



RICHARD BLAGBORNE

Strategic Planner

International Exposition Consultant

Architecture & Planning Consultant

Designer & Creative Facilitator

Richard Blagborne's extensive career has included responsibilities for strategic planning, master planning, urban planning, programming, architectural design, project management administration and operations management.

After graduation from the Faculty of Architecture at the University of British Columbia in 1970, he was employed by Arthur Erickson Architects for thirteen years, wherein he managed comprehensive international projects in the Middle East and at home in Canada. Subsequently, as an independent consultant, he has collaborated with many firms on a variety of local and international projects.

Mr. Blagborne's interest and profound knowledge of international expositions has led to senior appointments with master planning teams at Vancouver Canada's Expo86, Seville Spain's Expo92 and independent consulting roles with international exposition planning teams in Germany, Hungary, Portugal, and recently in participation with Bing Thom Architects of Vancouver, in the Shanghai 2010 World Exposition competition for planning ideas.

His diverse experience, and natural ability to lead and inspire has also attracted clients with a variety of other exposition, fair and large site visitor management challenges such as: visitor planning for Canada's National Capital Commission in Ottawa, master planning for Wisconsin State Fair Park and the City of Vancouver Hastings Park, museum planning for the State of Rhode Island, and consultant for a Tall Ships event in Connecticut.

From his home in the Gulf Islands of British Columbia, Richard Blagborne often collaborates with specific project teams in an integrated process by relocating to project or team office locales for significant periods. His attention, skill, and ability in the conceptual phases of projects has led to many roles as a creative facilitator, advising and assisting clients to refine project goals and the specific strategies necessary to achieve them.

World Expositions are not fanciful liberated design exercises. They are very complex, highly politicized planning processes with urgent needs for decision in order to complete enormous amounts of work before an immutably fixed opening date. The planning team itself constantly grows and changes until it suddenly disappears on inauguration day. This is a recipe for high pressure chaos, but it is also a great training ground for learning the value of clear visions, practical ideas and clean decisions.

Richard Blagborne

RICHARD BLAGBORNE
SELECTED EXPERIENCE
INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITIONS



Thanks to Richard Blagborne's enthusiasm, his expertise, his honesty, we did the right thing at the right time with the right people.

Juan Correos
 Deputy Commissioner General
 Expo 92 Sevilla Spain

EXPO 2010 Shanghai, China

Advisor/planner: Mr. Blagborne provided analysis and creative functional concepts to Bing Thom Architects during development of a proposed Shanghai Expo2010 Master Plan. This was part a 2004 competition for ideas with only seven internationally recognized firms selected to participate. Many ideas were subsequently incorporated into what has become the largest international exposition ever held under BIE regulations.

EXPO 2000 Hanover, Germany 1997

Advisor: Mr. Blagborne was invited to Hanover, Germany and given a contract to review the overall planning of the International Exposition and to comment on development of the themed areas.

EXPO 98 Lisbon, Portugal 1993

Consultant: Mr. Blagborne was on the project management team for the 1998 Lisbon International Exposition with W.S. Atkins of London England, Bechtel Corporation of the United States, and two local Portuguese firms to contest the international competition. After lengthy submissions and negotiations this team won the competition. The Portuguese organizers subsequently abandoned the competition and awarded contracts via a different route.

EXPO 96 Budapest, Hungary

When Vienna withdrew from the 1995 Vienna/Budapest International Exposition, Hungary continued alone and solicited approval from the International Bureau of Expositions. Consulting contracts included:

Planning Review

The Program Office for the 1996 International Exposition in Budapest requested a Planning Review of existing work and preparation of planning recommendations prior to final submission to parliament for powers to continue with the project.

Consultation

Specific advice and support was given to the Director, before and during the submissions along with review sessions with the official international expositions approving committee (B.I.E.).

Expo96 Marketing Strategies

This was a subcontract to a Canadian Consortium contracted by the Budapest Planning Office to attract major sponsors.

RICHARD BLAGBORNE SELECTED EXPERIENCE INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITIONS



Richard is a compelling advocate, and his strong leadership both in design and administration was the essence of how Expo 86 achieved its unique character.

Patrick Reid
Commissioner General Expo 86

EXPO92 Seville, Spain

In 1986 Mr. Blagborne was invited to give a presentation to the local architectural institute on the topic of international exposition design. He subsequently accepted a contract with the Commissioner General's planning team, which was extended to the State Corporation created to complete the design, construction and operation of the exposition. Residency was mandatory in Spain during the first two years, although some special projects were completed in Canada. Mr. Blagborne's responsibilities under the Divisions of the Sociedad Estatal para la Exposicion Internacional, Sevilla, included:

Director of the International Master Plan Team, 1987 – As Director of the Master Planning Team assembled in Seville, Mr. Blagborne produced an overall master plan of the exposition site. The Plan Director was used as the basis for site design and construction.

Advisor to Senior Department Executives, 1988-1992 (General) – A contract was developed to provide advice and assistance to the Commissioner General, General manager, and Director of Design and Construction of the Expo92 Corporation, and was subsequently extended to include senior staff of Contents, Participants and Operations departments.

Consultant in Exhibit Design Research, 1989 (Contents Division) – An international search of exhibit design and fabrication firms with experience in expositions, evaluation of their capabilities prior to the competitions for design of contents in the Expo92 Theme Pavilions.

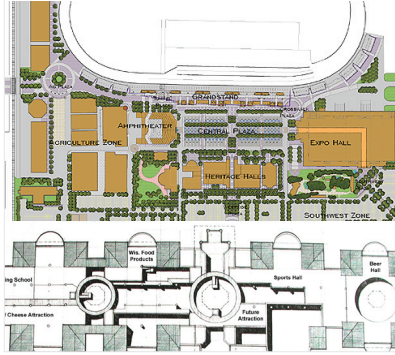
Planner for La Cascada Area Plan, 1990 (Planning Division) – Site planning and landscape design of a specific 8-hectare parcel (Area Cascada) within the exposition site as a demonstration of planning process. (In collaboration with The Schnadlebach Partnership - landscape architects from New York, New York.)

Advisor for Expo92, Seville Technomagica, 1988 (Planning Division) – A team was assembled in Canada to develop the concepts of a separate project to present imaginative and relevant possibilities for an amusement zone. The workbook produced illustrated design criteria, demonstrated examples and recommended development strategies.

EXPO 86 Vancouver, British Columbia, Vice President, EXPO86 Corporation 1984-1986

Planning & Development Planner: As Vice-President, the major task was to unite the Site Planning Division with the Theme Division to form a new Planning and Development Division with a staff of up to eighty with responsibilities for all site planning, landscape design, architectural design of the corporations own buildings, exterior theming and the theme pavilions including exhibits. Most design was completed by spring of 1985 and Phase One of the exposition successfully opened in May of that year. The Planning and Development Division was then absorbed into the Construction and Operations divisions of the corporation.

RICHARD BLAGBORNE EXPOSITION RELATED PROJECT



We needed someone with tactical knowledge, a good communicator... we couldn't have had a better person than Richard.

**Emilio Casinello, Commissioner General,
Expo 92, Sevilla, Spain**

Dubai Exhibition Center – Dar Al Handasah, Dubai UAE 2006

Master Planning Consultant: Mr. Blagborne consulted with the Lebanon based design team to plan the 530,000 meter square Dubai Exhibition Center. This trade exhibition facility with adjacent hotel, commercial, retail, and residential support areas is often referred to as Dubai's "Exposition City". The project proposed near three million meter square floor space on a 250 hectare site and has continued to evolve thru component architectural planning for clients Dubai World Trade Center and Dubai Department of Civil Aviation.

Rhode Island Heritage Museum – Providence, Rhode Island 2005

Exposition Planner, Advisor: Mr. Blagborne developed and evaluated alternative programs and plans for the Heritage Harbor Museum intended to be Rhode Islands state history museum.

Hastings Park and the Pacific National Exhibition – Vancouver, British Columbia 2004

Exposition Planner, Advisor: Mr. Blagborne evaluated and developed alternative programs and site plans for Vancouver's Hasting Park and the Pacific National Exhibition. Site alternatives ranged from a lightly developed natural park to a permanent amusement park.

Wisconsin State Fair Park Master Planning – Milwaukee, Wisconsin 2000-2003

Exposition Planner, Advisor: Mr. Blagborne's contract included the development of an improved Master Plan involving consensus amongst the participants. The State initiated planning and construction of a complete re-development of a 200-acre site used for the annual State Fair. Major new buildings would expand the role of the facility, permitting year-round operation and more events. The first phase, a 200,000 square foot Exposition Hall, opened in July 2002. Detailed design and development of subsequent phases continues.

Canadian National Capital – Ottawa/Hull 1991-2000

Advisor, Facilitator: Mr. Blagborne was commissioned by various planning agencies in Canada's National Capital to develop concepts and strategies for improving visitor experiences. Ottawa/Hull includes major institutions in addition to the Houses of Parliament, such as the National Gallery of Art, several national Museums, the National Theatre, the National Library etc.; all connected by important public spaces.

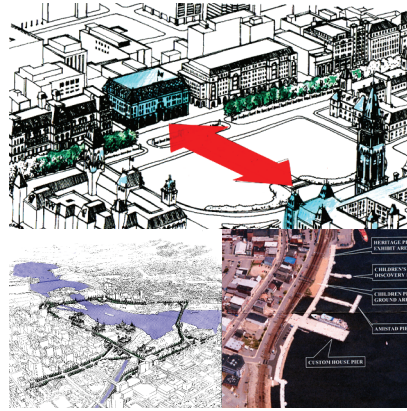
Parliament Hill Visitor Centre – Public Works and Contracts Canada

Mr. Blagborne provided advice during the planning of new visitor Centers integrated into the proposed Parliament Hill renovations and re-development.

Parliament Hill Visitor Strategies – House of Parliament National Capital Commission

Mr. Blagborne facilitated discussions and developed a strategy for integrating an effective visitor programming and facilities into the renovated Houses of Parliament. The "Visitor Initiatives Program" was presented to the Speakers of Parliament, the Senate, and the Minister of Public Works. It was recommended for inclusion in the phases of Parliamentary Precinct planning.

RICHARD BLAGBORNE EXPOSITION RELATED PROJECTS



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Richard Blagborne's compelling presentations have creatively stimulated both our staff and our partners.

Jean E. Pigott
President, National Capital Commission,
Ottawa

Sparks Street Mall Workshop – Public Works

Mr. Blagborne facilitated a one-week workshop resulting in recommendations for new planning strategies for the important and controversial public space located between the Houses of Parliament and the downtown core of Ottawa.

Long Term Program for Canada House – National capital Commission

Mr. Blagborne facilitated planning meetings, completed analysis and synthesized a creative vision for a future centre for the national capital visitors.

Confederation Boulevard Programming Study – National Capital Commission

Mr. Blagborne facilitated a study including workshops and a workbook presentation of ideas for improving visitor experiences in the central area of Canada's Capital.

Cannery Row Study – National Capital Commission

Advisor: Mr. Blagborne acted as advisor to Senator Pat Carney on the proposed redevelopment of the Richmond, British Columbia, Canada waterfront containing one of the last historic cannery rows still extant.

OPSAIL 2000CT – New London, Connecticut 1999

Advisor, consultant: A contract was given to advise and assist the team of OPSAIL2000CT, an organization funded by the State of Connecticut, during the planning of their Tall Ships event in July 2000. The event took place on the re-developed waterfront of New London and Groton. The re-development included a mixture of state, municipal and private projects including a new city pier and waterfront, a restored historic fortress, a new state commercial pier, a new high-speed train/ferry terminal, a major waterfront research facility for the Pfizer Corporation and several residential rehabilitation projects.