Newsletter of the Southeast Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians

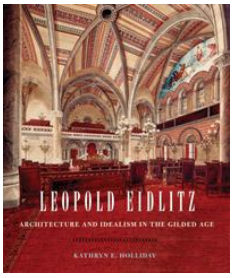
Spring 2009
Vol. 26 No. 1

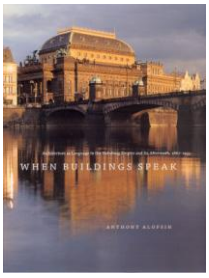
SESAH News

SESAH ANNOUNCES 2008 AWARD WINNERS!

SESAH announced the **2008 SESAH Award Winners** at the 26th SESAH Annual Meeting, held October 1-4 in Greensboro, North Carolina. SESAH seeks to recognize and encourage authors publishing books and journal articles or essays written on architectural history subjects concerned with our 12-state Southeast region, and to recognize and encourage authors who reside in the our region and publish books and journal articles or essays on any architectural history subjects.

The **2008 Best Article Award** was presented to Richard Cleary, PhD, for "Texas Gothic, French Accent: The Architecture of the Roman Catholic Church in Antebellum Texas" in the *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* (Vol. 66, No. 1, March 2007). Richard Cleary is a professor of architecture at the University of Texas at Austin.





The **2008 Best Book Award** goes to Kathryn E. Holliday, PhD, for *Leopold Eidlitz: Architecture and Idealism in the Gilded Age* (W.W. Norton, 2008). Kathryn Holliday teaches architectural history at the University of Texas at Arlington.

An **Honorable Mention** for the 2008 Best Book Award was presented to Anthony Alofsin, PhD, AIA, for *When Buildings Speak: Architecture as Language in the Hapsburg Empire and Its Aftermath, 1867-1933* (University of Chicago Press, 2006, hardcover; 2008, paperback). Anthony Alofsin is a professor of art and art history at the University of Texas at Austin.

The **2008 Best of the South: Preserving Southern Architecture** award goes to the Preservation Trust of Spartanburg, South Carolina, a nonprofit organization founded in 1998. This award honors a project that preserves or restores a historic building, or complex of buildings, in an outstanding manner and demonstrates excellence in research, technique, and documentation.

Before and after photos of a 1926 Bungalow located at 210 Carlisle Street; this historic home was rehabbed and sold in 2007.

This year's winner used its preservation mandate to tackle the problem of urban decline and abandonment. Carlisle Street, located in the historic Hampton Heights neighborhood in Spartanburg, South Carolina, is a 1920s residential street composed of 26 houses.

In 2005, more than half of the houses were vacant and abandoned, and the street's decline was beginning to affect the rest of the neighborhood. The Preservation Trust of Spartanburg's innovative street-wide approach involved acquiring, restoring, and reselling 14 properties on the street, upgrading lighting, and creating a green space in place of a former dead zone.

Throughout the $1.3 million project, the Trust created partnerships with neighborhood and city leaders as well as private foundations, a productive network that will lay new groundwork for further preservation projects in the city. Visit www.preservespartanburg.org to learn more about this organization and the Carlisle Street project.

2009 SESAH Annual Meeting Call For Papers

Deadline – May 1, 2009

2009 SESAH Award Nominations

Publications deadline – May 1, 2009
Best of the South deadline – June 30, 2009

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends in SESAH,

I hope that all of you will have had a good holiday season by the time this newsletter arrives. SESAH's highly active members have accomplished a lot since the last newsletter. I continue to be dazzled and impressed by what an all-volunteer organization can accomplish through the fine work of dedicated and creative and hardworking folks.

As you will read in more detail in reports in the newsletter, the 2008 SESAH Annual Meeting in Greensboro, NC, was a grand success. Thanks to Lisa Tolbert, Patrick Lucas, Ruth Little, and many others for all they did to give us a marvelous experience, in terms of learning, socializing, and seeing a city and region new to many of us.

All of us who attended the meeting--96 participants from across the country--are grateful to our host institutions (UNC-Greensboro Departments of History and Interior Architecture and Preservation Greensboro); to local organizations who hosted events (Greensboro Historical Museum, Blandwood, and Greensboro Masonic Temple Co.); to Jane Levy for sponsoring the evening reception at the beautiful Lowenstein house; to Jo Leimenstoll and Benjamin Briggs for organizing and leading memorable tours; and to the army of volunteers (including students, local preservationists, and others) for making the whole conference enjoyable, well-organized, and edifying.

Plans are underway for the 2009 SESAH Annual Meeting in Jackson, Mississippi, as described elsewhere in the newsletter. This promises to be another great meeting, with new learning opportunities for all. Remember to check our website (www.sesah.org) regularly for updated information. Please note the deadlines for paper proposals and award nominations. Do submit papers and propose awards and encourage your friends and neighbors to do so.

We welcome our new board members Susan Braden, Ethel Goodstein-Murphree, and Ashley Robbins Wilson. You can find out more about them on page 3. Thanks to our outgoing board members, including Philippe Oszúsick, Kim Sexton, and Andy Chandler for their excellent service to SESAH. We especially want to invite nominations for the upcoming board, who will be elected at our 2009 meeting. The states for which board members are completing terms are Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, and Texas as well as an At-Large candidate.

So if you are from one of those states and would like to participate more actively in SESAH, or know someone who'd be good, contact our vice president, Michael Fazio, at mfazio@sarc.msstate.edu. Remember--the At-Large candidate can be from anywhere.

There are two important recent accomplishments to note. First, thanks to our intrepid journal editor, Stephen James in Houston, you should have received the 2008 issue (Volume 19) of *ARRIS*. Despite challenges from Hurricane Ike, Stephen got the journal edited, published, and mailed in timely fashion, and it looks gorgeous and is full of fine articles and reviews. And, he made time to prepare a report on the hurricane damage in Texas, which is posted on our website. Congratulations and thanks to Stephen.

Secondly, thanks to the energetic members of our newly formed communications committee, chaired by Michael Fazio, and including Gavin Townsend, Robbie Jones, Heather Wagoner, and Mikesch Muecke, we've made great strides into the digital era. As you recall, our website received a major overhaul not long ago and we've been posting the newsletter and photos there as well as other useful information.

Now, we also have a new SESAH group email listserv. Gavin Townsend in Chattanooga has spent a lot of time and thought creating this, and it's an excellent new way for us to keep in touch, share information, promote events, and ask questions about architecture, and so forth. Gavin has volunteered to serve as the moderator, so as to keep out interlopers. It's only been online since mid-November, but we already have over 80 subscribers. To subscribe, please visit http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sesah/.

And there's more! Mikesch, our website manager in Ames, Iowa, developed our new SESAH Facebook group--we are really with it now!--which you can join on our website. Finally, our newsletter editor, Robbie in Nashville, is also planning to launch an E-News sometime in 2009 to supplement the traditional print newsletter.

Thanks to all these folks and many more who devote their time and talents to keeping SESAH lively and welcoming. See you in Jackson!

Catherine W. Bishir
Raleigh, North Carolina

Nighttime skyline of Jackson, Mississippi.

Welcome New Board Members!

Alabama representative **Susan Braden** received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Arizona, a Master's degree in Art History from Northwestern University, and her PhD in Art History from Florida State University. For the last twenty years she has taught art history courses at Auburn University and will retire in early 2009. She has written on Florida's architecture (*Architecture of Leisure: the Florida Resort Hotels of Henry Flagler and Henry Plant*, University Press of Florida, 2002) and for *Art Papers* and most recently on Alabama courthouses for *DesignAlabama* (Winter 2008). Susan plans to remain in Auburn and travel.

Arkansas representative **Ethel Goodstein-Murphree** has been engaged in architectural education and practice for more than three decades. Following her professional training and architectural practice in New York City, she earned graduate degrees in the history of architecture and historic preservation planning at Cornell University, culminating in an interdisciplinary doctorate in architecture and American cultural studies, earned at the University of Michigan. Before joining the University of Arkansas faculty in 1992, she worked for the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program and taught at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Since 2002, she has been a partner in studio m^2, an alternative design firm. Ethel is a former president of SESAH and editor of *ARRIS*.

South Carolina representative **Ashley Robbins Wilson**, AIA, is the Interim Director and a professor for the Graduate Program in Historic Preservation at Clemson University/College of Charleston. She received her Bachelor's in Architecture from the University of Virginia and a Master's in Architecture from the University of Notre Dame. Ashley is also a registered architect and interior designer. She served as assistant architect and curator at UVa in the 1990s and has practiced in preservation firms in Virginia and Washington, DC.

FROM THE EDITOR

You will notice that this issue of the *SESAH Newsletter* contains articles and features contributed by authors from North Carolina, Mississippi, Indiana, Georgia, Virginia, Kansas, Texas, Kentucky, South Carolina, and Arkansas. The *SESAH Newsletter* is truly a collaborative effort and I wanted to express my sincere gratitude for everyone's volunteer participation. As our electronic communications continue to evolve with email, cell phones, and websites, it is perhaps even more important than ever to maintain a good old-fashioned, low-budget newsletter as a permanent record of our work and accomplishments. So please keep sending articles, photos, and news!

Robbie D. Jones
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1900 Church Street, Suite 203
Nashville, TN 37203
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Send correspondence and submissions for publication to the *SESAH Newsletter* editor. Deadline for submission of material for the Summer 2009 issue is **April 15, 2009**. Contact the editor about format preference.

The *SESAH Newsletter* has been published three times yearly since 1983. Visit www.sesah.org to download recent issues of the *SESAH Newsletter*.

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ARRIS

JOURNAL OF THE
SOUTHEAST CHAPTER OF THE SOCIETY OF
ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

ARRIS is now soliciting papers for Volume 20, to be published in October 2009. The journal welcomes original scholarship on all aspects of the history of architecture and landscape. The deadline for submissions is **JANUARY 30, 2009**. They will be blind reviewed and the authors notified in April 2009.

Papers should conform to the submission guidelines, which can be found at www.sesah.org. Further information may be obtained from the editor at the address below.

Stephen James, *ARRIS* Editor
Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture
122 College of Architecture Building
University of Houston
Houston, Texas 77204-4000
arris@uh.edu

The National Council for Preservation Education
Preservation Education & Research

CALL FOR PAPERS

The editors of *Preservation Education & Research* invite paper proposals for the second edition of the journal (2009). Papers on all topics related to preservation education, research, and scholarship are considered. The deadline for submission of papers is **FEBRUARY 1, 2009**. Papers will be blind reviewed and authors notified of publication status by April 2009. Complete guidelines for paper submission can be accessed on NCPE website www.ncpe.us or by contacting the co-editors, Anat Geva and Nancy Volkman, Texas A&M University (PERjournal@gmail.com).

Journal of Architectural Education

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Vernacular Architectures in an Age of Globalization

The submission deadline for all manuscripts for this theme issue is **MARCH 16, 2009**. Accepted articles will be published in the first bi-annual issue of the JAE, 63:1 (October 2009). The theme editors are Michelangelo Sabatino (msabatino@uh.edu) and Bruce C. Webb of the University of Houston (bwebb@uh.edu). Visit www.jaeonline.org for more information.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2009 SESAH PUBLICATIONS

SESAH is seeking nominations for the 2009 Publication Awards. The awards honor outstanding scholarship about the architecture of the South or by authors who reside in the South (defined as SESAH member states). Three categories of publication that are recognized: books, journal articles, and essays published in book format. The copyright should be no earlier than 2007.

An article or essay should be copied in triplicate and include complete bibliographic information. Book titles must include full bibliographical information.

Send submissions to Ethel Goodstein-Murphree, University of Arkansas, School of Arkansas, 120 Vol Walker Hall, Fayetteville, AR, 72701. Questions: (479) 575-3850 or egoodste@uark.edu. The submissions deadline is **MAY 1, 2009**.

2009 BEST OF THE SOUTH
PRESERVING SOUTHERN ARCHITECTURE

SESAH seeks nominations for the **Best of the South: Preserving Southern Architecture Award**. This annual award honors a project that preserves or restores an historic building, or complex of buildings, in an outstanding manner and that demonstrates excellence in research, technique, and documentation. Projects in the twelve-state region of SESAH that were completed in 2007 or 2008 are eligible.

Nominations should consist of no more than two typed pages of description, and be accompanied by hard copy illustrations and any other supporting material. A cover letter should identify the owner of the project, the use of the building(s), and the names of all the major participants of the project.

For more information please contact the Best of the South Award committee chair Julia R. King at julia.r.king@gmail.com. Send three (3) hard copies of the nomination to Virginia Price at 2162 North Brandywine Street, Arlington, VA 22207. The deadline for submissions is **June 30, 2009**.

Winners will be announced at the 27th SESAH Annual Meeting in Jackson, Mississippi, in October.

MEMBER NEWS

Ashley Robbins Wilson and her students placed 3rd in the 2008 Charles E. Peterson Prize Competition - awarded by HABS, NPS, and AIA – for their documentation of the 1854 Farmers & Exchange Bank, in Charleston, South Carolina.

In February 2009, the University of North Carolina Press will publish ***The Beauty of Holiness: Anglicanism and Architecture in Colonial South Carolina*** by Louis P. Nelson of UVa.

Most Popular Historic House Museums

Recently, the *Almanac of Architecture & Design* announced the 2007 Top 25 most popular historic house museums rankings. Did you know that ten of the most popular historic sites, including five of top six, are located in the SESAH region?

1. **Biltmore Estate**, Asheville, NC
2. **Mount Vernon**, Mount Vernon, VA
3. Hearst Castle, San Simeon, CA
4. **Graceland**, Memphis, TN
5. **Arlington House**, Arlington, VA
6. **Monticello**, Charlottesville, VA
7. Vanderbilt Mansion, Hyde Park, NY
8. The Breakers, Newport, RI
9. Betsy Ross House, Philadelphia, PA
10. Paul Revere House, Boston, MA
11. **The Edison & Ford Winter Estates**, Fort Myers, FL
12. Lincoln Home, Springfield, IL
13. **The Hermitage**, Nashville, TN
14. Boldt Castle, Alexandria Bay, NY
15. George Eastman Home, Rochester, NY
16. Marble House, Newport, RI
17. Fallingwater, Mill Run, PA
18. Henry Ford Estate, Dearborn, MI
19. House of Seven Gables, Salem, MA
20. **Vizcaya**, Miami, FL
21. The Elms, Newport, RI
22. Taliesen West, Scottsdale, AZ
23. Roosevelt Cottage, Campobello Island, ME
24. **FDR's Little White House**, Warm Springs, GA
25. **Magnolia Plantation**, Charleston, SC

North Carolina's Biltmore Estate (1895, Richard Morris Hunt) is the most popular historic house museum in America.

Be sure to subscribe to the new SESAH email listserv at

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sesah/

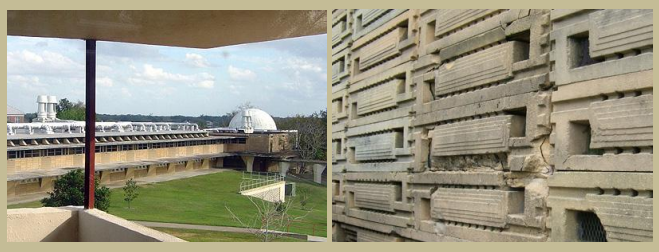
Join the SESAH Facebook group at

www.sesah.org

2008 World's Most Endangered Sites

The World Monuments Fund's biennial list of the 100 Most Endangered Sites contains architectural sites and monuments most in danger of destruction. The 2008 list includes three sites located in the SESAH region. Visit www.wmf.org.

Florida Southern Historic Campus, Lakeland, FL – college campus with 10 buildings designed by master architect Frank Lloyd Wright between 1938 and the 1950s.



Historic Neighborhoods of New Orleans, LA - There are 19 local and National Register Historic Districts in New Orleans—the largest concentration of any American city. These neighborhoods, dating from the 18th to 20th centuries, were heavily damaged by Hurricane Katrina in August 2005.

Riverview High School, Sarasota, FL – In June 2008, the Sarasota school board voted to demolish Paul Rudolph's historic Riverview High School to make way for parking and ballfields. The decision was made largely because of a lack of funds needed to update the buildings to other uses. This ends a two year effort by preservationists to save the landmark Midcentury Modern high school completed in 1958.

Recently announced **National Historic Landmarks** located in the SESAH region include:

- Freedom Tower, Miami, FL
- Lyceum-The Circle Historic District, Oxford, MS
- Shreveport Municipal Auditorium, Shreveport, LA
- Skyline Drive, Shenandoah National Park, VA
- Woodrow Wilson Boyhood Home, Augusta, GA

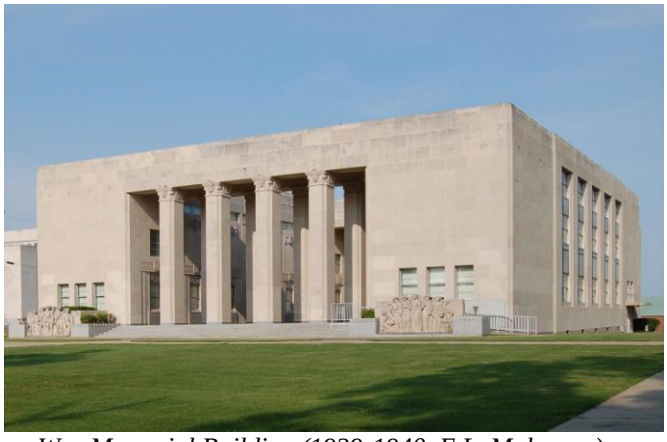
2009 SESAH Annual Meeting
Jackson, Mississippi
October 28-31, 2009

Start planning now for the 27th SESAH Annual Meeting to be held in Jackson, Mississippi – the "City with Soul." This conference will include walking tours of downtown Jackson, special events at local landmarks as well as a Saturday Study Tour of historic sites in and around metro Jackson. Downtown Jackson is undergoing a period of major redevelopment with renovations of historic buildings and construction of new civic landmarks; to learn more visit www.downtown-jackson.com.

The conference is co-hosted by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi State University's College of Architecture, Art, and Design. The co-chairs are Jennifer Baughn and Michael Fazio.

The 2009 SESAH Call for Papers is available in this issue or you can download a PDF on our website. Additional information and a registration form will be published in the next issue of the *SESAH Newsletter*. In the meantime, be sure to check the SESAH website www.sesah.org and your email for updates.

Old Mississippi State Capitol (1839-1840, William Nichols), as seen in 1940. This NHL was damaged by hurricanes in 2005-06 and restored in 2007-08; site of keynote reception.



War Memorial Building (1939-1940, E.L. Malvaney), a New Deal era landmark and site of the keynote lecture.

Jackson's Capitol Street in the 1950s. Jackson was founded in 1822 and named in honor of General Andrew Jackson.

Standard Life Tower (1929, C.H. Lindsley), an 18-story Art Deco landmark. In 1900, Jackson counted 8,000 residents; today it has grown to 180,000 with a metro area of 550,000.

Home of Civil Rights leader Medgar Evers (1956), now a museum. Evers was assassinated in his driveway in 1963.

2009 SESAH Annual Meeting, Jackson, Mississippi, October 28-31, 2009

The Southeastern Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians (SESAH) will hold its 27th Annual Meeting in Jackson, Mississippi, in 2009. Mississippi's capital city, Jackson, bills itself as "The Bold New City" and the "Best of the New South." The meeting's downtown venue will allow participants to explore 19th and 20th-century urban landmarks in this historic Deep South city.

The 2009 SESAH host committee invites abstracts for individual papers or proposals for session panels which will consist of three paper presentations, overseen by a chair. Although topics focusing on Mississippi's architecture are encouraged, in keeping with SESAH tradition, paper abstracts and session proposals may address any aspect of the history of the built environment as well as any geographical region, historical period, or international context. Completed papers must have a presentation length of approximately 20 minutes for these 3-paper, 90-minute sessions.

Individual proposal requirements:
Individual proposals must contain the title of the proposed paper, a 300-word abstract clearly labeled with the applicant's name, professional affiliation, brief c.v., and contact information.

Session panel proposal requirements:
Each session panel proposal must contain the title of the session, 300-word abstracts and titles for all three papers, the names, professional affiliations, brief c.v.'s, and contact information of all panel participants.

Contact information:
Send all materials as PDF or MS Word attachments **by May 1, 2009**, to: Susan Tietz, Mississippi Department of Archives & History, P.O. Box 571, Jackson, Mississippi, 39205-0571, or stietz@mdah.state.ms.us.

For accepted proposals:

- Applicants will be notified of acceptance by *June 1, 2009.*
- Complete text due to session chair no later than *October 1, 2009.*
- Digital presentations are required. Slide presentations will not be accepted.
- All presenters must be current SESAH members by the meeting date.
- All presenters must register and pay registration fees for the conference.
- All presenters must give their papers in person.

SESAH reserves the right to drop presenters who do not fulfill requirements or meet deadlines. SESAH offers a limited number of travel grants to help graduate students attend the meeting to deliver papers. If you are a graduate student, identify yourself as such in your submission; you will be sent a travel grant application if your paper is selected. ***Visit www.sesah.org for more information.***

The 2009 SESAH Annual Meeting will consist of paper sessions, walking tours, a plenary session, and business meeting and awards banquet on Thursday Oct. 29 and Friday Oct. 30. On Friday evening, a reception at the newly restored Old Capitol (1839) will be followed by a keynote lecture by Robert Ivy, editor of *Architectural Record,* as part of the Robert V.M. & Freda Wallace Harrison Lecture Series. The Study Tour on Saturday Oct. 31 will visit sites around Jackson including the homes of author Eudora Welty and Civil Rights leader Medgar Evers as well as historic Tougaloo College. Meeting co-hosts are the Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History and Mississippi State University's College of Architecture, Art, and Design.

2008 SESAH Annual Meeting - Overview

David Gobel, SCAD, Savannah, Georgia

Our 26th annual meeting in Greensboro was a testimony to the genius of SESAH and to the labor and expertise of the conference hosts. SESAH's glory does not reside in its ability to produce conferences filled with spectacle or elaborate gestures. It is, rather, in the little things that we find immeasurable profit and delight in attending a SESAH meeting.

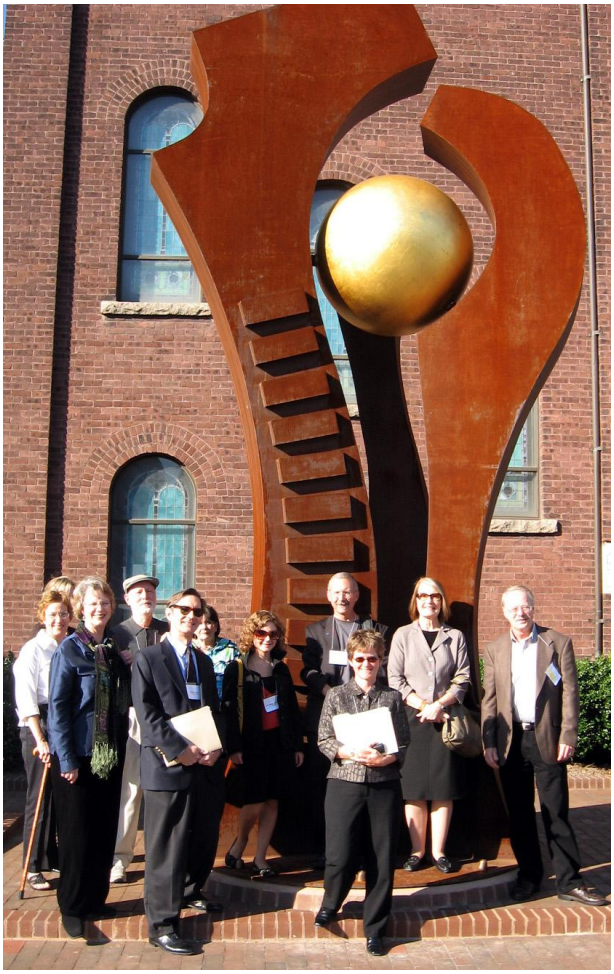
This year's meeting was exemplary: The program included a full slate of truly excellent papers; two plenary talks that challenged our conceptions about the New South and about regional forms of architecture; two delightful receptions held at two houses representing diverse forms of architectural expression; an authentic North Carolina barbecue business lunch held in an enchanting Masonic lodge; an informative walking tour of downtown Greensboro and two field tours on Saturday that deepened our knowledge of and appreciation for the North Carolina Piedmont. SESAH's legendary warmth and grace were in abundance at each of these events.

We know that the carefree conviviality of the Greensboro meeting was not the product of chance. Countless hours of preparation and tedious labor by the host committee, including Lisa Tolbert, Patrick Lee Lucas, and Ruth Little, gave the conference its sprezzatura. They enlisted a cohort of student volunteers, venue hosts and local experts, all of whom 'caught' the spirit of SESAH, charming us with their friendliness and enlightening us with their wisdom.

In classic fashion, the 26th annual meeting of SESAH in Greensboro was a rich and relaxing oasis for us all. We returned to our homes and routines enlightened by what we learned and discovered and enriched by the fellowship we enjoyed.

(top) Julia Smyth-Pinney, Gavin Townsend, Julia King, and David Gobel touring the ultra-cool Lowenstein House.

(right) Jennifer Baughn presenting the Best of the South Preservation Award to Kristi Webb and Rebecca Parrish of the Preservation Trust of Spartanburg, South Carolina.



SESAH members observing public art on a walking tour.

Pam Simpson and Delos Hughes investigating the reconstructed kitchen outbuilding at Blandwood.

2008 SESAH Annual Meeting - Bookends

David Sachs, Kansas State University

Keynote lectures by Thomas Hanchett, PhD, staff historian at the Levine Museum of the New South in Charlotte, and by Louis P. Nelson, PhD, Chair of the Department of Architectural History at UVa, provided an appropriate beginning and ending to the paper sessions of the 2008 SESAH Annual Meeting.

The theme of the meeting was "Old South/New South" and the two talks helped to frame this theme. Hanchett's address, delivered at the beginning of the meeting in the auditorium of the Greensboro Historical Museum (1892), described the emergence of the modern South, and Nelson's lecture, given near the end of the meeting in the Scottish Rite Room of the Masonic Temple, discussed the initial settlement of the region.

Much of the material for Thomas Hanchett's address, entitled "Modernizing Piedmont," was drawn from his book, *Sorting Out The New South City: Race, Class, and Urban Development in Charlotte, 1875-1975* (UNC Press, 1998). He showed how land use patterns changed as this city blossomed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. By analyzing census data and by citing social and political developments, Hanchett was able to explain how a city whose demographic patterns were once highly integrated in terms of race, class, and use became increasingly segregated in terms of each of these categories.

Louis Nelson's talk, entitled "Colonial Piedmont," focused on three buildings constructed by Moravian settlers in Salem, North Carolina, through the 18th century as a way to understand issues of ethnicity, authority, and circumstance in the early development of the region. His detailed analysis of these buildings showed how ethnic identities were defined in built form, and then how the forms began to reflect changing social forces, and to respond to unique forces of time and place.

The two presentations were quite different in both their subject and approach; they looked at different times and through different bodies of evidence; yet they had much in common. In both cases the research was thorough, and the analysis was thoughtful and clearly presented. Most importantly, both presentations demonstrated the clear relationship between social issues and developments in the built environment. Nelson referred to this as "the construction of identity," and Hanchett concluded simply, "people build their values."

Both lectures were thought provoking and generated spirited discussions. Nelson's address sparked an animated discussion about other possible interpretations of the material presented. Hanchett's presentation left the audience speculating about the implications of his discoveries on the future of urban form in the region. The talks formed effective bookends to a successful meeting; they also highlighted SESAH's value as a committed and concerned community of scholars.

2008 SESAH Student Travel Grant Winners

Laura Russell Purvis, University of Virginia
Kelly Bressler, Savannah College of Art & Design

Lisa Tolbert and Jo Ramsay Leimenstoll with Louis P. Nelson, enjoying the evening reception at the Loewenstein House.

The historic Scottish Rite Temple (1928, John B. Crawford) features an Egyptian Revival-style Scottish Rite Room on the 3rd floor, complete with sphinxes guarding the stage.

The West Market Street United Methodist Church (1892-1893, S.W. Foulk) and Trinity *(2008, Wayne Trapp), an 18-foot tall steel sculpture commissioned by the congregation.*

Photos by Robbie D. Jones.

2008 SESAH Annual Meeting - Study Tour A

Ben L. Ross, Ball State University, Indiana

The tour of Guilford County Quaker architecture was led by Benjamin Briggs, Executive Director of Preservation Greensboro, Inc., and author of *The Architecture of High Point, North Carolina* (History Press, 2008). The tour began at the Beeson House, a brick Quaker-plan house which contains a remarkable second-floor mantel with flamboyant grain-painting. The next site visited was the Elihu and Abigail Mendenhall House, a small late-eighteenth century farmhouse with a large mid-nineteenth century wing. The house is relatively plain but does feature vestiges of the "bracketed" Italianate style, popularized by A.J. Davis, in its lattice porch columns and wide eaves with exposed rafter tails.

John Haley House and Hoggatt House.

The tour proceeded to the 1786 John Haley House, a fine Quaker-plan residence in Flemish-bond brick. The adjacent Hoggatt House, moved to the site in 1973, is a hewn log building constructed in two phases, ca.1801 and 1824. A recent dendrochronology study determined that the logs for the original portion of the house were from trees felled in 1799-1801.

Deep River Friends Meetinghouse (1873-1875).

The group stopped at the Deep River Friends Meetinghouse for a homemade lunch. A delicious meal of chicken pot pie, sweet potatoes, green beans, and coleslaw was prepared from scratch for the tour group by several members of Deep River Friends Meeting. After lunch, the tour continued at the settlement of Jamestown, which consists of Mendenhall Plantation house (ca.1811/1840s), Richard Mendenhall's store (1824), a banked barn, and the Jamestown Indulged Meetinghouse (ca.1820s).

Mendenhall Plantation House.

The buildings reflect the construction traditions of Pennsylvania, where Richard Mendenhall served an apprenticeship as a teenager. The staircase of the Mendenhall house will be known to many SESAH members, as it was featured on the cover of Catherine Bishir's *North Carolina Architecture* (UNC Press, 1990). The small Jamestown Meetinghouse allowed Friends to meet when weather or high water prevented them from reaching the Deep River Friends Meetinghouse. The tour concluded with a drive through the Oakdale Cotton Mill Village, which contains a brick cotton mill, a number of frame workers' houses, a superintendent's house, company store, a schoolhouse and a church. It has been in continuous operation since 1865.

Company Store at Oakdale Cotton Mill Village.

Ed. Note: Ruth Little's review of Study Tour B (Thomas Day) will be published in the next issue. Photos by Ben L. Ross.

Architectural Historicism

New and Old Landmarks

Travis McDonald, Jefferson's Poplar Forest, Virginia

The local folks had never seen anything like it before. The unusual exterior shape first caught your attention—how could it possibly work on the inside? The building was grounded with a familiar type of regional masonry whose solidity abruptly dissolved where it met large surfaces of glass. At the top was the most amazing shiny metal covering that seemed to fit together like the scales on a fish. It could only be described as Modern, even radically Modern.

Upon entering the 81,000sf museum your eyes are drawn upward in a soaring space as stunning for its luminosity as it was for its size. Light from the sky fills the middle of the building that ordinarily would be the darkest area. Even the wood floor, uncommon in its type, color and polished finish, reflects the bright light in every room.

The architect had thoughtfully designed the textures, colors, shapes, and spaces of the interior and assembled it all in unusual ways that draws your attention. As you go from one unusual shape room to another, the quality of the contents becomes apparent. The mixture of traditional and contemporary items seems to have been collected in a personal manner and is exhibited in a most pleasing way. The experience of the visit is unforgettable in the timeless effect of very good architecture.

Was this a visit one month ago or nearly two hundred years ago? The answer is yes. A recent visit to the new Taubman Museum of Art in Roanoke, Virginia, came to mind when the *SESAH Newsletter* editor asked, "Has a grand new landmark building been recently constructed? Has a historic landmark been restored?" The new museum by architect Randall Stout of Los Angeles brought to mind a comparison of Thomas Jefferson's retreat Poplar Forest. It is a rare treat to be excited by visiting a new building.

Stout's work, like some of the contemporary art within, will not be everyone's favorite. But an innocently profound statement from my thirteen-year-old daughter reminded me of intuitive values and perspective, "I like the modern art better than the old stuff." Not all that is new is good. Now that it is mostly restored, Poplar Forest is an old work of architecture that is freshly exciting. It is harder for people to grasp that Jefferson designed a very modern building for its time and place. New "landmark buildings" easily claim that distinction because they are new.

The question is whether they will remain so for two hundred years.

Roanoke's Taubman Museum of Art opened in Nov. 2008.

Ed. Note: An East Tennessee native, Randall Stout, FAIA, has degrees in architecture from the University of Tennessee and Rice University. Stout, 50, worked for SOM and Frank Gehry before opening his own firm in Los Angeles in 1996. Among his other recent museum commissions is a major addition to Chattanooga's Hunter Museum of American Art, which SESAH will tour in 2010. Visit www.stoutarc.com for more information. Photos courtesy Taubman Museum of Art.

Georgia Tech Celebrates 100 Years of Architecture!

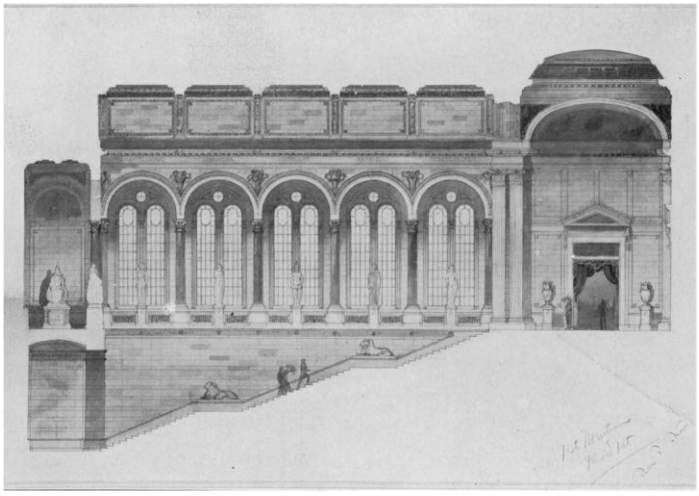
Leslie Sharp, Georgia Tech

This academic year marks 100 years of architectural education at the Georgia Institute of Technology, an extraordinary legacy of design influence seen clearly in so many places throughout the nation and world. Georgia Tech is celebrating this significant event in a variety of ways including lectures by the College of Architecture alumni and faculty, exhibits, publications, and a gala in Atlanta on April 25, 2009.

The Georgia School of Technology, as it was known, opened its doors in October 1888 with an appropriation of $65,000 from the state government with an eye toward economic development. This combination of intellectual and practical thinking marked the beginning of the transformation of the agrarian South to an industrial economy, and became the unique foundation for architectural education at Georgia Tech when it commenced two decades later in 1908.

The hallmark inventive spirit that resides within Georgia Tech faculty, students, and alumni sets it apart from its peers in research and education. Tech graduates have used the region as their stage and given dramatic shape to the modernization of the new South.

While this can be seen in fine, classical institutions designed by early renowned graduates such as Phillip Shutze or Tech's own fabulous collection of mid-century buildings by its architecture faculty, it is perhaps most visible in Atlanta's skyline. The influence of architectural education at Georgia Tech, especially in the 1980s and 1990s, is reflected in the city's distinctive skyscrapers, few of which have not involved Tech grads.

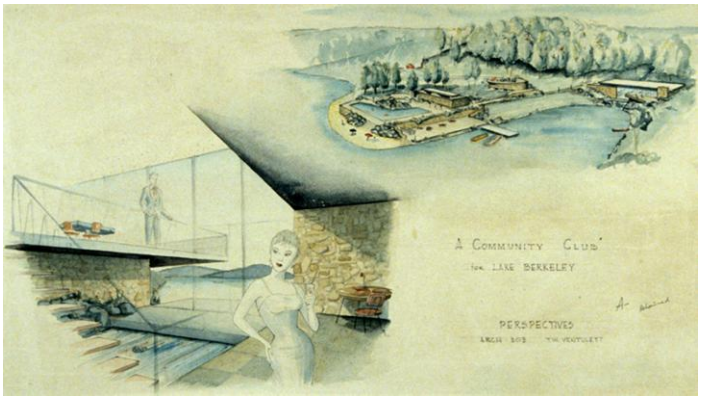


Student drawing by Philip T. Shutze, A Monumental Staircase, *1911-1912.*

Today, the College of Architecture provides students with an interdisciplinary education in architecture, industrial design, building construction, and city and regional planning. The College also houses the Department of Music which offers one of the nation's few graduate degrees in Music Technology. In addition to instruction, the College has an intensive research agenda with its doctoral programs and seven research centers that focus on a diverse set of topics such as universal design, megaregions, and geospatial technologies.

Student drawing by Cecil Alexander, A China Ink Study, *1933.*

With the largest faculty and student body, the Architecture Program is the College's oldest program. This centennial year provides the opportunity to celebrate the contributions of the College's students, faculty, and alumni with a broader audience and to highlight its prominent role in the region over the past century. The College's new Dean Alan Balfour invites everyone to visit the College during this year of celebration. He says, "This is a year of not only looking back but one of looking forward to the next 100 years. The lectures and exhibits are all open to the public and provide a forum for discussion on both professional and pedagogical practices."



Student drawing by Thomas W. Ventulett, III, A Community Club for Lake Berkeley*, 1957.*

Two of SESAH's founding members, Professors Elizabeth Dowling and Robert Craig, are integrally involved in documenting and celebrating this century of history, which includes being the founding site of SESAH over twenty-five years ago in the West Architecture Building.

In addition to writing monographs related to Tech's faculty and alumni, Craig will be giving the talk "A Scholars Response to the Centennial" on January 29, 2009. Rob Craig and Betty Dowling along with others will examine the history of the architectural education and practice on February 18, 2009.

On that same evening the College will open the third phase of its year-long exhibit titled *A Century of Architectural Education at Georgia Tech, 1908—2008*, developed and curated by Betty Dowling and graduate student Lisa Thomason. This exhibit traces the history of the program and the individuals who have left their imprint on the architectural community through their contributions as students, faculty, and administrators. Divided at major changes in the architecture curriculum, each segment presents a visual story of the school's first one hundred years of education. The exhibit is largely based on student work from the College's Heffernan Design Archives, now located in the Georgia Tech Library and Archives.

Opened in August, the first phase traces the 1908 establishment of the program in the Beaux-Arts educational tradition to the 1930s incorporation of new concepts developed by the Bauhaus. This era includes the challenges of World War I and the Depression. The student work in the exhibit is either exemplary or the period or received award-winning recognition. As the influence of the Bauhaus and the International style enters studio teaching in the 1930s, the change in style from complex ornamented and historically referential work to more simple planar designs can be observed.

The second phase opened in November and illustrates the changes in teaching philosophies and curriculum during the mid-century. It continues the story begun in exhibit one and records the changes wrought by the Great Depression, the influence of the Bauhaus and World War II. During the period of 1940 to 1972, the studio teaching demonstrates the variety of modern expression developed from the ideas of the first generation of modernists.

The last phase documents the modern period of the school's history. During these last four decades of architectural education, the numbers of students, programs, and facilities have grown and the curriculum expanded. Other changes include the introduction of computing and new design technologies, as well as the addition of degrees including the professional Master of Architecture, Doctor of Philosophy in architecture, and an expanded set Master of Science program.

East Architecture Building at Georgia Tech, designed by former Architecture Program director P.M. Heffernan, 1953.

The exhibit and all other events will be held at the Georgia Tech College of Architecture. For more information on these events and exhibits, visit the Centennial website at www.coa.gatech.edu/centennial.

Ed. Note: Leslie Sharp, PhD, is the Assistant Dean for the College of Architecture at Georgia Tech. She earned degrees from the University of Georgia, Middle Tennessee State University, and Georgia Tech. Her research intertwines historic preservation, gender, and architecture.

100 Years
Architecture
Georgia Tech

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

12th US/ICOMOS International Symposium
New Orleans, Louisiana
March 11 - 15, 2009
www.icomos.org/usicomos

Society of Architectural Historians
62nd Annual Meeting
Pasadena, California
April 1-5, 2009
www.sah.org

National Council on Public History
2009 Annual Meeting
Providence, Rhode Island
April 2-5, 2009
www.ncph.org

2009 National Conference of the Popular Culture Association and American Culture Association
New Orleans, Louisiana
April 8-11, 2009
www.pcaaca.org

American Planning Association National Conference
Minneapolis, Minnesota
April 24-29, 2009
www.planning.org

American Association of Museums
2009 Annual Meeting & MuseumExpo™
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
April 30-May 4, 2009
www.aam-us.org

Vernacular Architecture Forum Conference
Butte, Montana
June 10-13, 2009
www.vernaculararchitectureforum.org

Congress for the New Urbanism XVII
Denver, Colorado
June 10-13, 2009
www.cnu.org

Send your Event Calendar announcements to:
Robbie D. Jones: jonesro@pbworld.com

American Association for State & Local History
2008 Annual Meeting
Indianapolis, Indiana
August 26-29, 2009
www.aaslh.org

American Society of Landscape Architects
2008 Annual Meeting
Chicago, Illinois
September 18-21, 2009
www.asla.org

2009 National Preservation Conference
Nashville, Tennessee
October 13-17, 2009
www.PreservationNation.org

2009 Southeastern College Art Conference
Mobile, Alabama
October 21-24, 2009
www.unc.edu/~rfrew/SECAC/annual_conference.html

Pioneer America Society:
Association for the Preservation of Artifacts & Landscapes
41st Annual Meeting
Pipestem, West Virginia
October 29-31, 2009
www.pioneeramerica.org

American Studies Association Meeting
2009 Annual Meeting
Washington, DC
November 5-8, 2009
www.theasa.net

Future SESAH Annual Meetings

Jackson, Mississippi - Oct. 28-31, 2009
Chattanooga, Tennessee - Oct. 13-16, 2010
Charleston, South Carolina - 2011

In Memoriam
Cyrus Arden Sutherland (1920-2008)

Cyrus Arden Sutherland, 88, professor emeritus of architecture at the University of Arkansas and leader in the movement to preserve Arkansas' historic buildings, died Nov. 15, 2008, after a long illness. In addition to teaching and mentoring many students during his 32 years at the School of Architecture, Sutherland was instrumental in saving and preserving some 40 historically significant buildings in Arkansas and also designed homes, churches, and libraries in northwest Arkansas.

Jeff Shannon, dean of the School of Architecture, stated, "Cy Sutherland showed true leadership in bringing historic preservation to the forefront in Arkansas, and he educated numerous students about the importance of preserving our built heritage. He will be greatly missed."

Cyrus Sutherland was born Jan. 6, 1920, in Rogers, Arkansas. He studied radio broadcasting at the University of Arkansas and the University of Iowa before being drafted into the armed forces. He served at the Air Force Regional Hospital in Lincoln, Nebraska, throughout World War II and was discharged with the rank of captain. Sutherland subsequently earned a master's degree in architecture from the Harvard Graduate School of Design in 1949.

While employed as an architect in Boston, Sutherland met Martha Slocum, an artist; they married in 1951. From 1953 to 1958 the couple lived in France and England, where Sutherland worked for an American firm doing master planning and design for the U.S. Armed Forces in Europe.

Cyrus Sutherland accepted a position at the University of Arkansas in 1958, becoming part of a team of outstanding professors who helped build the architecture program into an accredited professional school. His courses in ancient architectural history were enriched by two sabbaticals spent touring the former Roman empire in a Volkswagen van with his wife and three children. He documented some 130 triumphal Roman arches in a third sabbatical in 1985.

Sutherland taught the School of Architecture's first courses in historic preservation and was an early leader in preservation efforts in the state. He documented historic homes and helped to preserve several Fayetteville landmarks. From 1984 to 1987 he directed a historic resource survey of Benton County, documenting some 3,000 properties; of these 145 properties were listed in the National Register of Historic Places. In the mid-1980s, with colleague H. Gordon Brooks, Sutherland co-produced and hosted a three-part film series titled *Arkansas: Its Architectural Heritage*.

Sutherland was active in national, state, and local historical organizations, including the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Arkansas State Review Board for Historic Preservation, the Society of Architectural Historians, and the Washington County and Benton County historical societies. He was a founding member of the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas, which honored him in 1989 by creating a scholarship in his name for School of Architecture students. He received the Alumni Distinguished Teaching Award in 1986.

Sutherland achieved the rank of University Professor and was awarded emeritus status when he retired from the School of Architecture in 1990. He subsequently began traveling throughout Arkansas, interviewing homeowners, taking photographs and writing *Buildings of Arkansas*, one of 50 volumes in the SAH *Buildings of the United States* series. Publication of the volume is expected in 2010.

Cy Sutherland has won numerous honors for his preservation work, including the Parker Westbrook Award for distinction in historic preservation advocacy from the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas (1988); the Historic Preservation and Service Award, Main Street Program, Rogers (2000); and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Arkansas Historical Association (2002).

Developers Richard Alexander, Ted Belden, Robert Merry-Ship and John Nock made a gift of $50,000 to the School of Architecture in 2005 to establish the "Cyrus and Martha Sutherland Endowment for Historic Preservation." In 2007 the University of Arkansas hosted a reception and banquet honoring Sutherland as part of a conference, "The Architecture and Landscapes of Arkansas: A Heritage of Distinction," sponsored by the special collections department of the University of Arkansas Libraries and the School of Architecture.

In 2001 Sutherland was made an adviser emeritus to the National Trust for Historic Preservation; in 2008 he was named an ex-officio member of the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas Board of Directors.

Sutherland was a longtime member of SESAH, serving on the board of directors as the Arkansas representative from 1991-1993 and he assisted with planning for the 1988 SESAH Annual Meeting held in Little Rock. When the 1998 SESAH Annual Meeting was held in Fayetteville at the University of Arkansas, Sutherland presented the keynote lecture on "Vernacular Architecture in Arkansas."

Cy Sutherland is survived by his wife Martha; daughter Celia Slocum Wirth of Minneapolis, Minn.; sons Ian McSpadden Sutherland of Washington, D.C., and Winthrop Wren Sutherland of Austin, Texas; and one grandchild.

Authored by Kendall Curlee, University of Arkansas, with additional information provided by Ethel Goodstein-Murphree and Rob Craig.

ABOUT SESAH

The Southeast Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians (SESAH) is a regional chapter of the national Society of Architectural Historians and includes twelve states - Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

The nonprofit organization holds an annual meeting, publishes a quarterly newsletter and an annual journal, *ARRIS*, and presents annual awards, including the "Best of the South" preservation award.

SESAH was founded in 1982 at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta to promote scholarship on architecture and related subjects and to serve as a forum for ideas among architectural historians, architects, preservationists, and others involved in professions related to the built environment. The annual meeting features scholarly paper sessions, business meeting, study tours, and a keynote lecture by a national leader in the field. SESAH members come from across the U.S.

www.sesah.org

SAVE THE DATE!

27th SESAH Annual Meeting
Jackson, Mississippi
October 28-31, 2009

Parsons Brinckerhoff
1900 Church Street, Suite 203
Nashville, TN 37203

Please notify the Treasurer of address changes.