

SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL **HISTORIANS**/ SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER





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Richard L. Dorman: An Audacious Modernism

SAH/SCC Zoom Presentation

Saturday, July 17, 2021, 1-2:30 PM Pacific Time



Salton Sea Yacht Club (1960-61)

Join SAH/SCC and its President, Sian Winship, as she talks about the work and legacy of Richard L. Dorman, FAIA, an important midcentury modern architect. Dorman has largely been forgotten to history because he left no architectural archive. For more than a decade, Winship has been collecting photographs, plans, and drawings of his residential, commercial, and institutional projects. She is now ready to share never-beforeseen images with a broader audience.

Dorman's love of the seven-foot module in plan was perfectly matched with the views and climate of Southern California. A graduate of the USC School of Architecture, he was featured on the cover of Time magazine as one of the "Take Over Generation"—postwar professionals



Sunset Mesa Apartments, Malibu (c. 1962) Courtesy Sian Winship

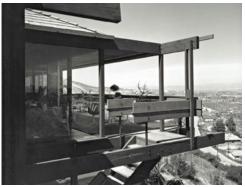
dedicated to remaking the world. He was published extensively in Arts + Architecture and Esther McCoy spied his talent when she featured him in a 1961 article "Young Architects in the United States." In 1968, Dorman was elevated to Fellowship in the AIA for his contribution to design. His risk-taking approach to life and architecture are evident in more than 300 projects throughout Southern California.

In addition to being a board member of SAH/SCC for the past 25 years, Winship earned a Masters in Historic Preservation from USC in 2011 where she wrote her thesis, in part, on Dorman. Since graduating, Winship has worked as a preservation professional researching and writing National Register nominations and historic context statements. Among them is the award-winning Japanese American Historic Context and Women's Rights Context Statement for SurveyLA. Winship is currently working on a book, An Audacious Modernism: The Legacy of Richard L. Dorman.

An Audacious Modernism—Saturday, July 17, 2021; 1-2:30 PM PST; \$5; go to www.sahscc.org and pay via PayPal or mail in order form on Page 6 with check; Zoom connection information sent upon registration.



Lake Arrowhead Country Club (c. 1961) Courtesy Getty Research Institute



Art Seidenbaum Residence, Los Angeles (1966) Photo: Julius Shulman photography archive; Getty Research Institute, LA ©J. Paul Getty Trust



SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS / SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

SAH/SCC President's Letter

In May, SAH/SCC sent out a brief member survey to find out how people were feeling about resuming group activities in a waning pandemic world. We received 100 replies! Thanks to all of you who took the time to complete the survey. Your voices have been heard.

Clearly, our Zoom programs have been a huge success. Two-thirds of you have attended one or more of them and 93% of those who did rated them favorably, with 62% rating them as "excellent." Ninety-one percent of you think we should continue these virtual programs in the future.

We couldn't agree more. If there was a silver lining from the pandemic (that's debatable, by the way), it was that Zoom programs allowed us to bring some of the best and brightest from around the country right into your living rooms. Additionally, we've been able to showcase some of our favorite members and authors to an increasingly international audience. At the very least, these programs offer local members the opportunity to learn without having to face Los Angeles traffic or spend a Saturday afternoon looking for parking in Santa Monica.

Still, the desire to engage in visiting and experiencing architecture came through loudly and clearly. Generally, people were equally divided about how soon they would feel comfortable with in-person events—from immediately to six months from now. Residential and public building visits topped the list of activities you would be most interested in. And the vast majority of you (around 70%) expect that we would follow masking and social distancing protocols. (We will.)

This feedback is invaluable as the SAH/SCC Board starts to make plans for future events for late summer and fall. We all miss seeing you and we all miss being in architectural spaces. We all hope it will happen soon.

Most of the members who completed the survey said they have been members for more than five years. And while we love meeting new people, we truly appreciate those of you who have been dedicated members of the organization throughout the years—through recessions, natural disasters, and now a pandemic.

Thanks again for weighing in. We will see you soon!

—Sian Winship

Authors on Architecture: Parsons on Colcord

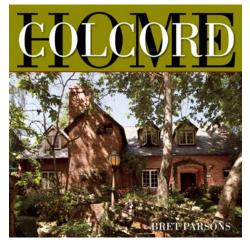
SAH/SCC Zoom Presentation

Saturday, July 24, 2021, 1-2:30 PM Pacific Time

Some of you may remember SAH/SCC Member Bret Parsons from the recent Paul R. Williams, FAIA, event. If you do, you won't want to miss a chance to hear Bret talk about his book *Colcord*— *Home* (Angel City Press, 2008).

In the 1920s, Southern California exploded as the greatest home-building region in the world. Beaux-Arts trained architect Gerard Colcord (1900-1984) flourished here, creating 400 estates between 1924 and 1984. Real estate expert Parsons culled through 10,000 original documents and interviewed 300 past and present Colcord homeowners to complete this intimate portrait of the man and his homes.

As one reviewer described the book, "Colcord is a refreshing book that reveals the work of an architect in California who was able to pursue his version of traditional American architecture under the radar of Modernist critics."



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Tour and Event Information:

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SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

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Authors on Architecture: Parsons on Colcord—Saturday, July 24, 2021; 1-2:30 PM PST; \$5; go to <u>www.</u> <u>sahscc.org</u> and pay via PayPal or mail in order form on Page 6 with check; Zoom connection information sent upon registration.



Master of the Midcentury: Bill Cody

SAH/SCC Zoom Presentation \mid Saturday, September 11, 2021, 1-2:30PM Pacific Time



William F. Cody, FAIA Photo: William F. Cody Papers and William F. Cody Papers 2, Special Collections and Archives, Robert E. Kenned Library, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Join SAH/SCC as we explore one of the architects who made Palm Springs a crucible of midcentury modernism. One of the most prolific, diverse, and iconic was William F. Cody, FAIA (1916-1978). Presenting this legacy is the architect's daughter Catherine Cody, design historian Jo Lauria, and architectural historian Don Choi. They are the curators of the acclaimed exhibition "Fast Forward: The Architecture of William F. Cody" at the Architecture and Design Museum in Los Angeles, and authors of *Master of the Midcentury: The Architecture of William F. Cody* (The Monacelli Press, 2021), the first monograph devoted to Cody. Replete with photographs of extant and now-lost structures, as well as masterful color renderings and drawings for architectural commissions and plans for vanguard building systems, the book will be available this fall.

Directing a practice ranging from residences to commercial centers and industrial complexes to master plans, Cody designed projects so recognizable that they provide visual shorthand for what is widely hailed as "Desert Modern." While his architecture was disciplined and technically innovative, Cody did not practice an austere modernism; he imbued in his projects a love for social spaces, rich with pattern, texture, color, and art.



Proposed Mountain Terminal of Tramway (1949) Image: William F. Cody Papers and William F. Cody Papers 2, Special Collections and Archives, Robert E. Kenned Library, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Though the majority of Cody's built work was concentrated in California and Arizona, he had commissions in other western states, Hawaii, Mexico, Honduras, and Cuba. From the iconic Del Marcos Hotel (1947), to the inventive Eldorado Country Club (1958), to celebrity homes (Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby, Walt Disney), Cody's projects defined the emerging West Coast lifestyle that combined luxury, leisure, and experimental design. Cody also pushed the boundaries of engineering, with beams and roof slabs so thin that his buildings seemed to defy gravity.

Master of the Midcentury—Saturday, September 11, 2021; 1-2:30 PM PST; \$5; go to <u>www.sahscc.org</u> and pay via PayPal or mail in order form on Page 6 with check; Zoom connection information sent upon registration.



Eldorado Country Club Clubhouse (1959) Photo: Julius Shulman photography archive; Getty Research Institute, LA ©J. Paul Getty Trust



Palm Springs Spa (1959) Photo: Julius Shulman photography archive; Getty Research Institute, LA ©J. Paul Getty Trust



W&J Sloane Company Display House (1961) Photo: Gail B. Thompson, Gayle's Studio; courtesy of Tracy Conrad

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SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS / SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER



<u>Bookmarks</u>



Los Angeles Today–City of Dreams: Architecture and Design

photography and text by Tim Street-Porter; edited by Annie Kelly The dean of Los Angeles architectural photography presents the city's landmarks through the epic, naturally lit images that have become his trademark. The long horizontal format of the book (dare I say, sprawling?) contains a splendid collection

of LA's greatest architectural hits, from San Gabriel Mission (1771) to the underconstruction Academy Museum (Renzo Piano, 2021), and everything high (Disney Hall) and low (Bob's Big Boy) in between. Organized geographically—with special chapters on Frank Lloyd Wright houses and movie studios—this photographic love letter will delight anyone who lives in and loves our city of dreams. *Rizzoli New York, 2021, 256 pages, hardcover, \$70.*

Études-The Poetry of Dreams + Other Fragments



by John Marx, AIA

Not your usual architecture book, *Études* is a collection of watercolors inspired by the built and natural environments coupled with poems by San Francisco architect Marx with creative typography by graphic artist Jeremy Mende. The paintings and poems are divided into eight distinct sections: moments in time, apertures, absent nature, objects in nature, without intention, approaching abstraction, deconstructing perception, and improvisations. Printing on actual watercolor paper

gives the book a tactility that brings the viewer/reader closer to the work. Three guest essays look at the work in the context art history. Marx's own essay explores the creative process. Intrinsically understanding the sentiment of man and nature is an important point Marx wants to relay to audiences. He succeeds through the vibrancy of language and art.

ORO Editions, 2020, 160 pages, hardbound; \$65.



Preserving Los Angeles: How Historic Places Can Transform America's Cities

by Ken Bernstein; photography by Stephen Schafer

Bernstein begins the text debunking the myth that there is no history, therefore no preservation, in Los Angeles. Photos by Schafer—with occasional additions of those from Julius Shulman, LAPL Collections, and others—liberally accompany the text, divided into chapters touching on the meaning and process of historic designations, LA's historic districts, SurveyLA, culturally diverse resources, DTLA adaptive reuse,

future efforts, and a timely assessment of cities after Covid-19. A 90-page appendix illustrates some of the results of SurveyLA. Going neighborhood-by-neighborhood, it becomes a Gebhardt Guide for the preservation minded. Although obviously concentrating on LA, the book's subtitle audaciously declares young Los Angeles as a model applicable to older cities.

Angel City Press, 2021, 256 pages, hardcover, \$50.

Michele Saee: Philosophy and Process

by Michele Saee; introduction by Claude Parent

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Saee approaches his work with a soulful, sensual, poetic, and artistic impulse, and does the same with this magnificent specimen of a book. It begins with an autobiographical architectural timeline from 1981 to 1996 of his early work and influences (including former employers Superstudio and Morphosis). Two sketchbook interludes are so tangibly shown, starting with the cover of worn leather, after which page spreads unfold at a scale assuring the verisimilitude of holding them yourself. The second part delves into 34 projects represented by text, photos, sketches, drawings, renderings, and

inspirational imagery that impart the spirit of each project. A bold line runs through the book—both physically printed on the pages and spiritually in its context—emphasizing Saee's consistent vision that architecture must address the body and the soul.

ORO Editions, 2020, 584 pages, hardbound, \$60.

Designing Hollywood Homes: Movie Houses

by Stephen Shadley with Patrick Pacheco; foreword by Diane Keaton

LA-raised former scenic artist, now New York interior designer, Shadley gathers 11 of the homes he's designed for Hollywood notables, almost half of them for Keaton. The homes unfold in cinematic fashion through large, lush photos by brand-name shelter-magazine photographers (Scott Frances, David Glomb, Mary Nichols, Tim Street-Porter, etc.) and Shadley's conversational stories. Most are in LA, with a couple New York homes, and an outlier in Arizona. Shadley also shares his life-long fascination with the movies, which culminated in designs he shares for Oscar green rooms.

Rizzoli New York, 2020, 224 pages, hardcover, \$65.

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NEWS

SAH/SCC

Mailing Address Change

New mailing address is P.O. Box 491952, Los Angeles, CA 90049.

(We are no longer accepting mail at Sherman Oaks address.)

SAH/SCC PUBLICATIONS & VIDEOS

Catch up on previous SAH/SCC tours and Zoom programs. Go here to order.



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



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



Irving Gill: Los Angeles: 10page booklet featuring photos and articles on Gill and three residential projects in LA. \$6



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. \$8



Greta Magnusson Grossman: 3.5" x 8" 2-page color brochure featuring two residences by Greta Grossman. \$4



Space and Learning: eightpage, 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. \$8



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. \$5



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. \$5



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







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

Union Station and MTA

for a self-guided walking

tour including historical

facts and photos. \$2

Modernism for the Masses:

detailed floor plans of Eichler

homes visited on the Orange

David Gebhard Review: essays on

the Works Project Administration

by Robert W. Winter, Orville

O. Clarke, Jr., and Mitzi March

County tour. \$10

Mogul. \$5

tri-fold brochure with inserts of

Transit Center: bi-fold map



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. \$4



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



Fernando Valley. \$8 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. \$8

Behind the Iron Curtain in 1969: John Ellis, FAIA, retraces his steps as a young architecture student at Cambridge to visit the work of the Russian Constructivists and Alvar Aalto, Hon. FAIA. \$5

 Bunker Hill: Author Nathan Marsak traces the architectural and cultural history of Los Angeles' early residential neighborhood, best known for its appearance in film noirs. \$5

Church of the Epiphany: Architectural historian Sian Winship and preservation architects Escher GuneWardena introduce viewers to the rich architectural and cultural history of the oldest Episcopal church in LA. \$5

Harley Earl: SAH/SCC Member Richard Stanley's in-depth presentation reveals how Harley Earl invented the modern automotive design studio and is credited with bringing design to every segment of the market. \$5

Elizabeth Gordon: Author Monica Penick introduces viewers to one of the most influential magazine editors of the mid-20th century. \$5

New West: Authors and SAH/SCC Life Members Wolfgang Wagener, AIA, RIBA, and Leslie Erganian explore history through a treasure trove of hand-tinted postcards. \$5

Iohn Parkinson: Author Stephen Gee discusses the unsung genius of architect John Parkinson, designer of many LA icons, including City Hall and Bullock's Wilshire. \$5

Preserving Los Angeles: Author Ken Bernstein and photographer Stephen Schafer reveal how LA's preservation programs saved architectural and cultural jewels of the city, revived neighborhoods, and created a model for other American cities. \$5

Will Price: Author George E. Thomas makes the case for Will Price as an early modern architect working in Philadelphia. \$5

David Wyn Roberts: Architect, author, and SAH/SCC Member Cory Buckner provides a rare and very personal look at the work of Cambridge modernist David Wyn Roberts (1911-1982). \$5

Millard Sheets: Author Adam Arenson discusses the work of Millard Sheets and his association with Home Savings and Loan. \$5

The Stepwells of India: Author Victoria Lautman takes viewers on a very personal tour of the mysterious and magnificent stepwells in India. \$5

■ Wayne Thom: Author and SAH/SCC Member Emily Bills examines the architectural photography of Wayne Thom and his documentation of late modern-style architecture in Southern California. \$5

Warner Bros.: Former Warner Bros. archivist Steven Bingen takes you behind the gates at the famed studio. \$5

Paul R. Williams, FAIA: Author Stephen Gee, realtor Bret Parsons, and architect Marc Appleton, AIA, discuss the early residential work of the noted "architect to the stars." \$5



SAH/SCC MEMBERSHIP FORM

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
- Quarterly E-news with printable newsletter
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- 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.

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\$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	
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Corporate membership at \$500 each	= \$
Student membership at \$30 each	= \$
Total Membership	= \$

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Send to: SAH/SCC, P.O. Box 56478, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413 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.

SAH/SCC EVENT TICKETS

Richard Dorman—Saturday, July 17, 2021 reservation(s) at \$5 each =	\$
Gerard Colcord—Saturday, July 24, 2021 reservation(s) at \$5 each =	\$
William Cody—Saturday, September 11, 2021 reservation(s) at \$5 each =	\$

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



Trujillo Adobe—then.

Photo: courtesy Spanish Town Heritage Foundation

Adobe Endangered

Among America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places for 2021, the National Trust for Historic Preservation has named one in Southern California—Trujillo Adobe, the oldest known building in Riverside. Constructed in 1862 by Lorenzo Trujillo, the building was built in what was then a part of Mexico. Trujillo led many expeditions as a scout across the Old Spanish Trail, enabling immigrants to settle inland California, and his home became the beating heart of a community known as La Placita de los Trujillos, Spanish Town, and Agua Mansa.

The Adobe is now deteriorated and fragile, protected only by a wooden structure (also in need of repair) that hides it from view. Local advocates hope to transform the Adobe into a cultural and educational site to recognize and take pride in the multiple cultures that shaped and continue to define the region.

The purpose of the annual list is to spur preservation efforts, a mission that has largely been successful; according to NTHP, more than 95 percent of the 374 places named in the course of 35 years have survived.



Trujillo Adobe—now.

Photos: Nancy Melendez

