

Construction History Society of America

JANUARY 2016

CHSA is a forum for scholars and professionals to meet and exchange ideas and research. Membership is open to a wide range of construction related disciplines involved in the planning, development, design, construction, operation and preservation of buildings and engineering infrastructure.



Construction Historians will gather in Austin Texas May 26-28 for the 5th Biennial on Construction History, jointly presented by the Construction History Society of America and the University of Texas at Austin. The conference seeks to establish a discussion within the frame of *knowledge exchange and building technology transfer*. Close to fifty abstracts will be presented which depict the spectrum of scenarios, building solutions, industry, and cultural transformations that are the result of those exchanges and transferences. Keep reading to discover conference highlights and more about Austin!

Enjoy the January Newsletter - despite it being a few days late! Thank you to the members who responded to our survey last year - you told us that the newsletter needed a re-design, and we listened. Look for more new features, like TRAVELOGUE, to appear in future editions. Thank you to the members who submitted opportunities, research, book announcements and calls for abstracts - keep them coming!

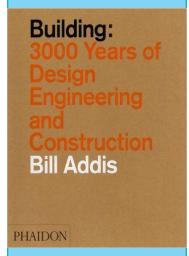
Melanie Feerst - Executive Director

REGISTER NOW for the 5th Biennial Meeting on Construction History in Austin http://chsamembership.wildapricot.org
look for the REGISTER button

MORE INFO ON 5th BIENNIAL Pages 2, 3, 8 Conferences, Calls for Abstracts Pages 4, 5 ENR INDEXES New Books Page 6, 9 Travelogue NEW feature! Page 7 Thanks to our Corporate Members! Page 7 CHSA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL RAFFLE

JOIN OR RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP BY
FEBRUARY 14TH TO
BE ENTERED INTO A
DRAWING TO WIN ONE
OF THESE PRIZES!

http://chsamembership.wildapricot.org Hit JOIN US to renew!





Pocketmonkey tool, level keychain, or a pack of tool erasers



CHSA's 5th BIENNIAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Knowledge Exchange and Building Technology Transfer - Abstract session themes:

Prefabrication in North America

The 19th Century

Bridges

Mid-Century Architecture

Construction Units: Terracotta, Glass & Brick

Pre-colonial and Colonial Latin America

Code, Theory & Management

Shells and Spatial Structures I and II

Skin and Guts: Envelope and Mechanical Systems

Opening Lecture by Richard Cleary

Keynotes by Tom F. Peters and Roberto Meli

Three tours to choose from (one is included in your registration fee):

Bridges - Transportation, Austin and Immediate Surroundings
San Antonio Franciscan Missions
Painted Churches of Texas



Keynote Roberto Meli



Richard Cleary



Keynote Tom F. Peters

VISITING AUSTIN

PIEOUS PIZZA
Wood fired pizza in quirky
flavors like Brussels Sprouts
and Jam. Great Pastrami!
http://www.southaustinfood-ie.com/2013/04/pieous.html

THE MEAN EYED CAT
Johnny Cash inspired bar
http://themeaneyedcat.com

AUSTIN PANIC ROOM
Get locked in a room with
your friends and search for
clues to escape
http://texaspanicroom.com/austin/

THE ALAMO
Find out who the Yellow Rose
of Texas was
http://www.thealamo.org

MUSEUM OF THE WEIRD
See the latest news on the
search for the Loch Ness
Monster and Bigfoot
http://www.museumofthe-weird.com/news/

LADY BIRD JOHNSON WILD-FLOWER CENTER

https://www.wildflower.org/ about.php

TOP TEN LIVE MUSIC

http://www.theguardian. com/travel/2012/oct/17/top-10-live-music-venues-austin

PLAN TO VISIT ONE OF
AUSTIN'S BEST BBQ JOINTS
https://www.thrillist.com/
eat/austin/local-bbq-expertsin-austin-picks-for-best-barbecue

AUSTIN INVITED LECTURES

RICHARD CLEARY

Opening Lecture- Friday, May 27 from 9-10 am AUSTIN, GROWING CITY LIMITS

Dr. Cleary joined the UT School of Architecture faculty in 1995. His most recent book, *Bridges* (2007), a volume in the Norton/Library of Congress Visual Sourcebooks in Architecture, Design and Engineering, surveys the history of bridge design in the United States. His book, *The Place Royale and Urban Design in the Ancien Regime* (Cambridge University Press, 1999), examines the public squares in France designed to honor Kings Louis XIV and Louis XV. Another book and an exhibition, *Merchant Prince and Master Builder: Edgar J. Kaufmann and Frank Lloyd Wright* (Carnegie Museum of Art and University of Washington Press, 1999), investigates the Kaufmann family's long association with the architect, which produced Fallingwater, one of the iconic works of the 20th century, and many unrealized projects for Pittsburgh and elsewhere. Dr. Cleary's current research projects include studies of Frank Lloyd Wright and building technology, for which he recently received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Council of Learned Societies, and of architecture commissioned, designed, or built by French missionaries in Texas in the 19th century.

TOM F. PETERS

KEYNOTE: Friday May 27 from 5:15 - 6:15pm

Eiffel of Paris, Jenney of Chicago, and their French Engineering Education

Peters is Lehigh University Emeritus Professor of Architecture and History. His writing ranges from the theory of technological thinking in civil engineering and architectural design, cultural theory in structural engineering, and pedagogical studies on teaching construction and materials, to treatises on construction history, a field he helped develop from the mid 1970s. He is the author of many influential books, reports and articles and is known for his expertise in antiquarian books that deal with civil engineering and construction.

ROBERTO MELI

KEYNOTE: Saturday, May 28 from 9-10am

BUILDING TRANSFERENCE KNOWLEDGE IN COLONIAL MEXICO

Meli is an Emeritus professor at the National University of Mexico where he has taught since 1967. He was visiting professor at the University of Texas at Austin, in 1987. His research activity has dealt with different topics of the structural behaviour of buildings, mainly regarding the effects of earthquakes on concrete and masonry structures. He has kept a continuous and intense activity on research and consulting on structural safety and rehabilitation of historic buildings, being member of the National Council on Monuments in Mexico and of the International Scientific Council on Analysis and Rehabilitation of Architectural Heritage (ISCARSAH-ICOMOS).



A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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Brian Bowen, Georgia Tech,
Atlanta, GA
Melanie Feerst (Executive
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OPPORTUNITIES OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS

ARCHITECTURAL IRON & STEEL IN THE 21st CENTURY: Design and Preservation of Contemporary & Historic Architecture

April 2 - April 3, 2016, at MIT, Cambridge MA

This important international conference – organized by Technology & Conservation, MIT Dept. of Architecture's Building Technology Program, and the Boston Society of Architects' Historic Resources Committee – is the latest in our series of biennial conferences on architectural materials. Over 35 noted architects, engineers, and researchers will give presentations.

Topics: – basic properties of cast iron, wrought iron, and steels and their effect on performance and durability – advances in structural steels, weathering steels, stainless steels, and other steels – developments in construction techniques for use in restoration/preservation projects and in new designs – procedures for evaluating steel's condition – steps to prevent and/or minimize degradation, as well as – several case histories focusing on both historic cast iron and wrought iron structures and steel buildings and on modern ones that represent a variety of building types (including education, religious, cultural institutions; military and government structures; residential and commercial buildings).

www.architects.org/sites/default/files/2016%20arch.iron&steel%20conf.-revised%20info%20flyer.pdf

Susan E. Schur, 1-617-623-4488, e-mail: ses_tec_con@msn.com

THOMAS JEFFERSON'S POPLAR FOREST ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY FIELD SCHOOL

May 15 – May 28, 2016

Application deadline: March 25, 2016

Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest announces its two week intensive 2016 Architectural History Field School. The program provides an overview of the philosophy, process, and techniques for museum-quality architectural restoration and conservation. Components include: the history of Thomas Jefferson and his villa retreat, architectural investigation, documentation, and restoration techniques and materials. A key part of the program is investigating and documenting an historic structure and producing a historic structures investigation report. Scholarships are available.

http://www.poplarforest.org/programs/restoration-field-school

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

SAN GEMINI PRESERVATION STUDIES PROGRAM

Application deadline: March 15, 2016

Session One (May 30 – June 24)

Building Restoration: Touching the Stones Archaeological Ceramics Restoration

Book Bindings Restoration

Session Two (July 11 - August 5)

Paper Restoration

Traditional Painting Restoration

Intersession Programs (June 25 – July 8):

Now in its 18th year, we are accepting applications for summer 2016 field school, dedicated to the preservation of cultural heritage and offering students the opportunity to study and travel in Italy.

http://sp-conserv.org/

Max Cardillo <cardillo.m@sp-conserv.org>

FACTS ABOUT AUSTIN

Austin has the biggest urban bat colony in North America! About 1.5 million bats live under the Congress Avenue bridge from March to November, and emerge at dusk. During their "off season" they migrate to Mexico.

The Texas State Capitol building in Austin is the biggest of all state capitols in terms of square footage. Only the US Capitol in D.C. is bigger.

There are more than 100 live music venues all over Austin, many on 6th Street. Not just country, you can find any type of music in Austin.

Willie Nelson is Austin's most famous resident. Other celebrities that spend time in Austin are Sandra Bullock (who has a home and owns Bess Bistro on W 6th and Walton's catering), Matthew McConaughey (UT Texas Alum!) and Renee Zellweger.

Austin has the only Formula One Race Track in the US! The first event took place in November of 2012.

The Darrell K. Royal – Texas
Memorial Football Stadium (home
of the University of Texas
Longhorns), is among the top 10
largest stadiums in the world, with a
seating capacity of 100,000 people.

Austin is rated the 14th safest city in America!

The only city in the world known to still operate a system of Moonlight towers! Moonlight towers are lighting structures designed to illuminate areas of a city at night and were very popular in the 19th century.



CALLS FOR ABSTRACTS / PAPERS

APT San Antonio Oct 30 - Nov 2, 2016

Theme: Preserving Heritage with Tomorrow's Technology

Hilton Palacio del Rio, San Antonio

Deadline: Friday March 11

Student Scholar Deadline: Thursday March 31

Submissions for APT San Antonio paper presentations and APT Student Scholar abstract / applications are now being accepted online. San Antonio welcomes APT to the Lone Star State in a style all its own. San Antonio does not just 'preserve' its extraordinary heritage, its heritage is an integral part of the city's life and spirit. APT San Antonio aims to capture that spirit through the conference tracks listed below.

CONFERENCE TRACKS

Spanish Colonia Structures, Traditions and Cultures

Revisiting Mid-Century Modern
Concrete: Materials and Innovations

Cultural Landscapes: Patterns and Palimpsests Vernacular Heritage: Honoring the Ordinary

https://www.conferenceabstracts.com/cfp2/login.asp?EventKey=XEYDVWOP

THE 6TH INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL PAINT RESEARCH CONFERENCE:

Powers of Ten: Expanding the APR Toolbox March 15-17, 2017 at Columbia University, NY

Abstract Deadline: February 15, 2016

Like the Charles and Ray Eames 1977 short film, Powers of Ten, Architectural Paint Research (APR) deals with magnitudes of scale, from a single pigment particle, to a painted house, to the decorative tastes of an entire region. In the spirit of the film, the 2017 APR conference aims to take a closer look at how we carry out our research at every level, from the micro to the macroscopic. Submissions are invited from APR specialists and advanced students, as well as members of related disciplines including art conservators, preservation architects, decorative painters, heritage managers and materials scientists.

Topics should ideally include but are not limited to:

Non-traditional or Overlooked Finishes

Case studies with a Focus on Cross-section Microscopy

Research into paint materials and technologies

Replication of Historic Finishes

Projects Revisited

Website: www.apr2017.org

http://www.apr2017.org/call-for-abstracts/

Mary Jablonski mjablonski@jbconservation.com

SESAH 2016 Southeast Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians September 29 – October 1, 2016 In New Orleans

Deadline: March 31, 2016

SESAH invites new perspectives on the architecture of the city, the region, and beyond. Potential themes of interest include creolized architecture, world fairs, the impact of disasters on the built environment, modernism, enslavement architecture, cemeteries, schools, Historically Black Colleges and Universities and more. Student travel grants available. Laura Ewen Blokker lblokker@tulane.edu

http://www.sah.org/jobs-and-careers/recent-opportunities/2016/01/18/default-calendar/sesah-conference-in-new-orleans---cfp

NEW ADDITION TO THE CONSTRUCTION HISTORY COMMUNITY

Joining Construction History Societies in Spain, Italy, France and Germany as well as CHSA!

Please welcome The Portuguese Society for Construction History to our community!

http://www.spehc.pt

Links to related Societies and Groups (including Building Trades and Engineering groups) http://www.constructionhistory.co.uk/links-related-societ-

ies-groups/

DOING RESEARCH?

Check our these key resources for information on Construction History

http://www.constructionhistory.co.uk/sources-information-construction-history/

Additional Sources:
See PAGE 6 for more
information on how to
use the Engineering News
Records' archives

SYMPOSIUM

2016 APT Western Great Lakes Chapter Symposium "Modern Demands of Historic Structural Systems" April 16, 2016

http://www.aptwglc.com

ENGINEERING NEWS RECORD INDEXES

We are pleased to let you know that CHSA has been gifted by the ENR with six volumes of indexes to their weekly issues from 1900 to 1943. These are being held in the Georgia Institute of Technology library in the custody of Brian Bowen. ENR originated as two separate publications. One was called "The Engineer and Surveyor" when it started publication in 1874, but was renamed "Engineering News" a year later. In 1911 it was purchased by John A. Hill. The second publication was originally called "The Plumber and Sanitary Engineer" and started in 1877. By 1890 it was called "Engineering Record". In 1902 it was purchased by James H. McGraw. The two magazines were competitors for some time, but eventually merged in 1917 to become the "Engineering News & Record". McGraw-Hill went on to become a powerhouse in publishing and data services to the construction industry. More recently in 2015 ENR (and Architectural Record) were sold to BNP Media.

The volumes we have are indexed under main subject headings, such as Highways, Bridges, Buildings, Sewers, Concrete, Hydraulics, etc., etc. and then by article heading with reference to the year, volume and page number. Access to these is best found through a technical university library that can be identified via worldcat.com. If you have a subject that you are researching for which you need to check if ENR ever published any coverage, contact Brian at brian.bowen@coa.gatech.edu or call him at 404-378-3779. For indexes prior to 1900 please contact Scott Lewis at ENR (lewisw@ bnpmedia.com or 646-849-7121) - he has the only published indexes for that period.

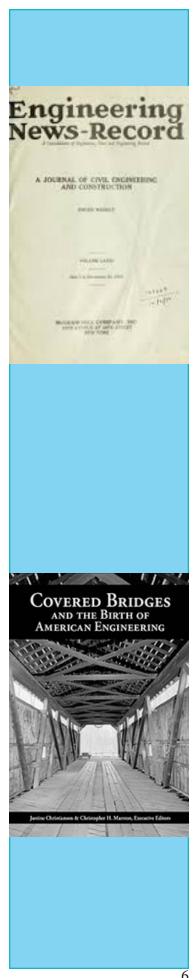
NEW BOOKS

COVERED BRIDGES AND THE BIRTH OF AMERICAN ENGINEERING ISBN # 978-0-578-17106-7

The Historic American Engineering Record (HAER), a division of the National Park Service (NPS), Heritage Documentation Programs, announces the publication of Covered Bridges and the Birth of American Engineering, edited by Justine Christianson and Christopher H. Marston.

The book represents the culmination of research under the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)-sponsored National Historic Covered Bridge Preservation (NHCBP) Program. HAER and the FHWA's Office of Infrastructure Research and Development have maintained a joint research and technology program for historic covered bridges since 2002. This partnership has also included a variety of initiatives including documentation, engineering studies, National Historic Landmark designations, conferences, and a traveling exhibition. This book examines the development of wood trusses and covered bridge construction, profiles the pioneering craftsmen and engineers involved, explores the function of trusses in covered bridges, and looks at the preservation and future of these distinctly American bridges. The editors have collaborated with some of the leading historians and engineers of historic covered bridges in the country to produce this volume. Contributors include Dario Gasparini, who has given papers at the all of International Congresses on Construction History events, as well as James Barker, Lola Bennett, Joseph Conwill, Matthew Reckard, and Rachel Sangree. Richard O'Connor and Sheila Rimal Duwadi supplied overviews of the HAER and NHCBP programs, and Michael Harrison and David Simmons provided invaluable editorial assistance. HAER is distributing this publication to members of the historic bridge community nationwide.

Additional copies may be requested while supplies last, by contacting Christopher H. Marston at christopher marston@nps.gov. A PDF version of the book is available electronically at: http://www.nps.gov/hdp/coveredbridges.htm



TRAVELOGUE - Melanie Feerst's visit to the National Building Museum

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F Street NW; Washington DC \$10 adults, \$7 children, students, seniors http://www.nbm.org

A few words about the exhibitions...

Building and Great Hall: Built between 1882 and 1887 to house the U.S. Pension Bureau (similar to today's Department of Veterans Affairs) and as a national memorial to the Union forces that fought in the Civil War. Designed by General Montgomery C. Meigs (1816-92) with a large interior space for public events, the gorgeous space has hosted 18 inaugural celebrations, including President Obama's Commander-in-Chief Ball. Meigs designed an innovative air flow plan that omitted doors between perimeter offices and the Great Hall, to allow fresh air flow. The Corinthian Columns supporting the Great Hall are among the tallest in the world and are based upon similar columns in the church of Santa Maria degli Angeli in Rome, a 16th c work by Michelangelo. High above the center court are busts that represent the eight professions allied with the building trades: bricklayer, architect, construction worker, landscape architect, financier, engineer, craftsman and developer.

House and Home: part nostalgia with over 200 objects used in American homes (Easy Bake Oven!), models of famous sites (including the Sears Tower in Chicago that it looks like they had to dismantle light fixtures to install), and full scale samples of corner framing construction.

The New American Garden: The Landscape Architecture of Wolfgang Oehme and James van Sweden: self-sustaining, revolutionary modern landscape architecture that includes projects such as the Chicago Botanic Gardens.

Great for Children of all ages! Super large blocks to create tall towers and large space to build

Sorry I missed....Antique Tool Collection (behind-the-scenes look of their collection dating from mid-19th through 20th centuries). Part of their Collections Connection Tour program



Facade corner detail



Great Hall



National Building Museum



Marker showing figurative sculpture representing the **Building Trades**

5th Biennial TOURS

BRIDGES - TRANSPORTATION, AUSTIN AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDINGS

This tour will offer an afternoon visit to three innovative wire-supported structures. These bridges are Central Texas transportation landmarks: a multilevel Post-Modernist interchange, a suspended-deck arch bridge, and a fin-back bridge. Co-lead by a retired TxDOT senior bridge engineer and a TxDOT bridge historian.



Hill Country Tour (to be confirmed) CONFIRM YOUR INTEREST BY CHECKING THE BOX DURING REGISTRATION

This day-long tour visits several notable bridges including an extremely rare concrete truss, a rehabilitated suspension bridge constructed by an important Texas builder, and a fin-back. Along the way we will see a sweeping landscape made legendary by Chester Nimitz, Lyndon Johnson, and Robert E Lee. Please note that there is a separate Tour fee which includes Texas-style BBQ for lunch and dinner at a microbrewery specializing in German food.

SAN ANTONIO FRANCISCAN MISSIONS

This afternoon tour will offer a visit to the National Park of the Franciscan Missions at San Antonio Texas. These historic landmarks built during the 18th Century have been designated as World Heritage Site within UNESCO's list. The outstanding craft and elaborate stone carving makes this historic buildings unique in NorthAmerica. The tour will be guided by specialists involved in the restoration and preparation of the nomination dossier submitted to UNESCO.

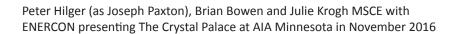
PAINTED CHURCHES OF TEXAS

This afternoon tour will offer a visit to Central Texas countryside visiting the historic churches also know as The Painted Churches. These buildings near Schulenburg TX reveal the delicate artistry of Czech and German immigrants to this Texan region. Exuberant

decorations characterize these historic structures as an example of the cultural transference that took place during the 19th-century. Guided by local historians.









...SEE YOU IN AUSTIN!



NEW BOOK AND WEBSITE

POST-WAR BUILDING MATERIALS IN HOUSING IN BRUSSES 1945 - 1975 is a book and website that covers the development and application of innovative building materials and assemblies used in residential construction in Brussels, Belgium, 1945-1975. This was a time of considerable innovation and not a few bad ideas – the consequences of which are lately coming to light. Although the book covers materials used in Belgium, many were made abroad and imported, or made in Belgium by foreign companies. Moreover, one can compare the range of materials being used in Europe with contemporary practice in the U.S.

The book and website, in three languages (English, Dutch and French), are the result of a research project sponsored by the Brussels institute Innoviris and carried out by several members of the 'Reuse' research team of the department of Architectural Engineering, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB). The project leaders are our colleagues, construction history congress stalwarts, Stephanie Van de Voorde, Inge Bertels, and Ine Wouters of the VUB.

website: www.postwarbuildingsmaterials.be

www.naoorlogsebouwmaterialen.be

www.materiauxdeconstructiondapresguerre.be

The website contains many additional features like an 'archive' of digitized contemporary journal articles, a search engine, and a lexicon with the most relevant technical terms.



post-war building materials

in housing in brussels 1945-1975

fan de Voorde Inge Bertels Ine Wouters

You can also download a pdf-version of the book on the website. http://www.vub.ac.be/ARCH/ae-lab/projects/post-war

--Sara E. Wermiel

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Please send current research articles, books, opportuntities, or travelogue pieces for future Newsletters

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