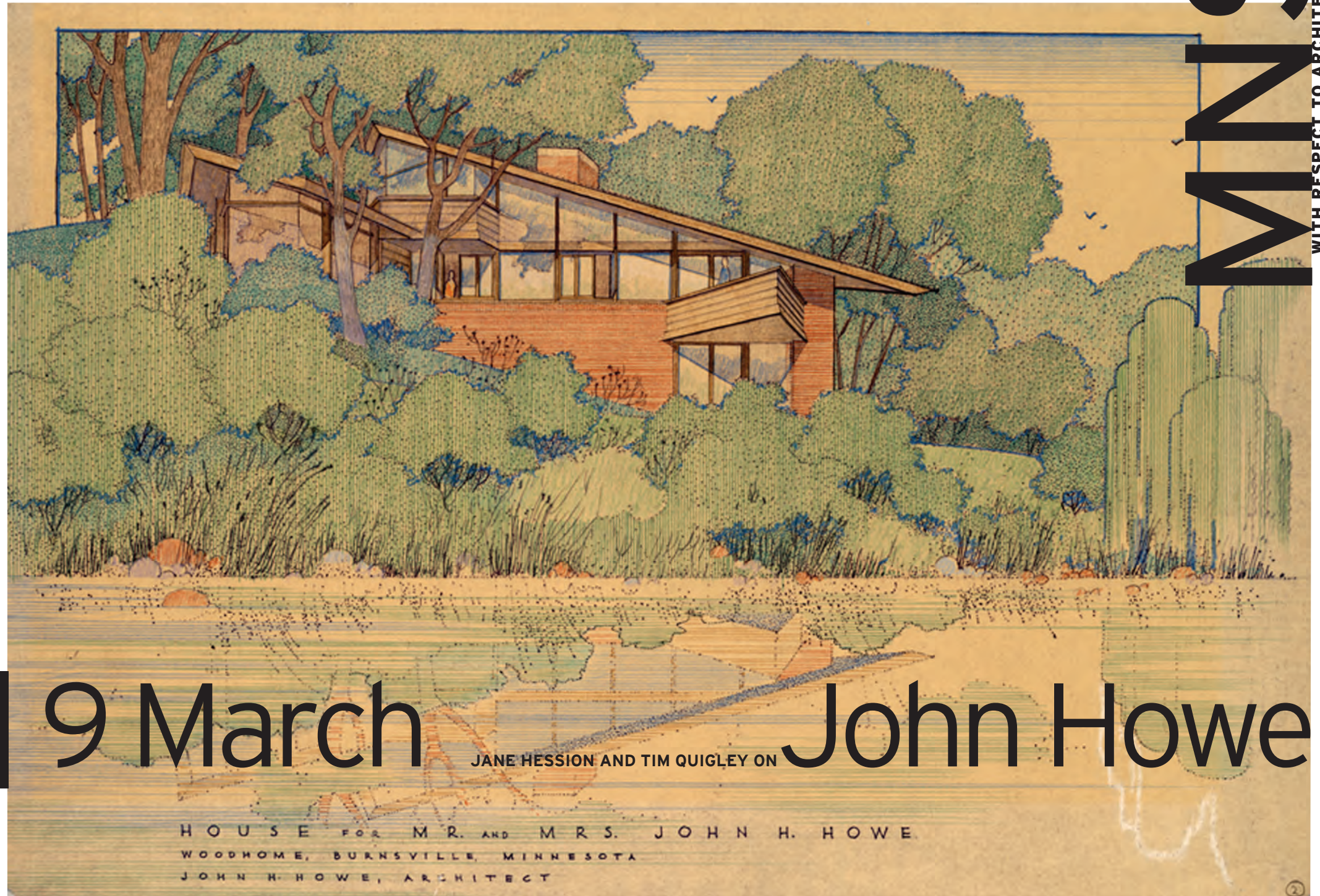


MINNESOTA CHAPTER
OF THE SOCIETY OF
ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS
275 MARKET STREET
SUITE 54
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55405

Sankaku, 1972
Image from the John H. Howe Papers,
Northwest Architectural Archives,
University of Minnesota Libraries

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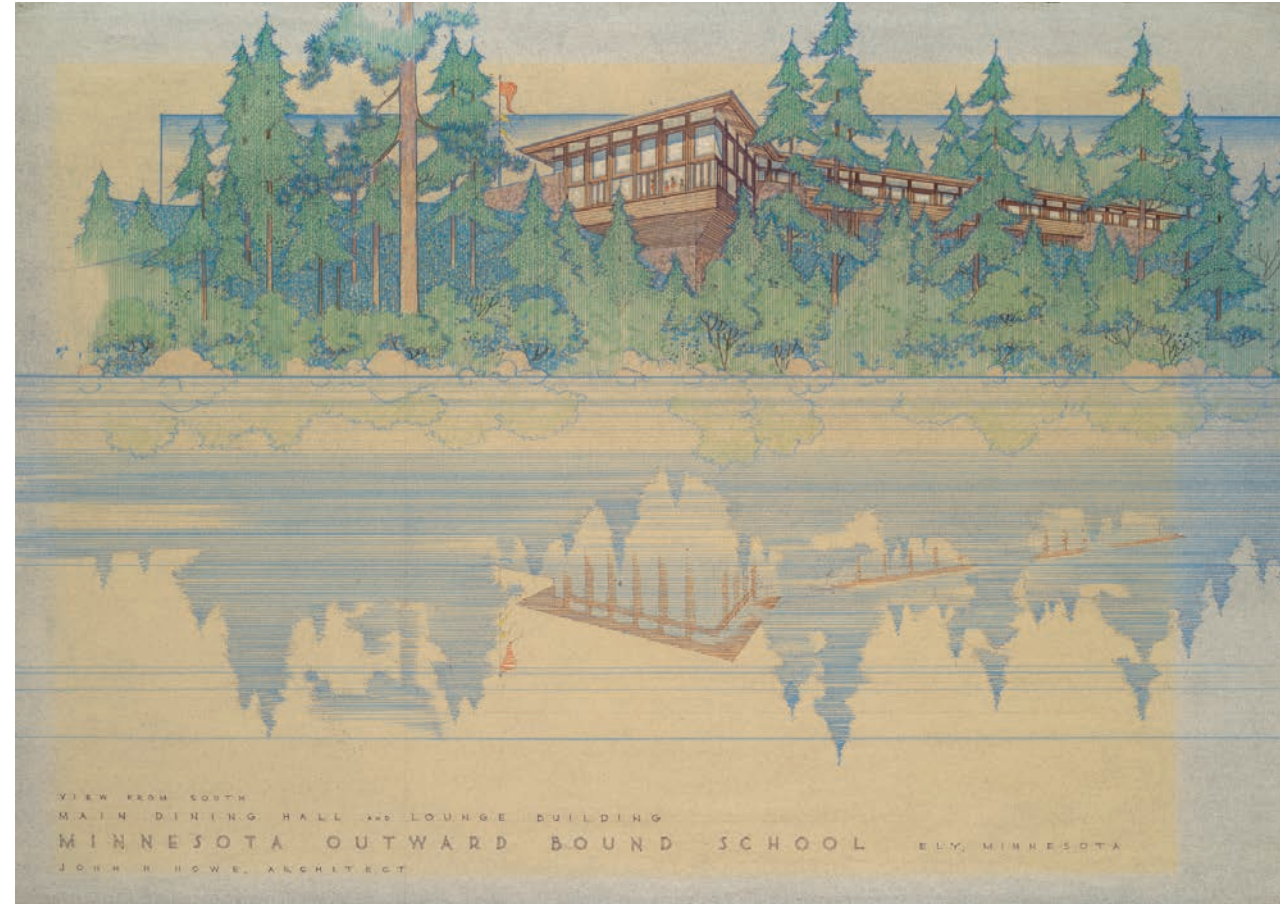
MN SAH
WITH RESPECT TO ARCHITECTURE | FEBRUARY 2015



PLEASE JOIN US **Monday | 9 March** JANE HESSON AND TIM QUIGLEY ON **John Howe**

Minnesota Outward Bound, 1970
Image from the John H. Howe Papers,
Northwest Architectural Archives,
University of Minnesota Libraries

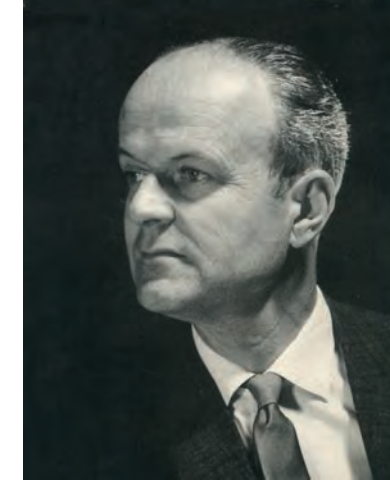
John H. Howe, c. 1960
Photograph by John Amarantides. Courtesy of
The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation Archives
(The Museum of Modern Art/Avery Architectural &
Fine Arts Library, Columbia University, New York).
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**MNSAH Annual Meeting
Minnesota Humanities Center, St. Paul
Monday, March 9, 2015**

**John H. Howe, Architect:
From Taliesin Apprentice
to Master of Organic Design**

**Jane King Hession and Tim Quigley
keynote speakers**



A charter member of Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin Fellowship, John Howe earned a reputation as "the pencil in Wright's hand" before establishing his own architectural practice in Minnesota.

Jane King Hession and Tim Quigley, the co-authors of an upcoming book on Howe to be published by the University of Minnesota Press in July 2015, will discuss Howe's arrival at Taliesin in 1932 and his rise to become Wright's chief draftsman. A consummate interpreter of Wright's designs and a supremely gifted renderer, Howe created many of the most renowned and remarkable drawings produced for Wright's Taliesin studio.

Howe, a conscientious objector during World War II, was incarcerated in the Federal Correctional Institution at Sandstone, Minnesota for refusing

John Howe

JANE HESSION AND TIM QUIGLEY ON

Seagull, the Norma Johnson House
Grand Marais, 1984.
Photograph by Bill Olexy
Modern House Productions



induction into the military. His visionary and imaginative drawings from that period, all in the collection of the Northwest Architectural Archives at the University of Minnesota, will be featured.

Following his departure from Taliesin in 1964, and a three-year stint working for architect Aaron Green in San Francisco, Howe and his wife, Lu, moved to Minnesota where he established a thriving architecture practice. He specialized in organically designed residences characterized by their intimate relationship to site, use of natural materials, and flowing interior spaces. The presentation will highlight many of his best architectural creations.

Jane King Hession, an architectural historian and curator specializing in modernism, is a founding partner of Modern House Productions; co-author of *Frank Lloyd Wright in New York:*

The Plaza Years, 1954–1959 and *Ralph Rapson: Sixty Years of Modern Design*. She is a former president of the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy and the Minnesota Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians.

Tim Quigley, AIA, is principal of Quigley Architects and taught architectural studio and history courses for twenty years at the University of Minnesota and Ball State University. He is a former president of the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy, vice president of the Minnesota chapter of Docomomo, president of the advisory board of the Goldstein Museum of Design at the University of Minnesota, and a past board member of the Minnesota Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians.

the details

DATE AND PLACE

Monday, March 9, 2015, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Minnesota Humanities Center
987 Ivy Avenue East
St. Paul, MN
651-774-0105

6:00 Reception
6:30 Dinner
7:30 Annual meeting and board election
8:00 Jane Hession and Tim Quigley lecture
9:00 Adjourn

COST

\$40 for MNSAH members
\$45 for nonmembers

REGISTRATION

Deadline: Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Please register online at:

www.mnsah.org/events/annual-meeting/ or mail your check (payable to MNSAH) and reservation form to:
MNSAH
c/o Lock Bounds
2072 Iglehart Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55104

Note: Members who wish to attend the annual meeting and the lecture, but not dinner, may do so at no cost. The annual meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Please send in the registration form or contact Lock Bounds at 651-659-9932 or lockbounds@yahoo.com if you plan to attend only the meeting and presentations.

MENU

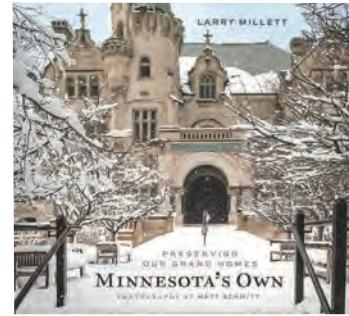
Caraway Crusted Pork Tenderloin with an herbed Carlsbad dumpling and sweet and sour red cabbage.
or
Butternut Squash & Wild Mushroom Lasagna served with parmesan bread.

Dinner will be accompanied by a garden salad with house vinaigrette, vegetables, bread, and triple chocolate cake for dessert.

DIRECTIONS

From highway 35E, exit on Maryland Ave., proceed East 1.7 miles to Earl Street, turn left, go 4 blocks to East Ivy Ave., turn left, and the Humanities Center will be on your right.

BY FRANK EDGERTON MARTIN **book review**



MINNESOTA'S OWN: PRESERVING OUR GRAND HOMES

by Larry Millett
Photography by Matt Schmitt. Plans and elevations by Todd Grover, Katie Kangas, Stuart MacDonald, and Angela Wolf Scott of MacDonald and Mack Architects. Saint Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2014.

A version of this book review originally appeared in the January/February 2015 issue of Architecture MN.

From Alexander Ramsey's Second Empire mansion in Saint Paul to Frank Lloyd Wright's first completed Usonian House in Prospect Park—*Minnesota's Own* showcases 20 distinctive examples of Minnesota's residential architecture—some of which are nationally significant. Included here are Cass Gilbert's exquisite William Lightner House on Summit Avenue and Purcell and Elmslie's E.S. Hoyt House in Red Wing—both among the finest residential work these designers ever produced.

Larry Millett tells stories of the families who built these houses, how they made their money (sometimes with great social benefit but quite often not) and how they worked with architects. The book is divided into four sections: Urban Mansions, Victorians, Modern Living, and Great Estates. The book benefits from the enhanced watercolor floor plans and elevations by MacDonald and Mack Architects. Together, the photos and plan views create a sense of walking within and outside the house.

One could argue that this book is really not about historic preservation (as its subtitle implies) and that its voyeuristic focus on high-style design for generally affluent families represents only a small (but highly-publishable) piece of historic preservation today. It's also true that not all of these houses are "grand." Indeed, Wright's Willey house is 1,350 square feet. Yet Millett's writing conveys

a much more balanced view of history than the glamorous photos might alone. Each house chapter includes several full-page sidebars conveying broader historic contexts and events related to the house and its builders. Some of Millett's background stories are quite dark—such as Alexander Ramsey's ruthless assault on Native Americans during the U.S.-Dakota War and Swan Turnblad's shady business dealings that likely financed his Park Avenue castle, now the American Swedish Institute.

There are also important connections about the careers of leading architects such as the fact that Cass Gilbert was a draftsman for the powerhouse New York office of McKim, Mead and White before returning to Minnesota where he ultimately hired Edwin Lundie in a similar role. Many architects practicing today are familiar with the seminal modern-era firm Thorshov and Cerny who designed the Harry A. Blackmun House in Golden Valley. This 1950 split-level, along with the Moderne-style David Park House in Bemidji, are great modern surprises in this book. Yet Millett helps us to see that even designers like Lundie who resisted modernism could be extraordinarily creative within a historic palette. Lundie understood the syncopation of space with large rooms connected by intimate halls, historic woodworking, and even how to detail the metal for a small switch plate. Understanding space and detail at many scales is what made him a great architect and not just a house builder—someone who could create beauty without needing to be grand.

OUR PURPOSE IS TO:

- Broaden awareness of our architectural heritage
- Promote research and provide a forum for the exchange of ideas related to architectural history
- Offer opportunities to personally experience significant architectural sites, structures, and landscapes
- Promote the preservation and recording of important architecture
- Cooperate with learned and professional societies in the pursuit of common objectives
- Seek financial support from individuals, philanthropic organizations, and foundations in the furtherance of chapter objectives
- Act as an agent for the safekeeping and distribution of funds given to it for these purposes

MNSAH NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

MNSAH members who attend the annual meeting on March 9, 2015, will vote on the following slate of officers and board members submitted by the nominating committee (Rolf Anderson, Anita Hawks, Gary Reetz, and Laura Weber). New board nominations may come from the floor.

President	Kristin Anderson
Vice President	Gary Reetz
Treasurer	Rolf Anderson
Secretary	Deb Ford
At Large	Jo Davison Dennis Gimmestad Anita Hawks

All officers are nominated for a one-year term. New board member Dennis Gimmestad (see bio below) will serve for a two-year term. Board member Deb Ford is nominated for an additional two-year term. The remaining board members will be serving the second year of the two-year term to which they were elected in 2014.

Dennis Gimmestad worked at the State Historic Preservation Office of the Minnesota Historical Society for 32 years, and retired from the Cultural Resources Unit at the Minnesota Department of Transportation in 2014. This past fall, he was one of the organizers of the *Bridging Continents, Bridging the River* tour, cosponsored by MNSAH and the Norwegian-American Historical Association. Dennis lives in St. Louis Park.

We would also like to thank our departing board members Judy Kurtz, Eva Quigley Timmons, Robin Ryan, and Laura Weber for their many years of dedicated service to MNSAH!

Recreation Vehicle, c. 1943
 Image is from the John H. Howe Papers,
 Northwest Architectural Archives,
 University of Minnesota Libraries



MNSAH BOARD

Officers

President	Kristin Anderson
Vice President	Laura Weber
Treasurer	Rolf Anderson
Secretary	Robin Ryan

Committee Chairs

Marketing	Laura Weber
Membership	Kristin Anderson
Program	Rolf Anderson
Modern Masters	Judy Kurtz

At Large

Jo Davison
Anita Hawks
Deb Ford
Gary Reetz
Eva Quigley Timmons

Please direct comments or concerns about the newsletter to *With Respect to Architecture* at the MNSAH address, or to Jo Davison at j.davison@larsen.com.

Please direct membership inquiries to Kristin Anderson, 612-330-1285 or anderso3@augsborg.edu. For general comments or program and tour suggestions, contact Kristin Anderson.



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