

SUSANNE COWAN

School of Architecture, Montana State University
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor	Montana State University, School of Architecture	2014-Present
Post-Doctorate Fellow	Washington University, School of Architecture	2012-2014
Visiting Assistant Professor	Syracuse University, School of Architecture	2011-2012
Instructor	Academy of Art, Department of Architecture	2011
Instructor	Diablo Valley College, Architecture Department	2011

EDUCATION

Ph.D.	University of California, Berkeley, History of Architecture and Urbanism	2010
M.S.	University of California, Berkeley, History of Architecture and Urbanism	2007
B.A.	University of California, Berkeley, Landscape Architecture	2001

PEER REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS AND JOURNAL ARTICLES

Cowan, Susanne. 2017. "Whose Neighborhood?: Identity Politics, Community Organizing, and Historic Preservation in St. Louis." In *Whose Tradition*, edited by Nezar AlSayyad, Mark Gillem and David Moffat, 213-235. London: Routledge.

Cowan, Susanne and Ayda Melika. 2015. "Design as a Social Act: The Rise of Social Factors Research and the Challenges of Participatory Design." In *Revisiting "Social Factors": Advancing Research into People and Place*, edited by Lusi Morhayim and Georgia Lindsay, 28-54. Newcastle upon Tyne, U.K.: Cambridge Scholars.

Cowan, Susanne. 2014. "A Model for the Nation: Exhibiting Post-War Reconstruction at the Festival of Britain." In *Exhibitions and the Development of Modern Planning Culture*, edited by Robert Freestone and Marco Amati, 177-192. Farnham, Surrey, England: Ashgate Publishing.

Cowan, Susanne. 2013. "The People's Peace: The Myth of Wartime Unity and Public Consent for Town Planning." In *The Blitz and Its Legacy: Wartime Destruction to Post-war Reconstruction*, edited by Mark Clapson and Peter Larkham, 87-100. Farnham, Surrey, England: Ashgate Publishing.

Cowan, Susanne. 2000. "The Gendered Architecture of the Home in Cinematic Space." *Built Environment* 26, no. 4: 303-315.

INVITED BOOK REVIEWS

Cowan, Susanne. 2018. "Review Essay: Back to the Neighborhood: Ideas and Practices of Local Governance." *Journal of Urban History* 4/19/2018: 0096144218769889, 1-6.

Cowan, Susanne. 2016, "Book Review: Public Housing Myths: Perception, Reality, and Social Policy." *Planning Perspectives* 31 no. 4 (October): 655-657.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Melika, Ayda and Susanne Cowan. 2014. *Design as a Social Act: Tales of Architectural Activism* (Film). Bozeman, MT: Reform by Activism and Design.

Cowan, Susanne. 2010. "*Democracy, Technocracy, and Publicity: Public Consultation and British Planning, 1939-1951.*" PHD diss., University of California, Berkeley.

Cowan, Susanne. 2008. "Death Versus Destruction: The Fundamentalist Position of Preservationists During World War II" *International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments, Working Paper Series* 214.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Cowan, Susanne. *The Neighborhood Renaissance: Community Organizing and Uneven Development in St. Louis.* (Book Manuscript)

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Cowan, Susanne. 2016. "'Saving' the Neighborhood: Community Organizing, Urban Revitalization and Racial Integration in St. Louis." Scholarship and Creativity Grant, Montana State University. (\$8,000)

Cowan, Susanne. 2011. "*Eulogies to Fallen Monuments.*" Research Support Grant for Studies in British Art, Paul Mellon Center. (\$2,500)

Cowan, Susanne. 2011. "*Design as a Social Act.*" Draper Grant for, 2011, Department of Architecture, University of California, Berkeley. (\$2,500)

Cowan, Susanne. 2008. "Planning to the Public." Anglo-California Exchange Fellowship, Center for British Studies, University of California Berkeley and Cambridge University. (\$7,500)

Susanne Cowan, 2006. Two months architectural travel studying historic buildings in India, Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts (CASVA) Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, National Gallery of Art. (\$4,500)

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- Cowan, Susanne. 2018. "The Second Front: Neighborhood Rehabilitation During the Age of Slum Clearance." *Cities at the Crossroads*: Bi-annual Conference of the Urban History Association (UHA), Columbia, SC.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2017. "Neighborhood Triage: Inequalities in Development Spending in St. Louis in the 1970s." Bi-annual Conference of the Society of American Regional Planning History (SACRPH), Cleveland, OH.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2017. "The Project Domesticated: Postmodern Retrofits for Public Housing." Annual Conference of the Society of Architectural Historians (SAH), Glasgow, Scotland.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2016. "'Safe' Streets: Street Closures and the Specter of Crime in an Integrating Neighborhood." *The Working Urban*: Bi-annual Conference of the Urban History Association (UHA), Chicago, IL.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2016. "A 'Neighborhood Renaissance': Community Development in St. Louis in the 1970s." *History, Urbanism, Resilience*: Bi-annual Conference of the International Planning History Society (IPHS), Delft, Netherlands.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2015. "In Transition: Racial Integration and Community Organizing in a St. Louis Neighborhood in Decline." Bi-annual Conference of the Society of American Regional Planning History (SACRPH), Los Angeles, CA.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2014. "Whose Neighborhood?: Identity Politics, Community Organizing, and Historic Preservation in St. Louis." *Whose Tradition?*: Bi-annual Conference of the International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments (IASTE), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2014. "Organizing Gentrification: Neighborhood Affiliations and Historic Preservation in St. Louis" *Metropolitica*: Bi-annual Conference of the Urban History Association (UHA). Philadelphia, PA.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2014. "Sustaining Reformatory Pedagogy: The Rise and Fall of Community Design Centers, 1965-1985" *Past as a Guide to Sustainable Future*: Bi-annual Conference of the International Planning History Society (IPHS), St. Augustine, FL.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2013. "The Urban Laboratory: Community Design Centers and Urban Design Education 1960-1980." Bi-annual Conference of the Society of American City and Regional Planning History (SACRPH), Toronto, Canada.
- Melika, Ayda and Susanne Cowan. 2013. "Design as a Social Act: A Documentary Film and Panel Discussion." (Film) Annual Conference of the Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA), Providence, RI.

- Cowan, Susanne. 2012. "The Social Fix: The Myth of Physical Determinism and the Rise of Social Factors" Bi-annual Conference of the International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments (IASTE). Portland, OR.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2012. "The Modernist City as Spectacle: Post War Neighborhood Planning at the Festival of Britain." *Cities, Nations and Regions in Planning History*: Bi-annual Conference of the International Planning History Society (IPHS), Sao Paulo, Brazil.
- Melika, Ayda and Susanne Cowan. 2012. "Design as a Social Act: Social Factors and Participatory Design, 1960-1980." (Film) Annual Conference of the Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA), Seattle, WA.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2011. "Democracy and Technocracy: Defining the Role for Town Planning Professionals." Bi-annual Conference of the Society for American City and Regional Planning History (SACRPH) Baltimore, MD.
- Melika, Ayda and Susanne Cowan. 2011. "Design as a Social Act: The Rise and Fall of Social Factors." (Film) *The Death + Life of Social Factors*, Graduate Conference, School of Architecture, University of California, Berkeley. Berkeley, CA.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2010. "Presenting Planning to the Public: Medium and Message in Wartime Display Culture." *Sustainable Cities*: Bi-annual Conference of the Urban History Association (UHA) Las Vegas, NV.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2010. "The People's Peace: The Myth of Wartime Unity and Public Consent for Town Planning." *The Blitz and its Legacy* (Special 60th Anniversary Conference). University of Westminster, London, England.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2010. "A Territory for Social Change?: Testing the Neighborhood Unit in British Postwar Planning." Annual Conference of the Society of Architectural Historians (SAH) Chicago, IL.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2009. "The Word on the Streets-The Quest to Harness Public Opinion for Urban Planning." Bi-annual Conference of the Society for American City and Regional Planning History (SACRPH) Oakland, CA.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2008. "Death Versus Destruction: The Fundamentalist Position of Preservationists During World War II." *Interrogating Tradition*: Bi-annual Conference of the International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments (IASTE), Oxford, England.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2006. "The Village Ideal: The Dialectic of the Real and the Imaginary in Modern Planning." *Hyper Traditions*: Bi-annual Conference of the International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments (IASTE), Bangkok, Thailand.

OTHER PRESENTATIONS AND PANELS

- Cowan, Susanne. 2017. "Neighborhood Triage: Inequalities in Development Spending in St. Louis" Invited Speaker, MSU Women's Center Sack Lunch Seminar.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2015. "Whose Neighborhood?: Identity Politics and Community Organizing." Invited Speaker, MSU College of Arts and Architecture Research Conference.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2012. "The Origins of Community Design: Applications of Social Research." Invited Speaker Department of Sociology and Anthropology, St. Louis University.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2011. "Women and Architecture: Patrons, Reformers and Starchitects." Invited Speaker. Women in Architecture Lecture Series, Diablo Valley College, Diablo Valley, CA.
- Cowan, Susanne. 2010. "Visualizing the Future of Environmental Design." Invited Panelist. College of Environmental Design (CED) 50th Anniversary Celebration, University of California, Berkeley. Berkeley, CA.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Panel Moderator* "Windshield: A Vanished Vision Screening + Panel."
The President's Fine Arts Series, Montana State University, 2018.
Led discussion with filmmaker Elissa Brown and architect John Brittingham.
- Committee Member* Michael Katz Award for Best Dissertation in Urban History, 2017
Reviewed 26 dissertations and chose the top two for awards.
- Session Chair* Society of American Regional Planning History Conference, 2017
Session: "Social Science and the Subject(s) of Environmental Design,"
Co-organized the panel, recruited papers, and chaired the session.
- Session Organizer* Urban History Association Conference, 2017
Session: "Models of Integration: Neighborhood Racial De-Segregation"
Organized the panel and recruited papers.
- Session Chair* International Planning History Society (IPHS), 2016
Sessions: "Evaluating the Neighborhood as a Scale for Planning: 1 and 2"
Organized two panels, recruited papers, and chaired the sessions.
- Invited Respondent* *Producing Publics: Architecture, Agency, and Social Space*, 2011.
Student Symposium, Department of Architecture, Cornell University
Session: "Civic Complexes: Ideals for Community Life."
- Abstract Reviewer* International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments
Peer reviewed paper abstracts for IASTE Conferences in 2006, 2008, 2014.
- Abstract Reviewer* Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) Conference, 2013.
Peer reviewed paper proposal abstracts.

Abstract Reviewer Graduate Student Symposium, University of California, Berkeley. 2011
Reviewed paper abstracts for *The Death and Life of Social Factors*.

Session Chair Graduate Student Symposium, University of California, Berkeley, 2010
Led sessions for the *Spaces of History/Histories of Spaces* conference.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE AT MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

Committee Member **MSU American Studies Program Admissions Committee**, 2/2019
Evaluated 7 candidates for the Masters and Ph.D. programs.

Committee Member **MSU Architecture Graduate Curriculum Committee**, 8/2018 – 2/2019
Revised the graduate Arch 575/560: Professional Paper and Project syllabi.
Consulted with faculty members and built support for syllabi changes.

Committee Member **MSU School of Architecture Events Committee**, 11/2017 - 12/2018
Chose, recruited, organized, and hosted monthly lecturers and exhibitions.

Committee Member **MSU Architecture New Degree Tracts Committee**, 2/2016 - 7/2017
Researched a proposal for the B.A. "Sustainable Community Design."

Library Liaison **MSU School of Architecture**, 12/2014 – 5/2017
Successfully advocated for a new subscription to the census database,
Social Explorer is now used in courses such as Arch 452, Arch 575.

Committee Member **MSU School of Architecture, Search Committee**, 10/2014 – 4/2016
Evaluated 36 applications for 2 positions, conducted 3 campus interviews.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE AT MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

Chair **MSU Women's Faculty Caucus**, 5/2018- Present
Organized a Visioning Session and the Distinguished Mentor Award event.
Coordinated events with other women-oriented groups on campus.
Updated and managed the website and wrote monthly email newsletters.

Committee Member **MSU Faculty Affairs Committee**, 9/2016 - Present
Developed policy documents and the new Faculty Handbook.
Evaluated 25 sabbatical applications.

Presenter **Expanding Your Horizons**, Annually, 4/2016 - 4/2019
Led yearly workshops to promote STEM careers to middle school girls.

Committee Member **MSU Presidential Scholars Committee**, 1/2016 – 4/2016
Evaluated 100 applications and helped conduct 50 on campus interviews.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Volunteer* **Gallatin Valley Land Trust, 2018-Present**
Developing trail counts, surveys, and historical tours.
- Faculty Advisor* **Historic Preservation Survey, City of Bozeman, 2016-Present**
Led student teams documenting historic buildings during the annual Montana State University School of Architecture service days.
- Volunteer* **Mountain Time Arts, 7/2018**
Assisted with "The Symphonic Body: Water" performance at Pierce Ranch.
- Faculty Mentor* **Clinton Global Initiative, Washington University, 2/2013-4/2013**
Assisted to coordinate 50 volunteers to design and build a school garden.
- Policy Consultant* **City of Berkeley, CA, 8/2009 - 12/2009**
Conducted public outreach for a ballot measure for park maintenance.
- Volunteer* **Landscape Progress Administration, U.C. Berkeley, 8/2009- 12/2009**
Coordinated students in an environmental audit of campus buildings.
Lobbied for educational funding at the California State Assembly.
- Volunteer* **Save the Bay, San Francisco, 2005-2009**
Assisted in wetland restoration at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Shoreline.
- Art Fellow* **Artsbridge Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley, 1/2000-5/2000**
Developed and taught art curriculum in under-funded Oakland schools.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Co-Founder* **Reform by Activism and Design, LLP (RAD), 2014-Present**
Produced and distributed a film on social issues in the built environment.
- Workshop Facilitator* **Creative Exchange Lab (CEL), 12/2013**
Led 3 workshops on Collaborative Planning for non-profit professionals.
- Instructor* **Academic Talent Development Program, U.C. Berkeley, 2006-2011**
Taught courses of drawing and Utopian literature and film.
- Teaching Assistant* **University of California, Berkeley, Department of Architecture, 2005-2010**
Taught sections of intro to design, architecture history, and housing policy.
- Meeting Facilitator* **The Center for Collaborative Policy, 2/11, 8/09**
Assisted facilitate small group pull out discussions at public meetings for the U.S. Forest Service and the Center for Disease Control.
- Survey Supervisor* **Public Research Institute, 1/2009 - 8/2009**
Supervised interviewers in a survey of Alameda County Transit riders.

- Research Assistant* **University of California, Berkeley**, 5/2004 – 8/2004
Drafted text for the chapters “Voyeuristic Modernity” and “Exurban Post Modernity” for Nezar AlSayyad’s book *Cinematic Urbanism*, 2006.
- Program Assistant* **Community Forestry Research Fellowship Program**, 1/2003 – 12/2003
Organized a conference, wrote a monthly newsletter, maintained website.
Conducted research on cultural aspects of environmental preservation.
- Environmental Educator* **Alameda County Office of Education- Davis Street Education Center**, 2003
Led tours of the waste transfer station and taught waste reduction.
- Environmental Educator* **ACCORD for Youth Americorps, Project Create**, 10/2001 - 8/2002
Taught creative reuse art projects, school gardening and composting.
- Research Assistant* **Environmental Policy Center**, 10/2001 - 5/2002
Conducted research and phone interviews on environmental programs.
Wrote articles for a best practice guide and weekly newsletter.
- Publication Assistant* **Center for Environmental Design**, 1-6/2001, 8-12/1998
Compiled images for *The Nature of Order*, by Christopher Alexander.