TOPICS IN MODERN ARCHITECTURE IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

PLEASE NOTE THAT I WILL BE MAKING SOME MINOR CHANGES TO THIS OVER BREAK, BUT THERE WILL NOT BE CHANGES TO ASSIGNMENTS OR DUE DATES

ARCH 404: 3 units, Spring 2011
Watt 212: M-W 10-11:50
Ken Breisch: breisch@usc.edu
Office Hours: Watt 326, Monday: 12-1; or to be arranged

Architecture 404 examines the impact of the environment, culture and politics on the evolution of architecture and urban planning in Southern California in the 20th century. It explores the interchange between European modernism and local vernacular influences as they came together to create new regional architectural and urban forms. Lectures examine a series of case studies in order to more closely explore the complexity of these developments.

There will be class field trips on Saturday February 12 and Saturday April 23 in order to examine first hand Los Angeles's rich architectural heritage.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

REQUIRED TEXTS:


Blackboard Readings

OPTIONAL READING:


READING ASSIGNMENTS:

Weekly reading assignments are listed in the lecture schedule in this syllabus. These readings should be completed before the lecture under which they are listed.
BUILDING REVIEW:

Choose a building on the USC Campus, from a list of which will be distributed in class, and write a 5-7 page paper on it. This can include your own observations on its form and style and their historical sources, as well as research in the University Archives and other historical sources. Be sure to cite all sources appropriately with footnotes or endnotes and bibliography. DUE FEBRUARY 7

REYNER BANHAM BOOK REVIEW:

Write a 5-7 page book review of Reyner Banham, Los Angeles: The Architecture of Four Ecologies. DUE MARCH 21

SEMESTER RESEARCH PAPER:

During the course of the semester you will be responsible for researching and documenting a specific local building, building type, or urban space. Possible topics, methods for developing bibliographies, documenting buildings, and evolving an appropriate research model will be discussed as the semester evolves. The instructor must approve topics in advance.

Each student will be required to submit a one-page description of the paper topic and preliminary bibliography on March 2. A ten-page typed, double-spaced paper, with appropriate footnotes and an expanded bibliography. DUE APRIL 27

GRADING:

Building Review: 15%
Book Review: 15%
Final Research Paper: 25 %
Final Exam: 35%

ATTENDANCE:

Medical or family emergencies and religious holidays are the only acceptable excuses for make-up exams, acceptance of late assignments and the granting of incomplete grades. More than two unexcused absences will result in a failing grade for the class.

STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me (or to TA) as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The phone number for DSP is (213) 740-0776.
STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one’s own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another’s work as one’s own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. Scampus, the Student Guidebook, contains the Student Conduct Code in Section 11.00, while the recommended sanctions are located in Appendix A: http://www.usc.edu/dept/publications/SCAMPUS/gov/. Students will be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards for further review, should there be any suspicion of academic dishonesty. The Review process can be found at: http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/.

CLASS SCHEDULE

JAN 10 Reyner Banham Loves LA
BEGIN READING Banham, Los Angeles: The Architecture of Four Ecologies; and “Reyner Banham Loves LA,” can be viewed at http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=1524953392810656786#

JAN 12 Defining Place

JAN 17 MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY-NO CLASS

JAN 19 American Regionalism and the Mission Revival

JAN 24-26 The Arts and Crafts Movement and Japan

JAN 31 Irving Gill
McCoy, “Irving Gill,” Five California Architects, pp. 59-100

FEB 2 NO CLASS

FEB 7 Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue and the Spanish Colonial Revival
BUILDING REVIEW PAPER DUE
Reading 6. David Gebhard, "The Spanish Colonial Revival in Southern California (1895-1930)"
FEB 9  Frank Lloyd Wright in LA


SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12: CLASS FIELD TRIP

FEB 14  R. M. Schindler in the early 20s


FEB 16  The Persistence of Historicism and its Alternatives in the 1920s

FEB 21  PRESIDENT’S DAY—NO CLASS

FEB 23-28  City Planning: The Intersection of the City Beautiful and the Automobile in Los Angeles and Santa Barbara

Reading 14. Richard Longstreth, “Fabulous Boulevard”

MAR 2  Austria and LA: Richard Neutra in the later 20s/
PAPER TOPIC AND BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE


MAR 7  Building During the Great Depression


MAR 9  The Garden City

Reading 17. Cory Buckner, A. Quincy Jones

MAR 14-16  SPRING BREAK

MAR 21  World War II and the Dream of Mass-produced Housing
BUILDING REVIEW DUE

MAR 23   The Case Study Program I


MAR 28   Schindler and Neutra after the War


MAR 30-APR 4   The Post-War House


APR 6   Corporate Modernism and Urban Renewal in the 50s and 60s

APR 11-13   NO CLASS

APR 18   Building on the Fringe: Lloyd Wright and John Lautner


APR 20   “Post Modernism”


SATURDAY, APRIL 23: CLASS FIELD TRIP

APR 25   Frank Gehry and the “LA School?”


APR 27   Conclusion and Review

*SEMESTER RESEARCH PAPER DUE*

MAY 9   FINAL EXAM: 8-10 AM
BIBLIOGRAPHY

GENERAL HISTORIES AND ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIES

Betsky, Aaron, et al., Experimental Architecture in Los Angeles, New York: Rizzoli, 1990
The California Condition: A Pregnant Architecture, La Jolla: La Jolla Museum of Contemporary Art, 1982
Chase, John, and John Kaliski, eds., Everyday Urbanism, New York: Monacelli, 199?
Davis, Mike, City of Quartz: Excavating the Future in Los Angeles, London: Verso, 1990
Jodidio, Philip, Contemporary California Architects, Cologne: Taschen, 1995
Kropp, Phoebe S., California Vieja: Culture and Memory in a Modern American Place, Berkeley: University of California Press, 2006
Longstreth, Richard, City Center to Regional Mall: Architecture, the Automobile, and Retailing in Los Angeles, 1920-1950, Cambridge: MIT Press, 1997


Parson, Don, "'This Modern Marvel': Bunker Hill, Chavez Ravine, and the Politics of Modernism in Los Angeles," *Southern California Quarterly*, 75 (Fall-Winter 1993), 333-350

Phelps, Robert, "The Search for a Modern Industrial City: Urban Planning, the Open Shop, and the Founding of Torrance, California," *Pacific Historical Review* 64 (November 1995), 503-535


Roderick, Kevin, with research by J. E. Lynxwiler, *Wilshire Boulevard: Grand Concourse of Los Angeles, Santa Monica: Angels City Press*, 2005


Smith, Kathryn, et al., *Concrete in California*, Los Angeles: Carpenters/Contractors Corporation Committee, 1990
Waldie, D. J., *Where We Are Now: Notes from Los Angeles*, Los Angeles: Angel City Press, 2004
SPECIFIC ARCHITECTS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS AND THEIR WORK

Adamson, Paul, and Marty Arbunich, Eichler: Modernism Rebuilds the American Dream, Salt Lake City: Gibbs Smith, 2002
Beach, John, "Lloyd Wright's Sowden House," Fine Home Building, April/May 1983, 66-73
Belloli, Jay, et al., Johnson Kaufmann Coate: Partners in the California Style, Santa Barbara: Capra Press, 1992
Belloli, Jay, ed. Myron Hunt 1868-1952: The Search for a Regional Architecture, Santa Monica: Hennessey & Ingalls, 1984
Betsky, Aaron, and Julie Eizenberg, Koning Eizenberg: Buildings, New York: Rizzoli, 1996
Campbell-Lange, Barbara Ann, John Lautner, Cologne: Taschen, 1999
Clausen, Meredith L., "The Pasadena Art Center and the Curious Case of 'Craig Ellwood',' Casabella 664 (February 1999), 64-81
Cook, Peter, and George Rand, Morphosis: Buildings and Projects, New York: Rizzoli, 1989
Cygelman, Adele, Palm Springs Modern: Houses in the California Desert, New York: Rizzoli, 1999
Ditto, Jerry, Eichler Homes: Design for Living, San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 1995


Hines, Thomas, "Designing for the Motor Age: Richard Neutra and the Automobile," *Oppositions* 21 (Summer 1980), 34-51

Hoffmann, Donald, Frank Lloyd Wright’s Hollyhock House, New York: Dover, 1992
Hudson, Karen E., Paul R. Williams, Architect: A Legacy of Style, New York: Rizzoli, 1993
Kamerling, Bruce, "Irving Gill: The Artist as Architect," Journal of San Diego History 25 (Spring 1979), 151-190
Lamprecht, Barbara Mac, Richard Neutra, Cologne: Taschen, 2004
Lamprecht, Barbara Mac, Richard Neutra: Complete Works, Cologne: Taschen, 2000
Lavin, Sylvia, Form Follows Libido: Architecture and Richard Neutra in a Psychoanalytic Culture
McCoy, Esther, Richard Neutra, New York: George Braziller, 1960
Makinson, Randell, Greene and Greene: Architecture as a Fine Art, Salt Lake City: Peregrine Smith, 1977
Makinson, Randell, Greene and Greene: Furniture and Related Designs, Salt Lake City: Peregrine Smith, 1977
Makinson, Randell, Greene and Greene: The Passion and the Legacy, Salt Lake City: Gibbs Smith, 1998
May, Cliff, Western Ranch Houses, Menlo Park, CA: Lane Publishing Co., 1958


O'Neill, Dan, "The High and Low Art of Rudolph Schindler," Architectural Review 153


Polyzoides, Stefanos, "Schindler, Lovell, and the Newport Beach House, Los Angeles, 1921-1926," *Oppositions* 18 (Fall 1979), 60-73


RoTo, Michigan Architecture Papers One, Ann Arbor,MI.: College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan, 1996


Shippen, Donald, "Walker & Eisen: Twenty Years of Los Angeles Architecture, 1920-1940" *Southern California Quarterly* 46 (December 1964), 371-394


Steele, James, *Barnsdall House, Frank Lloyd Wright*, London: Phaidon, 1992


Steele, James, R. M. Schindler: 1887-1953; An Exploration of Space, Cologne: Taschen, 1999


Tracy, Robert Howard, "John Parkinson and the Beaux-Arts City Beautiful Movement in Downtown Los Angeles 1894-1935," Ph.D. diss., University of California, Los Angeles, 1982


The sun of Southern California has attracted odd bedfellows, both in the movie industry and architectural practices. Here is just a taste of LA architecture.


Frank Lloyd Wright's very first commission in Southern California, Hollyhock House (1921) is in many ways the bold starting shot of L.A.'s modern architectural movement. Built to feel (in Wright's word) "indigenous" to its surroundings, Hollyhock House explodes the boundaries between indoor and outdoor space. The primary building material, terra-cotta, is an homage to the Mayan history of the region, and every major room is mirrored by an equivalent outdoor response. Hollyhock House was Frank Lloyd Wright's first project in Southern California. Oceanfront Italianate Style Architecture Villa in Southern California. This Beautiful Oceanfront Estate Is Located at 53 Actor Rob Lowe Lists His Oakview Estate in Montecito for $47 Million. Actor Rob Lowe Lists His Oakview Estate in Montecito for $47 Million. Located at 700 Picacho Lane, Stunning Contemporary Modern Style Home in Beverly Hills | 9909 Beverly Grove Dr. Stunning Contemporary Modern Style Home in Beverly Hills | 9909 Beverly Grove Dr 9909 Beverly Grove Here's Your Chance to Live in the Heart of Hollywood in a New Rental Tower. Here's Your Chance to Live in the Heart of