

## **Archivist's Report, FY 2011-2012**

### **International Archives of Women in Architecture (IAWA)**

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#### **Overview**

During the past year, Special Collections continued its twenty-five year joint partnership with the College of Architecture and Urban Studies to acquire, arrange, describe, provide access to, and promote IAWA collections. Project archivist Sherrie Bowser, who was on leave for a portion of the past year, led the effort to process, acquire, and promote IAWA collections. With the help of students and other staff she accessioned 13 new collections and processed 16 collections. Using an updated processing priority list, she has cut deep into the IAWA backlog, which now consists of 10 collections totaling 88 cubic feet.

#### **Collection Highlights**

- Special Collections received 13 new IAWA collections during the past year, totaling 47.5 cubic feet of material. (See Appendix 1, Acquired Accessions) Larger collections came from Joan Wood, Milka Bliznakov, and Wendy Bertrand.
- With the help of students and staff, 16 IAWA collections have been processed over the past year, totaling 195 cubic feet. (See Appendix 2, Processed Collections) The largest of these collections was the Zelma Wilson collection which has been acquired in 1991 and totals 115 cubic feet.
- There are now approximately 416 distinct IAWA collections totaling 1,647 cubic feet.
- Made 12 book purchases that directly support IAWA collections (See Appendix 3, New Purchases)

#### **Research, Promotion, and Selected Uses of IAWA Collections**

- Supported research for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CAUS
- Maintained IAWA Facebook page with frequent postings
- IAWA Annual Meeting October 2011
- Assisted Lindsay Nemcheck, 2011 Milka Bliznakov Research Prize winner, with her onsite research, October 2011
- Bailey Van Hook art history class, October 5, 2011
- Donna Dunay class, September 15, 2011
- Scans from Hastings and Chadeayne collections provided to National Building Museum for "House and Home" exhibition (opened April 2012), August 2011
- IAWA material used in Special Collections instructional sessions, Fall 2011-Spring 2012
- Aaron Purcell, presenter for absent panelist, Session 609—Design for the Next Larger Context: Exposing Architecture Collections for the Broadest Use, Society of American Archivists, Annual Meeting, Chicago, August 2011
- Sherrie Bowser, elected co-chair, Architectural Records Roundtable, Society of American Archivists

- Selected scanning for researchers from IAWA collections, including providing scans of floorplans of the Bliznakov home on Tall Oakes Drive
- Staff replied to 57 reference questions related to IAWA collections

### **Support for IAWA**

- Several small donations received (See Appendix 3 Library 2011/2012-IAWA related accounts)
- Students focused on processing IAWA collections in the Special Collections department included: Kathryn Shackleford

### **Biographical Database**

- Gail McMillan, Director of the Digital Library and Archives, continued to oversee the IAWA Biographical Database. There are 2,423 publicly available records at, [http://lumiere.lib.vt.edu/iawa\\_db](http://lumiere.lib.vt.edu/iawa_db).

### **Mission and Vision**

Our efforts in developing the collections of the IAWA support the department's mission to build true research collections of manuscripts, books, and images for scholars, students, faculty, and other researchers to use. During the past year interest in IAWA materials, from faculty, students, architects, and scholars, remained steady. We have made IAWA collections a central part of our collection development efforts, our instructional sessions, and our campus outreach efforts. The ability to scan large format materials from IAWA collections has increased our joint efforts to promote the collections and research, as well as expand the department's digital projects and online presence.