Concepts and Perspectives

Houston Area Digital Archives Coloring Book, volume 6

Featuring architectural drawings from the Howard Barnstone Collection

Created by Jeanette Sewell, 2016
Introduction

These drawings and photographs are highlights from the Howard Barnstone architecture collection, which was conveyed to the Houston Metropolitan Research Center in the 1980s. Howard Barnstone (1923-1987) was Houston’s most publicized modern architect of the 1950s and ’60s. He was also a professor of architecture at the University of Houston from 1948 until 1987, an often-quoted critic of architecture and urban planning in Houston, and the author of The Galveston That Was (1966) and The Architecture of John F. Staub: Houston and the South (1979).

Barnstone was associated with Dominique and John de Menil, his most notable clients, the architect Philip Johnson and with the architectural historian and theorist Colin Rowe. He also worked with such notable local colleagues as Burdette Keeland who was also a professor of architecture at the University of Houston and Preston M. Bolton and Eugene E. Aubry. Bolton and Aubry were Barnstone’s partners at various times.

Barnstone’s productive career, his influence on several generations of students at the University of Houston, and his impact on Houston’s cultural scene from the 1950s to the 1980s made him a lively, often controversial, presence. In addition to architectural drawings and photographs, the collection contains extensive correspondence files documenting Barnstone’s career.

These images were digitized in 2011 with a Houston Initiatives Grant from the Rice Design Alliance, awarded to Michelangelo Sabatino, associate professor of architecture at the University of Houston.
Sources

1. Motor Hotel in Neuvo Laredo, Tamps, MSS00178-2973-REN-004
   http://digital.houstonlibrary.org/cdm/ref/collection/ArchDrawing/id/262

2. Residence No. 611B: Sketch of living room, MSS0178-1499-SKE-001
   http://digital.houstonlibrary.org/cdm/ref/collection/ArchDrawing/id/370

3. Residence for Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Salman: Perspective sketch, MSS0178-1502-REN-001
   http://digital.houstonlibrary.org/cdm/ref/collection/ArchDrawing/id/412

4. Residence for Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Salman: Perspective sketch, MSS0178-1502-REN-002
   http://digital.houstonlibrary.org/cdm/ref/collection/ArchDrawing/id/385

5. Residence for Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wing: Sketch of library fireplace wall,
   MSS0178-3100-SKE-004
   http://digital.houstonlibrary.org/cdm/ref/collection/ArchDrawing/id/83

6. Residence for Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wing: Sketch of living room, MSS0178-3100-SKE-005
   http://digital.houstonlibrary.org/cdm/ref/collection/ArchDrawing/id/357

7. Residence for Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wing: Sketch of rear of house, MSS0178-3100-SKE-006
   http://digital.houstonlibrary.org/cdm/ref/collection/ArchDrawing/id/358

8. Addition to a residence for Mr. & Mrs. Charles F Smithers, Jr.: Rendering
   MSS0178-3106-REN-001
   http://digital.houstonlibrary.org/cdm/ref/collection/ArchDrawing/id/332

   http://digital.houstonlibrary.org/cdm/ref/collection/ArchDrawing/id/68

10. Office Building for Howard Barnstone & Burdette Keeland, Jr.: Rendering,
    MSS0178-3146-REN-001
    http://digital.houstonlibrary.org/cdm/ref/collection/ArchDrawing/id/310

Browse the Howard Barnstone Collection at
http://digital.houstonlibrary.org/cdm/search/searchterm/ricedesignalliance