EXCITING RECENT EVENTS

The EDA and its friends hosted “Faces & Places: A Gala Fundraiser to Toast and Roast Professor Donlyn Lyndon” on May third. More than 250 guests turned out for a spectacular night that included a performance of experimental music by Gregory Moore, a preview of our most recent exhibit (see below for more details), a rustic Italian dinner with surprise water display, silent auction, and a chance to catch up with each other.

Thank you to Caitlin Lempres Brostrom, Chair of the Friends of the Archives for hosting this extremely successful event. A very good time was had by all.


Exploring the concept of making places, this exhibit focuses on the Sea Ranch, and on other designs and projects by Donlyn Lyndon, architect, author, educator, and editor. Lyndon’s work explores the idea that, the “Environment is that piece of reality which gets through to us,” and the things that enter, “our selected environment should help us to ‘place’ ourselves specifically in a broad context.” The exhibit, housed in the Environmental Design Library, is open to the public until September 30, 2008.

FUTURE EVENTS

A fall lecture and book signing will highlight the recent publication of Appropriate: The Houses of Joseph Esherick by Marc Treib, author, emeritus professor and faculty curator of the EDA. This is the most recent volume in the Berkeley|Design|Book series by William Stout Architectural Publishers.

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Save the date of October 31, 2008 for a Halloween party and exhibit opening! The next Archives exhibit will feature visually exciting materials related to memorials and cemeteries held by the Environmental Design Archives and Library. The exhibition will be co-curated by Professor Andrew Shanken and Curator Waverly Lowell.

The Archives is loaning approximately thirty items from the Greene & Greene Collection to the Huntington Library for an upcoming exhibition organized in conjunction with The Gamble House. A “New and Native” Beauty: The Art and Craft of Greene and Greene will be on display at the Huntington from October 18, 2008 to January 4, 2009. It will then travel to The Renwick Gallery at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC and then the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. If your future travel plans include any of these cities, be sure to stop in and see the show!

... FROM THE CURATOR ...

This has been a quiet period for the Archives. The Friends Group has been growing slowly and continues to provide critical support for the Archives, but we would love to recruit more members. We need active interested people to help us reach out to the community, raise funds, and assist with events.

I’ve been working with numerous donors to transfer their collections to the Archives (see new acquisitions elsewhere). I have also been responsible for managing the CED Visual Resources Center (formerly known as the slide library) as it works to increase access to digital images on the web.

The Archives is actively involved in a number of publications. The next volume to be published in the Berkeley | Design | Books Series, Living Modern: A Biography of Greenwood Common is currently under construction. So is the forthcoming book Design on The Edge: One Hundred Years of Teaching Architecture in Berkeley. Both books will be published by William Stout Publishers.

Please encourage your friends and colleagues to become a Friend of the Archives! I look forward to seeing all of you at future events.

Waverly Lowell
Curator

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**EDA STAFF**

Curator Waverly Lowell was recently awarded the UC Berkeley Distinguished Librarian Award. Her nomination recognized that “In a relatively short time, Lowell has transformed the Environmental Design Archives into 'the best and most complete picture of California architectural and landscape architecture modernism’ while also co-authoring award-winning books that have set standards for archivists nationwide.” Join us in offering our warmest congratulations.

Lowell also made presentations at the annual meetings of the landscape history section of the Society of Architectural Historians in Cincinnati, the International Confederation of Architectural Museums in Norway, and the Society of California Archivists in Monterey. In addition she has continued to serve on the California Historical Records Advisory Board and has assisted the Huntington Library with their project to catalog, preserve and digitize the photographs of Maynard Parker.

Assistant Curator Miranda Hambro who co-curated the EDA’s two most recent exhibitions gave a tour of The Roving Eye: Travel & Design to 21 international students studying at UC Davis. She also led a tour of Building in the Landscape: the Sea Ranch and Making Places for a Berkeley Extension class. It is gratifying that our recently launched exhibitions program is proving so useful to the larger UC community and the public.

Archivist Laura Ward has completed processing both the Vernon DeMars and the Donald and Sylvia Reay Collections! They will soon be available to researchers both in person and online. She is also involved with the

Librarians Association of the University of California in Berkeley (LAUC-B) Professional Development Committee and helped to plan a professional development panel presentation about how getting started in academic publishing.

**UPDATE ON THE EDA’S STUDENT ARCHIVES TECHNICIANS!**

We’ll miss you:

Congratulations to Mel Lo who has graduated after more than two years with the archives and will be teaching English in Taiwan and Spain during the next year.

to Landscape Architecture graduate student Adrine Arakelian who will be tackling other projects during her final year.

and to Architecture Graduate student Chelsea Johnson who assisted Laura with processing the Reay Collection.

We look forward to welcoming Maddy Hamlin back in the fall.

Welcome to Architecture Graduate student Gina Siciliana who will be working on a number of projects this summer.
NEW ACQUISITIONS

The Archives has recently received a number of new collections. We hope to make these materials available for research soon.

We are pleased to have acquired the collection of Olof Dahlstrand. Born in 1916, he received his B. Arch. from Cornell University. During the 1940s, he practiced and taught architecture in Wisconsin. He moved to California to join Fred and Lois Langhorst, later opening his own practice and working as a renderer for SOM and other firms. Primarily designing residences, he also designed commercial buildings including Carmel Valley Shopping Center. Inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright, his seven elegant East Bay Usonian houses were the recent subject of a locally published monograph. In addition to his professional work, he presented the Archives with a selection of his paintings which will soon be on display in the EDA.

The following is excerpted from a letter he wrote to the Archives.

"The distinction of my work being included in this august collection of California architecture has brought to mind the extraordinary importance of this body of material in the education of future California architects and artists, and these...are given with the intent of assisting and enhancing this valuable resource in its mission. It has always been clear to me that of all the arts, architecture, especially good architecture, has a more constant and continuing beneficial influence on the community and people’s lives than almost any other human aesthetic activity. Therefore, the education and training of future talented individuals in this aspect of the arts is of the highest importance, and it is my hope that this will help in this program.

"Thank you again for your interest in my life’s efforts. I am deeply honored."

The EDA has also recently received a donation of five early drawings by Thomas Church from the Pacific Theological Seminary. Originally garden designs for Reverend & Mrs. Dobbins the gift includes some rare presentation drawings by Church, such as the sketch below, which is unlike any other early drawing of his housed in the Archives.

The Goodman family generously donated a collection of the records of Professor Emeritus Michael Arthur Goodman (1903-1991). Born in Vilna, Lithuania, he made his way to the far eastern area of Russia after the Russian Revolution of 1917, and eventually sailed to San Francisco. From 1925 on, his professional life focused on architectural design and interior decoration. He joined the Berkeley faculty in 1928 and retired in 1971. In 1970 he received the Berkeley Citation for distinguished achievement and notable service to the University of California and as an architect, artist, and planner, he received the San Francisco Art Association Gold Medal in 1925, and the American Graphic Artists Society Award in 1930. Goodman’s major professional work in architecture was best illustrated by his genius for major alterations. Goodman’s completed projects on the Berkeley campus included the Faculty Club and Hearst Memorial Mining Building alterations, the electron microscope installation, the Bio-Organic Chemistry Laboratory, and the Farm Bureau Building alterations for the University Extension Division.
The Archives was delighted to receive the design records of Walter Guthrie recently donated by his wife, landscape architect Lisa Guthrie. Mr. Guthrie, a noted Bay Area landscape architect was known for his keen sense of design as well as his unrelenting attention to detail. He had been associated with Thomas Church for more than a decade and was recently interviewed by the Cultural Landscape Foundation as one of four Bay Area "landscape legendaries." Following Church’s retirement, he joined the firm that became Johnson, Leffingwell & Guthrie. In 1987 he opened his own Montgomery Street office from which he practiced until his death. Guthrie’s designs were classic, simple but elegant, and in harmony with the setting and the needs of the client.

Largely a self-supporting design collection and research facility within the College of Environmental Design at UC Berkeley, the Environmental Design Archives (EDA) is a premier archival program dedicated to raising awareness of the significant architectural and landscape architecture heritage of Northern California. With a mission to collect, preserve, and provide access to the primary records of the built and landscaped environment, the EDA is an invaluable resource for preservation, restoration, education, and scholarship. The collection is used by design professionals, students, scholars, homeowners, and other researchers.

The Friends of the Environmental Design Archives is a group that will advocate and fundraise for the program, as well as contribute ideas for collection development, educational programming, and public service.

Encourage a friend or colleague to join The Friends of the Environmental Design Archives at the level that works best for them. As a Friend they will become identified with the invaluable work of this great archival program and growing collection and be kept in touch with its activities through the lively newsletter Tracings. From time to time, the EDA will offer unique membership opportunities, such as special lectures, tours, publications, and collection-inspired merchandise.
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