

GOTHIC INFRASTRUCTURE

completing the monument of Rainier Vista



Image Credit: Studio 216 | LMN Architects | GGN



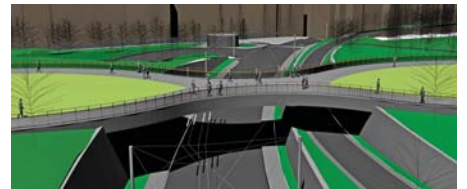
CURRENT



PROPOSED

(Far left) Current Conditions showing the isolation of the Montlake Triangle among the multiple surface roads and intersection.

(Left) Illustrative Site Plan showing the extension of Rainier Vista as a land bridge over a lowered NE Pacific Place onto the Montlake Triangle, connecting to the new Sound Transit Stadium Station by a pedestrian bridge.



(Above right) Digital Model of the Lower Rainier Vista land bridge spanning a lowered NE Pacific Place and uniting the campus with the formerly isolated Montlake Triangle.

(Right) Aerial Rendering of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition grounds in 1909, emphasizing the dramatic view towards Mt. Rainier from the core of the grounds surrounding Drumheller Fountain.



Image Credit: Seattle Public Library

Design Concept



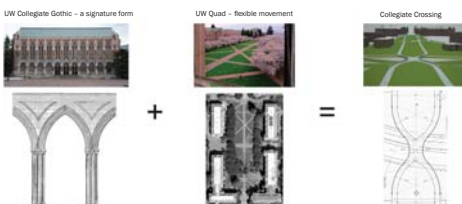
Broken Ground

Reconnected/Carved

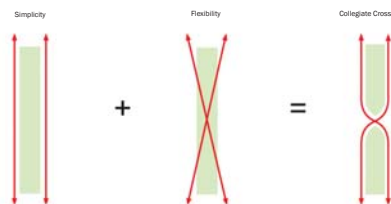
Add Axis Object

Framing Edge

Character Inspires Form



Function Informs Circulation



GUSTAFSON GUTHRIE NICHOL

University of Washington Montlake Triangle
Location: Seattle, WA

Client: Regents of the University of Washington
Size: 6.3 Acres
Completion Date: 2013 (anticipated)
Civil and Structural Consultant: KPFF
Station and Montlake Pedestrian Bridge: LMN
Lighting Consultant: Pivotal
Electrical Consultant: AEI

Project Description

The Rainier Vista axis is a central component of the University of Washington's historic campus layout. The Vista was first conceived by the Olmsted Brothers as the central axis for the Alaska Yukon Exposition in the early 1900s, framing a grand view of Mount Rainier. The Vista remains a signature feature for the University, linking the heart of the historic, collegiate-gothic campus with Drumheller Fountain and the famous view of "the Mountain."

The design for the Lower Rainier Vista attempts to integrate the isolated ground of Montlake Triangle with two moves. One is lowering NE Pacific Place between the campus and Montlake Triangle effectively creating a single land mass through which NE Pacific Place is carved. The second move is the extension of the monumental axis onto Montlake Triangle with a land bridge. By claiming Montlake Triangle as part of the Rainier Vista axis, the University returns to previous visions that intended for the Triangle to act as both a terminus of the axis and a threshold into the University. By clarifying and asserting the presence of the Rainier Vista, the purity of the intent to frame the monumental view is restored and the identity of the central campus is solidified.