



# LGBTQ+ CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

Preservation, Interpretation, & Visible Futures

SAT-A05

Saturday, November 12, 2022

11:00a - 12:15p

Moscone Center, Room 203-204

## SESSION OVERVIEW

The session will explore the often untold histories and stories of LGBTQ+ people within public spaces. We will collectively investigate the history of LGBTQ+ landscapes, review case studies from New York, San Francisco, and other sites nationally and explore the role of landscape architects in imagining new futures for culturally significant LGBTQ+ landscapes.

## WELCOME

San Francisco has always been a magnet for LGBTQ+ people and is a crucial city for advancements in LGBTQ+ culture and civil rights. The city has also played an important role in the preservation of LGBTQ+ sites. As the location for the 2022 ASLA Conference, what better backdrop for landscape architects and designers to learn, engage with, and discuss LGBTQ+ cultural landscapes?

The session will explore the often untold stories and histories of LGBTQ+ people within public spaces and landscapes we see everyday. Place and identity are so closely linked. Having physical echoes of LGBTQ+ identities in the built environment is incredibly important in helping LGBTQ+ people connect with their own identities. It also reinforces a sense of belonging, or proudly acknowledging that LGBTQ+ people have always existed in these spaces. Panelists will share their experiences preserving these landscapes, help in telling LGBTQ+ stories while increasing the overall visibility of these landscapes across the US. The session will bring awareness to landscape architects on how to advocate for, amplify, and uplift LGBTQ+ history, spaces, voices, and practitioners.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- + Learn about LGBTQ+ culturally important landscapes focusing on San Francisco, New York, and other sites nationally and how these spaces began, evolved, and their status today.
- + Articulate why LGBTQ+ landscapes have largely gone undocumented in local, state and federal cultural resource management programs and the progress and challenges of preserving sites of significance to LGBTQ+ communities.
- + Understand why increased representation and visibility of LGBTQ+ landscapes is important, and strategies and partnerships to increase visibility within our communities to create more inclusive, safe and equitable built environments.
- + Discover how landscape architects can share LGBTQ+ histories by working with LGBTQ+ communities and experts in the field to preserve, interpret sites and stories in meaningful and culturally relevant ways.

## LEARN MORE

- + [‘LGBTQ Spaces and Places’](#) by Jen Jack Gieseke from *LGBTQ America: A Theme Study of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer History*
- + [‘Stonewall 50: Defining LGBTQ Site Preservation’](#) Symposium hosted by Columbia University QSAPP, NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project, and the Office of the University Chaplain
- + [‘Historic Context Statement for LGBT History in New York City’](#) prepared for the National Park Service
- + [‘San Francisco: Placing LGBTQ Histories in the City by the Bay’](#) by Donna Graves and Shayne Watson from *LGBTQ America: A Theme Study of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer History*



## SPEAKERS



### **MAX DICKSON, ASSOC. ASLA, AICP**

LANDSCAPE DESIGNER, OLIN

Max Dickson (he/him) is committed to creating socially-engaged spaces that reflect those who live, use, and experience a place. In his work, Max is interested in the intersection of environmental design and cultural ecology and how the landscape has the potential to be the fabric that ties people and ecologies together. With a background in landscape architecture and urban planning, Max has worked closely with various public agencies and community groups with site design to large-scale master planning efforts. At OLIN, his work has focused on district-scale urban spaces, as well as leading research related to the LGBTQ+ community.

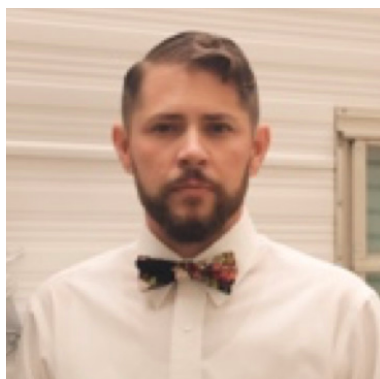


### **KEN LUSTBADER**

CO-DIRECTOR, NYC LGBT HISTORIC SITES PROJECT

Ken Lustbader is a historic preservation consultant based in New York. For 30+ years, he has been exploring issues related to LGBTQ history, documentation, and preservation. In 2015, Lustbader co-founded the NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project, an award-winning cultural heritage initiative that is documenting and memorializing LGBTQ place-based history in New York.

His interest in LGBTQ place-based history was catalyzed as a graduate student with his thesis "*Landscape of Liberation: Preserving Lesbian and Gay History in Greenwich Village*". Since then, he has been involved in numerous initiatives including advocacy efforts leading to the designation of the Stonewall National Monument.



### **AC PANELLA**

PROFESSOR, COMMUNICATION STUDIES - SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE

Dr. AC Panella's research is focused on trans, museum, and communication studies. His dissertation was on trans collective memory as represented in visual culture and the built environment. He started his career as an activist and organizer and has worked on a variety of social justice projects from urban planning to trans identity. Within higher education, he has worked in professional development, student services, and has a passion for connecting students to their community. In museum and archive studies, he works with the Union Institute & University Museum Collective and is part of the Georgia State Trans Oral History Project.

## OUTLINE

### THE IMPORTANCE OF PUBLIC SPACE AND LANDSCAPES IN LGBTQ+ HISTORY

- + Framing the discussion: public space, parks, and streets are deeply tied to the LGBTQ+ community.
  - + Public spaces are deeply tied to the LGBTQ+ Community. Parks were places where LGBTQ+ individuals, particularly marginalized individuals, would go to escape oppressive homes, find their community, and mobilize to start the contemporary LGBTQ+ rights movement.
  - + Typologies of LGBTQ+ Landscapes

### PRESERVATION EFFORTS OF LGBTQ+ PLACE-BASED HISTORIES

- + How can LGBTQ+ histories, which are associated with social justice, be recognized?
  - + Categories and definitions of LGBTQ+ place-based history and their associated resource types and signifiers
- + Challenges & progress in preservation efforts
  - + Recent movement/effort to document LGBTQ+ history
  - + Stonewall Inn nomination for the National Register originally used the Civil War Battlefield NPS criteria
- + What has been documented and what still needs to be documented
  - + Survey of representative examples using NYC as a case study
  - + Mini-Case Study - Riis Beach, Queens, NY

### COLLECTIVE MEMORY AND THE IMPACT ON THE INTERPRETATION OF HISTORY

- + Trans Collective Memory
  - + What is collective memory? What is collective memory within the trans community? Ways that trans memory is passed down through generations.
- + Being Trans in Public Space
  - + Overview of public trans memorials
  - + Findings relating to safe trans public spaces and memorials
- + Trans Cultural District
  - + Overview and history of the Trans District
  - + Collective memory and interpretation of the Trans District
  - + Research findings: Problems of place and policy

### VISIBLE FUTURES & REFLECTIONS

- + Future of LGBTQ+ preservation & interpretation efforts
  - + How does the landscape architecture profession address LGBTQ+ narratives, often largely invisible on a site, and why does it matter?
  - + Engagement and partnerships for LGBTQ+ cultural landscapes

