Notes / Letter from the Curator

Thank you to everyone who came and rambled with us at Runnymede Art Farm. It was a lovely day with horse-cart rides, picnic lunch, wonderful wine, friendly people, and good art. The Archives is indebted to Adolph Rosekrans for his generosity and continuing support for the Archives. Hosts Caitlin Lempres Brostrom and Barbara Westover organized a terrific event with superb volunteers and the assistance of Lawrence Lawler, Nicole Avril, and Meg St. John of the College’s External Relations Office.

The Archives will be hosting three student interns from the Archives Program at the Library School at CSU San Jose. The internships are for the fall semester and will include my leading a seminar as well as the opportunity to learn real-life reference from Carrie. This is a lovely symbiotic arrangement whereby the students learn archival theory and practice and the Archives receives assistance with processing, preservation, cataloging, digital projects, and reference.

The reason that all of our Friends are so important is that the Archives relies upon both your aesthetic and intellectual involvement and your financial support. To insure ongoing funding for the Archives, we have established an Endowment with the seed money donated by Professor Ray Lifshez. We have decided that 10% of all Friends membership and gifts will be added to this endowment. Please encourage your colleagues and friends to become our Friends.

Thank you!

--Waverly Lowell, Curator
Blue skies, warm sunshine, and a refreshing breeze—nature could not have improved its showing on Saturday, May 6th for the EDA’s annual benefit event at Runnymede Sculpture Farm. More than 150 guests (164; RSVP 254) and a large corps of volunteers showed up in support of the EDA. Highlights from the afternoon include the exciting draft-horse wagon rides, a special tour of the John Bakewell-designed, English Tudor-Revival stable, sipping lemonade with friends, and discovering the surprise popsicle stand at the end of the trail. Two special wine packages—a Woodside Vineyards production with a special Runnymede label—were donated for silent auction and reproductions of EDA drawings and photographs were available for purchase.

"An Art Farm Ramble" raised $21,000 for the EDA. These funds will go toward supporting....

The success of the event would not have been possible without a number of very important people and sponsors. Waverly mentioned our wonderful chairpersons Caitlin and Barbara in her note above, as well as the great team in External Relation and Adolph Rosekrans. In addition to these persons, we would like to again thank the following sponsors, host committee members, and volunteers for their time, support, and generosity.

**Host Committee**
Po and Michele Bronson
Alice Carey
Nancy Conner
Mercedes Corbell, Architect
Topher Delaney
Peter H. Dodge, FAIA
Sandra D. Donnell
Betsy Everdell
Daniel Gregory
Mary Griffin, FAIA
Eric Haesloop, AIA
Ron and Jenny Hemann
Mr. and Mrs. Mackal Jason
David and Judy Kennedy
Elizabeth Jason Kibbey
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NEW ACQUISITIONS

Since the fall 2005 issue of Tracings, several more collections have been acquired by the EDA. We hope to make the following materials available for research soon!

World’s Fairs Drawings
The Archives was lucky to receive a gift of twenty-nine sketches by Charles Moore and William Turnbull of the “Wonderwall,” which they designed for the 1984 Louisiana World Exposition in New Orleans. The “Wonderwall” was a magnificent display of post-modern architecture.... This gift of World’s Fairs drawings also includes a wonderful pen and ink drawing by James Wines for Expo 86 in Vancouver.
Maunsell Van Rensselaer
Maunsell Van Rensselaer (1897-1972) graduated from UC Berkeley in the early 1920s with a great interest in forestry and a love of native plants. Discouraged by his family from pursuing these interests, he selected a profession in the recreation industry. He and his wife Eleanor played a significant role in the establishment of the City of Berkeley Tuolumne Camp and later in the creation of the Lokoya Lodge, a summer resort in Napa County. When the lodge failed in the 1930s, Van Rensselaer returned to his original career interests and served as the director of the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden from 1936 to 1950. In 1937 he organized a group that promoted the adoption of the Redwood as California’s official tree, and in 1940 he authored the monograph Trees of Santa Barbara. Van Rensselaer eventually left Santa Barbara to serve as a co-founder of the Saratoga Horticultural Foundation of Northern California, where he spent the remainder of his professional life. He authored or co-authored several horticultural books, served as president of the International Share Tree Conference, and was named to the Horticultural Hall of Fame in 1965. The EDA received a small collection of Van Rensselaer’s papers, primarily devoted to his unpublished book on the famous trees of California.

The A.A. & A.M. Cantin Collection
Alexander Aimwell Cantin (1874-1964), a native of Oakland, California, earned his architectural credentials through apprenticeships and practice. His best known project is the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company (1923??), on which he worked with J.R. Miller and Timothy Pflueger. Cantin built a number of telephone company buildings, including the Chinatown Exchange, and a few prominent theaters, including the Orinda Theater and San Francisco’s Coronet Theater, in partnership with his son.
A.M. Cantin. Cantin senior also attempted to design a “new architectural style” by patenting a type of modern new decorative column.

A. Mackenzie Cantin (1912-2002) was born in Dresden, Germany, where his parents, architect A.A. and Gail Sherman Cantin were on a three-year tour of Europe. He studied engineering at Stanford University and then transferred to UC Berkeley, graduating in 1934 with a degree in architecture. He initially worked with his father and then went on to build his own practice designing schools, theaters, hospitals, and commercial buildings throughout Northern California.

Ron Wiggington
Ron Wiggington, FASLA, began with a background in fine arts; his MFA thesis at the University of Oregon was an exhibit titled “Landscape Sculpture.” He went on to teach art while painting, drawing, and sculpting subjects centered on the landscape. In 1977 he traveled to Japan returning to work with a landscape firm in San Diego doing construction and studying landscape design toward earning his license. He founded Land Studio in 1981 in San Diego with the “intent of furthering the art, philosophy, aesthetics, and design of the landscape.” Wiggington pioneered the use of fiber optics in the design of his star troughs for the California First Bank Building in La Jolla. His firm’s focus on site and a close working relationship with the architect from the beginning is key to their comprehensive design. Projects include the master plans for Cabrillo College in Aptos and Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa, the award winning design (unbuilt) for the Wheat Walk for the UC Davis Arboretum, and the Linda Vista Library and Community Center.

Records of the National Peace Garden Competition
The Archives has recently received records documenting the competition for the proposed but unbuilt National Peace Garden for Washington DC. The collection includes design boards for the winning and ten runner-up entries, slides for the nearly hundred other entries, tapes of the Peace Garden Committee meetings, and correspondence related to the project. These records were donated by Elizabeth Ratcliff Balderston who led the thirteen-year effort resulting in the establishment of the National Peace Garden by the U.S. Congress and the subsequent competition.

•••Letter from the President•••
Dear EDA Supporters,
Twenty years ago, I sat in a hidden and locked corner of the Environmental Design Library, completely overwhelmed by the wealth and the needs of what was then called the Documents Collection. I loved my position as staff archivist, but the potential and condition of all these pieces of paper made me hyperventilate! The collection's faculty curator Professor Stephen Tobriner inspired me to work feverishly in the few hours that the collection had to support me.

Both the wealth and the needs of this collection—now known as the Environmental Design Archives—continue today. As you know, the collections have grown tremendously and are now directed by two full-time professional curators, who like me twenty years ago, work feverishly and passionately. Much has changed and much has not.

Through the years, I stayed involved with the EDA as a researcher, and I have been happy with the changes that have taken place. Out of the library, the Archives collection is now housed in beautiful and new state-of-the-art facilities. Professor Marc Treib has taken over as faculty curator and has shown inspired leadership, initiating a new publication series based on EDA collections. Several large grants and numerous smaller ones have allowed Curator Waverly Lowell to professionalize the collections and programs, resulting in the EDA's world-renowned status. Assistant Curator Carrie McDade was hired in 2000 to facilitate and fulfill the needs of researchers, allowing Waverly to focus on the growth and future of the Archives. From greater accessibility to better conservation, many positive changes have been made. Much of this growth must be credited to the tremendous support of the EDA's Advisory Board, volunteer leaders who have worked hard to provide the funding and guidance necessary to run the day-to-day operations of the Archives.

I am so excited, MANY years later, to be closely involved again in the life of the Archives, especially at a time of forward development and transition. For instance, this past spring the Advisory Board that had been closely involved with the Archives for the last fifteen years transitioned into a broader-based support group. Titled the “Friends of the EDA,” this new group aims for more diversity of intent than the former Advisory Board format could contribute, and it will allow for all levels of financial and time commitment.

I look forward to helping realize the new ideas being formulated in effort to encourage and grow the Archives and the Archive “Friends.” Just to give you a hint at some of these ideas, we are developing a very select, quarterly lecture series at unique venues; we plan to continue our Berkeley | Design | Books series; special exhibitions; a large annual lecture; and special conservation funding opportunities. We are also developing new avenues for exhibition, education, and outreach programs. The "Friends of the Archives" will be an essential tool necessary for the success of our efforts.

We look forward to your continued support and appreciate your efforts to encourage others to join the cause—and the fun! To help you spread the word, we are initiating a "Friends of the Archives" membership drive this summer through September. If you have not already joined, please take this opportunity to become a special "Founding
Friend." The EDA website explains the benefits as well as the recognition for this unique membership level. ([www.ced.berkeley.edu/cedarchives/](http://www.ced.berkeley.edu/cedarchives/))

It truly is amazing to see how far the Archives has come in the just the last few years – again, thanks to the inspired leadership of the Advisory Board and the Archives staff. As the newly appointed President of the "Friends" membership, I cannot thank you enough for your hard work and vision in bringing the collections to this point. I am honored to be asked to join the team working toward even more success.

See you next fall at our kick-off Founding Friends lecture! And, hold the date for next year's benefit extravaganza, April 28, 2007.

All the best,
Caitlin Lempres Brostrom
President, "Friends of the Archives"