TRACINGS
A NEWSLETTER OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN ARCHIVES
College of Environmental Design, University of California, Berkeley

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FUTURE EVENTS

We are thrilled to announce that Design on the Edge: A Century of Teaching Architecture at the University of California, Berkeley, 1903-2003 will be published soon. Edited by Waverly Lowell, Elizabeth Byrne and Betsy Frederick-Rothwell, the book is approximately 370 pages of essays, recollections, interviews, drawings, and photographs. Please see our website to pre-order the book. Orders placed prior to Dec 1, 2009 are $50, and orders placed after that are $65. (www.ced.berkeley.edu/cedarchives)

Alfred Willis, architectural historian, librarian, Hampton University

The exhibit, curated by librarian Elizabeth Byrne, will focus on California house plan books from 1880s to the present, the people who created them, their influence beyond California, and recent and future trends. It is based on the Environmental Design Library's large collection of house pattern books and stock plan catalogs, and related materials from the Environmental Design Archives.

CED 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The spring 2010 Program: Visualizing the Future of Environmental Design will focus on the global dynamics and sustainability challenges that could not be foreseen when CED was founded in 1959. Through three consecutive keynote presentations by major international thinkers from outside the college’s disciplinary fields, issues of critical importance to the future of architecture, landscape design, and planning will be addressed. In addition, graduate students and junior faculty will share their visions for the future of the college, and the last session will close with an inspirational keynote address by Manuel Castells.

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, January 28, 2010  5:30-8:00 p.m.
Stock Options: Houses for the People
Lecture and reception for opening of new exhibit in the Library

Speakers include:
John King, urban design critic, S.F. Chronicle
Daniel Gregory, editor-in-chief, Houseplans.com
Michelle Kaufmann, California architect, designer of sustainable pre-fab houses
For more information Spring 2010 Program: Visualizing the Future of Environmental Design or www.ced.berkeley.edu/events/50thanniversary

RECENT EVENTS

In September, the College of Environmental Design began celebrations for its 50th Anniversary year. Curator Waverly Lowell led a tour of Greenwood Common as part of the festivities. The Archives has recently launched an online exhibition program. Thanks to Mia Jaeggli in the Environmental Design Library, selected exhibits from Library’s Raymond Lifchez and Judith Lee Stronach exhibit cases will now have an afterlife online. The first to appear on the college’s website is the Fatal Design exhibit. http://www.ced.berkeley.edu/cedarchives/exhibitions/

Ideally, each library exhibit will be digitized and added to the website. We plan to use this software to create born digital exhibits.

Current Exhibition 9/25 – 12/22, 2009 Environmental Design/A New Modernism

Organized to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the College of Environmental Design, this exhibition focuses on seminal moments in the evolution of the founders’ vision. Combining the departments of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning, City and Regional Planning and Decorative Arts, the new College developed innovative programs in the social sciences, building technology, and research. Exhibit Curator: Professor Ray Lifchez, Assistant Exhibit Curator: Carrie McDade.

Tour participants Dean Jennifer Wolch and Ray & Mrs. Kappe at Greenwood Common

The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF) recently held a symposium at the CED entitled Landscapes for Living: Postwar Years in Northern California. In conjunction with their programming, they sponsored a reception to benefit the Archives on Friday, October 23. It was a great success! Our favorite moment proved that archival resources are relevant in unexpected ways. Quite a few archival drawings were on display that evening. There were several done by the office of Royston, Hanamoto, Beck & Abbey (predecessor to RHAA) for a proposal for the Urban Renewal of Pike Place in Seattle, 1968. One of the guests identified himself as the original designer. He was surprised and delighted to see his handiwork!

The Archives has received some special project funding from the Department of Landscape and Environmental Planning Farrand Fund. One project is to create an online version of the 1956 photograph exhibit Man’s Impact on the Bay Area Landscape created by landscape architect and professor Robert Tetlow with landscape architect David Arbegast. This
exhibit was said to draw “attention to environmental problems” and helped prepare the way for environmental activism in the Bay Area in the 1960s. The 260 high quality images document a Bay Area that has profoundly changed. Having images from that era available would be useful for teaching and research.

The other is a three year project to selectively digitize images from the Beatrix Farrand Collection to post on the Online Archive of California.

FROM THE CURATOR

Dear Friends,

As fall becomes winter changes are afoot at the Archives. Assistant Curator Miranda Hambro is taking time off for maternity leave and Carrie McDade is most generously returning during this time to serve again as Assistant Curator to help us through. The Visual Resources Center (formerly the “Slide Library” within the Architecture Department) will become part of the Archives. We are happy to include Jason Miller, VRC Director as part of the EDA staff.

The EDA is looking at exciting new opportunities next year. Once the trauma of moving our offsite storage to a new facility in Richmond is complete, we are anticipating the acquisition of new collections to house in our environmentally controlled space. The next few exhibitions will focus on Photography and Design, Community Housing, and Designs for Worship and display archival material never before shown.

The Archives is also hoping to work with our Friends, patrons, and other interested parties to increase our small endowment to create a steady income to insure the Assistant Curator position. In addition, the Archives would love to establish an endowment or fund for graduate students to support research using collections in the Archives. Please let me know if you are interested in naming opportunities or tax-deductible donations to further these, or other, projects.

These are challenging times: funding is limited, technology is transforming all areas of the design and archives worlds, and there has been a profound change in the leaders of the design professions. As a result, the Archives will need additional resources to meet these challenges. It is essential that we can continue to collect the records of the design leaders of landscape architecture and architecture. We also need to begin to address the impact of collecting CAD and other digital formats. These ventures require additional funding, so we hope that you will continue to be a friend and encourage your friends to support the Archives.

Thank you,
Waverly Lowell, Curator

The Environmental Design Archives and the University of California, Berkeley, is a tax-exempt, 501(c) 3 public benefit organization. Tax ID#: 94600 212 3G

Contact:
Environmental Design Archives
University of California
230 Wurster Hall #1820
Berkeley, CA 94720-1820

Moving to Richmond

The Archives’ off-campus collection space will be moving to Richmond at the beginning of 2010. The University is currently finalizing the design plans for the building we will be sharing with the Bancroft Library, Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive, and the Hearst Museum. The new space will have secure parking and environmentally controlled storage. All summer, a team of students has helped prepare our collections for the move. We would welcome any surplus flat files you might have, as long as they are in good shape and have drawers no deeper than 2 inches.
EDA STAFF

Curator Waverly Lowell attended the ICAM-NA (International Confederation of Architectural Museums, North America) conference in Philadelphia in October, where she gave a presentation about Omeka and our online-exhibits.

Congratulations to Assistant Curator Miranda Hambro, who will be going on maternity leave from November 10, 2009 until March 29, 2010! Please note that reference services may be curtailed during those months.

Welcome back-- former Assistant Curator Carrie McDade will be reprising her role at the EDA in Miranda’s absence. Many thanks to Carrie for her willingness to assist us.

EDA STUDENT ARCHIVES TECHNICIANS

This fall our returning workers are Maddy Hamlin, Emily Geagan, and Eduardo Rivera-Garcia. Also welcome to new student employee Henry Richardson.

Thank you to CSU San Jose Library & Information School intern Devan McGirr for developing a detailed emergency plan for the Archives. She also created new electronic finding aids available through the Online Archive of California http://www.oac.cdlib.org/.

• • NEW ACQUISITIONS • •

The family and friends of Julian Knox recently donated a selection of his professional records. Knox was born in Oklahoma in 1930. He attended the College of the Pacific, where he obtained an AA, then graduated from UC Berkeley in 1957 with a BA in Architecture.

He worked as a draftsman in a number of architects’ offices from 1956-62, including: Clayton Kantz, Delp Johnson, John A. Blume, John Bolles, Loubet & Glynn, August Waegmann, and Marquis & Stoller. He became a partner at Kosevitz & Knox in 1962, where he remained until 1967. He was admitted to the AIA Northern California chapter in 1964. Eventually he opened a solo practice, where he worked until his death in 2005.

The Archives received a drawing of a Mediterranean garden by Thomas Church. This sketch, executed while he was a student touring Europe, came from his niece. In addition, Grace Hall, Church’s long-time colleague, donated materials related to the third edition of Church’s Gardens Are For People.

We hope to make these materials available for research soon.

• • GET A FRIEND TO BECOME A FRIEND • •

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 architectural and landscape architecture heritage of Northern California. With a mission to collect, preserve, and provide access to the primary records of the designed 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.

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 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.