

# Gary Hilderbrand

Founding Principal FASLA FAAR  
Peter Louis Hornbeck Professor in Practice,  
Harvard Graduate School of Design

[gary@reedhilderbrand.com](mailto:gary@reedhilderbrand.com)

## Biography

Gary Hilderbrand, the 2017 winner of the American Society of Landscape Architects Design Medal, is a founding principal of Reed Hilderbrand LLC, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. His firm has been recognized with more than one hundred regional and national design awards. He is also the Hornbeck Professor in Practice of Landscape Architecture at Harvard University Graduate School of Design, where he has taught since 1990.

He is widely published as an author and critic on landscape architecture practice and has written three monographs: one on the American landscape architects Innocenti & Webel; another on the 1955 Miller Garden project of Daniel Urban Kiley and Eero Saarinen in Columbus, Indiana; and one on his firm's work, published with Douglas Reed in 2013. Hilderbrand's hand-constructed maps, photo-collages, and design work have been exhibited in group shows and solo exhibitions at the American Academy in Rome, Sotheby's New York, the Isabella Stuart Gardner Museum, Mass MoCA, Boston University Gallery of Art, and Harvard University. His curated exhibitions include Making a Landscape of Continuity: The Practice of Innocenti & Webel; The Sasaki Years at Harvard, which focused on iconic projects of the Sasaki firm during the years Hideo Sasaki chaired the Department of Landscape Architecture; and Reciprocities, a comprehensive look at contemporary American practices exhibited in Barcelona at the Fifth European Landscape Biennial.

His firm's monograph, *Visible Invisible*, was recognized with the Award of Excellence in Communications from ASLA, and, in the same year, Reed Hilderbrand was recognized as ASLA's Firm of the Year. In 2015, partners Douglas Reed and Gary Hilderbrand were voted among the top five "most admired practitioners" by the members of ASLA's Professional Practice Network. Design Intelligence recognized him as one of the 25 Most Influential Educators in Design in the US for 2017. He is a fellow of the American Academy in Rome, where he was recently the Mercedes T. Bass Resident in Landscape Architecture for the fall of 2017.

## Education

Harvard Graduate School of Design, Master in Landscape Architecture, *with distinction*, 1985  
State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Bachelor of Landscape Architecture, *cum laude*, 1979

## Awards and Fellowships

Design Medal, American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), 2017  
Mellon Practicing Senior Fellow in Urban Landscape Studies, Dumbarton Oaks, 2016  
Firm of the Year, American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), 2013  
Emerging Voices Award, The Architectural League of New York, 2005  
Election to Fellow, American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), 2001  
Rome Prize Fellowship, American Academy in Rome, 1994-95  
Charles Eliot Traveling Fellowship Award, 1985  
ASLA Student Certificate of Honor, 1979, 1985

## Selected Works

The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, Boston MA  
Beck House, Dallas TX  
Boscobel House, Garrison NY  
Boston Harbor Islands Pavilion, Boston MA  
Cambridge Urban Forest Master Plan, Cambridge MA  
Central Wharf Plaza, Boston MA  
Chazen Museum of Art, Madison WI  
Boston City Hall Plaza, Boston MA  
The Clark Art Institute, Williamstown MA  
Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills MI  
Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas TX  
Dumbarton Oaks Library & Archive, Washington DC  
Duke University, Durham NC  
Groton School, Groton MA  
Half-Mile Line, West Stockbridge MA  
Harvard Naito/Bauer Life Sciences Courtyards, Cambridge MA  
Harvard Business School, Boston MA  
Hockfield Court, MIT, Cambridge MA  
Liberty Wharf, Boston MA  
Long Dock Park, Beacon NY  
Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge MA  
North Corridor, MIT, Cambridge MA  
The Ohio State University, Columbus OH  
One Kenmore Square, Boston MA



Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix AZ  
Pier 4, Boston MA  
President's Park South Design Competition, Washington DC  
Private Sculpture Park, Hunting Valley OH  
Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway Parcel 14, Boston MA  
Rosserne, Northeast Harbor ME  
Seaport Square Public Realm Master Plan, Boston MA  
Storm King Art Center, Mountainville NY  
Taft Museum of Art, Cincinnati OH  
The First Church of Christ, Scientist, Boston MA  
Tidal Basin Ideas Lab, Washington DC  
Volpe Transportation Center, Cambridge MA  
Yale Science Hill Framework, New Haven CT  
Yale Sciences Plaza, New Haven CT

## Teaching

Mr. Hilderbrand has taught at the Harvard Graduate School of Design since 1990. He is the Peter Louis Hornbeck Professor in Practice of Landscape Architecture, and was director of the Master in Landscape Architecture degree programs, 1996-1999. He also served as an instructor at Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Barcelona, Intensive International Studio, 2001.

Mr. Hilderbrand has been guest reviewer at l'Ecole Nationale Supérieure du Paysage at Versailles; Temple University in Rome; University of Notre Dame in Rome; Department du'Urbanisme, UPC, Barcelona; Columbia University; Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Yale University; University of Virginia; University of Illinois; University of Pennsylvania; SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry; University of Toronto; Rhode Island School of Design; and the Boston Architectural College.

## Professional Registration

Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, Texas, Virginia, Wisconsin

## Professional Juries

*I Premi Europeu de Paisatge Rosa Barba*, jury chair, 2018; jury member, 2003, 2002, 2000

Green Prize for Urban Design, Harvard University Graduate School of Design, 2013

Suburbia Transformed, The James Rose Center, Jury Member, 2010

ASLA Annual Student Awards, national jury chair, 2006

ASLA Annual Awards, national jury chair, 2005

ASLA Annual Awards, national jury member, 2004

Boston Society of Architects, Harleston Parker Prize, jury member, 2003

Selection Committee, University of Toronto, Open Space Plan Competition, 1998

Designed Landscape Forum, jury member, 1998

## Lectures and Symposia

Panelist, *Open to the Public*, National Capital Planning Commission, Washington DC, 2019

"Living Surface," Illinois Institute of Technology Annual Peter Schaudt Lecture, 2019

"First Projects," Panelist, Harvard Graduate School of Design, 2019

"Living Surface," University of Florida Edward D. Stone, Jr. Lecture, 2019

"Vegetal City: Increased Urban Canopy for Us All," Metro Hort Group, 2018

Panelist, "Leading with Landscape IV: Transforming North Carolina's Research Triangle," The Cultural Landscape Foundation, 2018

"Re-Examining Modernism," National Capital Planning Commission, 2017

"Reciprocal Narratives on Campus: Two Olmsted Brothers Cases," Dumbarton Oaks Annual Symposium, 2016

"Another Kind of Inside/Out: Reverse Frontality at House Zero," Harvard University, 2016

Michael Hough OOLA Lecturer in Landscape Architecture, University of Toronto, 2015

"Visible Invisible," New York Botanic Garden, 2014

"Visible Invisible," North Carolina State University College of Design, 2014

"Spotlight on Design: Reed Hilderbrand and the Legacy of Dan Kiley," National Building Museum, Washington, D.C., 2014

"The Beauty of Shade," Megaron Welfare Foundation of Cultural Affairs, Athens, Greece, 2014

"Local Culture," Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 2013

"Altered States," Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 2013

"Procession," in conversation with John Beardsley, *Conversations in Context*, The Philip Johnson Glass House, 2012

"About Your Teachers," SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, NY, 2012

"Telescopic," Landscape Architecture Days, Colorado State University, 2012

"Amplifying a New York/Texas Axis: The Renewal of Philip Johnson's Beck House," The Museum of Modern Art, New York, 2011

"Renewing Philip Johnson's Beck House," ASLA Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, 2011

Presenter, "Evolving Modernist Ambitions," Gore Place, Waltham, MA, 2010

Presenter, "Dallas Arts District: Civic Ambitions," Dallas Museum of Art, TX, 2010

Presenter for multiple sessions, ASLA Annual Meeting Education Sessions, 2006-2013

Presenter, Dallas Architectural Forum, Dallas, TX, 2009

European Landscape Biennial, keynote address, "Reciprocities," 2009

"Space of Trees," Rutgers University, 2007; University of Georgia, 2006

Harvard University Daniel Urban Kiley Lecture, 2006

Landscape Biennial, Barcelona, Spain, I Premi Europeu de Paisatge, keynote address, 2003

Allegheny Riverfront Park Symposium, Panelist, The Ohio State University Austin E. Knowlton School of Architecture, 2003

"Recent Works," Landscapes of Art and Meaning Symposium, Memphis, TN, 2001

Speaker, "Rediscovery: Dan Kiley's Miller Garden, Icon of Modernism," New England Garden History Society, 2001

"In the Light of the Miller Garden," Symposium-Dan Kiley Landscape Architect: The First Two Decades, Harvard Design School, 1997

"No Boundaries," Symposium-Architecture-Landscape Architecture Pact, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Architecture, 1997

"On Viewing Olmsted: The Problem of Interpretation," Symposium-Harvard Design School and the Davis Museum and Cultural Center, Wellesley College, 1997

"Building a Personal Roman Topography," Ecole Nationale Supérieure du Paysage, Versailles, France, 1995

"Landscape Integrity: Assessing the Historic Designed Landscape," St. Louis, MO, 1993

## Authored Publications

"Reciprocal Narratives on Campus: Two Olmsted Brothers Cases" in *Landscape and the Academy*, John Beardsley and Daniel Bluestone, Editors, Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Book 40, 2019

"History in Design Roundtable" in *View, the Magazine of the Library of the American Landscape*, Issue 19, 2019

"Evolving the National Mall: 'Substantially Complete' or an Open Work for Democracy?" *Sitelines*, Vol. IX, No. II, Spring 2014

"The Long View: Boston's Christian Science Plaza Can Evolve Without Sacrificing its Greatest Moment," *Landscape Architecture Magazine*, January 2013

"The Surface is Alive," in *Instigations: Engaging Architecture Landscape and the City*, Lars Müller Publishers, 2013

"You Must Engage: An Interview with Mikyoung Kim," in *Landscape Architecture Magazine*, August 2013

*Visible | Invisible: Landscape Works of Reed Hilderbrand*, with Douglas Reed; Metropolis Books, 2012

"Reciprocal Acts: Reviving Larger Ambitions, Incrementally," *Topos 78: Culturescapes*, March 2012

"Varied Shade for New Urban Pleasures," *Harvard Design Magazine*, Spring 2010

"Is It Really Green?," in *Ecological Urbanism*, ed. Mohsen Mostafavi, Lars Müller Publishers, 2010

"Torqued Parterre," in *Topos 62: Botanical Gardens*, 2008

"Outside the Self," essay from *Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates, Allegheny Riverfront Park*, Princeton Architectural Press, New York, 2005

“Iconically Charged: Pursuits and Pleasures of an Arboreal Kind,” in *Architecture to Landscape* by Salvatore LaRosa and Ronald Bentley, 2005

“Spirit of Place,” *Architecture Boston*, November 2003

“New England Pastoral,” *Clark Art Institute Journal*, Vol. 4, 2003

“Ordering and Terracing in the Leventritt Garden,” *Arnoldia*, Vol. 62, 2003

“Project for 200 Interment Sites, Mount Auburn Cemetery,” *Harvard Design Magazine*, Fall/Winter 2001

*The Miller Garden: Icon of Modernism*, Spacemaker Press, 1999

“Dan Kiley’s Miller Garden: Coming to Light,” in *Daniel Urban Kiley: The Early Gardens*, William Saunders, Editor, Princeton Architectural Press, 1999

Book Review: “Unnatural Horizons,” by Allen Weiss,” in *Harvard Design Magazine*, Summer 1999

“Hither Lane, East Hampton, New York,” in *Land Forum*, Vol. 1, 1999

“Toward A Specific Urban Topography: A Project for Louisville by Hargreaves Associates,” *Modulus* 24, The University of Virginia, 1998

Book Review: “Viewing Olmsted: Photographs by Robert Burley, Lee Friedlander, and Geoffrey James,” *Land Forum*, 1998

Introduction to *American Designed Landscapes: A Photographic Interpretation*, ed. Alan Ward, Spacemaker Press, 1997

*Making a Landscape of Continuity: The Practice of Innocenti & Webel*, Princeton Architectural Press/Harvard Graduate School of Design, 1997

Book Review: “Frederick Law Olmsted: Designing the American Landscape,” by Charles E. Beveridge and Paul Rocheleau, *Journal of the New England Garden History Society*, 1997

“A Teacher’s Teacher,” in *Richard Haag: Bloedel Reserve and Gas Works Park*, ed. William Saunders, Princeton Architectural Press, 1997

Book Review: “Urban Diaries,” by Walter Hood, in *Land Forum*, Summer/Fall 1997

“Landscape Practices in a Boundless Field,” guest editorial, *GSDNews*, Fall 1996

## Exhibitions

“*Composite Landscapes: Photomontage and Landscape Architecture*,” two personal photomontage works included, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 2013

Exhibitor, personal photomontage work, in *Modern Views*, Sotheby’s, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, 2010

“Almost Nothing,” original photomontage work, in *Modern Views* catalog, Assouline, 2010  
Curator, *Reciprocities*, Barcelona, European Landscape Biennial, 2008

Exhibitor, “Art in Nature” with Architects Tadao Ando and Gensler, Clark Art Institute, Williamstown, MA, 2003

Exhibitor and Curator, “Line Movement Passage,” Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, North Adams, MA, 2003

Exhibitor, “Mapping Cities,” Boston University Art Gallery, 2000

Curator and Organizer, “The Sasaki/Harvard Years: 1950–1970,” Exhibition and Symposium, Harvard Design School, 1999

Curator, “Making a Landscape of Continuity: The Practice of Innocenti & Webel,” Harvard Design School, 1997; the American Academy in Rome, New York, 1998

Solo exhibition, “Building a Personal Roman Topography,” Harvard Design School, 1997, Wolff Gallery, Toledo, OH, 1998

## Professional Affiliations

Fellow, American Society of Landscape Architects

American Society of Landscape Architects, CEO Roundtable, Member, Program Chair

Fellow and Resident, the American Academy in Rome

Member, Harvard University Architect Selection and Design Review Board, 2015–present

Member, Editorial Advisory Committee, *Landscape Architecture Magazine*, 2007–2010

Member, ASLA/AIA/APA Blue Ribbon Panel: “From Crisis to Vision,” National Mall, Washington, D.C., 2009

Member, Editor-in-Chief, Search Advisory Committee, *Landscape Architecture Magazine*, 2009

Advisory Board, *Harvard Design Magazine*, 1999–2005

Selection Committee, University of Toronto, Open Space Plan Competition, 1998

Advisory Board, Spacemaker Press, 1998–2003

Member, Provost’s Advisory Council, University of Toronto, Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design, 1997–2000