinstein A|U
Stephen Norman, King County Housing Authority

2.1 | SIGNIFICANT WORK — PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

AIA

- 1996 – 2011** **AIA Member, National and Local Chapter, AIA Seattle**
- 1996 – PRESENT** **AIA Seattle Urban Design Committee**
Organizing Committee, Assisting City of Seattle in adding and Urban Design Component to the Comprehensive Plan update
- 2005 – 2008** **AIA Seattle Urban Design Co-Chair**
Under Lesley's leadership, AIA Seattle took a stand and actively participated in efforts to prevent the Alaskan Way Viaduct from being rebuilt on the Seattle waterfront.

American Planning Association

- 1996 – PRESENT** **National, State and Local Chapter Member**
Lesley works with APA members to provide a link between the architectural and planning communities.
- 2012** **Game Changing Initiatives Leadership Committee**
- 2001 – 2011** **Game Changing Initiatives Symposium**
Washington and Oregon Chapters of the American Planning Association, Invited Symposium Participant, Portland, OR
- 2000** **State Conference Session Organizer, Yakima, Washington**

ARCADE Journal

- 2001 – 2011** **Board of Trustees**
Lesley served on the Board of Trustees, the Editorial Committee and the Executive Committee during the time when the magazine moved from a one-person sponsorship to a thriving, nationally recognized publication. During this time, ARCADE grew to a known readership of 5000, drew both local and national grants from 9 organizations, and received Seattle AIA's 2005 Allied Organization Award. The results of these efforts have led to a 25% increase in circulation, increased street recognition, and a self sustained and financially sound organization.

2004 – 2010 Downtown Seattle Association (DSA)

- Waterfront Task Force, 2002–2006**
Lesley and colleagues from the DSA put forth a design vision for the waterfront in a City-sponsored charrette in 2004.
- Competitive Edge Steering Committee, 2007**
A joint effort between DSA and the City's economic development office, Lesley served on the committee that put forward a vision for a vital downtown future for Seattle. The steering committee set priorities and actions for both DSA and the City.
- Jury Member, Downtown Champion Award, 2006**
DSA honors three businesses that contribute most to the vibrancy of the city.

2004 – 2010 Allied Arts

- Member**
- Allied Arts Waterfront Charrette Team Leader, 2003**
The Allied Arts mission is to enhance the cultural livability of Seattle. Lesley has been involved in Allied Arts efforts focusing on the future of the waterfront.

2.1 | SIGNIFICANT WORK — ACADEMIC SERVICE

1996 – PRESENT

University of Washington, College of the Built Environment

Juror

Lesley has been a juror and speaker in several studios at the University of Washington for numerous professors in architecture, landscape and interdisciplinary studios, including:

architecture and urban design

Lee Copeland

Sharon Sutton

Susan Jones

Nicole Huber

David Strauss

landscape architecture and interdisciplinary

Nancy Roth

Daniel Winterbottom

Julie Johnson

2012

Seattle University

Invited Critic

Mary Wong, Institute of Public Service

1995 – 1996

Boston Architectural College, Boston Massachusetts

Lecturer

Taught structures for a semester-long interior design class.

1993 – 1994

Massachusetts College of Arts, Boston Massachusetts

Architecture Juror

Juror, architectural studios.

1992 – 1993

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston

Architecture Juror

Juror, architectural studios

Imre Halasz

Joseph Iano.

2.1 | SIGNIFICANT WORK — COMMUNITY ADVOCACY



Alley Network Project | Seattle, WA | 2010 – present

Community Board, Architect

Lesley works with Nord Alley and Pioneer Square residents to activate the alleys with art and events, and extend the network of repurposed alleys.



Lower Post Alley Committee | Seattle, WA | 2012

Advisor

Post Alley is a beloved public space where it runs through Pike Place Market. This group is working to extend that character and activity to the south.



Uptown Triangle Team | Seattle, WA | 20010-present

Urban Designer

This community group is working on a positive future for a neglected neighborhood that will be reconnected to its surroundings with the removal of the Viaduct. Lesley has assisted in planning, advocacy, and grant writing.



World Cup Alley | Seattle, WA | 2010

Instigator

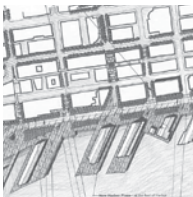
As an outcome of the award-winning competition entry, Lesley worked with International Sustainability Institute to bring hundreds of people to a month-long series of showings of soccer's 2010 World Cup.



Allied Arts Team Waterfront for All Charrette | Seattle, WA | 2007

Team Leader

Lesley led a team of architects and landscape architects in a vision for the portion of the waterfront leading to the Pike Place Market. This well-publicized campaign actively influenced City Council and other advocates.



Downtown Seattle Association Waterfront Charrette | Seattle, WA | 2004

Team Member

Along with business and community leaders, Lesley worked on implementation strategies and mechanisms for implementing waterfront improvements.



Allied Arts Team Waterfront Charrette | Seattle, WA | 2003

Team Member

This collaborative effort put forward-thinking ideas into the public discussion of what Seattle's waterfront could become with the removal of the Alaskan Way Viaduct.

2.2 | AWARDS, HONORS & RECOGNITION

AIA Awards



2011 Seattle AIA Honor Award of Citation, 2026 East Madison Mixed-Use Building
2011 AIA Seattle Future Shack Award, 2026 East Madison Mixed-Use Building



2009 AIA Northwest & Pacific Region Design Awards Citation, Agnes Lofts
2008 AIA Seattle Commendation Award, Agnes Lofts



Sustainable Design Awards

Living Cities Competition 2011, Living Building Community Choice Award,
team co-lead



How Green is My Alley Competition, Grand Prize Winner,
Competition Sponsor: International Sustainability Institute, 2010; City of Seattle



Travelling Fellowship

Travelling Fellow, Northwest Institute for Architecture and Urban Design in Italy, 2010.
Award to study Intimate Streetscape in Italian hilltowns.

2.3 | BOOKS & ARTICLES

Authored

LIVING STREETS: Strategies for Crafting Public Space, lead author, Wiley & Sons publishers; 2012

CityTank, Ideas for the City, Unearthing Neighborhood Assets, March 2011

AIA Forum, Winter 2010, "Why don't we do it in the road?"

AIA Seattle, Urban Design Committee. "Advocacy: Creating a New Seattle Waterfront." AIA Seattle, July 2006,

Bain, Lesley with Peter Sackett. "Rethinking the Alaskan Way Viaduct," *ARCADE*, 20.2, Winter, 2001.

Bain, Lesley, Dennis Haskell and Lee Copeland. "Advocacy: Off Seattle's Alaskan Way Viaduct." AIA Seattle, March 2002,

Bain, Lesley. "Interbay: A New View(point)." *ARCADE*, 23.2, Winter, 2004.

About

Living Streets

Landscape Architect Magazine, The Magazine of the American Society of Landscape Architects, Washington D.C., Books of Interest, August, 2012

Clair Enlow. Daily Journal of Commerce. May 28, 2012.

Terry Avenue North

Baker, Linda. "Streetless in Seattle—An innovative shared-space design is taking shape in the city's developing South Lake Union neighborhood." *Metropolis*, May 2006, 46.

Langdon, Phillip. "Better! Cities & Towns," *New Urban News Publications*, Ithaca, New York, September 201

Stacishin-Moura, Elizabeta. "Shared streets can provide open space, too." *Daily Journal of Commerce*, April, 2004

Cited as Exemplar:

Green Infrastructure Wiki, Case Study,

Creating Shared Spaces: Challenges in Federal, State, and Local Guidelines
by Rachel Hiatt, Paul Supawanich

Alta Planning & Design, Palo Alto Bicycle + Pedestrian Transportation Plan

American Public Transportation Association, Design of On-street Transit Stops and Access from Surrounding Areas, Recommended Practice, March 2012

2.3 | BOOKS & ARTICLES

Alleys

Laneways of Vancouver

April 23, 2012

Learning from Seattle

Smartplanet

Tyler Falk, August 30, 2011

Transforming urban alleys into great urban spaces

Crosscut

Mark Hinshaw

December 26, 2010 and March 17, 2010

How to make an urban alley work

Daily Journal of Commerce

Katie Zemtseff

June 29, 2010

Would World Cup games or art make you hang out in an alley?

Major League Soccer website

June 21, 2010

Seattle's World Cup Alley popular among locals

Examiner

David Falk

June 16, 2010

Seattle's World Cup Alley draws crowds to TV soccer matches

Alleys of Seattle Blog

Daniel Tool

June 12, 2010

World Cup Alley

Green Growth Cascadia Blog

May 15, 2010,

Hanging Around Alleys--Seattle Green Alley Competition

Seattle Times

Jerry Large

April 11, 2010

Finding new life for alleys

My Urbanist

Chuck Wolfe

March 5, 2010

Seattle urbanist promise: the night the alley showed the way

- 3.1 Living Streets: Strategies for Crafting Public Space**
Published by John Wiley & Sons, Hoboken, NJ
Role: Lead Author
Published March 2012
- 3.2 Terry Avenue North Street Master Plan**
Seattle, Washington
Role: Principal-in-Charge
Largely responsible for design
Adopted 2005
- 3.3 Citywide Design Guidelines**
Seattle, Washington
Role: Principal-in-Charge,
Largely responsible for content
Adopted 2011
- 3.4 Seattle Center Projects**
Seattle, Washington
Role: Principal-in-Charge
Largely responsible for urban design
2000-2010
- 3.5 Pike Pine Development**
Seattle, Washington
Role: Principal-in-Charge
Largely responsible for urban design
2003-2012
- 3.6 Alley Activation**
Seattle, Washington
Role: Largely responsible for urban design
2010-2012
- 3.7 Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement Project Urban Design**
Seattle, Washington
Role: Principal-in-Charge
Largely responsible for urban design
2011-2012
- 3.8 Pioneer Square: Living Blue+Green**
International Design Competition
Role: Competition team co-lead
2011

“Every city planner should read this book.”

— Dave Mayer, book reviewer,
Huntington Beach CA

“Living Streets is a long overdue comprehensive look at living strategies, planning ideas and technologies that are being applied to streets around the world in communities of all scales... this book provides clear, well documented strategies for planners and citizens everywhere to understand, and advocate for common sense alternatives.”

— Susan Jones, FAIA

Living Streets is hugely important and timely book about how to make streets into recognizable and pleasant places.”

— Clair Enlow, Hon AIA

ARCHITECTURE FIRM OF RECORD:

Not applicable

COMPLETION DATE:

Published Spring 2012

ROLE OF NOMINEE:

Lead Author

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the project listed above. That responsibility included:

- Lead Author

Edward Weinstein
Owner
Weinstein A|U Architects + Urban
Designers LLC

LIVING STREETS

Strategies for Crafting Public Space

LESLEY BAIN • BARBARA GRAY • DAVE RODGERS



The right-of-way is a critical and under-recognized resource for transforming cities into sustainable, walkable places to live, work, and play. Streets comprise a quarter to a third or more of our cities, and their use and design is fundamental to shaping our urban future.

Living Streets: Strategies for Crafting Public Space is the only book of its kind that provides an overview of sustainable street design. Its audience includes designers, engineers, transportation planners and community advocates. The book draws on new models that create a better public realm, support balanced transportation options, and provide sustainable solutions for stormwater and landscaping. It includes practical information and case studies intended to help positive changes in the use and design of streets and communities.

Within months of its publication, *Living Streets: Strategies for Crafting Public Space* is found in libraries worldwide--Hong Kong, Tehran, Australia, Great Britain. It has been included in dozens of university collections, including MIT, Berkeley, Penn and Columbia.

Interest in the book has generated a series of speaking engagements with national audiences of architects, landscape architects, transportation planners and sustainability advocates. Concepts and tools from the book are influencing city officials, elected leaders, designers and community advocates.



mobility



placemaking



restoring natural systems



Shared use concept in Vancouver BC

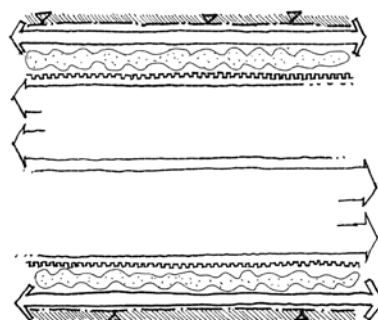
Conceptual Thinking about Streets as Public Space

Living Streets breaks conceptual ground in the use and design of streets. Instead of just taking current thinking about the street and making it incrementally better, the starting point for street design is as *public space*. The use and design of that public space needs to best support the adjacent uses and the broader community. This reconception places architects in an important role, as the one discipline that can work across the property line and create synergies between uses within the built space typically on the private side of the property line, and the adjacent public space in the street.

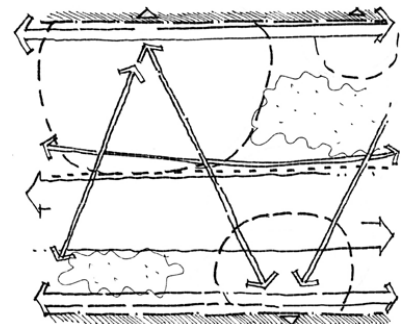
The book posits three uses for streets as public realm. The first, *mobility*, has been understood for several decades as meaning the automobile. The Complete Streets movement has broadened the mobility function to bicycles, transit, and pedestrians, but typically within the same paradigm of transportation engineering. The second use, *placemaking*, offers new opportunities for much-needed open space in denser neighborhoods. The third use, *restoring natural systems*, takes advantage of the characteristics of streets as a network. Cities are just beginning to awake to the advantages of green infrastructure in urban areas.

Linear design versus clusters

Conventional thinking for street design is based on separating people walking from fast-moving vehicles. Where traffic volumes and speeds are high, that approach makes sense. However, where traffic volumes and speeds are low, new opportunities arise. Larger open spaces can be created adjacent to building entries, pedestrian desire lines can be accommodated, and larger landscape areas can support healthier trees and plantings.



standard linear concept



clustered uses concept

Considering a variety of street typologies

Living Streets: Strategies for Crafting Public Space identifies multiple models for streets that work together with adjacent land uses. Design is explored for typologies including Residential Streets, Main Streets, Green Streets, Festival Streets, Alleys, Thoroughfares and Shared Streets. There is no "one size fits all"--the context, the inter-relationships at the edges, the volume of space, climate, topography and culture all need to be considered to create places with unique character.

3.2 | TERRY AVENUE NORTH STREET MASTER PLAN

"We have definitely raised the bar in streetscape design.

*— Lyle Bicknell, Seattle
Department of Planning and
Development*

"We love the way people are using the plaza and the wide pedestrian spaces. Terry Avenue feels like the center of an urban campus where people can enjoy being outdoors and mixing with each other."

*— Sharon Coleman, Director,
Real Estate Development,
Vulcan*

"It sets up a fantastic rhythm, which is not a completely linear experience. When we show it to people they are very inspired. It has expanded the thinking of our client developers, who now see that good streetscape is an advantage worth paying for."

*— Guy Michaelson, Partner,
The Berger Partnership,
Landscape firm for the
Amazon projects*

ARCHITECTURE FIRM OF RECORD:

Weinstein A|U

COMPLETION DATE:

2002

ROLE OF NOMINEE:

Principal-in-Charge

Lead Author

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the project listed above. That responsibility included:

- Lead Author
- Project under direction of nominee

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Terry Avenue North presented the opportunity to create a new type of street in Seattle, where pedestrians take priority. As the South Lake Union neighborhood was poised to transform from a neglected remnant of an industrial lakefront to one of the most rapidly growing urban districts in the country, Terry Avenue North was ripe to serve as both an open space and a connector at the heart of the new neighborhood.

The Terry Avenue North Street Master Plan became the city's first street concept plan, and a test case for maximizing pedestrian use of the right-of-way. There are now six approved street design concept plans, and Lesley is currently working on four additional plans in South Lake Union. The plan itself, and its subsequent testing through its on-going build-out, have been seen as a national model in articles, books, and investigations of best practices.

The build-out of the Amazon campus implemented three blocks of the plan.

Publications

- “Streetless in Seattle...”, Metropolis, May 2006, p. 46, Roberta Baker
- “Better! Cities & Towns”, New Urban News Publications, Philip Langdon, Ithaca, New York, September 2012,
- “Shared streets can provide open space, too,” Elizabeta Stacishin-Moura, Daily Journal of Commerce, April, 2004
- Terry Avenue North, case study in “Living Streets: Strategies for Crafting Public Space”, ; Bain, Gray & Rodgers, John Wiley & Sons, Hoboken, New Jersey 2012

Cited as best practice

- Green Infrastructure Wiki, Case Study
- “Creating Shared Spaces: Challenges in Federal, State, and Local Guidelines” by Rachel Hiatt, Paul Supawanich
- Alta Planning & Design, Palo Alto Bicycle + Pedestrian Transportation Plan
- American Public Transportation Association, Design of On-street Transit Stops and Access from Surrounding Areas, Recommended Practice, March 2012
- Nelson Nygard, Streets for Living, Planning and Best Practices in Street Design (Case Study #4)

Tours

- Society for College and University Planning 2011 Pacific Regional Conference, March 21, 2011
- AIA Seattle, Urban Design Tour, August 23, 2011, Terry Avenue Green Street Project



The Citywide Design Guidelines reframe the conversation that takes place between architects, the community, and the City.

“in looking to revise Calgary’s design guidelines, we brought Lesley to Calgary as a recognized and respected expert”

— Marc Boutin, AAA, MRAIC
the marc boutin architectural collaborative inc.

SEATTLE CITYWIDE DESIGN GUIDELINES



Review Draft
January 2010

City of Seattle, Department of Planning and Development

ARCHITECTURE FIRM OF RECORD:
Weinstein A|U

COMPLETION DATE:
2010

ROLE OF NOMINEE:
Principal-in-Charge
Lead Author

I have personal knowledge of the nominee’s responsibility for the project listed above. That responsibility included:

- Lead Author
- Project under direction of nominee

Edward Weinstein
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Designers LLC

The City of Seattle launched their design review program in 1994, and the Citywide Commercial and Multi-Family Design Guidelines have been the cornerstone of the program since that time. In 2008, the City asked Lesley Bain to spearhead the reconsideration of the original Citywide design guidelines. The update was intended to bring the guidelines forward, incorporating lessons learned from 15 years of projects reviewed under the program and 18 sets of neighborhood guidelines.

One of the first tasks in the project was a review of guidelines from cities around the world, to understand the “state of the art” and various approaches to guidelines. Outreach to city staff, community board members, the design community and the public at large generated passionate concerns about the quality of design in the city, and identified new priorities—sustainability, transit integration, and incorporating neighborhood specific design guidelines.

The guidelines were simplified and organized to reflect the process of design thinking, design approvals, and the hierarchy of importance. Another critical shift was the idea that buildings should not simply react to existing context, but look forward to the future and make a positive contribution to its context.

3.4 | SEATTLE CENTER PROJECTS

“Lesley is one of the few design professionals who have shaped this important urban asset from the inside and outside. The Theater District, Broad St. Green, Skatepark and Theater Commons – each important small scale gems – are also key links in the connective tissue of Seattle’s most iconic public place.”

— Jill Crary, Director of Development Seattle Center



ARCHITECTURE FIRM OF RECORD:

Weinstein A|U

Broad Street Green

Skatepark

GGN Ltd

Theater Commons

COMPLETION DATE:

2000 – 2011

ROLE OF NOMINEE:

Principal-in-Charge

I have personal knowledge of the nominee’s responsibility for the project listed above. That responsibility included:

- Project under direction of nominee
- Urban Design

Seattle Center attracts some 12 million visitors each year, to visit the iconic Space Needle or to more than five thousand arts, sporting, educational or cultural events.

Lesley has played a leadership role on numerous projects at Seattle Center, beginning with a collaboration on the Theater District with an interdisciplinary team beginning in 2002. Since that time, she has led projects for redesigning the Broad Street Green, the Seattle Center Skatepark, and the architecture for the Theater Commons. Lesley wrote the Architectural Design Guidelines for the campus, and was an urban designer for the Century 21 Master Plan.

The Theater District Master Plan, completed in 2000, formed the basis for the Theater Commons work, constructed in 2010. Broad Street Green was completed in 2009, and the Skatepark opened in 2010. These projects were the first projects completed as part of the Century 21 Master Plan.

Edward Weinstein

Owner

Weinstein A|U Architects + Urban

Designers LLC

Broad Street Green

"elegant and generous..."

— *Seattle Design Commission*

- The Broad Street Green, for a \$700,000 budget:
- Reclaimed almost two acres of space for outdoor events
- Improved the setting for significant sculptures — Alexander Lieberman's Olympic Iliad and Doris Chase's Moon Gates
- Shifted stormwater from a piped system into rain gardens
- Created a sweeping new pedestrian route along the edge of Seattle Center
- Transformed the edge of the Center from day to night
- Brings 5,000 tulips to bloom each spring

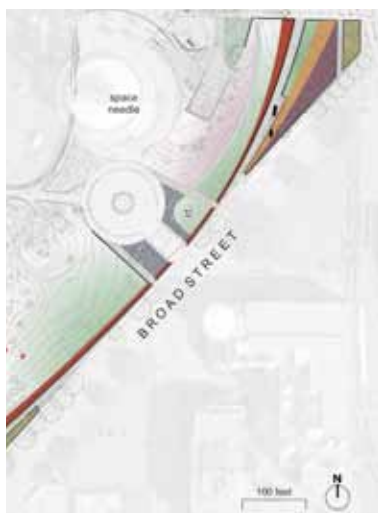


Broad Street defines the southeastern edge of Broad Street Green, the expanse of lawn at the base of Seattle's most visible and visited attractions: the Space Needle, the Experience Music Project/Science Fiction Museum, and the Pacific Science Center.

In addition to being the foreground for these highly memorable icons, as well as several large-scale outdoor sculptures, the lawn is itself a venue for major events at Seattle Center, including Bumbershoot and The Northwest Folklife Festival. As such, it is clearly an area that is central to Seattle Center's mission to be the nation's best gathering place.

This significant edge includes three entry points to the campus. The design creates a sweeping, generous hardscape edge that is transformed seasonally with massed plantings of colors tied to the provocative palette of the EMP, and the fiery orange red of Alexander Lieberman's Olympic Iliad sculpture. The reconfigured lawn area is drained with channels that express the movement of water in relation to the site's position on the ridge between Lake Union and Elliott Bay.

The newly created space was designed to transform throughout the seasons and over the course of the day. A linear LED light is integrated into the seating wall to create a stunning blue at night, alluding to the watercourse at the edge of the seating. With Nakano Associates, Landscape Architects.



Theater Commons at Seattle Center

Theater Commons was selected to be a pilot project to test the nation's first rating system for green landscape construction and maintenance, the Sustainable Sites Initiative — SITES.



Theater Commons transformed a one and one-half-acre parking lot into a green, inviting Seattle Center entry. This project brought to fruition years of planning work, starting with the Theater District Master Plan, which called for design that would create a distinctive home to the region's premier performing arts venues along the north edge of Seattle Center. Theater Commons links the space between the Seattle Repertory Theatre and the Intiman Theatre.

Seattle Repertory Theatre and Seattle Center partnered to reinvigorate the 1.6 acre site. Gustafson Guthrie Nichol led the projects as landscape architects. The architectural portion of the project focused on an addition to the Seattle Repertory Theatre which increases visibility of the theater, shelters patrons entering from the street, draws on the "Planes of Light" ideas of the master plan, and adds vibrancy to the Theatre District at night.

Skatepark

"inspired by the innovation and design..."

— Seattle Design Commission

"(SeaSk8) is a great...I will repeat this... is a great addition to Seattle Center."

— Robert Nellums, Director,
Seattle Center

"It was a skatepark construction project that has never been done before."

— Grindline

"Gorgeous. What a beautiful piece of sculpture."

— Seattleskateparks.org



This unusual skatepark is an art plaza designed for skaters. As a skate plaza, the design is as inclusive of viewers as it is of skaters. Located at a key entry to Seattle Center, skateboarders are not relegated to neglected spaces, but celebrated as part of the activity of public space.

Skatable street elements define the park, along with skatable public art, including the only known skateable glass. Artist Perri Lynch used enlarged photographs of used skateboards as a laminate between panes of glass.

The project was extremely complicated technically. The skatepark is built on the roof of a below-grade building housing the mechanical, electrical, and catering kitchen for the adjacent Key Arena. As a consequence, the park is built up of foam, with a tinted shotcrete surface. Ventilation shafts required for the kitchen below are incorporated into the design.

Awards

- 2009 Northwest & Pacific Regional Design Awards
- Commendation Award
2008 AIA Seattle Honor Awards
- AIA Project of the Month
January 2008

Publications & Press

Architectural Record Building Types Study. One of 14 case studies of townhouse projects around the world

- Preservation Magazine
March/April 2011
"Development and innovative reuse make Seattle's Pike/Pine district the place to be"
- Pacific Northwest Magazine
Tyrone Beason
January 3, 2010
"Seattle's Pike/Pine corridor does density right"

ARCHITECTURE FIRM OF RECORD:
Weinstein A|U

COMPLETION DATE:
Urban Design complete 2006

ROLE OF NOMINEE:
Principal-in-Charge
Lead Author

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the project listed above. That responsibility included:

- Largely responsible for urban design
- Project under direction of nominee

Edward Weinstein
Owner
Weinstein A|U Architects + Urban
Designers LLC



The Pike-Pine development began with a master plan for urban infill and renovation of a portion of a block in one of Seattle's emerging neighborhoods. The scheme included renovation of an existing building from the district's "auto row" era, and new mixed-use buildings that interconnect with the existing sculptures.

Along the streets, buildings completely open with garage doors in order to connect to and energize the public space.

This design internalized the idea of the street, with a pedestrian route that invites the public into and through a series of indoor and outdoor spaces.

The entry into the pedestrian through-route begins on 12th Avenue through the renovated Piston & Ring building. The primary entry is marked with a large canopy with reused lumber from the interior renovation. The interior route is glazed on all sides, and offers glimpses up to the wood trusses, or down to the shop and office below, with light coming in from the exterior plaza at the end of the corridor. Benches allow people to linger.

The western portion of the roof was removed, revealing original structure and opening to the sky for a restaurant terrace. The terrace overlooks the plaza below. Agnes Lofts, which is connected to the renovated Piston & Ring building, is visible above. One project, which is yet to be constructed, will connect to 11th Avenue.

"The design embraces the vibrant street life that animates the neighborhood."

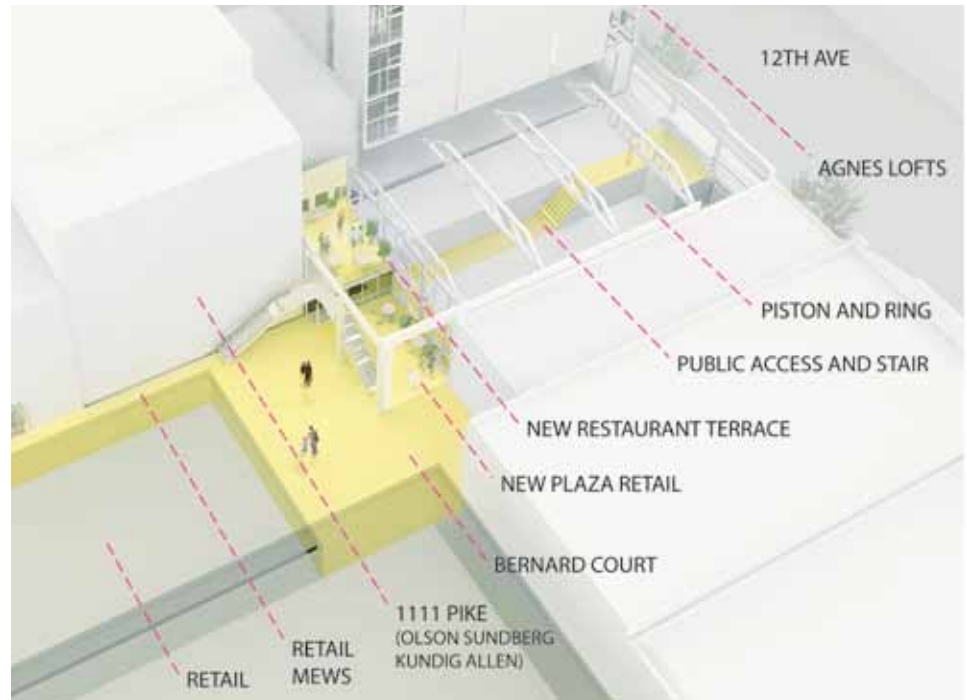
— Architectural Record

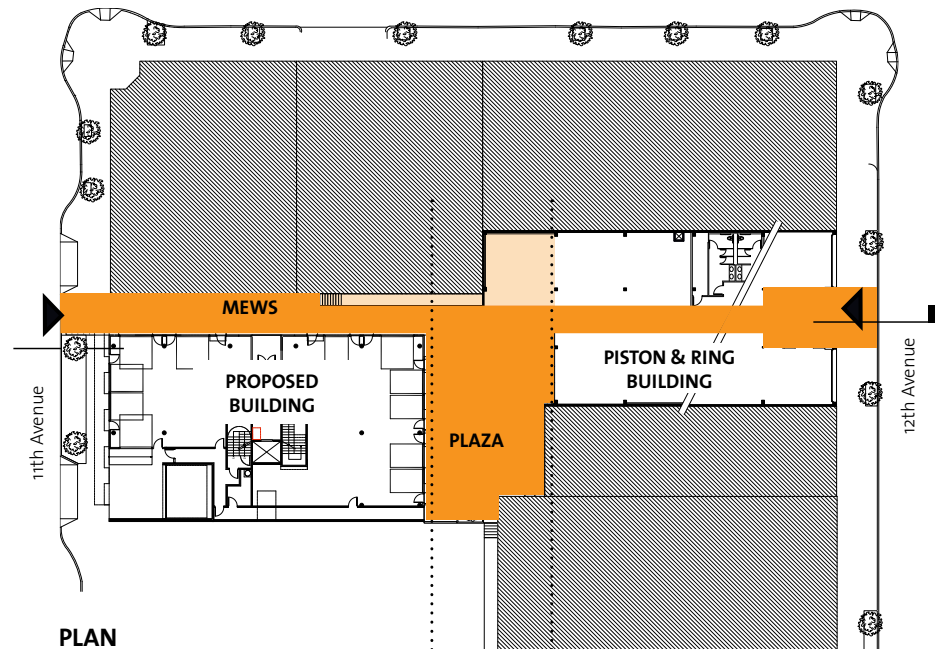
*"As the emerging dominant type of development in Seattle, this sort of mixed-use urban building is an important part of the city's sustainability strategy. This example is clean and articulate; of particular note are the organization of the plan, **the way the building adds to urban life on the street**, and the integration with the existing building."*

— AIA Seattle 2008 Honor Awards jury comment

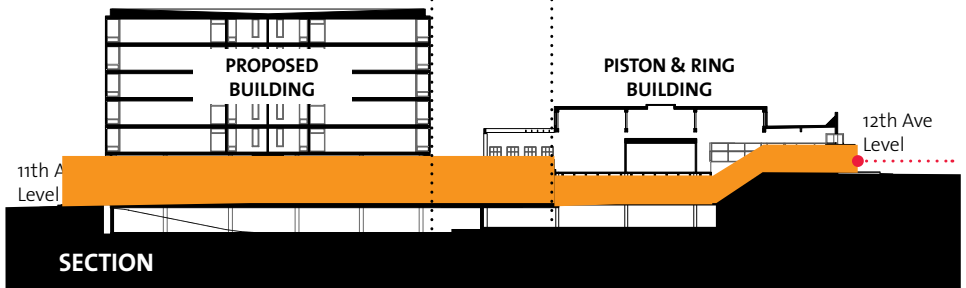
"...unapologetic urbanism."

— AIA Project of the Month Jury comment





PLAN



SECTION



3.6 | ALLEY ACTIVATION

Award

- "How Green is My Alley Competition"
Grand Prize winning entry
March, 2010

Sponsored by:
International Sustainable
Institute
AIA Seattle
City of Seattle
People for Puget Sound



ARCHITECTURE FIRM OF RECORD:

How Green is My Alley Competition

Not applicable

Chinatown Historic Alleys

Nakano Landscape Architects

COMPLETION DATE:

2010 – ongoing

ROLE OF NOMINEE:

Principal-in-Charge

Lead Author

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the project listed above. That responsibility included:

- Largely responsible for design

Edward Weinstein
Owner
Weinstein A|U Architects + Urban
Designers LLC

Seattle is on the forefront of a worldwide trend in activating urban alleys. Lesley's involvement began with a Grand Prize winning entry to the "How Green is My Alley" competition in March, 2010, and has continued as she worked with the International Sustainability Institute (ISI) to put on the World Cup Alley, and participate in formulating the Alley Network Project. Her ongoing involvement with the Alley Network Project includes designs for signage at alley entries, and selection as part of an artistic collaboration for the installation of an art project, Shorelienss, in adjacent Pioneer Square.

The work in Nord Alley has had an impact on other Seattle neighborhoods and beyond. Lesley is working with a non-profit organization to revitalize the historic alleys of Chinatown, and a group of businesses and property owners to extend the activity of Pike Place Market further south on Post Alley. Civic leaders from numerous cities have been interested in revitalizing their alleys, and leaders from Tallahassee and Vancouver B.C. have come for research visits.

Regulatory tools have come out of the work that Lesley has been involved in with ISI. Seattle has created a festival street permit to allow communities to more easily hold events, and Nord Alley was one of two designated festival streets to test the process. Lesley included Nord Alley as a case study in the book, *Living Streets: Strategies for Crafting Public Space*, so that lessons learned in Nord Alley could be utilized by other communities.

Press

- Laneways of Vancouver
April 23, 2012
Learning from Seattle
- Smartplanet
Tyler Falk, August 30, 2011
Transforming urban alleys into great urban spaces
- Crosscut
Mark Hinshaw
December 26, 2010 and
March 17, 2010
How to make an urban alley work
- Daily Journal of Commerce
Katie Zemtseff
June 29, 2010
Would World Cup games or art make you hang out in an alley?
- Major League Soccer website
June 21, 2010
Seattle's World Cup Alley popular among locals
- Examiner
David Falk
June 16, 2010
Seattle's World Cup Alley draws crowds to TV soccer matches
- Alleys of Seattle Blog
Daniel Tool
June 12, 2010
World Cup Alley
- Green Growth Cascadia Blog
May 15, 2010,
Hanging Around Alleys — Seattle Green Alley Competition
- Seattle Times
Jerry Large
April 11, 2010
Finding new life for alleys
- My Urbanist
Chuck Wolfe
March 5, 2010
The Seattle urbanist promise: the night the alley showed the way



How Green is My Alley Competition

The International Sustainability Institute (ISI) led a competition titled “How Green is my Alley”, calling for ideas to activate a historic alley in Seattle’s Pioneer Square neighborhood. Lesley’s entry included the idea of showing the 2010 World Cup soccer matches in the alley. With limited funds, she worked with ISI to project the matches during lunchtimes over the month-long World Cup in the summer of 2010. Hundreds of people came to the showings--residents, people who work in the vicinity, sports fans, people on jury duty, soccer teams and people from the countries that were playing.

PIONEER SQUARE

Wish you were here!

Pioneer Square, Seattle's oldest neighborhood, has continually transformed itself since it rose from the ashes of the great Seattle Fire of 1889. The historic buildings now house a wealth of art galleries, antique shops, cafes, restaurants, offices and nightlife.

Start your tour in the Nord Alley district. There's always something going on - in the parks, in car-free Occidental Mall, and in the unique alleys of this historic district. Art patrons mingle with sports fans in a kaleidoscope of activities throughout the year. Nord Alley was a catalyst for the district's "green" reputation, with imaginative use of the plentiful water and its use of solar arrays.

1 Underground Tour	10 Nord Alley
2 Light Rail	11 Occidental Mall
3 Pioneer Square	12 Last Resort Fire Museum and Bike Station
4 Smith Tower	13 Waterfall Park
5 Menor's Cafe	14 Fireman's Alley
6 Grand Central	15 Potlatch Alley
7 Occidental Park	16 Artnak Station
8 Waterfall Park	
9 Elliot Bay Artisans Co-op	

GETTING THERE

It's easy to get to Pioneer Square: with Artnak, the Sounder commuter rail, Link light rail, Metro buses and the Washington State Ferries all within a short walking distance. And biking has been made easier with a new Bike Station with showers, bike storage and lockers at the Last Resort Fire Department Museum at the corner of South Main and 2nd Avenue South.

NORD ALLEY REVITALIZATION

The most recent renaissance in Pioneer Square began with the reuse of the alleys as outdoor rooms for a wide variety of events that bring throngs of people into the Square. A grassroots effort began by filling Nord Alley with tables and chairs, a retractable screen and projector; thousands of people came to enjoy soccer's quadrennial World Cup. It started a tradition of street vendors, offering food from the nations of the world, making this a truly international district.

This initial success inspired a new whirlwind of activities year-round and investments in "green" solutions, putting Seattle in the forefront of cutting-edge cities. Glazed roofs soar high above the alleys, directing rain water (precipitous in this climate!) to cisterns on the roof that hold the water to clean up the alleys after events. Rooftop solar collectors power the projectors and alley lighting.

Waterfall Park brings nature into the city in a pen of a garden. The water, collected from Fireman's Alley rooftop cisterns, gets cleaner as it tumbles through the lower level filtration system.

RAINY DAY TIP: don't worry about getting wet in the alleys - there's glazing high above you - it's like an OUTDOOR ROOM!

Enjoy AlleyScreens FREE year round!

*"Canton Alley Artists are back...
breathing life into this historic
touchstone, this place of memo-
ry, story, identity and home"*
— kplu public broadcasting,
August, 2012

Press

- *Tapping the potential of our
alleyways*
Daniel Toole
Daily Journal of Commerce
July 28, 2011
April 23, 2012
- *Laneways of Vancouver*
July 20, 2012
- *International District to clean
up its alleys*
Spectator Blog
March 13, 2012



Historic Chinatown Alleys

The Seattle Chinatown International District Preservation and Development Authority engaged Lesley and Nakano Associates landscape architects to develop a design concept for the historic alleys of Chinatown and to assist them in their efforts to reinvigorate these neglected spaces.

The results of this effort have been the inclusion of the district in the City's Clear Alley program, ongoing events to bring people back to the alleys, and the creation of a Tribute Alley to honor people who have contributed to the life of the International District. Project implementation has been fully funded with competitive City grant money for 2013. Other alleys and underutilized streets in Seattle are following suit based on the successes of Nord Alley and the Historic Chinatown Alleys.

The design of the portal areas encompasses over 30 acres of land in the core of Seattle. This major infrastructure project reconnects neighborhoods and provides new open space.

“Holding firm to a strong concept, Lesley’s work will improve the pedestrian, bicycle and auto user experience and frame the entrance to the downtown. Seattle can thank Lesley for helping to knit this project into our City.”
— Julie Bassuck, Chair Seattle Design Commission

Exhibit

- OUT/in/FRONT Landscape Leading Exhibit, University of Washington School of the Built Environment, October 2012
- Milepost 31, exhibit, Seattle, 2012

ARCHITECTURE FIRM OF RECORD:
Weinstein A|U

COMPLETION DATE:
Urban Design complete 2012

ROLE OF NOMINEE:
Lead Urban Designer

I have personal knowledge of the nominee’s responsibility for the project listed above. That responsibility included:

- Largely responsible for urban design
- Project under direction of nominee

Edward Weinstein
Owner
Weinstein A|U Architects + Urban Designers LLC



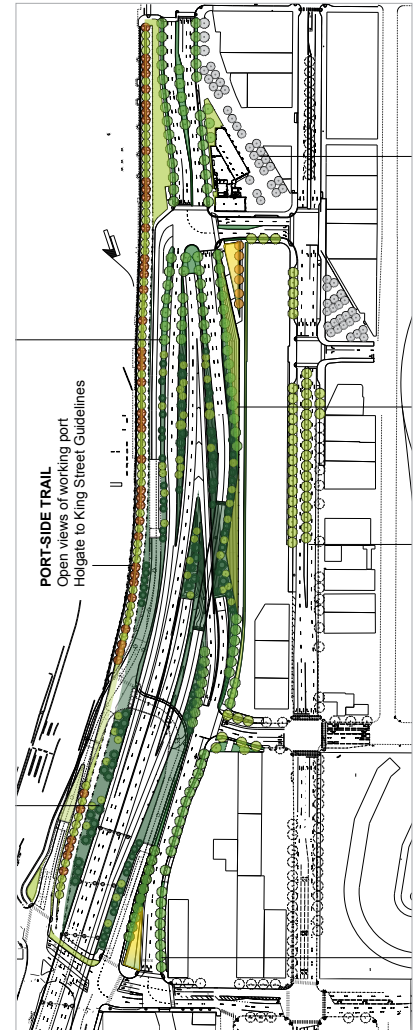
The removal of the Alaskan Way Viaduct from Seattle’s waterfront and adjacent neighborhoods is a “game-changing” opportunity for the city and the region. The \$4 billion project undergirds traffic through the Central Waterfront, and comes with great aspirations for the waterfront. But here, at either end of the tunnel, was an enormous urban design challenge--integrating the highway and its tunnel portals into urban neighborhoods in ways that actually improve the sense of scale and quality of life. The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) tasked Lesley Bain to oversee the urban design for the north and south portal areas, the tunnel operations buildings at either end, and the streetscape that reconnects South Lake Union and Seattle Center.

The project sets a standard for design excellence, integrating major transportation infrastructure in a way that improves connections and quality of the city. There are great aspirations for the city’s future central waterfront. The Viaduct demolition and reconstruction of the north and south portal areas are underway, and will be complete in 2016.

South Portal Area

The South Portal Landscape:

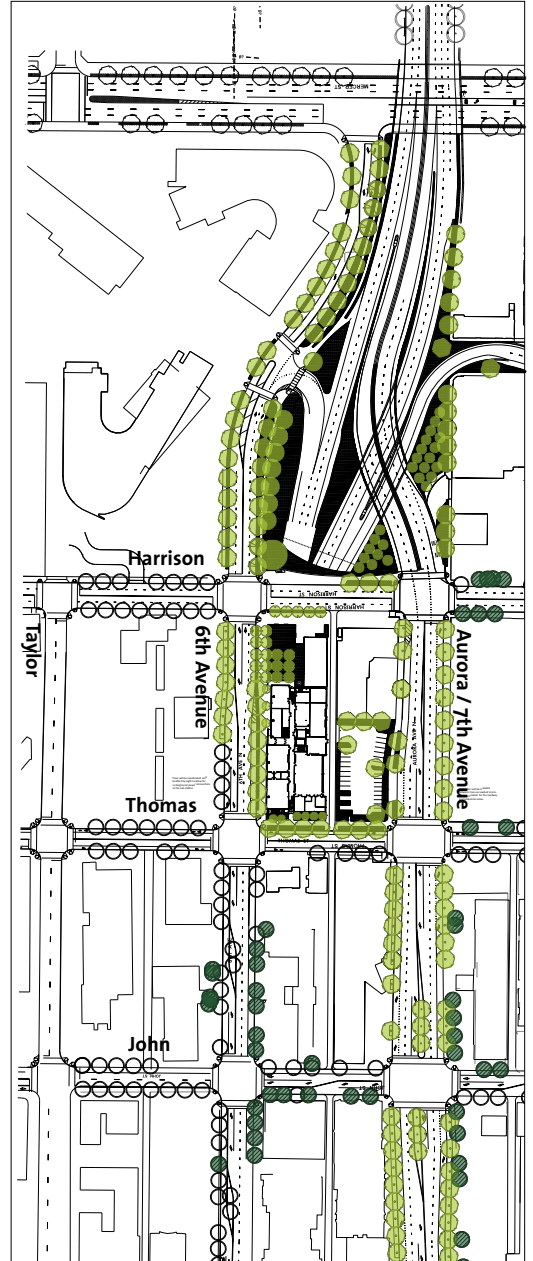
- Sets the design language and quality of the first piece of the Seattle's new waterfront
- Pulls the powerful forested landscape westward at the end of the Mountains to Sound Greenway, buffering the massive infrastructure from the neighborhood.
- Plants approximately 500 new trees
- Takes advantage of views to the west of Port activities and Elliot Bay.
- Creates urban edges to calm traffic as it comes into the city.



North Portal Area

The north portal landscape:

- Sets the stage for a new neighborhood adjacent to the Gates Foundation, Seattle Center, and South Lake Union
- Reconnects three critical streets in the neighborhood grid
- Plants approximately 200 new trees
- Builds the first piece of the Lake to Bay Trail and Thomas Green Street



3.8 | PIONEER SQUARE: LIVING GREEN + BLUE

Award

- Living Building Community Award
- 2011 Living Cities Design Competition

Exhibits & Speaking

- Living Cities Design Exhibit, The Next Fifty Celebration, Seattle Center, April-May 2012
- Living Cities Design Competition Winning Entries, University of Washington, Seattle, June 2011
- Living Cities Design Competition Winning Entries, Revitalize Washington Conference, State Preservation and Mainstreet Program, Chelan, June 2011

ARCHITECTURE FIRM OF RECORD:

Not applicable

COMPLETION DATE:

2010

ROLE OF NOMINEE:

Team co-leader with Susan Jones, FAIA

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the project listed above. That responsibility included:

- Project under direction of nominee

Edward Weinstein
Owner
Weinstein A|U Architects + Urban
Designers LLC



The International Living Futures Institute partnered with the National Trust for Historic Preservation to challenge designers worldwide to envision the future of cities. The Living Cities Design Competition asked for submissions that would “capture the imagination of a broad audience and reassess assumptions” about the future. Submissions were expected to retrofit existing cities, rather than creating new environments from scratch, and to meet the seven categories of the Living Building Challenge 2.0, including net zero energy and net zero water use. Rigorous documentation of these seven categories was a prerequisite of the competition.

The International Sustainability Institute (ISI) was interested in using the competition as a way of exploring Seattle’s Pioneer Square neighborhood as a “Living City”. ISI asked Lesley to lead the effort, and joined by Susan Jones, FAIA, a multi-disciplinary team of professionals and students generated the competition entry, Pioneer Square: Living Green+Blue.

More than 80 teams submitted entries, focusing on 69 different cities in 21 countries. Awards were announced at the Living Futures Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia in April, 2011. Pioneer Square: Living Green+Blue was awarded the Living Building Community Award.



People flowing through the spaces of Pioneer Square, living green and blue, cheering for their green and blue Sounders teams, their green and blue Seahawks teams, their green and blue home, Pioneer Square.



Stormwater flowing down from the hills to the east of the city is captured - from roofs, filtered from streets, and existing stormwater overflow basins. It is held in cisterns below the street level that was artificially raised in the early 1900s, under alleys, under buildings, in the underground passageways, along the tracks of the Burlington Northern right of way, and under the newly created Canal at Main Street. The top of this cistern, and the B/N tunnel area at King Street Station is topped with a useable lake and water feature, that provides water for recreation, ambience, and additional storage.



Alleys are places to restock the growing green roofs with plants, thriving on the sunlight and air of the rooftops. In the growing season, plant beds are rotated vertically, up and down the buildings on a system of pulleys so premium light and area on the roof can be maximized. Plant beds are hosted up and down, rotated evenly so all receive allotments of sunlight. Yields of each roof surface can be maximized by five to seven times its area by this method of rotating crops.



urban agriculture

Have rooftop greenhouses and alley gardens provide growing space for local fresh produce. These rooftop Living Buildings empty and train neighborhood residents to care for and harvest food. The greenhouses create a four crop growing season in the Northwest. In the alleys, bushes are used to rotate crops vertically, maximizing exposure to sunlight.

distributed solar power

Solar powered pumps are added to bring the necessary groundwater water up from the alley cisterns to the roof for both hydroponic and soil based urban agriculture.

rainwater collection

Rainwater is captured from the rooftop of buildings and stored in large cisterns beneath the alley, free alleys and in under passageways of the existing water underground spaces that the Pioneer Square's abandoned first floor under alleys, buildings and sidewalks.

historic preservation

The Pioneer Square, historic and historic structures are preserved and restored. The historic structures are restored to create a crop growing season in the Northwest. Their systems are energy based, making them sustainable structures for new energy and water technologies that allow the buildings to create their own energy and water, extending the life of the buildings for generations.

grey water / blackwater

Used greywater and blackwater is collected and sent to flow of the District Energy plants which it is treated and purified to produce a distilled potable water supply and a hydrogen energy source, to be used with fuel cell technology to create a long energy supply for the buildings.

district energy plants

District energy plants are created by diverting and capturing wastewater from multiple sewer pipes that cross the district, including a 96" wastewater pipe that crosses the North Lot of Christ Field. At the plant, hydrogen generation technology is employed to treat, cleanse and purify the wastewater, a process which results in large quantities of distilled water. The surplus is fed to outside fuel cells to produce electricity. Waste heat and excess energy produced by the fuel cell are transferred to the existing Pioneer Square plant to warm it from its current combustion dependence.

wastewater as energy

Multiple, large wastewater pipes cross the district, including a huge 96" wastewater pipe running across the North Lot that carries waste from the eastern neighborhoods of the city. Working with hydrogen turbine generators to create hydrogen, the gas is used to power fuel cell technologies.

cisterns in the underground and alleys

stormwater runoff is captured off of the streets and roofs, and cleaned and filtered and stored in large underground cisterns that have been inserted into the east cavity of existing vacant underground spaces that the Pioneer Square's abandoned first floor under alleys, buildings and sidewalks.



Letters of Support: Lesley Bain

Elizabeth B. Blazeovich

Program Director, Sustainable Cities Design Academy
American Architectural Foundation

Ms. Blazeovich invited Lesley as an expert to participate in Sustainable Cities Design Academy programs in Philadelphia and Washington D.C.

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Mr Cecil is a professional colleague and former employer.

Jerome Ernst, FAIA, AICP

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Mr. Ernst is a professional colleague and architectural client. Collaborations on the Theater District, Century 21 Master Plan and other planning projects.

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Mr. Gastil is a professional colleague, and a member of the Living Cities competition team. He was planning director in Seattle during much of Lesley's work.

Dennis Haskell, FAIA

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Mr. Haskell, a professional colleague, has worked with Lesley through the AIA Urban Design Committee, on several pro-bono efforts for the waterfront visioning, and on work at Virginia Mason Hospital's campus.

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Mr. Steinbrueck, a professional colleague, was a Seattle City Councilman during much of Lesley's work with the City.

Dr. Sharon E. Sutton, FAIA

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Adjunct Professor, School of Social Work
Director, Center for Environment Education and Design Studies
University of Washington in Seattle
Distinguished Professor, ACSA

Dr. Sutton has played many roles, reviewing Lesley's work during her time as a Design Commission and Design Review Board member, and she regularly invites Lesley to participate in her University of Washington studios.

