Construction History on the Frontier

CHSA Members Meeting
July 20-22, 2017
University of Washington - Seattle

Leading construction historians and independent scholars will address the theme of *Construction History on the Frontier*—exploring construction history in the American West, with particular focus on Seattle and the Pacific Northwest—during the Construction History Society’s Members’ Meeting this July.

Within a setting of towering mountains and expansive waterways, civic development has continually demanded new construction solutions. In addressing this topic, essential subjects include resource extraction and refinement into building materials (timber, stone, concrete, etc.), transportation infrastructure (railroads, canals, bridges, roads, etc.), modern architecture of the 20th century, advancements in structural engineering, and the adoption of new technological processes in the building industry. As the city continues to grow, new projects continue this legacy of innovation while raising issues of equitable urban development and historic preservation.
SEATTLE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Jon Magnusson, PE, SE, Senior Principal at Magnusson Klemencic Associates (MKA), has provided structural engineering services for 40 years on major projects in the Puget Sound area and throughout the world. Some of his Seattle projects include the Experience Music Project, Key Arena, Safeco Field, Century Link Field, Seattle Federal Courthouse, Seattle Central Library, Husky Stadium, and Benaroya Hall. He received the Designer Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Institute of Steel Construction, is an honorary member of the American Institute of Architects, and is a member of the National Academy of Engineering. He served as CEO of MKA for 25 years. The firm was founded in Seattle in 1920 and has provided engineering services in 46 states and 54 countries from its headquarters in Seattle.

Michael Lombardi started at Boeing in 1979 and has been the Senior Corporate Historian for the Boeing Company for the last 20 years. He is also the corporate historian for North American Aviation and manager of Boeing Historical Services which includes the company’s historical archives. Mr. Lombardi has presented lectures on aerospace history to the AIAA, the Royal Aeronautical Society, The Air League of the UK and several air museums. He is a regular contributor to the Boeing Frontiers magazine and has published a book on the history of Strategic Airpower. He is currently working on a history of Boeing Plant 2 in Seattle. As a spokesperson for Boeing, Mr. Lombardi has appeared in documentaries for the Discovery Channel, PBS, Smithsonian Channel, and BBC as well as in Germany, Russia, Japan and China. He is also currently on the board of trustees for Seattle’s Museum of History and Industry and serves as a guest curator for the Museum of Flight.

Knute “Skip” Berger is a Seattle author, columnist, and commentator. He is the award-winning “Mossback” columnist for the online non-profit news site Crosscut.com where he focuses on the intersection of Pacific Northwest politics and heritage; Editor-at-Large and columnist for Seattle magazine; and a regular commentator on Seattle’s NPR affiliate KUOW-FM. He is consulting historian for the Space Needle. His books include the ebook Roots of Tomorrow: Tales of Early Seattle Urbanism (2014), Space Needle, Spirit of Seattle (2012) and Pugetopolis: A Mossback Takes on Growth Addicts, Weather Wimps and the Myth of Seattle Nice (2009). He also has long established interests in world’s fairs (he’s attended nine) and time capsules (he was chief “architect” of the Washington Centennial Time Capsule Project).

Jeffrey Karl Ochsner FAIA is a Professor in the Department of Architecture at the University of Washington in the areas of architectural design, architectural history, urban design, and historic preservation. He served as Chair of the Department of Architecture from 1996 to 2002 and is Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, College of Built Environments. He is author of H. H. Richardson: Complete Architectural Works (1982), editor and co-author of Shaping Seattle Architecture: A Historical Guide to the Architects, co-author of Distant Corner: Seattle Architects and the Legacy of H. H. Richardson (2003), and author of Lionel H. Pries, Architect, Artist, Educator: From Arts & Crafts to Modern Architecture (2007), and Furniture Studio: Materials, Craft, and Architecture (2012). He has published articles in the Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, JAE: Journal of Architectural Education, Fabrications, Pacific Northwest Quarterly, American Imago, ARCADE and other journals. He has twice won the College of Built Environments Lionel Pries Award for teaching excellence and is a Fellow in the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and a recipient of the Association of College Schools of Architecture (ACSA) Distinguished Professor Award.
NEW!
RESOURCE REPOSITORY - The Best of Construction History

If you haven’t visited the CHSA website recently check out the new RESOURCES section!

http://www.constructionhistorysociety.org/resources/

SMALL SAMPLE OF RESOURCES...

TO FURTHER OUR DISCIPLINE OF CONSTRUCTION HISTORY
Thanks to CHSA members and faculty of the University of Virginia, University of Minnesota and Iowa State University for sharing their syllabi!

Ben Hays, History of American Building Technology
Tom Leslie, Big & Tall: Construction History from the Pyramids to the Burj Khalifa

BOOKS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS
Nair, Stella and Protzen, Jean-Pierre. The Stones of Tiahuanaco: A Study of Architecture and Construction
Johnston, George. Drafting Culture: A Social History of Architectural Graphic Standards
Cleary, Richard Louis. The Place Royale and Urban Design in the Ancien Regime

MORE...

VIDEOS AND PODCASTS
Innovations in Tunnel Construction Methods
Construction History of Disneyland
Construction Machine: Heavy Equipment

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
In June 2015, Santiago Huerta gave a keynote address at the 5th International Congress on Construction History in which he outlined the history of the discipline.

Jeffrey Beard analyzed heritage, preservation and architectural history programs in the United States and whether they address civil infrastructure and industrial heritage.
WEIRD SEATTLE - FREMONT TROLL

A giant Troll lurks under a Seattle bridge overpass! An 18-ft. tall troll made of cement clutches an old VW car under-neath this Seattle bridge. The car is an actual Volkswagen encased in concrete; it bears a California license plate. The Troll was constructed in 1990 after winning a Fremont Arts Council competition for designs to improve the freeway underpass that was a dumping ground. He was sculpted by four local artists: Steve Badanes, Will Martin, Donna Walter, and Ross Whitehead.

2017 ANNIVERSARY
ENGINEERING NEWS RECORD

Submitted by Brian Bowen

This year is the centennial of the publication of the Engineering News Record. The magazine is issued weekly and is probably the only American periodical that consistently covers our construction industry in all its facets.

In fact ENR can trace its roots back to 1874 beginning life as “The Engineer & Surveyor” but changing its name in the following year to “Engineering News”. In 1911 it was purchased by John A. Hill. In 1877 another magazine was being published under the title “The Plumbing and Sanitary Engineer”, changing its name accordingly in 1890 to “Engineering Record”. It was purchased in 1902 by James H. McGraw.

After a few years of competition the two publications merged in 1917 as the “Engineering News Record” and remained an important part of the McGraw-Hill publishing company until being sold in 2015 to BNP Media.

Note that CHSA holds a complete index of issues since 1900 of ENR and its predecessor given to us by McGraw-Hill at the time of sale. Please contact Melanie Feerst for more information. melaniefeerst@gmail.com

SEATTLE DEADLINE EXTENDED TO FEBRUARY 15, 2017!

SEEKING PRESENTATIONS IN THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS

West Coast Building Innovations
Transportation
Infrastructure
Materials & Assemblies
Tall and Large Structures
Earthquake Resistant Construction
Steel

Please send a paragraph describing your presentation to melaniefeerst@gmail.com by February 15, 2017.
**SEATTLE MOVIES - get in the mood!**

**Sleepless in Seattle** - a 1993 American comedy directed by Nora Ephron and starring Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan.

**Fifty Shades of Grey** is a 2011 film based on British author E. L. James that everyone was secretly reading. Second of three installments just released.

**Burn After Reading** - a 2008 American black comedy directed by Joel and Ethan Coen. The film stars George Clooney, John Malkovich, Frances McDormand, Tilda Swinton, and Brad Pitt.

**The Fabulous Baker Boys** is a 1989 musical starring Jeff and Beau Bridges as brothers struggling to make a living as lounge jazz pianists in Seattle.

**Twin Peaks: Fire Walk with Me** is a 1992 film directed by David Lynch which reprised the cancelled TV series shot in Seattle. Who can forget the Log Lady?

**An Officer and a Gentleman** is the 1982 Cinderella story starring Debra Winger and Richard Gere, shot in Port Townsend and Fort Worden.

**House of Games** is the first film directed by David Mamet (1987) who also wrote the screenplay. Lindsay Crouse and Joe Mantegna give magnetic performances and the plot twists and turns.

**OPPORTUNITY**

**Thomas Jefferson’s Poplar Forest Architectural History / Architectural Restoration Field School**

**May 14 – May 27, 2017**

**Application deadline: April 7**

The program provides an overview of the philosophy, process, and techniques for museum-quality architectural restoration and conservation. Students, professionals, and instructors from any background and discipline may qualify. The program is limited to 10 participants each year. Components include: the history of Thomas Jefferson and his villa retreat; architectural investigation, documentation, and restoration techniques. Behind-the-scenes visits to other museum properties are included. A key part of the program is investigating and documenting an historic structure and producing an historic structures investigation report. This is an excellent understanding of the nexus of historic architecture, architectural history, and public history. Scholarships are available.

More information and a typical schedule can be found on the web site: [http://www.poplarforest.org/programs/restoration/field_school](http://www.poplarforest.org/programs/restoration/field_school)

Contact: Travis McDonald (434) 534-8123, travis@poplarforest.org.
OPPORTUNITY

Excavations of the Baths at Roman Carsulae (ITALY)

June 11 – July 22, 2017 / application deadline is Friday, March 31, 2017

Project and Location - The Roman city of Carsulae, founded in the third century BCE along the Via Flaminia in modern Umbria, was extensively excavated from the 1950s to the 1970s, uncovering a number of its public buildings including the forum, amphitheatre and theatre and transformed the entire area into an archaeological park. In 2011, we constructed a roof over the remains of the baths, and our goal for the 2017 season is to complete the excavation of the portion of the baths that lies beneath the protective roof in preparation for an intensive conservation plan that will ultimately encompass the entire bath complex.

Program - Our field program welcomes both students and volunteers. No experience is necessary, only an enthusiasm for archaeology and the ability to work hard in rigorous conditions. Participants are instructed in excavation strategies, techniques and recording, the formulation of research questions and priorities, identification and handling of artifacts, drafting of site plans, and analytical rendering.

Cost - The program fee is $975.00 per week which includes a shared room as well as all meals five days a week. All equipment and local transportation is also provided. We are not offering credit this season, however we are happy to work with your university.

Dates - The excavation season runs for six weeks, and we strongly encourage participation in the entire program so one can experience all stages of an excavation. Alternatively, you may participate in a three-week session.

Accommodations - We stay at the Albergo Duomo, three or four people to a room, in the charming hill town of San Gemini, just three kilometers from Carsulae. All rooms have private baths and air conditioning, and the hotel is equipped with free wireless.

For further details and to apply please visit our website.
http://ww2.valdosta.edu/~jwhitehe/Carsulaeweb/Carsulae_home.htm

Photography: Alessandro Manciucca

WHY RENEW YOUR CHSA MEMBERSHIP?

NEW FEATURES: Corporate Profiles, Travelogue
RESEARCH REPOSITORY - Construction History syllabi, books and articles, all located in one place on the website!
Memberships are valid January 1 - December 31 of a calendar year.
http://chsamembership.wildapricot.org/page-1560508
SEATTLE UNDERGROUND

City Center - Pioneer Square
Visitors can join a guided walking tour beneath Seattle’s sidewalks and streets, exploring the subterranean passages that once were the main roadways and first-floor storefronts of old downtown Seattle. The guides relay stories of the city’s colorful and sordid past. The tours walk through three blocks of the underground, including an old saloon, shopfronts, and a hotel.

OPPORTUNITY - CALL FOR REVIEWERS

Do you enjoy reading books in economics, social science, humanities? Join our community of book reviewers! To join you must be an expert in one of the areas we publish [https://vernonpress.com/](https://vernonpress.com/) and be prepared to review at least one book every two years.

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