**SESAH News**

**JOB OPPORTUNITIES!**

SESAH would like to announce the following job openings. These are great opportunities to be of service to the academic and professional community. These critical positions are appointed by the president and serve as officers on the SESAH board of directors. For more information, please contact Michael Fazio at mfazio@caad.msstate.edu. SESAH needs you!

**ARRIS EDITOR(S)**

*ARRIS* is a peer-reviewed journal published annually by SESAH since 1989. *ARRIS* welcomes original scholarship on all aspects of the history of architecture and landscape.

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR(S)**

Published since 1983, the *SESAH Newsletter* includes information on the annual meeting, calls for papers, conferences, publications, member accomplishments, and articles related to architectural history. Recent issues can be downloaded from the website.

**TREASURER**

The SESAH Treasurer maintains financial and accounting records for this nonprofit 501(c)3 membership organization, sets the annual budget, maintains membership records, and ensures the nonprofit complies with appropriate regulations.

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**CALL FOR PAPERS FOR ARRIS - deadline extended to March 15!**

*ARRIS* is now soliciting papers for Volume 21, to be published fall 2010. The journal welcomes original scholarship on all aspects of the history of architecture and landscape. Due to a transition in the editorship, the deadline for submissions has been extended to March 15, 2010. All papers that meet submission guidelines will be blind reviewed and the authors notified by May 2010. Any papers submitted now or after the deadline also will be considered for the 2011 issue, Volume 22. Papers should conform to the submission guidelines at: [http://www.sesah.org/sesah/SubmissionGuidelines.html](http://www.sesah.org/sesah/SubmissionGuidelines.html)

Contact *ARRIS* Editor Leslie Sharp at Georgia Tech for more information. Email: arris@coa.gatech.edu
FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends in SESAH,

Come to Chattanooga! That is the SESAH mantra of the moment. Move through, brush by, or skirt around these pesky financial times; sweet-talk or strong-arm those with the travel money; and make your plans to join Gavin Townsend and his team for the 2010 SESAH Annual Meeting. Begin by getting that paper abstract ready for submission, maybe even before the last minute.

A recap of the Jackson meeting is included in this issue of the newsletter, which will be published twice this year instead of three times annually as in recent years. All who traveled to Jackson know that it was a great success, and many who didn’t have probably heard all about it from others. So one more round of thanks to Jennifer Baughn, Bill Gatlin, and those who worked with them. Job well done!

It seems significant to me that three of the four articles in ARRIS Volume 20 (2009), which everyone should have received by now, began as papers read at our annual meetings. Organizations like ours have as one of their missions, of course, the creation of new knowledge, and the process is obviously working for us. Kudos to ARRIS Editor Stephen James, who under trying financial circumstances got out this latest splendid issue of our journal.

All of you should be aware that ARRIS funding from Stephen’s home institution, the University of Houston, was not forthcoming this year and will not be next year, meaning that we needed a new host and new editors for Volume 21. Preceding Robert Ivy’s keynote address in Jackson, I challenged members to step forward and fill the void, and so they have. Leslie Sharp, as editor, and Paul Sprague and Mark Reinberger, as assistant editors, have agreed to produce the 2010 issue, with the home base being Georgia Tech. The board has accepted Stephen’s resignation with regret and has approved Leslie, Paul, and Mark in his place.

This still means that we will need new ARRIS editors for 2011 and beyond to be approved by the board in the fall. And we need a replacement for Robbie Jones, who will end his term as the SESAH Newsletter Editor this year. And Rob Craig would like to hand off the Treasurer’s job, which he has done for twenty-five years. Advertisements for all these positions appear on the cover page. Please contact me if you would like to know more about these opportunities to be of service to the SESAH community.

Michael Fazio
Mississippi State University

Old State Capitol and Tougaloo College, Jackson, Mississippi. Photos by Rob M. Craig.
Located on an 80-foot bluff overlooking the Tennessee River in downtown Chattanooga, the Hunter Museum of American Art is comprised of the Neoclassical Revival-style Faxon-Hunter House (Mead & Garfield, Cincinnati, 1905), which was converted into an art museum in 1951, and a new 28,000sf wing (left), outdoor sculpture plaza, and pedestrian bridge (Randall Stout, Los Angeles, 2005). SESAH members will tour this landmark museum in October. Photo by Robbie D. Jones.

FROM THE EDITOR

In the late 1980s, when I was an undergraduate student in the College of Architecture and Design at The University of Tennessee at Knoxville, we took several fieldtrips to nearby Chattanooga, where UTK was intricately involved with planning and redesigning the city’s downtown. Professors and students worked with the community to come up with a new vision for the run-down city’s future. Since then, Chattanooga has become a model of urban renewal, environmental design, state-of-the-art museums, repurposing historic buildings and structures, and reclaiming the riverfront. Although the world has just recently taken notice, for well over a century Chattanooga has been a leader in the South in city planning, industrial design, and top-notch civic and residential architecture. Situated on the banks of the Tennessee River and surrounded by stunning mountain bluffs, Chattanooga has been perhaps the best kept secret in the South. Not anymore. This fall, SESAH will have the opportunity to see firsthand what all the fuss about!

Robbie D. Jones
Editor, SESAH Newsletter
Parsons Brinckerhoff
1900 Church Street, Suite 400
Nashville, TN 37203
jonesro@pbworld.com

Send correspondence and submissions for publication to the SESAH Newsletter editor. Deadline for submission of material for the Fall 2010 issue is August 16, 2010. 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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Printed by Allegra Print & Imaging, Nashville, Tennessee.
Welcome New Board Members!

Florida representative Michelle Michael is the architectural historian for the U.S. Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southeast in Jacksonville, Florida. She received her B.A. in Art and Interior Design from Meredith College in Raleigh, North Carolina, and her M.A. in Historic Preservation from the University of Georgia. Michelle worked in North Carolina’s historic preservation field for fifteen years, including as a member of her local preservation commission, at Preservation North Carolina, as a private consultant, and most recently as the architectural historian at Fort Bragg.

Mississippi representative Bill Gatlin is an Architectural Historian and the National Register Coordinator for the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. He received his undergraduate education at Bradley University and holds graduate degrees from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and Southeast Missouri State University. His has published articles in Historic Illinois completed several National Register of Historic Places nominations in Illinois and Mississippi. Research interests include historic preservation law and the cottonseed oil industry.

Kentucky representative Robert Louis Kelly, Ph.D., is an instructor at the University of Kentucky’s College of Design. He holds a Bachelor in Architecture from the University of Kentucky, a Master in Architecture from Syracuse University, and a Ph.D. in Architectural History from McGill University. Robert is a registered architect and presented at SESAH in 2004.

Texas representative Michelangelo Sabatino, Ph.D., was trained as an architect and architectural historian in Venice and Toronto. He is currently Assistant Professor at University of Houston’s College of Architecture. His research and teaching interests are focused upon late 19th and 20th century European and North American architecture, urbanism, and design. The theme that has fueled his research, writing, and teaching is the conflicted relationship of modern architecture to history. His doctoral work explored the influence upon Italian modernism of folk art and architecture. His current research explores the role of the “primitive” in modern architecture.

At-large representative Virginia “Gigi” Price is a historian with the Historic American Buildings Survey, a division of the National Park Service in Washington, DC, where her research focuses on early American architecture and material culture. She was a principal investigator in the study of Quaker Meeting Houses tied to the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting that won the Paul D. Buchanan award for field work from the Vernacular Architecture Forum in 2003, and her research on Bacon’s Castle in Virginia appeared in the most recent volume of ARRIS. She received a M.A. from the College of William and Mary and a Master of Architectural History from the University of Virginia. For SESAH, she has been involved with the “Best of the South” Preservation Award, and hopes you will send in your nominations!

Georgia representative Mark Reinberger, Ph.D., is a professor of Architectural History at the University of Georgia’s College of Environment and Design. He holds a B.A. from the University of Virginia as well as an M.A. and Ph.D. from Cornell University. He specializes in 20th century American architecture and building conservation. Mark is widely published and received a Publications Award from SESAH in 2003.

ARRIS editor Leslie Sharp, Ph.D., is assistant dean of Georgia Tech’s College of Architecture. She holds a B.A. from the University of Georgia, an M.A. in Historic Preservation from Middle Tennessee State University, and a Ph.D. from Georgia Tech. Her research intertwines historic preservation, gender, and architecture. Leslie has been involved with SESAH since 2007.

Vice President, Anat Geva, Ph.D., AIA, is an associate professor at Texas A&M University’s Department of Architecture. She is a Faculty Fellow of the Center of Heritage Conservation and a co-editor of Preservation Education and Research. The focus of her research is sacred architecture, historic buildings and climate, historic preservation, and history of building technology. She is currently preparing a book on Frank Lloyd Wright's Sacred Architecture to be published in 2011. Dr. Geva is a recipient of several awards and research grants including the James Marston Fitch National Award for innovative research in historic preservation.

2009 Student Travel Grant Winners

Congratulations!

Nicholas Fuqua, SCAD
Robin Prater, Georgia Tech
Philip Herrington, UVa

SES AH Newsletter: Spring 2010 4
The Southeast Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians (SESAH) will hold its 28th Annual Meeting in Chattanooga, Tennessee, from October 13-16, 2010. The SESAH Host Committee invites abstracts for individual papers or proposals for session panels, consisting of three to four papers and a chair. As with all SESAH conferences, papers and sessions may address any aspect of the history of the built environment as well as any geographical region, historical period, or scale. We anticipate sessions will revolve around such themes as Green Architecture in the South, Buildings of TVA, Postmodernism in the New South, Mid-Twentieth Century Modernism in Dixie, Period Revivalism, African and Caribbean Influence in American Architecture, and Southern Women as Architects and Patrons of Architecture. We also expect sessions on subjects related to European, Historic, Medieval, and Minority Architecture.

Abstracts should be sent by May 1, 2010, to Dr. Gavin Townsend, Professor of Art History at The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, 615 McCallie Ave., Chattanooga, TN 37403, or email to Gavin-Townsend@utc.edu.

Abstracts of no more than 300 words should be clearly labeled with the applicant’s name, professional affiliation, contact information, a brief C.V., and the title of the proposed paper. Proposals for session panels should include the title of the session; the names, affiliations, contact information, and C.V.s of all participants; and abstracts of each paper. Please send all materials as PDF or MS Word attachments. Digital presentations are strongly encouraged. Submission of an abstract is considered a commitment to attend the meeting.

Applicants will be notified of their acceptance by June 1, 2010. Authors of accepted proposals must submit the complete text of their papers to their session chair by September 30, 2010; SESAH reserves the right to drop presenters who do not fulfill this requirement. All participants must be current members of SESAH by the meeting date and must register for the conference; there are discounts for students and for those that pre-register by October 2, 2010.

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.

The 2010 SESAH Annual Meeting will consist of paper sessions, a plenary session, and walking tours. On Thursday evening, Dr. Fikret Yegül, Professor of Art History at The University of California at Santa Barbara, will deliver the keynote address on “The Classical Column: A Fundamental Notion in Architecture.” A business lunch meeting and awards ceremony as well as an evening reception will take place on Friday. Tours of the Hunter Museum of Art, R.H. Hunt’s Soloman Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse, and the TVA Headquarters will be included. A bus tour of Chattanooga, including visits to private homes designed by Frank Lloyd Wright and Richard Neutra, will be held on Saturday.
Registration Fees:

- Advance Registration (postmark before October 2) $125
- Late registration (after October 2) $150
- Students (with photocopy of valid student ID) $65

Registration fee includes access to all paper sessions, receptions, walking tours and access to historic landmarks, a bound souvenir copy of the abstracts, keynote lecture by Dr. Fikret Yegül of The University of California at Santa Barbara, a reception at the Hunter Museum of American Art, a Business Lunch & Awards Ceremony, and more! A Saturday Study Tour is optional with additional fee.

SESAH Membership:

- Individual $35
- Student $20
- Contributing $50+
- Life $500

All conference attendees and participants must be members of SESAH. Membership dues are for one calendar year. All SESAH members receive the annual journal ARRIS as well as the SESAH Newsletter (2x/year).

Saturday Study Tour: $50 $__________

Bus tour includes visits to various architectural landmarks, including private homes designed by Frank Lloyd Wright and Richard Neutra, in and around Chattanooga.

TOTAL $__________
REGISTRATION FORM

Please write your name and institutional affiliation and/or city as you would like them to appear on your badge and in the participant directory:

Name: ________________________________________________________________

Institutional Affiliation: ________________________________________________

City: _________________________________________________________________

Mailing Address: Street: ________________________________________________

City/State/Zip: ________________________________________________________

Email Address: _________________________________________________________

Dietary Restrictions/Preferences: _________________________________________

SESAH member? ______ How many SESAH conferences have you attended? _____

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEE (from page 1): $________

Please make checks payable to SESAH.

Send completed registration form, along with payment, to:

Gavin Townsend
The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
Department of Art
615 McCallie Ave.
Chattanooga, TN 37403

(423) 425-4464
Gavin-Townsend@utc.edu
THE 2010 SESAH CONFERENCE HOTEL

The Chattanooga Choo Choo
1400 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402
1-800-TRACK-29 (1-800-872-2529)
http://www.choochoo.com

Designed by Beaux Arts architect Donn Barber, FAIA (1871-1925) of New York City, the Choo Choo served as Chattanooga’s main railroad terminal station from 1909 to 1970. In the early 1970s local businessmen renovated the landmark – made famous in song in the 1940s - for use as a hotel, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The hotel features “Victorian” train car rooms, a 1950s-style diner, an espresso bar, a micro-brewery bar, three restaurants, several shops and gardens, and a 1924 trolley to get you around the complex.

When making reservations, be sure to mention that you are participating in the SESAH conference and ask for the special discounted rate of $92 per night (plus tax). Choose either a standard room or one of the Choo Choo’s popular train car rooms.

TRAVEL

The Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport offers direct flights to and from Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Dallas, Memphis, Orlando, Washington D.C., and Tampa (via St. Petersburg), and is served by American Eagle, U.S. Airways, and Delta, among others. The hotel offers a free shuttle to and from the airport (call 423-308-2466).

For those who prefer to drive, Chattanooga is centrally located and served by two interstate highways (I-24 and I-75).
PRELIMINARY 2010 SESAH CONFERENCE OUTLINE (all times EST)

Wednesday - October 13, 2010

3:00-6:00pm  Registration  Victorian Lounge
6:00-9:00pm  Board meeting  Crystal Room Buffet
Dinner on your own

Thursday - October 14, 2010

8-8:30am  Registration  Reception Hall
8:30am-10:00am  Plenary session  Imperial Ballroom
“Chattanooga, 1800-1969” by Gavin Townsend, Professor of Art History
The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
“Chattanooga, 1969-2010” by Jon Coddington, AIA, visiting Professor of
Architecture & Urban Design at UTC
10:30am-12:00pm  Paper session 01  Finley Lecture Hall, Gallery Rooms
12:00pm-1:30pm  Lunch on your own
2:00pm-3:00pm  Solomon Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse Tour
3:45pm-5:00pm  Paper session 02  Finley Lecture Hall, Gallery Rooms
5:30pm-7:30pm  Keynote Reception  Hunter Museum of Art
“When the Walls Parted and the Column Became”: The Classical Column
as a Fundamental Notion in Architecture.” Fikret Yegül, Professor of
Art History, The University of California at Santa Barbara
Dinner on your own

Friday - October 15, 2010

9:00am-10:30am  Paper session 03  Finley Lecture Hall, Gallery Rooms
10:45am-12:15pm  Paper session 04  Finley Lecture Hall, Gallery Rooms
12:45pm-2:45pm  Business lunch and awards  Imperial Ballroom
1:15pm-2:45pm  Business meeting  Imperial Ballroom
3:00pm-4:30pm  Paper session 05  Finley Lecture Hall, Gallery Rooms
4:30pm-6:00pm  Walking Tours - R.H. Hunt buildings or TVA Headquarters
Dinner on your own

Saturday - October 16, 2010

9:00am to 2:00pm  Study Tour by bus of Chattanooga
NEWS FROM ALABAMA

On February 11, 2010, the Alabama Council of the AIA recognized KPS Group’s Ruffner Mountain Nation Center with its top design award. KPS Group has offices in Birmingham and Atlanta; the Ruffner Nature Preserve is near downtown Birmingham and contains 1,011 acres of wetlands, scenic trails, and mountain views. The Ruffner Mountain Nature Center features exhibition spaces, meeting facilities, a store, and administrative offices.

NEWS FROM TENNESSEE

In February, the City of Nashville broke ground on the new Music City Center, a 1.2 million-square-foot convention center in the SoBro section of downtown. The architectural team includes Thompson, Ventulett, Stainback & Associates of Atlanta and Tuck-Hinton of Nashville. The design of the $586 million facility features a green roof, an abundance of natural light inside the center, flexible exhibit and meeting space, and interactive streetscapes on all four sides of the building.

UPDATE: In February, Knoxville’s nonprofit historic preservation organization, Knox Heritage, offered to donate $200,000 to the University of Tennessee to assist in stabilizing and preserving the historic Eugenia Williams House, a rare Regency-style architectural landmark threatened with demolition by neglect. As this issue went to press, UT announced that it refused the offer. For more information, see the Fall 2009 issue of the SESAH Newsletter.

NEWS FROM FLORIDA

The Florida Trust for Historic Preservation announced winners of the 2009 Historic Preservation Awards, including the historic Miami-Dade County Courthouse. Constructed from 1925-1928, the 28-story $4 million civic building was designed by Anthony Ten Eyck Brown (1878-1940) of Atlanta. Brown had practiced in New York and Nashville before settling in Atlanta. The courtroom that once housed trials for Al Capone was restored to the 1920s Neoclassical grandeur. State grants and private donations from the bar associations and local preservation groups funded this project. M.C. Harry & Associates were the restoration architects.

Be sure to subscribe to the SESAH email listserv at 
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sesah/

Join the SESAH Facebook group at 
www.sesah.org
2009 SESAH AWARD WINNERS

Outstanding Book Award

George B. Johnston – professor at Georgia Tech - for *Drafting Culture: A Social History of Architectural Graphic Standards* (MIT Press, 2008)

Outstanding Essay Award

Richard Cleary – professor at the Univ. of Texas - for “Frank Lloyd Wright and the Romance of the Master Builder” in Richard Cleary, ed., *Frank Lloyd Wright: From Within Outward* (Skira Rizzoli, 2009)

Outstanding Article Award


Outstanding Article, Honorable Mention

Kenneth Hafertepe – professor at Baylor Univ. - for “Restoration, Reconstruction or Romance? The Case of the Spanish Governor's Palace in Hispanic-Era San Antonio Texas” (*JSAH*, September 2008)

"Best of the South": Preserving Southern Architecture Award

Beauvoir Restoration
Biloxi, Mississippi

SESAH presented the Best of the South award to the Mississippi Division of the Sons of the Confederate Veterans (SCV) and the State of Mississippi for their efforts in the post-Katrina restoration of Beauvoir, the Jefferson Davis Home and Presidential Library. Built in 1848-1852 and occupied by Davis from 1877-1889, the Greek Revival-style plantation opened as a historic site museum in 1941. In 2005, Hurricane Katrina nearly destroyed the National Historic Landmark. While the home survived, five other museum buildings were leveled.

With government and private funding, Albert & Associates Architects of Hattiesburg led a meticulous restoration from 2006-2008. The Beauvoir Restoration team included project consultant George Fore and Sparks Engineering, Inc., plus the Lathan Company, Inc., who served as general contractors. Rick Forte, the acting director of the historic site museum and representative of the combined boards that own and operate Beauvoir, accepted the award in Jackson during the SESAH Annual Meeting. Recently, the project received an Honor Award from the AIA.
After remodeling the North Carolina statehouse in the early 1820s, architect William Nichols moved onto other commissions and ultimately became the state architect for Mississippi in 1835. Emulating Nichols’s travels, SESAH members bid a fond adieu to North Carolina and reconvened for this year’s conference in Jackson, Mississippi.

If the Nichols’s monuments are representative of the old city, Jackson’s streetscape includes important testimonials to events of the twentieth century, particularly to the Civil Rights Movement through places like the municipal library and greyhound bus station. Our intrepid conference hosts, Jennifer Baughn and Michael Fazio, ensured that we saw as many of these buildings as possible by providing guides to various walking tours, arranging events in downtown landmarks such as the Central High School, and introducing us to the art and architectural program of the New State Capitol.

Once in Mississippi, SESAH veterans and new scholars alike immersed themselves in the bold new, old city Nichols helped build on the banks of the Pearl River. The conference program included two of his landmarks, the Old State Capitol which is freshly restored (i.e., Hurricane Katrina induced) and the Governor’s Mansion (a logistical coup).
We burnished our preservation credentials by staying in the newly renovated, historic Walthall hotel where SESAH participants gathered for friendly conversations in the venerable lobby and attended the paper sessions and book show.

The conference program contained an impressive slate of papers, grouped into five sessions over two days and, in the SESAH way, these sessions were interspersed with special events in venues outside the Walthall. The inaugural lecture by Todd Sanders, a historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, introduced us to historic Jackson and Robert Ivy, FAIA, and Editor of Architectural Record, delivered the keynote address. Unpredictable weather kept our hosts hopping, so we were treated to a dinner of traditional southern fare (catfish and greens) inside the War Memorial Building the night before the awards ceremony.

On the Saturday field tour, SESAH members were carried “Beyond the Greek Revival” as they explored the greater Jackson area.

Special thanks for a memorable conference are due to the program sponsors: the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Mississippi State University’s College of Architecture, Art and Design, and the Mississippi Heritage Trust. SESAH especially acknowledges the hard work of Jennifer Baughn, Michael Fazio, Bill Gatlin, Michelle Jones, David Preziosi, and Susan Tietz, as well as the generosity of the venue hosts. They put together a thoughtful and thought-provoking annual meeting and pulled it off with aplomb! Congratulations.
MEMBER NEWS

Lucy B. Wayne, Ph.D., RPA, is incoming president of the American Cultural Resources Association (ACRA). She is co-owner of SouthArc, Inc., based in Gainesville, Florida, where she serves as both an archaeologist and an architectural historian. Lucy encourages Cultural Resource Management (CRM) firms to join ACRA, the only trade association for the CRM industry. ACRA member firms employ archaeologists, architectural historians, architects, historians, preservation planners and specialty companies such as HABS/HAER photographers. ACRA is regularly invited by federal agencies to provide input on cultural resource issues. They also provide support for state and local level issues when requested by member firms. In addition, ACRA compiles information on the CRM industry, including a biannual salary survey and occasional economic surveys. ACRA maintains a searchable database of CRM consultants on the organization’s web page. For more information on ACRA and a membership application, visit www.acra-crm.org or contact Lucy at lucy@southarc.com.

Last fall, Karen Rogers, Ph.D., associate dean for graduate studies and external affairs at Auburn University's College of Architecture, Design and Construction was appointed to the Alabama Historical Commission. Rogers received a Ph.D. and M.A. in the History of Architecture from Binghamton University (SUNY) and a B.A. in Architecture and the History of Architecture from Yale University. She has lived and worked in Bogota, Columbia, serving as Dean of the School of Architecture and Design and Associate Professor of Architecture at the University of Los Andes.

Buildings & Landscapes
Journal of the Vernacular Architecture Forum

Call for Articles

Buildings & Landscapes examines the places that people build and experience every day: houses and cities, farmsteads and alleys, churches and courthouses, subdivisions and shopping malls. The journal’s contributors—historians and architectural historians, preservationists and architects, geographers, anthropologists and folklorists, and others whose work involves documenting, analyzing, and interpreting vernacular forms—approach the built environment as a window into human life and culture, basing their scholarship on both fieldwork and archival research. The editors encourage submission of articles that explore the ways the built environment shapes everyday life within and beyond North America.

Articles submitted to Buildings & Landscapes will be assessed using a double-blind peer review process; manuscripts should not be submitted for publication elsewhere while under review by the journal. Visit www.vafweb.org for guidelines. Please send electronic copies of completed articles (approximately 25 pages of text) with illustrations (15-20) and bibliographic endnotes by email to both editors:

Marta Gutman, Associate Professor of Architecture (History and Theory), Spitzer School of Architecture, City College of the City University of New York, mgutman@ccny.cuny.edu
Louis Nelson, Associate Professor of Architectural History, School of Architecture, Univ. of Virginia, ln6n@virginia.edu

Formerly titled Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture, Buildings & Landscapes is published twice a year by the Vernacular Architecture Forum. Contributors should submit manuscripts based on original research, not previously published in print or electronic media; manuscripts need not be based on material presented at a VAF annual meeting.
Volkswagen Student Design Competition
Chattanooga, Tennessee

On August 28, 2009, Volkswagen Group of America, along with RiverCity Company and the Chattanooga Chapter of the AIA, announced a design competition to create a signature pedestrian bridge for VW’s new $1 billion automobile production facility in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Volkswagen wanted the 700-foot bridge, which will connect the on-site training facility to the 1.9 million square foot factory, to be “functional and memorable” and serve as a symbolic connector to the Chattanooga community. Spanning Poe Creek, the pedestrian bridge will also serve as the major factory entry point for visitors and employees.

Volkswagen, RiverCity and AIA invited graduate and undergraduate students in accredited design programs at five universities—University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, University of Tennessee, University of Memphis, Georgia Institute of Technology, and Auburn University—to enter the competition. A jury of design and engineering professionals evaluated whether the entries reflected the “corporate values of Volkswagen and the traditions of the community” in selecting the winning design. Award prizes ranged from $500 to $2,500.

“At Volkswagen, we understand that our vehicles are more than a means of getting from Point A to Point B. They are designed to evoke emotion and awaken the senses of the driver. We want the same to be true of our bridge,” said Frank Fischer, CEO and Chairman, Volkswagen Group of America Chattanooga Operations, LLC. “Not only does the bridge physically connect employees and visitors with the plant, it symbolically connects Volkswagen with the community. That is what makes this student competition so appropriate.”

“Volkswagen and Chattanooga understand that design is a powerful tool. It is both a noun and a verb; both artifact and action. Design has the capacity to connect the world of ideas to the world of things, to create objects and places of value that will last over time,” said Jon Coddington, Director of Urban Design and Planning, RiverCity Company. “It is difficult to think of a better client to be designing this bridge for than Volkswagen, and it is equally hard to imagine another mid-size city in the United States that can provide such design inspiration and context for this competition than does Chattanooga.”

On January 15, 2010, Volkswagen announced that Auburn University won the competition, which received some 40 proposals. The team of students included architecture students Michael Glenboski of Nebraska and Dylan Cook of California as well as building science students Ben Loftin of Nashville and Tyler Maloney of Florence, Alabama; the team worked under the direction of Professor Joshua Emig. The team estimated their bridge would cost $10-12 million to build as proposed.

The University of Tennessee at Knoxville received second place, followed by Georgia Tech with third place. Groups from Auburn, Tennessee, and Georgia Tech also received honorable mentions.

The Volkswagen design team will attempt to incorporate elements from the student designs into the bridge design. Dr. Jan Spies, general manager of project engineering said, “In fact, there were so many interesting ideas that many of my favorites didn’t even make the jurors list of winners, but we still intend to use those ideas as well if they work to improve the final design.” Construction on the $2 million bridge will begin this year.

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 three-times-a-year 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!

28th SESAH Annual Meeting
Chattanooga, Tennessee
October 13-16, 2009

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

Please notify the Treasurer of address changes.