

## Short-term Part-time Project Archivist

- Job Title:** Project Archivist: Records of Groundswell NW founder Lillian Riley
- Location:** Private residence in Ballard
- Project Duration:** Jan - March 2014 or until completion of transfer of materials
- Days/Times:** 2 hours 2 x's/week. There is some flexibility with regard to days and times, but they should otherwise be consistent each week.
- Application:** Please submit your cover letter, resume, and references to Lisa Cornell at [cornellmaier@yahoo.com](mailto:cornellmaier@yahoo.com) Subject: Project Archivist
- Compensation:** \$10-\$12/hour based on experience
- Deadline:** Open until filled

### Project Description

Lillian Riley is currently seeking applications for a Short-term Part-time Project Archivist to help prepare her papers for transfer to the University of Washington Libraries Special Collections. The project archivist will appraise, arrange, re-house, flag general preservation issues, and prepare inventory and other descriptive information necessary to create a finding aid for a sub-set of administrative papers of Groundswell NW.

The collection spans the years 1989 to 2012 with the bulk of the material covering the years 1989-1997. The administrative records include documents related to grants and fundraising, surveys, events, membership and community organizing, photographs, posters and architectural drawing, all related to Groundswell NW's first project, the Webster Park project.

The Project Archivist will work collaboratively with Lillian Riley and her assistant, as well as the Pacific Northwest Curator from UW Special Collections.

The successful candidate will have experience processing archival collection and possess the ability to work independently and collaboratively, creatively, and effectively as a part of a team; interact effectively with team members; and communicate effectively (written and oral). The ability to perform physical activities associated with archival environments including lifting up to 40lbs will also be needed for success in this position.

### History of Groundswell NW

Visualize Ballard. A neighborhood where multi-story condos now displace modest homes, and trendy restaurants and galleries fill the length of Ballard Avenue, once the roam of a few lonely fishermen. Next imagine a mild mannered grandmother, a woman who has lived here since Eisenhower lived in the White House. While walking near her home, she spots a group of kids playing in a construction pit, climbing about containers filled with splintered boards, debris and

rusty nails. She mutters to herself, this is wrong.

What does she do? She starts knocking on doors. Before long she has knocked on the doors of hundreds of perfect strangers. Gradually, she converts these strangers into comrades. Over the two decades that follow, she and her band of volunteers form a non-profit dedicated to making NW Seattle a greener, more livable community, [Groundswell NW](#). Together, they create or improve\* 14 parks:



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The award-winning Webster Park</li><li>• Baker Park</li><li>• Crown Hill Glen Natural Area</li><li>• Greg's Garden P-Patch</li><li>• Thyme Patch Park &amp; P-Patch</li><li>• Ballard Commons &amp; skate park</li><li>• Salmon Bay Natural Area</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ballard Corners</li><li>• 6th Avenue Pocket Park</li><li>• Salmon Bay School Sports Field*</li><li>• Kirke Park</li><li>• 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW Park</li><li>• Hazel Heights P-Patch</li><li>• Soundview Playground*</li></ul> |
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The grandmother whose community organizing talents and tireless work sparked these creations is Lillian Riley. She and her recruits have now made nearly as many Seattle parks as the [Olmsted Brothers](#). Of course, the sheer scale and grandeur of the Olmsted legacy defies all comparison. But in their day, prime parcels were still up for grabs. By the time Lillian Riley entered the game, even Seattle's version of Marvin Gardens was fully built up, its rents skyrocketing.

