Preservation Challenges of Modernist Structures

Saturday, April 21, 2018
S.R. Crown Hall, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, IL

The majority of Modernist buildings and sites realized during the 20th Century have reached the 50 year threshold to be considered eligible for historic designation. Many of these structures are at a point in their life cycle where intervention is required, whether due to deterioration, neglect, misguided modifications or other factors. This symposium addresses the technical, legal, and cultural challenges surrounding the preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction of Modern structures. Symposium presentations and speakers include:


The Plight of Suburban Modernism - Elgin State Mental Hospital - E. Keune (SOM)

GSA's Sustainable Asset Management: Preserving and Adapting Mid-Century Facilities - R. Theel, R. Nally, M. McGunigle, M. Roche (GSA)

Preservation and Modernization Challenges at Gordon Bunshaft's Hirshhorn Museum - N. Vigener (SGH)

A Challenge or a Gift: Conserving the Original Building Materials of Louis Kahn's Salk Institute - K. Itle, T. Crowe (WJE)

The Stuhrl Museum of the Prairie Pioneer: Modernism and Rehabilitation on the Great Plains - D. Worth, G. Munn (BVH)

Century of Progress: The House of Tomorrow - E. Torrez (BauerLatoza), J. Rodriguez (WSP), C. Hasbrouck (bKL), T. Zeiger (IN Landmarks)

Eero Saarinen's Milwaukee War Memorial Stair - R. Drewry (HGA), D. Weiss (Preserve LLC), N. Vogel (Restoric LLC)

North Shore Congregation Israel: Concrete Repairs on a Modern Icon - M. Ford, D. Slaton, P. Gaudette (WJE)

Challenges of Preserving the Gateway Arch - S. Kelley (Stephen J. Kelley, Inc.)

Special Legal Challenges and Preservation Opportunities for Modernist Structures - R. Friedman (Neal & Leroy)

Mid-Century Glazed Glass Block - N. Frank (SAIC - MS Historic Preservation candidate)

Conserving Tadao Ando’s Concrete in Chicago - D. Whittaker (IIT – Ph.D. Architectural History candidate)

This program will provide 5.5 CEUs. Registration is required. Register at www.aptwglc.com/events

The Association for Preservation Technology International (APT) is a multi-disciplinary, membership organization dedicated to promoting the best technology for conserving/preserving historic structures and their settings. The Association for Preservation Technology Western Great Lakes Chapter is the regional chapter of APT serving Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.

DOCOMOMO is the international organization for the Documentation and Conservation of buildings and sites of the Modern Movement. DOCOMOMO US/Chicago is a national chapter of DOCOMOMO US. Through education, documentation, and advocacy, our mission is to increase awareness of and protect Modern Movement buildings, structures, sites, and related arts realized during the 20th Century in the greater Chicago region.

Symposium committee: Serge Ambrose (DOCOMOMO US/Chicago), Todd Grover (APTWGLC/DOCOMOMO US), Jamie Morris (APTWGLC), David Sacks (APTWGLC)

Threes poster design: Serge Ambrose