



## About Sarah Gronquist

Ms Gronquist has been a licensed landscape architect since 2004. She has been teaching landscape architecture since 2006, working with Ray Freeman's LARE Preparatory Courses. She has served as an adjunct professor at many Bay Area institutions, including UC Berkeley, UC Extension, Merritt College, and Berkeley's Owner Builder Center. She also developed online courses in grading and drainage for San Francisco's Academy of Art University, with separate tracks for undergraduates and graduate students.

After earning an undergraduate degree as a sculptor, she quickly became interested in applying her design skills on larger scale projects. She earned her MLA at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and then made her way to California. Since that time, she has worked on a wide range of design projects, including private residential gardens, creek restorations, affordable housing developments, public park settings for monumental sculptures, and commercial mixed-use permitting and master planning. Her approach is characterized by an enthusiasm for collaboration, skilled integration of big ideas into conventional construction documents, and finding fresh ways of thinking about institutional-scale landscape design and construction.

She was an early adopter of Alameda County's ReScope (formerly Bayfriendly) landscape sustainability rating program. She was a member of the first class of Bayfriendly Qualified Landscape Professionals back in 2006, and continues to volunteer and teach at ReScope events throughout California.

As a lifelong learner, Ms Gronquist is also an enthusiastic teacher. Her SGLA Technical Training website at [www.sarahgronquist.com](http://www.sarahgronquist.com) is the registration portal for LARE webinars. New on-demand courses for the California Supplemental Exam and for refreshing basic grading skills are also available there, along with many free resources for landscape professionals seeking to learn and grow.

## Education

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS Amherst, MA  
1998 Masters Degree in Landscape Architecture. 1996 Rhoades Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement. Masters Project: Subdivision codes as a design tool for shaping public/private outdoor space at the Pine St. Cohousing project.

WELLESLEY COLLEGE Wellesley, MA  
1989 BA cum laude. Major in Art History/Studio Art. Foreign study, 1987-88 in Florence, Italy. Concentration in Foundry Arts - Bronze Sculpture.

## Professional Experience

THUILOT ASSOCIATES 2015-2018, 2022-present  
This small design-oriented firm provides landscape architectural services to clients throughout the Bay Area. Ms Gronquist manages commercial and multi-family renovation projects in the South Bay with an emphasis on construction documentation and construction administration.

PLACEWORKS 2018-2021  
As an Associate Principal within this large multi-disciplinary planning and design firm, Ms Gronquist balanced her time between managing a small design team, pursuing new design contracts, and providing construction administration services. She also collaborated with planning divisions within the company to write design standards and support City staff in planning review for proposed projects throughout California. As a Rescape Rater, she provided plancheck review and facilitation for public projects seeking sustainability credits and participated in Alameda County's development of a GIS database for cities working towards SB 1383 Compost and Mulch compliance. Other project work included developing project text and graphics for CEQA review, grant proposals and public outreach for city parks, hiking trail and habitat protection plans for old growth redwood tracts, and developing stakeholder outreach toolkits for cities and park districts.

SARAH GRONQUIST, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT 2005-2015  
Working as a sole proprietor, Ms Gronquist provided a wide range of landscape architectural services, including graphic and technical support for projects in grantwriting/proposal stages, schematic design, construction document production, and permit negotiations and documents. Her clients included private homeowners, monumental figurative sculptors, and public utilities. She also began her association with the Freeman-Jewell teaching team during this time, co-teaching in-person weekend intensives preparing landscape professionals to take the LARE.

#### OFFICE OF CHARLES McCULLOCH

2001- 2006

Project manager, CAD manager. Projects included a Tibetan Buddhist retreat center in Sonoma County, private residential gardens, and non-profit multi-family housing. Public projects frequently included gardens built on structure over ground level parking, with close coordination with other disciplines to manage waterproofing, irrigation, stormwater infiltration and lighting details. Ms. Gronquist was responsible for grading and drainage plans, construction detailing, hardscape layout and planting, Bayfriendly and LEED coordination with other disciplines, Photoshop composite illustrations and hand graphics, and section/perspective illustrations in AutoCAD.

#### CHRIS HECHT LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND INSTALLATION

1994-95, 2006-present

Ms. Gronquist was the landscape architect of record for this design-build Oakland company, which specialized in private residential projects, often involving stone masonry and boulder placement to create gardens on steep hillsides. She provided schematic designs, section/elevation drawings, construction detailing, permit documents and liaison with City staff when design review was required.

#### DAVID THORNE, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

2005-2006

CAD manager, construction detailing, illustrative graphics in CAD. This firm specializes in high-end residential design, providing custom detailing and fabrication including pool and fountain design.

#### PATTILLO & GARRETT ASSOCIATES

1998-2001

Project management, planting and hardscape design, irrigation design, construction document production in AutoCAD and Microstation, construction administration, and marketing development. Ms. Gronquist worked on a wide variety of projects, including public housing, private religious facilities, commercial developments, and transit plazas for BART, VTA, and Amtrak.

#### **Licensure and Certifications**

Ms. Gronquist has been a licensed landscape architect in the State of California since 2004. She is also a ReScape Qualified Rater and a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects.