

Photo: Tom Bonner

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Wilshire Boulevard Temple Restored

SAH/SCC Members' Celebration
Thursday, November 7, 2013,
6:30PM-8:30PM

This year, SAH/SCC celebrates our members—and a great historic building—at Wilshire Boulevard Temple, the 84-year-old synagogue recently restored by Levin & Associates Architects. Principal architect Brenda Levin, FAIA, will give us a behind-the-scenes look at the restoration process while we sit in the awe-inspiring sanctuary. We will begin with an outdoor reception, then proceed into the sanctuary for the program. We will also hear from David Judson, president of Judson Studios, which worked on the stained-glass restoration, as well as Katie Spitz, AIA, ASLA, principal of the landscape architecture firm KSA. As always, this event is free for members. We encourage you to invite guests, whose nominal entrance fee can be applied toward a new membership on that day.

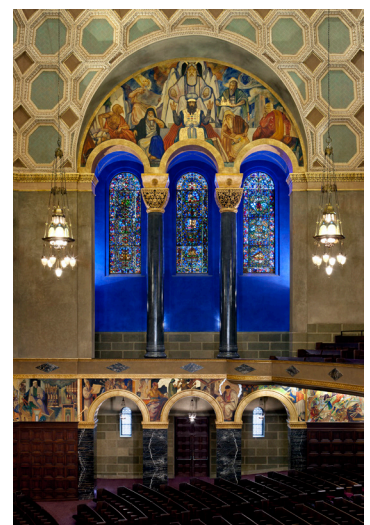
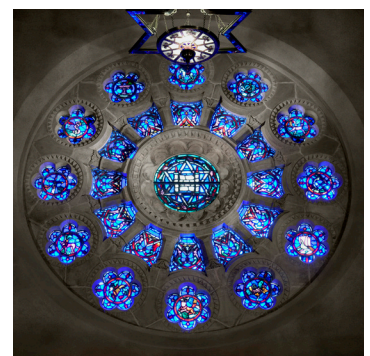
Levin & Associates led both the restoration of the historic Sanctuary building and developed a campus master plan. Two initial studies that surveyed and evaluated the historic materials of the 1929 building formed the foundation of a Conservation Master Plan. The Sanctuary restoration includes all original historic finishes, fixtures, and seating. Added were eight new light niches, which are concealed by gold metal grilles whose design derives from a decorative motif seen throughout the space, particularly at the choir loft and in various floor patterns.

As part of the process, Levin created mock-ups for each historic material, from

exterior plaster, cast stone, and marble, to the interior Hugo Ballin murals, art glass, and plaster dome. Among the most challenging components of the project was restoring the coffered plaster dome ceiling, rose window, art glass, and cast-stone surround.

Landscape components by KSA Landscape Architecture include Wilshire and Hobart Boulevards' streetscapes, parking lot, a container garden, and a communal outdoor garden accessed from the east portal of the Sanctuary. Enclosed by new gates at Wilshire Boulevard that were inspired by the curved forms of the dome, the communal garden is a place for the congregation to gather as a community in reflection or celebration.

SAH/SCC Members' Celebration: Wilshire Boulevard Temple Restored—Thursday, November 7, 2013, 6:30PM-8:30PM; 3663 Wilshire Blvd., LA; free for SAH/SCC Members in good standing; \$10 for non-member guests, applicable to new membership; reservations are required; registration—see order form on Page 6, call 800.972.4722, or go to www.sahscc.org.



Photos: Tom Bonner

SAH/SCC President's Letter

The 1970s: Docomomo Explains It All

On October 5th, I had the pleasure of attending the first official event of the Southern California Chapter of Docomomo, a 25-year-old international organization. The mission of the new chapter is to increase awareness and celebrate the legacy and influence of Southern California's Modern Movement through education, documentation, and advocacy. The chapter hopes to be a resource, in particular, to municipalities that do not have strong preservation movements in place, or that do not possess expertise on Modern resources.

The group wasted no time getting right to the hard stuff: 1970s Orange County. In the interest of full disclosure, this topic hits me squarely in the "that can't be historic, I remember when it was built" preservation trap. So, it was a powerful experience to have architect, author, and expert Alan Hess explain the progressive nature of much of Orange County's (and Irvine's) master planning efforts of the 1960s and 1970s.

One example is Dana Point Harbor, a public recreation project that was designed by Grillias, Savage, Alves and Associates in Santa Ana. A feat of engineering that began in the late 1960s, the Harbor was dedicated in 1971. The construction of two breakwaters enabled the engineers (Koebig and Koebig) to reclaim land for walking, biking, and picnicking, as well as for leisure shopping and dining activities. Grillias, Savage, Alves established a relaxed post-and-beam architectural language for the Harbor inspired by vernacular pier construction, nautical elements, and America's increasing appreciation for Hawaiian and Polynesian culture at the time. The influence of Sea Ranch (Lawrence Halprin; MLTW Architects, 1964-5) can also be felt here, with the incorporation of shed roofs and textured wooden materials. The landscape architects, Frederick Lang and Ken Wood, provided a unifying planting scheme that featured eucalyptus trees and succulents. The result is a complex of functional and harmoniously scaled structures that keep your attention focused on the beauty of the Pacific Ocean and the majesty of Dana Point.

Current plans by the City fathers call for the partial demolition of the low-rise shopping and dining areas in favor of a four-story mall and two-story parking structure in the Cape Cod style.

Hess' thoughtful presentation helped me better understand what was once my own backyard. As I drove around other areas of Irvine later in the day, I began to see and appreciate elements of master planning I had previously overlooked. Unfortunately, the architectural merit of much of what I saw remains unconvincing. Rare developments like Promontory Point (Fisher-Friedman Associates, 1975) in Newport Beach reveal the hand of a thoughtful architect as well as planner. Personally, I still have far to go to discern between the quality and the quantity from the 1970s. But with the help of organizations like the Southern California chapter of Docomomo, it should be a fascinating journey.

—Sian Winship



Dana Point Bridge.

Photo: Gail Ostergren, courtesy of Docomomo So Cal

Tour and Event Information:

1.800.972.4722

info@sahscc.org



SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

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Edward A. Killingsworth: Master Plan for Learning

SAH/SCC Panel & Walking Tour

Saturday, November 16, 2013, 9:30AM-12PM



Killingsworth presenting the CSULB master plan, December 10, 1973.

Photo: Courtesy Edward A. Killingsworth Papers, Architecture and Design Collection, Art, Design & Architecture Museum, University of California, Santa Barbara

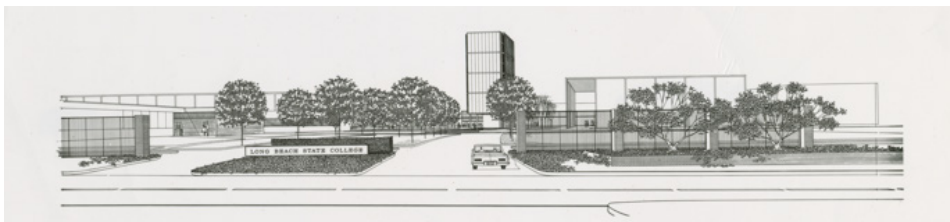
Join SAH/SCC as we explore 40 years of master planning by renowned Case Study House architect Edward A. Killingsworth at California State University, Long Beach (CSULB). Sponsored by the History Graduate Student Association (HGSA) and Crosby Doe Associates, the program will begin with an informative panel discussion, followed by a book signing and self-guided walking tour of the campus.

The panel, moderated by SAH/SCC President Sian Winship, will feature former colleagues of and experts on Killingsworth's architecture and planning activities. Michael McCabe, former Killingsworth Brady & Smith associate, and Jon Regnier, former CSULB administrator, will share experiences on the project and personal memories of working with Killingsworth. Cara Mullio and Jennifer M. Volland, authors of the books *Edward A. Killingsworth: An Architect's Life* (Hennessey + Ingalls, 2013) and *Long Beach Architecture: The Unexpected Metropolis* (Hennessey + Ingalls, 2004), will speak on their 10-year effort to ensure Killingsworth's proper place within the annals of architectural history. Copies of their latest book will be available for sale and signing by the authors. Andrew Byrom, graphic designer and faculty member at CSULB School of Art, will round out the speakers with a contemporary take on Killingsworth and the campus.

After the program, attendees will receive a specially designed walking tour brochure to guide them on their own exploration of the campus, which includes buildings by Killingsworth, Hugh Gibbs and Donald Gibbs, and Kenneth S. Wing, in addition to landscape design by Edward R. Lovell.

Killingsworth's residential and commercial projects are known for their graceful and lightweight post-and-beam construction techniques that reflect the ethos of Southern California Modernism: elegant proportions, expansive open plans, and respect for the landscape. The completion of the Kahala Hilton in Honolulu (1964) established the firm's international reputation for innovative hotel and resort design. After his master planning activities for CSULB, Killingsworth went on to design the Ecumenical Religious Center (1966) at the University of Southern California, the Student Commons (1967) at University of California, Riverside, and the McConnell Center (1968) at Pitzer College.

Edward A. Killingsworth: Master Plan for Learning—Saturday, November 16, 2013, 9:30AM-12PM; CSULB, Engineering and Computer Science Center (ECS), Room 105; free; \$5 parking; for questions/info call 800.972.4722, or go to www.sahscc.org.



Perspective of CSULB central campus entrance proposed for 1963 plan.

Image: Courtesy Edward A. Killingsworth Papers, Architecture and Design Collection, Art, Design & Architecture Museum, University of California, Santa Barbara

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Bookmarks

Escape Home: Rebuilding a Life after the Anschluss—A Family Memoir

by Charles Paterson and Carrie Paterson

At the end of *Escape Home: Rebuilding a Life after the Anschluss—A Family Memoir*, the reader will find a collection of Austrian recipes tucked away among endnotes, bibliography, and family genealogies. Among them is a recipe for *Kaiserschmarren* (Emperor Omelets), one of my most favorite dishes ever since I learned to love skiing as a young boy on some hillside in the Austrian Alps. So I settled down into a cozy corner of my home with a self-made, kind-of version of that *kaiserliche* dish, and a bottle of *Grüner Veltliner* (one of Austria's best-kept secrets for fine white wine) in order to read the biography of one Austrian-Jewish family whose life was ripped apart when the National Socialist Germans—my very own ancestors, I am afraid to say—occupied their country in 1938.

The book, written by Charles Paterson, a skiing instructor and architect in Aspen, CO, and Carrie Paterson, a Los Angeles-based writer and co-author with her father, is one of the more uplifting accounts of European émigré life that I have read in a long time. At the same time, it is a deeply nostalgic book about the domestic qualities of architecture, nowadays so often lost in favor of abstract categories, such as ethnicity, race, class, economy, or politics.

Foremost, the book recalls the fate of the Schanzer family as told through the lives of Charles Paterson, who was born as Karl Schanzer in Vienna in 1929, and his father, Stefan Schanzer (1889-1979), who changed his last name to "Shanzer" when he finally arrived in safety in the U.S. in 1941. The family fled National Socialism by moving from Austria to Czechoslovakia, and when that nation was traded in for an illusionary peace, Charles and his sister Doris were sent to Australia. There, an unknown family willingly adopted the two children just get them out of Europe. Their mother had passed away already in 1938; their father embarked on a heart rendering flight from Nazism through western Europe on a bicycle. It will touch you to tears right away, regardless of how many accounts of similar fates you believe to have studied and understood.

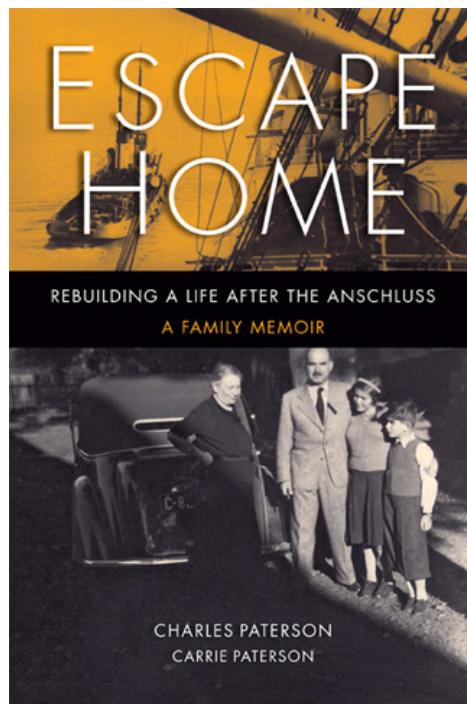
What does all this have to do with architecture? First, the Austrian modernist Adolf Loos was a member of the extended family. Accordingly, Charles Paterson lived during his exile in Czechoslovakia in Loosian bourgeois interiors. Second, earlier on, his family owned a house in the Modernist 1932 Werkbund settlement in Vienna that was designed by Jacques Groag, himself a Jewish émigré architect in Great Britain since 1940. Third, the book is essentially about making for oneself a home, even under the most adverse circumstances. What else is architecture about, if not that?

Thus, reading the book, one becomes acquainted with how Charles Paterson learned about construction in Australia, bought property in Aspen in order to self-build log cabins, studied with Frank Lloyd Wright, and eventually became an architect and erected his own ski lodge in Aspen that today is in-part a protected historic structure. Apparently, by building, he not only survived but lived, and, accordingly, perhaps one can live best by building?

If you consider architecture primarily as an art form, a monetary investment, or some abstract political act, then you will miss the relevance of this book. If, however, you think and feel architecture is about making a home for man—us, humans—on earth, then you will appreciate these tours de force of father and son that both found their happy endings in Aspen. In the case of this one family at least, "Oy vey Europa" gave way to "My home is in Aspen." What a story of private lives. What a book!

—Volker M. Welter

Volker M. Welter is a Professor in the Department of the History of Art and Architecture at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and is a Life Member of SAH/SCC.



DoppelHouse Press; September 15, 2013; hardcover; 570 pages; \$29.95.

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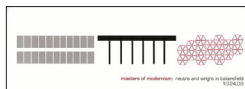
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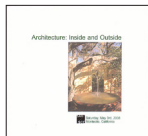
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SAH/SCC PUBLICATIONS



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Architecture: Inside and Outside: 5"x5" folded color brochure featuring Santa Barbara's Lotusland, Casa del Herrero, and Val Verde



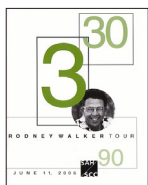
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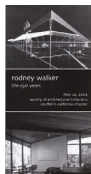
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Rodney Walker 3 30 90: 12-page brochure featuring nine homes on five sites, as well as the architect's use of the three-foot module



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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



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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



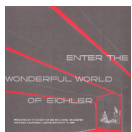
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Kesling Homes: bi-fold, two-color brochure from the "Kesling Modern Structures" tour



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



_____ 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

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



_____ at \$5 each

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



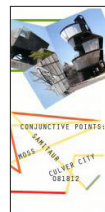
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On Parallel Lines: The Sarasota Modern Movement 1948-1966: 26-page brochure featuring Sarasota School architects.



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



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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.



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

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SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS / SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

NEWS

November/December 2013

5

SAH/ORDER FORM

JOIN OR RENEW TODAY!

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:

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SAH/SCC EVENT TICKETS

Members Celebration—November 7, 2013

_____ SAH/SCC member ticket(s)

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Ticket fee is applicable to new membership at the event.

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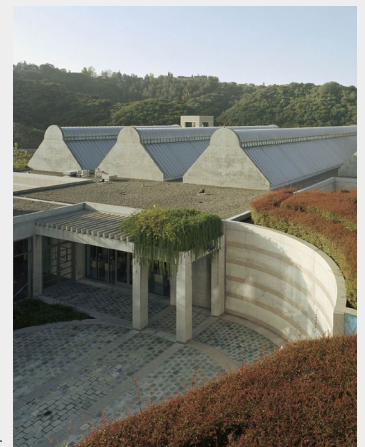
All event ticket sales are final.

We are sorry, refunds cannot be accommodated.

*SAH/SCC PRIVACY POLICY: The SAH/SCC never sells, rents, or shares your mailing or email address. Electronic communications enable us to operate economically and efficiently.

Global Citizen, Local Buildings

The Skirball Cultural Center presents the opportunity to understand an architect's work visually, intellectually, spiritually, and physically during "Global Citizen: The Architecture of Moshe Safdie" on view through March 2, 2014. The exhibition—which traces the architect's journey from Habitat '67 in Montreal to current projects in Asia—coincides with the completion of his 30-year master plan for the Skirball campus. The new buildings, Herscher Hall and Guerin Pavilion, complete the Skirball's 15-acre campus, and constitute the fourth phased expansion by the original architect.



Skirball Cultural Center.
Photo: Timothy Hursley

The exhibition explores Safdie's work and philosophy across his nearly 50-year career through models, sketches, photographs, and films from more than 25 projects. Often monumental, but also inviting, many of his buildings are characterized by the use of transcendent light, powerful geometry, and iconic forms. Safdie's work is also known for its integration of architecture with landscape. Viewing his work while viscerally experiencing his architecture will give observers a deeper understanding of the architect's aims and principles.

"We always thought of the Skirball as becoming a paradise garden, an idea fundamental to the Jewish tradition," said Moshe Safdie, FAIA. "It is a place that merges with the natural landscape, a place of serenity, a refuge from the hustle and bustle of the city and its freeways."

www.skirball.org