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HERITAGE DAYS



SAH/SCC Members' Celebration Saturday, November 8th, 2:30-4:30PM

Join SAH/SCC for the annual Members' Celebration on Saturday, November 8th, 2:30-4:30PM, as we explore Heritage Square near Highland Park. This collection of eight structures dates from the 1870s to the turn of the 20th century, representing the Victorian Era—the precursor to modernism—that posed such challenges and opportunities for clients, architects, builders, and, later, preservationists.

Curator Michael Ontiveros will speak with us, and we'll have the opportunity to tour the buildings and socialize with members. This annual event is free for members, but reservations are required. We encourage you to bring friends who might want to join the SAH/SCC member roster. Guests are \$10, which is applicable to new memberships. Call 800-9SAHSCC for member reservations, or use Order Form on back page; order guest tickets with Order Form or go to www.sahscc.org.

continues on page 3.



november

december

President's Letter

Last fall, SAH/SCC launched its Crossroads Campaign. It was time for reflection and transition. We began by surveying you, the membership, to find out what you like most and least about us.

What you like best is clear: the range of thoughtful, educational, and very personal events that allow members to engage with architecture in a way rarely offered. You deeply value our mission to educate the public about the rich and diverse architectural heritage of Southern California. You also rely on advance notice of SAH/SCC events that often sell out before they are opened to the public. Lastly, you appreciate our efforts to keep event costs down for members.

Like many nonprofits, SAH/SCC has faced rising printing and mailing costs, plus declining membership levels. We've been forced to look at the options that technology offers to operate more efficiently and still maintain what you have identified as the advantages of membership in the organization.

The reality is that the things you like best about the organization can be enhanced through technology. Many tour-goers have noticed that we have begun to use email as a way to provide directions to events. We've recently instituted the SAH Alert, to remind you about upcoming tours and important ticket deadlines. This month, we are introducing a new feature: an electronic version of the newsletter sent to members via email. The e-newsletter will have links to relevant information and easy event sign-up. Additionally, the e-newsletter will link to a printable version with all the same features you've come to know and love. And during the next few months, SAH/SCC News will make a full transition from a printed and mailed version to electronic distribution only.

In 2009 SAH/SCC will also launch a newly redesigned website that expands our public education mission and offers out-of-print SAH/SCC publications from past events.

In the coming year, your Executive Board will be bringing you a range of exciting new tours and events that continue the traditions of this organization. Spring will feature a re-invigorated Modern Patrons program featuring original owners of modern homes, a tour and symposium on the changing architecture of Los Angeles' public libraries, and stimulating lectures on modernism in Cuba and the adaptive nature of the Mediterranean house.

It is amazing to consider that our events are generated by an all-volunteer Board. When I talk about SAH/SCC, I always say that the reason I joined was for the buildings—but the reason I stay involved is for the people. The organization has afforded me the opportunity to serve with a roster of dedicated Board Members and to meet many members who share a passion for life and an eagerness for dialogue about how the built environment shapes us as individuals and as a society. As the organization looks to the future, we view technology as an opportunity to deepen and expand that dialogue.

If you have not yet provided us with your e-mail address, please take a few moments now to send it to us at sahscc-info@sahscc.org to ensure that you don't miss a single issue. Our promise to you is that SAH/SCC maintains a strict privacy policy. We do not share mailing or email addresses with anyone.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you in 2009!

Sian Winship



SAH/SCC Gift Guide

Give great architecture for the holidays! What better way to treat your friends, relatives, and business colleagues than to give them gift memberships to SAH/SCC for the holidays? Sweaters and ties come and go, but experiencing rare architectural jewels makes memories that last a lifetime. To celebrate the holidays, we are offering a 20% discount for special gift memberships at all levels (except Student). Your friends will get a subscription to SAH/SCC News, member prices on events, and free Members' Celebration. Plus, memberships are tax deductible. Another creative gift would be a full set of SAH/SCC Publications. Our publications are the next best thing to having been on a tour. Better yet, give both! See the back page for more info.



Tour and Event Information: 1.800.972.4722; sahscc-info@sahscc

SAH/SCC NEWS is published bi-monthly by the Society of Architectural Historians / Socialifornia Chapter. Subscription is a benefit of membership and provides members with one most comprehensive calendars of architectural events in Southern California and advance not exclusive SAH/SCC architectural events and tours.

Editor: Julie D. Taylor, Hon. AIA/LA Associate Editor: Gretchen Keene Internet Editor: Brent Eckerman Art Director: Svetlana Petrovic Administration: Arline Chambers

January/February 2009 issue deadline for newsletter information and ads: December 10, 200 Please send all ad materials, notices of events, and news to the attention of the editor:

Julie D. Taylor, Editor

SAH/SCC News P.O. Box 56478 Sherman Oaks, CA 91413 Newsletter telephone: 310.247.109 Newsletter fax: 310.247.8147 Newsletter e-mail: julie@taylor-pr.c

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1, Saturday

Angelino Heights.

Walking tour of Victorian architecture. Los Angeles Conservancy; LA; 10AM; \$5-10; res. req. 213.623.2489 laconservancy.org.

1, Saturday

City Hall.

Tour of public spaces in City Hall. Los Angeles Conservancy; LA; 11AM; \$5-10; res. req. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

1, Saturday

Doheny Soiree. Paris Piano Trio plays at the Doheny Mansion (Hunt and Eisen, 1899). Da Camera Society, LA; talk-7:40PM, concert-8PM; \$66-88; res. reg.

213.477.2952. dacamera.org.

5, Wednesday

Tom Wiscombe.

Lecture by Emergent founder Wiscombe on architectural research. SCI-Arc. 960 E. 3rd St., LA; 7PM. 213.613.2200. sciarc.edu.

7, Friday

Opinion Makers Shaping the City. AIA/LA breakfast featuring Councilmember Tom LaBonge. Brandow & Johnston: Lehrer Architects, 2140 Hyperion Ave., LA; 8-9:30AM; \$15-30; res. req. 213.639.0777. aialosangeles.org.

7. Friday

Greene & Greene: The Art of Architecture.

Two screenings of Paul Bockhorst film.

The Huntington Library, Friends Hall, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino; 1PM and 3PM. 626.405.2100. huntington.org.

8, Saturday

San Pedro.

Walking tour of San Pedro architecture. Los Angeles Conservancy; San Pedro; 10AM; \$5-10; res. req. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

8, Saturday

Walking tour of the historic heart of LA's Japanese community. Los Angeles Conservancy; LA; 10AM; \$5-10; res. reg. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

8, Saturday

Conservation Matters: Climate Change and Historic Preservation. Panel on climate change and how it will affect the historic built environment with moderator Frances Anderton of KCRW-FM. Getty Research Institute; The Getty Center, 1200 Getty Center Dr., LA; 3-7PM, 310.440.7300, getty.edu.

8, Saturday

Looking, Verses, Leaping. Lively exploration of Corita Kent's watercolors, including games and art-making. Judson Gallery of Contemporary and Traditional Art, 200 S. Avenue 66, LA; 4:30-6:30PM; \$10; res. req. 800.445.8376. judsonstudios.com

8, 11, 15, 25, 29, Thursday and Sunday

Space Silence Spirit/Maynard Dixon's West: The Hayes Collection. Gallery talk on this illustrator, landscape artist, and mural painter. Palm Springs Art Museum, 101 Museum Dr.; Thursdays-11AM, Sundays-1PM; \$5-12.50. 760.325.0189. psmuseum.org.

8, 15, 22, 29, Saturday

Neon Cruise.

Nighttime bus tour of neon signs throughout downtown Los Angeles and Hollywood. Museum of Neon Art, 136 W. 4th St., LA; 7:30-11PM; \$45-55; res. req. 213.489.9918. neonmona.org.

9. Sunday

L.A. NOIR-chitecture.

Tour of seven historic sites from noir film and fiction. LA Conservancy and The Big Read; 10AM-4PM; \$10-30; res. reg. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

9, Sunday

Biltmore Hotel.

Walking tour of the architecture and history of the Biltmore Hotel. Los Angeles Conservancy; 2PM; \$5-10; res. reg. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

9, Sunday

The Universe of Keith Haring. Film screening. The City of Palm Springs and Heather James Fine Arts; Palm Springs Art Museum, 101 Museum Dr., Palm Springs; 2PM. 760.325.0189. psmuseum.org.

9, Sunday

On the Saarinen Design Legacy in Finland and the US. Illustrated lecture on famed designers Eliel and Eero Saarinen with landscape architect and Eero's daughter Susan Saarinen and former Cranbrook Educational Community archive director Mark Coir, Los Angeles Finlandia Foundation; Beverly Hills Public Library, 444 N. Rexford Dr.; 2PM; res. req.

626.795.2081. finlandiafoundation.org.

10, Monday

Masters of Architecture. Lecture by London/Berlin/NY Adjaye/Associates principal David Adjaye. AIA/LACMA; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Blvd., LA; 7:30PM; \$5-12. 213.639.0077. aialosangeles.org.

11, Tuesday

Lighting Inspired by the Residential Environment. Presentation of residential lighting design with industry expert Rosemarie Allaire, IALD. Designers Lighting Forum; product display-6PM, program-7PM; res. reg. 310.535.0105. dlfla.org.

11, Tuesday

Pam Light.

AIA/LA Interiors Committee presentation with HOK's Pam Light. AIA/LA; res. reg. 213.639.0777. aialosangeles.org.

12. Wednesday

Is it Time to Ban Billboards? AIA/LA Urban Design Committee presentation. AIA/LA; res. req. 213.639.0777. aialosangeles.org.

12, Wednesday

Recycling in Construction. AIA/LA Committee on the Environment meeting. AIA/LA; Discover Green Showroom; res. req. 213.639.0777 aialosangles.org.

12, Wednesday

An Evening With Richard Moe. Discussion on the link between preservation and sustainability with National Trust for Historic Preservation president. Los Angeles Conservancy; Los Angeles Center Studios, 1201 W. Fifth St., LA; 7-9PM; \$5; res. req. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

12. Wednesday

Daniel Mihalyo + Annie Hahn. Lecture by collaborative Seattle-based artists and Lead Pencil Studio founders on exploring the intangible conditions of architecture. SCI-Arc, 960 E. 3rd St., LA; 7PM. 213.613.2200. sciarc.edu.

12, Wednesday

Doheny Soiree.

Richard Egarr plays the harpsichord at the Doheny Mansion (Hunt and Eisen, 1899). Da Camera Society, LA; talk-7:40PM, concert-8PM; \$55-75; 213.477.2952. dacamera.org.

13, Thursday

The Influence of Japanese Art on Design.

Lecture and book signing with author Hannah Sigur. Berkely Architectural Heritage Association, Hillside Club, 2286 Cedar St., Berkley; 7:30PM; \$15; res. req. 510.841.2242. berkeleyheritage.com.

14-16, Friday-Sunday

If Not Now, When?

AIA California Council's Practice Conference. AIA CC; US Grant Hotel, San Diego; res. req. aiacalifornia.org.

15, Saturday

Downtown's Evolving Skyline. Tour of architecture, art, and open spaces of Downtown's Central Business District. Los Angeles Conservancy; 10AM; \$5-10; res. req. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

15, Saturday

Union Station.

Walking tour of the architecture and history of Union Station. Los Angeles Conservancy; LA; 10AM; \$5-10; res. reg. 213.623.2489. Jaconservancy.org.

15, Saturday

Corita's Watercolor: Perspective and Practice. Workshop on watercolor and Corita Kent's artistic process with Corita Art Center director's assistant Corrie Siegal. Judson Gallery of Contemporary and Traditional Art, 200 South Avenue 66, LA; 1:30-4PM; \$15; res. req. 800.445.8376. judsonstudios.com.

15, Saturday

Seeing Greene & Greene: Architecture in Photographs. Panel featuring guest curator Karen Sinsheimer, furniture designer John Caldwell, and photographer Franklin Cariffe. Pasadena Museum of Contemporary Art, 490 E. Union St.;

3-4PM, 626.568.3665, pmcaonline.org.

15. Saturday

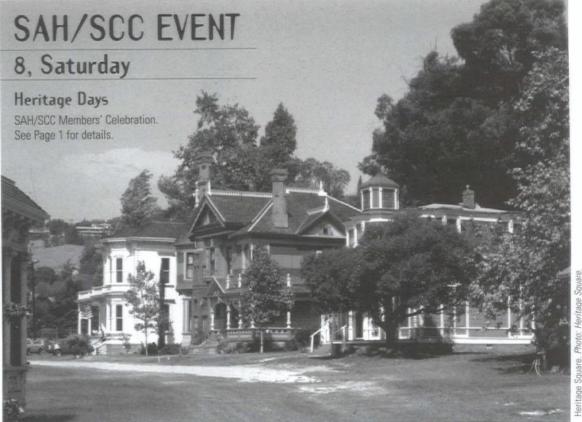
Poptimisim: Modernism and Multi-Cultural References.

Lecture on "making solutions beautiful" with architect and Rios Clementi Hale Studios principal Frank Clementi. Palm Springs Art Museum, 101 Museum Dr.; 6PM; \$10-15. 760.325.0189. psmuseum.org.

16. Sunday

How We Talk About Los Angeles and Why This Matters.

Discussion with urban historian Greg Hise and writer D.J. Waldie on fundamental views of Los Angeles. Library Foundation of Los Angeles; Central Library, 630 W. Fifth St., LA; 2PM; res. reg. 213.228.7025. aloudia.org.



SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

SAH

17, Monday

Jan and Tim Edler. Lecture by Berlin-based art. architecture, and technology studio realities:united principals. UCLA Department of Architecture and Urban Design; Perloff Hall, LA; 6:30PM. 310.825.2585. aud.ucla.edu.

17, Monday

realities:united!

Opening reception for exhibit from Berlin-based realities:united architectural studio exploring the intersection of art, architecture, and communication, UCLA Department of Architecture and Urban Design; Perloff Hall, LA; 8-9PM, 310,825,2585. aud.ucla.edu.

19, Wednesday

Generation Mobile: The Death of Distance.

Lecture on innovative mobile structures by Office of Mobile Design principal Jennifer Siegal. SCI-Arc, 960 E. 3rd St. LA; 7PM. 213.613.2200. sciarc.edu.

20, Thursday

Aviation in San Diego.

Lecture and book signing by authors Katrina Pescador and Alan Renga. Save Our Heritage Organization; Adobe Chapel, 3950 Conde St., San Diego; 6-7:30PM. 619.297.9327 sohosandiego.org.

22, Saturday

Historic Spring Street.

Walking tour of Spring Street, once known as the Wall Street of the West. Los Angeles Conservancy; LA; 10AM; \$5-10; res. reg. 213.623.2489 laconservancy.org.

22 Saturday

Union Station Family Tour. Walking tour exploring the history and architecture of Union Station. Los Angeles Conservancy; LA; 11AM; \$5-10; res. reg. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

22, Saturday

30th Anniversary Gala. Benefit celebrating Los Angeles Conservancy's preservation efforts. City National Bank; Los Angeles Conservancy; Bullocks Wilshire/Southwestern Law School, 3050 Wilshire Blvd., LA: 6-9PM: \$300+; res. req. 213-623-2489. laconservancy.org.

23, Sunday

A Walk Into the Sea: Danny Williams & the Warhol Factory. Film screening. The City of Palm Springs and Heather James Fine Arts: Palm Springs Art Museum, 101 Museum Dr., Palm Springs; 2PM. 760.325.0189. psmuseum.org.

23, Sunday

Biltmore Hotel

Walking tour of the architecture and history of the Biltmore Hotel. Los Angeles Conservancy; 2PM; \$5-10; res. req. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

24, Monday

J. Mayer H.

Lecture on the intersection of architecture, communications, and new technology by Berlin-based architect J. Mayer H. UCLA Department of Architecture and Urban Design: Perloff Hall, LA: 6:30PM, 310.825.2585 aud.ucla.edu.

2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27, 30,

Tuesday and Saturday

Space Silence Spirit/Maynard Dixon's West: The Hayes Collection. Gallery talk on famed illustrator, landscape artist, and mural painter. Palm Springs Art Museum, 101 Museum Dr.; Tuesdays-11AM, Saturdays-1PM; \$5-12.50. 760.325.0189. psmuseum.org.

5, Friday

Opinion Makers Shaping the City. AIA/LA breakfast with LADWP president David Nehai. Brandow & Johnston; David Hertz Architects, 1920 Olympic Blvd., Santa Monica: 8-9:30AM. \$15-30; res. req. 213.639.0777. aialosangeles.org.

6, Saturday

Angelino Heights.

Walking tour of Victorian architecture. Los Angeles Conservancy; LA; 10AM; \$5-10; res. reg. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

6, Saturday

City Hall.

Tour of public spaces in City Hall. Los Angeles Conservancy; LA; 11AM; \$5-10; res. req. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org

6, 7, Saturday-Sunday

Holiday Lamplight Celebration. Traditional holiday festivities in Victorian homes. Heritage Square Museum, Heritage Square, 3800 Homer St., LA; 4-8:30PM; \$10-20; res. req. 323.225.2700. heritagesquare.org.

7. Sunday

"White Christmas" Holiday Matinee.

Screening of this holiday classic in an historic theater. Los Angeles Conservancy; Los Angeles Theatre, 615 S. Broadway, LA; 2PM; \$5-10. 213-623-2489. laconservancy.org.

7, Sunday

Family Day.

Arts and crafts activities based on Greene & Greene exhibition. Pasadena Museum of Contemporary Art, 490 E. Union St.; 3-5PM; res. req. 626.568.3665, pmcaonline.org.

7, Sunday

Chamber Music in Historic Sites. Medieval English carols and American Christmas tunes performed by Anonymous 4 at the St. James Episcopal Church (Benjamin McDougal, 1926). Great Music at St. James, LA; talk-3:30PM, concert-4:30PM; \$41-49; res. req. 213.477.2952. dacamera.org.

8, Monday

AIA Los Angeles Chapter Holiday Party and Board Installation. 213.639.0777. aialosangeles.org.

9, Tuesday

AIA Los Angeles Interior Architecture Committee Holiday Party. 213.639.0777, aialosangeles.org.

11, Thursday

Artists in Action.

Merging sketches to landscape paintings with Diane McClary. Palm Springs Art Museum, 101 Museum Dr.; 6PM. 760.325.0189. psmuseum.org.

13, Saturday

Little Tokyo.

Walking tour of the historic heart of LA's Japanese community. Los Angeles Conservancy; LA; 10AM; \$5-10; res. req. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

13, Saturday

University of Southern California. Walking tour of architecture on USC's University Park campus. Los Angeles Conservancy; LA; 10AM; \$5-10; res. req. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

14, Sunday

Biltmore Hotel.

Walking tour of the architecture and history of the Biltmore Hotel. Los Angeles Conservancy; 2PM; \$5-10; res. req. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

14, Sunday

Chamber Music in Historic Sites. American-themed music by Cypress String Quartet at the Zane Grey Estate (Hunt & Grey, 1906). Sally and Irwin Goldstein; Altadena; 2PM and 4PM; \$77-93; res. req. 213.477.2929. dacamera.org.

20, Saturday

Highland Park.

Walking tour of the architecture and history of Highland Park. Los Angeles Conservancy; LA; 10AM; \$5-10; res. req. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

20, Saturday

Downtown's Evolving Skyline. Tour of architecture, art, and open spaces of Downtown's Central Business District. Los Angeles Conservancy; 10AM; \$5-10; res. reg. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

20, Saturday

Union Station.

Walking tour of the architecture and history of Union Station. Los Angeles Conservancy; LA; 10AM; \$5-10; res. req. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

27, Saturday

Union Station Family Tour. Walking tour exploring the history and architecture of Union Station. Los Angeles Conservancy; LA; 11AM; \$5-10; res. reg. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

28, Sunday

Biltmore Hotel.

Walking tour of the architecture and history of the Biltmore Hotel. Los Angeles Conservancy; 2PM; \$5-10; res. req. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

Ongoing

Urban Man. Radio program featuring commentary on modern life in Los Angeles with Marc Porter Zasada. 89.9 FM KCRW; 6:44-6:48PM. kcrw.com.

LA Observed. Radio program covering the week's top stories in Los Angeles media, politics, and culture with Kevin Roderick. 89.9 FM KCRW; 4:44-4:48PM. kcrw.com.

Architecture Tours LA.

Tours of Hollywood, Silver Lake, Hancock Park, West Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Pasadena, and Downtown, as well as of Frank Gehry's work, guided by SAH/SCC Member Laura Massino. Architecture Tours LA; \$60-70; res. reg. 323,464,7868.

FEATURED EVENT

7, Sunday

Greene & Greene Family Day. Arts and crafts activities. See listings for details.



SAH

SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

Calendar information is supplied to SAH/SCC by the sponsoring organizations and is correct as of press time. SAH/SCC suggests you contact the sponsors prior to attending any event.



age Square at sunset





continued from page 1.



The Machine Age triumphed in the late 19th century. New inventions and production methods turned small factories into big businesses that needed white-collar supervisors, bookkeepers, and clerks. The white-collar class grew eight times the rate of the population. And this new middle class had the means to move up to new homes and unfamiliar lifestyles. The middle class maybe could not afford the masonry mansions of the rich, with hand-carved details, but they could show off their new status with grand wooden houses adorned by machine-made wooden "gingerbread" (available by the linear foot), lathe-turned banister posts, and simulated carved paneling wallcovering. And show off they did, with as many kinds of surface ornament, each highlighted in a different hue, and as many gables and exotic style references as their budgets could afford. But they wondered if they exhibited "good taste" or if they were being sneered at by passersby. They sought guidance.

At an architect's office, they pored over plan books, picking a turret from one illustration, a pillared porch from another, an elaborate chimney from yet a third. Architects advertised that they could produce fancy homes for any budget. By convincing the client (unfamiliar with "good taste") that he knew what was aesthetically correct, the architect triumphed. But would these pastiches of turrets and porches prove structurally sound? That's where the builders came in. Balloon-frame houses were light-weight relative to size and designers and carpenters often figured out, on site, when more bracing was needed here, or a wall extended there.

The result? Colorful jumbles of forms, eclectic mélanges of borrowed and fanciful styles—all designed for conspicuous consumption, to impress occupants and outsiders of wealth and status. But, notice: kitchens, back porches, and back bedrooms are bare-bones plain. The exterior trim is only on the sides to be seen from the sidewalk. The display aesthetic meant housekeeping nightmares, repainting panics, and competitive display anxieties. Architectural modernism, emphasizing efficiency and simpler living, was a reaction to those Victorian anxieties.

Victorian houses went out of fashion, were converted to boarding houses, and painted white to escape notice. In the 1960s and '70s, preservationists took an interest. But saving and restoring these neglected showpieces was daunting. That a few survived—even in L.A.—has much to do with their builders' innovations, redwood sills, and the dedication of droves of volunteers.

Join us as we take a close look at the stories the eight structures at Heritage Square can tell us about an era of opportunity and challenge.



Valley Knudson house

Photos: Heritage Square.

Postcard From Long Beach

a beautiful Saturday in October, we spent the day "Getting to Know chitect Paul Edward Tay" in Long Beach. Organized by architect and SAH/SCC pard Member Adam Wheeler, the day featured five unique homes in five ique neighborhoods.



Braly Residence (1972) on Naples canals

As Adam pointed out, the day reflected the evolving and maturing body of work of one modern architect. Spanning nearly 20 years, from 1954 to 1972. Tay's residential work revealed itself as thoughtful in plan, dynamic in section, and responsive to client needs.

We began the day at the Braly Residence, a multi-story home with stunning views of the Naples canals. Here Tay raised the main living spaces to the second story to preserve the privacy of the residents. This was also our first glimpse of Tay's talent for bringing light into spaces through the use of large elevated expanses of glass at roof height. From Naples, the tour moved to Park Estates and Signal Hill to view the architect's response to a suburban corner lot and a steep hill-



Penn Residence (1954) in Bixby Knolls.

side conditions. The day concluded in the delightful Bixby Knolls neighborhood with visits to the Drake and Penn Residences.

The Penn Residence provided the perfect venue for us to reflect on what we had seen throughout the day and to discuss it with fellow tour-goers over wine and cheese. Adam led several of the current homeowners in a thoughtful discussion about living and restoring a modern ranch-style home. In the end, Paul Tay revealed himself to be one of the many talented, but unsung, modern architects working in Southern California in the mid-20th Century. His legacy is evidenced by the continued dialogue that the homes are having with a new generation of owners.

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