Authors on Architecture:
Howard on ‘The Thickening of Time’

SAH/SCC Talk & Book Signing
Sunday, August 2, 2015, 2-4PM
Join SAH/SCC and co-sponsor, the Santa Monica Public Library, for a lecture and book signing by local educator and author Coy Howard. A long-time architecture teacher at Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc), Howard was also a member of the seminal “LA School” of architecture—an informal group of avant-gardists centered around the late-1970s Venice art scene that shaped the course of architectural design in Southern California. Howard’s Ellen and Jay McCafferty Studio (1979-80) in San Pedro was one of the few buildings Charles Moore, FAIA, profiled in his guide to LA architecture, The City Observed: Los Angeles, along with Frank Gehry, FAIA’s own house in Santa Monica.

Howard’s new book, The Thickening of Time (SCI-Arc Press, 2015), challenges the current status of digital architecture with his exploration of the aesthetic implications of seductive insinuations, mysterious withholdings, liminal indirections, and subtle allusions in the design of three urban rooftop villa projects in Los Angeles, Tokyo, and New York. Howard is a designer with a broad range of interests and accomplishments. His furniture is included in the permanent collections of The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and the Denver Art Museum. Examples of his graphic designs are held in several museums, including The Museum of Modern Art in New York, and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. He has won a broad range of awards for his work, and consulted as an advisor to many major institutions, including The Getty Center, The Israel Museum in Jerusalem, and The Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles. In 2012, he was the Bernoudy Architect in Residence at The American Academy in Rome.

At the close of the presentation at the Santa Monica Central Library (Moore Ruble Yudell, 2006), books will be available for sale and signing by the author.

Authors on Architecture: Howard—Sunday, August 2, 2015, 2-4PM; Martin Luther King, Jr., Auditorium at the Santa Monica Central Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica; free; seating is available on a first-come, first served basis; 310.458.8600.
SAH/SCC President’s Letter

In May, I had the great pleasure of participating in a panel discussion on historic resources of the “recent-recent past” at the California Preservation Foundation Conference in San Diego. The phrase “recent-recent past” was meant to distinguish between those resources about to be eligible for the National Register’s 50-year threshold to be listed, and those from the 1980s forward, which are increasingly becoming part of the dialogue.

California is a leader in preservation practices for 20th-century buildings. As a result, forward-thinking city planning departments are beginning to think about architecture’s cultural contexts from the late 20th century. The recent adoption of the LGBT context for the City of Los Angeles’ SurveyLA project is just one example of this trend.

Co-panelist Adrian Scott Fine, Advocacy Director for the LA Conservancy, provided a compelling presentation on the importance of Latino heritage and the identification of resources that reflect that specific architectural, cultural, social, and political history.

Katie Horak, Senior Associate at Architectural Resources Group (ARG), shared the current plight of Mariners’ Village (Peter Kamnitzer, AIA, 1972), a 23-acre multi-family residential development in the unincorporated area of Marina Del Rey. The complex’s shed-style modern design of wood shakes features a central view tower and lush landscape with ponds. Modernization plans to add more retail and density don’t seem to jibe with the site’s history.

The Mariners’ Village scenario highlights how ill prepared many architectural historians are for understanding the relative importance of architecture from this era. Is it good? Is it exceptional? Is it important? How do architecture and planning balance one another in 1970s-era development? What are the very best examples of this type of development, and why do those rise to the top of the heap?

Over the decades, art institutions, such as the Museum of Modern Art and LACMA, have curated shows from “The International Style” to “100 Years of Architecture” to help us place our built world in context. A survey of the recent exhibitions by these institutions suggests museums have abandoned efforts to connect the dots, in favor of monograph exhibitions that focus on the work of a singular architect. Would it not be more interesting to understand Southern California’s role in the rise of Deconstructivism, instead of a singular focus on Frank Gehry, FAIA? While there is no denying the importance of work of the master architect, understanding the work of other Deconstructivists is important as well, and set Gehry’s work in greater context.

SAH/SCC has an opportunity to play an important role in educating people about our recent-recent past. Soon, we are proud to present a lecture by Coy Howard—designer of one of the few seminal Deconstructivist houses. His perspective will help us all as we attempt to write the ongoing history of Southern California architecture.

With that in mind, I challenge you all to broaden your interests. Embrace the recent past—even if you lived it the first time around. SAH/SCC welcomes your suggestions for programs that take us beyond the norm. Let’s explore together.

—Sian Winship

Monterey Design Conference Preview

It only happens every two years, so get prepared to head to Monterey, October 16th-18th, for a weekend of design and delight at Asilomar Conference Center (Julia Morgan, 1913). Established and emerging architects show their work in the idyllic sea-side setting. Confirmed speakers include Rand Elliot, FAIA, Elliott + Associates Architect, Oklahoma City; Frank Barkow and Regine Leibinger, Barkow Leibinger, Berlin; Junya Ishigami, Junya Ishigami + Associates, Tokyo; Carme Pinós, Estudio Carme Pinós, Barcelona; Bernard Tschumi, FAIA, Bernard Tschumi Architects, New York and Paris; and Clive Wilkinson, FAIA, Clive Wilkinson Architects, London.

Los Angeles. Author and educator Reed Kroloff will be the emcee for the conference, which also includes social events, CEU courses, and tours. Brought to you by AIA California Council, Monterey Design Conference is now open for registration at montereydesignconference.org.

Questions: Call 800.9SAHSCC.
Walter S. White: Inventions in Mid-Century Architecture

SAH/SCC Gallery Tour & Talk
Saturday, October 10, 2015, 10:30AM-3PM

Join SAH/SCC for a behind-the-scenes visit to the new exhibition “Walter S. White: Inventions in Mid-Century Architecture,” at the AD&A Museum at UC Santa Barbara. Educator, White scholar, author, and SAH/SCC Life Member, Volker M. Welter, will lead the group on a special tour of the new gallery show. Our group will have exclusive access to the exhibition before the gallery opens to the public.

Walter S. White’s (1919-2002) designs for the Coachella Valley desert cities of Palm Desert, Indio, La Quinta, and Palm Springs in the 1940s and 1950s addressed the extreme climate with thrilling, expressionist forms that took inspiration from the natural landscape. He proposed new, ecologically sensitive, and inexpensive construction methods. White’s inventive roof designs—he received a patent for his all-steel Hypar roof (derived from hyperbolic paraboloid shapes) and wood roof construction methods—make his desert projects especially distinctive. His roofs swoop and curve to match the forms of the mountains in the distance, while providing protection for their inhabitants.

Schedule permitting, the day may also include a special viewing of additional White materials with SAH/SCC Member Jocelyn Gibbs, Curator of UCSB’s Architecture and Design Collection.

Participants will enjoy gourmet box lunches on campus, followed by a construction update on the Faculty Center (Moore, Lyndon, Turnbull, Whitaker, 1967-8) with UCSB campus architect and former SAH/SCC Board Member, Dennis Whelan. Work on the center is by one of Moore’s legacy firms, Los Angeles-based Moore Ruble Yudell.

Due to gallery restrictions, space is limited for this event. Participants will arrange their own transportation to and from Santa Barbara.

Walter S. White: Inventions in Mid-Century Architecture—Saturday, October 10, 2015; 10:30AM-3PM; $39 for SAH/SCC members; $49 for non-members; includes box lunch and museum admission; does not include transportation to UCSB or parking ($8); registration—see order form on Page 6, call 800.972.4722, or go to www.sahscc.org.
Historic Sites on Tour

Many intriguing sites filled with history are nearby and accessible to visitors. Below is a partial list of places to visit. Please check for days and hours before you go, especially as some may have limited summer schedules.

Andres Pico Adobe, Mission Hills
sfvhls.com/Andres_Pico_Adobe.htm

Banning Residence Museum, Wilmington
banningmuseum.org

Boddy House, La Cañada Flintridge
descansogardens.org

Camarillo Ranch House
camarilloranch.org

Campo De Cahuenga, Universal City
campodecahuenga.com

Case Study House #21, Hollywood Hills
casestudyhouse.com

Centinela Adobe, Inglewood
laokay.com/CentinelaAdobe.htm

Doctor’s House Museum, Glendale
glendaleca.gov

Doheny Mansion, University Park
dohenymansion.org

Dominguez Ranch House, Compton
dominguezrancho.org

Eames House, Pacific Palisades
eamesfoundation.org

El Molino Viejo, San Marino
old-mill.org/history.asp

Gamble House, Pasadena
gamblehouse.org

Heritage Square, Lincoln Heights
heritagesquare.org

Hollyhock House, Los Feliz
hollyhockhouse.net

Hugo Reid Adobe, Arcadia
arboretum.org

Lanterman House, La Cañada Flintridge
lantermanfoundation.org

Leonis Adobe, Calabasas
leonisadobemuseum.org

Lopez Adobe, San Fernando
laokay.com/halac/LopezAdobe.htm

Mission San Gabriel
sangabrielmission.org

Olivas Adobe, Ventura
olivasadobe.org

Rancho Los Cerritos, Long Beach
rancholoscerritos.org

San Buenaventura Mission, Ventura
sanbuenaventuramission.org

Stagecoach Inn Museum, Newbury Park
stagecoachmuseum.org

Sepulveda House, LA
elpueblo.lacity.org

Schindler House, West Hollywood
makcenter.org

Watts Towers, Watts
wattstowers.org

Will Rogers Home, Pacific Palisades
parks.ca.gov

Heritage Square Museum
Photo: Heritage Square Museum

Camarillo Ranch House
Photo: William Innes Photography

El Molino Viejo
Photo: Old Mill Foundation

Boddy House.
Photo: Martha Benedict
SAH/SCC PUBLICATIONS

Masters of Modernism: eight-page, two-color brochure featuring works of Richard Neutra and Frank Lloyd Wright in Bakersfield. ______ at $5 each

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 fandeck 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 featuring nine homes on five sites, as well as the architect’s use of the three-foot module. ______ at $8 each

Greta Magnusson Grossman: 3.5” x 8” 2-page color brochure featuring two residences by Greta Grossman. ______ at $4 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

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

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. ______ at $5 each

The Historic and Modern Spirit of Ventura: 20-page guide from Ventura tour. ______ at $10 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

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. ______ at $4 each

Ray Kappe—Apotheosis: eight-page brochure features five Kappe Houses from 1959 to 1966 in the Royal Woods development of the San Fernando Valley. ______ at $8 each

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. ______ at $8 each

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SAH/SCC EVENT TICKETS

Walter S. White—October 10, 2015

______ SAH/SCC member ticket(s) at $39 each = $________

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In Memoriam: Michio Yamaguchi, AIA (1943-2015)

Michio Yamaguchi, AIA, a frequent SAH Study Tour participant and beloved friend to many SAH members, passed away in San Francisco on March 8, 2015. A graduate of UC Berkeley and Columbia University, Michio worked for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey while in graduate school. After graduation, he continued to work with them, designing tenant floors in the World Trade Center (Minoru Yamasaki, 1973), which was just being completed.

In the 1970s, Michio also worked in the architecture office of Beverly Willis, FAIA, who commented, “Michio worked for me for a number of years in the mid-1970s. He was a talented architect and leader, serving as the project manager for our largest design and engineering project, Aliamanu Valley (1979), a new town of 11,500 people for military families in Honolulu.”

Later, Michio opened his own namesake practice, where he designed homes and apartment buildings in the San Francisco Bay Area, Lake Tahoe, and Sacramento. In recent years, Michio specialized in housing designs for seniors in the Bay Area, where he played a vital role in creating affordable housing in San Francisco, a city known for its high housing costs.

Michio had many close friendships that were forged on SAH Study Tours. Many of the SAH study tours in which Michio participated focused on US themes, including the Prairie School in Iowa and Minnesota, the Resort Architecture of the Adirondacks, Bruce Goff in Oklahoma, Native American Architecture in the Four Corners Region, Chicago Residential Architecture, Long Island Estates, The Las Vegas Strip, and the American Heartland, to name a few. He also participated in many international SAH tours, taking him to India, the Netherlands, Cuba, and Turkey, where he always was a tireless photographer, taking hundreds, if not thousands, of images on each journey.

Pauline Saliga, SAH Executive Director
(excerpted and adapted from www.sah.org)