

# Civic Center Landscape Architects

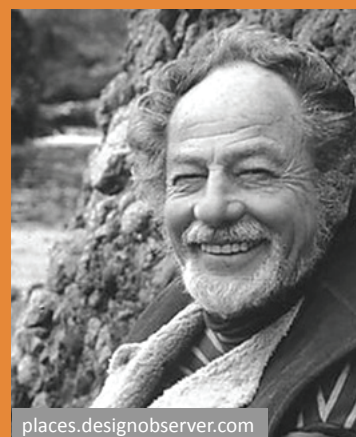
## Lawrence Halprin

Lawrence Halprin (1916-2009) was an influential landscape architect and theorist whose career spanned nearly 65 years until his death at the age of 93. Halprin was born in Brooklyn, New York in 1916 and moved to San Francisco after World War II. He worked for Thomas Church's office from 1945 until opening his own practice in 1949. He authored nine books on landscape theory and design. His most notable works include: Sea Ranch site plan in Sonoma County (1962-1967), renovation of Ghirardelli Square in San Francisco (1962-1968, Larkmark #30), Portland Open-Space Sequence (1965- 1978), Freeway Park in Seattle (1970-1974), Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial in Washington, D.C. (1976-1997), and numerous residential gardens, campus master plans, and civic and institutional projects in the United States and abroad.



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Halprin designed United Nations Plaza (1975) to commemorate the founding of the United Nations in Civic Center in 1945.



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Photograph of Lawrence Halprin from the Design Observer Group

Halprin's urban designs focused on the role of the landscape architect in reshaping the American city during the urban renewal efforts of the mid to late 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Halprin understood his designs as inseparable from the social, cultural and natural contexts in which his projects were located. Halprin received much recognition for his work during his lifetime, including such honors as the AIA Medal for Allied Professionals in 1964, the ASLA gold medal in 1978, the Presidential Design Award for the FDR Memorial in 2000, and the National Medal of the Arts in 2002.

Charles Birnbaum and Stephanie Foell, *Shaping the American Landscape: New Profiles from the Pioneers of American Landscape Design Project*, (University of Virginia Press, 2009), 124-127.

John King, "Lawrence Halprin-landscape architect-dies," *San Francisco Chronicle*, October 27, 2009. <http://www.sfgate.com/news/article/Lawrence-Halprin-landscape-architect-dies-3212769.php>

Lyndon, Donlyn, "Lawrence Halprin, 1916-2009," Design Observer Group, October 30, 2009. <http://places.designobserver.com/feature/lawrence-halprin-1916-2009/11617/>