IAWA Archivist’s Report for 2006/07

Gail McMillan and Amy Shaffer Vilelle
Digital Library and Archives, University Libraries, Virginia Tech

HIGHLIGHTS

We accessioned materials for 21 collections, cataloged a dozen publications, digitized nearly 200 items, and provided outreach and references services to the IAWA. We made progress in processing some of the largest collections and expanded the IAWA Guide to Collections (App. A). However, following the tragedies of April 16, 2007, DLA’s staff and resources were largely diverted to processing the thousands of condolences sent to the university and to establishing VT’s April 16, 2007 Memorial Archive.

A significant addition to the IAWA came from the family of Mary Brown Channel, Virginia’s first registered woman architect. In the mid-1930s she opened an office in Portsmouth and continued to design and hold an active license until 1990. Her collection includes sketches and drawings for approximately 140 Portsmouth-area projects, largely residential designs but also some churches and retail stores. They also donated her college drawings and project specifications as well as a few projects by other architects.

The library hosted Beverly Willis and Wanda Bubriski, Director of the Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation (BWAF), on Sept. 7, 2007. They met with Dean Eileen Hitchingham and McMillan and were very supportive of the library’s efforts on behalf of the IAWA. They also had suggestions for promoting it on the Internet, 25th anniversary activities, and potential sources of external funding. Willis also suggested that we create a different introduction to collections. McMillan drafted a sample using Willis. (App. B)

On Oct. 22, 2007, we learned that the BWAF will award DLA a grant of $5,000 in “support of library activities associated with preserving and making accessible on the web collections of the IAWA.” Dean Hitchingham found a donor who supplied a $5,000 match.

McMillan chaired a nationwide search for a head of Special Collections, following outside consultants’ endorsement of Dean Hitchingham’s decision to return Special Collections and DLA to their previous roles as separate departments. On Nov. 26, 2007, Dr. Aaron Purcell from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, will join the Virginia Tech faculty to head University Libraries’ Special Collections Department. McMillan will continue as director of the Digital Library and Archives Department (previously known as the Scholarly Communications Project) and she will work closely with Purcell to enhance online access to the University Libraries’ unique and rare resources in Special Collections, along with her other responsibilities. Nota bene: Purcell attended the Oct. 25th “Women in Modernism” colloquium in New York City on behalf of the library and in support of the IAWA.

COLLECTIONS

The IAWA has approximately 307 unique collections (1,266 cubic feet) in the Special Collections Department. Of these, about 35 collections (760 cu. ft.) need processing, but four are the sizeable collections of Pettersen, Rupp (pictured below), Wilson, and Hall (totaling 688 cu. ft.).
Accessions

The IAWA tripled last year’s growth, increasing by approximately 21 cubic feet. We received 11 new collections and additions to 10 existing collections representing women in six countries. The international travels of Milka Bliznakov garnered several Bulgarian collections and Anna Sokolina facilitated donations of Russian materials. Please see App. C for more information about each collection.

New Collections
- Alexandrovna, Shchetinina Anna. Russia
- Budevska, Nadezhda. Bulgaria
- Cardenas, Eliana. Cuba
- Channel, Mary. USA
- Choneva, Krasimira. Bulgaria
- Daskalova, Snezha. Bulgaria
- Peeva, Maria. Bulgaria
- Petrova, Iskra. Bulgaria
- Popova, Rositsa. Bulgaria
- Sliunkova, Inessa. Russia
- Stoilova, Ljubinka. Bulgaria

Additions to Existing Collections
- Bliznakov, Milka T. USA
- Brians, Audrey. USA
- Fallon, Kristine K. USA
- Hastings, L. Jane. USA
- Gottlieb, Lois Davidson. USA
- Gramatikova, Lilia. Bulgaria
- Kechedzhieva, Nevena Stoinova. Bulgaria
- UIFA.
- von der Weppen, Maria. Germany
- Wenger, Heidi. Switzerland

PUBLICATIONS

Over a 12 publications were added to Special Collections that support the IAWA including: Doris Cole’s Candid Reflections: Letters from Women in Architecture 1972 & 2004; Irina Genova and Ljubinka Stoilova’s Presences/Absences: Women Artists and Architects in the Modern Art of Bulgaria; Cynthia Parker’s dissertation, Architecture and Utopia: Cornelia Brierly and the Taliesin Fellowship; and Waverly Lowell and Tawny Ryan Neib’s Architectural Records: Managing Design and Construction Records. See App. D for the full list and citations.

http://lumiere.lib.vt.edu/iawa_db/

There are 652 women in the IAWA Biographical Database plus 143 more waiting to be reviewed. We’re looking forward to using some of the BWAF grant to improve and enhance this database. [Nota bene: Nancy Hadley, AIA, has completed a list of women members, 1857-1978. Of her 955 entries, only 68 are in the IAWA database. McMillan and she will coordinate sharing information between databases.]
1,200 images currently provide a sampling of the IAWA. VT’s Digital Imaging scanned* an additional 191 items that will become available next year with the BWAF grant support. [http://imagebase.lib.vt.edu/](http://imagebase.lib.vt.edu/)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. *Bliznakov, Milka. Ms91-025</td>
<td>20. Pfeiffer, Alberta Raffl. Ms88-017 (1 images)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. IAWA Archivist's Files, Ms85-021 (45 images)</td>
<td>29. Stancheva, Dina. Ms97-017 (1 images)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. IAWA Board of Advisors Meetings (6 images)</td>
<td>30. Steinmesch, Mae. Ms86-016 (2 images)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. IAWA Exhibits (102 images)</td>
<td>31. Sutton, Sharon E. Ms2001-036 (4 images)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. IAWA Newsletters and Logos (14 images)</td>
<td>32. *Torre, Susana. Ms90-016 (8 images)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Koller-Buchwieser, Helene, Ms95-020 (8 images)</td>
<td>34. Westrom, Hilde. Ms87-061 (3 images)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Marquard, Claudia. Ms2001-029 (2 images)</td>
<td>35. Willis, Beverly. Ms92-019 (639 images)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### OUTREACH AND REFERENCE

A beautifully illustrated two-page write-up about the IAWA appears in *Celebrating Research: Rare Collections From the Membership of the Association of Research Libraries*. This publication commemorates the 75th anniversary of the ARL (a nonprofit organization of 123 research libraries at comprehensive, research-extensive institutions in North America). McMillan’s article is illustrated with images from Susanna Torre’s collection (selected by the editors from the Bliznakov, Gottlieb, Piomelli, Willis, and the IAWA collections). McMillan also authored entries about the IAWA for Wikipedia and WAAND: Women Artists Archives National [online] Directory, and VT’s *Vision: Research Centers, Institutes, Laboratories, and Groups*. See App. E for these articles and IAWA web access statistics.

Vilelle and McMillan replied to over 50 reference queries about the IAWA this year. Topics ranged from general information about women in architecture, including a Girl Scout leader who was looking for information and pictures to share with her scouts, to specific inquiries about our holdings, including Mary Rockwell Hook, Louise Mendelsohn, Carme Pinos, Han Schroeder, and Alberta Pfeiffer, among others. One reference question concerned a meditation building complex in Ojai, California, designed by Zelma Wilson, so Nick Doermann, undergraduate architecture student, spent about a month corresponding and searching for plans that were reproduced to fulfill the inquiry. Another researcher was making the case
that Lillian Rice, not her male supervisor, had designed a particular building. Vilelle researched the Rice drawings in the Olive Chadeayne collection and sent digital images to provide the documentation needed.

McMillan had extended correspondence with several women about donating to the IAWA, including: Virginia Tanzmann, FAIA, Director of Planning and Design Services at California State University at Long Beach; and (on the recommendation of Kristine Fallon) Jude Hamilton who will be sending the papers of Natelie de Blois as Hamilton completes the work in de Blois’s biography.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

The library provided $3,149 in financial support to the IAWA this year. This does not include personnel resources devoted to it. The library expended $1,272, largely for mailing the newsletter and the annual Board of Advisors meeting, and $1,877 for archival storage materials from the VT Foundation. The library’s VT Foundation accounts for the IAWA total $18,357. See App. F for details.

**GAIL’S DECADE WITH THE IAWA**

I am very pleased to have been part of this decade of expansion of the archives and information about women in architecture that the library has organized, preserved, and made publicly available. This will be my last Board of Advisors’ meeting since the head of Special Collections serves as the IAWA Archivist. I have enjoyed my affiliation with the IAWA and look forward to continuing to promote and foster the IAWA’s online components.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A Decade of the IAWA</th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>% increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>number of collections</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>size of the Archive in cubic feet</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>1266</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inventories/finding aids</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>biographical database</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>digital images</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mailing list</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>1049</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**APPENDICES**

B. Willis web page draft [http://spec.lib.vt.edu/iawa/WillisBev.html]
   o Han Schroeder [http://spec.lib.vt.edu/IAWA/inventories/schroder/schroder.htm]
   o Anna Wagner Keichline [http://spec.lib.vt.edu/iawa/Keichline/annak.html]
C. Accessions: New materials added to the IAWA
D. Publications for the IAWA added to Special Collections [http://addison.vt.edu]
E. Outreach: Publications about the IAWA and Web Access Statistics
F. Financial Report
APPENDIX C
Additions to IAWA Collections, September 2006 - September 2007
compiled by Amy Vilelle

New Collections

Alexandrovna, Shchetinina Anna. Moscow, Russia Ms2007-031
Through Anna Sokolina, honorary IAWA Advisor, Shchetinina Anna Alexandrovna, head of the TERRA Architecture Studio in Moscow, donated project books showing an Asian-themed office building, multiple residences, a site survey for a factory, an auto showroom with offices, and a log-frame one-room building. 0.2 cu. ft.

Budevska, Nadezhda. Sofia, Bulgaria Ms2007-005
After graduating from Sofia Polytechnic in 1949, Nadezhda Budevska-Salcheva pursued a career as a tennis player. In 1967, she joined the Sofia Design Organization, where she designed many large buildings such as hospitals and research institutes. In 1980 she established a private office where she focused mainly on private residences. Budevska is a founding member of UIFA. Her donations include drawings and photos of residential projects in/near Sofia, Bulgaria, 1965-1988, a photo of a drawing of “Research laboratories for electro-chemical sources of electricity,” newspaper clippings, and a curriculum vita in English with image of Budevska. 0.2 cu. ft.

Cardenas, Eliana. Cuba Ms2006-023
Architect and educator Eliana Maria Cardenas Sanchez studies and writes about architectural history and restoration. Cardenas donated two issues of the journal arquitectura y urbanismo (February 1999 and March 2002) that contain articles she wrote as well as an architectural textbook, Un siglo de enseñanza de la arquitectura en Cuba, that she helped edit, and her 1998 book, Problemas de teoría de la arquitectura. México: Universidad de Guanajuato, Facultad de Arquitectura. 0.1 cu. ft.

Channel, Mary. Portsmouth, Virginia, USA Ms2007-030
Mary Brown Channel was the first registered woman architect in Virginia. She opened an office in Portsmouth in the mid-1930s and continued to design and hold a current license until 1990. Her family donated sketches and drawings for approximately 140 projects, mostly residential single-family and multi-family projects in the Portsmouth area as well as some churches and retail stores. Included are some art sketches and college drawings and projects, specifications for her projects, and magazine clippings about new styles. Also includes a few projects by other architects. 11 cu. ft.

Choneva, Krasimira. Varna, Bulgaria Ms2007-003
Krasimira Zheliazkova Choneva began working in architecture in the 1950s at the Varna Design Organization. In 1971 she became involved in construction of multi-family housing with prefabricated panels; she won an award for integrating color and designs into the monotonous facades. In 1990 she opened a private office that focused on apartments, residences, and hotels. Her daughter is also an architect and now runs the practice. Choneva donated drawings for “Pavilion with Changing Rooms for Euxinograd Palace” near Varna, conceptual and working drawings for three private Vacation Houses, drawings for the Hotel Victor in St. Nikola, and an apartment building, and photos of other projects. 0.3 cu. ft.
Daskalova, Snezha. Bulgaria
Snezha Daskalova Milkovska graduated from Sofia Polytechnic in 1950 and worked in Sofia at "Sofproekt" until her mandatory retirement in 1985. Laws changed and she opened a private practice where she designed mainly private houses. Daskalova donated drawings for four residential projects she designed and four pages of biographical information, and one set of her daughter’s student drawings. Marine Milkovska (1967-1994), her daughter, also studied architecture at Sofia Polytechnic. 0.5 cu. ft.

Peeva, Maria. Varna, Bulgaria
Maria Georgieva Peeva (sister of Rositsa Popova, below) graduated from Sofia Polytechnic in 1977 and was assigned to work at the Design Organization in the town of Schumen where she led the design section. She later moved to Varna, and in 1988 was named Chief Architect of the Beloslav Region. In 1991, while still carrying these appointments, she opened a private practice with fellow architect Natalia Liutskanova. After 1993, Peeva continued running the office alone. She is known for designing schools, vacation houses and hotels, and retail stores. In 2000 she became Regional Architect of the Black Sea tourist region. Peeva donated lists of her projects, 1978-2006 (built, not built, remodeled/interior design), project documentation and drawing lists for vacation houses in Rogachevo, and drawings for a Worker’s Vacation Retreat for the Schumen Chemical factory, “Volov,” as well as a curriculum vitae. 0.2 cu. ft.

Petkova, Iskra. Bulgaria
After studying architecture and graduating from Sofia Polytechnic in 1977, Iskra Nikolova Petkova worked for the state design and construction organization "Technoeksportstroii," which built many structures in Africa and the Near East. She donated seven competition project drawings for housing neighborhoods in Haarlem / Haarlemmermeer, Nigeria, Africa, ca. 1981, and a curriculum vitae. 0.1 cu. ft.

Popova, Rositsa. Varna, Bulgaria
Rositsa Peeva-Popova (sister of Maria Peeva, above) graduated from Sofia Polytechnic in 1981, and was then assigned by the government to work for the Design Organization in Gabrovo. She later worked for the towns of Ruse and Schumen before establishing a private architectural practice with her husband. That practice opened in Schumen but moved to Varna where Popova now also teaches architecture at the Varna Free University. Popova's work centered on urban design-- many apartment buildings as well as gas stations, commercial facilities, and urban spaces. Her donation includes drawings for an Evangelical Church and a Fashion House for the Factory “Val Poskova,” both in Schumen, as well as a curriculum vitae. 0.1 cu. ft.

Roth, E. Maria. Blacksburg, Virginia, USA
Donated her schoolwork from the Cooper Union circa 1954; drawings, etc. for Christiansburg, VA, 2005 Library Reading Garden; and plans for her New Jersey house renovations. 0.2 cu. ft.

Sliunkova, Inessa. Russia
Inessa Sliunkova has a doctorate in architecture and has published many works about Russian architecture. In addition to four books about Russian buildings, Sliunkova donated two photographs and two pages of biographical material. 0.1 cu. ft.

Stoilova, Ljubinka. Bulgaria
Ljubinka Stoi lava is an architect and researcher who has published articles and monographs about theory and history of 19th and 20th century architecture. She also helped organize over 10 documentary exhibitions in Bulgaria, Austria, and the Czech Republic. In addition to a published
exhibition catalog, she donated an exhibition postcard and a curriculum vita that includes a small color image. 0.1 cu. ft.

Additions to Existing Collections

**Bliznakov, Milka T.** Blacksburg, Virginia, USA  
Office and research documents, presentations clippings, architectural project drawings, photographs certificates and awards drafts of research papers; materials about architecture, landscape architecture, IAWA, and Slavic studies.  
Ms 91-025  
1.0 cu. ft.

**Brians, Audrey.** San Antonio, Texas, USA  
2002 autobiographical memoir, “Confessions of an Irreverent Iconoclast.”  
Ms2000-019  
0.1 cu. ft.

**Fallon, Kristine K.** Chicago, Illinois, USA  
Information about Margrit Kennedy, two articles about *Computer Aided Design in Architectural Practice*, UIFA 1979 Congress program and participants list, article by Donna Shalala, and Fallon’s résumé.  
Ms2000-035  
0.1 cu. ft.

**Hastings, L. Jane.** Seattle, Washington, USA  
Ms2004-004  
0.1 cu. ft.

**Gottlieb, Lois Davidson.** California, USA  
Ms97-003  
1.2 cu. ft.

**Gramatikova, Lilia.** Bulgaria  
Drawings and photos for two projects in Bulgaria: Music High School for Folk Instruments and Folk Singing, and Territorial Information and Computing Center, plus certificates and awards from Bulgaria and Germany, biographical sketch, 1972-1987.  
Ms2001-023  
0.6 cu. ft.

**Kechedzhieva, Nevena Stoinova.** Sofia, Bulgaria  
Two pages of handwritten biographical information by Kechedzhieva, 2007.  
Ms2000-009  
0.1 cu. ft.

**UIFA.**  
Ms2004-009  
0.1 cu. ft.

**von der Weppen, Maria.** Potsdam, Germany  
Personal information, drawings, project information, and photos for student projects and about 15 other projects largely near Berlin, ca. 1976-1999.  
Ms2001-017  
5 cu. ft.

**Wenger, Heidi.** Brig, Switzerland  
Article about Wenger’s 2006 retrospective in Ecublens, Switzerland; curriculum vitae of Heidi and Peter Wenger through 2002; project list that documents ca. 1950-2003.  
Ms89-051  
0.1 cu. ft.
APPENDIX D
Publications Added to Special Collections for the IAWA
Compiled by Gail McMillan and Amy Villelle


Kay Edge donated publications from Cuban architect Eliana Cardenas, with the help of Prof. Joe Scarpaci (College of Natural Resources) who brought them into the US.

Call number: NA2500 C37 Spec Large


Exhibition catalog donated by Kristine K. Fallon, FAIA.


Donated by Doris Cole, FAIA, of Cambridge, MA, USA. Publication is a compilation of letters of inquiry that Cole sent to women architects throughout the United States in 1972 and 2004. It is illustrated with examples of work by these architects, including images from the IAWA archives.

Call number: NA1997.C64 2007 Spec Large


Donated by Albena Dimitrova-Todorov, Bulgarian researcher in Brussels, Belgium. Call number: NA645.5 A7 D56 2006 Spec Large


Short histories and descriptions of a large number of houses, many photographs of exteriors, some interiors; index includes names of owners.


Exhibition catalog donated by curator and co-editor Ljubinka Stoilova of Bulgaria. The Sofia Art Gallery exhibition commemorated the 80th anniversary of the Bulgarian Association of University Women. (Associated with Ms2007-011)


Call number: NA1996 .L69 2006 Spec Large [c.2 in Art/Arch]


Call number: NA44.B8528.9 P3 2006 Spec Large


Donated by Ulla Terlinden of Kassel, Germany. Written with Susanna von Oertzen, it examines the women’s movement in Germany and its influence on building reform and the development of planning and building.

Call number: HD5339 A3 B47 2006 Spec Large


This publication follows up on the women, including Tsuchida, who were featured in exhibition some years ago. Donated by Junko Matsukawa-Tsuchida.


Donated by Heidi Wenger of Brig, Switzerland, her retrospective highlights architectural and written works that she and her husband created in the last 50 years, and complements her IAWA materials (Ms89-051).

Call number: NA1353 W46 A4 2006 Spec Large

Inessa Sliunkova sent four books in Russian about religious buildings and manor houses in Russia.

Milka Bliznakov donated published materials (including books and exhibition catalogs) by or about women architects.
APPENDIX E: Publications about the IAWA

The International Archive of Women in Architecture (IAWA) was established in 1985 as a joint program of the College of Architecture and Urban Studies and the University Libraries at Virginia Tech. The purpose of the Archive is to document the history of women's involvement in architecture by acquiring, preserving, storing, and making available to researchers the professional papers of women architects, landscape architects, designers, architectural historians and critics, urban planners, and the records of women's architectural organizations. The IAWA collects the papers of women who practiced at a time when there were few women in the field (i.e., before the 1950s) and to fill serious gaps in the availability of primary research materials for architectural, women's, and social history research. As of October 2006 there were over 1,200 cubic feet of materials in the 298 collections in the IAWA, which are housed in Virginia Tech's University Libraries' Special Collections.

As part of its mission to act as a clearinghouse of information about all women architects, past and present, the IAWA also collects and catalogs books, monographs and other publications written by or about women architects, designers, planners, etc. These publications are accessible through the Virginia Tech library's online catalog, Addison (http://addison.vt.edu/).

The IAWA also compiles biographical information. There is information about more than 650 women representing 48 countries and 42 states/territories in the United States available in the IAWA Biographical Database.

Some of the IAWA's resources, approximately 1200 images from 28 collections, have been scanned and are available through the VT ImageBase.

The IAWA is overseen by a board of advisors ([4]) that includes architects, city planners, industrial and interior designers, librarians, archivists, and faculty from around the world and the U.S. The head of Special Collections or her designee serves as the Archivist for the IAWA and sits on the Board of Advisors and the Executive Board. She prepares a report for presentation to the annual meeting held in the fall of each year at Virginia Tech's Newman Library in the President's Board Room. The history of the activities is well documented here. (http://spec.lib.vt.edu/IAWA/Archivist/ArchAnRe.html)

Anyone wishing to see the archival materials should peruse the IAWA Guide to Collections or contact the Special Collections Reading Room.

Categories: Women's organizations | Organizations | Architects | Women Architects | Landscape Architects | Women Landscape Architects | Industrial Designers | Women Industrial Designers | Interior Designers | Women Interior Designers | Urban Planners | Women Urban Planners
APPENDIX E: OUTREACH: IAWA Web Access Statistics

Users from 118 countries and 30,322 Internet addresses visited the IAWA online resources (http://spec.lib.vt.edu/IAWA/) 282,128 times in 2006/07, requesting 1,115 unique web pages.