



OLESON WORLAND ARCHITECTS

Oleson Worland Architects is a well established, award-winning firm founded in 1984 by partners David Oleson and Wilfrid Worland.

Since its inception, the firm has produced designs of exceptional quality, founded on core principles of sustainability – resulting from thoughtful consideration of a project site and context, materiality and solid construction detailing. Pragmatics aside, we also encourage our designers to push the boundaries in order to produce the most stimulating, visually-engaging projects possible.

In addition to building design, a strong interest in landscape + urban design drives our practice, with involvement in the planning and design of significant Toronto landmarks such as the Village of Yorkville Park and the Don Valley Brick Works.

Our firm's dedication to improving the spaces in which we live through design goes beyond the office– significant participation with grass roots community groups and initiatives form an important portion of our understanding of the city and its users, building our cultural and social awareness as designers.

Some of the firm's most well-recognized, award-winning projects include the North Toronto Memorial Community Centre, Camden Lofts, Parc Downsview Park international Design Competition, the Don Valley Brickworks and the Village of Yorkville Park.

DAVID W. OLESON B.ARCH., OAA, FRAIC

Professional Associations

- 1998 Fellow, Royal Architectural Institute of Canada
- 1974 Ontario Association of Architects
Royal Architectural Institute of Canada
Toronto Society of Architects
- 1972 Registered Architect, Washington, D.C.

Professional Experience

- 1999 Principal, Oleson Worland Architect
- 1984-99 Partner, Oleson Worland Architects
- 1982-84 Senior Design Architect, Webb Zerafa Menkes Housden Partnership
- 1975-82 Associate, Barton Myers Associates, Architects and Planners
- 1973-75 Project Architect, Diamond and Myers, Architects and Planners
- 1972-73 Architect, W. Fritz Schmidt and Associates, Architects, San Juan, Puerto Rico
- 1970-72 Architect, Arthur Cotton Moore and Associates, Washington D.C.
- 1968-70 Architect, Johannes and Murray, Architects, Silver Spring, Maryland

Juries, Committees and Boards

- 2012 Ontario Association of Architects 2011 Design Awards, Chair of Jury
- 2011 City of Toronto City-wide Zoning By-Law Review Panel Member, OAA
- 2009-11 Roncesvalles Design Review Committee, Toronto
- 2008 Fort York Visitor's Centre Design Competition Professional Advisor, Toronto
- 2008 Western Beaches Waterfront Planning Community Liason Committee, Toronto
- 2008 Downsview Park Design Charrette Facilitator, Toronto
- 2007 Best of Canada Design Competition Jury, Canadian Interiors Periodical
- 2005 Canada's Walk of Fame Design Competition Professional Advisor, Toronto
- 2001 City of Toronto Architecture and Urban Design Awards Jury
- 2001 DX Eco Environmental Design Committee, Design Exchange, Toronto
- 2001 Universal Space Design Competition Jury, Design Exchange, Toronto
- 2000-1 Associate Member, Association of Professional Landscape Designers
- 1999 Portlands/Queen Elizabeth Docks Design Charrette Organizer, Toronto
- 1998 Environment Committee, Ontario Association of Architects
- 1997 Toronto: New City / New Opportunities Roundtable Co-Organizer
- 1997 City of Toronto Big Box Retail Working Group, Participant
- 1996-7 City of Toronto Urban Development Roundtable, Member
- 1995-7 Eric Arthur Honorary Membership, Arts and Letters Club of Toronto
- 1995-7 Toronto Society of Architects, Chairman
- 1995 Design Effectiveness Awards Jury: Retail Environments / Public and Leisure Spaces / Architectural Design, Design Exchange, Toronto

- 1995 Masonry Project Design Awards Jury, Ontario Masonry Industry and Toronto Masonry Industry Promotion Funds / Ontario Association of Architects
- 1994 Toronto Society of Architects, Executive Committee
- 1993 Canadian National Exhibition Community Liason Committee
- 1992 Canada Malting Working Group and City of Toronto Planning Department Design Charette Advisor
- 1980 Historic Buildings Awards Jury, City of Guelph

Publications

- 2000 "Tree City: The Downsview Park International Design Competition", Perspectives (Fall)
- 1992 "Is Anybody There?", book review with Wilfrid Worland, International Contract Magazine (March)
- 1983 "Parquet Deformations: A Subtle, Intricate Art Form" by Douglas R. Hofstadter, Scientific American (July) - "I At The Center", Parquet Deformation by Oleson (1964) Reprinted in Metamagical Themas: Questing for the Essence of Mind and Pattern by Douglas R. Hofstadter (Basic Books, 1985)

Teaching and Lectures

- 1975-pres Guest design critic and lecturer, University of Toronto, University of Waterloo, University of Guelph, Ryerson Polytechnic University
- 2007 Visiting design critic, University of Arkansas Fay Jones School of Architecture
- 2001 "Swimming Upstream" Lecture, University of Manitoba Faculty of Architecture
- 2000-1 Assistant Professor, Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design, University of Toronto
- 1997-98 Adjunct Assistant Professor, University of Toronto

Education and Academic Awards

- 1981 Certificate, Real Estate Development Course, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts
- 1970 Audit, Masters Degree Planning Courses, Catholic University, Washington D.C.
- 1968 B. Arch, Carnegie Mellon University, College of Fine Arts, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- 1968 CSI Award of Merit
- 1963-68 Department of Architecture Scholarships, Carnegie Mellon University

NORTH TORONTO MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CENTRE

The new Center replaces an existing recreational complex comprising a small community meeting hall, a popular outdoor pool an artificial ice pad/tennis court in Eglinton Park, all of which were beyond further repair. The site is characterized by sloping grade and two stands of mature trees. The park is identified and structured by the new building elevation which is punctuated by a breezeway linking the Eglinton Avenue sidewalk to the park beyond.

The lobby introduces the diverse palette of materials which complement which complement the natural setting and reinforce the indoor/outdoor connections. The post and beam timber structure at the lobby extends beyond the glass wall creating a colonnade along the south face of the building. Brick is used extensively, both inside and out, for its natural colour and texture, and to evoke the history of the site.

Interior spaces of the building follow the contours of the landscape. A two-level circulation spine is open between the floors and provides direct access to the outside from either level. The indoor and outdoor pool are linked by the projection of the outdoor pool deck into the interior and the slide to the lower pool. The roofs of the pool and gymnasium are constructed of a wooden deck on steel trusses.

A wedged shaped wooden pergola terminates the circulation spine and connects to the western entrance of the park, amidst a grove of trees. Glazed walls throughout complete the screening effect established by the pergola and the colonnade. Transparency, light and views of the natural landscape are enhanced by the glazed enclosures.



This addition to an existing arena fulfills a key goal of the City's Recreation Facilities Report and maximizes the use of a key City of Toronto recreational asset. The new full size gymnasium is designed to provide improved connections to the existing arena and create new open public spaces – a lounge and interior court that provide views to all areas of the project. Large windows and skylights provide natural light deep into the building and views to both the landscape and existing arena spaces.

The project builds on extensive community input carried out earlier and involved detailed discussions with user groups and City maintenance staff.

VICTORIA VILLAGE ARENA RENOVATION + ADDITION

[in joint venture with Taylor Smyth Architects]



A new community centre would complement the outdoor activities in the park, clarify both visual and physical access and effectively expand the park.

This Feasibility Study was undertaken at the request of the City of Toronto by the joint team of Oleson Worland (OWA) and Taylor Smyth Architects (TSA) and completed on a tight schedule. The purpose of the study was to test the feasibility for developing a new community centre in the west end of Toronto. The project site is on Wabash Avenue, at the southern edge of Sorauren Park. It currently contains two former industrial buildings. The new community centre is to serve the Parkdale / High Park community with a full range of programs.

Two scenarios were developed – one utilizing the existing building with an addition and the other one involving the removal of the existing structures and all new construction. An audit of the existing buildings found that they are structurally sound, but in need of repair. It was found that approximately two-thirds of the total program can be accommodated in the larger of the two existing buildings. There is potential for a construction cost savings through renovation of the existing structure if it can be used efficiently.

WABASH GREEN FEASIBILITY STUDY

[in joint venture with Taylor Smyth Architects]

