FROM MODERNE TO MODERN: KEM WEBER IN SANTA BARBARA

SAH/SCC TOUR: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD

This day-long, self-driving tour celebrates the design legacy of Kem Weber (1889–1963), one of Southern California’s pioneering Modernists. We will meet on Saturday, February 3rd, at 10:30AM at the University Art Museum at University of California, Santa Barbara.

From Moderne to Modern, is limited to 20 people and will cost $35 per person. Due to limited space, this tour is only open to SAH/SCC members. Reservations must be pre-paid by mail; orders will be processed based on the postmark date. See order form on Page 8.

We will look at work by Weber, designed from his Los Angeles studio, that demonstrates his profound influence on American Art Deco and Moderne design during the 1920s and 1930s. We’ll also examine his more vernacular post–1945 work created in Santa Barbara, with its unique and sympathetic melding of modern design within the region’s natural and historic environment.

Weber achieved national prominence during the 1930s when he was singled out by critics as the first on the West Coast to bring a tradition-free, machine-age creativity to American interior design. Architectural historian David Gebhard showcased Kem Weber as the centerpiece of his 1969 exhibition at the University Art Museum, UCSB—the first exhibition in the United States to evaluate Art Deco and the Moderne as a design movement.

The exhibition focuses on 12 elaborate interiors that Weber created for the Walter Edwin Bixby, Sr., Residence in Kansas City, MO. The Bixby Residence (1935), by local architect Edward W. Tanner, was Kansas City’s only major Streamline Modern home.

Together we’ll walk across the way to the Museum’s Architecture and Design Collection Study Center for a private viewing of the Kem Weber archives’ collection of historic drawings and photographs relating to Weber’s work in Santa Barbara after 1945.

After a simple catered lunch on the University campus, the afternoon will be filled with Weber-designed sites in Santa Barbara, including his own studio/residence (1945) on the grounds of the Santa Barbara Botanic Gardens and the Christian Science Reading Room (1951).

We’ll begin the day on the UCSB campus with Kurt Helfrich, curator of the University Art Museum’s Architecture and Design Collection. Helfrich will guide us through the current University Art Museum exhibition “Designing the Moderne: Kem Weber’s Bixby House,” which features original drawings, historic photographs, and actual furnishings.

The tour will be led by Kurt Helfrich, and is organized by SAH/SCC board member John Ellis.
SAH National Conference Preview

The Society of Architectural Historians will hold its 54th Annual Meeting at the Fairmont-Royal York Hotel in Toronto, April 18-22, 2001. Members of local SAH chapters are invited to participate in the Annual Meeting at the early registration rate of $215, which includes a one-year membership in the national SAH. (Note: members of local chapters, such as SAH/SCC are not considered as national members.)

The 54th Annual Meeting is an international gathering of university professors, museum professionals, preservationists, architects, and independent scholars who come together to share recent and ongoing research in architectural history. Paper sessions provide the focus of the meeting, although attendees also participate in receptions, roundtable discussions, and architectural tours as well as a pre-conference preservation colloquium.

Paper sessions for the 54th Annual Meeting are scheduled on the following topics, plus three additional open sessions: Utopia: Theory and Practice; Imperialism and the Countryside in the Pre-Modern Period; East Meets West in American Landscape Architecture; The Visual and Functional Role of the Orders in Roman Urbanism; The Vernacular as an Aesthetic Category for Architecture; Colonial, De-Colonial and Post Colonial; Middle Eastern Perspectives in a Transnational Context; Travel, Space, Architecture; Neighborhoods in Late Medieval and Early Modern Italy (1300–1700); Surrealist Thought and Practice in Modern Architecture; Selling Spaces: The Architecture of Commerce; Modernism and the Neo-Baroque in Central Europe, 1890–1930; Signs of Time: Historical Reference in Medieval Architecture; Digital Teaching; New Research in the Social History of Baroque Architecture, 1550–1750; Reappraising North American Religious Architecture; Aesthetic Legislation; Cataclysm or Catalyst? Architecture and War in the 20th Century; Computer Technology and the Globalization of Architecture; Postmodernism Reconsidered; Medieval “Revival” Architecture in North America: Modernism Thwarted? Spirituality Congealed? Frank Lloyd Wright in the 21st Century; Toronto and the Future of the North American City.

There will also be a meeting of members of local chapters from all around the country on Friday, April 20th, from Noon to 1:30PM. This will be an opportunity to learn about the diverse activities offered by other chapters, discover their newsletters and programs, and share ideas about expanding membership and pursuing outreach efforts toward students and your community. This event is organized by SAH Chapter Liaison Isabelle Gourlay, who teaches at the University of Maryland School of Architecture. To reach her about this event, call 301.699.9418 or e-mail to gourlay@swam.umd.edu.

For additional information about the national meeting, or for a complete conference brochure, contact the SAH office at 312.573.1365 or visit the website at www.sah.org.

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SAH/SCC News is saddened by the passing of architect and Life Member Lorenzo Tedesco, and lifetime member and friend Bettie E. Wagner.
MODERN PATRONS: JACOBSON BY FICKETT
SAH/SCC SATURDAY TALK: MARCH 24TH, SILVERLAKE

The very successful Modern Patrons series begins its second season on Saturday, March 24th with a visit to Miriam Jacobson's house, designed in 1965 by Edward H. Fickett, FAIA, in Silverlake. The event is held from 2:30PM to 4:30PM.

Modern Patrons is reserved for a limited number of SAH/SCC Patron-level members. (If there is space leftover, then regular members may attend.) The talk is $10, and must be pre-paid by mail; orders will be processed based on the postmark date. See order form on Page 8.

This home is the second ordered and built for the Jacobsons by Fickett, and achieved Historic-Cultural Monument status from the Cultural Heritage Commission in February 2000, just nine months after Fickett's death.

Known as an architect of "finto"—the first prefabricated house for manufacture, the first hotel with private kitchenettes and patios, the first open kitchen designed as part of the living or family room—Fickett was the only architect to be recognized with the Presidential Merit of Honor Award. He was the architectural commissioner for the City of Beverly Hills for almost 10 years, and was involved in the design of the original Sands Hotel in Las Vegas, the La Costa Resort, and nearly 40,000 homes. He was also lauded by LA Mayor Tom Bradley and California Governor Gray Davis. It was perhaps the ultimate compliment, that architecture critic Aaron Betsky lived in a Fickett-designed apartment building before joining the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art as architecture curator.

"I live in a 1954 building that reflects all the faith in the future, love of the landscape, and weakness for snazzy imagery that makes me love the architecture of this place," wrote Betsky in the Los Angeles Times in 1994 about the Hollywood Riviera apartments in West Hollywood.

The 1965 home designed for Dr. and Mrs. George Jacobson stands today very much as it was built. It sits on the same hillside street with the Lovell Health House, and overlooks Eastern Hollywood and Barnsdall Park. The house is oriented to make maximum use of the panoramic city views. The interior and exterior are integrated in a successful attempt to extend the house-as-pavilion into the landscape.

An 11-foot-high door opens into walls of floor-to-ceiling windows, skylights, and a look at the Asian-inspired landscape. Several "Fickett details," such as custom-designed light fixtures, clerestory windows, room partitions, walnut paneling, built-in amenities, aggregate stone paving, large wrap-around decks, black door frames, and a mixture of building materials, give the house character and comfort.

"Every window has a purpose to bring the outside in," Fickett often said. This philosophy is depicted in the interior window of the master bedroom dressing room, with its vistas of the striking, two-story atrium.

Miriam Jacobson will engage in conversation with SAH/SCC Board Member John Berley, who is organizing this season of Modern Patrons.

BOOKMARKS: HOT OFF THE PRESSES

Architecture: The Critics' Choice—150 Masterpieces of Western Architecture Selected and Defined by the Experts edited by Dan Cruickshank. The 352-page book is a collection of some of the world's greatest buildings according to a group of 10 critics. Cruickshank divided the book into 10 chapters that range from antiquity to modernism and beyond. Architecture: The Critics' Choice offers commentaries on the 15 personal favorite buildings from each critic's specified time period. The chapter by USC professor Diane Chirardo titled appropriately "The End of the Millennium," includes her choices of work by such West-Coast talents as Gehry, Predock, and Bruder. Contributors' choices include famous as well as lesser-known projects. Watson Guptill Publications, hardcover, $50.

LA Lost and Found: An Architectural History of Los Angeles by Sam Hall Kaplan. Emmy Award-winning winner, producer at Fox Television News, and design critic Sam Hall Kaplan portrays Los Angeles as a place with enormous potential—yet plagued with social problems—in his recently re-issued book, LA Lost and Found. As Los Angeles continues to progress, Kaplan documents the landmarks that have been lost along the process, in addition to those that still remain. Such landmarks include grand Victorian mansions, detailed craftsman houses, personable bungalow courts, roadside stands, Modern- and Moderne-style houses, movie palaces and studios, amusement parks and piers, and many other sites. Hennessey and Ingalls, paperback, $29.95.

Warped Space: Art, Architecture and Anxiety in Modern Culture by Anthony Vidler. The 301-page book addresses two forms of "warped space." One type is psychological space, which is the repository of neuroses and phobias, and the other is produced when artists break the boundaries of genre to depict space in new ways. Vidler, an art history professor at UCLA, describes how psychological ideas of space affect architectural and artistic expression in the 20th century. His theories on spatial warping are seen through discussions of theorists Jacques Lacan, Gilles Deleuze, and Ayn Rand, architects Frank Gehry, Coop Himmelblau, Daniel Libeskind, Greg Lynn, Morphosis, and Eric Owen Moss, and artists Vito Acconci, Mike Kelley, and Martha Rosler. The MIT Press, hardcover, $32.95.

3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Wednesday City Observed. Commentary by author of LA and Lost: And Found: An Architeaural History of Los Angeles and Emmy-Award-winning reporter and producer at Fox Television News. San Hall Stadium on architecture, planning, and design. KCRR 89.9 FM. 3:35PM.

4, Thursday Pasadena Art Walk. self-guided. Old Town open house. The Army Center for the Arts; 6-10PM. 626.792.5101.

5, Friday Chamber Music in Historic Sites: Pacific String Quartet. String quartet performs works by Mozart and Dover at the Doheny Mansion designed by Eimer and Hunt (1899); Alfred F. Rowenous (1905); Parkinson and Parkinson (1910). The Da Camera Society; Southwestern University School of Law, 3050 Wilshire Blvd., Perfume Hall, 10AM; $37-34; res. 310.954.4300.


13, 20, 27, Saturday Garden Tours. Choice of The San Gabriel Valley, Behind the Orange Curtain, Caffeine Shop Modern and More, Cocktails ‘N Caffeine Shops with preservationist Jonathan English: $34; res. req. 213.980.3480.

13, 20, 27, Saturday Historic Downtown Walking Tour. Tour of Downtown Santa Barbara. Architectural Foundation of Santa Barbara; City Hall, De La Guerra Plaza, Santa Barbara; 10AM; $5; res. 805.965.6307.


19, Monday Los Angeles: Through the Lens Darkly and Lightly. A film series, including a viewing of documentary LA's archileaure by Weavevil and Helen O'Neill. The Da Camera Society; Japanese-American National Museum; 1855 Main St., SM; 5-7PM; $5-7; res. req. 323.937.5255.

21, Monday Photo (LA) 2001 Opening. Opening night reception and preview hosted by renowned actor, director, and photographer Dennis Hopper to benefit the Photography Department of LACMA. Onview.com; South Figueroa and Exposition Ave., Los Angeles; 5PM; $5-7; res. req. 323.937.5255.

23, Monday Public Policy Bldg, LA; 9AM-PM; $90; res. req. 213.980.3480.

23, Monday Waterstained Landscapes: Seeing and Shaping Geographies. MOCA at California Plaza, 152 N. Central Ave., LA; 3PM; $5-7; res. req. 323.857.6010.

26, Friday Shogun Freeway: Drives Through Lost LA. Documentary on Los Angeles' freeways by director Morgan Neville. Partnership with Buddha Collette, Mike Davis, Joan Didion, James Ellroy, Buddy Hackett, David Hockney, Anthony Vidler on the Paul McCarthy exhibition. MOCA, Geffen Contemporary, 152 N. Central Ave., LA; 3PM-$6; res: 213.626.6222.

26, Friday Salome Chamber Music in Historic Sites: La Piet'a. Ensemble of 11 Canadian string violinists and Holar's St. Paul Suite at St. John's Episcopal Church, 514 W. Adams Blvd., LA; 4PM; $3-$9; res. req. 310.954.4300.

26, Friday Virginia Robinson and UCLA Japanese Gardens. Tour of UCLAs owned and operated gardens at the Bel-Air Country Club and Virginia Robinson's garden in Beverly Hills. Neighborhood Place Project; KCET, 4401 Sunset Blvd., LA; 10AM-3:30PM; $5-10; res. req. 323.668.0234.

26, Friday Virginia Robinson and UCLA Japanese Gardens. Tour of UCLAs owned and operated gardens at the Bel-Air Country Club and Virginia Robinson's garden in Beverly Hills. Neighborhood Place Project; KCET, 4401 Sunset Blvd., LA; 10AM-3:30PM; $5-10; res. req. 323.668.0234.

26, Friday Los Angeles River and River Walk Center Museum. Tour of the LA River and Elysian Valley led by artist writer Jim Cavenar. Neighborhood Place Project; 152 N. Central Ave., LA; 3PM; $5-7; res. req. 323.937.5255.

26, Friday Waterstained Landscapes: Seeing and Shaping Geographies. MOCA at California Plaza, 152 N. Central Ave., LA; 3PM; $5-7; res. req. 323.857.6010.

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26, Friday Virginia Robinson and UCLA Japanese Gardens. Tour of UCLAs owned and operated gardens at the Bel-Air Country Club and Virginia Robinson's garden in Beverly Hills. Neighborhood Place Project; meet at Will Rogers Memorial Park, BH; 10AM-3:30PM; $20-40; res. req. 626.448.4022.

26, Friday Museum of Contemporary Art/ASLA lecture Series: Carol Johnson. Lecture with landscape architect Carol Johnson, known for her practice in landscape architecture and urban planning, including award-winning projects, such as McArthur Center at the Harvard Business School. Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego; 7PM; $12-18; res. req. 626.448.4022.


1, Thursday The Huntington Library's New Boone Gallery and Mauzolium. Tour of the new gallery structure that was formerly a garage or carriage house located behind the Virginia Steele Scott Galleries, and the new Boone Gallery building by a gift from George and MaryLou Boone. Neighborhood Place Project, The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., Entrance Pavilion, San Marino, 1-4PM; $10; res. req. 626.448.4022.

2, Friday Wednesday Designer Series. Lecture with author and consultant Fred Burns on how to set and get higher fees for design services. Pacific Design Center, 8687 Melrose Ave., West Hollywood; 10-4PM, free. res. req. 310.360.6408.

3, Saturday Undiscovered Los Angeles: Water and Steel. Talk by architect Robert A. Scott about the little-known opportunities in the home-use interpretation bus. Center for Land Use Interpretation Bus, Santa Barbara; 1PM; free. 805.965.3021; res. req. 310.825.9971.

3, Saturday Walking tours of historic downtown landmarks. L.A. Conservancy; 10AM-5PM; $10; res. req. 323.980.3480.

3, Saturday Lecture with architect Irwin Weintraub in Santa Barbara. Architectural Foundation of Santa Barbara; City Hall, De La Guerra Plaza, Santa Barbara; 10AM; $5; res. 805.965.6307.

3, Saturday Tour with architect Nader Khalili on lunar and spatial habitation at Sundays at La Sala. La Sala Auditorium, San Juan Capistrano Library, 31495 El Camino Real, San Juan Capistrano; 4PM-5PM; $3-5; res. req. 949.366.9660.

4, Sunday Lecture in Historic Sites: The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. Grammy-nominated violinist Cho-Liang Lin and the San Cliburn-pianist André Michel Schub perform the Brahms Violin Sonata in A; Opera House, 100; and are joined by Schubert's "Franz Joseph" at Patrick Hall, designed by Allied Architects. The Da Camera Society; Patrick Hall, 1816 S. Figueroa St., LA; 4PM; $33-39; res. req. 310.954.4300.


4, Sunday Lecture with architect Paul Johnson at the Museum of San Diego History. The Gaslight Inn, 1911, is shown above) are featured at a lecture by architect Paul Johnston on architect Irving Gill's work in San Diego during the first decades of the 20th century. San Diego Historical Society; Friends of the Manton House; Museum of San Diego History, Thornton Theater; Bahia Park; 7PM; $12-15; res. req. 619.298.3142.

4, Sunday Hill Drive in Eagle Rock. Tour with writer Jim Cavener of Eagle Rock's history and residential area along Hill Drive. Neighborhood Place Project; Eagle Rock; 4-4PM; $10; res. req. 626.448.4022.

5, Sunday Chamber Music in Historic Sites: Love Spirit. Gospel music performance by Love Spirit at McCarty Memorial Christian Church, designed by Barber and Kingbury (1931). The Da Camera Society; McCarty Memorial Christian Church, 4101 W. Adams Blvd., LA; 3PM; $29-33; res. req. 310.954.4300.

6, Sunday Conference focuses on the future of real estate and the new economy in Southern California with industry leaders and innovators. UCLA Extension; Beverly Hills Hotel, 9641 Sunset Blvd.; Beverly Hills; 7-30AM-4PM; $75; res. req. 310.769.9334.


The Fabulous Felines—Furniture, Decorative Arts and Fine Art of the 1950s, through January 14. Exhibition of 310J92.8537.

www.uclanews.ucla.edu.

Arts and Fine Art of the 1950s, through January 14. Exhibition of objects from the 20th century, including works by Eleanor Antin, Michael Asher, Victor Estrada, Jacob Hashimoto, and others, are geared toward children.


Raphael Drawings from Windsor Castle, through January 7. Exhibit of 16 drawings selected from Old Master drawings and watercolors on loan from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Mexico: From Empire to Revolution, through January 21. Exhibit of photographs that portray Mexico's past between the 1860s and 1910s.

The Corridor, September 21-February 13, 2002. Exhibition of the Corridor projects in airports in LA and Vienna, which focus on various issues, such as the erosion of the boundaries between art, architecture, and design.

Mingei International Museum Plaza de Panama, 1439 El Prado, Balboa Park, SD. 619.239.0000. Ceramics of Tatsuoh Shimazaki—a Retrospective of a Living National Treasure of Japan, through January 4. Exhibit of more than 120 pieces with works by Tatsuoh Shimazaki representing Japan's 5,000-year-old, unbroken tradition of the art of pottery making.


Paul Klee: Conductor of Color, through April 3. Exhibition of about 180 examples of modernist architecture, design, sculpture, photography, drawing, and video.

Live Dangerously, through January 7. Exhibition of 26 contemporary homes by a diverse group of international architects, including Neil Denari, Shigeru Ban, and many others.

MUSEUM PREVIEW: ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN 2001

It looks good for architecture and design at California’s museums throughout 2001. We’ve chosen a few among the many cultural institutions, museums, historic houses and sites, collections, and galleries we’re blessed with in Los Angeles and San Francisco areas.

Los Angeles County Museum of Art

Made in California: Art, Image, and Identity, through February 25. The exhibition features about 800 works of art in a wide range of media, including painting, sculpture, photography, graphic art, decorative art, costume, and video. The various artworks address the relationship between the arts and popular culture and California’s evolving image during the past century.

The Max Paleyso Collection of Japanese Woodblock Prints, February 8–May 15. The exhibition offers viewers an opportunity to see works from Paleyso’s collection of Japanese printmaking, from the late 18th to mid 19th century. In addition, there are prints that include some impressions of celebrated images by masters, such as Utamaro, Hokusai, and Katsushika.

A Century of Fashion, 1900–2000, through January 6, 2003. Exhibition features more than 130 costumes from the museum’s permanent collection showing how fashion mirrored society and shaped the image of the ideal woman.

L’Esprit Nouveau: Purism in Paris, 1918–25, April 29–August 5. The exhibition focuses on the works by founders of the Purist movement Amédée Ozenfant and Charles-Edouard Jeanneret—better known as Le Corbusier—and colleague Fernand Léger. L’Esprit Nouveau: Purism in Paris will be reconstructed of the two main rooms on the ground floor of the “Pavillon de l’Esprit Nouveau.” The reconstruction of the Pavilion will be complemented by a selection of about 60 to 75 Purist paintings and works on paper by Jeanneret, Ozenfant, and Léger.

MAK Center for Art and Architecture
835 North Kings Rd., West Hollywood. 323.651.1510.

Frederick J. Kiesler: Endless Space, through February 25. The exhibition features works by artist, architect, and theatrical designer Frederick J. Kiesler. The Endless House (1959) expresses his ideas about 60 to 75 Purist paintings and works on paper by Jeanneret, Ozenfant, and Léger.

MOCAti at California Plaza

The Architecture of R. M. Schindler, February 25–June 3. The exhibition chronicles the work of architect Rudolph Michael Schindler (1887–1953). The exhibit illustrates how he contributed to the history of modern architecture and to Los Angeles through more than 100 original drawings, 90 archival and new photographs, 15 large-scale models of buildings, and 12 pieces of original furniture. Throughout the run of the show, there will be gallery talks and special lectures with architectural historians Margaret Crawford on May 6th, and Judith Sheine on May 24th. MOCA and the LA Conservancy are offering two tours of Schindler homes in LA. On April 21st, the recently restored Elliot House (1930) is featured. On May 5th, the tour features the Walker (1931) and the Droste (1940) houses.

The MOCA Gallery at the PDC

Superflat, January 14–May 6. The exhibition features Japanese art, animation, fashion, and graphic design, which tends toward two-dimensionality through the work of various artists, including Chiharu Shiota, Borne, Enlightenment (Hiroyuki Suga), groovinori, Hiroki, Yoshinori Kanada, Hennar Machino, Koji Morimoto, Mr., Takashi Murakami, and others. Superflat is influenced by the Japanese cartoon culture of manga where enthusiasts are drawn into a virtual world. The two-dimensionality of manga results in an overall patterning of colors and shapes, which provides a parallel space in which to escape from the pressures and expectations of society at large.

This is the inaugural event at this new gallery which was formerly known as the Murray Feldman Gallery. The freestanding building was designed by Cesar Pelli and sits on the plaza of Pacific Design Center.

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

Selections from the Permanent Collection of Architecture and Design, through March 4. Exhibition presents architectural renderings, furniture, design objects, and graphic design that recently entered the museum’s collection. About 100 works will be on view, including examples of modernism in architecture, digital projects, and works by architects Graves, Rossi, Woods, Nelson, Gehry, and others.

Hiroshi Sugimoto: The Architecture Series, through March 4. Exhibit of 15 works from photographer Hiroshi Sugimoto’s series on icons of 20th-century architectural icons from around the world. Sugimoto is known for his long-exposure photographic series on empty movie theaters, seascapes, and museum dieramas. His Moody and timeless photographs record buildings as diverse as the Empire State Building and Tadao Ando’s Chapel in Osaka.

Paul Klee: Conductor of Color, through April 3. The exhibition features Swiss artist Paul Klee’s power of color in about 15 paintings and works of paper that experiment with color, and its relationship to line and the visual expression of music on display.

010101: Art in Technological Times, January 1, online; March 3–July 8, galleries. The exhibition presents new developments in contemporary art, architecture, and design influenced by digital media and technology. 010101: Art in Technological Times is available for viewing on the World Wide Web and in the physical galleries.

The exhibition features works in all forms of media by about 35 artists, architects, and designers, including Asymptote Architecture, Brian En, Michael Samyn, and many others.

Custom Built: A 20-Year Survey of Work by Allan Wexler, March 30–June 24. The traveling exhibition, organized by the Atlanta College of Art Gallery and City Gallery at Chastain, chronicles the development of architect, sculptor, and furniture maker Allan Wexler’s work during the past 20 years. Wexler’s work focuses on three central topics: construction, nature, and human use. Approximately 30 pieces of his work will be exhibited that emphasize habitation and spatial orientation in the domestic and natural realms.

Revelatory Landscapes, May 5–October 14, off site. Disciplines of landscape design and environmental installation have influenced new forms of art and design projects. Five architects and artists—Kathryn Gustafson, George Hargreaves, Mary-Margaret Jones, Walter Hood, and Tom Leader—create site-specific installations at various locations around the Bay Area. Revelatory Landscapes features works from large-scale reclamation and urban design projects to small installations and gardens.

SAH/SCC NEWS
2.2 million photographs documenting the history of our region. Many of them depict buildings, but few are identified by architect. Researchers in architectural history come up empty-handed when searching for photos of a particular work—yet the collection may contain several images. If they could be identified and cross-referenced by architects’ names, then architectural researchers and publications could discover many new views of our architectural treasures. That’s where the knowledge and interest of SAH/SCC members may prove vital.

Last summer the L.A. Public Library’s Photo Friends formed an architectural committee to identify the buildings in the collections’ photographs by architect, date, and location. After an initial training session, the group set to work looking up photographs filed by building type, subject, location, owners’ names, etc., looking for structures by such early modernists as F.L. and Lloyd Wright, Gill, Neutra, and Schindler.

Working together at the Central Library two Saturday afternoons a month, the group found a surprising number of images not previously known. The result of the group’s work: updated and cross-referenced catalog information—and public access to these images.

SAH/SCC members may be excellent candidates for the next architectural detective project—on Southern California’s period revival architecture of the 1920s and ‘30s: Spanish Colonial and Tudor residences, commercial and public buildings; castle apartment houses; Hansel and Gretel cottages and duplexes; and colonial replica houses and shops that give Los Angeles so much character. The first task will be to identify a list of architects; tract-builders, clients, and addresses that should be searched. For starters: architects Wallace Neff, Paul Williams, A.C. Martin, Pierpont Davis; developers Spio G. Ponty, Gillette, Highland Square; and clients Horace Boos, Lawrence Tibbitts, Fred Niblo. Please contact Merry Ovnick with other names that should be researched; call 818-363-9326 or e-mail merry.ovnick@cun.edu.

If you find this period and its imaginative buildings particularly fascinating, why not join the new Photo Friends Period Revival Architectural Committee? It will begin work in January and extend through the Spring. There is room for only eight to ten people on the committee. Send in the following application form or a note. Looking ahead to next summer/fall and to winter/spring 2001, we’re hoping to form committees for Arts & Crafts (1900s-1910s) and Post-War period (1947-1960). Keep your eyes open for these sign-up opportunities!