

Archivist's Report, FY 2014-2015

International Archives of Women in Architecture (IAWA)

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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. In October 2014, Samantha Winn began work as Collections Archivist, with responsibilities for IAWA collections. She led the effort to process, acquire, and promote IAWA collections

Collection Highlights

- Since October 2014, Special Collections received 14 new IAWA collections or additions to existing collections, totaling nearly 15 cubic feet of material and approximately 200 Mb of digital materials (See Appendix 1, New Collections Received) Highlights include the following:
 - Received several donations during the UIFA 2015 Congress, including materials from Graciela Schmidt on behalf of the Comisión de Mujeres Arquitectas, Carmen Espejel Alonso, Ute Weström, L. Jane Hastings, and Amelie Essesse
 - The Daredemo Photographer Exhibit, jointly produced by UIFA-JAPON and the IAWA Center
 - The architectural papers of Beth Nickels, the first woman architect registered in Richmond and second woman architect registered in Virginia
 - The architectural papers of Mary Lou Drost, a pioneering woman architect who practiced in Kansas
- Since 2014, 3 new collections were processed and 7 additions were incorporated (See Appendix 2 Processed Collections and Additions)
- There are now 385 distinct IAWA collections comprising approximately 1,810 cubic feet
- Several purchases that directly support IAWA collections (See Appendix 3, Purchases)
- Selections from 20 collections were digitized and made available online

Research, Promotion, and Selected Uses of IAWA Collections

- UIFA Congress, Summer 2015
 - Worked with IAWA researchers and CAUS faculty to support event planning
 - Scanned over 150 items for a dynamic virtual exhibition and memento art book to mark the 30th anniversary of the joint partnership between CAUS and the University Libraries
 - Prepared reading room exhibit and open house for UIFA delegates
 - Arranged for physical materials to be on display in Cowgill
 - Samantha Winn presented a paper on donating to Special Collections and the unique attributes of architectural collections

- Created a digital platform (<http://iawa.lib.vt.edu>) to provide online access to selections from IAWA collections
- Assisted Meredith Sattler, 2014 Milka Bliznakov Research Prize winner, with onsite research on “Early Technological Innovation in the Systems Approach to Environmental Design: Situating Beverly Willis and Associates’ CARLA platform [Computerized Approach to Residential Land Analysis] within the developmental trajectory of Geographic Information Systems (GIS)”
- Assisted Sarah Rafson, 2015 Milka Bliznakov Research Prize winner, with research on “CARY” (Chicks in Architecture Refuse to Yield)
- Aaron Purcell presented a paper on electronic records donations with an architectural records focus at the Midwest Archives Conference, Lexington, KY, May 2015
- Samantha Winn presented a paper on architectural records and the IAWA for the “Los archivos históricos” conference hosted by Pontificia Universidad Católica de Ecuador, Quito, Ecuador, September 2015
- Samantha Winn met with several architecture students and presented on the importance of architectural archives to the University of Cuenca’s College of Architecture and Urban Studies, Cuenca, Ecuador, October 2015
- Scans from the Melita Rodeck collection were provided to AIABaltimore for the traveling exhibit, “Early Women of Architecture in Maryland” (June 2015 - present)
- Scans from the Judith (Dita) Roque-Gourary and Milka Bliznakov collections were provided to the “Un Dia/Una Arquitecta” for two highlight posts
- Prepared 6 exhibitions and presented 5 formal tours/classes relating to IAWA
- Staff replied to nearly two dozen IAWA related reference questions from researchers in Argentina, California, Czech Republic, India, Maryland, New York, Russia, the United Arab Emirates, and Virginia
- Updated and revamped IAWA website (<http://spec.lib.vt.edu/iawa>)
- Maintained IAWA Facebook page with frequent postings, seeing a 120% increase in page likes
- Featured several IAWA related posts on the department blog, “In Special Collections @ Virginia Tech” (<http://vtspecialcollections.wordpress.com/tag/iawa/>)
- Hosted IAWA Annual Meeting, October 2014

Support for IAWA

- Several small financial donations received (See Appendix 4, Gift and Endowment Accounts)
- Submitted preliminary proposal “Women of Design: Revealing Women’s Hidden Contributions to the Built Environment,” for the CLIR Hidden Collections Digitization program. The proposal was not funded, but reviewers encouraged revisions and resubmission during 2016.

Biographical Database

- Gail McMillan continued to oversee the IAWA Biographical Database. There are 2,438 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. New Collections Received

Accession Number	Title	Date of Accession	Cubic Feet
Acc2015-012	Addition to Ms2002-051 Anna Sokolina Architectural Collection and IAWA Small Collections	02/02/2015	168Mb, 0.1 cu. ft.
Acc2015-022	Daredemo Photographer Exhibit	02/23/2015	5.5 cu. ft.
Acc2015-022	Addition to Ms2009-054 IAWA Small Collections	02/23/2015	0.2 cu. ft.
Acc2015-022	Addition to Ms2012-001 UIFA Conference Materials	02/23/2015	0.5 cu. ft.
Acc2015-022	Addition to Ms1991-025 Milka T. Bliznakov Papers	02/23/2015	0.6 cu. ft.
Acc2015-080	Mary Lou Drost Architectural Collection	07/27/2015	4.0 cu. ft.
Acc2015-086	Comisión de Mujeres Arquitectas Records	8/4/2015	0.1 cu. ft.
Acc2015-087	Addition to Ute Westrom Architectural Collection	8/4/2015	0.1 cu. ft.
Acc2015-088	Addition to Carmen Espejel Alonso Architectural Collection	8/4/2015	1.4 cu. ft.
Acc2015-090. Acc2015-091	Beth Nickels Architectural Collection	8/10/2015	1.1 cu. ft.
Acc2015-098	Addition to Zdenka Maria Novakova papers	8/13/2015	0.1 cu. ft.
Acc2015-100	Addition to L. Jane Hastings Architectural Papers	8/14/2015	0.25 cu. ft.
Acc2015-116	Addition to Milka T. Bliznakov Papers	9/11/2015	0.25 cu. ft.
Acc2015-117	Additional to Judith Edelman Architectural Collection	9/11/2015	1 cu. ft.

Appendix 2. Processed Collections and Additions

Manuscript Number	Title	Date Processed /Incorporated	Extent
Ms2007-031	Anna Alexandrovna Shchetinina Architectural Collection	10/2015	0.2 cu. ft.
Ms2001-066	Cristina Grau Garcia Architectural Collections	10/2015	0.3 cu. ft.
Ms2015-045	Coade's Lithodipyra or Artificial Manufactory Trade Card	10/2015	0.1 cu. ft.
Ms2009-054	Helen Albertovna Koulagina biographical materials (addition)	02/2015	0.1 cu. ft.
Ms2009-054	Nina Marquina catalog (addition)	02/2015	0.1 cu. ft.
Ms2009-054	Zdenka Maria Novakova papers (addition)	08/2015	0.1 cu. ft.
Ms2012-001	UIFA Conference Materials (addition)	02/2015	0.5 cu. ft.
Ms1996-023	Ute Westrom Architectural Collection (addition)	8/2015	0.1 cu. ft.
Ms2001-021	Carmen Espejel Alonso Architectural Collection (addition)	10/2015	1.4 cu. ft.
Ms2004-004	L. Jane Hastings Architectural Papers (addition)	8/2015	0.25 cu. ft.

Appendix 3. Purchases

Publication Number	Title	Number of Volumes
Pub2014-072	Garden Structures, Hartmann-Sanders Co., 1928	1
Pub2014-095	Storming the Old Boys' Citadel	1
Pub2015-006	Gardens & Planting Plans, 1936	1
Pub2015-014	Woman's Coming of Age, 1931; Cooper Union Women's Art School Yearbook, 1929, 1930;	3
Pub2015-021	Beautiful Homes, or Hints in House Furnishing, 1878	1
Pub2015-031	Your Home Decorating Made Easy	1
Pub2015-032	Trees and Shrubs for Landscape Effects, 1940	1
Pub2015-067	For Home Lovers, 1929	1
Pub2015-096	Ideas for Old Rooms and New by Hazel Brown, 1944	1
Acc2015-113	Coade's Lithodipyra or Artificial Manufactory Trade Card	0.1 cu. ft.
Acc2015-130	Elizabeth Wright and Gordon Ingraham Christmas Cards	0.1 cu. ft.