

Robert M Walsh PhD

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Education

- Ph. D. (Architecture) 2013 University of Michigan, Rackham Graduate School
Major Area: Design Studies
Minor Area: Building Structures and Technology
- Dissertation: *The Origins of Vancouverism: A historical inquiry into the architecture and urban form of Vancouver, British Columbia* (2012)
- Winner of 2013 Distinguished Dissertation Award:
Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning
- M. Arch. 1992 University of California at Berkeley, College of Environmental Design
- B. Arch. 1987 Rhode Island School of Design, Architecture (professional degree).
- B. A. (Architecture) 1987 Rhode Island School of Design, Architecture.

Professional Credentials and Affiliations

- Registered Architect: California License C25593 (since 1995)
- EDRA Environmental Design Research Association Member

Academic Experience

- 2016-2017 *Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor, Architecture Studies, University of Missouri*
- Courses: History of Architecture to 1750
Introduction to American Architecture and Urbanism
Design Precedents: History of Architecture 1750 – Present
Studio 4
Philosophy of Design: Graduate Seminar
- 2004 – 2010 *Graduate Student Instructor/ Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Architecture, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan.*
- Courses: Building Anatomy
Professional Practice
Structures I
Structures II
Modular Housing Design
- Spring 2008 *Lecturer (Design Studio Instructor), College of Architecture and design, Lawrence Technological University, Southfield Michigan.*
- Integrated Design Studio (sophomore)
- Winter 1997 *Lecturer (Design Studio Instructor), University of California at Berkeley, College of Environmental Design, Architecture.*
- 101 Design Studio (Fourth Year Architecture)

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- Spring 1994 *Lecturer (Design Studio Instructor)*, University of California at Berkeley, College of Environmental Design, Architecture.
101 Design Studio (Fourth Year Architecture)
- Fall 1991 *Graduate Student Instructor*, University of California at Berkeley, College of Environmental Design, Architecture.
Architecture 160: The Nature of Order (Design Theory)
- Fall 1990 *Reader*, University of California at Berkeley, College of Environmental Design, Architecture.
Architecture 160: The Nature of Order (Design Theory)
- 1991- Present *Invited Guest Design Critic*, for undergraduate and graduate Urban Design and Architecture
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
University of Oregon, Portland Annex
Lawrence Technological University, Southfield Michigan
Dresden Technical University
University of California, Berkeley

Professional Experience

- 2013 – 2015 *Principal*, Robert Walsh Architect, Ann Arbor Michigan
- 1997 – 2008 *Principal*, Robert Walsh Architect, Emeryville, California.
- 2003 – 2004 *Architect*, Patternlanguage.com. Berkeley, California.
- 1996 – 1997 *Partner and Principal Architect*, Wachtel/ Walsh, Berkeley, California.
- 1991 – 1997 *Designer & Editor*, Hajo Neis and BTA, Berkeley, California.
- 1988 – 2000 *Design & Construction*, Center for Environmental Structure, Berkeley, California.

Related Work Experience

- 1/1990-5/1990 *Earthquake Damage Field Analyst*, SF Bay Area, Small Business Administration (SBA) in conjunction with FEMA. I inspected and prepared detailed repair budgets for several hundred structures damaged by the Loma Prieta earthquake of 1989.
- 1991-1994 *House Painting* SF Bay Area: Self Employed: Painted a variety of residential exteriors and interiors, developed color schemes for a variety of residential and commercial clients.

Grants, Awards and Honors

- 2017 Mizzou 39 Mentor Award, University of Missouri, Columbia Missouri.
- 2013 *Distinguished Dissertation Award*: Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
- 2012 *Graduate Scholar Award*: The Constructed Environment Conference, Common Ground. Vancouver BC, October 25-26, 2012.

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- 2008 *Early Doctoral Student Research Grant (EDSRG)*, Office of University Partnerships (OUP) United States Federal Government, Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD): \$15,000
- 2004 *Cool Cities Essay Contest* (Winner). University of Michigan Business School Real Estate Forum
- 2001 *Treehouses of Hawaii International Design Competition: Winner*.
Note: this competition had multiple winners
- 1992 *Honorable Mention, Eisner Prize for Excellence in the Arts*, Graduate Architecture, University of California, Berkeley.
- 1992 *Raymond Watson Prize for Community Design*, University of California, Berkeley. Team: Lisabeth Chester, Charles Han and David Ralston. Project: A Vision of Community: a step by step process for developing a new urban neighborhood.

Conference Presentations

- 2016 *Learning from Vancouverism: Form Versus Process in Urban Transformation*, EDRA 47 Raleigh Convention Center, Raleigh, North Carolina, May 18-21, 2016.
- 2013 *Thomas Mawson and the Civic Art Revisited*. 2013 International PUARL Conference (Portland Urban Architecture Research Laboratory) at the University of Oregon, Portland Annex, November 1-3, 2013.
- 2012 *Urban Legend: Arthur Erickson's Project 56 Revealed*. Third International Conference on the Constructed Environment, University of British Columbia October 25-26, 2012.
- 2011 *The Origins of Vancouverism*. International PhD Symposium, University of Oregon, Portland. October 31 - November 1, 2011.
- 2011 *Pattern language and the Transformation of Vancouver: The False Creek report of 1971*. 2011 PUARL Conference (Portland Urban Architecture Research Laboratory) at the University of Oregon, Portland Annex, October 28 - 30, 2011.
- 2011 *Solution Set Boundaries: a six part framework for understanding design innovations in architecture*. 2011 PUARL Conference (Portland Urban Architecture Research Laboratory) at the University of Oregon, Portland Annex, October 28 - 30, 2011.
- 2009 *The Origins of the Vancouver Model*. 2009 PUARL Conference (Portland Urban Architecture Research Laboratory) at the University of Oregon, Portland Annex, October 30 - November 1, 2009.
- 2008 *Panelist*, all day intensive on the recent work of Christopher Alexander, Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) 39th Annual Convention, Veracruz, Mexico. May 28 - June 1, 2008.
- 2001 *Wright, Sullivan, and Moore: the Search for an American Form Language in Architecture*. Form Language Symposium "Formensprache," Dresden Technical University (TU-Dresden), Dresden, Germany. June 29 - 30, 2001.

Publications

- 2016 "Beyond the Four-Story Limit: new patterns for sustainable high rise urbanism" Chapter 14 in: *In Pursuit of Living Architecture: Towards a New Building Culture of Humane and Sustainable Environments* Kyriakos Pontikis, Yodan Rofe (editors).

- 2012 *The Origins of Vancouverism; A Historical Inquiry into the Architecture and Urban Form of Vancouver British Columbia*: Doctoral Dissertation completed at the University of Michigan, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning Department of Architecture.
- In this detailed multifaceted analysis I trace the transformation of this post-industrial city, revealing how politics, economics, culture, geography, design creativity and developer initiative all combined to produce a successful urban solution. In developing this research I also studied recent urban redevelopment projects in San Francisco, Seattle and Portland, Oregon, meeting with planners, developers and architects and studying significant recent residential high rise projects in these cities, in addition to Vancouver.
- 2008 *Christopher Alexander's Theory of Wholeness, EDRA Conference Intensive Veracruz, Mexico, 28 May, 2008*. Published in Environmental and Architectural Phenomenology Newsletter, EAP (David Seamon, editor), Fall 2008, 6 – 11.
- 2006 *Treehouses In Paradise; Fantasy Designs for the 21st Century*, David Greenberg (editor) Abrams, New York, page 07.

Select Professional Projects

- 2008 Gong Family House Addition: Oakland California: I was the principal architect for this project. The client had purchased a house built many years before over top of a sloping filled in creek bed, and I was hired when the building was beginning to slide down the hill. I designed an addition that anchored and stabilized the existing structure, while expanding the living space and providing a new terrace and deck.
- 2007 Oakland Hills House: a four bedroom house designed and built on a sloping site in Oakland California. I was both the architect and developer of this three story light gauge steel frame building.
- 2004 Occidental House, Occidental California: I worked as the project architect on this project for Pattern Language.com. I was hired after this project was under construction but had stalled; my role was largely concerned with getting the project back on track and fine tuning a design that was being continually developed on the fly throughout construction.
- 2000 Johnson / Smith House remodel: This project was an interior remodel for a modest home in the San Francisco hills that featured reorganizing interior spaces, raising the ceiling, redesigning the kitchen, adding skylights and proposing a corner window.
- 1998 Menlo Park Remodel / Addition: this design proposal to increase the size of a small house in Menlo Park California had to contend with a complex set of local and state requirements arising its position on a substandard lot bounded by a traffic artery and a flood plain.
- 1997 Proposal: Bay Bridge Eastern Span Replacement Design: Center for Environmental Structure (CES). In the aftermath of the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake, which damaged the Bay Bridge, it was decided that the bridge needed to be replaced. Many Bay Area designers developed proposals for this bridge when it was announced that this prominent landmark would be replaced. I initiated the CES effort to develop a feasible design.
- 1996 Base Conversion Low Income Self Help Grant Proposal: Wachtel Walsh Partnership. This project was a proposal for a method of converting existing military structures in affordable housing, to be used in redeveloping a portion of a military base closing in Alameda California.
- 1992 Agate Street Married Student House: Eugene Oregon: CES / T&E architects. This apartment complex consists of twenty units in four house sized buildings, grouped around

a central courtyard, flanked by smaller gardens. My work on this project involved initial design, design development, site design and budget analysis.

- 1991 Julian Street Inn, San Jose California: Architect and Contractor: Center for Environmental Structure. My work on this project included developing new ceramic glaze formulas, which I then used in completing the fountain in the central courtyard of this homeless shelter. I also assisted in the development and application of the vivid color scheme for the central dining hall and other work contributing to this award winning and unusual homeless shelter.

Select Professional Competitions

- 2002 World Trade Center Competition: I had been to the top of each of the Twin Towers multiple times. Rather than jump into design, in my proposal I suggested that the entire problem first needed a more basic reexamination of values, needs and possibilities. I proposed a set of twelve new urban design / skyscraper patterns centered on aligning skyscraper design with a more solid and integrated relationship to the surrounding community.
- 2002 Grand Egyptian Museum Competition: For this complex project of some 1,100,000 square feet I proposed a campus of new buildings instead of a single large structure. This strategy permitted the new community center, fire station, shops, restaurants, research institute, and gallery spaces to be distributed across the site, organized around courtyards, terraces, colonnaded walkways, and below grade parking.
- 2001 Tree houses of Hawaii International Design Competition. Winner (My entry was one of many winning entries in this competition). My design also appeared in a book and a traveling exhibition. A potential client in Bali has also expressed an interest in building my design.
- 2001 Queensland Gallery of Art Competition, Brisbane Australia: I proposed new urban masterplan featuring a new museum complex, a sculpture garden, and a grand civic plaza.
- 1992 Friedrichstrasse Competition Berlin, Germany: Hajo Neis and BTA, architects. The project called for an urban master plan repairing and redeveloping the heart of Berlin in the aftermath of German reunification. I assisted in the design and development of this large urban design proposal.
- 1990 Master Plan for Historic Samarkand, Aga Khan Competition, Samarkand, Uzbekistan CES. *Faced with a large and multifaceted program for a vast site at the heart of this complex city, our team proposed a comprehensive solution linking old and new sections of the city through a network of gardens, streets, paths, promenades, and bridges. Within this network were situated a diverse array of buildings: mosques, museums, schools, a theater, restaurants, a market and several hotels. I worked as a lead designer, developing initial design strategies and completed documents.*