

SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA ARCHIVISTS NEWSLETTER

Number 131

ISSN 1931-5473

Spring / Summer 2007

THE ARTHUR BROWN JR. PAPERS: A COLLABORATIVE SUCCESS

For years, the Arthur Brown Jr. papers and architectural records haunted the tiers of The Bancroft Library. The hundreds of rolls of drawings were in heavy demand by users for projects such as restoring the San Francisco Opera House after the 1989 Earthquake and the renovation of San Francisco City Hall, a gem of the American Renaissance. Responding to a research request for them from the Reading Room could bring fear to the pit of a staff member's stomach. Many of the drawings could be served, but it required a great deal of mediation (i.e. searching and uncovering) on the part of staff to do so. The physical condition of the papers was poor, as the bulk of the drawings were stored in their original tubes and portfolios, just as they had come from Brown's office, his daughter's home, and his granddaughter's storage unit. After the last accession in 2002, the papers consisted of thirty-five unorganized cartons, approximately six hundred tubes of drawings, one hundred oversized folders, one hundred portfolios of folded drawings, one hundred twenty framed drawings, two cartons of glass negatives, and one folder of photographic prints. To meet user demands and to preserve the collection first required the integration of all accessions and then the arrangement, rehousing, description, and preservation of the materials. The Bancroft Library lacked the staff, space, and expertise for the project. David de Lorenzo, Associate Director of The Bancroft Library and

Head of Technical Services, in collaboration with Waverly B. Lowell, Curator of the Environmental Design Archives at University of California, Berkeley, wrote a proposal to the Getty Foundation, which, to the delight of all concerned, was funded in the spring of 2005.



*Pasadena City Hall, designed by Arthur Brown Jr., 1928.
Photograph Courtesy of The Bancroft Library. BANC PIC 1981.161*

Arthur Brown Jr. (1874-1957), with his business partner John Bakewell (1872-1963), formed the architectural firm of Bakewell & Brown. Together they designed significant California buildings such as Berkeley City Hall (1908), The Palace of Horticulture at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition (1915), San Francisco City Hall (1915), The Green Library at Stanford University (1919), the Pacific Gas & Electric building in San Francisco (1925), Pasadena City Hall (1925), Temple Emanu-El in San Francisco (1925), and The San Francisco Art Institute (1925).

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PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

You'll note that this article is by both the outgoing President (Dan Lewis) and the incoming (Lucinda Glenn). Because the Presidency has a one-month interregnum that lasts from the end of the AGM for another 30 days, we're both busy with Presidential duties: Dan as the outgoing Prez and Lucinda as incoming.

We hope that you found the AGM to be a satisfying experience. A great deal of the AGM hinges on our all-volunteer organization. Local Arrangements is, as you likely heard at the meeting, perhaps the biggest job in any year. We hope that the three days of workshops, sessions and talks were productive and inspirational, and that you had a chance to visit with old colleagues and meet some new ones. That's one of the best things about the AGM. AGM Local Arrangement Co-Chairs, Erica Bennett and Anita Varela, both new to the SCA, exemplified a duty well done. With thanks for their outstanding work and dedication, the entire membership sends up many loud Huzzahs!!!

In the coming months, look for richer content on the SCA website www.calarchivists.org, as well as the usual slate of useful workshops held in both Northern and Southern California. Look for announcements about the next AGM in Northern California. Be sure to save the dates: April 30 - May 3, 2008.

The vitality, passion, and energy of SCA members is a never-ending wonderment. As incoming Prez, to use Dan's term, the Long Beach AGM provided me an opportunity to talk with so many folks with so many ideas. People brim over with possible projects and issues SCA could take up or carry through, all toward the goal of providing members and the larger profession with the best opportunities for education and advocacy. The mind reels, the heart races. Ideas about

the SCA website, publications, workshops, new member needs, fund-raising, future AGM locations, relationships with other associations and organizations, broader issues facing the profession, and legislative issues on all levels affecting the profession.

Keep those ideas flowing. As a Society, as committees, as a Board, and as members, we can all work toward the practical and the *fait accompli*. Have an idea? Let me know. Have a project in mind or committee you would like to work with? Contact the committee chair. The spirit in us all is indeed willing.

Dan Lewis and Lucinda Glenn
SCA Presidents, 2006-07 and 2007-08

THE SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA ARCHIVISTS, INC.

The Society of California Archivists, Inc. exists to support and develop those who collect, care for, and provide access to the documentary heritage of California and adjoining areas. To this end it:

1. acts as a vehicle for dissemination of information about archival collections, issues, and methodology to the profession and the public;
2. provides a forum for the discussion of matters related to the creation, preservation, and use of historical documents;
3. develops, offers and supports archival education programs;
4. cooperates with individuals and organizations on matters of common concern; and
5. advocates the identification, collection, preservation, use, and appreciation of historical records and manuscripts.

The *SCA Newsletter* (ISSN 1931-5473) is published quarterly on March 15, June 15, September 15, and December 15. All submissions and advertisements for future issues, and all letters to the editors and inquiries regarding the newsletter should be sent to the Newsletter Editors:

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Copy Deadlines: August 1, November 1, February 1, & May 1

Format for Submissions: Articles and items submitted for consideration should be sent via compact disc or e-mail.

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www.calarchivists.org/pubs/SCA_Newsletter.html

Then click on the latest issue!



LOOKING AHEAD TO AGM 2008

Please mark your calendars and plan to join your SCA colleagues at next year's Annual General Meeting, to be held April 30 - May 3, 2008 at Beach Resort Monterey (www.montereybeachresort.com) in Seaside, California. The Monterey Bay Peninsula is a beautiful area immortalized by the writings of John Steinbeck, home to the world-famous Monterey Bay Aquarium, and now the location of what promises to be the most exciting regional professional archival meeting to be held in California in 2008. (Well, perhaps it is the only regional professional archival meeting held in California in 2008 . . . but we'll make it exciting anyway!)

To ensure that it is in fact the most exciting regional professional archival meeting of 2008, we crave your assistance. If you have any comments regarding the 2007 AGM at Long Beach, or if you have any suggestions/ideas/inspirations for the 2008 AGM, they would be most welcome. Please contact me at jrosario@library.berkeley.edu or call me at (510) 642-8175. The session proposal form will be posted soon on the SCA web site.

Looking forward to seeing you at Beach Resort Monterey!

Jane Rosario
SCA Vice-President
Program Chair 2008 AGM



Coit Tower, designed by Arthur Brown Jr., 1933. Courtesy of The Bancroft Library. BANC PIC 1981.161

A COLLABORATIVE SUCCESS (continued from cover page):

After the dissolution of Bakewell & Brown in 1927, Brown went on to practice as Arthur Brown, Jr. & Associates, which designed The San Francisco War Memorial Opera House and Veteran's Building (1932), Department of Labor and Interstate Commerce Commission Building in Washington DC (1934), Coit Tower (1933), Hoover Institution at Stanford University (1941), and Sproul Hall and Doe Library Annex at the University of California, Berkeley (1949). Brown's career spans the waxing and waning of public and professional support for the Beaux-Arts style of architecture and the growing popularity of the Modern style.

In the summer of 2005 The Bancroft Library was in the process of moving to temporary quarters while its permanent building, Doe Annex (designed by Arthur Brown Jr. himself) was being seismically retrofitted. As a result Bancroft moved the Brown collection to a UC-owned building off campus. Since Bancroft staff was so deeply involved in moving, and because the Environmental Design Archives staff has great expertise in processing architectural records (Waverly Lowell wrote the books after all), Bancroft contracted with the Environmental Design Archives to carry out the project work.

In July 2005, Dayna Holz was hired as Project Archivist, and Betsy Frederick-Rothwell as Assistant Archivist. (When Dayna left the project to establish archives at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art in August 2006, Betsy became the Project Archivist.) Together, with guidance from Waverly Lowell and help from student assistants, as well as the involvement of Theresa Salazar, Curator of Western Americana at The Bancroft Library, and Jane Rosario, Principal Processing Archivist at Bancroft, Dayna and Betsy arranged, described, and conserved the papers and drawings.

When processing began, the archivists determined that the papers were in poorer condition than observed when originally surveyed. With limited funding for conservation, the archivists chose to train themselves and their student assistants to do the majority of the work. Project staff participated in two one-day training sessions with professional conservators during which wet-paste mending, adhesive removal using heat, removal of

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SCA AWARD CEREMONY 2007

Debbie Bahn and Cyndi Shein received their checks as the James V. Mink Scholarship winners for 2007 at the Long Beach meeting. They were introduced at the Awards Luncheon along with Jerry Ludeke and Charlotte Cox who represented the Bakersfield College Archives, the recipient of this year's Archives Appreciation Award.

Mrs. Bahn and Ms. Shein received checks for \$500 to cover the cost of attending the annual meeting and a pre-conference workshop. Commenting on her attendance at the workshop on security, Ms. Shein noted, "The session contained an engaging examination of historical heists, how they might have been prevented, and how the materials were eventually recovered (or not)." She concluded, "Frankly, I had no idea there were so many ways for a document to find its way out of a collection and learned to be more vigilant when monitoring the reading room." Cyndi Shein is a graduate of the San Jose State University School of Library and Information Science and recently joined the staff of the Department of Special Collections and Archives at the University of California, Irvine.

Debbie Bahn, a student in the California State University Sacramento Public History program, found the sessions to be both informative and entertaining. She stated, "...two were especially rewarding for me: "Making National History Day Local" and "Authoring the Archive". Both prompted me to think more about our patrons and less about methodology - the opposite of what I experienced as a student."

Reflecting on the "Authoring the Archive" session, she indicated, "I realized that I thought of "records" exclusively in terms of my culture's definition. As an archivist, however, I have a responsibility to understand what constitutes "records" to other cultures."

The Archives Appreciation award, sponsored by Metal Edge, Inc, recognizes work done by institutions, agencies, or organizations on behalf of archival collections. This year the award went jointly to the Bakersfield College Archives Association and Bakersfield College for the work the Association did in promoting the archive and the acceptance of the concept and the establishment of the archive at Bakersfield College. This was the first time the award had been given to two entities. BC promotes itself as the oldest continually operating community college in the state and the Association certainly felt the college records were worth preserving.

In accepting the award, Jerry Ludeke, the Acting Archives Director, expressed her appreciation for the work SCA does in helping those new to the archival field and encouraging the development of archival collections.

The Awards Committee, whose members include Lynn Downey, Carolyn Garner-Reagan, Julie Graham, Michael Hooks, Jim Hofer, Jenifer Martinez Wormser and Chuck



Recognized at the SCA Awards Luncheon: seated left to right, Mink Scholarship winners Debbie Bahn and Cyndi Shein; standing, Charlotte Cox and Jerry Ludeke received the Archives Appreciation Award for the archives at Bakersfield College.

Wilson, welcomes nominees for the Archives Appreciation Award and the SCA Sustained Service Award throughout the year. Information on the awards can be found on the SCA website.

Chuck Wilson
SCA Awards Committee Chair

EDITORS' NOTE:

This will be the last SCA Newsletter edited by Josh Schneider and Alison E. Bridger. It has been our pleasure serving SCA in this capacity, and we look forward to seeing the creative efforts of future Newsletter editors.

Many thanks to our colleagues and friends.

Stay tuned for more SCA news.

Monterey in 2008!

Josh Schneider
Alison E. Bridger

OCCLC Western Digital and Preservation Programs (DPP)

If your institution is ready to develop a digital collection or is engaged in preserving the integrity of your physical collection, OCLC Western is prepared to assist.

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For more information on OCLC Western Digital and Preservation Programs, please contact **Gayle Palmer** or **Linda Stewart** at **1-800-854-5753**, or visit our website at www.oclc.org/western for a complete list of our services, seminars and classes.

Upcoming events and training opportunities of interest:

Please make plans to attend the 3rd annual OCLC Western Digital Forum—Maximizing Metadata, Data Curation and Applications to be held in San Diego on August 9-10, 2007.

This year's forum will highlight national projects of significance and feature experts from the data curation and metadata community. For more information about the Western Digital Forum, please contact Gayle Palmer or Linda Stewart at 1-800-854-5753.



HEARST CASTLE PRESS PRESENTS: *FACES OF HEARST CASTLE*

In 2006 Friends of Hearst Castle and California State Parks joined forces to focus on a shared mission: to educate and inspire interest in art and history through interpretive projects. The result: Hearst Castle Press, a museum press dedicated to offering unique books targeted to the 800,000 annual visitors to Hearst Castle® and those interested in William Randolph Hearst, Hearst Castle, and its associated collections, architecture, and history.

Faces of Hearst Castle, the debut publication of Hearst Castle Press, was co-authored by curator Jana Seely, and Western Archives Institute graduate Keri Collins, who is responsible for the Hearst Castle Archives. “Many publications focus on William Randolph Hearst, Julia Morgan, and the architecture of Hearst Castle, so we felt an urgency to shine the spotlight on some of the many engaging artifacts in the collection. Once we



William Randolph Hearst

decided on the motif of the face, our biggest task was narrowing down our choices!” Ms. Seely said. On the curatorial staff since 1991, Seely’s comprehensive knowledge of the diverse collection of fine and decorative arts ranging from ancient Egypt to Art Deco added to the documentary research, scientific analysis, and scholarly discoveries included in the book’s development. “We enjoyed looking at the archival materials in a new light, searching for faces that would make valuable contributions to the overall story we were telling. The stunning green man tile design for the bell towers, from the collection of Julia Morgan drawings, proved to be one of our favorite images in the book,” Collins added. “We also included an archival photograph of Hearst, a candid shot of him in a European garden, ever the newspaper man with a camera in his hands!”

At 96 pages and with a trim size of 6”x 9,” *Faces of Hearst Castle* is a hardcover book that includes never-before-published

photographs to provide a close-up view of over forty objects purchased—primarily at art auctions—by media magnate William Randolph Hearst. At \$19.95, the book is priced to be an affordable publication that can serve many purposes. “We wanted to give people an option, something different. This is not a large coffee table book or a comprehensive biography, nor is it an overview of the guided tours available.

Faces of Hearst Castle can be thought of as an exhibition on the page. It allows readers to make an immediate and personal connection to Hearst’s art, through incredible photographs and short texts that we hope are educational without being overwhelming,” Seely explained. Photographed in situ to preserve their context as objects in a home rather than isolated in a gallery or studio, each work of art, whether a rhyton in the shape of a ram’s head or a maiden carved from cool marble, is part of the story of Hearst Castle, and the collection that is taking center stage.

“Several items from the estate are on display through next spring in an exhibit titled ‘Treasures from Hearst Castle’ at the California Museum for History, Women, and the Arts in Sacramento. They include the Limoges jewel cabinet, the sculpture of Sekhmet, the Lalique bottle, and the harlequin lamp featured in our book,” Collins said. “Next year the Los Angeles County Museum of Art is presenting an exhibition that looks at Hearst as a collector. We’re delighted that our passion for Hearst’s art collection is being shared with a broader audience, and hope it will inspire people from all over the state to visit the Castle and see for themselves the faces we’re privileged to see on a regular basis.”

Please visit www.hearstcastlepress.org for more information on *Faces of Hearst Castle*.



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CALIFORNIA PRESERVATION PROGRAM UPDATE

In addition to conducting Disaster Preparedness, Response and Recovery workshops throughout the state and providing an information booth at SCA's AGM, the California Preservation Program has been an active supporter of California Alliance for Response, a series of forums held during 2006 and 2007 in Sacramento, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego. Sponsored by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES), Heritage Preservation's Emergency National Task Force, the Cultural Property Protection Group, local governments, and the institutions that house our state's treasures, last September's inaugural series of workshops brought together approximately 70 first responders and representatives from more than 200 cultural institutions.

Building on those foundations, this Spring's forums featured presentations and interactive activities designed to reduce the potential loss of valuable art works, artifacts and other items of historic and cultural significance in future emergencies by improving the lines of communications among

first responders, emergency managers and representatives of California's cultural institutions. Participants learned how to conduct emergency exercises, establish an incident command post, protect key resources, use community emergency response teams (CERT) and volunteers, and develop hazard mitigation plans.

For decades California has been recognized as a leader in emergency management and response through innovations such as the Standardized Emergency Management System, which is the basis for the National Incident Management System. California is rapidly becoming a model for other states in preserving cultural heritage and has the distinction of being the only state with regional library disaster networks. Visit the CalPreservation website at www.calpreservation.org/about/networks.html for more information about joining a regional library disaster network near you.

Mary Morganti

California Preservation Program Steering Committee and
Co-Administrator for the Bay Area Mutual Aid Network (BAMAN)

A COLLABORATIVE SUCCESS *(continued from cover page):*

cardboard backing using a custom-made Teflon tool, removal of wax-based dry-mount with heat, and removal of water-based adhesive. With this training, the project staff carried out almost all basic conservation and preservation treatments necessary for ensuring the longevity of Brown's papers. One of the biggest challenges was unfolding, humidifying, flattening, and rolling the full-scale detail drawings that were fragile and often exceeded five feet in length.

As with many historical collections, documents created by Arthur Brown, Jr. were dispersed to various organizations throughout his life and posthumously. Many of the early administrative and financial documents of Bakewell & Brown went with John Bakewell after the dissolution of the firm. Many drawings and other documents for large institutional projects were given to the original client by Arthur Brown's widow. Colleagues and employees retained other materials and then donated them along with their own papers to other institutions. While this is a natural process for historical documents, it can be quite frustrating for researchers. One of the goals of the processing project was to gather together or establish the locations of as many of Brown's projects as possible.

The first collaboration came before the project began when Waverly Lowell encouraged the Architectural Drawing Collection at the University of California, Santa Barbara to transfer the small Bakewell & Brown Collection to be integrated with the Brown papers held at Bancroft.

Additionally, although many of the Stanford University-related projects had been transferred to Stanford by Brown's

family before the bulk of the collection came to Bancroft, some Stanford materials remained in Bancroft's collection and vice versa. Happily, the University Archivist at Stanford University, Margaret J. Kimball, agreed to exchange the Stanford drawings for Berkeley drawings, thus reuniting projects and reducing confusion and travel time for researchers.

Other collaborations took place within the Berkeley campus. Not only did the Environmental Design Archives project staff contribute knowledge and expertise to the processing of the Brown papers, but also this arrangement also allowed them to compare related collections held at the Environmental Design Archives (EDA), and in some cases to reunite project records by transferring records from the EDA to the Bancroft. The UC Berkeley Capital Projects office also collaborated to reproduce official plans for university buildings and transfer the originals to the University Archives.

Completed in June 2007, this collaborative project has been a great success. After The Bancroft Library has returned to Doe Annex and is open to the public (in late 2008; check bancroft.berkeley.edu for information), the Arthur Brown Jr. papers will become accessible and servable as they have never been before. The finding aids for the manuscripts and pictorial collections will be published on the Online Archive of California (www.oac.cdlib.org), and the tubes and framed items will no longer confound and daunt Bancroft staff and patrons.

Submitted by Jane Rosario, with much assistance from
Waverly Lowell, Betsy Frederick-Rothwell, and Dayna Holz

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Calendar

July 27, 2007: SCA. *Implementing DACS*, San Francisco Public Library.

August 6 - 10, 2007: SAA. Electronic Records Summer Camp, UC San Diego; La Jolla, CA.

August 27 - September 2, 2007: SAA Annual Meeting; Chicago, IL.

November 5, 2007: SAA. *Becoming a Film-Friendly Archivist*, Loma Linda University, Del E. Webb Memorial Library; Loma Linda, CA.

November 28 - 29, 2007: NEDCC and OCLC. Digital Preservation Conference; Seattle, WA.

April 30 - May 3, 2008: SCA AGM Monterey, CA.

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