

Archivist's Report, FY 2013-2014

International Archives of Women in Architecture (IAWA)

By Aaron D. Purcell

Director of Special Collections and IAWA Archivist

Overview

During the past year, Special Collections continued its joint partnership with the College of Architecture and Urban Studies to acquire, arrange, describe, provide access to, and promote IAWA collections. Sherrie Bowser led the effort to process, acquire, and promote IAWA collections. With the help of students and other staff she accessioned 8 new collections and processed 7 collections. In spring 2014, Sherrie Bowser moved on to another professional position in Illinois. In October 2014, Samantha Winn began work as Collections Archivist, with responsibilities for IAWA collections.

Collection Highlights

- Special Collections received 8 new IAWA collections during the past year, totaling 18.2 cubic feet of material and more than 274 Mb of digital photographs. (See Appendix 1, Acquired Accessions)
- With the help of staff, 7 IAWA collections were processed over the past year, totaling 33.6 cubic feet. (See Appendix 2, Processed Collections)
- There are now approximately 425 distinct IAWA collections totaling 1,787 cubic feet.
- Made 13 book purchases that directly support IAWA collections (See Appendix 3, New Purchases)
- Spring 2014, visit to Linda Kiisk in Sacramento, California to appraise and ship back her collection to Virginia Tech

Research, Promotion, and Selected Uses of IAWA Collections

- Held open house and sponsored exhibit for the 50th Anniversary of CAUS, Fall 2014
- Assisted Robert Holton, Milka Bliznakov Research Prize winner, with onsite research on the role and contribution of Natalie de Blois in the design of three SOM projects (Lever House, Pepsi-Cola Headquarters, and Union Carbide) completed in New York City between 1950-1960
- Exhibit in Special Collections, IAWA: Examples of women's opportunities in architecture and design education, 1865-1993," Fall 2013
- Assisted Donna Dunay's 1st year studio class (ca. 40 students) to see Laretta Vinciarelli prints. Students created their own artwork based on Vinciarelli's prints which were exhibited in Cowgill, November 2013.
- Maintained IAWA Facebook page with frequent postings
- "In Special Collections @ Virginia Tech" featured IAWA centric posts once every 4-6 weeks (<http://vtspecialcollections.wordpress.com/tag/iawa/>)
- IAWA material used in Special Collections instructional sessions, Fall 2012-Spring 2013

- Sherrie Bowser, steering committee member, Architectural Records Roundtable, Society of American Archivists
- Aaron Purcell presented a paper on the challenges of electronic architectural records before the Architectural Records Roundtable at the annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists, Washington, D.C., August 2014
- Aaron Purcell presented a paper on working with international donors at the joint meeting of the Archives and Records Association of New Zealand (ARANZ) and the Australian Society of Archivists (ASA) in Christchurch, New Zealand, October 2014
- Staff replied to nearly two dozen reference questions related to IAWA collections.
- IAWA Annual Meeting, October 2013

Support for IAWA

- Several small donations received (See Appendix 4, Gift and Endowment Accounts)

Biographical Database

- Gail McMillan continued to oversee the IAWA Biographical Database. There are 2,436 publicly available records at, http://lumiere.lib.vt.edu/iawa_db.

Mission and Vision

Our efforts in developing the collections of the IAWA support the department's mission to build true research collections of manuscripts, books, and images for scholars, students, faculty, and other researchers to use. During the past year interest in IAWA materials, from faculty, students, architects, and scholars, remained steady. We have made IAWA collections a central part of our collection development efforts, our instructional sessions, and our campus outreach efforts. The ability to scan large format materials from IAWA collections has increased our joint efforts to promote the collections and research, as well as expand the department's digital projects and online presence.

Appendix 1. Acquired Accessions

Accession Number	Title	Date of Accession	Method of Acquisition	Cubic Feet
Acc2013-085	The Town of Tomorrow and Home Building Center Souvenir Folder	10/7/2013	Purchase	0.1 cu. ft.
Acc2013-095	Dorothy Pebworth Morgan Billmyer Biographical Information	11/2/2013	Gift	0.1 cu. ft.
Acc2013-096	Kimiko Suzuki Architectural Collection	11/2/2013	Gift	1.2 cu. ft.
Acc2013-097	Elsa Marie Rupp Hofheinz Diary/Art League of Philadelphia Meeting Minutes	11/14/2013	Purchase	0.2 cu. ft.
Acc2013-098	Addition to Lois Davidson Gottlieb Architectural Collection	11/15/2013	Gift	35.5 Mb (digital)
Acc2014-024	Linda Kiisk Architectural Collection	2/7/2014	Gift	15 cu. ft.
Acc2014-025	Addition to IAWA Records	4/25/2014	Gift	293.9 Mb (digital)
Acc2014-069	Addition to Ms2009-099 Pamela Webb Architectural Collection	9/12/2014	Gift	1.4 cu. ft.

Appendix 2. Processed Collections

Manuscript Number	Title	Processing Date	Cubic Feet
Ms2013-058	Winifred Parsons Architectural Notebook	10/2013	0.3 cu. ft.
Ms2013-059	Martha Bil Manevich Architectural Collection	10/2013	1.1 cu. ft.
Ms2013-081	Pearl M. Brickman Architectural Collection	10/2013	6.2 cu. ft.
Ms2013-088	Margaret (Peggy) Cochrane Architectural Collection	11/2013	13.2 cu. ft.
Ms2013-089	Kimiko Suzuki Architectural Collection	11/2013	1.1 cu. ft.
Ms2013-090	Marie-Louise Laleyan Architectural Collection	4/2014	11.3 cu. ft.
Ms2013-094	Meeting Minutes of the Art League of Philadelphia and Diary of Art League Member Elsa Marie Rupp Hofheinz	9/2014	0.2 cu. ft.

Appendix 3. New Purchases

Publication Number	Title	Number of Volumes
Pub2013-080	Grand Obsessions: The Life and Work of Walter Burley Griffin and Marion Griffin	1
Pub2013-095	For the Future - The Pioneering Women in Architecture; 2A: Architecture & Art 'Women's Voices in Architecture & Design in the Middle East' (Issue 15 & 16, Winter 2010)	2 (Gift)
Pub2014-024	The Magic of Color by Joyce Bright	1
Pub2014-025	Jane B. Drew: Architect	1
Pub2014-030	Decorating Ideas from Jean McLain's Notebook, 1941; Suggestions from an Interior Decorator, 1946	2
Pub2014-031	How to Prepare and Serve a Meal and Interior Decoration by Lillian B. Lansdown	1
Pub2014-052	New Duplex Designs, 1940s; Sunshine Homes, 1938; New Small Homes, 1938	3
Pub2014-063	Selling the Swelling: The Books that Built America's Houses, 1775-2000	1
Pub2014-072	Garden Structures, Hartmann-Sanders Co., 1928	1