

56  
THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

441113 - 39  
11 WEST 53RD STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MUSEUM OF MODERN ART OPENS SMALL PERMANENT GALLERY

OF ARCHITECTURE AND INDUSTRIAL DESIGN

The Museum of Modern Art announces the opening of a small permanent gallery, on the first floor, for the joint use of the Department of Architecture and the Department of Industrial Design. Here small special displays will be on view for two or three months at a time. Some will deal with new and timely developments in architecture or industrial design; others will show past achievements and illustrate basic principles.

The first exhibition, opening Wednesday, November 15, will be Building with Wood, a brief analysis of the major types of wood construction, old and new, as illustrated in buildings and chairs. The wartime metal shortage, even though it was soon followed by a wood shortage, dramatized the endless possibilities for new and technologically advanced construction in our oldest building material. Actual chairs and samples of construction will be included in the exhibition.

The new gallery will make it possible to keep on view at all times architectural and industrial design material. Heretofore these branches of modern art have been represented in the Museum only by occasional large exhibitions.

---

The Museum of Modern Art also announces the appointment of Susanne Wasson-Tucker as Acting Curator of the Department of Industrial Design. Mrs. Wasson-Tucker was born in Vienna, Austria, in 1911 and received a degree in architectural engineering in that city in 1935. From that year until 1939 she worked in various architectural offices in Vienna, Berlin and Stockholm in the fields of town planning, housing and furniture design.

In 1939 she married Arnold Wasson-Tucker, Canadian architect, and in 1940 came to the United States, where she was assistant to Alvar and Aino Aalto in the Finnish Pavilion of the New York World's Fair. She also worked on exhibitions at Harvard's Peabody Museum.

From 1941 to 1943 she was a partner in the contemporary furniture firm of Artek in Boston, where she experimented in designing low-cost furniture. She also gave lectures on furniture design and interiors to undergraduates at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and to students of various decorating schools.

In 1943 her husband joined the Canadian Armed Forces and Mrs. Wasson-Tucker moved to New York. She was assistant to Serge Chermayeff when he directed the Industrial Design section of the fifteenth anniversary exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in the summer of 1944.