

## Preserving the Modern House

Date: Thursday, May 23 2013  
Location: Richard and Dion Neutra VDL Research House and Ray and Shelly Kappe Residence  
Subject: Strategies for Preserving and Maintaining the Modern House  
Cost: \$50.00  
AIA Learning Credits

As part of the Getty's PST: Modern Architecture L.A., a series of exhibitions and public programs, Cal Poly Pomona and the Getty Conservation Institute is offering a one-day technical workshop on "Preserving the Modern House." This program stems from the exhibition *Technology and Environment: The Postwar Southern California House* being held at the Kellogg Gallery on the Cal Poly Pomona campus from April 11-July 12, 2013.

The day-long workshop will focus on two icons of Los Angeles modernism: Richard and Dion Neutra's VDL Research House (1932-1966) and Ray Kappe's own residence (1967). The program will bring to light strategies for preserving and maintaining these iconic works. Neutra's VDL Research house was the architect's residence and studio for most of his illustrious career. The original house dates to 1932, but after a devastating fire, the rebuilt house of 1966 was designed with flat roofs that could also function as shallow pools. This design innovation presented numerous conservation challenges, and their solution has been an ongoing project.

The architecture of the Kappe house, completed in 1968 is based on a bridge-like system of concrete towers spanned by beams of glued laminated lumber. Time, and exceptional design have been kind to the Kappe residence, whose innovative use of material and response to site and climate continue to make it one of the most important 20<sup>th</sup> century American houses.

A series of lectures by experts in the area of architectural conservation will be offered throughout the morning and into the early afternoon. These will be followed by tours of the VDL House. The speakers will be:

- Leo Marmol, Principal, Marmol and Radziner, award-winning Los Angeles architect
- Sarah Lorenzen, Architect, Director of VDL and chair of the Department of Architecture at Cal Poly Pomona
- Veronica Martin, Principal, Wiss Janney Elstner Associates, Inc., San Francisco a specialist in the remediation of water intrusion problems in existing buildings
- Paul Gaudette, Principal, Wiss Janney Elstner Associates, Inc., structural engineer with extensive experience with modern and historic concrete structures

Following a box lunch (included in the price of the program), a coach will bring participants to the Ray and Shelly Kappe residence where world-renown architect, Ray

Kappe, FAIA will answer questions about his residence. Tours of the Kappe house will allow participants to get a closer look at this masterwork of modern design.

Tentative Schedule:

9:00	Welcome to VDL Research House by Lauren Weiss Bricker, Ph.D, Cal Poly Pomona and Kyle Normandin, Senior Project Specialist, Getty Conservation Institute
9:10-9:30	Kyle Normandin on Conservation Fundamentals
9:35-10:35	Veronica Martin to discuss waterproofing of modern buildings (lecture and Q&A)
10:35-10:50	Break
10:55-11:55	Leo Marmol to discuss roofing project (30 minutes) followed by Q&A (30 min.)
12:00-1:00	Sarah Lorenzen, roof top presentation of VDL project
1:00-2:00	Box
2:00-3:00	Paul Gaudette on conservation of concrete
3:10	Leave for Kappe Residence
4:00	Arrive at Kappe Residence
4:05-5:05	Ray Kappe – Questions and Answers
5:10	Leave Kappes and return to Silver Lake
6:00	Arrive at Neutra VDL House