

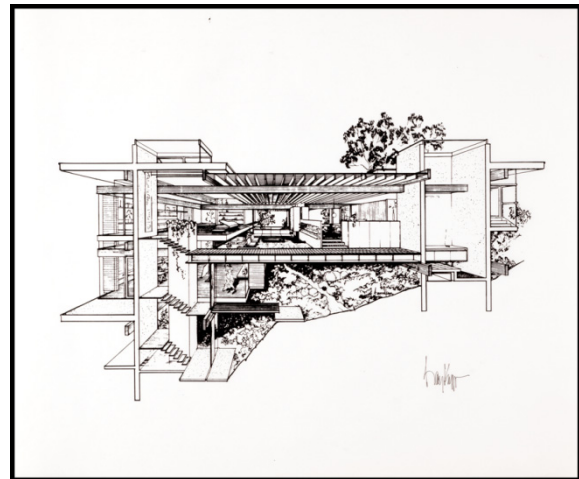
PACIFIC STANDARD TIME PRESENTS: MODERN ARCHITECTURE IN L.A.



The Getty Research Institute

LOS ANGELES ARCHITECTURE, 1940–1990 A Research Project by the Getty Research Institute

LOS ANGELES—The **Getty Research Institute** (GRI) supports the development of new scholarship through research projects that often have strong connection to the special collections of the Research Library. Among the many ongoing research projects is Los Angeles Architecture, 1940–1990. This research has been ongoing since 2009 and has yielded, among other things, a major symposium to take place in May 2013, the upcoming exhibition co-organized by the Getty Research Institute and the J. Paul Getty Museum, *Overdrive: L.A. Constructs the Future, 1940–1990*, and a book-length publication of the same name to be published in April 2013.



Cross section of the Kappe Residence, Pacific Palisades, California, 1967. Ray Kappe. Gift of Ray Kappe, The Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles.

Project Overview

Los Angeles Architecture, 1940–1990 is a unique research project that explores the history of Los Angeles's architectural and urban development in all its aspects, including the city's mass-suburbanization and resulting sprawl; its competing efforts to create urban centers; the construction of the freeway system; architects' experiments with new building materials, construction techniques, and building types (especially in relation to the car culture of the period); and the creation of destination architecture through, among other things, tourist attractions, restaurants, and shopping malls. This broader approach to Los Angeles architecture will enable scholars to gain a better understanding of a city that has been both maligned and admired, a city that some scholars have called the first postmodern city, and others the city of the future.

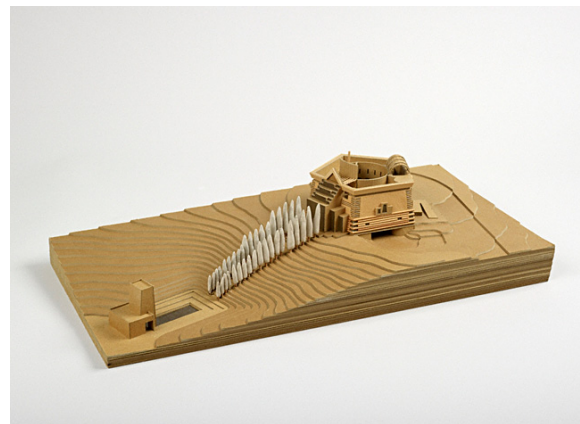
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Throughout the 20th century, Los Angeles has provided a setting for the production of high-quality architecture by designers who are now counted among the great innovators of their time. In the years following World War II, Los Angeles's architectural production expanded dramatically, and the city became one of the leading architectural centers in the country.

Exhibitions focusing on Los Angeles architecture have tended to be monographic. Key figures such as Rudolph Schindler, Richard Neutra, Charles and Ray Eames, Greene & Greene, John Lautner, Frank Lloyd Wright, and Frank Gehry have been the subjects of individual exhibitions in Los Angeles and other parts of the United States. However, to find an example of an exhibition that brings the work of these renowned figures into dialogue with one another, and with the work of lesser known Southern California architects, one must look back more than 40 years to when David Gebhard organized *Architecture in California, 1868–1968* at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Coming out of the Los Angeles Architecture Research Project, the exhibition *Overdrive: L.A. Constructs the Future, 1940–1990*, on view at the Getty Center from April 8 through July 21, 2013, will be the first major museum exhibition to survey Los Angeles' postwar architecture.

Collections

The Getty Research Institute's rich collections on postwar architecture in Southern California include the archives of prominent architects such as Ray Kappe, founder of the Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc); Pierre Koenig, the architect of such iconic houses as Case Study House 21 and Case Study House 22; and John Lautner, who designed innovative residences such as the Chemosphere, Silvertop, and the Elrod House. The Research Institute also holds the archive of the famous Los Angeles architectural photographer Julius Shulman as well as the Union Station Collection, which features impressive architectural drawings of Union Station in Los Angeles, considered the last of the great railway stations.



Model of the Clark Residence, Hollywood, California, 1980. Frank Israel. The Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles.

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The J. Paul Getty Trust is an international cultural and philanthropic institution devoted to the visual arts that includes the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Getty Research Institute, the Getty Conservation Institute, and the Getty Foundation. The J. Paul Getty Trust and Getty programs serve a varied audience from two locations: the Getty Center in Los Angeles and the Getty Villa in Malibu.

The Getty Research Institute is an operating program of the J. Paul Getty Trust. It serves education in the broadest sense by increasing knowledge and understanding about art and its history through advanced research. The Research Institute provides intellectual leadership through its research, exhibition, and publication programs and provides service to a wide range of scholars worldwide through residencies, fellowships, online resources, and a Research Library. The Research Library—housed in the 201,000-square-foot Research Institute building designed by Richard Meier—is one of the largest art and architecture libraries in the world. The general library collections (secondary sources) include almost 900,000 volumes of books, periodicals, and auction catalogues encompassing the history of Western art and related fields in the humanities. The Research Library's special collections (primary sources) include rare books, artists' journals, sketchbooks, architectural drawings and models, photographs, and archival materials. Additional information is available at www.getty.edu/research

Pacific Standard Time Presents: Modern Architecture in L.A. celebrates the city's modern architectural heritage through exhibitions and programs at cultural institutions in and around L.A. starting in April 2013. Supported by grants from the Getty Foundation, Modern Architecture in L.A. is a wide-ranging look at the postwar built environment of the city as a whole, from its famous residential architecture to its vast freeway network, revealing the city's development and ongoing impact in new ways.

Additional information is available at www.pacificstandardtimepresents.org.



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