



UTILITAS • FIRMITAS • VENUSTAS

Northern California Chapter
Society of Architectural Historians

The Newsletter

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July 2008

MODERNIST SANTA CRUZ WEEKEND Tours of UC Santa Cruz September 7th and Pasatiempo September 6th

UC Santa Cruz--On September 7 join NCCSAH member Virginia Jansen, Professor Emerita of History of Art and Visual Culture, and Campus Architect Frank Zwart, who will discuss the development and architecture, then co-lead a walking tour of some of the highlights of the University of California, Santa Cruz campus. Please note that the tour involves considerable walking over uneven terrain.



UC Santa Cruz Music Center (photograph by Jim MacKenzie courtesy of UC Santa Cruz).

The Santa Cruz campus was part of the educational expansion for California in the 1950s, when more general campuses were planned for post-world war expansion as described in the *Master Plan for Higher Education in California* (1960). Along with UC Irvine and UC San Diego, UCSC opened in 1965. Meant to be a fully developed campus with 27,000 students like Berkeley and UCLA, it was the brainchild of the

university president, Clark Kerr, and the first chancellor of UCSC, Dean McHenry. After touring universities in the U.S. and abroad, they decided upon a collegiate system encompassing both academic and physical aspects, which is less unusual in the history of American universities than is commonly thought. In his impressively

researched book, *Campus An American Planning Tradition*, Paul Turner has written about collegiate examples in several chapters.

With its collegiate system the Santa Cruz campus was consciously designed as an alternative type of campus. It was meant "to feel small

UPCOMING EVENTS & NEWS

Between Earth and Heaven: The Architecture of John Lautner

Hammer Museum, UCLA
www.hammer.ucla.edu
July 13-October 12, 2008

Identifying Historic Integrity & The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties

California Preservation Foundation
Ventura, CA
www.californiapreservation.org
August 14-15, 2008

Lambrecht on Neutra

SAH/SCC Lecture and Book Signing
Santa Monica, CA
www.sahscc.org
August 15th, 2008

Living Beautifully: Greene & Greene in Pasadena

Pasadena Museum of History
Pasadena, CA
www.gamblehouse.org
August 18 – January 4, 2009

Seeing Greene & Greene: Architecture in Photographs

Pasadena Museum of California Art
www.gamblehouse.org
September 28 – January 4, 2009

APTI (Association of Preservation Technology) Annual Conference 2008

Montréal
www.apti.org
October 13-17, 2008

A "New and Native" Beauty: The Art and Craft of Greene & Greene

Huntington Library
San Marino, CA
www.gamblehouse.org
October 18 – January 26, 2009
Conference in conjunction with the exhibit
November 8, 2008

National Trust for Historic Preservation

Conference Fall 2008
Tulsa, OK
www.preservationnation.org
October 21 - October 26, 2008

California Preservation Foundation

Annual Conference Spring 2009
Palm Springs, CA
www.californiapreservation.org
April 16 - April 19, 2009

Vernacular Architecture Forum

Butte, MT
Spring 2009
www.vafweb.org
June 11-13, 2009

Society of Architectural Historians

62nd Annual Meeting
Pasadena, California
www.sah.org/
April 1-5, 2009



Cowell Plaza, UCSC (photograph by Virginia Jansen).

UC SANTA CRUZ continued

while growing large" in an effort to counteract the impersonal undergraduate atmosphere of

Berkeley and Los Angeles. The idea reflected the undergraduate experiences of Kerr (Swarthmore) and McHenry (UCLA). The site of the Cowell Ranch was selected for its stunning beauty, temperate climate, and single ownership. The decision to situate the buildings at the "ecotone," or, the edge of a forest overlooking meadow lands and the Monterey Bay, was initiated by Thomas D. Church, the prominent Bay Area landscape architect and one of the original planners along with Master Planning Architect John Carl Warnecke. According to Church, "Instead of remaking the land, the land must remake our standard conceptions of building and plaza and parking lot." Following typical Church ideas, the landscaping was generally restricted to minimal native vegetation and emphasized various sight-lines. Thus, the campus is unlike any other:

UC SANTA CRUZ continued

buildings are surrounded by the landscape of the ecotone and forest with links between them often paths through the woods crossing deep ravines. Most buildings have several “front” entrances responding to the several directions the pedestrian might take. Many of the strengths and weaknesses of the campus are owed to the topography and geology as well as to the collegiate system, but both landscape and building type presented unparalleled opportunities to create an incomparable educational institution.

UCSC was one of the larger projects that Church planned, who is more noted for small residential work. He also supervised master planning at his alma mater of UC Berkeley, Harvey Mudd College, the General Motors Research Center, the Mayo Clinic, etc. Warnecke, whose San Francisco firm is still active, has designed many large-scale projects as well as Meyer Library at Stanford



Cowell Plaza, UCSC (photograph by Virginia Jansen).

contemporaneous with the central library of UCSC and undertook commissions for Jacqueline Kennedy. The campus offers a notable ensemble of buildings representing Bay Area architecture and beyond over several decades.

The tour will begin with a joint lecture by the tour leaders at the first college, Cowell, after which the group will look at its planning and buildings



Antoine Predock's Music Center UCSC (photograph by Virginia Jansen).

(Wurster, Bernardi & Emmons, 1966; apartments by BAR Architects, 2004) and Stevenson College (Esherick, 1966; apartments by BAR Architects, 2004). After lunch at the Cowell Provost house, an informal version of the Wurster, Bernardi & Emmons style overlooking Monterey Bay, the group will experience the campus by walking across to Kresge College (MTLW & Moore/Turnbull, 1973). After Kresge, tour-goers will climb Science and Engineering Hill to its plaza, which provides more hard paving than is usual on this campus, while passing work by Anshen & Allen, Esherick Homsey Dodge and Davis, Moore Ruble Yudell, etc.) down to McHenry Library (Warnecke, 1968-75, and BOORA, 2008: under construction), past the ARC Center, formerly the Student Center (Fernau & Hartman, 1989), Baskin Arts (Marquis Associates, 1984, and BOORA, 1998) and Performing Arts (Rapson, 1971, and BOORA, 1998) to finish the tour at Antoine Predock's Music Center (1996).

<http://maps.ucsc.edu/cmdirections.html>
Cowell College plan showing parking lots
<http://maps.ucsc.edu/images/cowellcollege.pdf>

UC SANTA CRUZ *continued*

Websites for the campus:

www.ucsc.edu [general UCSC website]

http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/uchistory/archives_exhibits/campus_planning/atkinson_archive/catalog/sc.html [excellent source of campus photographs]

<http://www.cmp.ucr.edu/mainFrame/collections/guides/adams/default.html> [Ansel Adams' photographs of UC campuses]

Short bibliography:

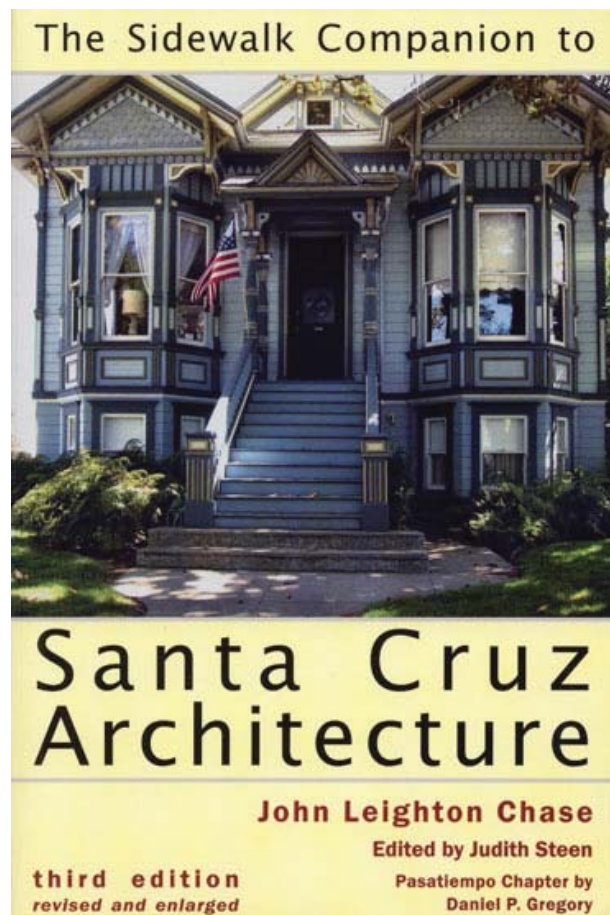
Reyner Banham and Taina Rikala, *Architecture at UCSC: The First 20 Years, Two Decades of Building at UCSC* (n.d., 1986) [brochure to be handed out to tour participants]

John Leighton Chase and Daniel P. Gregory, *The Sidewalk Companion to Santa Cruz Architecture*, 3rd ed. revised & enlarged, ed. Judith Steen, 2008

Gregory, Daniel P., "UC Santa Cruz: Site and Planning," *American Institute of Architects Journal*, 68, 1979, 34-41

Virginia Jansen, "Collegiate Controversies at the University of California, Santa Cruz," *Chronicle of the University of California*, 5, 2002, 99-102 [copy to be handed out to tour participants]

Warrick, Sheridan F., ed., *The Natural History of the UC Santa Cruz Campus*, 1982, especially chapter 1: Randall Jarrell, "History"; 2nd ed. by Tonya M. Haff, Martha T. Brown, & W. Breck Tyler (2008)



John Leighton Chase's guidebook on Santa Cruz architecture is included in the price of tour registration. Judith Steen edited the book, and the Pasatiempo section was written by Daniel P. Gregory.

"This is the long-awaited update to a Santa Cruz classic with more than 490 separate building entries, 200 photographs, neighborhood maps, and sections on UCSC, Pasatiempo, and post-earthquake downtown. The authors describe the architecture and history of houses, commercial structures, and public buildings, both past and present. It is the perfect companion to a Santa Cruz walking trip." <http://www.santacruzmah.org>.

SANTA CRUZ WEEKEND

Tours of Pasatiempo September 6th and UC Santa Cruz September 7th



Registration for September 6th and 7th:
[please print]

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email address: _____



Total Enclosed: _____

Registration \$40 members/ \$50 nonmembers
(includes copy of *The Sidewalk Companion to Santa Cruz Architecture* for self-guided tour on Sept. 6th and breakfast and lunch on Sept 7th, the UCSC tour).

Please make checks payable to "Northern California Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians" (NCCSAH) and mail to:

Richard Sucre
Page and Turnbull
NCCSAH Santa Cruz Tours
724 Pine Street
San Francisco, CA 94108

For more information please contact Ward Hill at whill@pacbell.net.



PASATIEMPO TOUR ITINERARY

Saturday, September 6th

Tour Itinerary

1:00pm Meet at the Marion Hollins House (original country club building) 20 Country Club Drive (Clarence Tantau, 1935). We will walk to the nearby Thomas Church home and studio and the Caddy House (both William Wurster). The self guided walking tour of the major Wurster and Tantau houses takes about an hour.

The parking and directions are complicated and will be sent out separately to those who sign up.

Top. UC Santa Cruz Kresge Plaza (photograph by Virginia Jansen) Center Humanities Building (photograph by Jim MacKenzie courtesy of UC Santa Cruz). Bottom Caddy House (photograph courtesy of Susan Collins Lehmann)



UC SANTA CRUZ TOUR ITINERARY

Sunday, September 7th

- 9:30-10:00 Meet for morning coffee, tea, juice, fruit and pastries at Cowell College Conference Room (room 132), UCSC (See instructions and campus map websites cited below.)
- 10:00-11:15 Visual presentation & lecture on the campus development and its buildings by Virginia Jansen and Frank Zwart
- 11:15-12:00 Visit Cowell and Stevenson Colleges
- 12:15-1:15 Lunch at the Cowell Provost House
- 1:30-5:00 Walking tour of the campus, ending at the Music Center by Antoine Predock in the Performing Arts area of the campus



To get to Cowell College, once you reach Santa Cruz, drive up the hill on Bay Street from Mission Street (Highway 1) to enter the main entrance of the UCSC campus at Bay and High Streets. Continuing on Bay Street, now termed Glen Coolidge Drive, into the campus past the historic buildings, turn left at the second traffic light to drive up Hagar Drive until you reach a T-junction at McLaughlin Drive. Turn right, and then immediately right again to enter Cowell College. If you can find a parking space up here that is legal for weekend visitors, park; otherwise, continue along the college road past adjacent Stevenson College down the hill to the two parking lots at the bottom. The left-hand (west) lot is closer to Cowell; a path at the west end takes you back up a hill to the college. Walk down a gentle flight of stairs to enter through the main entrance to Cowell facing the Monterey Bay, where you will find the Conference Room immediately to your left.



On the weekend, parking at Cowell and Stevenson Colleges is allowed (free) without a permit in spaces other than those specifically marked, such as for "College Officer"; if you park in such a space, you will be ticketed. Spaces marked for A, B, & C permits, etc., apply only to the week-day so we can park in them on the weekend.

website for campus maps <http://maps.ucsc.edu/> [The dark gray areas indicate roads and parking lots.]

Physical Science Building, Cowell College Entrance, and UC Santa Cruz Music Center (top and bottom photographs by Jim MacKenzie courtesy of UC Santa Cruz. Middle photograph by Virginia Jansen).



Pasatiempo, Church Residence, William Wurster, architect, (photograph by Susan Collins Lehmann).

SANTA CRUZ WEEKEND

Pasatiempo--The famous golf professional Marion Hollins built Pasatiempo as a residential golf development in an elegant country setting rivaling Pebble Beach where Hollins had worked. Many consider the site of Pasatiempo even more impressive with its beautiful tree studded hills and its spectacular views of Monterey Bay.

Planned in the 1920s, Pasatiempo claims a very impressive design pedigree: the Olmsted Brothers drew up the original master plan, the noted Scottish golf course architect Alistair MacKenzie laid out the course, but the development is best known for the early regional modernist designs for the club buildings and houses by architects Clarence Tantau and William W. Wurster. In the early 1930s, landscape architect Thomas Church designed the original gardens in one of his earliest collaborations with Wurster.

Pasatiempo is now recognized as one of the most significant early monuments of San Francisco Bay Region architecture. Hollins admired Wurster's widely lauded 1927 house for the Gregory family and she wanted to develop a similar California rustic imagery of open plans, plain undecorated surfaces of natural materials and building forms

reminiscent of the old California adobes and farmhouses. The development projected an image of refinement and taste without using the typical historical styles popular at the time. Historians now see the Wurster and Church collaboration as the creation of their own style based on California's vernacular past. The stark simplicity and innovative planning of the houses brought considerable national recognition: six houses and their gardens received AIA and House Beautiful awards. The designs combined the modern and traditional in refreshing and creative ways.

The Pasatiempo plan also emphasized preserving the native beauty of the land. Most of the site's original trees were included in the development which had extensive parks in addition to the golf course. Hollins also encouraged Thomas Church to live at Pasatiempo to oversee the homeowners' landscaping needs. The Wurster designed Church home and studio will be included on the tour. The design appealed in everyway to those who enjoyed the outdoors. Pasatiempo realized the ideal of Western indoor/outdoor living that had such wide national influence in post-war subdivisions. Few of the successors though achieved the level of planning sensitivity and quality of Pasatiempo.

Please send your ideas or comments concerning The Newsletter to:
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Richard Sucre, Treasurer - NCCSAH

Page and Turnbull

NCCSAH Santa Cruz Tours

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The mission of the NCCSAH is to further the objectives of the Society of Architectural Historians of which the Northern California Chapter is an official affiliate; promote the study and discussion of our region's architectural history and its related fields; visit significant works of architecture; and increase public awareness and appreciation of our architectural heritage. Membership is open to anyone interested in architectural history and its related fields who agrees to pay the annual dues and subscribe to the by-laws of the organization.