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NORTHWEST WASHINGTON ARCHITECT

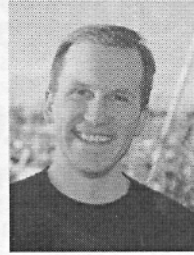


A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS: SERVING ISLAND, SAN JUAN, SKAGIT AND WHATCOM COUNTIES

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“Soundings . . .”

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Spring is approaching and life will once again burst forth in new leaves, colors and textures. It’s a time of anticipation, beauty, rain and sun. Even so, in my life, transition is here with all its expectancy, challenge and opportunity.

In my last “Soundings,” in 2004, I announced my partnership with Jerry Roetcisoender at JWR Design in Lynden. Since then, I’ve worked to create the Architecture portion of that firm, designing custom homes, multifamily and commercial projects. Now, I’m preparing to re-open my own firm, Sean Hegstad Architect, taking with me an increased level of business sense, design experience and client collaboration skills.

Brian Ahlers, a hard-working, dedicated employee at JWR Design will join me in my new firm. He is looking forward to helping make SHA a success. His experience and strengths range from extensive construction knowledge, quality draftsmanship and an easy manner with people. We plan on using these skill sets to move SHA forward as an important contributor to our community.

Here is an overview of some of my recent work:



Fairhaven Gardens, spanning Mill Street between 11th and 12th, is a successful addition to the Fairhaven community, with its close integration of local early 20th century vernacular and French Renaissance elements. This project is five stories and contains a mix of ground-level retail, two levels of concealed parking and an assortment of condominium types. The building carefully terraces down the hillside to allow water views, some offer roof gardens, to many of the residents. As an added benefit, those without a water view share a view to a central courtyard on the third floor. This project is one of my favorites and I receive a lot of positive response to the design.

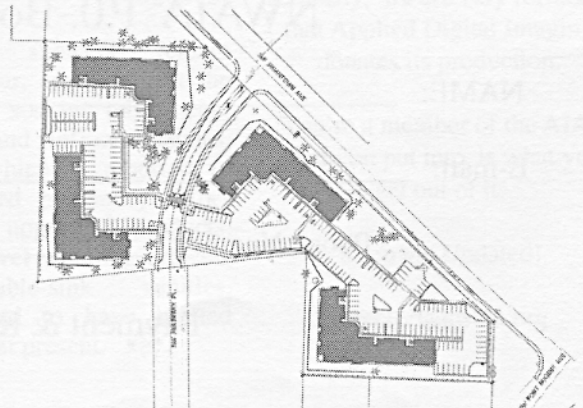
The custom speculative homes for HBC Construction are a careful study of shape and restraint on small lots within the Lake Whatcom watershed. We were only allowed to cover 15% of the lot with building area and an additional 15% for all additional surfaces. The owner had two lots, so we used a shared driveway to a lower-level garage for both designs. Building and window placement were very important due to the “window” of view available to both residences. The client is also pursuing LEED certification for both projects so these homes will be an intelligent addition within the watershed.

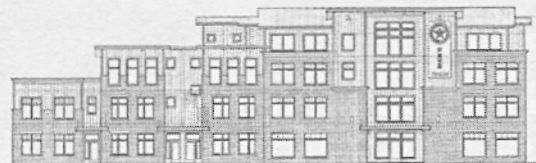
Rendering by: Rick Mullen



The Sousa residence is a Frank Lloyd Wright inspired home with a contemporary interior. Located along the Sudden Valley golf course, the client selected a style of home that matched their interests in craftsmanship, style and presentation. We paid close attention to the relationship between the FLW details, more contemporary materials and finish work that the client requested.

Franklin Manor is a 154-unit, four-building condominium project designed for a restrictive lot in Oak Harbor. The site planning was the most challenging portion of this project due to the shape of the lot, city requirements, topography and the roadway dedication that was required through the middle of the project. We created two different building types to accommodate the different allowable densities on each side of the development. This project is awaiting City Council approval and some plan modifications and will be ready for submittal in a couple of months.





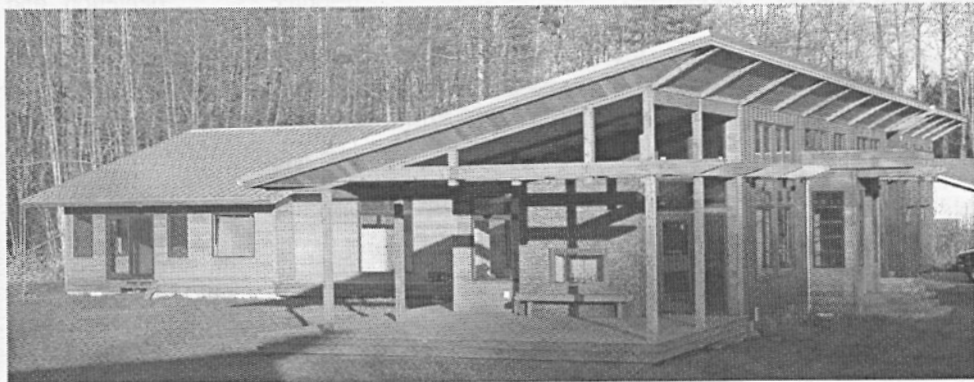
Some mixed-use projects currently in the permitting stages include Dupont Street Mixed-Use and 32nd Street Condos. Both projects have been very rewarding and are located on compact lots in Bellingham. With all of the varied requirements from the City these projects took some creative steps and turns but the end result for both projects closely reflected the clients' desires along with some valuable City input.

We have completed drawings for a tilt-up office/warehouse complex within the Lynden area. This project has three unique features: integrated brick inlay on many of the panels, LEED certification for the entire complex and solar panel integration on the roofs of the buildings. Several of the LEED features include: Fly Ash concrete, day lighting, solar collection, carpool and alternative transportation, and several other valuable features. Environmentally sustainable design is one area I plan to develop further in my practice, so in April I will be testing for LEED Certification.



We also have several exciting projects on the boards, including a partial timber frame addition to the Western Refinery Services office, several residential additions in the surrounding counties, a tilt-up office/warehouse building and a four-story, 16-unit apartment building.

Designing my own home, however, is the biggest highlight of my career so far. In the Spring of 2005, my wife and I purchased five acres of country land. It has trees in the front and back, and a marshy area that we will eventually clear for a pond. For several years, I had been drawing a series of design concepts and it happened that the property we found follows the design ideas closely. It only took a little refining to create our new home and guest house/office.



In 2006, we started construction on our new home on Aldergrove Road in Ferndale. Some of the key features are: a contemporary/Northwest style, radiant floor heat, metal-clad wood windows and natural materials such as quartzite ledge stone on the fireplaces, slate in the entry, cedar siding and beams, honey brown granite kitchen countertops, stone tile in the master shower and Asian Rosewood floors.

Environmental features include: solar heat gain via large southern facing windows, Forest Stewardship Council certified wood flooring and windows, and pre-wiring for solar panels.



We have lived in our new home for almost a year, now. Our second son, Joshua, was born shortly after we settled-in. We look forward to many years with the boys tromping through the mud and woods.

As Architects, we create the spaces where life not only happens, but very often, where lives begin and an understanding of the world is formed. Now that I've built my own home, I feel a greater connection to the needs of my clients and an even greater responsibility to work closely with them and listen well so I can craft my design to their needs.



I look forward to continuing this exciting challenge in the years ahead at Sean Hegstad Architect. •

