



April 10, 2013

Dear Members, Friends, and Neighbors,

First we would like to thank you for your past support of Friends of Modern Architecture, Lincoln (FoMA). We hope you were able to attend some of our events this year and that you will consider renewing your membership for 2013-2014. The cost of membership is almost the same as a ticket to one of our house tours, plus as a member you will be joining a community of like-minded individuals with an interest in Modernism.

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FoMA is a unique grass roots organization devoted to the appreciation and preservation of Modern houses in Lincoln (built 1937-1970). We offer educational house tours, films, and lectures or panel discussions related to Modern architecture. FoMA also serves as a resource for information about Modern houses, and hosts an extensive website where you will find announcements about upcoming FoMA events, listings of Modern houses for sale, and many other links and related web sites.

Lincoln is fortunate to have neighborhoods such as Brown's Wood, Stonehedge, Old Concord Road, Twin Pond, Tabor Hill and Beaver Pond that provide opportunities to examine the range of a particular designer or architectural style. FoMA focused on Stonehedge and the Deck house as the subject of our fall, 2012 symposium and house tour. We were extremely fortunate to have as our featured speaker for the symposium, Robert Brownell, one of the co-founders of the Deck company, who lived with his family in Stonehedge for many years. The symposium was followed by a celebration of the 50th anniversary of Stonehedge, with tours of eight homes. This sold out event offered opportunities to view one house that is still inhabited by its original owners and retains its original furnishings, as well as homes that have been updated in unique and imaginative ways. If you missed the symposium, a video will soon be available through the Lincoln library.

The recent passing of Walter Pierce (1920-2013) and Terry Rankine (1927-2013), both key figures in the development of Modern architecture in New England, reminds us that an era is drawing to a close and the importance of preserving that legacy. Among Pierce's many projects was the Peacock Farm neighborhood in Lexington which was recently designated as a National Register of Historic Places district. Rankine was an influential designer and co-founder of Cambridge Seven Associates. FoMA's collaboration with the Town of Lincoln and the Rural Land Foundation to help preserve the Hollingsworth house (designed in 1963 by local architect, Constantin Pertzoff) helped to ensure that the house and its land will retain their original character.

Another form of preservation is the documentation of local architecture. We have received a grant from the Community Preservation Act fund in order to continue an inventory of Lincoln's Modern houses. This inventory supplements related work conducted by the Lincoln Historical Commission that documents Lincoln's older historic buildings. Together, the FoMA and LHC surveys will provide documentation of Lincoln's architectural heritage that will serve scholars and the interested public alike.

FoMA launched a new film series during Winter Carnival with a screening of "Regular or Super," a quirky look at the work of Mies Van der Rohe. The subject of the next film, scheduled for April 25th, from 7-9 pm, will be the early 20th century Modern Catalan architect, Antonio Gaudi. The films are shown in the Tarbell Room of the Lincoln Library, and are free and open to the public. Please watch for announcements of upcoming house tours and other events, including our first ever annual meeting for members to be held in the fall.

We very much hope you will renew your membership. You can now renew or join online using Paypal, although it is still fine to send a check in the enclosed envelope if you prefer. Your FoMA membership is critical to our work and we thank you in advance for your support.

Kind regards,

Sandra Grindlay and Paul Giese, FoMA Membership Committee