

Olympic Sculpture Park



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Olympic Sculpture Park



- ▶ The Emerald City
- ▶ From Brownfield to Public Space
- ▶ Design
- ▶ Habitat
- ▶ Art
- ▶ Green & Sustainable

From Brownfield...



Property of Museum of History & Industry, Seattle

▶ Olympic Sculpture Park

... To Public Space

- ▶ Seattle Art Museum
- ▶ \$17 million for land
- ▶ \$85 million total construction and acquisition costs
- ▶ Museum benefactors
- ▶ Trust for Public Lands



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- ▶ Olympic Sculpture Park

Design



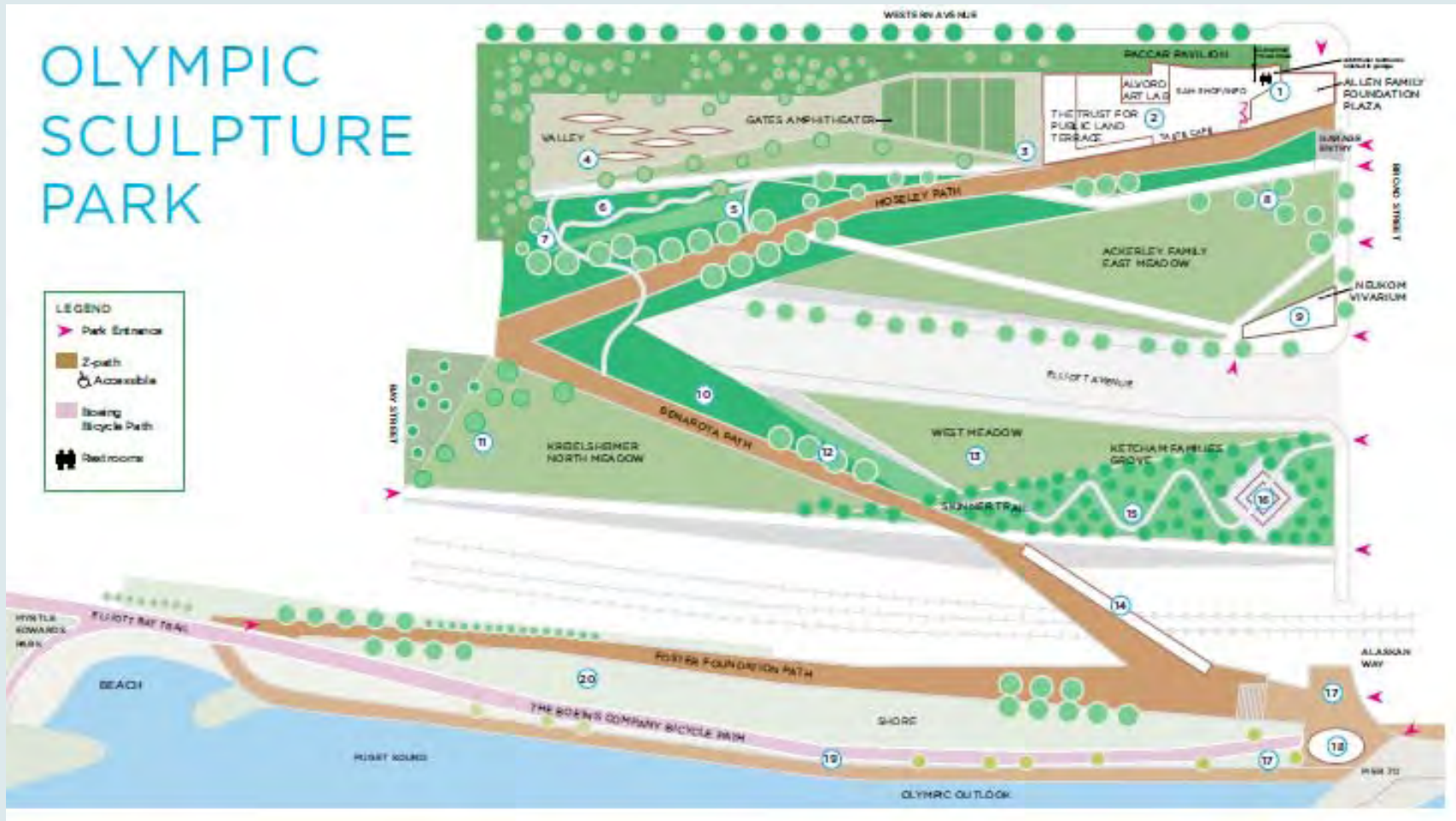
<http://www.seattleartmuseum.org/bettybowen/OSP/Media/ospanimation.aspx>

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- ▶ Olympic Sculpture Park

Design



Habitat



▶ Olympic Sculpture Park

Habitat

The seawall: Changing the landscape under water

The sculpture park isn't just on the land. It extends into Puget Sound. There, workers dumped 50,000 tons of rock and gravel into the water along a section of Seattle's waterfront. That created a "habitat bench" of shallow underwater terrain. They also built a small beach at the southern edge of Myrtle Edwards Park. Scientists hope the shallow bench and the artificial beach – more than 1,000 feet of shoreline in all – will be a refuge for juvenile salmon coming from the nearby Duwamish River. The project's creators also want it to spark public interest in ecological revitalization of the downtown waterfront, and to serve as a test case for future work on the rest of the seawall.

Habitat bench

A 15-to-20-foot-wide "bench" is the cornerstone of the habitat improvement. It's covered in shallow water, except during very low tides. This "intertidal zone" is typically an ecologically rich area, with seaweed and also crustaceans and worms that serve as food for young chinook. The earlier seawall destroyed the intertidal zone, replacing it with a sheer concrete wall, deeper water and big rocks that provided little room for seaweed. The new bench is covered with much finer gravel meant to encourage plant growth.

The lower slope

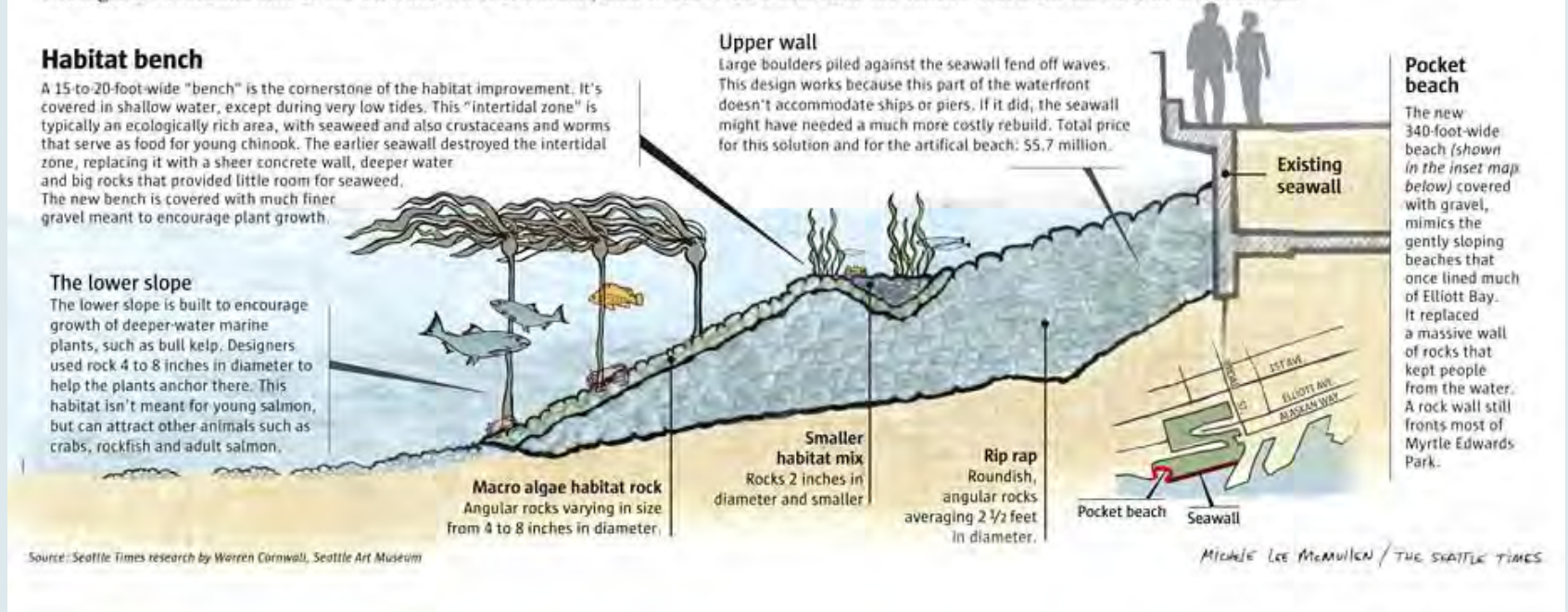
The lower slope is built to encourage growth of deeper-water marine plants, such as bull kelp. Designers used rock 4 to 8 inches in diameter to help the plants anchor there. This habitat isn't meant for young salmon, but can attract other animals such as crabs, rockfish and adult salmon.

Upper wall

Large boulders piled against the seawall fend off waves. This design works because this part of the waterfront doesn't accommodate ships or piers. If it did, the seawall might have needed a much more costly rebuild. Total price for this solution and for the artificial beach: \$5.7 million.

Pocket beach

The new 340-foot-wide beach (shown in the inset map below) covered with gravel, mimics the gently sloping beaches that once lined much of Elliott Bay. It replaced a massive wall of rocks that kept people from the water. A rock wall still fronts most of Myrtle Edwards Park.



Source: Seattle Times research by Warren Cornwall, Seattle Art Museum

Art

- ▶ Louise Bourgeois
- ▶ Alexander Calder
- ▶ Anthony Caro
- ▶ Mark di Suvero
- ▶ Mark Dion
- ▶ Teresita Fernandez
- ▶ Ellsworth Kelley
- ▶ Roy McMakin
- ▶ Louise Nevelson
- ▶ Claes Oldenburg & Coosje van Bruggen
- ▶ Roxy Paine
- ▶ Beverly Pepper
- ▶ Richard Serra
- ▶ Tony Smith

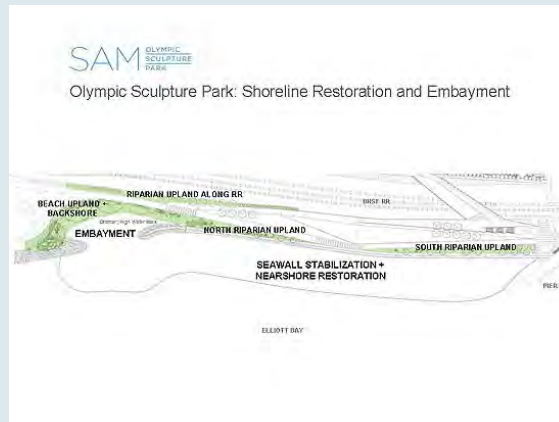
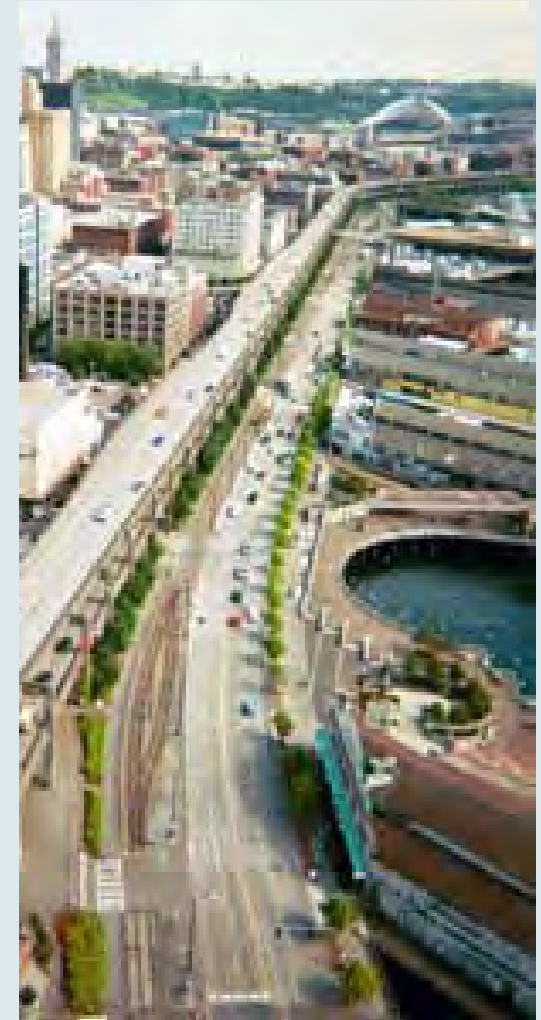


Art



Green & Sustainable

- ▶ \$20 million endowment
- ▶ Linkages to Myrtle Edwards Park, waterfront & Belltown
- ▶ Brownfield remediation
- ▶ Maintained organically
- ▶ Seawall model for renovating other parts of Elliott Bay
- ▶ Inspiration – replace Alaskan Way Viaduct to open up rest of downtown to Elliott Bay



Resources

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<http://proxy.library.upenn.edu:2659/hww/results/external_link_maincontentframe.jhtml?_DARGS=/hww/results/results_common.jhtml.42>.
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- ▶ "Seattle Park Shoreline Caters to Salmon." Parks & Recreation 42.3 (2007): 25-.
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- ▶ University of Washington Libraries, <http://content.lib.washington.edu/u?/imlsmohai,1043>
- ▶ Weiss/Manfredi Website, <http://www.weissmanfredi.com>

