NEWS AND CURRENT EVENTS

UPCOMING EXHIBITION:
PAPER, ROCK, PIXELS

The exhibit *Paper, Rock, Pixels* revisits design projects after ten, twenty, fifty, or more years into their tenure as elements in the fabric of San Francisco. Drawings, plans, and models from the Environmental Design Archives are paired with contemporary photographs of residences, institutional buildings, commercial structures, and landscapes to see how they have responded to use and time. On view from May 26 thru August 30, 2015 in the Environmental Design Library, Wurster Hall 210.

Curator: Jason Miller, Visual Resources Center

Lurie Theater, designed by architect Albert Lansburgh

TWO WORLDS FAIRS
SAVE THE DATE!
September 17, 2015
Lecture, book signing, and fundraising event

On September 8th, 2015 the Archives will open an exhibit celebrating the centennial of the Panama Pacific International Exposition (PPIE) and the Golden Gate International Exposition (GGIE). In conjunction with the exhibition the Archives has planned a fun and informative lecture, book signing, and fundraising event on the evening of Thursday, September 17th, 2015.

Lecture and Book Signing

The program will begin with presentations by CED Assoc. Professor Andrew Shanken and Architectural Historian Dan Gregory. Shanken, author of the recently published monograph *Into the Void Pacific*, will give a talk entitled “Very Empty, But Not False: the Architecture of the 1939 San Francisco World’s Fair.” Within the context of the western design paradigm, the architects of the GGIE felt Californian, thought regionally, and aspired to a “Pacific Architecture” just as modernism was radically changing the aesthetic of design.

Gregory’s talk entitled “Fire Up the Scintillator!: Architecture, Allusion, and Re-Affirmation at the PPIE,” concerns the hyperbolic architectural character of the exposition -- from the 435 foot-tall Tower of Jewels covered in 100,000 cut glass “Novagems” to the Oregon State Pavilion treated as a redwood tree-replica of the Parthenon.

Following the lecture Professor Shanken will sign *Into the Void Pacific*. Copies of his book will be available for purchase.

Fundraising Event

Following the lecture and book signing, the Archives will be hosting a catered reception and silent auction. Keep your eyes peeled for details to come...we hope to see you there!
In MEMORIAM

Donald Olsen (1919 – 2015)

Olsen received his BA in Architecture from the University of Minnesota (1942) and his Masters in Architecture from Harvard University (1946). Following graduation he studied Civic Design at the University of Liverpool (1953) and Philosophy of Science at the London School of Economics (1962-63).

He worked with a number of firms including Saarinen, Swanson & Saarinen; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; and Wurster, Bernardi, & Emmons. He opened his own practice in Berkeley in 1954 the same year he began teaching in the Architecture Program at the University of California. Olsen worked with Joseph Esherick and Vernon DeMars on the design of Wurster Hall. He became a Fellow of the AIA in 1970 and retired from teaching in 1990. He is survived by Helen Olsen, his wife of 71 years and their son Alan.

Asa Hanamoto (1923 – 2015)

Hanamoto was born in Lincoln, CA in 1923. His studies at Sierra Community College were interrupted by WWII. The son of Japanese immigrants, Asa was interned with his family at the Tule Lake Relocation Center in Northern California and subsequently drafted to serve in the Army. Upon his discharge, he resumed his studies graduating from UC Berkeley in 1956 with a degree in Landscape Architecture. Following graduation he joined Royston’s firm Eckbo, Royston & Williams as a Junior Partner becoming a full partner two years later. The firm continued to grow eventually becoming Royston, Hanamoto, Alley, & Abey. He retired in 1997. Over a career which spanned decades, Hanamoto’s work focused on public projects and the study of complex environmental issues.

EDA ON DISPLAY

- Two wonderful images from the John Galen Howard Collection were published in *American in Paris: Foundations of America’s Architectural Gilded Age*.
- Architecture Students at the Ecole Des Beaux-Arts 1846-1946.
- Images from the Beatrix Farrand Collection were published in *The Artist’s Garden: American Impressions and the Garden Movement*.
- A plan of Thomas Church’s Kirkham residence and photograph of the Donnell pool were published in *Landscape Architecture: A Very Short Introduction*.
- Images from the Brian and Edith Heath Collection are featured in an exhibition at the New York Museum of Arts and Design called “Pathmakers: Women in Art, Craft and Design, Midcentury and Today.”
- Eight garden plans from the Mary Rutherfurd Jay Collection will be featured in an exhibition “Mary Rutherfurd Jay – Garden Architect” on view at the Jay Heritage Center in New York from June-September 2015.

RESEARCH INQUIRES

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

So far, 2015 has been filled with researchers! Students who are taking the course “American Architecture: the U.C. Berkeley Campus,” have been using the John Galen Howard, Bernard Maybeck, and Julia Morgan Collections to conduct research on campus buildings built between 1880-1930. Each student had to become an expert on two buildings and the class gave a public presentation and architecture tour which had over 100 people in attendance.

FROM THE CURATOR

Dear Friends,

So many significant collections have been donated recently to the Archives. Now we need to process them to preserve and make them accessible. So please help us raise the funds needed to do this work. We value your continued support and hope that you get your friends and colleagues to join us in our efforts to retain the wonderful staff that work on the collections.
The Archives is embarking on our first serious managing of “born-digital” design records. The first step is to preserve them using digital forensics and other technology, and then determine the best way to make them available to researchers. We will keep you posted on our progress.

In honor of International Women’s Day on March 8, ArchiteXX, an organization promoting women designers, launched wikiD, a Wikipedia “hack-a-thon” to write more women into Wikipedia. The Archives jumped in wholeheartedly and submitted articles on Mai Arbegast, Maggie Baylis, Alice Carey, and improved the existing article on Gerry Scott. This turned out to be more challenging than anticipated. Emily Vigor’s blog on this process is reprinted as the featured article in this issue of Tracings.

Don’t forget to follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram via our website: http://archives.ced.berkeley.edu/

As always, thank you for your continued support and stay in touch.

With Gratitude,

Waverly Lowell, Curator

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NEW ACQUISITIONS

WALTER HOOD

The Archives has been lucky to receive the records of landscape architect Walter Hood and his firm Hood Design including drawings, photographs, digital files, and models. Committed to the development of environments that reflect their place, time, and the ways people inhabit various geographies, Hood engages urban landscape where a collective density of inhabitants share physical, social, political, and economic resources. This multidimensional context encourages the development of powerfully sculpted expressions that explore site specific social and environmental processes. Walter is the author of Urban Diaries (1997) and designer of the landscape for the new de Young Museum by Herzog & de Meuron Architects (Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco, 2005); Splash Pad Park (City of Oakland, 2004); Lafayette Square Park (City of Oakland, 1999); and many other projects.

TERRY TONG

Terry Tong’s father was a goldsmith and encouraged his son to go into architecture as a profession that was more practical than being an artist. His architectural education at UC Berkeley was interrupted by serving in World War II but he graduated in 1949. While in school, he worked for Campbell & Wong during summer breaks and they recruited him when he graduated. He also attended the Rudolph Schaeffer School of Design in San Francisco, “where he learned about color.” He went on to establish his own practice primarily designing residences in the Bay Area. Notable projects include the On Lok Senior Center in San Francisco and the winning entry in the Governor’s mansion competition (unbuilt) for Pat Brown on which he collaborated with Allen Fong. Later in his career, Tong worked for Bechtel as head of their design unit before retiring.

DONALD HISAKA

EDA has also received drawings, slides, and photographs documenting the architectural practice of Don Hisaka. He received a B.A. Degree with Honors at Berkeley and a Masters in Architecture Degree from Harvard University. He has designed along the East coast (Washington, Boston, Cape Cod) in the Midwest (Cleveland, Chicago, Columbus, Indiana), in California, and as far away as Japan, Guyana, and Edinburgh, Scotland. Notable projects include the Bartholomew County Jail for Columbus, Indiana; the Takara Sake Tasting Room/Museum in Berkeley, California; and the Ibaraki Country Club in Ibaraki, Japan.
Last month, the EDA participated in #wikiD, an event that coincided with International Women’s Day (March 8) to help write women designers, architects, and all those involved in the creation of the built environment into Wikipedia. We heard about the event through ArchiteXX (http://architexx.org/), which sought to increase an internationally diverse listing of women on Wikipedia. This inaugural event was spurred by Despina Stratigakos’s essay in Places, “Unforgetting Women Architects: From the Pritzker to Wikipedia,” (https://placesjournal.org/article/unforgetting-women-architects-from-the-pritzker-to-wikipedia/) which pushes for the importance of ensuring the presence of women architects in online histories – and the challenges in making this happen.

Though Wikipedia may seem an unauthorized resource for promoting these women, it is often the top listed link for a Google search and one that is clicked on frequently. This site is becoming important for public awareness, especially for minorities and underrepresented populations. In her article, Stratigakos comments on the importance of the internet for preserving the cultural record. She quotes Mia Ridge “A historian might spend decades undertaking research in archives and writing up discoveries in scholarly journals, but if the work does not have a presence online — and, specifically, a presence that is not behind a paywall — it is all but invisible outside academia. As Ridge states, ‘If it’s not Googleable, it doesn’t exist.’ And because Wikipedia articles usually show up first in Google search rankings, intervening on the site is especially important in establishing online visibility.”

In the archives world, we often “crawl” websites to capture and preserve the information published at a given time. When certain voices aren’t seen or readily accessible at the top of a Google search (and let’s face it, we’re all guilty of only paying attention to the first items listed in our own Google searches), it can underline the assumption that certain groups have not participated in the profession, especially among a younger generation that relies heavily on the internet for research.

The EDA has published pages for our collections on Wikipedia before, and have found it to be a useful tool in reaching more diverse populations. I’ve published several in my 2 years at the Archives – however, they’ve all been for men. The process is fairly straightforward: you write about a person’s life, and supply references to back up your statements in an attempt to make the published article verifiable; you load an image of the person, and maybe a few of their projects to add a visual element to the page; and you submit it for editing and publication. In the past, my articles have all passed the Wikipedia editing and publishing review that occurs after the initial submission.

This was not the case with the three articles the EDA tried to publish for Mai Arbegast, Maggie Baylis, and Alice Carey. Chris, Cailin, and I each took on the responsibility of creating a Wikipedia entry for these women, starting at the beginning of March to coincide with Women’s History Month. After reading Stratigakos’s article, we were prepared for the very likely possibility that our entries could be rejected or questioned. In other women’s history events, editors found that new entries on women were questioned more frequently for the sources referenced and the significance of the topic than those of their male counterparts.

Each of us experienced a variety of issues in getting our submissions published: the significance of these women was questioned, as were the resources referenced; for the first time the image copyright needed to be verified through a formal letter to Wikipedia; and even when published, certain pages retain a disclaimer at the top warning the reader that the article is written in a manner which “promotes the subject in a subjective manner.”

These hurdles were new to us, and were not something we had ever encountered when submitting articles to Wikipedia for men in our collections. While we attempted to work with Wikipedia to revise our articles to fit their guidelines for publication, our drafts were repeatedly rejected.
It was only after each of us had revised our articles 3+ times, and in one case contacted Wikipedia to work with their live help desk, that we started to see progress in our articles going live. As of this writing, all three articles have been approved though it took a month to do so – a hindrance that could deter other users from continuing to push for publication.

The real issue at hand is that we want to utilize as many resources as possible to reach the broadest community possible, and Wikipedia is one of the main ways to do this. It’s also an important way to expand awareness of underrepresented groups of people and increase their presence online. We strive to promote a diverse and accurate portrayal of the participation of all groups in the fields of design and want to be accurate in the broader world of the internet as well. While this process has been rife with frustration, we will continue to submit to Wikipedia but with an increased awareness of what it means to click that top link in our next Google search.

**VISUAL RESOURCES CENTER**

It has been a very busy few months for the CED Visual Resources Center with several new collections and an exciting new project.

The VRC has recently acquired the slide collection of Architecture Professor Emeritus Sim Van Der Ryn, who spent 35 years as Professor of Architecture at UC Berkeley and was California’s State Architect for Governor Jerry Brown in the late 1970s. We are in the process of rehousing and organizing his collection that documents a wide range of buildings, building types, and cultural events from a unique and valuable perspective. The VRC also received and has begun organizing the slide collection of architect Don Hisaka, FAIA, 1950 CED alum and former Friedman Professor in the Architecture department. This collection documents important residential, commercial, and institutional projects from around the world designed with Mr. Hisaka’s distinctive aesthetic. The third recent collection donated by Helen Olsen is a very large and interesting collection of slides taken by architect Don Olsen of both his projects and their worldwide travels.

The VRC has also begun a major digitization project bringing to light the unique hand-colored lantern slides of Mary Rutherfurd Jay (1872-1953), garden architect and author. These slides depicting international gardens and landscapes as well as her own work, provide a valuable record of landscapes prior to World War I.

**EDA STAFF NEWS**

Archives Curator Waverly Lowell continues to pursue collections to enhance the archives and funding to support their preservation and access. She is serving on the Board of the Society of American Archivists Foundation.

Collections Archivist Emily Vigor will be part of a panel talking about an archives information management tool at the Society of California Archivists (SCA) annual conference in Denver, CO. In April, she and Assistant Archivist Cailin Trimble completed the processing of the Timothy L. Pflueger papers, a joint project with The Bancroft Library which holds this collection. She is also setting up a digital processing station so that the EDA can begin to properly preserve born-digital archival materials.

Chris Marino Reference and Outreach Archivist has been busy with researchers! She is preparing for a presentation entitled “Students in the Archives: Collaborations and Partnerships” at the annual SCA meeting this May in Denver. Chris is also processing the Tallie Maule and Terry Tong collections.

In addition to completing the Pflueger project, Assistant Archivist Cailin Trimble completed processing the Anshen & Allen Records and updating the Mai K. Arbegast Collection. She continues to work on the SMWM Collection. Leading up to the holidays, Cailin curated the online exhibition Season Greetings of holiday cards designed by architects, see: [http://exhibitions.ced.berkeley.edu/exhibits/show/holiday](http://exhibitions.ced.berkeley.edu/exhibits/show/holiday). She is also serving on the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2015 Western Archives Institute, being held at Santa Clara University in July.
NOT INVITED?

We missed seeing many of you at the recent exhibit receptions and lectures. 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 the