



SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

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NEWS



Anuro Bandini house, Pasadena, 1903.
Courtesy: Charles Sumner Greene Collection,
Environmental Design Archives, University of
California, Berkeley.

P.O. Box 56478, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413, 800.972.4722, www.sahscc.org

The event is organized by SAH/SCC Executive Board member Sian Winship. The ticket price includes exclusive access to private areas of the Library, day-pass admission to the galleries and gardens, high tea, and parking. SAH/SCC member tickets are \$59; non-member tickets are \$85. Due to the exclusive nature of this event, space is very limited.

The exhibition is the most comprehensive ever undertaken on the work of Arts and Crafts movement legends Charles Sumner Greene and Henry Mather Greene. It comprises 200 works drawn from collections at The Huntington and Gamble House, as well as from more than 30 private and institutional lenders. The exhibition includes furniture, decorative arts, architectural drawings, photographs, watercolors, and related materials, some of which have never been on public display.

Greene & Greene Behind the Scenes

SAH/SCC Tour
Saturday, November 15th

Join SAH/SCC for an exclusive tour of the upcoming exhibition "A 'New and Native' Beauty: The Art and Craft of Greene & Greene," led by co-curator and SAH/SCC Advisory Board member Edward R. Bosley, on Saturday, November 15th, 9AM-1PM. This special opportunity offers participants a private guided tour of the exhibition at the Huntington Library in San Marino before the gallery opens for the day to the public.



David B. Gamble House, Pasadena, 1907-09. Photo: ©Alexander Vertikoff.

Following the tour, participants will enjoy mid-morning high tea at the tea room in the rose garden at the Huntington Library. The menu features an extensive array of seasonal salads, tea sandwiches, scones, pastries, cookies, and freshly steeped tea.

The formal program for the day will culminate with a visit to the private archive facility, led by the Archivist of the Greene and Greene Archives Ann Sheid. A contributing author to the new book *A "New and Native" Beauty: The Art and Craft of Greene & Greene* (Merrell Publishers, 2008), Sheid will provide tour-goers with a behind-the-scenes look at the Library Archive and display selected holdings for exclusive viewing. Bosley, also an editor of the exhibition book, is the Director of the Gamble House in Pasadena and the author of *Greene & Greene* (Phaidon Press, 2000).

In the afternoon, event participants are welcome to enjoy the 120 acres of botanical gardens at Huntington Library or visit the newly restored residence of Arabella and Henry E. Huntington designed by Myron Hunt in 1911. A \$20-million restoration of the Beaux-Arts interpretation of an Italian Renaissance villa was completed in May by Architectural Resources Group (preservation architect) and Earl Corporation (design/build contractor).

Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience the architecture and artistry of Greene and Greene with the experts. See Order Form on the back page to reserve early.

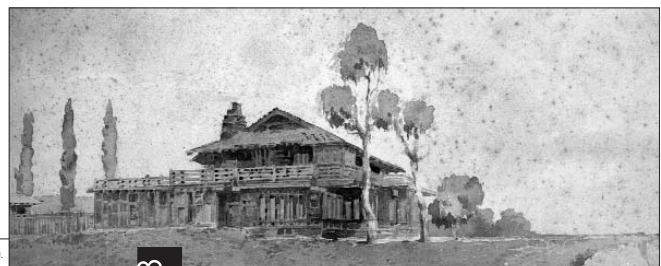


Charles Greene, c. 1906. Courtesy: Los Angeles Public Library.



Henry Greene, c. 1906. Courtesy: Los Angeles Public Library.

Adelaide A. Tichenor House, Long Beach, 1904-05 (watercolor by Charles Greene, c. 1905).
Courtesy: Greene and Greene Archives, The Gamble House, University of Southern California.



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SAH/SCC

President's Letter

In 2005, the Executive Board of SAH/SCC elected Merry Ovnick to be our President. The decision was nearly unanimous. There was, in fact, only one dissenting vote: that of Merry herself.

After two years, Merry is stepping down as President, but will continue on the SAH/SCC Executive Board. Looking back, my predecessor's record shows what those of us who have known Merry for years know to be true: the organization and its members have benefited greatly from her leadership, integrity, generosity, grace, and superb intellect.

And her humility. Which is why I need to share her enormous contributions and "under-the-radar" service to all of us. For starters, Merry has led our organization through one of the most critical periods of reflection in recent memory. Under her leadership, the organization has strengthened its mission, its vision for the future, and its sustainability via the successful "Crossroads Campaign."

Additionally during the past two years, Merry single-handedly created the inspirational "Wallace Neff: Backwards and Forwards" tour, organized a memorable gala event honoring the inimitable Dr. Robert Winter, and oversaw SAH/SCC's "Rodney Walker Weekend" made available to hundreds of attendees of the 2006 AIA National Convention.

At the 2006 Members' Celebration at the Lunnie Home and Garden ("El Alisal"), Merry organized a panel discussion, tour, and reception that increased awareness and support for the preservation needs of this historic Los Angeles landmark.

In addition to her duties as President, for the majority of her 12+ years of volunteer service to the SAH/SCC Executive Board, Merry dutifully processed the membership renewals in her free time. By "free time," I mean when she wasn't pursuing her doctorate, teaching at CSU Northridge, writing, organizing the "Kestling Modern Structures" tour, or giving service to other historical and civic organizations. This is her special gift to all of us: Merry is not just a leader, she is a doer.

Merry, thank you for all you do, have done, and will continue to do as an active member of the Executive Board and a familiar face at all SAH/SCC activities. We can't do it without you!

Sian Winship

SAH/SCC is also pleased to announce that longstanding Executive Board member John Ellis will become Vice President of the Chapter. In addition to his talent as an architectural photographer, John has inspired and organized several of SAH/SCC's most memorable events during the past several years, including "Cool Pools," "Ain on Avenel," and "Inside Downtown: The DWP Building". Most recently, John launched the new "Contemporary Patrons" program featuring on-site dialogues with some of today's most innovative architects and commissioning owners. Congratulations, John!



Morgan-Hale House (1887), Heritage Square.
Photo: Norman Wahl Collection.

Save the Date: Happy Heritage

SAH/SCC Members' Celebration
Saturday, November 8th

This year's annual SAH/SCC Members' Celebration will be held at Heritage Square in Highland Park, on the afternoon of Saturday, November 8th. Eight historic structures from the Victorian Era (saved from demolition) were relocated in a park-like setting, appearing as if they'd been neighbors all along. Take a close-up look at these jewels of yesterday and at the preservation and presentation stories behind them. SAH/SCC members, their guests, and prospective members will enjoy house tours, talks, refreshments, and good company. See the next issue of SAH/SCC News for more info.



Tour and Event Information: **1.800.972.4722**; sahscc-info@sahscc.org

SAH/SCC NEWS is published bi-monthly by the Society of Architectural Historians / Southern California Chapter. Subscription is a benefit of membership and provides members with one of the most comprehensive calendars of architectural events in Southern California and advance notice of exclusive SAH/SCC architectural events and tours.

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

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Please send all ad materials, notices of events, and news to the attention of the editor:

Julie D. Taylor, Editor SAH/SCC News Newsletter telephone: 310.247.1099
P.O. Box 56478 Newsletter fax: 310.247.8147
Sherman Oaks, CA 91413 Newsletter e-mail: julie@taylor-pr.com

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Getting to Know Architect Paul Edward Tay: Five Houses in Long Beach

SAH/SCC Tour, Saturday, September 20th



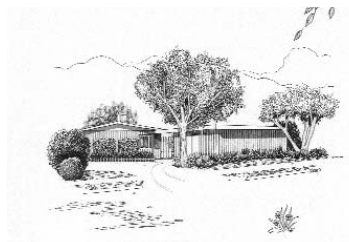
Braly Residence (1972). Photo: Adam Wheeler.

There are still spaces open to join SAH/SCC Executive Board member Adam Wheeler for a tour that will uncover the work of architect Paul Edward Tay, an unknown yet prolific figure in the annals of modern architecture. On Saturday, September 20th, 10:30AM-3PM, in Long Beach, tour-goers will visit homes from the 1950s through 1970s that expose an individual language and pure identity that showcase the talented hand of Tay. The event is \$35 for SAH/SCC members; \$45 for non-members. See Order Form on back page.

Born in Pomona in 1924, Paul Edward Tay graduated from USC in 1950 and counts Harwell Hamilton Harris and Frank Lloyd Wright as early inspirations. He opened his practice in Long Beach soon after graduation and conducted a healthy career designing many residential projects in the Southern California area. The Tay tour will touch upon the evolution of this architect, revealing his work as a blend of a modernist aesthetic within a ranch-style vocabulary. Throughout his 25 years in Long Beach, he produced more than 30 residential projects that both exude the "essence" of ranch modernism as well as a particular individuality.

The self-driven tour begins with The Braly Residence (1972) located on the Peninsula, Long Beach, which was the last house that Tay designed in Southern California before moving his practice north to Mendocino. This two-story residence incorporates the "Piano Nobile" idea, whereby the primary living spaces are on the second floor to capture the views, air, and light of the waterfront. Next stop is the Crail Residence (1957), a single-story 3,700-square-foot compound-like courtyard house with cantilevered eaves and vaulted ceilings located on a 10,000-square-foot lot in the Park Estates area.

The Sipprelle residence (1961) is located in Signal Hill and is the most sculptural of the homes, as it is built on a sloped site with sweeping vistas of downtown Long Beach and the ports beyond. The tour ends with two similar, yet striking, homes located in the neighborhood known as Bixby Knolls. While these residences—Drake Residence (1951) and Penn Residence (1954)—are both located on typical flat sites with unassuming street presences, each house has been restored and remodeled in its own way to accentuate open floor plans and outdoor patios.



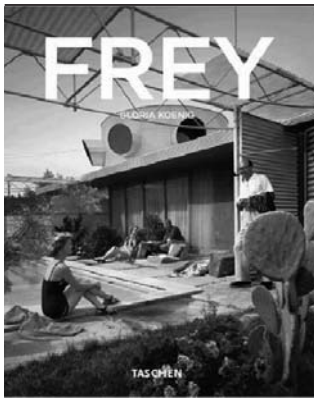
Drake Residence (1951).



Penn Residence (1954). Photo: Nick Fugh.

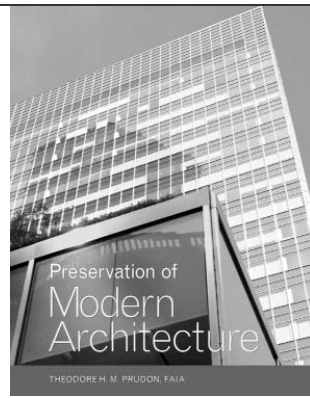


Penn Residence (1954). Photo: John Berley.



Albert Frey, 1903-1998:
A Living Architecture of the Desert
by Gloria Koenig

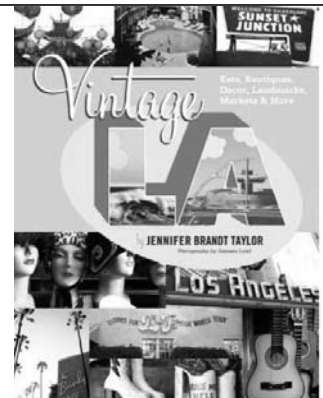
Following her best-selling Eames title in the Taschen Basic Architecture Series, Koenig turns her attention to Albert Frey, a Swiss-born architect who epitomized the desert cool style of Palm Springs. With the exception of two early houses in New York, this slim yet informative volume features residential, commercial, and civic structures in and around Palm Springs, which Frey claimed had "perfect conditions for architecture." In the Introduction, Koenig weaves Frey's story—from fulfilling his father's fruitless dreams of being an architect to becoming an architectural idol well into his 90s. Fifteen projects are then documented in detailed text, black-and-white and color photographs, and the occasional drawing. It's a treat to see several photographs of homeowners in the homes, although they—along with most of the photos showing people—tend to fix the structures in a definitive time. Those without people set the buildings in a timeless realm as vast as the desert that Frey so beautifully honored.
Taschen; paperback; 96 pages; \$9.99.



Preservation of Modern Architecture
by Theodore H.M. Prudon, FAIA
Prudon, the president of DOCOMOMO US, puts forth that "the preservation of buildings, structures, or sites in any form is about much more than merely saving their material existence. In contrast to the heritage of earlier periods, architecture and design of more recent vintage represents the ideals and philosophies of the original architects, their clients, and subsequent occupants." With that in mind, he reviews the history of preserving buildings from the early 1900s to 1975, beginning in Europe and continuing to encompass myriad buildings types, from architectural icons to everyday buildings. Part One of the book discusses philosophical issues, evolving standards, modern materials, and assessment processes. Part Two delves into specific typologies and materials with accompanying case studies: Pavilions—Barcelona Pavilion (Mies), The Aluminaire House (Kocher/Frey); Residential—Villa Savoye (Le Corbusier), Mar Vista (Ain); Performing Arts—Sydney Opera House (Utzon); Airport Terminals—TWA at JFK (Saarinen); Glass—Lever House (Bunshaft). Ironically, Mar Vista is the only California project represented, however the lessons Prudon shows throughout the modern world apply here as well.
John Wiley & Sons; hardcover; 577 pages; \$99.



Havana Before Castro:
When Cuba Was a Tropical Playground
by Peter Moruzzi
From mojitos to the mob to modernism, SAH/SCC member Moruzzi explores the tropical playground of Havana in this engaging volume. The book is a culmination of Moruzzi's self-described 20-year obsession with the history of Cuba. Most of the items—menus, sheet music, brochures, LP covers, publicity photos—in this profusely illustrated book are from the author's own collection, and work to tell the story from both the purveyors' and patrons' points of view. One's modernist inclinations are fulfilled in chapters focusing on several mid-century hotels, such as the impeccably maintained Havana Riviera Hotel (Igor B. Poleyvitzky, 1957) and the Habana Hilton (Welton Becket, 1958), the tallest building in Latin America at that time. Also included is a chapter on "Havana's Other Fabulous Hotels," as well as an opinionated round-up of 25 modern buildings still standing today (including a 1956 house by Richard Neutra). The text—which spans early history, economics, politics, and culture—is written with a lively, albeit winsome, air.
Gibbs Smith; paperback; 256 pages; \$30.



Vintage LA
by Jennifer Brandt Taylor
photography by Jeaneen Lund
A visual feast for any native Angeleno or visitor from another land, *Vintage LA* is packed with images, fun facts, and offbeat history. Organized by neighborhood, from Beaches to The Valley, this guidebook focuses on the truly vintage—no retro pastiche welcome. Thus, you'll find Farmers Market, but not the Grove. There's shopping, dining, and sight-seeing with Taylor as your guide, along with other vintage aficionados along the way. The acknowledgement of vintage buildings is strong, as the author writes about the city's architecture in the introduction: "LA is accessorized with magnificent structures like diamonds on an Oscar nominee." That's a perfect Hollywood sentiment, and although she notes that there are numerous "joints" built by Wright, Lautner, Neutra, and Eames, none are fully highlighted in what is otherwise an enjoyable romp through LA.
Collins; paperback; 232 pages; \$34.95.

SAH
sc publications order form

For those of you who missed out on recent SAH/SCC tours, or would like more information for your reference, here's an opportunity to get your hands on the publications printed especially for SAH/SCC events. Don't let another chance pass you by.

Architecture: Inside and Outside: 5"x5" folded color brochure featuring Santa Barbara's Lotusland, Casa del Herrero, and Val Verde
 _____ at \$3 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 \$12 each

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

Rodney Walker 3 30 90: 12-page brochure exploring the architect's usage of the three-foot module and features nine homes on five sites
 _____ at \$8 each

Edward Killingsworth: Setting a Modern Standard: 20-page, black-and-white brochure featuring seven Long Beach houses and an article by the architect
 _____ 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 \$8 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 \$5 each

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

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

Modernism for the Masses: tri-fold brochure with inserts of detailed floor plans of Eichler homes visited on the Orange County tour
 _____ at \$10 each

Reconsidering Lloyd Wright: 21-page, four-color booklet from "Reconsidering Lloyd Wright" house tour
 _____ at \$10 each

Union Station and MTA Transit Center: bi-fold map for a self-guided walking tour including historical facts and photos
 _____ at \$2 each

David Gebhard Review: essays on the Works Project Administration by Robert W. Winter, Orville O. Clarke, Jr., and Mitzi March Mogul
 _____ at \$5 each

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Greene & Greene Tour—November 15th
 _____ member ticket(s) at \$59 each = \$ _____
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