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Reimagined iconic modern sites, restrained residential projects, innovative documentation, and women in architecture are recognized with 2022 Modernism in America Awards

Docomomo US is pleased to announce the twelve recipients of the 2022 Modernism in America Awards. These projects highlight the best in preservation practice by today’s architects, designers, preservation professionals and advocates. This year’s awards recognize preservation efforts ranging from the transformation of large-scale projects into beacons of sustainability to modest home revitalizations, many of which have been years, or even decades, in the making. The results are a testament to the dedication and foresight of those who recognize the value of preserving our modern heritage for everyone.

The 2022 winners are:

**AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**
Stockmayer House (Norwich, VT)  
Peavey Plaza (Minneapolis, MN)  
Hotel Marcel (New Haven, CT)  
UMassBRUT (Amherst and Dartmouth, MA)  
Pioneering Women in American Architecture (New York, NY)  
Eugenia Woo (Seattle, WA)

**CITATION OF MERIT**
Clauss Haus II at Little Switzerland (Knoxville, TN)  
Gagarin II (Litchfield, CT)  
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library (Washington, D.C.)  
Oakland Monster (Oakland, CA)  
Lucabe Coffee Co. (Columbus, IN)  
SurveyLA Historic Context Statement 1919-1980 (Los Angeles, CA)

Now in its ninth year, the Modernism in America Awards, led by jury chair Henry Moss, AIA and a distinguished panel of experts, showcases projects that represent the best of modern preservation, documentation, and advocacy work. As in past years, the jury continues to value holistic approaches in all categories. In the Design category, projects were applauded for accomplishing highly successful restorations while maintaining a light touch and respect for the original design intent, at times with relatively small budgets.
This year’s Awards include several highly anticipated projects that reached completion, all that were aided by prior advocacy efforts. The Hotel Marcel, Marcel Breuer’s iconic New Haven landmark vacant since the late 1990s, has undergone a sustainability-focused rebirth thanks to the vision of developer Becker + Becker. M. Paul Friedberg’s Peavey Plaza, the “living room” of Minneapolis, was considered for demolition in the early 2010’s and its preservation was the focus of a coalition of activists. Now it is an accessible centerpiece of downtown life. Six years ago, the Washington, D.C. Public Library embarked on an initiative to reinvigorate its aging infrastructure, an effort which was capped off by the recent completion of the stunningly reimagined Martin Luther King Jr. Library.

In the Residential category, the jury took note of projects that practiced restraint and eschewed trendy design pitfalls in favor of original design intent. Homes are very personal, and it is evident that the owners of this year’s winning projects were engaged in true passion projects. The Walter & Sylvia Stockmayer House, a rare Usonian design by Allan J. Gelbin, has been completely restored yet looks like it just stepped out of the 1960s. Clauss Haus II at Little Switzerland, in Knoxville, TN, designed by Alfred & Jane West Clauss, received a thorough restoration with a particular focus on its woodwork. Gagarin II, a Marcel Breuer-designed home in Litchfield, CT, received a highly practical restoration that involved fixing necessary “behind the scenes” systems, and preserved the original, modest footprint of the home, a rarity today.

The UMassBRUT campaign stood out in the Inventory/Survey category for its all-hands-on-deck approach to rallying large educational institutions around better stewardship of their modern resources. Following a two-day symposium, they have made great strides in educating and warming their community towards Brutalism.

This year the Docomomo US Board of Directors is pleased to announce two Advocacy Awards of Excellence, to the Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation for the Pioneering Women in American Architecture project, and to Seattle-based advocate Eugenia Woo. Both Advocacy Award winners exemplify women’s contributions to our built environment and the lack of acknowledgement and broad understanding of their efforts. Each, through their own work and through the projects and people they seek to highlight, offer unique examples of creativity and determination to recognize and amplify the lesser told stories and women who are champions and designers of our built heritage.

Speaking on the projects recognized and the impact of the Awards program, Docomomo US Board Member and Awards Committee Chair Meredith Arms Bzdak noted, “This year’s Modernism in America Awards honor a full range of truly incredible preservation efforts being undertaken across the country, introducing us to fascinating pieces of our modern heritage and highlighting innovative ways that we can use that heritage to educate, inform, and inspire.” Docomomo US Executive Director Liz Waytku added, “this year’s award winners demonstrate that doing the ‘impossible’ is possible. These projects represent what we should all be looking for in preservation outcomes: holistic, sustainable and inclusive design that benefits us all.”

The Modernism in America Awards is the only national program that celebrates the people and projects working to preserve, restore and rehabilitate our modern heritage sensitively and productively. The program seeks to advance those preservation efforts; to increase appreciation for the period and to raise awareness of the ongoing threats to modern architecture and design.

The 2022 Modernism in America Awards will be presented in-person on Thursday November 3, 2022, at the Design Within Reach Third Avenue Showroom in New York City. Tickets and event sponsorship opportunities are available at www.docomomo-us.org/events/modernism-in-america-awards.
Design Award of Excellence

Walter & Sylvia Stockmayer House

Location: Norwich, VT

Original Architect: Allan J. Gelbin

Project Team: Tammy Heesakker and Gregory Russo (Owners and Restoration Managers); Daniel Johnson, Watershed Studio Architecture, LLC (Architect, primary bed/bath) and Brian Gardner Carpentry LLC (Contractor, primary bed/bath); Chris Brien, Riverlight Builders, Inc (Contractor, carport retaining wall and roof); Sid Grose, S&G Masonry Plus (plaster carport ceiling); Rodd Roofing; Brian DiGeorge (kitchen cabinets, built-in sofa and lamp restoration); Devin Colman (Advisor, Nomination Narrative)

Client: Tammy Heesakker and Gregory Russo

A Residential Design Award of Excellence is given for the restoration of the Walter and Sylvia Stockmayer House from 1961. This rare and well-preserved example of a Usonian design in Vermont represents a harmony of the natural world and the built environment. Set on a carved hilltop, its roof is designed to evoke the rolling hills of the Connecticut River Valley while using simple materials to lay out an open floor plan with a passive solar strategy to optimize sunlight throughout the year. The building was designed by Allan J. Gelbin, an apprentice of Frank Lloyd Wright, and many of Wright's techniques can be seen in the design of this residence. Purchased by its new owners in 2015, the house has undergone an extensive, yet subtle, renovation, using archival correspondence, photographs, sketches, and plans, which were obtained from the Ryerson and Burnham Art and Architecture Archive at the Art Institute of Chicago. Key undertakings of the project include: retaining and repairing the kitchen’s tile floors and original red Micarta countertops; repair or in-kind replacement of custom woodwork; restoration of Gelbin-designed custom light fixtures; new roofing; and a partial replacement of the original radiant floor heating system. “It manages to be contemporary where needed while not falling into trendy midcentury modern redesign pitfalls – it still feels like a 1960’s house,” commented jury member Angel Ayón. The owners practiced “minimal design intervention as a principle,” noted jury member Susan Macdonald. She added, “it is unusual for owners to retain so much of the original fabric, particularly in utilitarian areas such as kitchens.”

Design Award of Excellence

Peavey Plaza

Location: Minneapolis, MN

Original Architect: M. Paul Friedberg (M. Paul Friedberg and Associates)

Project Team: Coen+Partners (Design Lead, Landscape Architecture); Shane Coen, Partner, Robin Ganser, Partner, and Laura Kamin-Lyndgaard, Project Manager; New History (Preservation Lead, Historic Preservation); Barr Engineering (Engineering); Fluidity Design Consultants (Water + Fountain Consultant); Tillett Lighting Design (Lighting Design); PPM (Cost Estimators); Aloha Landscaping (Irrigation Design); 106 Group (Interpretive Design)

Client: City of Minneapolis
A Civic/Institutional Design Award of Excellence is given for the rehabilitation of Peavey Plaza, originally designed by M. Paul Friedberg and Associates and completed in 1975. In 1967, Lawrence Halprin’s Nicollet Mall, a 12-block pedestrian and transit mall, set the stage for the abutting site that would become Peavey Plaza. Landscape architect M. Paul Friedberg, a close contemporary of Halprin, conceived the space as the “living room” of downtown Minneapolis. The result was an iconic sunken plaza that balanced the tranquility of a central reflecting pool with a cascading concrete fountain and active programming that filled the plaza. Over the last decade, the Brutalist fountains had run dry and were slated for demolition. A consortium of local and national advocates, including M. Paul Friedberg himself, successfully convinced the city that the site was worth saving (this effort was recognized with a Docomomo US Advocacy Award of Excellence in 2014). Today, the plaza stands restored to its original splendor with issues of universal access resolved and infrastructure challenges addressed while still retaining the Plaza’s character defining features. One of the biggest changes, raising the basin of the sunken plaza from 10” to ¼”, not only created a more welcoming and flexible space, it also reduced water usage by tens of thousands of gallons. Additional improvements include a new, fully accessible entry experience placed along Nicollet Mall, with select terraces converted to permeable pavers. All this was accomplished through a consensus-building process while negotiating many layers of review. “Peavey Plaza was extremely vulnerable to removal while its high significance as urban landscape was well-known. The reconfiguration for accessibility, safety, and improved water management were coordinated with care to retain Friedberg’s design elements,” stated jury chair Henry Moss. Jury member and landscape architect Glenn LaRue Smith noted that “Unlike Friedberg’s Pershing Park in Washington D.C., which was significantly altered, this project is an excellent example of a site that has been successfully adapted for a modern age of universal access.”

**Design Award of Excellence**

**Hotel Marcel**

Location: New Haven, CT

Original Architect: Marcel Breuer & Robert Gatje (Marcel Breuer and Associates)

Other Designers: Paul Weidlinger, Structural Engineer; Segner & Dalton, Mechanical Engineers

Project Team: Becker + Becker Associates (Integrated Architecture and Development services, Design Architect and Architect of Record); Bruce Becker, FAIA, LEED AP, Kraemer Sims Becker, Violette de la Selle, Alice Tai, RA, Vivie Lee; Dutch East Design (Interior Design); GNBC Consulting Engineers, P.C. (Structural Engineering); LN Consulting Engineers (MEPFP Engineering); Blades & Goven, LLC (Landscape); Land-Tech Consultants, Inc. (Civil); Philip R. Sherman, P.E. (Code); Steven Winters Associates, Inc. (Envelope, Sustainability); Hoffmann Architects, Inc. (Roofing); Second Law (Energy); Sinclair Digital, LLC (Power over Ethernet and Design Integration); Ageto Energy, LLC (Microgrid designer); van Zelm, Heywood & Shadford, Inc. (Commissioning); Focus Lighting, Inc. (Lighting); MacRostie Historic Advisors, LLC (Historic); Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc. (Acoustic); Babbidge Construction Company, Inc. and Consigli Construction Company, Inc. (General Contractors)

Client: 500, LLC

A Commercial Award of Excellence is given for the restoration of the Armstrong Rubber Company building, formerly Pirelli Tire and now Hotel Marcel, designed by Marcel Breuer and Robert Gatje and completed in 1970. Hotel Marcel represents the sustainable reuse of an iconic modern structure to suit the needs of today. The structure’s dramatic suspended office block was originally intended to be a symbol of modernity in New
Haven, visible from the newly built Interstate 95, while meeting the client’s needs for office and research space. Since Pirelli Tire vacated the site in 1998, the structure was threatened with demolition for two decades. After a portion of the lower level was demolished, local advocates stepped in with a public campaign to encourage the city and its owners to repurpose the remaining building. Hotel Marcel is now projected to be the first Passive House-certified hotel in the United States, operating with zero carbon footprint. The exterior of the building, board-formed concrete and terrazzo stairways were carefully cleaned and preserved, and the concrete perimeter walls were treated to create a high-performance envelope. Breuer’s sculptural pre-cast ‘Mosaic’ panels were air-sealed and coated to further preserve them. This act of re-use at a large scale with a site that was neglected for decades should serve as a case study for others and a call to rethink our culture of disposability. Jury member Caroline Constant hailed it as an “ambitious transformation that achieved the difficult task of making a hotel out of an office building - while maintaining the original aim of providing a visual gateway to New Haven - and making it solar and net-zero in the process!”

Survey Award of Excellence

UMassBRUT

Location: Amherst and Dartmouth, MA

Original Designers: Paul Rudolph, Marcel Breuer, Kevin Roche, Gordon Bunshaft, Edward Durrell Stone, Hugh Stubbins, Hideo Sasaki, and more

Project Team: Rose Mary Betti-Salitsky, PhD, Associate Professor of Interior Architecture and Design, UMass Dartmouth; Allison Cywin, Librarian, UMass Dartmouth; Anna Dempsey, PhD, Professor, Art History Professor, UMass Dartmouth; Marla Miller, PhD, Public History Professor, UMass Amherst; Stephanie McGoldrick, Lecturer of Interior Architecture and Design, UMass Dartmouth; Lincoln Nemets-Carlson, PhD, Graduate Researcher, UMass Amherst; Ludmilla Pavlova-Gillham, Senior Campus Planner, UMass Amherst; Timothy Rohan, PhD, Art History Professor, UMass Amherst; Shelby Schrank, Intern Architect/Project Designer, Mills + Schnoering Architects & UMass Amherst Alumna; Richard Yeager, Director of Campus Planning, UMass Amherst

Clients: University of Massachusetts Amherst, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

An Inventory/Survey Award of Excellence is given to UMassBRUT, a multidisciplinary campaign led by a faculty, students, staff, and administrators from the University of Massachusetts Amherst and the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth that is diligently reshaping perceptions of Brutalist architecture. By spreading awareness among the campuses and local communities about the value and history of the iconic buildings that fill these environments, the campaign is building support for their conservation and renovation. In the 1960s and 1970s, international luminaries such as Kevin Roche, Marcel Breuer, Edward Durrell Stone, Paul Rudolph, and Hugh Stubbins, among others, created powerful forms that expressed the progressive idealism of the era, while simultaneously serving the functional needs of the public universities. Faced with widespread misunderstanding of these buildings, UMassBRUT undertook a variety of initiatives to promote awareness and affection for the schools’ Brutalist legacies, including creating a website and Instagram page, hosting virtual and in-person tours and lectures, organizing a two-day Symposium, and the creation of a printed and virtual guide to the Amherst campus. UMassBRUT is working to ensure that these structures will be fully appreciated by generations of students and community members to come. Jury member Angel Ayón described the effort as “exemplary and responsible stewardship of a massive educational site. We know the rhetoric they are dealing with – Brutalism is ugly – but they leaned into it and made a case for why it is important. It elevates Brutalism to a new height where it can be recognized for its contribution to 20th century architecture.”
Advocacy Award of Excellence

Pioneering Women in American Architecture

Location: New York, NY

Project Team: Cynthia Kracauer, AIA (Creator and Executive Director); Virginia Eskridge (Production Coordinator); Brandi Howell (Producer); Alexandra Lange (Writer); Mary McLeod, Ph.D. and Victoria Rosner, Ph.D. (Humanities Advisors); Roman Jaster (Lead Digital Designer)

An Advocacy Award of Excellence is given to the Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation’s Pioneering Women in American Architecture project, which has rigorously researched and developed profiles of women who have made important contributions to American architecture. All the women documented in the project were born before 1940, at a time when women struggled to be allowed entry into the architectural profession and to be recognized for their work. As such, the names of many of these women are not well known, even among architectural historians. Through a diverse program of publications, lectures, and the New Angle: Voice podcast, the Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation has creatively developed a varied and dynamic resource to tell the stories of these women. Documenting their lives and works was an enormous task, requiring hundreds of interviews and countless hours digging through archives, as well as endless fact-checking and photographic research. The scholars who worked on these profiles represent one of the largest groups ever to focus exclusively on women’s contributions to the U.S. built environment and to place the work of women squarely at the center of architectural history. These unparalleled resources were developed over many years, and now serve as the go-to for academics, historians, preservationists, and enthusiasts to dive deeper and advocate for these amazing designers and the sites they created. Speaking on behalf of the Docomomo US Board of Directors, Todd Grover commended the “incredible amount of time, energy and research that has gone into this project. The stories being told of women’s expansive contributions to architecture are exciting and showcased in a way that is accessible to all and will no doubt change history.”

Advocacy Award of Excellence

Eugenia Woo

Location: Seattle, WA

An Advocacy Award of Excellence is given to Eugenia Woo, who has devoted her professional career to the important, and sometimes frustrating, fight to save our modern heritage. As Historic Seattle’s Director of Preservation Services since 2009, she leads the organization’s advocacy efforts, fighting the good fight to “save Seattle’s soul.” She develops and implements historic preservation policies and initiatives, provides technical assistance, engages in community outreach, and coordinates and leads advocacy efforts, many times for resources that are lesser known: Brutalism, landscapes, and those by unknown designers. As co-founder of Docomomo US/WEWA (Western Washington), she most notably led the high-profile effort to save the University of Washington’s (UW) Nuclear Reactor Building, a significant Brutalist building listed in the National Register that was unloved by the University. Although the building was lost, the University filed a lawsuit against the City of Seattle and Docomomo US/WEWA (with Historic Seattle and the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation as intervening parties) maintaining that as a state institution of higher learning, it was not subject to the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance. This led to a precedent-setting Washington State
Supreme Court case that determined the University must abide by the City’s Landmark Preservation Ordinance when they embark on projects that impact historic resources. Under Eugenia’s direction, the WEWA chapter launched a new website (docomomo-wewa.org) in 2020 that serves as an invaluable resource for regional designers, sites, and threatened properties. Due to her leadership, the chapter continues to support students in researching a variety of modern topics, produce public programs, and advocate for the preservation of significant modern places. Docomomo US founding President Theodore Prudon stated, “Eugenia has been active in advocacy in Seattle and the northwest for more than twenty years. She has achieved remarkable results especially with the Washington State Supreme Court case, setting an important precedent for preservation efforts nationwide.”

Design Citation of Merit

Clauss Haus II at Little Switzerland

Location: Knoxville, TN

Original Architects: Alfred & Jane West Clauss

Project Team: Sanders Pace Architecture (Architect of Record): John L. Sanders, FAIA (Principal-in-Charge), Michael K. Aktalay, Assoc. AIA, Madison Butler; Robert Fuhrig, John L. Sanders, FAIA, and Jeffery Epperson (General Contractors); George Dodds, PhD (Nomination Narrative)

Client: John L. Sanders, FAIA

A Residential Design Citation of Merit is given for the restoration of Clauss Haus II at Little Switzerland, completed in 1941. Clauss Haus II is an early masterpiece of American modern design, conceived by Alfred and Jane West Clauss, former employees of Mies van der Rohe and Le Corbusier respectively. The pair chose to create a radical new housing development in an unexpected location, the ridge of Brown's Mountain near Knoxville, Tennessee. Although only completing five of the original ten planned houses, the Clauss' development of Little Switzerland is an early and rare example of an enclave of International Style homes in the US. This residence, the second one occupied by the couple, has been extensively renovated since 2015, bringing it back to peak form and preserving the original forward-thinking design. Exemplary efforts were made to retain and restore the redwood doors, window sashes, frames and siding, and replace only as needed. A multi-stage program to remove thick layers of paint from the siding was initiated and will continue as part of a long-term maintenance plan. Jury member Susan Macdonald applauded “the careful material aspects of timber and window repair and conservation, which is always a challenge.” Caroline Constant admired the “modesty of the home paired with the strength of its transformation.”

Design Citation of Merit

Gagarin II

Location: Litchfield, CT

Original Architects: Marcel Breuer and Tician Papachristou (Marcel Breuer and Associates)
Project Team: Kyra and Robertson Hartnett (General Contractors); Sub-contractors: Benovation, Bryant Glass, K&M Hauling, Toledo Masonry, Muecke Inc., Clifford A. Cooper Architecture, TNT Refrigeration, Hearne Hardwoods, Custom Electric, Creative Electric, J&M Plumbing, Slate & Copper Services

Client: Kyra and Robertson Hartnett

The jury awards a Design Citation of Merit for the restoration of the Gagarin II Residence. Commissioned by Andy and Jamie Gagarin in 1973 and completed in 1974, it is one of the last residences Breuer worked on. The home features a binuclear structure with a butterfly roof that echoes the iconic House in the Garden designed by Breuer for MoMA. Grounding it in its natural surroundings in the rolling hills of Litchfield, the home pays close attention to the use of a limited range of materials such as fieldstone to relate it to its natural surroundings. The owners purchased the home directly from the Gagarin family in 2016. Jamie Gagarin had collaborated closely with Breuer on the design, which gave the new owners access to the home's original blueprints, pictures, and stories. They used these reference materials, elements from Breuer's other work, and conversations with Breuer's architectural partner Bob Gatje, to inform the restoration process. Inappropriate vinyl siding was removed and replaced with tongue and groove wood that maintains visual continuity. Where the original wooden deck had been removed by previous owners, leaving only a concrete slab, the substructure was improved with a gravel bed and drainage system, and the deck was recreated in its exact pattern. A new HVAC system was carefully installed using original blueprints to locate empty areas in the walls to keep the infrastructure concealed.

Docomomo US Executive Director Liz Waytkus spoke to the threat modern homes face, “following the recently destroyed Geller House in Long Island, it is important to acknowledge the significance of these modest modern homes and celebrate stewards who seek to honor the design and see significance beyond its land value.” Jury chair Henry Moss praised the “very high design quality, including landscape.” He further explained that “Breuer houses tend to be small by today’s standards. So many times, the response is a major enlargement, which did not happen here. I applaud the intelligent restraint.”

Design Citation of Merit

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library

Location: Washington, D.C.

Original Architect: Ludwig Mies van der Rohe

Other Designers: Nelson Ostrom Baskin and Bernam (Consulting Engineers); Blake Construction Company (Building Contractor)

Project Team: Mecanoo (Lead Architect); OTJ Architects (Executive Architect)

Client: The District of Columbia Public Library

The jury awards a Civic/Institutional Design Citation of Merit for the restoration of the Martin Luther King Jr. Library, the only library designed by the pioneering architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe. The first modernist structure commissioned by the Art Commission of the District of Columbia, it represented a social turning point for a tradition-bound civic definition of architecture in the District. Located in the heart of the downtown area, this ambitious restoration initiative began six years ago with a $500 million investment from local tax dollars to revitalize more than twenty neighborhood libraries across DC, chief among them Mies’ landmark structure, which was suffering from 45 years of deferred maintenance. The rigorous process engaged the public, state and federal agencies, architect Jack Bowman of the original design team, Charles Cassell who
led the campaign to name the library after Dr. King, and more. Community feedback emphasized the importance of creating an inclusive, optimistic, and joyful space that honored Dr. King as a champion of DC Home Rule and provided programming that reflected his passions. The restoration respects the powerful simplicity of Mies’ distinctive rectilinear black glass-and-steel aesthetic exterior while applying a complementary and humanizing design idiom on the interior. The library now offers almost 100,000 additional sq. ft. of public space, including co-working spaces, a community service zone, exhibition space, an auditorium, maker space, café, and a rooftop garden. Jury member Glenn LaRue Smith, a D.C. resident, described his experience of walking up to the building over the past 20 years as “oppressive and uninviting,” but now “it is vastly improved and has a much more user-friendly entry while its iconic Miesian imagery has been preserved. The stairs on either side of the main entry make it a more civic space and increase the ability to circulate through the building without searching for elevators at the back of the building. The community stuck to their guns to ensure the building was saved and it is a big feather in the cap for D.C. and the region.”

Design Citation of Merit

Oakland Monster

Location: Oakland, CA

Original Designer: Robert Winston

Other Designers: Amedee Sourdry (Landscape Architect); Macri & Hood Iron Works (Steel Fabricator)

Project Team: Page & Turnbull (Project Lead); Western Specialty Contractors (Contractor); Lake Merritt Breakfast Club; Lake Merritt Mid-Century Monster Fan Club; Lake Merritt Breakfast Club Charitable Foundation

Client: City of Oakland Department of Public Works

The Civic/Institutional Design Citation of Merit is given for the restoration of the Oakland Monster, an important piece of the post-World War II children’s creative play movement. Unimpressed by rusty swing sets and rickety slides, Oakland Parks Superintendent William Penn Mott commissioned local artist and California College of Art instructor Robert Winston to create a public play sculpture reminiscent of his free-form jewelry design. Inspired by Swedish abstract playground design, the 25 ft. long, 7 ft. high, and 10 ft. wide structure offers various soft angles and bends that are perfect for children to play on. Sitting on the shores of Lake Merritt in Oakland, CA, the sculpture had deteriorated to the point where it had lost its colorful green paint and begun to fall apart due to water damage. Because of this, it was fenced off to prevent members of the public injuring themselves on the surface. Thanks to efforts from the local “Mid-Century Modern Monster” Fan Club and the Lake Merritt Breakfast Club, in coordination with the Oakland Public Works Department, the iconic sculpture has been beautifully restored to its former glory and playfulness. The restoration was consistent with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and addressed three main issues: rehabilitating the structure to its original visual condition, allowing it to once again be used safely as a play structure, and reducing the risk of future deterioration. Docomomo US Board Member and Awards Committee Chair Meredith Arms Bzdak, who formerly managed the ‘Save Outdoor Sculpture’ program in New Jersey, said that “this project warmed [her] heart.” She continued, “These structures absolutely need advocacy. People form strong attachments to sculpture in the public realm. This work creates a festive environment for adults and children where the work can be appreciated as art and simultaneously encourage playful interaction.”
Design Citation of Merit

Lucabe Coffee Co.

Location: Columbus, IN

Original Architect: Harry Weese (Harry Weese and Associates)

Project Team: Tyler and Alissa Hodge (Owners, Lead Designers, Construction Project Managers); Abe Skinner, Skinners Custom Construction (Lead Contractor); David Doup, Taylor Brothers Construction (Construction Consultant); Mark & Chisato Daugherty, Daugherty Design Plus (Lead Architects); Richard McCoy and Landmark Columbus Foundation (Consultant); Nading Mechanical (Plumbing & Mechanical); Forster Electric (Electrician); Brian and Linda Tielking, Dan and Sabra Hodge (Construction); Lucabe Coffee Co. Staff; and many other consultants and contractors

Client: Tyler and Alissa Hodge

The jury awards a Commercial Design Citation of Merit for Lucabe Coffee Co., originally the Eastbrook Branch of the Irwin Union Bank, located in the modernist city of Columbus, Indiana. Designed by Harry Weese in 1961, the building exemplified the considerations of the Motor Age, featuring four drive-through windows and a large parking area just outside of a major arterial road. Owners Alissa and Tyler Hodge fell in love with the building when they first moved to Columbus, and with the recent proliferation of biking and pedestrian paths in the area, they saw an opportunity to adaptively reuse the unique structure as a new coffee house and gathering space for the community. The floor in particular was an achievement. Tyler led the efforts over nights and weekends to remove carpeting and multiple layers of glue. The beauty of the green-tinted slate floor was restored and it is now the centerpiece of the building. One of the four large tower elements required structural engineers and skilled tradespeople to restore its drive-thru functionality, and the bank vault was transformed into a children’s area. Throughout the process, Landmark Columbus Foundation helped guide the owners and connect them with qualified professionals. Jury member Susan Macdonald noted that “the merit in this project is the care, attention, and community effort taken for a building in an important neighborhood.” Jury chair Henry Moss concurred, stating “it is a valuable example of passionate recognition of historic modernism by entrepreneurial residents, that was realized largely outside of academics and specialist professionals.”

Survey Citation of Merit


Location: Los Angeles, CA

Project Team: Architectural Resources Group (Project Lead and Principal Author): Katie Horak, Andrew Goodrich

Client: City of Los Angeles, Department of City Planning: Ken Bernstein, Janet Hansen, Shannon Ryan, Sara Delgadillo

The jury awards an Inventory/Survey Citation of Merit for the SurveyLA Historic Context Statement – L.A. Modernism, 1919-1980. SurveyLA is a one-of-a-kind endeavor, diving deep into the history of the built environment in Los Angeles and how it has shaped the city and region. It is the largest and most...
comprehensive survey of historic resources completed by an American city to date. The Historic Context
Statement on L.A. Modernism explores the maturation of modernism across Los Angeles and how this style
came to define our concept of the city. Through intense survey work, this project tracks the development of
Prewar styles, Postwar styles, and architectural responses to both, featuring works from prolific architects such as
Frank Lloyd Wright, Irving Gill, Richard Neutra, and many others. This compendium is easily accessible
through the Department of City Planning and is written on a level that all enthusiasts of modern architecture
can understand and enjoy. Given the lack of context statements for modern resources at state and municipal
levels country-wide, SurveyLA is a model for others to follow. Jury member Angel Ayón described it as “a
thorough, expansive, and breathtaking resource. It is a great resource to consult for scholarly pursuits while not being overly academic.”

About the Juries

The design and survey jury was chaired by Henry Moss, AIA, LEED AP, a 35-year Principal at Bruner/Cott
Architects after 16 years of practice in London, specializes in the technical and building history aspects of
architecture that inform both large-scale adaptive reuse projects and delicate restoration. His work includes the
Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art (MASS MoCA), which received the AIA National Honor Award
for Design; The Watertown Arsenal that received the AIA New England award; the Boston University School
of Law, which received a Docomomo US Modernism in America Award; and Harvard University’s Smith
Campus Center that received the Harleston Parker Award. The Boston University and Harvard projects were
deep retrofits of occupied 1960s Brutalist towers. Henry writes about the theory and practice of architecture as
it relates to historic properties and cities today and is a frequent speaker at national and regional conferences.
He is a founder of Docomomo US/New England; 25-year chair of the Boston Society of Architects Historic
Resources Committee; board member of Historic Boston Incorporated; and serves on the Preservation
Committee of Historic New England.

Renowned scholars, architects, landscape architects, and educators round out the jury:

Angel Ayón, AIA, LEED AP, NCARB, NOMA, is the Principal of AYON Studio Architecture • Preservation, P.C.
(AYON Studio) in New York City, which provides integrated professional services in the fields of Architecture
and Historic Preservation. He has more than twenty-five years of experience working with historic buildings.
Trained in his native Havana, Cuba, Washington, D.C., and New York City, his expertise ranges from
building-envelope evaluation and repair to full-scale rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of historic properties.
His experience with modern architecture includes the rehabilitation and exterior enhancement of Frank Lloyd
Wright’s Solomon R. Guggenhoem Museum, for which he was the project architect between 2004 and 2008
(prior to founding AYON Studio). In 2015, he was awarded the James Marston Fitch Mid-Career Fellowship
to undertake research on interventions on modern glazed enclosures. This research led to the publication of
Reglazing Modernism - Intervention Strategies for 20th-Century Icons, published by Birkhäuser in 2019. The book was
the recipient of the 2021 Lee Nelson Book Award bestowed by the Association for Preservation Technology
International (APT) on "the most outstanding and influential book-length work on preservation technology."
Mr. Ayón currently serves as Vice-President of Save Harlem Now! in NYC. He is a member of the Advisory
Board of the Historic Districts Council, the Historic Preservation Committee of The Municipal Art Society of
New York (MAS), Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Preservation League of the NY State, and
member of the Board of Directors of the James Marston Fitch Charitable Foundation. He is also an active
member of Columbia University Preservation Alumni, as well as the AIA, NCARB, nycoba/NOMA, USGBC,
holds a professional degree as an Architect and a M.Sc. in Conservation and Rehabilitation of the Built
Heritage from the Higher Polytechnic Institute “José Antonio Echeverría” in his native Havana, Cuba, and a
Post-Graduate Certificate in Conservation of Historic Buildings and Archaeological Sites from Columbia
University in New York.

Caroline Constant is professor of architecture emerita at the University of Michigan and a Fellow of the American Academy in Rome. Her extensive scholarship has been dominated by a longstanding interest in the interrelationship of architecture and landscape architecture—the result of teenage years spent in a suburban house built during the 1950s on the site of an extensive Japanese garden. She is author of Light and Shadow: The Work of Maryann Thompson Architects (in process, 2022), The Marcel Breuer House, Lincoln (in process, 2022), The Modern Architectural Landscape (2012), Eileen Gray (2000), The Woodland Cemetery: Toward a Spiritual Landscape (1994), and The Palladio Guide (1985), as well as co-editor, with Wilfried Wang, of the exhibition catalogue Eileen Gray: An Architecture for all Senses (1996). Constant’s research on the Woodland Cemetery in Stockholm led to that example being listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1994, while her contributions to the scholarship on Eileen Gray led to her being named an Honorary Member of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland, an honor bestowed on Gray herself a few years before her death.

Glenn LaRue Smith, FASLA is Co-Founder and Principal of PUSH studio in Washington, DC. He has built an urbanism-centered career inspired by the intersection of landscape and architecture for forty years. As managing creative partner at PUSH studio, he leads design efforts based on the philosophy of revealing the intrinsic value of sites, inspiring creative team collaboration, and shaping sculptural landscape environments. The firm is actively engaged in cultural landscape, urban design, monument / memorial design, and landscape design projects. Smith has served as Chairman of graduate landscape architecture programs at Morgan State University and Florida A&M University (HBCUs) as well as teaching positions at City College of New York, University of Michigan, Columbia University, and Rutgers University. He is founder and former President of the Black Landscape Architects Network (BlackLAN), a nonprofit organization established to provide support to Black students and professionals. He is a past recipient of the 2020 ASLA Distinguished Service Award and is the 2022 Distinguished Fellow of Landscape Architecture - Mississippi State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Smith holds an MLA degree from The University of Michigan and a BLA degree from Mississippi State University. He is also a Loeb Fellow, ’97 - Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD). Currently Smith is a spring 2022 Mellon Fellow in Urban Landscape Studies at Dumbarton Oaks.

Susan Macdonald, ICCROM, RIBA, PIA, is Head of the Buildings and Sites Department at the Getty Conservation Institute (GCI) where she oversees over 20 international projects that aim to advance conservation practice across a variety of challenges. Susan has worked as a conservation architect in private practice and in the government sector in Australia and in the UK. In her present and former role as Director of the NSW Heritage Office she was involved in a wide range of conservation issues from urban planning, development, economics, policy and technical matters. Susan has as a particular interest in 20th century heritage conservation, oversees the GCI’s Conserving Modern Architecture Initiative, has been involved in a number of world heritage nominations, and has published widely on this topic. She is a member of Docomomo US and APTi’s specialist technical committees on modern heritage, and is a Vice President of ICOMOS ISC 20.

Meredith Arms Bzdak, Ph.D., is an architectural historian and a Partner in the Princeton, New Jersey firm Mills + Schnoering Architects, LLC. Meredith also serves on the Board of Directors of Docomomo US.

Theodore Prudon, FAIA, is a leading expert on the preservation of modern architecture and a practicing architect as the Principal of Prudon & Partners in New York City. He is a current Board Member and founding President of Docomomo US.

The advocacy jury comprised the Docomomo US Advocacy Committee including Todd Grover, Flora Chou, Barbara Campagna, and Eugenia Woo.
A special thank you to Gary Wolf, FAIA, Principal of Wolf Architects in Boston, MA, and Hannah Simonson, Associate Cultural Resources Planner at Page & Turnbull, for serving on this year’s Awards Committee.

About Docomomo US

Founded in the United States in 1995, Docomomo US (which stands for Documentation and Conservation of buildings, sites and neighborhoods of the Modern Movement) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization led by a national Board of Directors and staff with a network of regional chapters and friend groups that share its members’ knowledge of and enthusiasm for modern architecture and design. Docomomo US pushes boundaries to preserve modern architecture, landscapes, and design through principled advocacy, collaboration, and celebration. Our vision is to create a world where people value modern heritage and use it to shape vibrant communities.

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