NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Miranda Hambro, Environmental Design Archives Assistant Curator and Jason Miller, Visual Resources Librarian, have co-curated the exhibit: **Off Hours: Environments for Entertainment** [September 27-December 22, 2011] in the Environmental Design Library. This exhibit highlights the buildings and landscapes in which we spend leisure time for respite from the stresses of daily life. Grouped thematically as things to watch, play, eat and buy, the focus is on spaces such as theaters, restaurants, playgrounds, country clubs, stores and sports facilities.

The long-anticipated book **The Houses of William Wurster: Frames for Living** by Caitlin Lempres Brostrom and Richard C. Peters has been published! It features 300 illustrations, both contemporary and archival. The authors drew heavily on the collections at the EDA.

The winner of our contest in the last issue of *Tracings* was **Jason Kaldis**! Jason correctly identified all the Wurster sketches. They were:

1. Chiesa di Santa Maria Maggiore, Tuscany, Italy
2. Fortifications and Tour de Justice, Carcassonne, France
3. Peterborough Cathedral, Peterborough, England
4. Lincoln Cathedral, Lincoln, England
5. Basilica di San Zeno (or San Zeno Maggiore), Verona, Italy

He writes, “The hardest image to ID by far was the Peterborough Cathedral because Wurster painted it from an angle almost no one ever photographs it from perhaps because now as a visitor you probably can’t stand where he stood then.” That image was also the hardest one for Archives staff to identify. The image highlights the importance of thinking about the difference between contemporary and historical conditions when using archival collections for research.
RECENT EVENTS

◆ An event for Off Hours: Environments for Entertainment was held on October 20, 2011. The documentary about Playland at the Beach, Remembering Playland, was shown in the library, with director Tom Wyrsch and historian Jim Smith on hand to answer questions. There was popcorn and soda, lots of laughter, and movie night was a huge success!

◆ Recently opened at the CED is the Wurster Gallery. The current exhibit in this space relates to The Houses of William Wurster: Frames for Living. It is worth seeing before it comes down on November 15th. A reception inaugurating the gallery and supporting the book was held on September 30. More than 200 people came to the event!

THE PERFECT HOLIDAY GIFT

Design on the Edge: A Century of Teaching Architecture at the University of California, Berkeley, 1903-2003 Edited by Waverly Lowell, Elizabeth Byrne and Betsy Frederick-Rothwell, this well-received book contains 320 pages of essays, recollections, interviews, drawings, and photographs.

A recent reader sent us an email stating: “I wasn’t a CED student but I must say reading that book made me pretty jealous of those that were and are.”

The book has recently been reduced in cost to only $55. Please see our website to order the book. (www.ced.berkeley.edu/cedarchives)

WEREN’T INVITED?

As we become increasingly conscious of our environmental impact, we are sending out invitations to events via e-mail. Please let us know your current e-mail address by sending an e-mail to Miranda at mhambro@berkeley.edu. Thanks!

NEW ACQUISITIONS

We are delighted to announce the acquisition of Clare Cooper Marcus’ papers. Dr. Cooper Marcus is Professor Emerita of Architecture and Landscape Architecture at CED. Her firm, Healing Landscapes offers services for the programming, design, and evaluation of outdoor spaces in healthcare settings. Her areas of special interest include post-occupancy evaluation of designed settings, children’s environments, public open-space design, healing environments, and housing.

The Archives has received a selection of photos by Roger Sturevant of W.W. Wurster’s Coleman House, additional materials related to the National Peace Garden Competition, and architectural and landscape plans for the Dinkelspiel Residence. The architect for this project was Fred Langhorst and Robert Royston was the landscape architect.
Emeritus Professor Allan Jacobs has donated a wonderful set of 12 illustrated desk blotters created during his years as the Director of the San Francisco Planning Department. These blotters capture the design aesthetic of the era, provide personal insight into the urban issues of the early 1970s and demonstrate that some things never change.

The Visual Resources Center recently acquired a collection of about 950 slides of student work produced at the CED in the 1980s and early 1990s. This wonderful set of slides documents the output of classes 11B, 200 and 201. It also includes some great images of students working in Wurster Hall studios, as well as installations of final projects and site-specific constructions.

• • • RESEARCH INQUIRIES • • •

The Archives would like to share with you some of the types of research and researchers who use the collections our friends have helped us preserve and make accessible.

• A PhD student from Italy is visiting for a semester for her dissertation on the environmental aspects of William Wurster's houses
• An Assistant Professor from Georgia State University spent six weeks this summer for a study of townhouses, apartments, and other types of high-density residences
• A Professor of Architectural History from Australia spent two months looking into mid-century school design.
• The Archives assisted a UC class studying golf course design. The students from this class presented their research to the U.S. branch of the Alister MacKenzie Society which meets every year for discussion and a friendly two day golf tournament.

• • • FROM THE CURATOR • • •

Dear Friends,

As I write this, nearly 100 prospective students came through the Archives on their tour around the building. We hope that they were inspired by the stories and drawings we shared with them. Students from undergraduates to new PhDs are using the Archives in steadily increasing numbers; this is very exciting! It is gratifying to know that the collections contain the information and inspiration they seek. During the past year, four historians have spent days, weeks, and months conducting research in EDA holdings. It reminds us of our purpose and refreshes our energy. In fact, we will begin sharing some of this with you in a new column called Reference Inquiries.

The space at the Regatta Building is filling up more quickly than anticipated, so it is a bit of a relief that donations are not flooding in. There are a few very significant collections that we hope to attract and will keep you posted. Our driving force right now is making the collections we have usable. Other things on the horizon include a winter exhibit of Burt Litton’s drawings and a spring exhibit celebrating Beatrix Farrand and her Reef Point library and garden.

Most importantly I want to thank all of you for your continued support through these difficult financial times. Fortunately we have
received special project funding from the Heath Foundation, the Architecture Department, and the Department of Landscape and Environmental Planning. In addition, I have spent the past few months writing grants to federal agencies that provide funding for archival projects. Now we just wait and hope for the best.

Our work depends on resources from beyond the College and the University. It is only with your contributions and support that the Archives can pay salaries, purchase flat files and preservation supplies, and maintain and improve our current program of insuring the legacy of generations of designers. Please remember the Archives in your estate planning or if you are interested in naming opportunities or tax-deductible donations.

We hope you continue to support our effort; we need you.

Thank you,
Waverly Lowell, Curator

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EDA Staff News

Curator Waverly Lowell made a presentation about Geraldine Scott and Thomas Church at the SPUR panel discussion: Modern Landscape Design (Sept. 15) and lead a tour of Greenwood Common as part of the Cultural Landscape Foundation’s What’s Out There Weekend: San Francisco (Sept 16-17)

Assistant Curator Miranda Hambro, represented the Archives at the Claremont Country Club’s recent event. A club member and professor at UC spoke about the history of the club, and John Galen Howard’s role in its building. Miranda answered members’ questions about the archival reproductions being displayed.

VRC Librarian Jason Miller is supervising the inventory and preservation of travel and research slides taken by the late Francis Violich, professor emeritus in the Departments of City and Regional Planning, and Landscape Architecture. These several thousand slides, spanning nearly forty years of travel and research, document the San Francisco Bay Area, cities throughout the United States, several Caribbean islands, and extensive coverage of South and Central American nations. Professor Violich caught many of the cities and nations he photographed in states of vigorous growth and development, in some cases documenting the same site over several years as these cities grew at unprecedented rates.

EDA Welcomes

Student Archives Technicians

Welcome to Ijeoma Eke, a 3rd year UC student who will be working on a variety of tasks.

Anisha Gade is rehousing the Francis Violich slide collection to improve access and insure preservation.

Special Project Archivists

We are pleased to have Jaye Fischel working on a project funded by the Joan Draper Endowment to process the historic records of the Architecture Department.

Jessie Durant will be conducting a survey of the Edith Heath/Heath Ceramic Collection on a project funded by the Edith & Brian Heath Foundation.