SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS
ARCHITECTURAL RECORDS ROUNDTABLE
ANNUAL MEETING IN AUSTIN, TEXAS
12 AUGUST 2009

FINAL ATTENDANCE: 32

ARR BUSINESS

- Introductions: David Read introduced himself and Todd Kosmerick as co-chairs.

- Elections: Todd Kosmerick provided information on two candidates for co-chair 2009-2011. Neither candidate was present at the meeting.

    o Keli E. Rylance, Southeastern Architectural Archive, Tulane University

    o Carol A. Street, Drawings and Documents Archive, Ball State University Libraries

- Diane Vogt-O'Connor spoke on the most recent meeting of SAA Council. She touched on the following items:

    o Standards Committee

    o A&A Listserv etiquette

    o Investment policy (including information on the Finance Committee and long-range investment planning)

    o Charge for SAA Working Group on Cultural Property

    o Updating of Council Handbook

    o Online section elections (includes roundtables)

    o Task Force on Access

    o Feedback and review of SAA Strategic Plan

    o Draft Advocacy Agenda

    o Posting of Council agendas on the SAA website

    o Revised diversity charge

        ▪ Updating policies for equal opportunity

- Awards ceremony

- Cultural competency

o SAA membership encouraged to attend awards ceremony

ARR PROGRAM: TOM ROSKO (MIT) ON FAÇADE PROJECT

[Presentation available at: http://www.archivists.org/saagroups/archtec/saa-facade_2009.pdf]

o IMLS grant, September 2007 to September 2009

o To satisfy a need for 3D digital preservation: Frank Gehry dataset presented to MIT

o Long-term preservation model

o Demonstration of using DSpace for these type of materials

o Handles inter-relationship of projects, correspondence, etc.

o Looked at what architectural firms are doing with CAD and digital data

o Looked at who data consumers are – audiences were consulted

o Use cases – focused on long-term use

o Content and data:

- MIT State Center (Frank Gehry), Cambridge, Mass.

- U.S. Institute of Peace (Moshe Safdie), Washington, D.C.

- Caltrans Microstation (Thom Mayne), Los Angeles, Calif.

o 3D CAD, new terminology:

- "Geometry"

- "Parametric"

o Various 3D softwares vary in handling "geometry" and "parametrics"

o Data exchange formats

o Viewing of data

- o Derivative formats: IGES, STEP, 3D-PDF

- o 3D model interactivity – capturing "authentic" part

- o Managing data intellectually

    - ▪ RDF – xml ontology

    - ▪ Metadata structure

    - ▪ Properties for objects (files): 5 properties

- o Workers on project: graduate students and some librarians

- o Managing data physically

    - ▪ File formats, appraisal

    - ▪ Curators' Workbench

- o DSpace archive: scripting for bulk ingest

- o Also use of Simile tools for user interface: Exhibit and Longwell

    - ▪ If user has home software, brings up file

    - ▪ If user doesn't have software, brings up 3D PDF

- o Challenges: rights, access and display, long-term preservation, sustainability

- o Next steps:

    - ▪ Project ends in September

    - ▪ Then review and evaluation phase

    - ▪ Next: pilot project to test sustainability

    - ▪ Premature to discuss release date

- o Questions should be directed to William Reilly (MIT): wreilly@mit.edu

- o Website: http://facade.mit.edu/]

ARR BUSINESS

- • Diane Kaplan made announcements for the SAA Program Committee

- o SAA 2010 will be a join meeting with COSA and NAGARA

- o Emphasis on commonality of all archives

- o Government perspective, including international government

- o Session proposals due 24 September 2009

- o Sections and roundtables can endorse only 2 sessions; endorsements due 15 October 2009

- Mahnaz Ghaznavi made announcements for NHPRC

  - o Detailed processing grant proposals due October 2009

  - o Requires 50% cost-share, which can include staff salaries and in-kind

- Todd Kosmerick announced election results: Keli Rylance winner of 2009-2011 co-chair position

- David Read reported for Kate Rogge on the ARR website

  - o Kate Rogge will continue as web liaison

  - o SAA moving to content management system to deliver web pages, so HTML skills will no longer be necessary to manage website

- Todd Kosmerick reported on ARR membership

  - o Last year there were reports of problems with members receiving messages on listserv

    - ▪ A test conducted in December resulted in at least 10 members stating they were not receiving messages from the listserv

    - ▪ SAA contacted but couldn't resolve problem

    - ▪ Kosmerick then forwarded to the 10 members whenever items were posted on listserv

    - ▪ Situation resolved on its own in May/June; the 10 members now receive messages from the list

  - o Current membership: 128 roundtable members and 234 listserv participants

- o Question from audience: Do you have to belong to SAA to belong to ARR? Answer: yes, which is a change from past practice

- o Membership is not renewed automatically. When members renew annually with SAA, they need to mark that they want to belong to ARR

- Nancy Hadley reported on the AIA Historical Directory of American Architects

    - o Database contains biographical and collection information

    - o Technical roadblocks have created delays in full populating the database

    - o Hadley presented on the project in the SAA poster session

- Discussion of session proposal ideas

    - o The AIA project

    - o Processing on demand

    - o Digital exhibits

- Workshop Proposal

    - o The SAA Education Committee has received a workshop proposal on preserving architectural records

    - o There was some thought from the audience that it would be more beneficial to have a workshop on all aspects of architectural records, including arrangement and description

- Tawny Nelb announced that her book with Waverly Lowell, *Architectural Records : Managing Design and Construction Records* (SAA, 2006) has been used in Canada for an online course