



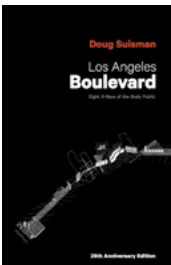
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Authors on Architecture: Suisman on the Boulevards

SAH/SCC Lecture & Book Signing

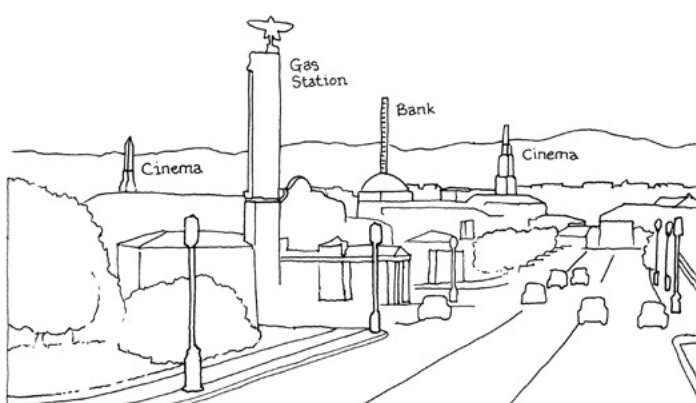
Saturday, January 31, 2015



SAH/SCC's "Authors on Architecture" presents architect and urban planner Doug Suisman, FAIA, author of *Los Angeles Boulevard: Eight X-Rays of the Body Public* (ORO Editions, 2014). In this new edition, the author explains the impetus for writing the book 25 years ago: it was a response by "a 32-year-old architect (born and educated on the East Coast) trying to make sense of the urbanism of Los Angeles."



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The first part of the book originally appeared as a "pamphlet" published by the LA Forum for Architecture and Urban Design. Eight chapters—with names that take the term "body" public to heart ("Umbilical," "Girdle," "Suture," "Pathogen")—explore how the boulevards establish the framework for the public realm, and how architecture and urban design play critical roles in place-making along the boulevards and in the districts and neighborhoods that line them.

Following is "Boulevards in Practice," new text that shows projects from Suisman's firm, which is known for designing the LA Metro Rapid bus system and The Arc, an award-winning scheme for the West Bank and Gaza. These 10 projects range in location from Atlanta and LA to Copenhagen and Pittsburgh. The most recent project, The iQuilt Plan, brought Suisman back to his home town of Hartford, CT, where, as a 10-year-old kid riding the bus, he first started making sense of urbanism.

Los Angeles Times architecture critic Christopher Hawthorne, who also undertook a massive journalistic exploration of LA's boulevards, contributed the foreword.

After the presentation at the Santa Monica Public Library (Moore Ruble Yudell, 2006), the book will be available for sale and signing by the author.

Authors on Architecture: Suisman—Saturday, January 31, 2015; 1-3PM; Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium at the Santa Monica Central Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica; free; seating is available on a first-come, first served basis; 310.458.8600.

SAH/SCC President's Letter

Through the years with SAH/SCC, one of the most rewarding aspects has been rediscovering talented, but forgotten, architects. My recent work on "Bakersfield Built: Architecture of 1930"—last fall's CSU Bakersfield exhibit, symposium, and tour—presented me with just such an opportunity.

Hidden away in the dusty shed of a family home were 37 boxes of plans, photos, and ephemera from the late architect Clarence Cullimore, Sr., FAIA, one of the greatest advocates for "modern adobe" in the 20th century.

An historian as well as an architect, Cullimore (1885-1963) visited adobes throughout the state, photographing and sketching what he found. In 1930, Cullimore and his wife, Rosemary, traveled to Europe where he studied the buildings of Spain. Photographic evidence indicates he also visited with adobe advocate and architect John Byers (1875-1966) in Santa Monica.

During the 1920s, Cullimore designed and built dozens of adobe houses in Bakersfield and the surrounding area. The architect helped establish construction guidelines for overcoming the two most important disadvantages of adobe construction: erosion and seismic instability. By the 1930s, it became a thriving practice for him. The availability of labor and the inexpensive nature of the building material made adobe an attractive choice during the Great Depression—and a widely adopted one in the San Joaquin Valley. The material was also given a vote of confidence when the Federal Housing Authority granted its first loan for adobe construction to Bakersfield's Stanfield Residence (Cullimore, 1935).

The Central Valley's climate made adobe a logical choice for construction as well. The insulating properties of adobe walls keep the houses cool in the summer and warm in the winter.

In plan, Cullimore's adobe designs diverged from traditional adobe floor plans in which additive extensions relied on an exterior corridor for circulation. In contrast, Cullimore's designs utilize modified open plans, which helped distinguish these homes as "Modern" adobes. In the words of the architect, "The simplicity of line and the absence of unnecessary ornamentation are not at all out of line with the most modern tendencies." And while Cullimore also designed many wood and plaster residences in period revival styles, his preference for the romance and practicality of quality adobe construction is the hallmark of his legacy as an architect, author, and educator.

During the late 1930s the Berkeley-trained Cullimore returned to graduate school at the University of Southern California to earn a Master's degree for his thesis on the science and construction of adobe buildings. In 1941, he authored the first of his published books, *Old Adobes of Forgotten Fort Tejon*, and became an authoritative voice in the site's preservation.

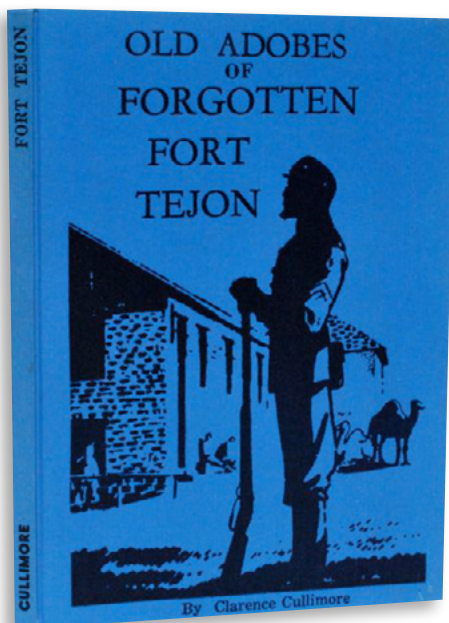
Cullimore's residential adobe designs received national recognition in trade magazines, such as *California Arts & Architecture*, *Architect and Engineer*, and more popularly in *Better Homes and Gardens* and *Sunset*.

In combing through the Cullimore papers for the exhibit, it quickly became evident that Cullimore designed dozens of residences in and around Los Angeles both before and after World War II. His body of work here in Southern California remains relatively unknown and worthy of further study. The Cullimore family is now seeking a permanent home for the papers of Clarence Cullimore, Sr., FAIA, as well as those of his son, architect Clarence Cullimore, Jr., AIA, who was active in the development of California's Historic Building Code, and who passed away in April 2014. Let's hope the Cullimore family legacy finally gets its due in 2015!

—Sian Winship



Clarence Cullimore, Sr.



Tour and Event Information:

1.800.972.4722

info@sahscc.org



SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

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From La Jolla to the south and Glendale to the north, SAH/SCC took members on a diverse tour through Southern California during 2014. Three "Patron" events and a look at Schindler's last house focused on single-family homes. Civic buildings took center stage in Glendale, San Marino, and Downtown LA, while utopian housing rounded out the year.



Photo: John Ellis

February 22—Designer as Patron: Measer in Venice

"Designer as Patron" took a visit to the Venice Anthem House (2012) by designer Dorothy Measer, Assoc. AIA, of dk designhouse. Members learned that bridging a connection to site and community was important to Measer, who designed the new home with open spaces that connect with each other, the greater outdoors, and the local community. With the façade design partly inspired by a lyric from the Leonard Cohen song "Anthem," this is a loving example of minimalism for a modern family.



March 2—Schindler's Last, at Last

Members enjoyed a rare opportunity to tour R.M. Schindler's last house, the Schlessinger Residence (1952-54) in Los Feliz, which was conceived but not fully designed at the time of his death. The task of building the project was then taken up by architect John August Reed, AIA, a founding member of SAH/SCC, and later restored closer to Schindler's original intent by noted craftsman Eric Lamers. Both Reed and Lamers were on site to discuss the realities of loss and interpretation, and the opportunities and challenges of choosing restoration instead of demolition.



March 8—Authors on Architecture: Frankl on Frankl

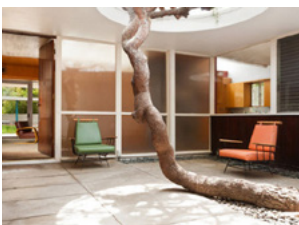
Members joined Christopher Long, Ph.D., for our "Authors on Architecture" event in conjunction with the release of the book *Paul T. Frankl: Autobiography*. The never-before-published autobiography follows interior designer Paul T. Frankl from his birth in Vienna, Austria, to his work in New York and Los Angeles. Considered the "dean" of modern designers in the United States from the 1920s to '50s, Frankl's long career, his many influential works, and his design ideas were insightfully examined by Long. The talk was held at the Santa Monica Public Library (Moore Ruble Yudell, 2006).



Photo: Tim Street-Porter

April 6—The Huntington: The Library Exhibition Hall Illuminated

Prior to the official opening, members took a behind-the-scenes tour of the renovated Library Exhibition Hall at The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens (Myron Hunt, 1920) in San Marino. Members learned about the Hall's original design elements, its evolution through the decades, and its recent transformation. After 17 months of renovation guided by Architectural Resources Group, and \$2.5 million in reinstallation costs, the original 1920s design has been brought into the 21st century. Participants were able to walk around the gardens and later enjoyed an insider's perspective on ARG's new Education and Visitor Center, scheduled to open in early 2015.



May 18—Modern Patrons: Ain & Eckbo in Studio City

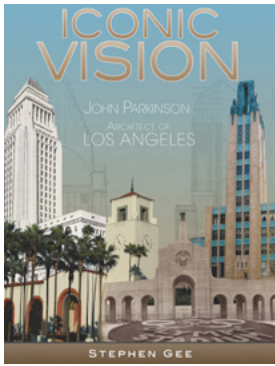
The "Modern Patrons" program continued with a very special opportunity to visit the Tufeld Residence and gardens in Studio City, designed by architect Gregory Ain, FAIA, and landscape architect Garrett Eckbo in 1953. Members also met with residents Richard and Adrienne Tufeld and their family, who talked about the experience of growing up in this thoughtfully integrated house and garden environment that has remained virtually unchanged for more than 60 years.

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Continued on Page 4



June 14—John Parkinson's Iconic Vision

Stephen Gee, author of the book *Iconic Vision: John Parkinson, Architect of Los Angeles*, shared his thoughts on John Parkinson, an important, yet little known, contributor to our city. Although best known for LA City Hall (with John C. Austin and Albert C. Martin, 1926-8) and Bullock's Wilshire (1928), Parkinson also designed dozens of other important buildings in the early decades of the 20th century. The lecture was held at the Security National Bank Building (1916), which has been converted into Los Angeles Theater Center by John Sergio Fisher & Associates. Afterward, attendees embarked on their own walking tours to visit some of Parkinson's other downtown locations, including Union Station (1934-9), as well as the exhibit "No Further West: The Story of LA Union Station" at the Central Library (Bertram G. Goodhue and Carleton M. Winslow, 1922-26).



Photo: Nico Marques

July 13—A 'Brand' New Library Awaits

Members were invited to a special tour and panel discussion on the rehabilitation and restoration of the iconic Brand Library & Art Center in Glendale. Originally designed by Nathaniel Dryden in 1904, much of the historic character had been lost or eroded with time, explained the presenters. By returning to the past to ensure the building's future, Gruen Associates and Offenhauser/Mekeel Architects updated it to a modern, state-of-the-art library with new ceiling paintings, mechanical systems, seismic reinforcement, and vastly improved ADA access—all seamlessly built into the historic building. Members learned how the design team balanced historic preservation with the need to create a safe and functional library.



Photo: Tom Bonner

July 26—Architect as Patron: Zajfen in Laguna Beach

We headed to Laguna Beach for this "Architect as Patron" event where we experienced stunning views from a lyrical home designed by L. Paul Zajfen, FAIA, RIBA, Design Principal at LA-based CO Architects. Nestled in a hillside, this sustainable house blurs the line between inside and outside, lifts one's spirits, and connects you to nature, the ocean, and the sky. Members were guided through the transparent layers of interior and exterior space that created an atmosphere evoking a sensation of spatial generosity, visual stimulus, and peace. "Quite simply, it feels wonderful to be in this house," Zajfen says.

August 23—Climate Change:

Mid-Century Modern in La Jolla

SAH/SCC members enjoyed a triple treat (talk, exhibition, tour) in La Jolla, starting at the historic Wisteria Cottage, which was a simple beach cottage when built in 1904. In 1907, up-and-coming architect Irving Gill enlarged and remodeled it for use as a guest cottage, after which it served many purposes before being donated to the La Jolla Historical Society, which rehabbed the cottage into exhibition space. Speakers, including architect lone Stiegler, FAIA, talked about the preservation standards and rehab challenges, and presented research on the history of the house and Gill's work. Next, members were given a tour of the space and its exhibition, "Climate Change: Midcentury Modern La Jolla". The show presented new ideas in the arts, design, and architecture that emerged from La Jolla during the 1950s and '60s. As an added bonus, docents took members on a walking tour around the surrounding Irving Gill Historic District.



September 6—It Takes a Village Green

The 2014 SAH/SCC Members' Celebration took place at the historic Village Green apartments (Reginald D. Johnson and Wilson, Merrill, & Alexander—architects; Fred Barlow, Jr.—landscape architect; Clarence S. Stein—site planner; 1941-42) in Baldwin Hills. Architectural historians, Village Green residents, and SAH/SCC Members Steven Keylon and Holly Kane presented the history and architectural significance of this beautiful post-war housing community, now considered a landmark monument. Members learned about the site's progressive urban design through the "Radburn Idea" of neighborhood community planning. It called for decentralized plans that conserve open space, separate vehicular from pedestrian traffic, promote environmentalism, and encourage community life. Members toured several of the units, which were surprisingly open and spacious, each including hardwood floors, fireplaces, and tiled bathrooms.

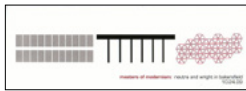


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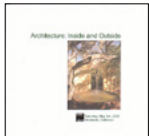
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SAH/SCC PUBLICATIONS



_____ at \$5 each

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



_____ at \$3 each

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



_____ at \$12 each

Out of the Shadow: 24-page, two-color brochure from Phoenix travel tour featuring the work of Frank Lloyd Wright, Al Beadle, Blaine Drake, Paolo Soleri, Edward B. Sawyer, Bennie Gonzales, and Will Bruder.



_____ at \$3 each

A Block in Glendale: pocket-size fandeck of cards featuring five diverse properties— including a Paul Williams residence—plus historical background information on the Brockmont Heights subdivision.



_____ at \$8 each

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



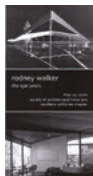
_____ \$4 each

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



_____ at \$8 each

Space and Learning: eight-page, four-color brochure on the historical and contemporary legacy of LA school architecture, featuring projects by Richard Neutra, Thom Mayne, Rios Clementi Hale Studios, and others.



_____ at \$5 each

Rodney Walker: The Ojai Years: tri-fold, black-and-white brochure featuring Walker's important residences in Ojai, with pictures and article by historian David Mason.



_____ at \$2 each

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



_____ at \$2 each

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



_____ at \$10 each

Modernism for the Masses: tri-fold brochure with inserts of detailed floor plans of Eichler homes visited on the Orange County tour.



_____ at \$5 each

John Parkinson, Downtown: 11"x17", four-color brochure featuring a self-guided walking tour of Parkinson buildings in Downtown LA's historic core and beyond.



_____ at \$10 each

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



_____ at \$5 each

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



_____ at \$4 each

Killingsworth: A Master Plan for Learning: 11"x17", four-color walking tour brochure of the Cal State Long Beach campus features history of master plan development by architect Edward A. Killingsworth, FAIA.



_____ at \$8 each

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



_____ at \$8 each

Conjunctive Points: four-color, 11"x17" brochure featuring a 20-building walking tour of the Hayden Tract, designed by architect Eric Owen Moss and developed by Samitaur Constructs.

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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!

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Sink or Swim: Designing For a Sea Change Exhibition on View Through May 3, 2015

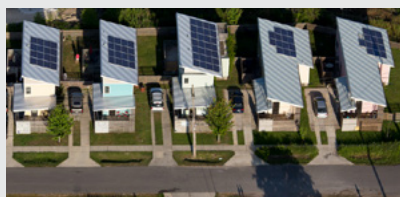
A new exhibition at the Annenberg Space for Photography (AECOM Designs, 2009) gives an international look at architects and designers' responses to climate change through new work from a select group of architecture, fine art, and news photographers.

Curated by KCRW's Frances Anderton, Hon. AIA/LA, host of "DnA: Design and Architecture" and a prolific writer, "Sink or Swim" hopes to shed new light on how communities, both rich and poor, adapt to the devastating effects of climate change through innovative design solutions that have a huge social impact.

This marks the first Annenberg exhibition to feature newly commissioned works. In order to select which places were captured, Anderton worked closely with photographers Iwan Baan, Stephen Wilkes, Paula Bronstein, Monica Nouwens, and Jonas Bendiksen. Through their lenses, viewers travel the world from Malibu's receding beaches to flood-prone Bangladesh, from post-Katrina New Orleans to the water communities of Nigeria. Eschewing traditional architectural photography, the photographers here present a human perspective—they tell a story of resilience, survival, and adaptation.

Their work highlights a changing landscape in the wake of climate change and new innovations in contemporary design. Contributions come in the form of innovative housing structures, floating schools, and community buildings by award-winning architects, including Thom Mayne, FAIA, Toyo Ito, Hon. FAIA, and Shigeru Ban, Hon. FAIA. This exhibition displays a body of work that highlights not only the effects of coastal devastation, but improvements and innovative solutions for the future.

Annenberg Space for Photography, 2000 Avenue of the Stars, LA;
 213.403.3000; annenbergsspaceforphotography.org.



Global Green's Holy Cross community project by Workshop/apd and John C. Williams Architects in the Lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans.

Photo: Stephen Wilkes



A floating school in Pabna, Bangladesh, designed by Mohammed Rezwan of Shidhulai Swanirvar Sangstha.

Photo: Jonas Bendiksen