It is an image that will stay with me for a long time.

We are on a bus, returning from an excursion to Moose Jaw and Gravelbourg. Dark clouds have stormed across the prairie sky, the light level has dropped from afternoon to evening in a matter of minutes, and we are engulfed by pelting rain and hail. The landscape is just a remote, flat line in the distance. Suddenly, that line is broken by the outline of a massive grain elevator – an ominous, even violent interruption of the horizon silhouetted against the sky. Strains from a lone, mournful banjo drift through the bus from the seat behind me, completing the sense of Gothic dread. Am I in a prairie remake of Deliverance? No, I’m at the SSAC.

As I say every year at this time, there is no other conference like the SSAC conference.

This year, we did things a bit differently. Our conference was joined with that of the Saskatchewan Association of Architects, and we enjoyed a three-day exchange of scholarship and fellowship. We had the benefit of fresh perspectives and insights from the architects during our discussions, while our sessions provided them with continuing education credits. It was a wonderfully symbiotic collaboration that I hope we can repeat. Kudos and deep thanks to our friends at the SAA.

Particularly heartfelt thanks go to our SSAC conference committee, Bernie Flaman and Hilary Grant. Both have been creative, resourceful and unreasonably generous with their time over the past year. How they managed it I will never know, but we were so fortunate to have such an able and committed team.

This year was a special occasion for me, as it marked the end of my second and final term as SSAC president. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve the Society in this capacity for the last six years. I am grateful to our officers and provincial representatives, to our wonderful administrator Fran Pauzé, and to the whole of our membership for six years of good work, goodwill and enthusiastic commitment. It has been an inspiration to work with such an exceptional group of people. And with the new board elected in Regina, the SSAC remains in superb hands.

See you next year in Niagara-on-the-Lake!
SOME PICTURES FROM THE 2016 CONFERENCE TOUR TO MOOSE JAW AND GRAVELBOURG...

Above: Moose Jaw Court House

Above: Moose Jaw Public Library

Above: Moose Jaw Public Library

Above: Eglise de Gravelbourg

Above: Moose Jaw

Images courtesy of Nicolas Miquelon
Announcing the 2017 Conference Location...

It's official, the 2017 SSAC Conference will be held in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario.

The Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada will be holding its next Annual Conference in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. Located in the heart of Ontario's wine country, Niagara-on-the-Lake was the capital of Upper Canada from 1792-96, and is now a National Historic Site. The town is home to numerous historically-significant buildings, including Fort George, a former military post that defended Upper Canada during the War of 1812, and the Mississaugua Point Lighthouse, the first lighthouse on the Great Lakes. Moreover, Niagara-on-the-Lake is also famous for its role in the anti-slavery movement as a stop on the Underground Railroad. Although a historic site, Niagara-on-the-Lake presents many examples of architectural adaptive reuse, and is located within a 30-minute drive to Niagara Falls and St Catharines, both of which have a rich industrial heritage and boast the successful mixing of 19th-century and modern/contemporary buildings.

Photo courtesy of Candace Iron
Results of the 2016 Membership Survey

The survey was devised by the SSAC membership committee in order to get a sense of what is important to our members. The results of the survey have provided us with useful data regarding our membership, as well as some helpful suggestions for moving forward as a society.

The survey reflects the answers of approximately 63/155 members, or 43% of the total membership.

The charts below reflect what our members felt were the benefits of membership. Not surprisingly, the journal, the conference, and professional networking ranked high among our members as benefits membership in the society offers.

While it is apparent from the comments made by those who completed the survey that many of you are happy with the society as it is, we were provided with some valuable suggestions regarding areas the society could improve. All of these comments and suggestions are much appreciated and have been distributed amongst the new executive for consideration.

Overall, the survey has proven to be a very useful tool and, as per the recommendation of the membership committee, a survey will be administered on a more regular basis (approx. once every three years) to ensure that the society remains engaging and meets the needs/wants of our membership.

A big thank you goes out to all of those who participated in the survey. Special thanks also to Michael Windover and the membership committee for designing and administering the survey.
Meet the newest members of the SSAC Executive

Nicolas Miquelon: President

I am an architectural historian, with a considerable experience in heritage research, conservation, and policy. After obtaining a degree in Fine Arts, at which time I explored various engraving techniques, I undertook a Bachelor degree in Art History, where I began studying architecture. This combined background in theory and practice led me to the School of Architecture, University of Montreal, where I obtained a Master in Conservation in 2003. Trained in the field of heritage studies, I worked as a consultant, but also with the municipal, provincial, and federal governments. In recent years, I worked for the Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office (FHBRO), the bureau associated with federal heritage protection, and I am currently manager of historical services, at Parks Canada in Gatineau, Quebec. My daily work consists of managing research for Eastern Canada and the FHBRO, and supporting a wide range of initiatives in history and architectural history, from conservation to presentation and interpretation. Aside from this career, I am also a semi-professional musician, event planner, music critic, and outdoor enthusiast.

My first SSAC conference was in St. John's, Newfoundland, in 2003. Being familiar with many other local and international organizations, I remember being struck by the collegiality of this group. The high level of knowledge and the strong bonds of this network were, and still are to me, one of the best platforms to understanding architecture in Canada. Some of you may know me from my involvement in co-organizing conferences in Annapolis Royal and Ottawa, for example, while others might have heard my name for being SSAC's previous Vice President for Conferences and Secretary.

Our Society is going through many transformations, but I am confident that our current executive is well positioned to lead it into the future. On the one hand, as former President Peter Coffman put it, the demographics of the SSAC are changing, which impacts our ties to various institutions. This also coincides with the transformation of our Journal, a few years after losing some important sources of funding. On the other hand, our conferences remain a strong vehicle for the SSAC, and renewed interest can be witnessed in the increase of papers presented over the last few years, and bridges built with other fields and organizations. Looking ahead, I believe it will be of prime importance for the SSAC to remain relevant to our traditional audience, while examining where the study of architecture in Canada is heading—its new territories, its applications, and its new audiences.
Candace Iron: 
Vice President of Membership

Candace Iron is an architectural historian specializing in 19th-century architecture and religion-to-religion adaptive reuse. She holds a Ph.D. in Humanities from York University, Toronto, a Master’s in Art History from York University, and a B.A.H. in Art History and Visual Arts from the University of Windsor. Candace spent nearly three years working as an architectural historian for the Ontario Heritage Trust, where she helped develop and implement the Ontario’s Places of Worship Website and Database. Candace is currently a Partial-Load Professor in the Department of Liberal Studies at Humber ITAL, Toronto.

Hilary Grant: 
Vice President of Conference

Hilary Grant is a PhD student in Carleton University’s Institute for Comparative Studies in Literature, Arts and Culture’s Cultural Mediations program. She holds an MPhil in Heritage and Museum Studies from the University of Cambridge and a B.A. Honours History and Theory of Architecture from Carleton University. She has worked for Heritage Canada The National Trust, Parks Canada, The National Capital Commission and the Newfoundland and Labrador Heritage Foundation, and most recently was a cultural policy analyst and heritage advisor for the Government of Saskatchewan.
Daniel Millette: Vice President of Prizes

Daniel Millette has worked on Indigenous land matters for approximately twenty years. He is Adjunct Professor at Carleton University and Director of Strategic Planning and Communications with the First Nation Lands Management Resource Centre. He specializes in land use planning, land strategizing, and land use-economic development interfacing, with an aim at empowering individual communities through self-governing over unique sets of lands and resources. As a Registered Professional Planner, he has worked throughout Canada and within a variety of land frameworks including Treaty and Framework Agreement on First Nation Lands Management. Dr. Millette enhances his planning outlook through several academic and research initiatives: As a Registered Professional Archaeologist, he maintains a research program on ancient planning techniques and their relevance within contemporary planning models. At the School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture at the University of British Columbia, he has taught Architectural History and Theory, Indigenous Design Studios and Environmental Design History. Concurrently, he is completing a book on Indigenous communities across Canada, documenting successes in planning and architecture.

Jessica Mace: Secretary

Jessica Mace is an architectural historian and SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow in conjunction with the Canada Research Chair for Urban Heritage at the University of Quebec in Montreal. She holds a Ph.D. in art history from York University, Toronto, a Master's degree from York University and a B.A.H. from Queen's University, Kingston. Jessica is a sessional instructor at OCAD University, Toronto, and the Editor in Chief of the Journal of the Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada.
WEBSITE RENEWAL...

The SSAC website has been updated and now includes information regarding our past conferences, our prize winners, and our past governance. Additionally we have added useful resources about advocacy, sister societies, studying architecture and architectural history in Canada, and a recommended reading list.

If you notice any errors or would like to contribute to our reading list, etc., please email our VP of Membership, Candace Iron at: candace@yorku.ca

Please note that website modifications and additions are made quarterly.


Canada: Modern Architectures in History

This book, written by SSAC members Rhodri Windsor Liscombe and Michelangelo Sabatino, will be available October 2016.

Publisher Information

'We shall demand of our architects a sensitive interpretation of society’s needs as well as the eloquent architectural statement’, appealed Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau in 1972. Architecture in Canadian history has been fashioned by the nation’s massive size, as well as its concentrated and diverse geography and demography. This richly informative history reveals how the country has contributed in no small measure to the spread of architectural modernity in the Americas and beyond.

During the twentieth century, a distinct Canadian design attitude coalesced: a liberal, hybrid, pragmatic mindset intent less upon the dogma of architectural language than thinking about the formation of inclusive spaces and places. Taking a fresh perspective on design production and its context, Canada maps the unfolding of architectural modernity across the country, from the completion of the transcontinental railway in 1886-87 to the tumultuous interwar decades, the period of Reconstruction post-1945, and the politically conflicted era of the late 1960s and 70s. It also examines the broad pattern of Canadian political, industrial and socio-cultural evolution, urban–suburban expansion, and the technology of building. A wide array of buildings and architects, from ARCOP, Eric Arthur and Ernest Cormier, to Brigitte Shim and Howard Sutcliffe, helps to bring to life this chronologically and thematically driven story. Concluding with an examination of the more recent revisionist and regenerative decades, Canada is a unique critical account of modern and contemporary architecture in a country once defined by Voltaire as ‘a few acres of snow’.
SSAC / SEAC
P.O. Box 3202, Station D
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5W5

If you would like to contribute to our newsletter, or if there is anything you would like announced via our social media outlets, please email Kristie Dube, Editor of News and Views at: kdube@yorku.ca

Don’t forget to check our website and news blog for up-to-date information regarding the SSAC:

http://www.canada-architecture.org/intro.aspx
https://ssacnews.wordpress.com/
It is an image that will stay with me for a long time.

We are on a bus, returning from an excursion to Moose Jaw and Gravelbourg. Dark clouds have stormed across the prairie sky, the light level has dropped from afternoon to evening in a matter of minutes, and we are engulfed by pelting rain and hail. The landscape is just a remote, flat line in the distance. Suddenly, that line is broken by the outline of a massive grain elevator—an ominous, even violent interruption of the horizon silhouetted against the sky. Strains from a lone, mournful banjo drift through the bus from the seat behind me, completing the sense of Gothic dread. Am I in a prairie remake of Deliverance? No, I'm at the SSAC.

As I say every year at this time, there is no other conference like the SSAC conference. This year, we did things a bit differently. Our conference was joined with that of the Saskatchewan Association of Architects, and we enjoyed a three-day exchange of scholarship and fellowship. We had the benefit of fresh perspectives and insights from the architects during our discussions, while our sessions provided them with continuing education credits. It was a wonderfully symbiotic collaboration that I hope we can repeat. Kudos and deep thanks to our friends at the SAA.

Particularly heartfelt thanks go to our SSAC conference committee, Bernie Flaman and Hilary Grant. Both have been creative, resourceful and unreasonably generous with their time over the past year. How they managed it I will never know, but we were so fortunate to have such an able and committed team.

This year was a special occasion for me, as it marked the end of my second and final term as SSAC president. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve the Society in this capacity for the last six years. I am grateful to our officers and provincial representatives, to our wonderful administrator Franz Pauzé, and to the whole of our membership for six years of good work, goodwill and enthusiastic commitment. It has been an inspiration to work with such an exceptional group of people. And with the new board elected in Regina, the SSAC remains in superb hands.

See you next year in Niagara-on-the-Lake!
Quelques photos du visite chez Moose Jaw et Gravelbourg à la congrès de 2016…

Above: Eglise de Gravelbourg

Above: Moose Jaw Court House

Above: Moose Jaw Public Library

Above: Moose Jaw Public Library

Above: Moose Jaw

Above: Eglise de Gravelbourg

Images courtesy of Nicolas Miquelon
Announcing the 2017 Conference Location...

It's official, the 2017 SSAC Conference will be held in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario.

SSAC News & Views

The Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada will be holding its next Annual Conference in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. Located in the heart of Ontario's wine country, Niagara-on-the-Lake was the capital of Upper Canada from 1792-96, and is now a National Historic Site. The town is home to numerous historically significant buildings, including Fort George, a former military post that defended Upper Canada during the War of 1812, and the Mississauga Point Lighthouse, the first lighthouse on the Great Lakes. Moreover, Niagara-on-the-Lake is also famous for its role in the anti-slavery movement as a stop on the Underground Railroad. Although a historic site, Niagara-on-the-Lake presents many examples of architectural adaptive reuse, and is located within a 30-minute drive to Niagara Falls and St Catharines, both of which have a rich industrial heritage and boast the successful mixing of 19th-century and modern/contemporary buildings.

Photo courtesy of Candace Iron
Results of the 2016 Membership Survey

The survey was devised by the SSAC membership committee in order to get a sense of what is important to our members. The results of the survey have provided us with useful data regarding our membership, as well as some helpful suggestions for moving forward as a society.

The survey reflects the answers of approximately 63/155 members, or 43% of the total membership.

The charts below reflect what our members felt were the benefits of membership. Not surprisingly, the journal, the conference, and professional networking ranked high among our members as benefits membership in the society offers.

While it is apparent from the comments made by those who completed the survey that many of you are happy with the society as it is, we were provided with some valuable suggestions regarding areas the society could improve. All of these comments and suggestions are much appreciated and have been distributed amongst the new executive for consideration.

Overall, the survey has proven to be a very useful tool and, as per the recommendation of the membership committee, a survey will be administered on a more regular basis (approx. once every three years) to ensure that the society remains engaging and meets the needs/wants of our membership.

A big thank you goes out to all of those who participated in the survey.

Special thanks also to Michael Windover and the membership committee for designing and administering the survey.

Un sondage a été préparé par le Comité – Abonnements de la SÉAC afin d’évaluer les attentes des membres de la société. Les résultats du sondage nous ont fourni des données importantes relativement aux abonnements, en plus de suggestions à propos de l’avenir de la Société.

Le sondage a été complété par 63 personnes, soit 43% de l’ensemble des membres de la Société.

Les graphiques indiquent ce que les membres considèrent comme des avantages liés à leur abonnement. C’est sans surprise que le journal, la conférence annuelle et le réseautage professionnel apparaissent comme les principaux avantages qu’offre une inscription à la SÉAC.

Les commentaires qui apparaissent sur les formulaires remplis par les abonnés nous informent que plusieurs d’entre eux semblent satisfaits de la Société comme elle est, tout en formulant plusieurs suggestions afin de l’améliorer. Tous les commentaires et les remarques ont été envoyés aux membres du nouveau Comité exécutif afin qu’ils puissent en prendre connaissance.

Somme toute, le sondage s’avère utile. Sous la recommandation du Comité – Abonnement, des sondages similaires seront adressés aux membres de la Société sur une base régulière (une fois aux trois ans) afin de s’assurer que la Société réponde toujours de manière adéquate aux besoins et intérêts de ses membres.

Nous remercions tous les membres qui ont participé au sondage et, plus particulièrement, à Michael Windover et au Comité – Abonnements pour la création du sondage et l’interprétation des résultats.
Les nouveaux membres de la conseil exécutif

Nicolas Miquelon:
Présidente

Je suis historien de l'architecture de formation, avec un bagage non négligeable en recherche patrimoniale, en conservation et en politiques. Après avoir obtenu un diplôme en arts, qui m'a permis d'explorer diverses techniques de gravure, j'ai entrepris un baccalauréat en histoire de l'art, ce qui m'a amené à étudier l'architecture. Ces formations tantôt théoriques et tantôt pratiques m'ont conduit à l'École d'architecture de l'Université de Montréal, où j'ai obtenu une maîtrise en Conservation en 2003. Fort de ces enseignements dans le monde des études patrimoniales, j'ai depuis travaillé comme consultant, mais aussi avec les gouvernements municipal, provincial et fédéral. Au cours des dernières années, j'ai travaillé pour le Bureau d'examen des édifices fédéraux du patrimoine (BEÉFP), une importante entité associée à la protection du patrimoine fédéral, et je suis présentement gestionnaire des services historiques à Parcs Canada, à Gatineau, Québec. Mes tâches quotidiennes consistent à gérer les travaux de recherche pour l'Est du Canada et le BEÉFP, ainsi que d'offrir un appui à une vaste gamme d'initiatives en histoire et en histoire de l'architecture, allant de la conservation à la présentation et à l'interprétation. En marge de cette carrière, je suis également musicien semi-professionnel, planificateur d'événements, critique de musique et passionné de plein air.

Mon premier congrès de la SÉAC remonte à 2003, à St-Jean de Terre-Neuve. Malgré que j'étais déjà bien familier avec un nombre d'organisations locales et internationales, je me souviens avoir été frappé par la collégialité de ce groupe. Le haut niveau de connaissances et les forts liens tissés parmi ce réseau offraient, et continuent encore à offrir pour moi aujourd'hui, l'une des meilleures plates-formes pour comprendre l'architecture au Canada. Certains d'entre vous me connaissent peut-être pour avoir co-présidé les congrès d'Annapolis Royal et d'Ottawa, par exemple, tandis que d'autres ont peut-être entendu mon nom au moment où j'étais vice-président pour les congrès ou encore secrétaire de notre organisation.

Notre Société est présentement en transformation, mais je suis confiant que notre exécutif est bien équipé pour la mener vers l'avenir. D'une part, comme l'ancien président Peter Coffman l’a signalé, les données démographiques de la SÉAC subissent d'importants changements, lesquels ont également un impact sur nos liens avec diverses institutions. Ceci coïncide avec la transformation de notre Journal, quelques années après avoir perdu d'importantes sources de financement. D'autre part, nos congrès demeurent un instrument solide pour la SÉAC et nous assistons depuis plusieurs années à une augmentation progressive du nombre de communications offertes, ainsi qu'à la ramification d'autres champs de pratique et à la participation d'autres organisations. Afin de demeurer pertinente, je suis d'avis qu'il est important que la SÉAC continue de répondre aux besoins de son auditoire traditionnel, tout en examinant là où l'étude de l'architecture nous mène: ses nouveaux territoires, ses applications, ses nouveaux auditoires.
Candace Iron:
Vice-président- Abonnements

Candace Iron est une historienne de l’architecture spécialisée dans l’architecture du XIXe siècle ainsi que dans la réutilisation et l’adaptation de lieux de cultes. Elle est titulaire d’un doctorat en Humanités et d’une maîtrise en histoire de l’art de l’Université York de Toronto ainsi que d’un baccalauréat en histoire de l’art et en arts visuels de l’Université de Windsor. Candace a travaillé pendant près de trois ans comme historienne de l’architecture à la Fiducie du patrimoine ontarien, où elle a participé à un projet de base de données et de site Web qui porte sur les lieux de cultes en Ontario. Candace est présentement professeure à charge partielle au Département des Liberal Arts au Collège Humber de Toronto.

Hilary Grant:
Vice-Président- Conférences

Hilary Grant est candidate au doctorat à l’Institut de littérature, d’art et de culture comparés de l’Université Carleton. Elle est titulaire d’une maîtrise en patrimoine et études muséales de l’Université de Cambridge ainsi que d’un baccalauréat spécialisé en histoire et en théorie de l’architecture de l’Université de Carleton. Elle a travaillé pour Patrimoine Canada, la Fiducie nationale du Canada, Parc Canada, la Commission de la Capitale nationale, la Fondation du patrimoine de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador et, plus récemment, comme experte-conseil et analyste en patrimoine pour le gouvernement de la Saskatchewan.
Daniel Millette:  
Vice-président- Prix


Jessica Mace:  
Secrétaire

Jessica Mace est historienne de l’architecture. Récipiendaire d’une bourse du CRSH, elle est stagiaire postdoctorale à la Chaire de recherche du Canada en patrimoine urbain à l’Université du Québec à Montréal. Titulaire d’un doctorat et d’une maîtrise de l’Université York de Toronto ainsi que d’un baccalauréat de l’Université Queen’s de Kingston, Jessica est chargée de cours à l’École d’art et de design de l’Ontario et elle est rédactrice en chef du Journal de la Société pour l’étude de l’architecture au Canada.
Refonte du site internet…

Le site de la SÉAC a été mis à jour. Il comporte maintenant des informations relatives à nos conférences antérieures et aux récipiendaires des prix octroyés par la société ainsi que les archives administratives. Nous avons aussi ajouté de l’information qui porte sur nos prises de position, les sociétés sœurs et les études en architecture et en histoire de l’architecture au Canada ainsi qu’une liste d’ouvrages suggérés.

Si vous désirez effectuer un correctif, contribuer à notre bibliographie, etc., veuillez envoyer un courriel à Candace Iron, notre vice-présidente Abonnements, à l’adresse suivante : candace@yorku.ca


Pour votre bibliothèque…

Canada: Modern Architectures in History

Cet ouvrage écrit par Rhodri Windsor Liscombe et Michelangelo Sabatino, tous deux membres de la SEAC, sera disponible en octobre 2016.

Texte de l’éditeur

“We shall demand of our architects a sensitive interpretation of society’s needs as well as the eloquent architectural statement”, appealed Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau in 1972. Architecture in Canadian history has been fashioned by the nation’s massive size, as well as its concentrated and diverse geography and demography. This richly informative history reveals how the country has contributed in no small measure to the spread of architectural modernity in the Americas and beyond.

During the twentieth century, a distinct Canadian design attitude coalesced: a liberal, hybrid, pragmatic mindset intent less upon the dogma of architectural language than thinking about the formation of inclusive spaces and places. Taking a fresh perspective on design production and its context, Canada maps the unfolding of architectural modernity across the country, from the completion of the transcontinental railway in 1886-87 to the tumultuous interwar decades, the period of Reconstruction post-1945, and the politically conflicted era of the late 1960s and 70s. It also examines the broad pattern of Canadian political, industrial and socio-cultural evolution, urban–suburban expansion, and the technology of building. A wide array of buildings and architects, from ARCOP, Eric Arthur and Ernest Cormier, to Brigitte Shim and Howard Sutcliffe, helps to bring to life this chronologically and thematically driven story. Concluding with an examination of the more recent revisionist and regenerative decades, Canada is a unique critical account of modern and contemporary architecture in a country once defined by Voltaire as ‘a few acres of snow’. 
SSAC / SEAC
P.O. Box 3202, Station D
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5W5

If you would like to contribute to our newsletter, or if there is anything you would like announced via our social media outlets, please email Kristie Dube, Editor of News and Views at: kdube@yorku.ca

SSAC News & Views

Don't forget to check our website and news blog for up-to-date information regarding the SSAC:

http://www.canada-architecture.org/intro.aspx
https://ssacnews.wordpress.com/

Si vous désirez contribuer à notre bulletin d'information ou publier une nouvelle sur nos réseaux sociaux, veuillez envoyer un courriel à Kristie Dube, Rédactrice – Actualité et points de vue à l'adresse suivante:
kdube@yorku.ca

N'oubliez pas de jeter un coup d'œil à notre site internet et à notre blogue pour être au fait des dernières nouvelles concernant notre Société:

http://www.canada-architecture.org/intro.aspx
https://ssacnews.wordpress.com/