



Maya Lin.
Photo: Adam Stoltman

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Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision

SAH/SCC Film & Talk

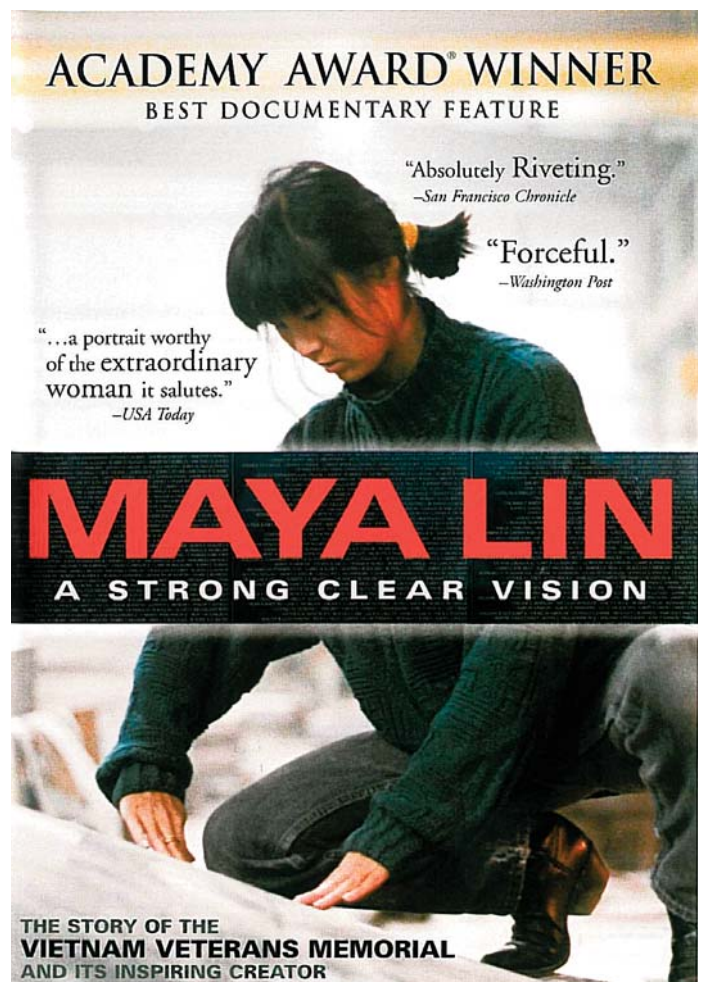
Saturday, February 27, 2010, Glendale Central Library

SAH/SCC is excited to share one of the best art and architecture documentaries of all time with our members and their guests. At 11:30AM on Saturday, February 27, 2010, we join the Glendale Public Library in co-sponsoring a free screening of *Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision*. The screening takes place at Glendale Central Library (Welton Becket & Associates, 1969), 222 E. Harvard St.; reservations are not required.

Winner of the Academy Award for Best Feature Documentary in 1995, the film was directed by Freida Lee Mock, who will join us for the presentation and share her insights into Lin's life and career. A *Boston Globe* critic called the film "the finest I've ever seen on a contemporary artist" and the late film critic Gene Siskel said "it brought tears to my eyes. I can't wait to show it to my daughters. Maya Lin will be a role model for them. She is a great artist and this film captures her talent and her courage."

Lin's Vietnam Veterans Memorial on the Mall in Washington, DC, is one of the most profound commemorative artworks ever made. Designed while she was still a senior architecture major at Yale University, the monument not only firmly established Lin as one of the great designers of our time, but also forever changed contemporary efforts to memorialize complex and often painful aspects of history. The film focuses on Lin's steadfast resolve to see the monument built as she designed it, along with other early projects that made her reputation and established her preeminent skill in melding sculpture, architecture, and landscape design into works and sites of great power and, often, controversy.

Director Freida Lee Mock will introduce the film and take questions from the audience. In addition to winning one Oscar, Mock has been nominated for five others, and has also won two Emmys and received three other nominations for her television work. Often focusing on figures from the arts and politics, Mock's films have included portraits of several other strong women, including Rose Kennedy and Lillian Gish.



SAH/SCC President's Letter



Dodge House by Irving Gill.
Photo courtesy: Architecture & Design Collection, University Art Museum, University of California, Santa Barbara

Reed, Bernard Zimmerman, Marvin Rand, Esther McCoy, and many others. In all, a powerful reminder of this organization's contribution to the architectural legacy of Southern California.

One of the astounding things about the material is the expert consensus that, in the Dodge House, Gill produced one of the finest examples of early modern architecture. By 1968, when it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Dodge House had already turned 50 years old. It had already established itself as an icon of modernism in Southern California. Largely through the Committee, more than 5,000 people had visited the Dodge House.

In 1939, the house was taken by eminent domain as property for a new high school. Those plans were scrapped, and the house was sparingly used for adult education and home economics classes. The house and grounds were all intact. By 1963, the Board of Education successfully sought rezoning of the property from R-1 to R-4, and quadrupled the property value with the pound of a gavel. For the next seven years, the Committee rallied to save it from demolition by various real estate developers. The house finally found a potential angel owner in savings-and-loan executive Bart Lytton, who seemed interested in preserving the house and settling for a smaller, break-even development of apartment units around it. When Lytton's financial institution merged with another, and he was removed from operations, the fate of the house became uncertain. Ultimately, it was sold to an unlisted property management company who ordered a stealth demolition.

Among the membership of SAH/SCC, we are fortunate to have a number of people who didn't just study architectural history—they made it. While the effort to save the Dodge House was unsuccessful, our members past and present have done much to maintain the legacy of Southern California's architectural history. As we look toward the New Year, the SAH/SCC Board rededicates itself to exploring and sharing the ever changing, ever inspiring built environment that is Southern California.

Sian Winship

The loss of Irving Gill's 1916 Walter Luther Dodge House in 1970 will always be remembered as one of the great tragedies of Los Angeles architectural history. Recently, I explored the digitized archives of *The Los Angeles Times* in an effort to better understand the circumstances surrounding its demise.

I was surprised to find a decade-long struggle that had all the elements of a Los Angeles noir: cash-strapped public agencies, greedy bankers and real estate developers, an angel buyer, and a tireless group of architects and individuals who fought valiantly to save the Dodge House.

Known as the Citizens Committee to Save the Dodge House, the cast of characters reads like a roster of current and former life members of SAH/SCC: Raymond Girvigian, John



SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

Tour and Event Information:

1.800.972.4722;

info@sahscc.org

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March/April 2010 issue deadline for newsletter information and ads: February 10, 2009. Please send all ad materials, notices of events, and news to the attention of the editor:

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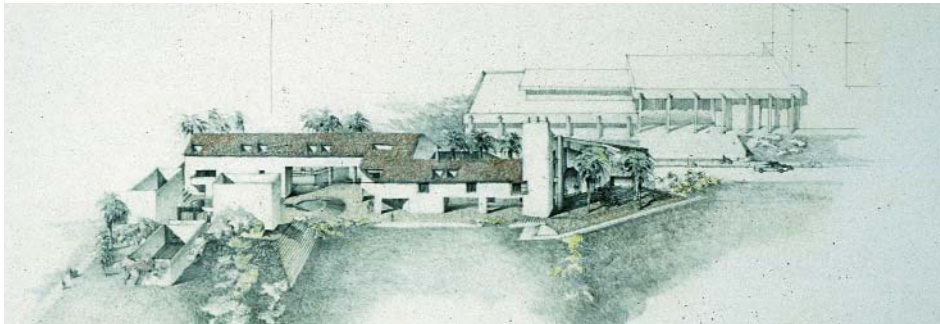
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Robert Winter

Questions: Call 800.9SAHSCC.

SAVE THE DATE

Scholarly Santa Barbara: UCSB Campus
SAH/SCC Tour: Saturday, March 20, 2010



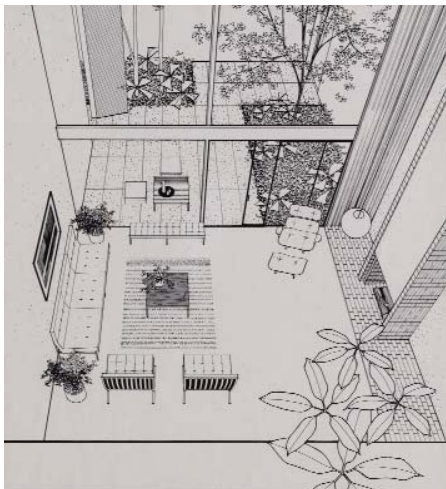
UCSB Faculty Club by Charles Moore and William Turnbull.
Image courtesy: Architecture & Design Collection, University Art Museum, University of California, Santa Barbara

Encouraged by the positive response at the SAH National Convention to a tour of the Cal Tech campus, SAH/SCC Board Member Dennis Whelan will lead a tour of the UC Santa Barbara campus on Saturday, March 20, 2010. Whelan has special insight into this subject, as he is a senior member of UCSB's Campus Planning & Design Office.

UCSB is not just a hodge-podge of buildings constructed throughout many years, as many college campuses are. University buildings were designed for coherence and aesthetic coordination around Wrightian patterned concrete blocks, consistent in form and color. More recently, designers have broken the mold to meet changing tastes and functions.

The tour will reveal the history of the site, as a geologic phenomenon that was once part of one of the largest communities of Chumash Native Americans, an asphaltic mining site, agrarian fields, as well as a World War II Marine Air Corps Base. It will then take up the site as it is today, home to a world-renown research campus, naturally endowed with more than two miles of coastal bluffs and beaches with five million square feet of research, classrooms, and residences.

Representative buildings on the 450-acre main campus are by William Pereira, Charles Luckman, Charles Moore and William Turnbull, Lawrence Halprin, Robert A.M. Stern, Michael Graves, Robert Venturi and Denise Scott-Brown, Antoine Predock, and others. A high point (literally) will be the view from the top of Storke Tower, the tallest building in Santa Barbara County.



Frank House by Edward Killingsworth.
Image courtesy: Architecture & Design Collection, University Art Museum, University of California, Santa Barbara

After a box lunch break, the tour will take a visit to the Architecture & Design Collection at University Art Museum. Founded in 1963 by Dr. David Gebhard (1927-1996), the ADC ranks among the largest repositories of architectural records in the United States. Its ongoing mission is to document the built environment of California and the Southwest with a special focus on the work of Southern California-based architects.

Look for a notice from SAH/SCC on pricing and reservation details, coming soon.

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continues

Bookmarks

Usually, the opinions in this column are those of *SAH/SCC News* editor Julie D. Taylor. Instead, we've gathered the recommendations of the nation's architecture critics and other knowing sources who released their Top Architecture Books of 2009. Below are a few lists, along with drastically reduced versions of their comments. Additional lists are on line. Read on!

John King, Urban Design Critic, San Francisco Chronicle:

- *Architecture: Elements, Materials, Form*, Francesca Prina (Princeton). "More than a cheat sheet, it's a guide to be enjoyed."
- *The Atlas of American Architecture*, Tom Martinson (Rizzoli). "A vivid and pugnaciously entertaining guide to America's built terrain."
- *Carville-by-the-Sea: San Francisco's Streetcar Suburb*, Woody LaBounty (Outside Lands). "Charming book immortalizes (that) long-gone settlement."
- *Living Modern: A Biography of Greenwood Common*, Waverly B. Lowell (William Stout). "An intellectual pleasure start to finish."
- *Lost Buildings*, Jonathan Glancey (Overlook). "Ponders ... the architectural repercussions of politics."
- *Mapping New York*, Seth Robbins, Robert Neuwirth (Black Dog). "For anyone who has marveled at the dense complexity of New York."
- *Twenty Minutes in Manhattan*, Michael Sorkin (Reaktion). "A wry and illuminating provocation."
- *Why Architecture Matters*, Paul Goldberger (Yale). "Nuanced exploration of architecture's allure."

Nicolai Ouroussoff, Architecture Critic, The New York Times:

- *Learning from Hangzhou*, Mathieu Borysevicz (timezone8). "Both euphoric and terrifying."
- *Bauhaus Women*, Ulrike Muller (Flammarion). "The spirit of creative collaboration they fostered ... helped define the Bauhaus's greatness."
- *Lost Buildings*, Jonathan Glancey (Overlook). "Looks at a painful aspect of architectural history."
- *Legacy: The Preservation of Wilderness in New York City Parks*, Joel Meyerowitz (Aperture). "Debunks the notion that New York is a city of concrete and asphalt."

Norman Weinstein, Contributor, ArchNewsNow.com:

- *Urbanisms: Working With Doubt*, Steven Holl (Princeton Architectural). "Probing, adventuresome, unsettling—and yet optimistic."
- *London's Contemporary Architecture, Fifth Edition: An Explorer's Guide*, Ken Allinson (Architectural Press). "An acute eye for telling details."
- *Le Corbusier: In His Own Words*, Antoine Vigne, Betty Bone (Papadakis). "An enthralling introduction to Le Corbusier for children of all ages."
- *Greening Existing Buildings*, Jerry Yudelson (McGraw Hill). "Reliable compendium of best design practices tempered by market realism."
- *Álvaro Siza: The Function of Beauty*, Carlos Castanheira (Phaidon). "Coffee-table tribute that may be the definitive book."
- *Unbuilt Masterworks of the 21st Century*, Will Jones (Thames & Hudson). "An entertaining idea-generator."
- *Geologics: Geography Information Architecture*, Vincente Guallart (Actar). "Pries apart old credos regarding supposed irreconcilable differences between Nature and hightech."
- *Calatrava: Complete Works 1979-2009*, Philip Jodidio (Taschen). "Sketches and water colors set up a counterpoint deepening the creative process."
- *Bauhaus 1919-1933: Workshops for Modernity*, Barry Bergdoll, Leah Dickerman (MoMA). "Stunning reproductions and consistently informative commentary."
- *50 Sculptures You Should Know*, Isabel Kuhl, Klaus Reichold (Prestel). "An entertaining and handsomely illustrated reference and quick-read between clients."

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2, Saturday

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

2, Saturday

Evolving Skyline. Tour of Downtown Central Business District. Los Angeles Conservancy; 10AM; \$5-10. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

2, Saturday

Graffiti LA. Lecture with author Steve Grody. Pacific Asia Museum (Marston, Van Pelt, Maybury 1924), 46 N. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena; 2PM. 626.449.2742. pacificasiamuseum.org.

9, Saturday

Downtown Renaissance. Tour of LA revitalization at Spring & Main. Los Angeles Conservancy; 10AM; \$5-10. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

11, Monday

On the Cusp. Lecture with architects & educators Craig Hodgetts & Ming Fung. UCLA Architecture; 6:30PM. 310.267.4704. aud.ucla.edu.

13, Wednesday

Hollywood 1940 to Now. Lecture with author Marc Wanamaker. Hollywood Heritage Museum (1895), 2100 N. Highland Ave.; 7:30PM; \$5-10; res. req. 323.874.4005. hollywoodheritage.org.

14, Thursday

Architecture & Beyond. Lecture with author & photographer Tom Zimmerman. Los Feliz Library (Barton Phelps 2003), 1874 Hillhurst Ave.; 6:30PM. 323.913.4710. www.lapl.org.

15, Friday

A Resilient LA: What Could It Be Like? Salon with Transition LA City Hub initiator Joanne Poyourow. Metabolic Studio, 1745 N. Spring St., LA; 12PM. 323.226.1158. farmlab.org.

16, Saturday

Evolving Skyline. Tour of Downtown Central Business District. Los Angeles Conservancy; 10AM; \$5-10. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

16, Saturday

Union Station. Walking tour of Union Station (Parkinson; Christie, Gilman, Wirth 1934-39). Los Angeles Conservancy; 10AM; \$5-10. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

16, Saturday

Faure Piano. Performance at Doheny Mansion (Hunt & Eisen 1899), LA. Da Camera Society; 8PM; \$66-88; res. req. 213.477.2929. dacamera.org.

17, Sunday

The Way of The Japanese Bath. Lecture with photographer Mark Edward Harris. Pacific Asia Museum (Marston, Van Pelt, Maybury 1924), 46 N. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena; 2PM. 626.449.2742. pacificasiamuseum.org.

21, Thursday

Health Care Lighting. Lecture with Aurora Lighting Design principal Lesley North. Illuminating Engineering Society of LA; 6:30-9PM; \$25-30; res. req. 562.989.3843. iesla.org.

22, Friday

Wilshire Boulevard: Grand Concourse of Los Angeles. Salon with author J. Eric Lynxwiler. Farmlab, 1745 N. Spring St., LA; 12PM. 323.226.1158. farmlab.org.

23, Saturday

Downtown Renaissance. Tour of LA revitalization at Spring & Main. Los Angeles Conservancy; 10AM; \$5-10. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

23, Saturday

Roses & the Arts & Crafts Movement. Lecture with Weeks Roses research director Tom Carruth. Gamble House; Art Center (Craig Ellwood 1977), 1700 Lido St., Pasadena; 11AM; \$15-25; res. req. 626.793.3334. gamblehouse.org.

FEATURED EVENT

11, Monday

On the Cusp.

Lecture with Hodgetts + Fung. See listing for details.

23, Saturday

Dream House: The White House as an American Home. Lecture with authors Ulysses Grant Dietz & Sam Watters. LACMA (Pereira 1964; Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer 1983); 2PM. 323.857.6010. lacma.org.

24, Sunday

Trio con Brio. Performance at Arbor Dell (James Gelfat 2008). Da Camera Society, Pasadena; 2PM & 4PM; \$92; res. req. 213.477.2929. dacamera.org.

26, Tuesday

Poetic Milieu & Painterly Spirit: Associative Imageries in 16th Century Chinese Gardens. Lecture with Hong Kong University architecture director Puay-peng Ho. Huntington Library (Hunt & Grey 1910), San Marino; 7:30PM. 626.405.2100. huntington.org.

29, Friday

Ads or Art or? Public salon with artist, teacher, Freewaves director Anne Bray. Metabolic Studio, 1745 N. Spring St., LA; 12PM. 323.226.1158. farmlab.org.

Photo: Craig Hodgetts.
Hyde Park Library.

30, Saturday

Little Tokyo. Walking tour. Japanese American National Museum (HOK 1999), LA; 10:15AM; \$9-14; res. req. 213.625.0414. janm.org.

31, Sunday*Escher GuneWardena & Follies.*

Discussion with architects Frank Escher & Ravi GuneWardena. MOCA Pacific Design Center (Cesar Pelli 1988); 8687 Melrose Ave.; 3PM. 213.621.1745. moca.org.

FEBRUARY

1, Monday

On the Cusp. Lecture with Berlin architecture critic, editor, publisher Andreas Ruby. UCLA Architecture, LA; 6:30PM. 310.267.4704. aud.ucla.edu.

2, Tuesday

Conceptualizing & Crafting the Nighttime Environment. Discussion with lighting designer Patrick Quigley. Designers Lighting Forum; 7PM; res. req. 310.525.0105. dlfla.org.

6, Saturday

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

6, Saturday

Evolving Skyline. Tour of Downtown's Central Business District. Los Angeles Conservancy; 10AM; \$5-10. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

6, Saturday*Little Tokyo Then & Now: Neighborhood Change Through the Lens of Photography.*

Workshop with professor Paul Ong. Japanese American National Museum (HOK 1999), LA; 11AM; \$9-14; res. req. 213.625.0414. janm.org.

7, Sunday

Folly Art Talk. Discussion with Woodbury University architecture professor Paulette Singley. MOCA Pacific Design Center (Cesar Pelli 1988); 8687 Melrose Ave.; 3PM. 213.621.1745. moca.org.

12-21, Friday-Sunday

Palm Springs Modernism. Week of tours, talks, sales, symposia. 760.322.2502. modernismweek.com

13, Saturday

Downtown Renaissance. Tour of LA revitalization at Spring & Main. Los Angeles Conservancy; 10AM; \$5-10. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

13, Saturday

Ebene Quartet. Performance at Beverly Hills Women's Club (Gable & Wyant 1925). Da Camera Society; 4PM; \$49; res req. 213.477.2929. dacamera.org.

14, Sunday

Gryphon Trio. Performance at Canfield-Moreno Estate (Robert D. Farquhar 1923). Da Camera Society, Silver Lake; 2PM & 4PM; \$89; res req. 213.477.2929. dacamera.org.

18, Thursday

Urban Panoramas. Panel discussion with Getty Museum associate photography curator Virginia Heckert. Getty Center (Richard Meier 1997); 7PM; res. req. 310.440.7300. getty.edu.

18, Thursday

George Scanlon Lecture. Lecture with Mac Scogin Merrill Elam Architects principal Merrill Elam. Otis College, 9045 Lincoln Blvd., LA; 7PM. 310.665.6867. otis.edu.

20, Saturday

From Frank Lloyd Wright to John Lautner & After: Reassessing the Organic Tradition in American Architecture. Symposium & tour with scholars & architects Nicholas Olsberg, Frank Escher, Frances Anderton, Wendell Burnett, Michael Rotondi. Palm Springs Modernism Week; 9AM-6PM; \$50-250; res. req. 760.325.4490. modernismweek.com.

20, Saturday

Evolving Skyline. Tour of Downtown Central Business District. Los Angeles Conservancy; 10AM; \$5-10. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

20, Saturday

Union Station. Walking tour of Union Station Station (Parkinson; Christie, Gilman,

Wirth 1934-39). Los Angeles Conservancy; 10AM; \$5-10. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

20, Saturday

Hadelich & Parker. Performance at Doheny Mansion (Hunt & Eisen 1899), LA. Da Camera Society; talk-7:40PM, concert-8PM; \$66-88; res. req. 213.477.2929. dacamera.org.

23, Tuesday

Art & Public Space in Los Angeles. Panel with UCLA Chicano Studies director Chon Noriega, Watts House Project director Edgar Arceneaux, Arts & Action founder Sandra de la Loza, LACMA associate curator Christine Y. Kim. UCLA Hammer Museum (Edward Larabee Barnes 1990), 10899 Wilshire Blvd., LA; 7PM. 310.443.7000. hammer.ucla.edu.

27, Saturday

Downtown Renaissance. Tour of LA revitalization at Spring & Main. Los Angeles Conservancy; 10AM; \$5-10. 213.623.2489. laconservancy.org.

27, Saturday

Little Tokyo. Walking tour. Japanese American National Museum (HOK 1999), LA; 10:15AM; \$9-14; res. req. 213.625.0414. janm.org.

27, Saturday

Paragon Ragtime. Performance at The Egyptian (Meyer & Holler 1922; Hodgetts + Fung 1999). Da Camera Society, Hollywood; 4PM; \$35-43; res req. 213.477.2929. dacamera.org.

SAH/SCC EVENT

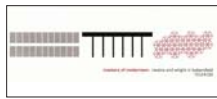
27, Saturday**Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision.**

SAH/SCC film & talk. See Page 1 for details.



Photo: Adam Stoltman
Maya Lin

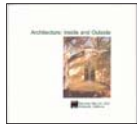
SAH/SCC PUBLICATIONS



_____ at \$5 each
Masters of Modernism: 8-Page, two-color brochure featuring works of Richard Neutra and Frank Lloyd Wright in Bakersfield.



_____ at \$3 each
Paul Tay, Architect: 4"x 8" color brochure featuring five modern ranch-style homes in Long Beach



_____ at \$3 each
Architecture: Inside and Outside: 5"x5" folded color brochure featuring Santa Barbara's Lotusland, Casa del Herrero, and Val Verde



_____ at \$12 each
Out of the Shadow: 24-page, two-color brochure from Phoenix travel tour featuring the work of Frank Lloyd Wright, Al Beadle, Blaine Drake, Paolo Soleri, Edward B. Sawyer, Bennie Gonzales, and Will Bruder



_____ at \$3 each
A Block in Glendale: pocket-size fandeck of cards featuring five diverse properties—including a Paul Williams residence—plus historical background information on the Brockmont Heights subdivision



_____ at \$8 each
Rodney Walker 3 30 90: 12-page brochure featuring nine homes on five sites, as well as the architect's use of the three-foot module



_____ at \$8 each
Space and Learning: eight-page, four-color brochure on the historical and contemporary legacy of LA school architecture, featuring projects by Richard Neutra, Thom Mayne, Rios Clementi Hale Studios, and others



_____ at \$5 each
Rodney Walker: The Ojai Years: tri-fold, black-and-white brochure featuring Walker's important residences in Ojai, with pictures and article by historian David Mason



_____ at \$2 each
Kesling Homes: bi-fold, two-color brochure from the "Kesling Modern Structures" tour



_____ at \$10 each
The Historic and Modern Spirit of Ventura: 20-page guide from Ventura tour



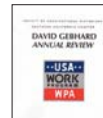
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Attention SAH/SCC Members

We want to promote your talks, tours, seminars, books, and appearances to fellow members. Send in your event information to the SAH/SCC News Calendar so we can support your efforts. Have your publisher send a review copy of your book, so we can include it in Bookmarks. Deadlines are the 10th of the month prior to issue date: March/April 2010 deadline is February 10, 2010. See Page 2 for contact information.