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James Batchelor FAIA, president

October 5, 2009

AIA Honor and Awards Committee
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20006

Dear Committee Members:

The Boston Society of Architects is pleased to nominate David Grissino AIA for the Young Architects Award. Over the past several years, David has emerged as a leader in the Boston design community, committing his time to a number of committees, developing programs and workshops to serve the Boston architecture profession, and representing the BSA in high-profile positions in the city and the broader community.

David served for several years on the BSA's elected Membership Committee, which plays a key role in assessing the pulse of the BSA membership and the larger design and construction community and guiding the policies and initiatives of the organization. As co-chair of the committee for two years, he initiated several programs focused on mentoring and career development opportunities for young professionals.

Because of David's commitment to the vitality and success of the BSA, he was asked to join the Executive Search Committee established to find a successor to long-time executive director Richard Fitzgerald. David's thoughtful attention to detail, insights during discussions and understanding of the BSA's unique culture were invaluable during the lengthy selection process. These same qualities were central to the BSA's decision to appoint David to the Prudential Projects Advisory Committee, an influential group of residents and community organizations that oversees development for a key downtown Boston location. David's involvement as a volunteer on his community's design review and zoning boards is another example of his dedication to civic engagement.

In addition to David's volunteer activities with the BSA and in his community, he is professionally affiliated with one of Boston's top architecture and planning firms, Goody Clancy, where he is a respected architect and urban designer.

We are delighted to nominate David for the Young Architects Award.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James P. Batchelor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

James P. Batchelor FAIA
President

David L. Grissino AIA, LEED AP, is a Senior Urban Designer at Goody Clancy in Boston, Massachusetts. Driven by his passion for design and dedication to civic engagement he has elevated the dialogue about architecture and planning, inspired young architects to step into active roles in their community, and become a leader in the places he lives and works..

.....

David began his career in design at the **University of Massachusetts**, where he graduated *cum laude* with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Interior Design and helped to establish the Design Student Group, the predecessor to the current AIAS chapter. He earned his Masters in Architecture from the **University of Pennsylvania** in Philadelphia where he developed a strong interest in urbanity. He was awarded an **E. Lewis Dales Traveling Fellowship** which he used to tour Western and Central Europe, studying the effects of culture and geography on the use of public space.

After returning to Massachusetts, David immediately joined the Boston Society of Architects, beginning a long history of involvement that has had tremendous impact on his career path. He became part of the Urban Design Committee's South Boston Waterfront Task Force and began participating in the review and analysis of large redevelopment initiatives on the waterfront. He learned first-hand about the many perspectives and interests that affect the growth of cities by going into the neighborhoods and personally talking with residents, business owners, and other

stakeholders. David **helped the BSA's Urban Design Committee advocate for good design and city planning** by helping craft the group's response to various project proposals, by creating an interactive computer-based analytical tool to assess impacts of development projects, and by producing a detailed presentation of the BSA's advocacy efforts.

While participating in the city-wide dialogue about the future of the Boston waterfront, David was working on the design and permitting of two projects at

William Rawn Associates. His roles on these projects not only allowed David to make positive contributions to their architectural development, but enabled him to begin working closely with the communities in which these buildings would play an important role. This gave him a much broader understanding of the impact of design in people's lives and fostered an **interest in working more directly with communities** and getting to know their perspectives on what architecture and design meant to them.

This interest led David to the offices of Goody Clancy in Boston, where he is currently a Senior Urban Designer working on a wide range of **architecture, urban design, and planning projects**. His recent planning and urban design work spans a diverse group of project types, including neighborhood plans, downtown district plans, and institutional master plans. He developed urban designs for the Florida/Desire and Central City neighborhoods as part of the Unified New Orleans Plan, created a community-driven urban plan and design guidelines for

"Participating in civic life enriches not only the individual, but the whole community. Our profession at large benefits by young architects getting involved with activities outside the office walls, helping the broader population understand what it is we actually do and the value we can bring to everyday lives through good design and planning."

DAVID L. GRISSINO AIA, LEED AP

Kennedy Street in Washington DC, and worked closely with a range of immigrant populations in the City of Lowell, Massachusetts to help them define a future vision of their community.

David is also a **leader in the firm's campus planning practice**, involved with the marketing, business development, project management, and design aspects of nearly every campus planning project in the office. He is currently project manager and campus planner assisting the Berklee College of Music to develop its first institutional master plan and was lead designer for the creation of a master plan for the Wentworth Institute of Technology. He also served as a key member of the design team for the new South Campus Residence Halls at The University of Chicago, helping to define and develop the overall plan and many of the common and social spaces throughout the 800-bed complex. Always interested in sharing his experiences with students, David has been a **guest critic for several architecture and planning studios** at the Wentworth Institute of Technology and has served as a guest lecturer for a studio on Visioning at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He has also **organized in-house ARE study groups** for interns in the firm who were seeking licensure.

Recently, David increased his participation in the Boston Society of Architects after being elected to the **Membership Committee**, a diverse group that represents a cross-section of the full membership and serve as a think-tank and sounding board for the BSA Board of Directors on a wide range of issues. David served a total of two years as **co-chair of the committee**, and was dedicated to creating and executing a range of initiatives, programs, and events that would benefit the membership. Because of his long history of civic engagement and neighborhood-oriented work, David was also asked by the Board of Directors to represent the BSA on the **Prudential Projects Advisory Committee**, a 24-member community-based group which oversees all development at the Prudential Center in Boston's Back Bay. The position to which he was appointed included responsibilities as **Chair of the Design Subcommittee** and required the detailed review of two highly controversial towers that would complete the nearly 25-year transformation of the Prudential complex.

David's leadership within the BSA also led to his appointment to the nine-member **Executive Search Committee** which performed a nation-wide search to replace retiring Executive Director Richard Fitzgerald after 24 years as head of the organization. Selecting a new director to lead the BSA was a challenging and rewarding responsibility, involving long and thoughtful conversations about a vision for the BSA's future and the role that the Director should play in shaping that vision.

David's commitment to civic engagement has also led to leadership roles where he lives in **Wellesley, Massachusetts**. Soon after moving there with his wife and daughter, he began serving on the town's **Design Review Board**. His design sensibility, honest and respectful demeanor, and a sincere commitment to the betterment of the Town led to his election as **Chairman** after only one year on the Board. In the years that followed, he oversaw the successful development of three of the largest and most positively transformative projects the Town had seen in nearly 40 years. His leadership on the Design Review Board so impressed the Board of Selectmen that David was asked to become a member of the **Zoning Board of Appeals**.

Several interrelated themes have guided the course and contributions of David's personal and professional life: a strong commitment to **design excellence**; leadership in **professional organizations** such as the Boston Society of Architects; and dedication to the **civic responsibility** we have as architects to participate in the betterment of our communities. He represents a new generation of architects and designers who are fully engaged with the world outside of the design studio, letting a broader context enrich his understanding of the issues and opportunities in the various communities where he works.

COMMITMENT TO **DESIGN EXCELLENCE**

- **As an Architect:** David has been a vital team member on Goody Clancy's most important student housing projects at Case Western Reserve University (the award-winning Village at 115) and the University of Chicago. He served in every capacity from conceptual design to construction administration, earning the respect of the clients, fellow team members, and the contractors in the field. At William Rawn Associates, he made significant contributions to award-winning projects at Northeastern University and Williams College.
- **As an Urban Designer:** Because of his strong interpersonal skills and sensibilities gained through working directly with communities, David has become a key member of the urban design staff at Goody Clancy, working in neighborhoods, on waterfronts, and on university campuses. He has excelled in helping urban institutions balance institutional growth with the needs of their host communities.

LEADERSHIP IN **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

- **Urban Design Committee:** David helped the committee advocate for good design and city planning by crafting the South Boston Waterfront Focus Group's response to various project proposals, by creating an interactive computer-based analytical tool to assess impacts of development projects, and by producing a detailed presentation of the BSA's advocacy efforts for use by the city and neighborhood organizations.
- **Membership Committee:** As co-chair of the committee for two years, David developed and moderated two BuildBoston programs on "Career Wayfinding" aimed at assisting young and mid-career professionals gain perspective and insight regarding non-traditional opportunities in design-related fields; he established a tradition of gathering all committee chairs annually to discuss their activities and find points of collaboration between groups; and he organized a series of special events on best-practices in mentoring.
- **Executive Search Committee:** David was one of nine members charged with selecting the next Executive Director of the BSA, a process that involved answering fundamental questions regarding the future of the organization.
- **Prudential Projects Advisory Committee (PruPAC):** As Chair of the Design Subcommittee, David elevated the civic dialogue throughout the review process and expanded the BSA's role as a key participant in the shaping of Boston's future.

DEDICATION TO **CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY**

- **Design Review Board:** As Chair for four out of his five years on the Board, David organized and ran bi-weekly meetings, maintained communication with the Town's Planning Department and other boards, and oversaw three of the most transformative projects in the Town's recent history.
- **Zoning Board of Appeals:** David is now serving on the Town's quasi-judicial board that interprets and enforces the Town's By-Law, hearing cases for Special Permits, Variances, Site Plan review, and Comprehensive Permits.

Commitment to **Design Excellence**

UNIFIED NEW ORLEANS PLAN

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS | NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA



During the development of the Unified New Orleans Plan, David worked with some of the city's most distressed neighborhoods, helping them define a vision for new housing, commercial corridors, and open space that would become a framework for recovery. The plan for Central City (above) also included proposals for the re-use and renovation of two significant public housing areas through the integration of new construction with the existing buildings.



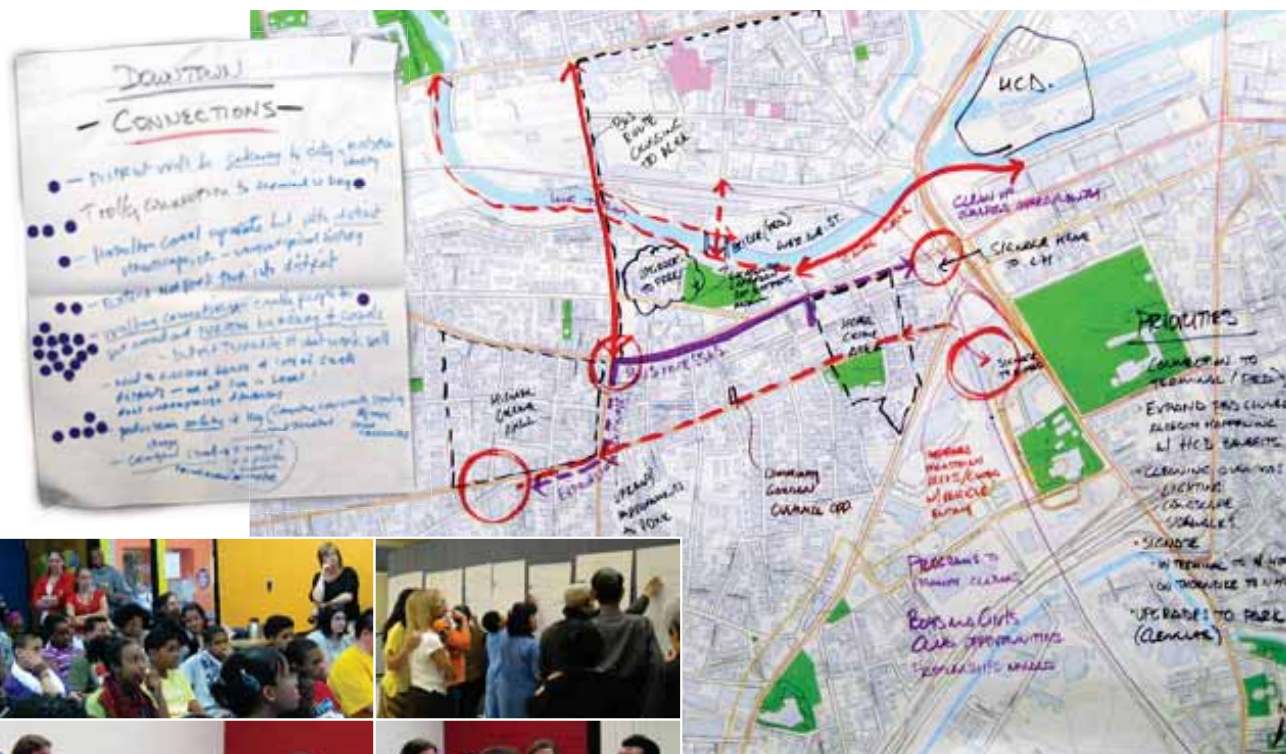
Commitment to **Design Excellence**

HAMILTON CANAL DISTRICT AND THE NEIGHBORHOODS

CITY OF LOWELL | LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

"...David's respect for people's views and concerns, good humor and easy style, and ability to translate neighborhood goals and aspirations into actionable recommendations to the City contributed to a very successful outcome of the Gateway Grant-funded project. [His] commitment to the success of the planning process was not only clear in his professionalism throughout the many community workshops, but in his dedication to creating a report which was clear and easily understandable to a wide audience..."

ADAM BAACKE, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER AND DPD DIRECTOR, CITY OF LOWELL



Commitment to **Design Excellence**

KENNEDY STREET CORRIDOR REVITALIZATION PLAN

OFFICE OF PLANNING, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA | WASHINGTON, DC

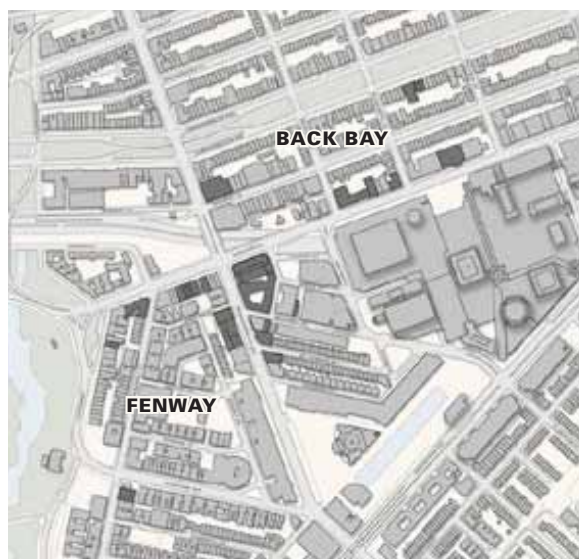


Bringing together residents from all along the one-mile long Kennedy Street Corridor, this project serves as a model for how aging “main streets” can once again become the backbone of a vibrant inner-city community. David’s urban design approach integrated mixed-income housing, mixed-use buildings, neighborhood-oriented retail and restaurants, and open space throughout the corridor.

Commitment to **Design Excellence**

BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC INSTITUTIONAL MASTER PLAN

BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC | BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS



"...David clearly listens to and considers comments made by the community task force members and members of the general public in the course of [our] meetings. He accords each speaker not only the courtesy of being heard, but also carefully weighs those comments, and advocates for making adjustments to plans to reflect sound advice received..."

WILLIAM D. WHITNEY,
VICE PRESIDENT FOR REAL ESTATE,
BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC



Commitment to **Design Excellence**

WENTWORTH CAMPUS MASTER PLAN

WENTWORTH INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY | BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Located in a rapidly changing part of Boston, Wentworth is also poised for significant physical changes. The Institute's planning process positions them to enhance connections between parts of the campus as well as between the campus and surrounding community, to increase its presence along Boston's "Avenue of the Arts", to create new open spaces, and to define a strategy for new and renovated space that will support the academic mission of the Institute for years to come.

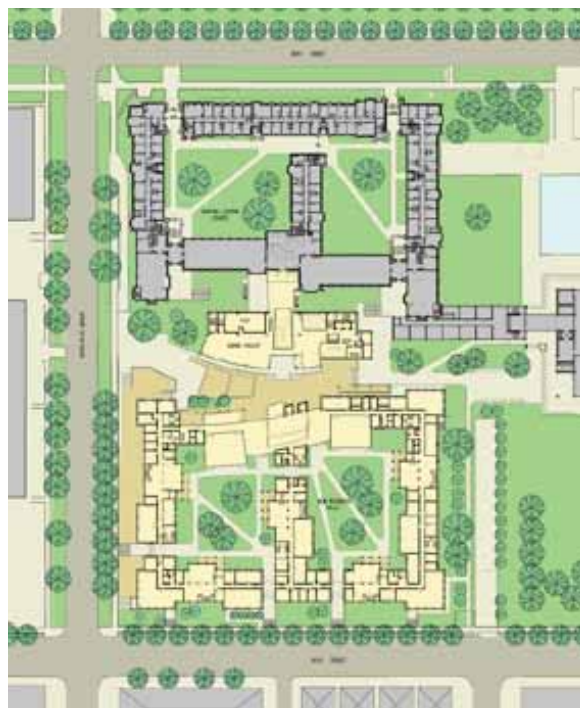


Commitment to **Design Excellence**

NEW RESIDENCE HALLS AND DINING FACILITY

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO | CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Located adjacent to an existing residence hall complex, this project provides new housing for 800 students and a new 350-seat dining facility. Comprised of eight 100-student “houses”, the South Campus Residence Hall complex required giving distinction to each house unit while maintaining the broader identity of the entire group of buildings. The architecture synthesized the rich complexity of the campus’ collegiate gothic tradition with the material sensibilities and bold gestures of nearby works by Mies van der Rohe and Eero Saarinen.



Commitment to **Design Excellence**

THE VILLAGE AT 115

CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY | CLEVELAND, OHIO



In the field, David was responsible for overseeing the masonry and cast stone elements of the seven-building residence hall complex, including monolithic multi-story window bays. The project received an Honor Award from the Society for College and University Planning (SCUP), the Golden Trowel Award from the International Masonry Institute, and a Design Excellence Award from the Cast Stone Institute.



Commitment to **Design Excellence**

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY AND W HOTEL

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS



While assisting in the architectural development of new residence halls at Northeastern (above) and the W Hotel, David began working with the Chinatown and Roxbury communities on both projects' public review process mandated by the Boston Redevelopment Authority. Northeastern has since received numerous awards from the AIA, BSA, and SCUP and the W Hotel is scheduled to open in Boston's Theater District in early 2010.



IMAGES COURTESY OF WILLIAM RAWN ASSOCIATES

Leadership in Professional Organizations

BOSTON SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS—Membership Committee

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

While co-chair of the Membership Committee, David focused a great deal of energy into creating programs to help guide younger architects and other professionals in the evolution of their careers. He sought out industry leaders who used their architectural training and skills to strike out in new directions and asked them to share their experiences

in both large and small workshop settings. He also organized a Mentoring workshop aimed at identifying best-practices throughout the city and region with the goal of fostering a constructive dialogue and improving the approach to staff development within the design community.

Build Boston

WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

2006

A34 Career wayfinding
1:00–3:00 pm
Sponsored by the BSA
Membership Committee

Whether you are a recent graduate looking for a first job or a mid-career professional interested in branching out in new directions, the training and skills of design professionals can lead to many diverse careers beyond the conventional architectural studio setting. This session offers insights into some of these opportunities as you hear directly from panelists who were all trained in design, but whose careers have evolved in very different ways. Discussion centers on how their job transitions were made, the challenges they found as their careers developed, and the skills most valuable in their current roles.

David Grissino AIA (moderator), Goody Clancy, Boston
Pamela Delphenich FAIA, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge
Diane Georgopoulos FAIA, MassHousing, Boston
Christopher Kenney AIA, Tishman Construction, Boston
Jill Rothenberg, Assoc. AIA, ADD Inc., Cambridge
Jay Wickersham FAIA, Noble & Wickersham, Cambridge
Richard A. Yeager II AIA, Planning and Design, Boston College, Chestnut Hill MA

2007

A79 Career wayfinding
6:00–7:30 pm
Sponsored by the BSA
Membership Committee

Whether you are a recent graduate looking for a first job or a mid-career professional interested in branching out in new directions, the training and skills of design professionals can lead to many diverse careers beyond the conventional architectural studio setting. This session offers insights into some of these opportunities as you hear directly from panelists who were all trained in design, but whose careers have evolved in very different ways. Discussion centers on how their job transitions were made, the challenges they found as their careers developed, and the skills most valuable in their current roles.

David Grissino AIA (moderator), Goody Clancy, Boston;
Co-Chair, BSAMembership Committee
Rebecca Barnes FAIA, Brown University, Providence RI
Andrew Dankwerth AIA, Pembroke Real Estate, Boston
Diane Georgopoulos FAIA, MassHousing, Boston;
President-elect, Boston Society of Architects
Tim Love AIA, Utile Inc, Boston
Peter Vanderwarker, Peter Vanderwarker Photographs,
West Newton MA

**Help shape the BSA's
support for mentoring**
October 21, 6:00 pm

Payette (285 Summer Street)

On October 21 at 5:30 pm, the BSA Membership Committee welcomes professionals at all levels of their careers for "Mentoring: it's okay to share," a discussion of best practices in mentoring.

Join the group to help broaden our community's understanding of the latest approaches to mentoring within local firms; to share success and challenges; and to help reinvigorate existing BSA mentoring programs and conceive new ways that we can support a culture of knowledge-sharing.

All are welcome to attend this free event at Payette (285 Summer Street).
RSVP to bsa@architects.org or 617-951-1433 x221.

Leadership in Professional Organizations

BOSTON SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS—Urban Design Committee

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS



The South Boston Waterfront

A VISION BECOMING REALITY

WHO ARE WE?

The Boston Society of Architects (BSA) Seaport Focus Team (SPFT) was formed by the BSA Urban Design Committee and Board of Directors. The SPFT is a pro bono civic advocacy effort that brings together a diverse group of 40+ professionals, including concerned architects, urban designers, planners, landscape architects, developers, attorneys, artists, residents and other interested parties. Since we began our work, the SPFT has consistently advocated for a more comprehensive and urbane mixed-use plan for the Seaport.

LAST YEAR

Last year, the BSA-SPFT put forward A Shared Vision for the Seaport which was comprehensive in its scope, addressing land use, build out, open space, transportation and implementation strategies. The document was the culmination of a broad civic dialogue that communicates common goals for the planning and development of the Seaport, brought to life through the BSA's specific two and three-dimensional urban design recommendations which achieve the goals. The BSA called for the implementation of a plan that emphasized: supportable build out, appropriate use and protection of the waterfront and working port, integration of the BCEE, the creation of a vital mixed use neighborhood through the expansion of existing grid and neighborhood scale and character adding the accompanying amenities that make mix-use neighborhoods vital and desirable; sufficient levels of housing, a comprehensive open space system, and a transit based, all modes transportation network.

CRITICAL JUNCTURE NOW

The City and advocacy community are at a critical juncture in the planning for and implementation of the South Boston Seaport. The BSA's master plan for the area has been published, and several development proposals, most notably Fan Pier, will test not only the integrity of the plan but the City's will to enforce it. Perhaps more critical is the evaluation of the plan itself. While embracing a number of the consensus principles put forward by the advocacy community and the neighborhoods over the last year, significant district wide issues have yet to be addressed. These issues include the reconciliation of proposed density and limited transportation and environmental capacity, land use mix, a credible neighborhood open space plan, urban form and character, and an implementation and funding strategy for the significant public realm improvements it proposes.

THE BSA BAROMETER

In response, this year, the BSA-SPFT has focused its work on the review and analysis of the BRA Seaport Public Realm Plan, the STD South Boston Transportation Plan, and the individual development proposals that have been put forward to date. To communicate our work, the BSA SPFT has created The BSA Barometer, a unique tool for the professional and advocacy communities and the general public to easily understand the BRA plan and the progression of its implementation. The BSA Barometer is a CAD-based analytical tool that identifies the four competing "layers" of the BRA plan—density, transportation network, open space and height. These four layers, in varying combination, will produce very different outcomes in the District.

Think of it this way: we have a limited resource, or capacity, in the district. There is a target for total square footage (21 million of total, per the BRA Plan), and only so much land area that can be built upon, only so many person trips in and out of the district per day, only so much impact before compromising the quality of the natural and urban environment. So, if you put down more buildings, you have less land area for open space. If you build mostly office, you have less space for residential units. If you put down more streets to support the development, you have even less land area, and may have to increase height to achieve desired density. If you have more height, you create a very different urban form, character and public realm in the district. These are all choices and tradeoffs that the BSA Barometer highlights.

This exhibit is a beginning. We see the BSA Barometer as an ongoing effort, updated as new development projects are put forward, and used to analyze trade-offs, choices, impacts or issues. We invite your comments on the exhibit, on the tool, on your ideas for the District! Simply fill out the feedback form and drop it in the envelope.

Thank you!

The BSA Barometer—Clear Sailing or Stormy Weather?

To achieve the "Shared Vision", we must plan comprehensively, evaluating individual development proposals within the context of the plan and the overall capacity of the District.

LAST YEAR'S WORK: A Shared Vision for the SeaPort

Recommendations for the Masterplan for the South Boston Seaport District | The Boston Society of Architects—June 25, 1998



THIS YEARS WORK: The BSA Barometer

The Boston Society of Architects—November 16, 1999



As part of the South Boston Waterfront Focus Team, David reviewed and analyzed a variety of development proposals which were poised to transform Boston's newest growth frontier. In addition to writing comment letters submitted to the Boston Redevelopment

Authority and other city and state agencies, David helped develop a set of graphic tools which clearly articulated the BSA's position to the greater design community and residents of the city.

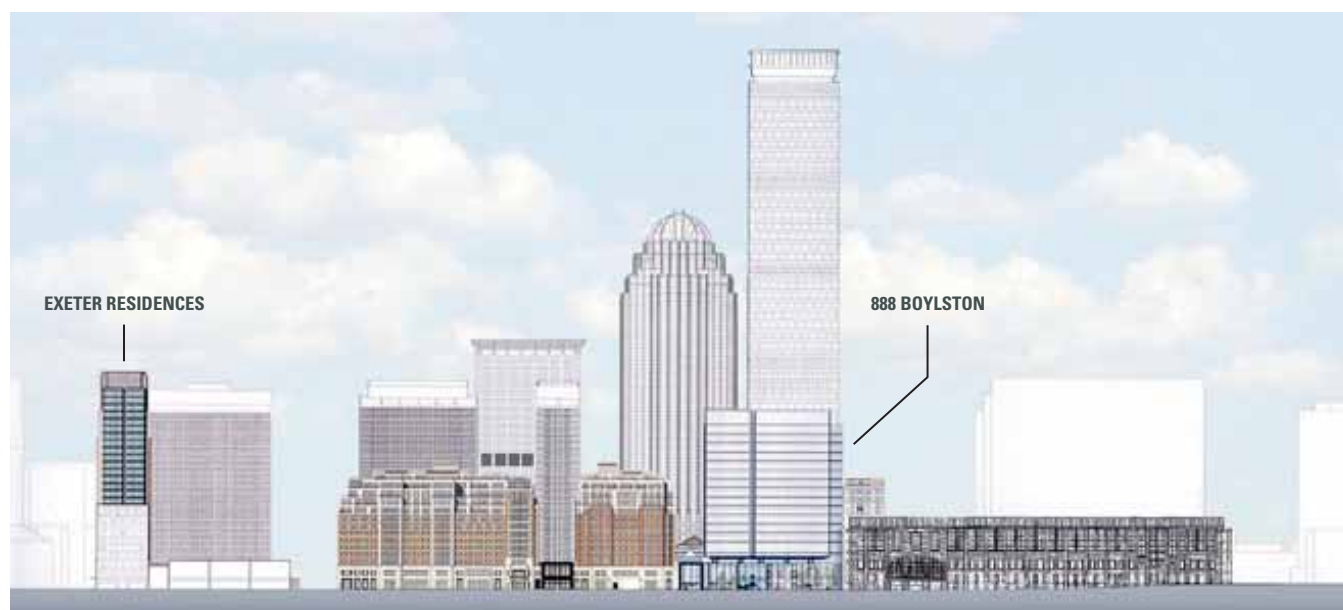
Leadership in **Professional Organizations**

BOSTON SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS–Prudential Center Advisory Committee (PruPAC)

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

During the course of the regulatory approval for two controversial new towers which would complete the transformation of the Prudential Center complex, David served as the BSA representative to PruPAC and as Chair of the Design Subcommittee. This required David not only to use his experience as an architect, but his

highly-developed skills helping a range of stakeholders find common ground. David's ability to promote and communicate sound principles of urban design and architecture to people from a range of backgrounds made him an essential part of the process.



Leadership in **Professional Organizations**

BOSTON SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS–Prudential Center Advisory Committee (PruPAC)

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

INITIAL SUBMISSIONS



“...David quickly proved his skill and engaging ability to listen, to suggest solutions or to summarize and distill issues, through a series of meetings with sometimes contentious but often thoughtful and insightful neighbors participating in the process...His leadership skills were exceptional. He helped improve the architectural design of both projects while navigating a very challenging set of neighborhood and city-wide politics...”

DAVID CARLSON AIA, SENIOR ARCHITECT,
BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

APPROVED PROJECTS



Dedication to **Civic Responsibility**

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD—Linden Street Corridor Overlay District

TOWN OF WELLESLEY | WELLESLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

Through his roles as Chair of the Design Review Board and member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, David is a leader in his community, helping guide new development in the Town of Wellesley while finding common ground on contentious issues. He communicates effectively and persuasively about the value of good design and planning, sharing with residents, developers, and Town officials their powerful role in shaping their future.



The Wellesley Townsman

Design Review approves Linden Street plan

By Rachel Lebeaux
GHS

WELLESLEY — The Design Review Board's approval of the Linden Square development plans brings that project one step closer to breaking ground.

Chairman David Grissino said that his board, which gave its approval on March 22, met with Eastern Development 16 times since early last year to discuss the project, which will develop 18.6 acres on a 24-acre lot on Linden Street. Several of these meetings even preceded Special Town Meeting's approval of the developer's request for a zoning overlay district in June 2005. "We wanted to make sure all the elements were held to high standards that were consistent with the vision presented at Town Meeting," Grissino said.

"In some cases, the meetings were a bit contentious when we were presented with things that were not in line with the town's vision," Grissino said. However, "In every case, Eastern was very amendable and cooperative and really did everything they could do to listen to the board's concerns and respond positively."

The plans call for the retention of seven existing buildings that will undergo complete facade renovations; the demolition of eight existing buildings; and the construction of five commercial buildings and four townhouses. "When the project was presented, it was put forward as a collection of buildings with unique identities and characters," Grissino said. "As we went forward, we tried to make sure that overall concept [remained] ... that it not be a huge, monolithic development, but that it would all hold together somehow."

Each building produced its own challenges in that review process, Grissino said. Materials, architectural features and the scale of the buildings all came under scrutiny.

The proposed CVS, which would be sited next

to the relocated Roche Bros. building planned for the north side of Linden Street, presented some problems initially, Grissino said. According to the DRB's review findings, the CVS as first presented was overwhelming in relation to other buildings on the property, lacked pedestrian consideration and utilized large amounts of low-quality materials on the public face of the building, as well as unacceptable signage.

"CVS, as first presented, looked like a corporate prototype, like every other CVS," Grissino said. The DRB asked CVS to follow Roche Bros.' cue and create a unique building that fits into the context of those around it. The revised plans include a predominantly brick building in scale with those around it, with steel and glass canopies to tie the various buildings together.

The board also worked to ensure that the project would provide adequate protection between the development and the surrounding neighborhood. When considering lighting for the site, Eastern decided to reduce the total number of light poles by raising the height of the light fixtures. The proposed poles would measure 23 feet in height and include 90-degree cutoff fixtures that would prevent light from spilling into unwanted areas.

The DRB is preparing its final recommendations and findings for the Zoning Board of Appeals, which will open its site plan review hearing on April 11. Grissino said that, due to the scale of this project, the DRB has already completed some of the site plan review work that would normally take place during the ZBA hearing. "We were able to wrap up a lot of the architectural landscape issues to help streamline the site review process," Grissino said. "It's a little unusual, and it's one reason we met so often and so long."

Though the process is not complete, Grissino said his board is pleased with its work. "We all think it will be a fantastic development," he said.

Dedication to **Civic Responsibility**

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD—Wellesley Inn and Wellesley Country Club

TOWN OF WELLESLEY | WELLESLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

The Wellesley Townsman

VOL. 2006 NO. 43 • 7 SECTIONS • 102 PAGES • \$10

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2006

VISIT THE TOWNSMAN ONLINE @ wellesleytownsman.com

A hectic time for town planners

By Rachel Lebeaux and Michael Cox
GHS

WELLESLEY—PSI. Three little letters with the potential to have a significant impact upon Wellesley's landscape.

Right now, several developments are in the works that will require a Project of Significant Impact review. Linden Square is currently the furthest along in that process, but various town boards—as well as citizens—are beginning their assessments of other projects in the pipeline as well.

The Design Review Board, meanwhile, has voted to approve the permit. According to Chairman David Grissino, "The board generally feels that the project is headed in the right direction. The development team has been very cooperative in incorporating the concerns of the board."

Eastern has been to several of his board's meetings as the development firm "needed to come to the DRB to make sure what they were developing was what the town approved," Grissino said. The Design Review Board has begun its review of the architectural features of the nine individual buildings planned for the site. "Three of them, in particular, are going to demand a lot of scrutiny," he said.

Grissino added that the board will be discussing the proposal with Eastern at many meetings over the next few months. "They have a long way to go, but they're doing everything in a very positive way," Grissino said.

Other projects of significance: Wellesley Inn

After the Linden Square project, the development of the Wellesley Inn site probably comes second on the public's radar.

Spaulding & Slye Colliers, a commercial real estate company managing the redevelopment of the property, and CBT Architects of Boston have unveiled the proposed plan for the property

at 576 Washington St. While they have not yet submitted their PSI application, the selectmen, the Planning Board and the Design Review Board have seen the initial plans, which call for 71,000 square feet of new construction designed to appear as two distinct buildings and include condominiums, affordable units, 59 underground parking spaces and 13,000 square feet of sidewalk-level retail.

The DRB has both praise for and some concerns about the plans they have seen. "The fundamentals of the site plan were very sound and very good, [but] where we had some concerns was with the image of the building," Grissino said. Specifically, regarding the architectural character of the proposed inn redevelopment. "There's a traditional part and a modern part and we had some concerns about that relationship," Grissino said. The latest plans call for combining a replication of the current inn's columns with a more contemporary-looking, 45-foot structure.

In a presentation to the selectmen earlier this month, the inn's project manager, Robert Dickey, said that construction is estimated to begin in spring 2006, with construction completed in fall 2007. In addition to the PSI review, Dickey said that a zoning variance may be needed in order to increase the setback in the front of the left side of the building facing Washington Street.

Conlon said that the Planning Department has heard rumblings from a couple of other possible developments as well.

Wellesley Country Club

The Wellesley Country Club is also gearing up for its PSI process as it prepares to build a new clubhouse and tear down its old one, says Conlon. As for the former Grossman's site at 27 Washington St., Conlon said there have been rumors that the developers would be coming to the town with a development plan, but nothing has been submitted as yet.



View to front entrance of the new Wellesley Country Club



View of the redeveloped Wellesley Inn site

"...David's professional skills in design, augmented by his ability to negotiate and work with the public were immediately apparent...[he] maintained a respectful collegial manner and helped produce projects that have added greatly to our Town..."

KATHARINE L. BABSON, JR.
VICE-CHAIR, TOWN OF WELLESLEY
BOARD OF SELECTMEN



Jean C. Carroon FAIA
Robert C. Chandler AIA
David D. Dixon FAIA
Roger N. Goldstein FAIA
Joan E. Goody FAIA (1935-2001)
Robert J. Pelletier AIA
David Spillane AICP, RIBA
Geoffrey M. Wooding AIA

October 9, 2009

Dear Members of the AIA Young Architects Jury,

On behalf of everyone at Goody Clancy I would like to express our unqualified support for David Grissino AIA's nomination for the Young Architect's Award. In a city with a rich tradition of civic activism, David has broken new ground as a model for constructive leadership in resolving the inevitable conflicts posed by development in a mature community. David has a unique ability to help neighborhood leaders, developers, elected officials and others find common ground. This ability alone would not merit this award. David's unique contribution is his ability to reach agreement not by seeking compromise, but by inspiring all of the participants in the process to identify and work together to pursue basic principles of good urbanism and urban design.

David's success has not come by chance. I can attest from personal experience that he has earned it by his commitment; visible passion for helping others appreciate good design and understand the economic, social, and environmental value it creates; and ability not to tell people what they want to hear but to talk to them in ways that keep them at the table talking to each other. Two years ago the Boston Society of Architects' executive director asked for suggestions for an architect to sit on a review board for one of the largest development projects in Boston. Based on the passion and skill he displayed at Goody Clancy in working on complex urban projects that commanded widespread public interest, I recommended David. His colleagues on the committee—all far more established in their careers and in Boston's public life—joined the city in asking him to chair the highly controversial design review process. In turn, one of our clients, Berklee College of Music, observed the credibility and respect David commanded in that role and requested that I ask him to serve as the urban designer and project spokesperson for a significant development the college planned to undertake.

David can claim three accomplishments that merit recognition at any age. He has elevated civic dialogue about important developments in Boston from a process that sought compromise to one that seeks good urban design. He has inspired younger architects in our office and throughout the city to step into active civic roles that many would never have imagined for themselves without his leadership. And he has revived a tradition in which Boston looks to the BSA and architectural community for leadership in resolving important issues of city-building.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Dixon".

David Dixon FAIA, Principal-in-Charge of Planning and Urban Design

Boston Redevelopment Authority

Boston's Planning & Economic
Development Office

Thomas M. Menino, Mayor
Clement J. Jones, Chairman
John E. Palmieri, Director

One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201-1007
Tel 617-722-4300
Fax 617-248-1937

October 5, 2009

Members of the AIA Young Architects Award Jury
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20006

Members of the Jury:

I am writing to recommend David Grissino in no uncertain terms for your consideration for the AIA Young Architects Award.

The Boston Redevelopment Authority establishes Citizens' Advisory Committees or the equivalent, representing the neighborhood and business groups in a given area, for many of the major projects in our City. Of these, the Prudential Project Advisory Committee, or PruPAC, oversees the schematic development of any modifications to the Prudential Center Master Plan, which historically has been critical to the economic turnaround of Boston and is a major economic engine and social connector between neighborhoods in the Back Bay area. PruPAC has an Urban Design Committee which concerns itself with all the factors that contribute to excellence of design in the City, including massing and height, scale, the nature of open spaces and connections, streetscape, and more. When the owners of the Prudential complex came in a few years ago with ideas for two projects, we realized that the important Urban Design Committee was without its long-serving Chair, John Wilson FAIA. The BRA asked the BSA to nominate a new Chair.

David Grissino's name was forwarded by the BSA, likely as a result of his active engagement with the BSA's Urban Design Committee. I had previously worked positively with him as part of an architect's design team for a major project in review before the BRA, but this PruPAC appointment would be a new role in a position of diplomatic sensitivity, with a lot of history and nuanced neighborhood concerns. David worked earnestly to familiarize himself with the Prudential project's Master Plan history, the role of PruPAC, the BRA's review process, and the physical Prudential multi-building complex in its larger context.

David quickly proved his skill and engaging ability to listen, to suggest solutions or to summarize and distill issues, through a series of meetings with sometimes contentious but often thoughtful and insightful neighbors participating in the process. He let all perspectives be aired, and would often explain why particular issues were being discussed, or clarify terms to those less familiar with the language and perspective of an architect or planner. David treated the process and participants with respect and was measured, realistic, and thoughtful in dealing with the many issues that arose. He was able to keep a momentum going throughout...and to reach a conclusion eventually shared by the majority in the process. His leadership skills were exceptional. He helped improve the architectural design of both projects while navigating a very challenging set of neighborhood and city-wide politics.

I heartily recommend David Grissino for this award.

Sincerely,



David A. Carlson, AIA
Senior Architect

Cc: John O'Brien, Senior Project Manager

Berklee
college of
music

1140 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215-3693
Tel 617 266-1400 www.berklee.edu

October 9, 2009

Members of the AIA Young Architects Award Jury,

Berklee College of Music (Berklee) of Boston, MA has been working with the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA) and a community advisory task force for several months as it undertakes a comprehensive Institutional Master Plan (IMP) physical planning process. The challenges of such a process are compounded by the college's lack of a traditional multi-acre campus and its presence in two established neighborhoods in the City of Boston. To date, the process has been open, frank and productive, due in significant part to the direct and energetic involvement of an exceptionally deserving nominee for an AIA Young Architects Award, David Grissino AIA of Goody Clancy Associates.

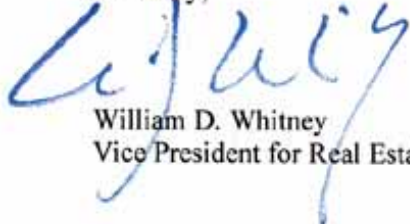
David is the project urban designer with whom I have worked closely since joining the staff of Berklee as Vice President for Real Estate two years ago. Having previously worked in commercial real estate development, as planning director for another large not-for-profit corporation in Boston and as Assistant Director for Urban Design and Development of the BRA; I have closely observed many young (and not so young) architects and urban designers. David is not only exceedingly technically proficient in his present practice of urban design (where he has drawn effectively on his past work in architecture), but he has particularly distinguished himself in the complex IMP process by earning the respect and attention of an at-times skeptical group of community-based participants.

It is clear to all who have participated in this process that David believes that sound urban design and design review can be informed and enhanced by the involvement of stakeholders other than his client and the City's planning agency. While enormously helpful in strategizing and preparing for these community meetings to convey the information that he and his client believe to be pertinent, David also clearly listens to and considers comments made by the community task force members and members of the general public in the course of the meetings. He accords each speaker not merely the courtesy of having been heard, but also carefully weighs those comments, and advocates for making adjustments to plans to reflect sound advice received.

David's willingness to invest a scarce and valuable resource, his free time, to many other volunteer efforts in Boston and in his hometown of Wellesley is illustrative of his commitment to making the broader community of which he is a part that much better. Parenthetically, it is of inestimable value to his clients to have the benefit of that experience and a corresponding openness in public processes that are essential to successful outcomes.

In summary, I can think of no better qualified candidate for the Young Architects Award, and I am confident that David will continue to represent his profession with distinction and dedication.

Sincerely,



William D. Whitney
Vice President for Real Estate



October 7, 2009

The City of Lowell • Division of Planning and Development
JFK Civic Center • 50 Arcand Drive • Lowell, MA 01852
P: 978.446.7200 • F: 978.970.4262
www.LowellMA.gov

Adam Baacke
Assistant City Manager/Director

Anne Barton
Deputy Director

Distinguished members of the AIA Young Architects Award Jury:

On behalf of the City of Lowell, I am very pleased to submit this Letter of Support recommending David Grissino for the 2010 Young Architects Award. His enthusiasm and dedication to improving urban environments and increasing resident participation in planning for their future is admirable. We have greatly enjoyed working with him on an important planning process here in Lowell.

In early 2009, the City was awarded a Gateway Plus Action Grant by the Department of Housing and Community Development to expand the highly successful public planning process for the Hamilton Canal District, a transformative redevelopment project in the heart the City. Our goal was to use the process to engage a range of stakeholders in the adjacent neighborhoods in meaningful discussions about the future of the City and how the Hamilton Canal District's success can positively affect their neighborhood. David worked with four established neighborhoods and helped to engage many residents who had never before participated in civic visioning sessions. He and his colleagues were able to successfully engage Cambodian, Brazilian, Portuguese, and African populations quickly and sincerely, helping them define and describe their visions of their communities to the City. This project also served to strengthen relationships between City staff and neighborhood leaders which will enhance our ability to continue to work constructively with these communities far into the future.

David's respect for people's views and concerns, good humor and easy style, and ability to translate neighborhood goals and aspirations into actionable recommendations to the City contributed to a very successful outcome for the Gateway Grant-funded project. David's commitment to the success of the planning process was not only clear in his professionalism throughout the many community workshops, but in his dedication to creating a report which was clear and easily understandable to a wide audience, ensuring it could continue to be an advocacy document for the many stakeholders who created it.

We hope to have the opportunity to work with David again and are privileged to recommend him for this award.

Sincerely,

Adam Baacke

Assistant City Manager/DPD Director

Aaron Clausen

Associate Planner/Gateway Grant Project Manager

The City of **LOWELL** *Alive. Unique. Inspiring.*

TOWN OF WELLESLEY



MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TOWN HALL • 525 WASHINGTON STREET • WELLESLEY, MA 02482-5992

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HANS LARSEN

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GENERAL GOVERNMENT

October 9, 2009

The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20006

Dear Distinguished Members of the AIA Young Architects Award Jury:

This letter is in enthusiastic support of the nomination of David Grissino AIA for the Young Architects Award. My letter describes his commitment to the Town of Wellesley, Massachusetts for the past seven years.

Not long after David moved to Wellesley, he was appointed to the Town's Design Review Board ("DRB"). The DRB provides a detailed review of uses and structures which have a substantial impact on the Town, including such matters as an assessment of the aesthetic, historical and cultural impact of the proposed project. David quickly became involved in the review of three major projects in the Town: the Town's largest commercial development, the replacement of a recently demolished and most valued commercial historic asset in the community, and the construction of a large new facility on the site of the Town's founding. David's professional skills in design, augmented by his ability to negotiate and work with the public, were immediately apparent and he soon became Chair of the Design Review Board. Although not as large a project, the conversion of a Town-owned open space into a Little League baseball field required a great deal of skill to work through the many competing interests and charged emotions. In all these projects, David maintained a respectful, collegial manner and helped produce projects that have added greatly to our Town.

The Board of Selectmen then appointed David to the Zoning Board of Appeals, one of the Town's most highly respected boards. It is a very demanding assignment, requiring not only David's design experience but a deep knowledge of our Town. He works well with his fellow Board members, with the proponents, and with the public. He has been an outstanding addition to the Board.

In summary, David has made positive contributions to our community through his understanding of design and architecture and through his thoughtful and effective manner in which he works with others. On behalf of the Town of Wellesley's Board of Selectmen, it is a pleasure to recommend him for this award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine L. Babson, Jr.".

Katherine L. Babson, Jr., Vice Chair
Board of Selectmen
Town of Wellesley