Authors On Architecture: Welter on Tremaine Houses

**SAH/SCC Lecture & Book Signing**

Join SAH/SCC and the Santa Monica Public Library (Moore Ruble Yudell, 2006) for this fascinating exploration of one family’s involvement in a range of modern architecture and design projects. SAH/SCC Life Member Volker M. Welter shares from his new book, *Tremaine Houses: One Family’s Patronage of Domestic Architecture in Midcentury America* (Getty Publications, 2019).

Two brothers, Burton G. Tremaine and Warren D. Tremaine—and their respective wives, Emily and Katharine—commissioned architects such as Richard Neutra, FAIA, and Oscar Niemeyer, Hon. FAIA, along with other noted practitioners, to design some 30 projects. Lavishly illustrated, this book offers the first peek into their architectural legacy. From the famed Tremaine Residence (Neutra, 1948) in Montecito, to the Meteor Crater Visitor Center (Phillip Johnson, FAIA, 1956) in Arizona, the family’s motivations and ideas about architecture and art are explored in the book, which will be available for sale and signing.

Welter is a professor in the Department of the History of Art and Architecture at the University of California, Santa Barbara. A favorite lecturer of SAH/SCC, Welter will provide a charismatic and informative presentation.

**Authors on Architecture: Welter on Tremaine—Sunday, April 5, 2020; 2-4PM; Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium, Santa Monica Central Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.; free; seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis; 310.458.8600.**
SAH/SCC President’s Letter

Meet the SAH/SCC Board

In this issue, we continue to meet SAH/SCC board members. This profile includes longstanding board members John Berley and Brent Eckerman, AIA. While many of our members regularly see John working our events, fewer know our Webmaster, Brent, who keeps the organization current and functioning.

John, our Treasurer, is the longest participating SAH/SCC board member. He joined the board in 1994, during a difficult transition period for the organization. John also served as President of the organization, after which he resumed the position of Treasurer.

SAH/SCC Treasurer John Berley

A native Floridian, John came to Los Angeles in 1982 and was immediately fascinated by the built environment around him. He studied architecture at Cal Poly Pomona and has worked at Frederick Fisher & Partners (FF&P) for almost 25 years.

As a Senior Associate, John’s responsibilities include overseeing the development of projects from programming and design through construction, resource allocation, and staff management. His ability to design, manage, and construct seminal projects that embrace their history while accommodating clients’ needs for the future has been essential in FF&P’s award-winning work. John has led many of the firm’s projects, including Grand Central Air Terminal Renovation (2014) in Glendale, The Annenberg Community Beach House (2009) in Santa Monica, and the Sunnylands Center and Gardens (2011) in Rancho Mirage, CA. Longtime SAH/SCC Members will remember enjoying events in these remarkable spaces.

For SAH/SCC, John has created many memorable events and tours. He was instrumental in “Exiles and Emigres: Los Angeles Modernist Architects” and “On Parallel Lines: The Sarasota School and the Case Study House Program.” For many years, he has been the face of “Modern Patrons” salon events (the series conceptualized by our newsletter editor, Julie D. Taylor, Hon. AIA). In this capacity he has led insightful conversations with the original owners who commissioned homes from masters, such as Richard Neutra, FAIA, Rudolph Schindler, Charles Moore, FAIA, and John Lautner, FAIA.

Brent is a Project Architect at FF&P. For more than a decade, Brent has been the SAH/SCC Webmaster. He is the reason that the organization’s website is always up to date and looking great!

He was born in Landstuhl, Germany, while his father served in the US Air Force. Brent came home to the US when he was about a year old, but he still makes a mean German potato salad.

SAH/SCC Webmaster Brent Eckerman, AIA

Brent earned a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Cal Poly Pomona, and joined FF&P in 1997. Specializing in the management of large institutional facilities, he has led such firm projects as Sherrerd Hall (2007) and Firestone Library Renovation (2018) at Princeton University, Annenberg Center for Information Science and Technology (2008) at Caltech, Colby College Museum of Art (2013) in Waterville, ME, and multiple projects at Otis College of Art and Design.

In addition to his service for the organization on the technology side, Brent is often seen helping out at SAH/SCC events.

Brent and John are both grateful to work every day in the former offices of A. Quincy Jones, FAIA, and Frederick Emmons, FAIA, in West Los Angeles. The midcentury modern building (1955) is a showcase for Jones & Emmons’ design talent and provides an inspirational backdrop for meeting today’s architectural challenges.

We also take a moment to say goodbye to outgoing board member Lauren Van Der Veen. Lauren will focus her attention in 2020 on her interior design work and also will be curating the exhibition “Architecturally Hip Hop” in San Francisco in October. We thank Lauren for her service to the organization and wish her all the best in the future. She will be one to watch in the coming years.

—Sian Winship
In his sweeping reassessment of Furness as an architect of the machine age, Thomas grounds him more than 40 years. In his sweeping reassessment of Furness as an architect of the machine age, Thomas grounds him more than 40 years. In his sweeping reassessment of Furness as an architect of the machine age, Thomas grounds him more than 40 years.
SAH/SCC Year in Review: 2019

Apocalyptic architecture and the design of graveyards were part of SAH/SCC’s slate of events that included venturing into Bakersfield and delving into Davidson’s work (times two). Thanks go to the Brand Library & Arts Center in Glendale and Santa Monica Central Library for co-hosting several sessions of “Authors on Architecture.”

March 3rd—Authors on Architecture: Inman on the LA Guidebook

The sixth edition of Gebhard and Winter’s An Architectural Guidebook to Los Angeles was presented by Robert Inman, who worked on the revision with the late Dr. Robert Winter.

March 17th—Authors on Architecture: Smith on Wright

Author Kathryn Smith delivered a lecture on Wright on Exhibit, which explores a fascinating aspect of the legacy of the master builder.

March 23rd—DTLA Adaptive Reuse Hard-Hat Tour

Tour-goers went behind the façades of the 1906 Broadway Trade Center and the 1922 Singer Building to get a peek at adaptive reuse projects by Omgivning Architects and Chattel Associates.

May 19th—Authors on Architecture: Gonzalez on SoCal Architects

Some of California’s forgotten architects were remembered by author Antonio Gonzalez, who presented stories from Architects Who Built Southern California.

August 16th—The Architecture of Apocalypse

Author Stuart W. Leslie, PhD, discussed “The Architecture of Apocalypse: Thinking About the Unthinkable in Style” at The Wende Museum of the Cold War.

August 25th—By-Right By-Design

A Modernique Home by Gregory Ain, FAIA, in Mar Vista hosted a Patron and Life Member Salon with Elizabeth Falletta, author of By-Right, By-Design, which explores housing development and design in L.A.

September 21st—Bakersfield Built: 1960s

SAH/SCC joined with Bakersfield Museum of Art, Kern County Museum, and California State University, Bakersfield, for a day-long program of talks, exhibitions, and tours of modern homes.

September 28th—No Longer Forgotten: Jacques & Jacqueline Groag, Transplants of Viennese Modernism

Publisher Carrie Paterson and Architecture Professor Dr. Laura McGuire presented Ursula Prokop’s book Jacques and Jacqueline Groag, Architect and Designer: Two Hidden Figures of the Viennese Modern Movement.

October 5th—J.R. Davidson: A European Contribution to California Modernism


November 2nd—Authors on Architecture: Campbell on Père-Lachaise Cemetery

Architectural highlights of the legendary Paris cemetery were presented by Carolyn Campbell, author of City of Immortals: Père-Lachaise Cemetery, Paris, along with a tour of the Brand Family Cemetery.

November 6th—J.R. Davidson & the Thomas Mann Residence

Lilian Pfaff led a tour and discussion of Davidson’s 1941 house for author Thomas Mann in Pacific Palisades during an evening Life and Patron Members Salon.

New Members

Cesar Bargues Ballester
Tim & Denise Branden
Carolin Campbell
Michael Glick
Nikolaus & Heather Kraemer
Saen McNally
Anthony Meyers
Peter Moruzzi
Karen & Steve Schuett
Ione Stoeger
Judith van Brocklin
Arkene Vidor
SAH/SCC PUBLICATIONS

**Masters of Modernism:** eight-page, two-color brochure featuring works of Richard Neutra and Frank Lloyd Wright in Bakersfield. 

**Architecture: Inside and Outside:** 5”x5” folded color brochure featuring Santa Barbara’s Lotusland, Casa del Herrero, and Val Verde.

**Irving Gill: Los Angeles:** 10-page booklet featuring photos and articles on Gill and three residential projects in LA.

**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.

**Greta Magnusson Grossman:** 3.5” x 8” 2-page color brochure featuring two residences by Greta Grossman.

**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.

**John Parkinson, Downtown:** 11”x17”, four-color brochure featuring a self-guided walking tour of Parkinson buildings in Downtown LA’s historic core and beyond.

**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.

**Kesling Homes:** bi-fold, two-color brochure from the “Kesling Modern Structures” tour.

**Union Station and MTA Transit Center:** bi-fold map for a self-guided walking tour including historical facts and photos.

**Modernism for the Masses:** tri-fold brochure with inserts of detailed floor plans of Eichler homes visited on the Orange County tour.

**David Gebhard Review:** essays on the Works Project Administration by Robert W. Winter, Orville O. Clarke, Jr., and Mitzi March Mogul.

**Designed for Learning:** 11”x17” walking tour map and brochure of the University of California, Santa Barbara, campus.

**The Historic and Modern Spirit of Ventura:** 20-page guide from Ventura tour.

**Killingsworth: A Master Plan for Learning:** 11”x17”, four-color walking tour brochure of the Cal State Long Beach campus features history of master plan development by architect Edward A. Killingsworth, FAIA.

**Ray Kappe—Apotheosis:** eight-page brochure features five Kappe Houses from 1959 to 1966 in the Royal Woods development of the San Fernando Valley.

**Conjunctive Points:** four-color, 11”x17” brochure featuring a 20-building walking tour of the Hayden Tract, designed by architect Eric Owen Moss and developed by Samitaur Constructs.

**Send to:** SAH/SCC, P.O. Box 56478, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413
Society of Architectural Historians / Southern California Chapter

SAH/SCC is a 501c 3 nonprofit organization dedicated to providing its members with opportunities to learn about and experience the rich architectural heritage of Southern California and beyond. Our volunteer board members create tours, lectures, travel tours, and other events that explore the ideas behind the architecture as well as the buildings that result from them. From modern to craftsman, from Spanish Colonial to contemporary, our programs are the best-kept secrets in Southern California!

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:
• Advance notice of all SAH/SCC events—important because they usually sell out just to members
• 20-30% discounts on tour and event ticket prices
• Bi-monthly E-news with printable newsletter
• FREE tickets to our annual Members’ Celebration event
• Special Members-Only E-Alerts about upcoming events
• A tax deduction for your membership dues
• The knowledge that you are supporting our mission to increase public awareness of Southern California’s architectural heritage

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS THAT FIT YOUR NEEDS!
Fill out the order form below or join online at www.sahscc.org.

$45 Individual – All the membership benefits above for a single individual.
$65 Dual – All the membership benefits for two names at the same address.
$125 Patron – All the membership benefits above, plus priority reservation at our popular and exclusive “Patrons Only” programs, such as “Modern Patrons” and “Contemporary Patrons.” Includes two names at the same address.
$500 Corporate Sponsorship – Annual donation receives Sponsorship listing in the SAH/SCC Website and on SAH/SCC event publications and hyperlink from our Website to yours.

$30 Student (requires scan of valid Student ID) – All the benefits of Individual membership at a 30% discount.

SAH/SCC MEMBERSHIP

_____ Individual membership at $45 each = $_________
_____ Dual membership at $65 each (two names at same address) = $_________
_____ Patron membership at $125 each (two names at same address) = $_________
_____ Corporate membership at $500 each = $_________
_____ Student membership at $30 each = $_________
Total Membership = $_________

SAH/SCC EVENT TICKETS

Frank Furness—January 4, 2020
_____ SAH/SCC & Gamble House Member ticket(s) at $10 each = $_________
LIMIT: 2 TICKETS AT MEMBER PRICE
_____ non member ticket(s) at $15 each = $_________

☐ check enclosed (Make checks payable to SAH/SCC)
☐ charge my credit card: ☐ VISA ☐ MC

Save the Date!
Henry Jekel Tour in Riverside

SAH/SCC Tour March 21, 2020

Mark your calendar now! SAH/SCC is taking members on an exciting adventure to Riverside to explore the period-revival residences of architect Henry Jekel (1876-1960). We will start the day with a lecture by author Dr. H. Vincent Moses at the Riverside Art Museum, where we will also have the opportunity to see an exhibition on Jekel’s work. After lunch, participants will tour several of Jekel’s finest projects, including the D.S. Bell Residence (c. 1924), the J.W. Calvert Residence (1926), the E.M. Stark Residence (c. 1928), and The Parker-Washburn House (a.k.a., The Harbor, c. 1931). Other sites will be added in the coming months.

Dr. Moses and Catherine Whitmore are the authors of Henry L.A. Jekel: Architect of Eastern Skyscrapers and the California Style, 1895-1950 (Inlandia Institute, 2018). Jekel’s tale is transformational: a well-known Buffalo skyscraper architect, he reinvented himself and his work in Riverside in the early 20th century. This event will help establish his legacy as a fascinating figure with a gift for proportionality in design.

And why not make a weekend of it? The Mission Inn (Arthur B. Benton, Myron Hunt, G. Stanley Wilson, 1902-32) is one of the must-see destinations of the Inland Empire. Watch your email for tickets to go on sale in early 2020.

Image courtesy H. Vincent Moses

The Parker-Washburn Residence (1931).

Parker-Washburn Residence (1931).

J.W. Calvert Residence (1926).