

FORMING IDENTITY THROUGH MEMORY, HISTORY & PLACE

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cep

PROJECT STATEMENT

This project addresses the effects of rapid growth and urbanization. Its goals are to increase an awareness of how the historic landscape shapes our identity, to heal displaced communities, and to bring people together.

"Seattle is now at a crossroads. Over the past decade, the metropolitan region has experienced unprecedented growth pressures that threaten the quality of life Seattleites have long enjoyed and used to take for granted."

~ Peter Steinbrueck, 1994

LAYERS OF HISTORY

This research concentrates on creating a narrative and an experience that demonstrates a connection between memory, history, and place. It is seeking to answer the question: How is identity shaped by the built environment? As a case study, this project is focused on Seattle's Central District neighborhood.

METHODS

- Literature Review
- Online Survey
- Interviews
- Archival Research
- Field Testing
- Map Making



23rd Avenue, looking south, possibly near East Union, June 12, 1920, right.

Source: Special Collections, University of Washington Libraries.

WALKING TOUR



IMPACT

- Created two composite walking tours
- Revealed eight individual walking tours
- Catalyst to bring together residents
- Launch a tour with The Urbanist on Saturday, 23 June 2018
- The tours highlight the interplay between spatial geography and social identity, and help to preserve the historic landscape of the Central District

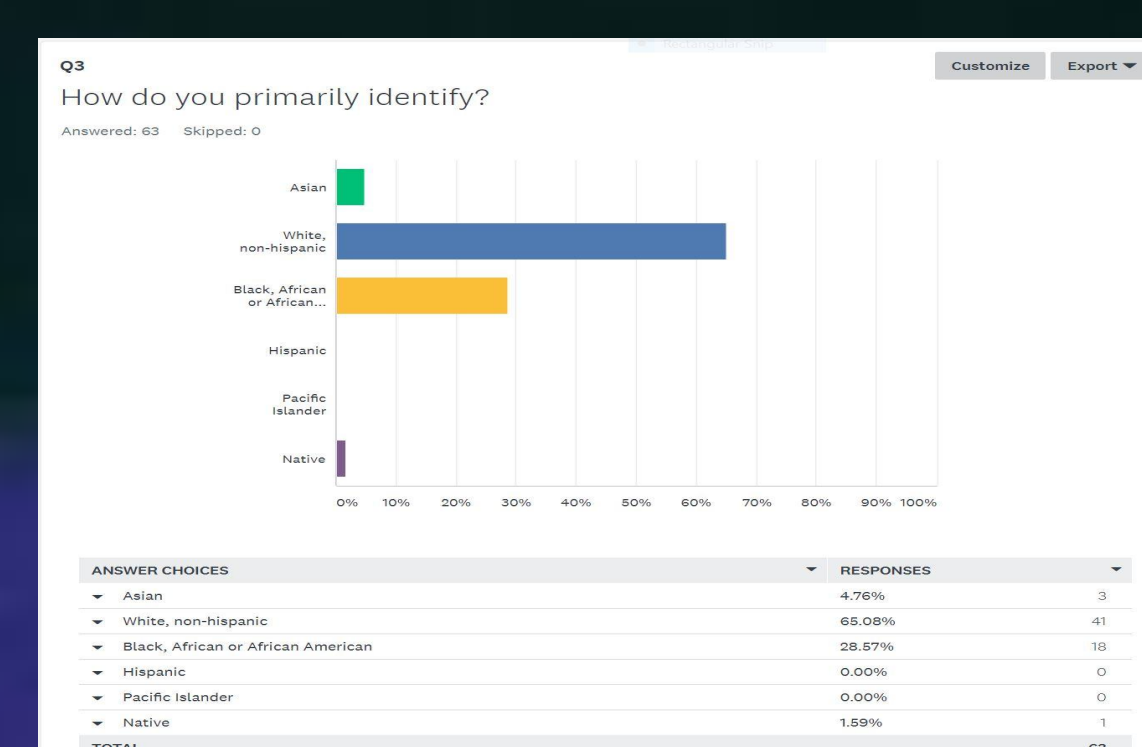
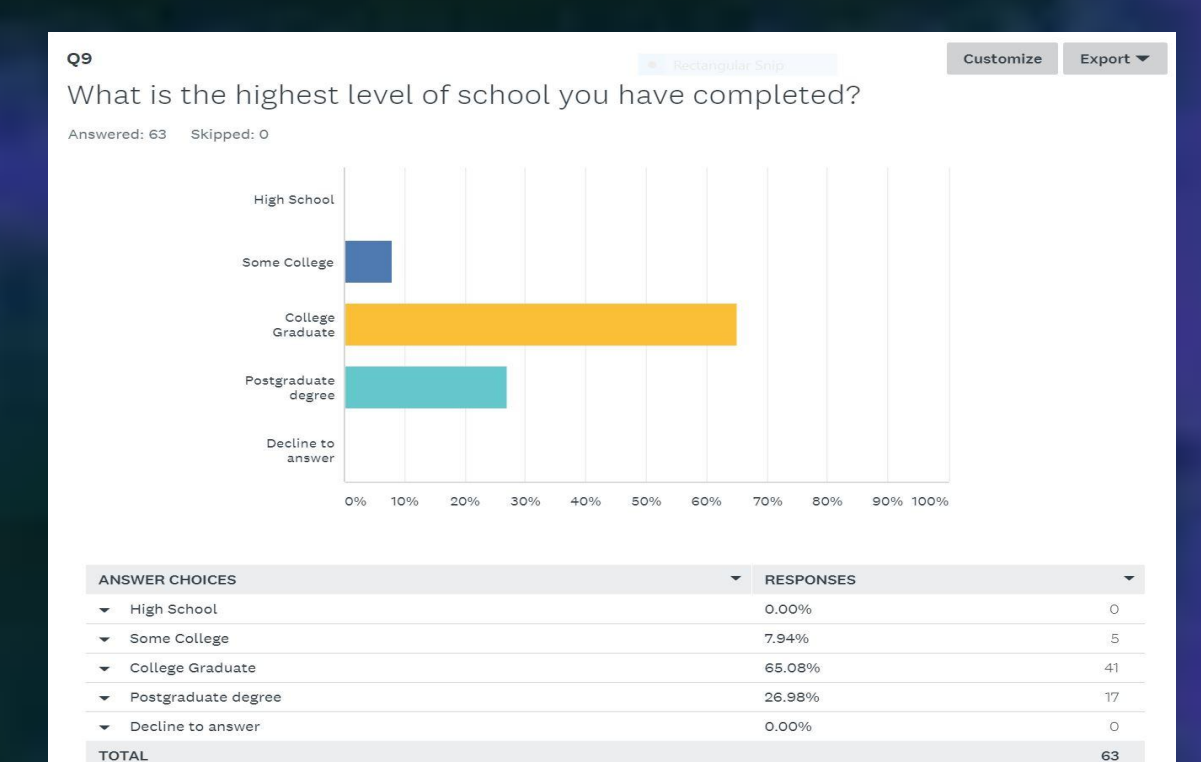
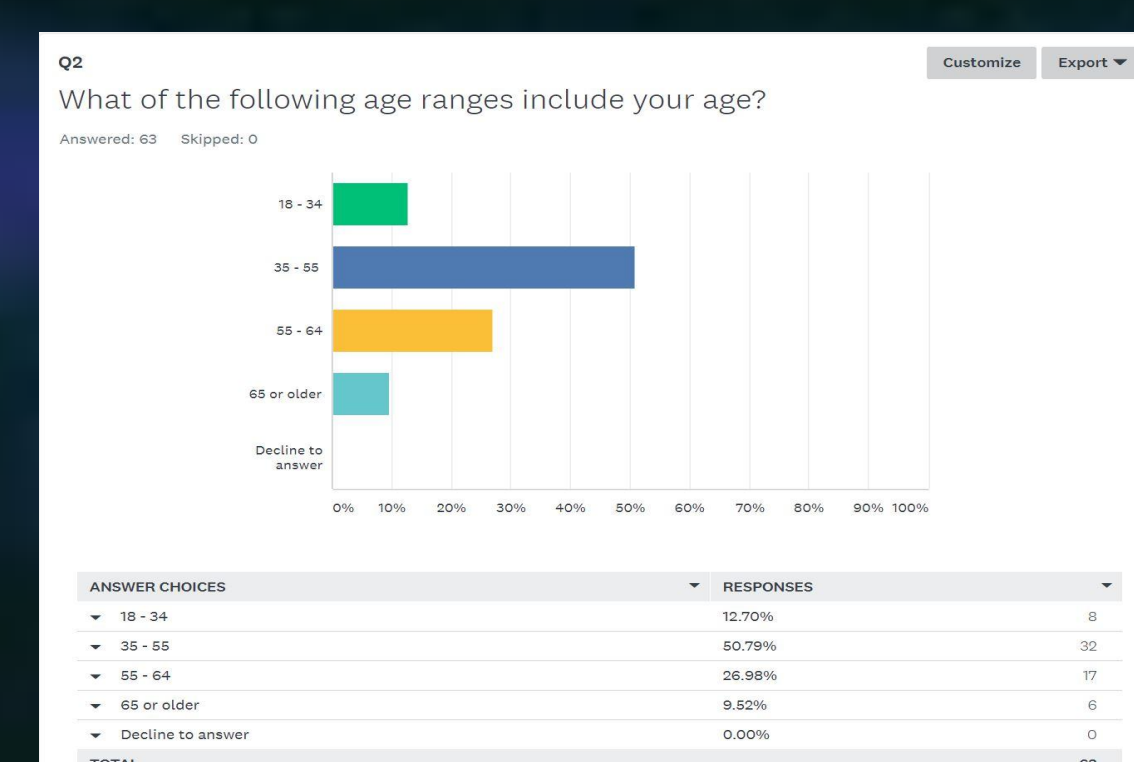
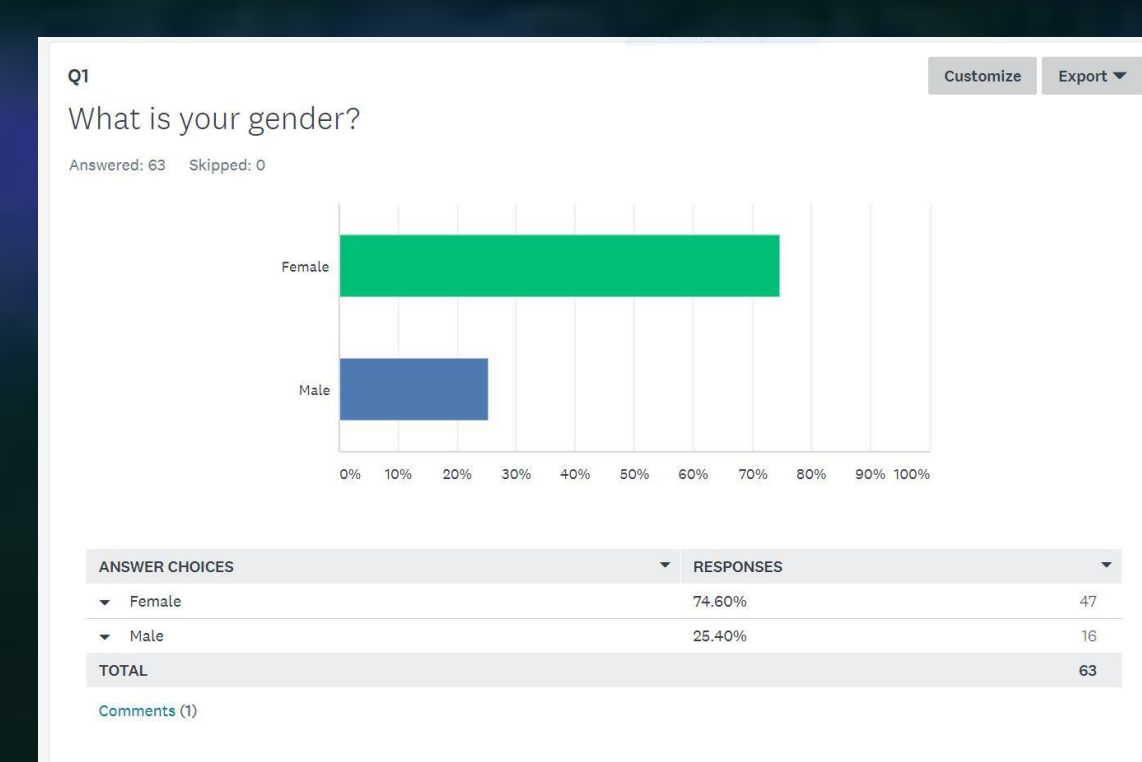
LESSONS

- Place is significant in shaping our identity
- Storytelling is important in planning practice
- Identified growing pains of a reorganizing community in the CD
- Symbolic meanings of place
- Walking tour survey results, TBD

"An individual's sense of place is both a biological response to the surrounding physical environment and a cultural creation."

~ Dolores Hayden

SURVEY RESULTS



THANK YOU!

- Manish Chalana
- Keith Harris
- Central District Residents
- Online Survey Participants
- Chris Campbell
- Lisa Johnson
- The Urbanist
- CEP, Class of 2018

