News from the Library / News from the Archive

There are several new endeavors in the Architecture Library this spring: February is ‘I ♥ the Architecture Library’—an effort to energize the start to spring semester (more below), chat/IM reference is now available on the online Architecture Library research guides (more on page 2), and the Avery Index to Architectural Periodicals has a new look. Another notable new endeavor—Faculty Document Delivery Service. Faculty members may request an article through interlibrary loan and receive a PDF by email whether the article is scanned from a copy here in the University Libraries or sent from another library through interlibrary loan. Something to keep in mind on a cold winter’s day!

We ♥ a lot of things at the Drawings and Documents Archive. At the top of the list are curious students walking in the door, finding drawings that fit professor's assignments, and knowing that we’re preserving these valuable resources for future generations.

We also love some unusual uses of our drawings. One recent patron needed plans to re-create windows in his 1800s house. He not only found exactly the kind of drawings he needed to build the windows, but trade catalogs that will help him install some hardware in his house.

There are a lot of reasons you might love the archives. If you’re not sure about how to utilize this resource, feel free to stop by and learn more about the collection.

February is ‘I ♥ the Architecture Library’ month

All this month we are featuring beautiful books and interesting videos on display, candy hearts and chocolates, and all the library services and resources that make the Architecture Library a loveable place! As part the ‘I ♥ the Architecture Library’ campaign we encourage you to join in the conversation. Stop by the library and add a paper heart to the poster telling us why you ♥ the Architecture Library. We’ve had lots of good responses so far—add yours to the mix!

While you’re in the library, take a minute to browse the new books, scan through recent journal issues, or use one of the library workstations to make use of our online research resources.

A research guide tailored to a specific course or project is a great way to give students a head start on research. By focusing the tips and keywords on the very topics students will be researching, the guide is that much more useful to them and relevant to the project at hand. Furthermore, instead of covering a long list of resources in the field, the focused guide lists only those that relate to the project or course topic.

For example, if a class is starting a project designing a sculpture garden the research guide would include Art Full Text and suggestions for the best keywords to use in a search. The guide for a course on transportation planning would include a list of the subjects related to this topic to use in a CardCat search. Business Source Premier would also be featured on this guide because it indexes several urban planning journals.

To see an example of what a research guide for a course would look like, go to http://bsu.libguides.com/archlibsample. This sample guide illustrates the features and formats available. Interested in a guide for a course or project? Contact Amy Trendler, Architecture Librarian, at trendler@bsu.edu, 5858.

Reference Help Now Available via Chat/IM

Help via Chat/IM windows is now available on the Architecture Library research guides. Whether it is help getting started on a research project or a question about finding a particular article, a researcher can simply begin typing in the chat window and send a query to the Architecture Librarian.

To get started, go to http://bsu.libguides.com/archlib or use the link on one of the other Architecture Library research guides:

- Architecture: http://bsu.libguides.com/arch
- Landscape Architecture: http://bsu.libguides.com/la
- Urban Planning: http://bsu.libguides.com/plan

Archives’ Exhibit Builds Civic Pride

By Carol Street, Archivist for Architectural Records

Ball State University alumni, AIA architects, preservationists, and architecture aficionados seem to love the recent Drawings + Documents Archive exhibit, Civic Pride Begins in Your Backyard, which is on display at Blackline Studio for Architecture in Indianapolis. The exhibit celebrates the Modernist work of Indianapolis architect Edward D. Pierre, FAIA, with architectural drawings and photographs from the Pierre & Wright Architectural Records collection.

One notable drawing in the exhibit that is garnering a lot of attention is the Tarkington Park Tennis Shelter building, which was torn down recently by the Indianapolis Parks Department because they didn’t realize it had been designed by Pierre. The exhibit hopes to highlight buildings designed by Indiana’s famed architect that are currently loved, unfortunately lost, and even currently neglected, in order to build appreciation for our architectural history.

If you’re in Indianapolis, there’s still time to see the exhibit at Blackline Studio before it comes down March 2nd. You can also read more about it on the Archive’s blog at http://ddarchive.blogspot.com/.

Blackline Studio is a full service architecture and interior design studio for commercial and residential architecture. Recent projects include the Speak Easy incubator space, City Gallery at the Harrison Center for the Arts, and The Hinge in Fountain Square which opens in late 2012. The principals of the firm are all Ball State University College of Architecture alumni.