

# Amy Miller Dowell AIA

4140 SW Primrose St. • Portland, OR 97219  
Phone: 503.830.7227 • E-Mail: amillerdowell@me.com

---

## EDUCATION:

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 1986 | COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY<br>Master of Architecture<br>Master of Science in Historic Preservation |
| 1982 | UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY<br>B.A. Environmental Design in Architecture              |

## DISTINGUISHING QUALIFICATIONS

- Expertise in community revitalization, preservation, urban design, architecture and redevelopment.
- Strategic and motivational leader: stimulates thought, brings clarity to complex issues and inspires action.
- Well-networked within Portland's professional and civic communities.
- Strong teacher that provides both pedagogic and real world experience within the classroom.

## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Amy Miller Dowell is an architect and educator with broad expertise in revitalization, urban design, and housing in Portland, San Francisco and New York. Miller Dowell serves as an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Oregon Architecture Department and the Historic Preservation Program. She previously taught core classes, seminars and studios, first as a visiting professor in Eugene and then at the Portland Urban Architecture center. She also taught at University of California, Berkeley. She is recipient of three Graham Foundation for the Arts grants for two publications and a training program for affordable housing.

Miller Dowell was President of American Institute of Architects (AIA) Portland Chapter and delegate to AIA Oregon Board of Directors. She has also served on housing and community development corporation boards.

Miller Dowell worked at the Portland Development Commission for thirteen years, overseeing urban redevelopment programs, projects, and staff. She led the Lents Town Center and Gateway Regional Center Redevelopment Districts 2006-2011. Prior, she managed project initiatives resulting in catalyst redevelopments in the Old Town/China Town Historic District and the South Park Block area in downtown Portland. She directed the Ankeny-Burnside Development Framework, a policy and funding roadmap, that spurred revitalization of Portland's waterfront that resulted in new and historic reuse of buildings (University of Oregon Portland campus, Mercy Corps headquarters, and the upcoming School of Oriental Medicine), and major infrastructure improvements to Waterfront Park, Saturday Market, and Naito Parkway. For a number of years, she headed PDC's Midtown Blocks Redevelopment with a vision for reuse of historic buildings and the development of Director Park. Her work was integral in reversing proposed historic building clearance by the Park Blocks Foundation.

Miller Dowell was Co-Director and Head of Architecture at Portland Community Design (PCD), a non-profit design center. Under her direction, PCD produced the Cooper Street Bungalow Courts in SE Portland (winner of 2000 Governor's Livability Award), Sabin Duplexes on land leased sites, Housing Our Families four-plex in NE Portland, and Fairhaven Subdivision in Springfield.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

2006-2011

### **Neighborhood Manager, Urban Renewal District Manager**

PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (PDC) PORTLAND, OR

Manager of the Lents Town Center and Gateway Regional Center Urban Renewal Districts: includes management of district revitalization and catalyst site redevelopment, commercial street building rehabs, development assistance to new and existing businesses, property assembly, development agreements, grants, and improvements to local infrastructure such as streets and parks.

Responsibilities and Projects include:

- Fund Manager of \$15-22 million annual budgets for Lents and Gateway.
- Staff supervisor.
- Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Plan Amendment, 2008.
- Lents and Gateway EcoDistrict Pilots with Portland Sustainability Institute.
- Lents Town Center revitalization and redevelopment.
- Recruitment of grocery store development in underserved neighborhoods.
- 92/H Mixed-Use Residential/Commercial Redevelopment Project agreements.
- Foster-Woodstock Streetscape Enhancement Project with Transportation Bureau.
- Existing building commercial revitalization in Lents and Gateway.
- Five property acquisitions totaling \$5 Million.
- Gateway Park Acquisition and Design.
- Gateway Education Center.
- Lents and Gateway Green Features Grants.
- Lents Community Livability Grants.
- Business District Strategies in Lents and Gateway.
- Phase 3 and 4 Street Paving Projects with Transportation Bureau.
- Lents Park Master plan, Leach Botanical Garden Master Plan with Parks and Recreation.

1998-2006

### **Senior Project Manager**

PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (PDC) PORTLAND, OR

Responsible for PDC Downtown Portland redevelopment projects including mixed-use feasibility, development strategies and implementation, memorandum of understanding, development agreements, acquisition, stipulated condemnation settlement and disposition. Founding Chair of PDC Design Task Force and staff advisor to Mayor Vera Katz for 'Mayor's Design Initiative.'

Representative projects include:

- Ankeny/Burnside Development Framework, Report December 2006. Secured \$40M budget and policy imperatives to implement catalyst projects such as University of Oregon Portland Campus building with Venerable Properties, Saturday Market permanent home, Waterfront Park improvements with Parks & Recreation, and review of Old Town and Skidmore Historic District Design Guidelines with Bureau of Planning.
- Downtown Waterfront Development Opportunities Project, May 2003. Infill redevelopment plan for Portland's waterfront.
- Fire Station #1: design competition, redevelopment feasibility, and development negotiations and agreement.
- Disposition of Block 8 to Portland Fire and Rescue.
- Acquisition of Block 8: difficult negotiations resulted in stipulated condemnation settlement and included multiple hearings at City Council, Planning Commission, Historic Landmarks, and PDC Commission.
- Naito Parkway Reconstruction and Streetscape Standards.
- Waterfront Park Master Plan, Portland Parks TAC, 2003.

- Midtown District Development Potential: 8 block mixed-use redevelopment proposal, market analysis & development feasibility.
- Midtown Blocks Historic Assessment, September 2004, with Bureau of Planning.
- Midtown Planning Study: Advisory Council of Experts. Report, May 2001: mediated Park Block Foundation and owners' plans to tear down historic buildings.
- Midtown Blocks Urban Potential: retail strategy, June 2000.
- South Park Block 5: Director's Park development and agreements, 1999-2001.
- Study of alignment between Downtown available zoning capacity and Metro 2040 plan: Downtown Portland Development Capacity Study, May 2000.

1996-1998

**Co-Director, Head of Architecture**

PORTLAND COMMUNITY DESIGN (PCD) PORTLAND, OR

Co-Director of Portland's non-profit design center and community development corporation for affordable housing. Responsibilities included Head of Architectural Design, supervisor of staff (7), management of finances and oversight of Board of Directors. Served on Board of Directors.

Design Principal for:

- PCD/Rose CDC Cooper Street Bungalow Courts: 12 affordable ownership bungalows (2000 Governor's Livability Award), southeast Portland.
- Springfield CDC Fairhaven Houses: 14 affordable ownership bungalows, Springfield OR.
- Housing Our Families Infill Four-plex: 4 affordable rental units, northeast Portland.
- Sabin Duplexes: Multiple duplexes on scattered land lease sites for affordable home ownership, northeast Portland.
- Earth Conservation Corp. Offices: Tenant Improvement for Non-profit Native American agency, northeast Portland.
- REACH Transit Housing at 60th & Glisan, Project. 202 Units for affordable senior and family rental, and ownership town homes near a light rail station, northeast Portland.
- Portland Community Design Housing Prototype Plans: Affordable residential plans for low-income housing developers.
- Northwest Housing Alternatives Newell Creek Feasibility, Oregon City.
- San Rafael Cafe Interior, northeast Portland.

1993-1996

**Principal**

AMY MILLER, HOUSING AND URBAN DESIGN, SAN FRANCISCO & EUGENE

Projects include: Temple Beth Israel facilities expansion planning, Eugene. Housing specialist for Shevlin Riverfront Charrette, Bend. Consultant to Mission Housing Development Corporation, Graham Foundation for the Advancement of the Arts Grant to create housing and neighborhood urban design courses nationwide for low-income housing developers. Chen Residence Interior, Belvedere CA. Box Canyon Residence Addition, Island Park ID. Marcus Residence Interior, Sunriver OR.

1993

**Senior Designer**

TANNER LEDDY MAYTUM STACY, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Team member for the conversion of a vacant 1920's landmarked hotel and 1950's annex into the El Cortez Senior and Market Rate Housing, downtown San Diego.

1989-1993

**Senior Associate, Shareholder**

SOLOMON ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Project manager and designer of multiple family housing, urban design and planning, institutional and exhibition projects. Financial manager for principal on leave, 1991-92.

Projects:

- Downtown Strategic Plan: Los Angeles, housing strategy for the L.A. Community Redevelopment Agency.
- Fruitvale Transit Housing Charrette and Symposium for Spanish Speaking Unity Council, BART and City of Oakland.
- Palm Court Housing, San Jose
- Franklin-McKinley Community Center and Housing, Urban Design in San Jose for Santa Clara County Housing Authority, San Jose Housing Department and San Jose Parks and Recreation.
- East Santa Clara Street Housing and Medical Building Feasibility Study in San Jose.

- 1989                    **Designer**  
EMERY ROTH AND SONS, NEW YORK, NY  
Created zoning configuration and preliminary design for 28-story high-rise office tower in mid-town Manhattan, 400 Fifth Avenue. Designed duplex penthouses and glass curtain wall facade for residential high-rise, St. James's Plaza, Manhattan.
- 1988-1989            **Principal**  
MILLER-VERGANI ASSOCIATES, NEW YORK, NY  
Principal designer for Rosen-Golub apartment renovation in Manhattan.
- 1987-1989            **Family Business, Exporter**  
VERGANI PELLICERIA SPA, MILAN ITALY  
Opened USA wholesale market for fine Italian leather/fur coat manufacturer. Oversight of design, marketing, sales and export of collections to NY, Chicago and San Francisco, including trade shows in USA, Germany and Japan.
- 1986-1987            **Project Manager**  
DIMITRI BALAMOTIS ASSOCIATES, NEW YORK, NY  
Project team coordinator for design and construction documents for renovated historic barn for the Crowley House, Lyme, CT and Rosenblatt House, Irvington NY. Project team member for Tradnet Offices and Wender Residence, Manhattan.
- Summers  
1981-1985            **Junior Designer**  
CIARDULLO BALAMOTIS ASSOCIATES, NY for Cathedral Housing for the Elderly, and Mayer, Brown Platt Law Offices, Manhattan.  
HABS DRAWINGS FOR EDGAR ALAN POE COTTAGE, BRONX NY, Summer Historic Preservation project intern at Columbia University.  
WELTON BECKET ASSOCIATES, NY for drafting and model making.  
NOEL JEFFREY, NY for furniture portfolio.  
INSTITUTE OF URBAN AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT, BERKELEY, for publication of Monterey watershed study headed by Prof. Tom Dickert.

**TEACHING:**

- 1994-present            **Adjunct Instructor, Adjunct Associate Professor, Visiting Assistant Professor**  
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, undergraduate and graduate Department of Architecture, School of Architecture and Allied Arts and Portland Urban Architecture Graduate Program. Adjunct Instructor 2013. Adjunct Associate Professor 2007-2012. Visiting Assistant Professor, full-time 1994-96. Design studios, seminars, and core classes in Housing, Historic Preservation, and Urban Design.
- 1993                    Faculty Lecturer, University of California Berkeley, Architecture 100B-Spring, undergraduate core design studio.
- 1991-1994            Guest critic at UC Berkeley, undergraduate and graduate architecture programs.  
Guest critic at California College of Arts and Crafts, undergraduate housing studio.

**PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION:**

Licensed Architect, California 1994

**COMMUNITY SERVICE:**

President 2003, American Institute of Architects, Portland Chapter, Board Member 2000–2004  
Vice-President, Portland Bologna Sister City Association, 2006, Board Member 2003-2007  
Vice-President, Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives, Inc., Board Member 1998-2006  
Delegate, American Institute of Architects, Oregon Chapter, 2002-2003  
Delegate, Pacific Northwest Regional Chapter, American Institute of Architects, 2002-2003  
Board Member, Friends of Leach Garden, 2009 - present  
Board Member and Secretary, City Housing Development, Inc., 1997-2003  
Board Member, Portland Community Design, 1998-99  
Competition Advisory Committee, Courtyard Housing Competition, Bureau of Planning, 2008.  
National Trust for Historic Preservation, member  
Historic Preservation League of Oregon, member  
Association of Community Design Centers, member, 1997-99  
Community Development Network of Multnomah County, member, 1997-99  
City of Portland Blueprint 2000, Stakeholders Team, 1998-99

**GUEST SPEAKING:**

- 2010 Invited Facilitator, Oregon Design Conference, American Institute of Architects Oregon, Salishan OR, "Design Excellence Session."
- 2009 Speaker, American Institute of Architects Oregon, Center for Architecture, "Meaningful Alternatives for Architects," panel.
- 2008 Speaker, Oregon Downtown Development Association, Silverton OR, 'Economic Development Strategies for Success: Stories from the Trenches.'
- 2007 Invited Speaker, American Planning Association National Conference in Philadelphia, 'Where Urban Design and Historic Preservation Intersect.'
- 2005 - 2008 Speaker, American Institute of Architects, Portland Chapter, Intern Development Committee, 'Urban Design and Redevelopment.'
- 2003 Panel Moderator, AIA and Society for Marketing Professional Services, Portland Aerial Tram international design competition.
- 2002 Speaker, Pacific Northwest Regional Council - NAHRO (National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials). Annual Conference: Session.
- 2002 Speaker, Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, Technology Conference Portland, 'Regional Housing Trends and Technologies'
- 2000 Speaker and Tour, 'Cooper Street Bungalow Courts': AIA Housing Committee, Portland OR.
- 1997 Speaker, 'Portland Prototypes for Multi-Family Housing': AIA Housing Committee, Portland OR. Research presentation.

- 1997 Speaker, 'Affordable Housing': Urban League of Portland and Coalition For A Livable Future, Portland OR.
- 1997 Presentation of Work, Association for Community Design Centers National Conference, San Francisco CA.
- 1997 Speaker, American Planning Association, Oregon Chapter, Spring Conference in Salem OR.
- 1994 Speaker, Housing California 1994 Annual Conference, Sacramento CA.
- 1993 Guest Speaker, "Outside In - Inside Out: Housing and Urban Fabric," UC Berkeley, Environmental Design 104, graduate program.

**AWARDS AND GRANTS:**

- 2006/07 Finalist, Loeb Fellowship, Harvard University.
- 2000 'Governor's Livability Award,' Livable Oregon, for Cooper Street Bungalow Courts.
- 1999 'Excellence in Housing' award, Department of Oregon Housing and Community Services, for Cooper Street Bungalow Courts.
- 1997 Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Arts grant to create educational guidelines for Portland Community Design Housing Prototype Plans, affordable housing stock plans available through the world wide web site Enterprise Online. Grant received through Portland Community Design.
- 1993-1994 Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Arts grant for a design training seminar for non-profit developers and city officials nationwide. Consultant and coordinator; grant received through Mission Housing Development Corporation.
- 1991 Exhibition "3x3 Plus Nine," AIA Merit Award, sponsored by the Architectural Association of San Francisco and the San Francisco AIA, Contract Design Center.
- 1991 Installation "Infrastructure as Landscape," sponsored by University of California Berkeley, College of Environmental Design Gallery, Wurster Hall, with Gary Strang.
- 1986 Graham Foundation for the Advancement of the Arts grant for book Architecture and Body, 1988, Rizzoli, NY. Co-editor. Grant received through Columbia Graduate School of Architecture, Preservation and Planning.

**ARTICLE CITATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS:**

- 2011 Gateway Business Development Strategy, Portland Development Commission (PDC) (Manager).  
Lents Town Center Business District Strategy: 2010-2015, PDC (Manager).  
Gateway EcoDistrict Assesesment, PDC (Manager).
- 2009 Lents Town Center Redevelopment Feasibility, PDC, October (Manager).  
Sam Bennet, 'Mayor: Lents is last option for Beavers ballpark,' Oregon Daily Journal of Commerce, June 17.

- 2008 [Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Plan Amendment](#), PDC (Manager).  
[Lents Market Analysis](#), multiple documents, PDC (Manager).  
 Mark Larabee, 'Lents neighborhood might be Portland's diamond in the rough,' [Oregonian](#), October 11.  
 Erin Hoover Barnett, 'Strip Club Property Joins Lents Overhaul,' [Oregonian](#), July 3.  
[Portland Infill Design Toolkit](#), Bureau of Planning (Cooper Street Bungalow Court Citation).
- 2007 [Central Gateway Redevelopment](#), PDC, July (Contributor).  
 Diana Painter, 'Integrating Historic Preservation and Urban Design,' [American Planning Association, Urban Design & Preservation Division Newsletter, Conference Edition](#), (Ankeny-Burnside Development Framework published), April 14.  
 Anna Johns, 'Lents Town Center Awaits Its Reclaiming,' [Portland Tribune](#), February 6.
- 2006 [Ankeny-Burnside Development Framework](#), PDC and Bureau of Planning, December (Project Management).  
[Portland Saturday Market Permanent Home Study](#), PDC, December 6 (Project Management).  
 Jeff Barnard, 'Other States Debate Eminent Domain,' Interview, [Associated Press](#), September 19.  
 Su-Jin Yim, 'Old Town tries to light a fire to move station,' [Oregonian](#), April 13.  
[Portland Public Market Feasibility Study & Business Plan](#), PDC, March 7 (Contributor).  
 Jane Lotter, 'Growing Pains, as Portland Plans to Revitalize a Historic District, Some Say There's Such a Thing as Standing Too Tall,' [Preservation Online, magazine of the National Trust for Historic Preservation](#), March 24.  
 Su-Jin Yim, 'New estimates put downtown fire station plans in doubt,' [Oregonian](#), February 23.  
 Brian Libby, 'PDC's Amy Miller Dowell on Ankeny Plaza, Saturday Market and Fire Station 1,' [Portland Architecture](#), January 17.
- 2005 [Infill Design Project Report: Medium Density Residential Development](#); Bureau of Planning, October 10 (Cooper Street Bungalow Court and Sabin Duplexes cited).  
 Brian Libby, 'Women in Architecture,' [Portland Architecture](#), September 17.  
 Brian Libby, 'Ankeny Square Potential,' [Portland Architecture](#), May 23.  
 John Bell, 'Old Town firehouse closer to reality,' [Portland Tribune](#), April 12.  
 Brian Libby, 'Designing Tom Potter, will the new mayor put his stamp on Portland architecture?' [Portland Architecture](#), February 16.  
 Staff, 'Plaza plans move forward,' [Portland Tribune](#), August 30.
- 2004 [Portland Midtown Blocks Historic Assessment](#), Bureau of Planning, September (Contributor).  
[Portland Park Avenue Urban Design Vision](#), Bureau of Planning, September 24 (Contributor).  
 Aimee L. Curl, 'Exhibit details Portland's urban renewal history,' [Portland Daily Journal of Commerce](#), Vol. 218, No. 1, September 1.  
 Randy Gragg, 'Full view of city's urban renewal lacking,' [Oregonian](#), September 12.  
[Portland Fire Station 1 Relocation: Real Estate/Economic Impact Report](#), PDC, May 13 (Project Management).
- 2003 John Cava, 'Outsider's Perspective: Developer's View – Putting the Design Cart Before the Zoning Horse,' Interview, [Arcade, Architecture/Design in the Northwest – Regulating Design](#), 21/3, Spring, p. 31.  
[Waterfront Park Master Plan](#), Portland Parks & Recreation, May, (contributor).  
[Downtown Waterfront Development Opportunities Project](#), PDC, April 11 (Project Management).

- Cody McCullough, 'AIA President Wants to Make a Difference,' Interview, Daily Journal of Commerce, February 25.
- KJ Fields, 'Industry Leaders Foresee Slow, But Steady, Recovery,' Interview, Daily Journal of Commerce, January 27.
- 2002 Downtown Portland Retail Strategy; PDC, June 4, (contributor).
- 2001 Midtown Blocks Planning Study: Report of the Advisory Council of Experts; PDC, May (Project Management).
- 2000 Downtown Portland Development Capacity Study, PDC, May 2000 (Project Management).  
 Karl Mawson, 'Interview with Marcy McInelly,' Oregon Planners' Journal, Vol. 17, no. 3, July/August.  
 Jan Behrs, 'A Women's Place,' The Oregonian, Sabin Duplexes, July 30, p. H1.  
 Barry Finnemore, 'Courtyard Bungalows,' Urban Land, July, p. 94.  
 'Cooper Street Bungalow Court Condominiums,' The Oregonian, June 28, 2000.  
 Stephanie Basalyga, 'Seven Projects Nab Governor's Livability Award,' Daily Journal of Commerce, June 16, p. 1.  
 FOX News Extra, Interview, 'South Park Block 5,' April 23.  
 Pacesetters, Daily Journal of Commerce, February 14, p. 7.
- 1999 Randy Gragg, 'The Architecture of Boom,' The Oregonian, December 19, p. D1.  
 Jan Behrs, 'First Timer's Journal, Affordable Bungalows,' The Oregonian, October 31, p. H1.  
 Wade Nkrumah, 'City tour belies objections to infill development,' The Oregonian, August 24.  
Concept Design: The Midtown Blocks; PDC, May 18 (Project Management).
- 1993 Downtown Strategic Plan: Los Angeles; Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles, Solomon Architecture and Planning.
- 1993 Downtown Strategic Plan: Los Angeles; Peter Katz, The New Urbanism, Knopf, Solomon Architecture and Planning.
- 1992 Project, Palm Court Multiple Family Housing; Architecture, February, Solomon Architecture and Planning.
- 1992 Project, Palm Court Multiple Family Housing; Daniel Solomon, Re-Building, 1992, Princeton Architectural Press, Princeton, N.J.
- 1985-1988 Co-editor of Architecture and Body, book published in 1988 by Rizzoli, NY, circulation 4,000 copies. Sponsored by Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, Precip 7. Contributors include Kenneth Frampton, Tadao Ando, Alvaro Siza, Lars Lerup, Sverre Fehn, Beatriz Colomina, Fred Thompson, John Knesl and Walter Pichler.
- 1987-1988 Student projects, Precis 6 and Architecture and Body, Rizzoli, NY. Sponsored by Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation.

#### **RESEARCH, EDITING, EXHIBITS:**

- 2004 Curator, History of Urban Renewal in Downtown Portland, sponsored by Portland Development Commission at AIA Portland Gallery, September. Currently permanent exhibit in PDC lobby.



- 1995-1998      Research of multi-family housing types in Portland, OR. Director of project, with participation of UofO students enrolled in special Research and Independent Study Courses.
- 1993-1994      Research of urban design issues in growing western communities, State of Idaho.
- 1991            Content editing of book by Barbara Stoffacher Solomon, Good Mourning California, 1992, Rizzoli, NY.
- 1991            Content editing of book chapter by Daniel Solomon in Re-Building, 1992, Princeton Architectural Press, Princeton, NJ
- 1987            Research and content editing of article by Diana Agrest, "Architecture from Without: Body, Logic and Sex," Assemblage 7, 1988, MIT Press, Boston, MA.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:**

- 2010            Entrepreneur Development Series, Small Business Development Center, Portland Community College
- 2007            Negotiations, National Development Council
- 2006            Commercial Real Estate Finance, Portland State University
- 2003, 2000      Real Estate Finance, National Development Council
- Various        National Main Street Conference Boston; Urban Land Institute National Conferences Boston; National Planning Association Conference Philadelphia; American Institute of Architecture National Conference San Diego, Charlotte; Rail~Volution, Chicago; Oregon Design Conferences AIA Oregon, Salishan; Construction Management Association of America National Conference, Washington DC.