

# MATTHEW GORDON LASNER

Hunter College, Urban Policy and Planning  
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## EDUCATION

Harvard University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, Mass.

PhD, Interfaculty Prog. on Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Urban Planning, 2007  
AM, — — —, 2003

London School of Economics and Political Science, London, England

MSc, Regional and Urban Planning Studies, 1997

Columbia College, Columbia University in the City of New York, New York, N.Y.

BA, Urban Studies, 1996

## FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor, Department of Urban Policy and Planning, Hunter College, City  
University of New York, New York, N.Y., 2015 - present

Assistant Professor, — — —, 2011 - 15

Assistant Professor, Department of History, Georgia State University, Atlanta, Ga., 2007-11

## BOOKS

High Life: Condo Living in the Suburban Century, New Haven: Yale University Press, 2012

awards: Abbott Lowell Cummings Prize, Vernacular Architecture Forum, 2013

## EDITED BOOKS

Nicholas Dagen Bloom and Matthew Gordon Lasner, eds., Affordable Housing in New York: The People, Places, and Policies That Transformed a City, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2016

includes co-authored introduction, six chapter introductions, conclusion, and one co-authored and four single-authored case studies

## REFEREED ARTICLES & CHAPTERS

"Segregation by Design: Race, Architecture, and the Enclosure of the Atlanta Apartment," J of Urban History, forthcoming in 2017 [in press]

"The Complex: Suburban Architectures of Difference and the Postwar U.S. Apartment," in Making Suburbia: New Histories of Everyday America, eds. John Archer, Paul J. P. Sandul, and Katherine Solomonson (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2015), 343-63

"Swingsites for Singles': New Housing for New Households in Mid-century America," Places Journal, placesjournal.org, Oct. 2014

"Architect as Developer and the Postwar U.S. Apartment, 1945-1960," Buildings & Landscapes 21, no. 1 (Spring 2014), 27-55

"Own-your-owns, Co-ops, Town Houses: Hybrid Housing Types and the New Urban Form in Postwar Southern California," J of the Society of Architectural Historians 68, no. 3 (Sept. 2009), 378-403

## **OTHER ARTICLES & CHAPTERS**

"Apartment," Grove Art Online / Oxford Art Online, Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming in 2017 [in press]

"Urban Planning" and "Architecture: Skyscrapers," in 30-second New York, ed. Sarah Fenton, London: Ivy Press, 2017

"The Case for Public Housing," opinion piece, The Nation, May 6, 2016, thenation.com

Nicholas Dagen Bloom and Matthew Gordon Lasner, "Fix NYCHA First," opinion piece, Gotham Gazette, May 20, 2015

"Reform the Condominium," opinion piece, New York Times, Feb. 17, 2015, A23

"Affordable Housing in New York City: Then and Now," issue brief, Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute at Hunter College, Jan. 2015

"Housing Policy, Federal: An Overview," in The Oxford Encyclopedia of American Political and Legal History, ed. Donald T. Critchlow, New York: Oxford University Press, 2012, 453-457

"Behind This Facade: The Generic Condo as a Space of Autonomy," tarp: Architecture Manual, Insidious Urbanism issue (Spring 2011), 45-49

"Title I and the Limited-equity Co-op," "Corlears Hook Title I," "Fort Greene Title I," "Pratt Institute Title I," "Seward Park Title I," "Park Row Title I," "Penn Station South Title I," "Park Row Extension Title I," in Robert Moses and the Modern City: The Transformation of New York, eds. Hilary Ballon and Kenneth T. Jackson (New York: Norton, 2007), 251-254, 267-269, 274-275, 289-295, 303-304

## **BOOK REVIEWS & REVIEW ESSAYS**

Review of The Lofts of SoHo: Gentrification, Art, and Industry in New York, 1950-1980 by Aaron Shkuda, J of American History forthcoming in June 2017 [in press]

Review of SubUrbanisms: Casino Urbanization, Chinatowns, and the Contested American Landscape exhibition curated by Stephen Fan and Chinese Style: Rediscovering the Architecture of Poy Gum Lee, 1923-1968 exhibition curated by Kerri Culhane, Museum of Chinese in America, New York, J of the Society of Architectural Historians, 75, no. 3 (Sept. 2016), 379-81

Review of California Dreaming: Boosterism, Memory, and Rural Suburbs in the Golden State by Paul J. P. Sandul, J of American History 102, no. 3 (Dec. 2015), 915-16

Review of Housing and Mortgage Markets in Historical Perspective ed. by Eugene N. White, Kenneth Snowden, and Price Fishback, Business History Review 89, no. 3 (Autumn 2015), 626-28

Review of Rethinking the American City: An International Dialogue ed. by Miles Orvell and Klaus Benesch, Buildings & Landscapes 22, no. 1 (Spring 2015), 108-09

Review of Little White Houses: How the Postwar Home Constructed Race in America, by Dianne Harris, J of American History 101, no. 1 (June 2014), 318-19

Review of Building a Market: The Rise of the Home Improvement Industry, 1914-1960, by Richard Harris, Planning Perspectives 28, no. 4 (Oct. 2013), 655-57

Review of The American Department Store Transformed, 1920-1960, by Richard Longstreth, J of Architectural Education 67, no. 1 (Mar. 2013), 149-51

"Model Miami: Finding New Urban Paradigms for New American Cities," review of Miami: Mistress of the Americas, by Jan Nijman; Miami Modern Metropolis: Paradise and Paradox in Midcentury Architecture and Planning, ed. by Allan T. Shulman; This is Our Land: Immigrants and Power in Miami, by Alex Stepick et. al.; and Saving South Beach, by M. Barron Stofik, J of Urban History 38, no. 6 (Nov. 2012), 1121-27

"Suburbia as Culture: Exploring the U.S. Built Environment Through Art and Identity," review of Worlds Away: New Suburban Landscapes, catalog of an Exhibition at the Walker Art Center Minneapolis, Min., Feb. 16-Aug. 17, 2008 and at the Heinz Architectural Center, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, Penn., Oct. 4, 2008-Jan. 18, 2009, ed. Andrew Blauvelt, caa.reviews.org (May 2012)

Review of Ecological Visions and the American Urban Professions, 1920-1960, by Jennifer S. Light, Planning Perspectives 26, no. 3 (July 2011), 513-15

"From Atlanta to Beijing: Picturing the Suburbs at Kiang Gallery," review of ...After the Suburbs: Artwork From the Post Cookie-cutter Landscape exhibition, Kiang Gallery, Atlanta, Ga., 21 Jan. - 19 Mar., 2011, BurnAway.org (Mar. 2011)

"Developers on the Verge of New Built Environment," review of The Option of Urbanism: Investing in a New American Dream, by Christopher B. Leinberger, Buildings & Landscapes 17, no. 1 (Spring 2010), 100-103

## **EXHIBITIONS CURATED**

Matthew Gordon Lasner, Matthias Altwicker, and Nicholas Dagen Bloom, curators, Affordable Housing in New York: The People, Places, and Policies That Transformed a City, Hunter East Harlem Gallery, Hunter College, New York, Feb. 10 - May 15, 2016

## **MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION**

Community Urbanism: California Counterculture and the Reimagining of U.S. Housing and Neighborhoods, 1940-1990 (commitment by Princeton University Press to develop)

## **JURIED CONFERENCE PAPERS**

"Race, Sex, and the Enclosure of the Garden Apartment in the New South," Vernacular Architecture Forum, June 3-7, 2015, Chicago

- "Community and Commodity in Co-owned Housing: The Co-op and Condo as Space of Liberation," Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, Apr. 8-12, 2014, Tampa, Fla.
- "Eichler Homes and the Reinvention of Low-cost Housing in San Francisco in the 1960s," Urban History Association, Oct. 25-28, 2012, New York
- "Architect as Developer: Designers, the State, and the Postwar U.S. Apartment," Society of Architectural Historians, Apr. 18-22, 2012, Detroit
- "'Con' do - min' i - um': Homebuilders, Mortgage Bankers, and the National Campaign for Multifamily Homeownership in Baby Boom America," Business History Conference, Mar. 31-Apr. 2, 2011, St. Louis
- "Co-ops, Condos, and the Making of Modern Miami, 1950-1965," National Conference on Planning History, Oct. 15-18, 2009, Oakland, Calif.
- "Progressive Homebuilding: Postwar L.A. and the Emergence of the Suburban-style Townhouse," Urban History Association, Nov. 5-8, 2008, Houston
- "Beyond Suburb and Slum: Condominium Living in the Postwar City," Urban History Association, Oct. 20-22, 2006, Tempe, Ariz.
- "Quadrominium 1970: Vernacular Housing in the Age of Aquarius," Vernacular Architecture Forum, June 14-17, 2006, New York
- "Vertical Subdivisions: Homeownership and the Postwar Apartment House," Society of Architectural Historians, Apr. 6-10, 2005, Vancouver, Canada
- "The Condominium and the Production of a New American Landscape," National Conference on Planning History, Nov. 6-9, 2003, St. Louis
- "Something to Rally For: The Struggle to Preserve the Working-Class City in the Time of the Vietnam Conflict," American Studies Association, Nov. 14-17, 2002, Houston
- "Implementing the Plan of Chicago: Promotion and the Private Sector," International Planning History Conference, July 10-13, 2002, London

## **PANELS AT SCHOLARLY CONFERENCES**

- respondent and chair, "Housing Urban American in the 1970s and 1980s," Urban History Association, Oct. 13-16, 2016, Chicago
- co-convener and co-chair, "Transnational Housing Histories of the Pacific Rim," Society of Architectural Historians, April 6-10, 2016, Pasadena
- convener and chair, roundtable, "Baldwin Hills Village: Race, Community Associations, and the Ethics of Preservation," National Conference on Planning History, Nov. 5-8, 2015, Los Angeles
- convener and co-chair, pedagogy roundtable, "Teaching the Built Environment Outside of the Professional Box," National Conference on Planning History, Oct. 3-6, 2013, Toronto
- panelist, roundtable, "The Physical City: Social Change and Urban Space," National Conference on Planning History, Oct. 3-6, 2013, Toronto

respondent and chair, "Federal Diversity: Racial and Gendered Effects of Postwar Federal Interventions on Metropolitan Regions," Urban History Association, Oct. 25-28, 2012, New York

respondent and co-chair, "Recycling Suburbia: The Architectural Reimagining of the Postwar U.S.," National Conference on Planning History, Nov. 17-20, 2011, Baltimore

respondent, "Zoning and Restrictive Covenants," Urban History Association, Oct. 20-23, 2010, Las Vegas

respondent, "Urban Enterprises: Finding the Business in Social Protest, Domestic Service, and Theatre," Business History Conference, Mar. 25-27, 2010, Athens, Ga.

## **INVITED LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS**

"Affordability Toolbox," Housing Brass Tacks series, The Architectural League New York, Feb. 13, 2017

Affordable Housing in New York book talk, The Skyscraper Museum, Apr. 19, 2016, New York

Affordable Housing in New York book talk, LandmarkWest, Mar. 15, 2016, New York

"Curating Affordable Housing in New York," Urban Democracy Lab, New York University, Mar. 7, 2016, New York

"Sexuality, Race, and the Enclosure of the Sunbelt Apartment," On the Cutting Edge of Architectural History series, College of Environmental Design, University of California, Berkeley, Apr. 8, 2015, Berkeley

High Life book talk, New York Public Library, Mid-Manhattan branch, Apr. 29, 2014

"Specific Histories of the Generic," Resource Histories symposium, Aggregate Architectural History Collaborative, Pratt Institute and Syracuse University School of Architecture, Mar. 28, 2014, New York

panelist, "A New Start for the City's Affordable Housing Landscape," New York City Bar, Dec. 4, 2013, New York

panelist, "The New Face of Community: The German Reinvention of Co-housing and its Opportunities for South Florida," University of Miami School of Law and School of Architecture, Nov. 21, 2013, Miami

"High Life: Co-ops, Condos, and Apartment Living in the American City," The Skyscraper Museum, Oct. 29, 2013, New York

speaker and panelist, "Beyond the Lawn," Low Rise High Density exhibition, Institute for Public Architecture, May 9, 2013, New York

"Everyday Ways of Using and American Urban Form," PhD Book Talks, Frances Loeb Design Library, Graduate School of Design, Harvard University, Feb. 12, 2013, Cambridge, Mass.

International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam, "Open City: Design Coexistence," produced portion of "Community" exhibition and contributed text and student photographs, Sept. 25, 2009-Jan. 10, 2010, Rotterdam, Netherlands

"Writing Multifamily Housing into the American Built Environment," Emerging Perspectives, Graduate School of Design, Harvard University, Apr. 25, 2009, Cambridge, Mass.

"The Co-op Alternative: Multifamily Homeownership in the Postwar American City," Chicago Urban History Seminar, Nov. 13, 2008, Chicago

"Co-op Village, Co-op Nation," Robert Moses and the Modern City symposium, Columbia University, Mar. 2-3, 2007, New York

participant, Urbanism & Urbanization International PhD Seminar: "After the City, A Genealogy of Urban Concepts," K.U. Leuven, Feb. 19-21, 2004, Leuven, Belgium

+ guest lectures in courses at Columbia (Gwendolyn Wright's Affordable Housing, 2016), NJIT (Gabrielle Esperdy's Methods of Urban History, 2016), Pratt Institute (Erik Ghenoiu's New York and Berlin, 2011)

## **PUBLIC PROGRAM & PANELS ORGANIZED**

"The Next 100 Years of Affordable Housing" panel discussion with Shola Olatoye, Alexander Gorlin, Carol Lamberg, Gwendolyn Wright, Joseph Heathcott, Cooper Union, Great Hall, Mar. 16, 2016, New York

"NYCHA Then and Now" film screening of Pomonok Dreams and several shorts, free and open to the public, Hunter College, Mar. 2, 2016, New York

"The Politics of Affordable Housing" panel discussion with Vicki Been, Judi Kende, Helen Rosenthal, Alex F. Schwartz, Roosevelt Housing Institute of Public Policy, Hunter College, Feb. 24, 2016, New York

series of nine free gallery talks and walking tours, offered to the general public, of affordable housing in Manhattan, Bronx, and Queens, in association with the exhibition Affordable Housing in New York, Hunter East Harlem Gallery, Feb. - May, 2016, New York

Affordable Housing in New York book launch panel discussion with Hilary Ballon, Richard Dattner, Alexander Garvin, Frederick S. Harris, New York Public Library, Architectural Explorations in Books series, Dec. 15, 2015, New York

## **HONORS & AWARDS**

Feliks Gross Endowment Award [for outstanding research in the humanities or sciences], CUNY Academy for the Humanities and Sciences, 2014

Abbott Lowell Cummings Prize, Vernacular Architecture Forum, for High Life: Condo Living in the Suburban Century (2012), 2013

offered New-York Historical Society & The New School Bernard and Irene Schwartz Postdoctoral Fellows Program, 2007

Nominated Levenson Memorial Teaching Prize by Harvard Undergraduate Council, 2003

Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, 2002

## **RESEARCH FUNDING (SELECT)**

Presidential Fund for Faculty Advancement grant for exhibition Affordable Housing in New York: The People, Places, and Policies That Transformed a City, Hunter College, 2016

New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) / Van Alen Institute grant to individuals for book Affordable Housing in New York, 2015

Ford Foundation grant for book Affordable Housing in New York, 2014

PSC-CUNY Research Award for "Eichler Homes, Claude Oakland and the Redevelopment of the San Francisco Bay Area," 2014

Presidential Fund for Faculty Advancement grant for "Architect as Developer and the Postwar U.S. Apartment, 1945-1960," Hunter College, 2014

Presidential Fund for Faculty Advancement grant for High Life: Condo Living in the Suburban Century, Hunter College, 2012

Production and Presentation Grant to Individuals for High Life, Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, 2011

Research Initiation Grant for "New Sunbelt Living: The California Apartment and the Reinvention of American Urbanism, 1950-1990," Georgia State University, 2011

Summer Research Award, Department of History, Georgia State University, 2008

Real Estate Academic Initiative at Harvard University Research Grant, 2006

Graduate Society Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Harvard University, 2005-06

A. Alfred Taubman Center for State and Local Government Ph.D. Dissertation Fellowship, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 2005-06

Frederick Sheldon Traveling Fellowship, Harvard University, 2004-05

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Buildings & Landscapes journal (University of Minnesota Press)

- review editor, 2015 - present
- editorial board, 2014 - present

Urban History journal (Cambridge University Press)

- editorial board, 2016 - present

Society for American City and Regional Planning History

- board of directors, 2013 - present
- program committee co-chair, National Conference on Planning History 2015
- program committee, National Conference on Planning History 2013

Vernacular Architecture Forum

- board of directors, June 2015 - present

Urban History Association

- editor, exhibitions and websites bibliography, Urban History Newsletter, 2011 - present

manuscript reviewer: Oxford University Press, Cornell University Press, University of Minnesota Press, Temple University Press, Fordham University Press

Journal of American History, Journal of Planning Education and Research, Planning Perspectives, Journal of Planning History, Buildings & Landscapes, Business History, Histoire Social/Social History, Journal of Architectural Education, Urban History, Journal of Urban History, Journal of Architecture

grants reviewer: Social Science and Humanities Research Council (Canada)

author, "Comments on The Village Green Cultural Landscape Report, Parts I and II, Public Review Draft, May 31, 2013," submitted to The Village Green Owners Association, Los Angeles, CA, 2013

archives consultant (pro bono), Bannockburn Cooperators, Inc., Bethesda, Md., 2013

studio critic: City College Spitzer School of Architecture, New School for Social Research, Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation

## **COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

Hunter College

director, Master's in Urban Planning program, Department of Urban Affairs and Planning, 2014-15

College of Arts and Sciences Strategic Plan Implementation Committee, member, 2013-14

Harvard University

PhD dissertation committee member, A. Tanaka, 2016 -

Georgia State University

committees: curriculum, Heritage Preservation, undergraduate advisement

MA thesis advisor, G. L. Dubinson, "Slowly, Surely, One Plat, One Binder at a Time"

oral exams committees, Master's in Historic Preservation (various)

## **MEDIA APPEARANCES (SELECT)**

Olivia Schwob, "Brass Tacks: Affordability," Urban Omnibus, Feb. 22, 2017, [urbanomnibus.net](http://urbanomnibus.net)

Sheila Anne Feeney, "Mayor Bill de Blasio Announces Affordable Housing Progress, Met With Mixed Reviews," AM New York, July 26, 2016

Christopher Flavelle, "The Extreme-weather Defense Nobody Wants," Bloomberg View, July 11, 2016, [bloomberg.com](http://bloomberg.com)

Nick Leftley, "What Trump Towers Says About Donald Trump," ShortList, June 29, 2016, [shortlist.com](http://shortlist.com)

"Chinese Investors Bank on US Real Estate," Al Jazeera—Europe television, May 6, 2016

Abigail Savitch-Lew, "What Will a Larger Private-sector Role Mean for Public Housing?," City Limits, Mar. 18, 2016, [citylimits.org](http://citylimits.org)



Steven Thomson, "What We Can Learn from 100 Years of Affordable Housing in New York City," Van Alen: Stories, Mar. 11, 2016, vanalen.org

Sheila Anne Feeney, "Donald Trump's NYC Legacy," AM New York, Mar. 7, 2016.

Lynn Edmonds, "Expert: New York Can't Develop Its Way to Affordability," Queens Tribune, Mar. 3, 2016.

Eillie Zonzilotti, "The Long, Complicated History of Affordable Housing in New York," The Atlantic's CityLab, Feb. 26, 2016, citylab.com

Ava Kofman, "Venture Capital's Commune," Urban Omnibus, Feb. 3, 2016

Jordan G. Teicher, "The People Who Call New York's Affordable Housing Developments Home," Slate, Feb. 1, 2016

Cassie Owens, "Researchers Unearth 100-year-old Affordable Housing Solution," NextCity, nextcity.org, Dec. 29, 2015

"City Watch," guest on, WBAI-FM, New York, Dec. 19, 2015

"Eldridge & Co.," guest on, CUNY TV, WNYE-TV-D3, New York, Dec. 8, 2015

Kenneth Rosen, "An Affordable Place of One's Own," New York Times, Album column, Nov. 22, 2015, MB9; Lens Blog, lens.blogs.nytimes.com, Nov. 20, 2015

Peter Moskowitz, "Can New York Save Itself from Out-of-control Rents?," Vice, vice.com, Nov. 8, 2015

Dave Lucas, "Taxes and New York's Shrinking Population," WAMC-FM, Albany, N.Y., Sept. 18, 2015

Stephen Nessen, "The One Thing Donald Trump Didn't Inherit," WNYC-FM, New York, Aug. 24, 2015

Emily Badger, "How Donald Trump Abandoned His Father's Middle-class Housing Empire for Luxury Building," Washington Post, Aug. 10, 2015, A1

Douglas Garvas, "Entrevista Matthew Lasner: Viver em Condomínio Não Significa Viver as Costas Para a Cidade," Folha de Sao Paulo, July 26, 2015, Imóveis12

DnA [Design and Architecture], guest on episode "Has 'Zombie Urbanism' Gripped the Global City?," KCRW-FM, Santa Monica, Calif., Feb. 24, 2015

Constance Rosenblum, "Middle-class Lament: Rent," New York Times, June 1, 2014

Meghan Barr, "De Blasio Seeks to Develop Public Housing Land," Associated Press wire (various outlets), May 11, 2014

Sachin Shenolikar, "Can Artists Save Downtrodden Cities? A Look at Detroit's Latest Experiment," Real Business, Mar. 2014

Louise Dewast, "Port Authority Seeks to Cash in on West Side Real Estate Frenzy," The New York World, Mar. 7, 2014

Patrick Langston, "Condo Lifestyle Offers Much Food For Thought," Montreal Gazette, Oct. 25, 2013

Dan Rivoli, "City Reaches for Sky in Midtown Rezoning Plan," AM New York, Aug. 4, 2013  
— — — "Experts, Developers Say WTC Tenants Will Come," AM New York, May 13, 2013  
Jotham Sederstrom, "The Commercial Observer's 6th Annual Power 100," The Commercial Observer, Apr. 30, 2013  
"Radio Real Estate," guest on, KZSB-AM, Santa Barbara, Calif., Mar. 11, 2013  
Mary Umberger, "Chronicling How U.S. Condo Ownership Went Through the Roof," Los Angeles Times, Mar. 1, 2013  
— — — "Condo Living: The Untold Story," The Chicago Tribune, Dec. 21, 2012  
Emily Badger, "The Quiet Rise of the Much-maligned Condo," The Atlantic's AtlanticCities, Nov. 29, 2012, atlanticcities.com [now citylab.com]  
Kris Coronado, "Really, He's Gate Guy: Condo Doormen," Washington Post Express, Feb. 29, 2008

### **MEMBERSHIPS, PAST & PRESENT**

American Culture Association, American Historical Association, American Studies Association, Association of American Geographers, College Art Association, Popular Culture Association, Society for American City and Regional Planning History, Society of Architectural Historians, Urban Affairs Association, Urban Design Forum (New York), Urban History Association, Vernacular Architecture Forum