

NEWSLETTER WINTER 1997

ANNUAL MEETING UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Vice President/President-elect Kathleen Demsky (Andrews)

I have always heard Cleveland was an interesting city with a good cultural mix, and last summer my husband and I went to see for ourselves. After a two day stop-over on our way east we were pleased with the rich diversity we found. I hope you have made plans to attend the AASL annual meeting, March 14 through the 17th, 1998. We have an exciting agenda planned for you.

The elegant Renaissance Cleveland Hotel, 24 Public Square, in the heart of the city near the shore of Lake Erie, is the site of the meeting, held jointly with the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture. There are many walking tours within a comfortable distance of the hotel. The Cleveland Public Library, one of our destinations, is featured in the September, 1997, issue of *ARCHITECTURE*. It was designed by Holzman et. al at a cost of \$65 million.

Our proposed schedule of events also includes brunch, a panel discussion on library instruction, as well as several other presentations. We would like to devote some time to discuss hot topics that concern and affect us all. A visit to the Cleveland Museum of Art is also on the agenda. Plans are being laid to dine at an upscale, sophisticated restaurant in the Flats along the Cuyahoga River. In case you are curious, this restaurant boasts a web site: <http://www.watermark-flats.com>. as well as the best sea food in town.

After the first of the year, additional informational on the program and costs will be available.

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CLEVELAND HAS

Sightseeing jaunts floating down the Cuyahoga River and on Lake Erie aboard the Goodtime III or tooling around the city on Lolly the Trolley;

The world's only Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, designed by I.M. Pei at a cool \$92 mill;

An exhibit at the Cleveland Museum of Art, entitled Papal Treasures: Early Christian, Renaissance, and Baroque Art from the Vatican Collection, February 8--April 12;

Eight majestic bridges, dramatically illuminated nightly in the Flats Entertainment District;

A cultural and performing art center comprised of four theaters offering musicals, opera, ballet and stage productions;

Shopping at the Tower City Center, 50 Public Square;

Recommendations from AAA and *TRAVEL AND LEISURE* magazine as one of the best U.S. cities to visit.

LET'S GO, AASLers

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AASL's NEW OFFICERS:

Kathleen Demsky and Joon Mornes, similarities and differences

By day these two ladies hold very similar jobs in northern mid-western university architecture libraries. Granted that the size of their institutions differs greatly, but their position descriptions are almost identical.

Both are responsible for all the activities of busy branch libraries: acquisitions, reference, serials, reserves. Both report to their respective Dean of Libraries but have close ties to the faculty and students in the programs of study that their libraries serve. However, after 5pm, their activities are quite different.

Following a long hard day at Andrews University's Architectural Resource Center Vice president/president-elect and Program Chair Kathy Demsky, and her husband often take their Irish Wolfhound for a walk through the woods and along the creek on their 19 acres that border the shores of Lake Michigan. Or they might fly to Italy or Rumania or anywhere there is art and music. Visiting their three children, (an author, a teacher, and an artist) is another source of pleasure.

Kathy waited until her children were grown before she completed her undergraduate degree in Management and Human Resources and Organizational Management at Bethel

College in Mishawaka, Indiana. After discovering the joys of library work as a substitute teacher and librarian's helper she decided to acquire the MLS from Indiana State University in Bloomington. This was followed by a stint as a library clerk at the Andrews University architecture library. She has been the director since 1989.

One of her recent achievements was the establishment of the Italian study abroad program for the architecture school. A favorite aspect of her job is her work with the Environmental Design Research Association. Because of the outstanding collection of EDRA materials held by the architecture library, Kathy gets requests for information from all over the world, including the people at NASA. She attends the EDRA conference annually where she organizes the book display.

In the not too distant future, Kathy sees a new library as a possibility. Just a few years ago, she directed a major expansion project and thinks a new library would be just another step in the development of the Architecture Resource Center at Andrews.

AASL Secretary Joon Mornes (Minnesota) began her trek to architecture librarianship by earning an undergraduate degree in library science from Ewha University, a women's school in Korea. After joining her brother in the U.S., Joon received a bachelor's degree in art from Manketo (Minnesota) State and taught art in the public schools for eight years and at a junior college for four. She married an art teacher who decided to change careers and become an architect and now has a well established practice. Joon followed suit by returning to her earlier interest in librarianship. But now she was focused on a career as an

architecture librarian and earned an MLS at the University of Minnesota. In 1991 she became the head of the architecture and landscape architecture library there. She says her favorite aspects of her job are the subject matter, reference work, and the academic environment. The Mornes' son, who is a freshman at Minnesota, is considering a career as an architect.

Away from the library, Joon pursues her interests in several art forms and has exhibited her work in two shows. In addition to painting and scene design, she is interested in installation art and exhibited a work called Night Garden at the Minneapolis Art Institute. This required bringing in dirt, rocks, and water to create a garden and pond, plus the creation of a backdrop. This year she will study Japanese gardens in San Francisco from an artist's point of view, thanks to a grant from the Friends of Libraries. Two years ago, she presented a paper at the World Conference on Phenomenology in Paris contrasting Las Vegas and Japanese architecture. Her goal is a lengthy period of study in Japan.



THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Ann Scott (Kansas State)

After having attended only the AASL meeting in Montreal, you can imagine how "adrift" I felt when faced with planning and organizing last Spring's conference! After floundering around and seeking advise (numerous times)

from Wayne and Pat, I finally started to get my act together in December. Wayne forwarded various ARLIS-L postings about the March meeting, which gave me ideas and, best of all, names; Beth Dodd and Ann Lally saved my sanity. Thank you, Ann, for our very own web home page and thank you, Beth, for Greg and for leading me to Jay Henry. A call to the Dallas Historical Society directed me to Preservation Dallas and the tour of the Wilson Historic District, which was very interesting and very free. (The Historical Society tours were fairly expensive.)

Standing in queues to purchase tickets and studying public transportation maps/schedules are not my ideas of a good time, hence the shuttle service. Wayne and I felt that AASL could subsidize part of the cost, and if folks found the arrangement satisfactory, perhaps they would be willing to pay a higher registration fee for the convenience. Likewise, dividing a restaurant tab among many individuals can certainly be problematic. I hope those of you who went enjoyed Medieval Times-- Frances certainly seemed to!

I want to express my sincere thanks to Polly Trump, Cherie Geiser, Jeff Alger and Ann Lally for their participation in the Internet session. It appeared that the attendees would have liked more time allocated to it. The trip to the Dallas Museum of Art was both fun and informative, and I have heard many rave comments about Greg's Roadside Architecture presentation and Jay Henry's session on Texas regional architecture. And lastly, as most of you who attended the Conference know by now, I am a crazed gardener and could not pass up a trip to the Dallas Arboretum.

I enjoyed meeting all of you, many for the first time, and look forward to next year's conference. There are a number of items we need to discuss at the business meeting and if anyone has agenda items, please let me know. Thanks to all of you.

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AASL OFFICERS--1997-98

President, Ann Scott (Kansas State)

Vice President/President-elect,
Kathleen Demsky (Andrews)

Secretary, Joon Mornes (Minnesota)

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Ann Lally (Arizona), Chair
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Judy Connorton (CCNY)

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NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

BETH DODD (TEXAS--AUSTIN)

The mission of the Architectural Drawings Collection in the Architecture and Planning Library at The University of Texas at Austin is to ensure the preservation of architectural records for research and scholarship. Established in 1979 by Professor Drury B. Alexander, the small collection has grown from a nucleus of original architectural drawings and student measured drawings into a major resource now administered by The University of Texas General Libraries. It contains over 200,000 drawings representing a wide range of American architecture, with an emphasis on Texas and the Southwest. In addition to drawings, over 600 linear feet of other material such as specifications, photographs, models, correspondence, contract drawings, clippings, and ephemera fully document all aspects of the design process.

Much has changed at the Architectural Drawings Collection in the year and a half since I came on board as curator. In addition to our student assistants and volunteers, we now have two new staff members. Nancy Sparrow joined us last February as a full time curatorial assistant, and Diana Vasquez began work in March as a quarter-time technical services assistant. Their hard work has already made a significant impact in handling requests and in processing collection materials.

Our public service area has also taken on a dramatic new look as a result of the acquisition of the Charles W. Moore Collection. Accompanying the gift was the promise of a new room, to be named in Moore's honor, which became the catalyst in the overall analysis and rearrangement of our facilities. Added space has given us the opportunity to designate a new public service area, redesign our former office specifically for manuscripts processing, and establish a new room for preservation and conservation treatment.

Battle Hall 6 is now known as the Charles W. Moore Room. For many years Battle 6 housed an old newspaper morgue featuring a single electrical outlet. It was overhauled to include wiring for telephones, computers, security and additional outlets, as well as new ceiling tiles, weatherization and a fresh coat of paint. The Architectural Drawings Collection temporarily ceased service on January 1, 1997, to prepare the materials for the big move. Thousands of items were rehoused, and 85 flat file cabinets (two thirds of the entire collection), along with other furniture and equipment, were moved from the first floor to the ground floor. The Architectural Drawings Collection officially reopened April 15, 1997, after a symposium honoring Charles W. Moore.

The Moore room provides an entirely new, and more efficient point of public service for the archive. We now have the proper space, light and accessibility demanded by oversized archival material. We can also accommodate tours by classes, large groups for instruction, and even multiple appointments. In the spirit of scholarship that Charles W. Moore instilled, the room named in his honor fittingly serves as a regional archival center for architectural research. Please contact us if you are interested in assisting in the development of the Architectural Drawings Collection. For further information, visit our website at <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/APL/drawcoll.html>.

JIM ROBERTSON (NJIT)

As the New Jersey Institute of Technology's School of Architecture enters its 25th year, it enters a new building as well. By January 1998, phase one of the Building Science Complex will be complete. The \$26 million 195,000 square foot complex brings together the School of Architecture, the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and the University's student services center in separate buildings with separate entrances and identities.

For the first time in its history, the NJIT School of Architecture--the fifth largest in the US--will be in one building. The completely renovated Weston Hall will contain administration offices, imaging labs, model shops, and the Architecture Library. The studios will be housed in the new Weston addition, designed as an open glazed structure providing long views to the city beyond the campus. Nighttime activity in the studios will transform the addition into a lantern illuminating University Heights. A soaring, kinetic, four story atrium will serve as an entrance to the school and connect the two spaces.

The Library will move into a new 6,000 square foot facility representing a 68% increase in space, with a 45% increase in shelving and a 100% increase in user seating. It will be fully wired to the campus backbone--allowing connection to many of the CD-ROMs and other networked information resources available in the main library.

The Architecture Library is a branch of the main library at NJIT. Its holdings include 13,161 volumes, 78,619 slides, and 1,038 maps in addition to videotapes, CD-ROMs, computer disks, product literature, and other material. The library subscribes to 73 journals. Books and journals on related topics, e.g. structures, housing, city planning, landscape architecture, are held at the main library.

In this new facility, the library will be more prominently located. It will occupy most of the 3rd floor of Weston Hall, adjacent to the first level of studios and directly off and highly visible from the atrium.

I was hired as Director last year to lead the library through the spring 1997 NAAB accreditation

review, plan the move to the new space, and develop new services and resources for library users. Anthony Grimaldi, hired last year also, rounds out the staff as Architecture Coordinator and slide collection curator.

I'm excited for the whole School of Architecture about the new space and particularly about the new Library. It will improve our ability to provide new and better services. The new facility symbolizes the end of the journey from an information center to a full-service library.

Emily White (Mississippi State)

The Architecture Library at Mississippi continues to serve as an extension of the design studio, with the provision of docking stations for the students' lap-top computers. All students in the School, from the second semester of the second year forward, are required to purchase personal computers and have them loaded with appropriate software.

The library also serves as a kind of impromptu dormitory, since its soft, block-shaped couches provide sleeping space for students too weary or too harried to rest elsewhere. Sometimes the staff does its best work for the day when a sleeping student is awakened in time to rise and shine for the next class. Fortunately for all, in such a fairly small school, librarians and students know each other quite well. (Faculty have not been seen sleeping in the library, but librarians have been known to have occasional sinking spells.)

The four years of design classes on the Mississippi State campus in Starkville are made up of approximately one hundred and fifty-five students and twenty full-time faculty members. The fifth year program in Jackson, consists of about thirty-five students and four full or part-time faculty.

For benefit of all its patrons, the Architecture Library now is the only repository on the MSU campus for books in the NA classification. For many years a core collection of NAs existed in the main library which has now be transferred to the branch library.

Collection development has benefited from the School's Master of Science program concentrating on digital design. The program is open to students who have demonstrated creative accomplishment in design and have had experience with digital media. The Web site, http://www.sarc.msstate.edu:80/grad_web/program.html, has more information. In response to this program, the Library now boasts a collection of basic titles on the subject of digital media.

Funding for the Library collection has never had a brighter future. For about two years, the School has championed the Joe Pursell Memorial Library Fund, which is fast approaching its first goal of raising a \$100,000 endowment for the library. Joe Pursell, an architect in Jackson for more than forty years, was one of the first supporters of the founding of the School of Architecture at MSU. Indeed, this library continues to be extremely fortunate to have administrative, faculty, staff, and student support from the School and enthusiastic commitment

from the University Libraries. The architecture library now reports to the division of Public Services of the University Libraries and maintains constant and productive communication with library faculty and staff in all areas.



AASL MEMBERS--1997

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North Dakota State University

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Paula Bender
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