



December 2015

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

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Since its beginning ten years ago Friends of Modern Architecture/Lincoln has offered house tours, symposia, workshops, and films that have provided Lincoln residents an opportunity to engage with the Town's history as among the most important Modern Movement communities in America. More than two hundred and fifty single-family Modern houses were built during this era, 1937-1970. Some of these are in important Modern neighborhoods, and several of them are largely intact today. In addition to the ground-breaking, internationally acclaimed Bauhaus residences of Walter Gropius and Marcel Breuer, Lincoln has a collection of innovative and unique Modern houses designed by a wide variety of architects, many of whom chose to build their own homes in town. These architects include faculty members from the schools of architecture at Harvard and MIT, and the Cambridge School of Architecture which provided professional training for women. Lincoln's distinguished collection of Modern architecture includes an aluminum house designed by Alcoa, an innovative solar-powered house built in 1956, and several residences constructed in the earliest years of the Modern era.

Lincoln's place in the history of the Modern Movement and the extent to which the Modern era has shaped Lincoln deserve to be better known. Like all history, it is in danger of being lost to the pressures of the present. FoMA engages in projects that educate about and increase awareness of Modern architecture, encourage the preservation of this valuable resource, and document its history in a variety of media. The following are highlights from the past year:

- FoMA was pleased to support the publication in November, 2015, of "Breaking Ground: Henry B. Hoover, New England Architect" by Lucretia Hoover Giese and Henry B. Hoover Jr.
- Annual meeting, house tour, and Hoover book signing held at the John Peabody Monks house designed by G. Holmes Perkins, 1941-42, November 2015
- First annual award given to recognize efforts to preserve and/or renovate a Modern house. The first recipients were Lucretia and Paul Giese, and Harry Hoover, Hoover house, 154 Trapelo Road
- FoMA helped organize the Concord Museum's "Middlesex County Modern" exhibition (through March 20, 2016). The house tour, offered in conjunction with Docomomo, included seven houses in five towns. In Lincoln the Jacobs house designed by Walter Bogner (1942) and the Gaskill house by J. Quincy Adams (1940) were featured
- House tour of homes designed by Henry Hoover in Lincoln and Lexington in association with the exhibition "Lextopia" organized by the Lexington

Historical Society. Lincoln houses on the tour included Henry B. Hoover's, Hoover House (1937) and the DeNormandie House (1947). Tours of other Hoover homes included two in Weston, MA, and one in Jaffrey, NH.

- Pierce Hill neighborhood house tour offered a comparison of Colonial, Victorian and Modern house styles
- "Remembering Design Research" symposium featured guest speakers Jane Thompson, co-founder of Design Research, and Susan Ward, textile historian. Many participants wore vintage Marimekko to this sold out event
- Lecture at the Lincoln Library by Peter McMahon and Christine Cipriani, authors of "Cape Cod Modern: Midcentury Architecture and Community on the Outer Cape"
- Award of Community Preservation Act funding for the State Historical Commission's Inventory of Historic and Archeological Assets of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts project. FoMA has completed surveys (Form Bs) for approximately 185 Modern houses
- An oral histories pilot project initiated with a grant from the Lincoln Arts Council
- Lecture by Lincoln resident, Katherine Mierzwa, about the ALCOA Aluminum House

Through the development of more initiatives such as those described above, FoMA plans to expand its role in protecting Lincoln's heritage of Modern architecture. In twenty years we will reach the Centennial Anniversary of the Modern Movement's arrival to Lincoln and America. If we act now, in the future we will find amongst the woodlands, granite outcroppings, and hiking trails, architecturally significant Modern Houses and neighborhoods whose distinctive architectural features have been preserved. Each year that goes by decreases the odds, so we must act now. Please renew your membership or consider a gift to FoMA in 2015...our history and legacy depend on it. Please know that we are grateful for your support at any level.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Friends of Modern Architecture Board