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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

NEW YORK 19

11 WEST 53rd STREET
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900
CABLES: MODERNART, NEW-YORK

SARAH NEWMAYER, PUBLICITY DIRECTOR

January 11, 1945

TO City Editors
Art Editors
Education Editors

Dear Sirs:

You are invited to come or send a representative to

Press Preview of
THE LESSON OF WAR HOUSING

A panel exhibition designed by
the Museum's Department of Circulating
Exhibitions with the collaboration of
the Department of Architecture

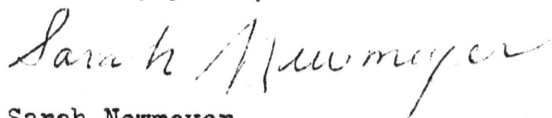
Tuesday, January 16
2 to 6 P.M.

in the auditorium galleries of
The Museum of Modern Art
11 West 53 Street

The exhibition will open to the public Wednesday, January 17, and will
remain on view through Sunday, February 25.

For further information please telephone me at Circle 5-8900.

Sincerely yours,



Sarah Newmeyer
Publicity Director

P.S. A selection of approximately 100 works in painting and clay
sculpture from the Children's Holiday Circus of Modern Art will also go
on view in the Young People's Gallery on the second floor. The exhibition
will be open to the public from January 17 through Sunday, February 18.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WARTIME HOUSING EXHIBITION SHOWN IN ENGLAND, RUSSIA, SOUTH AFRICA AND AUSTRALIA OPENS AT MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

England, Russia, South Africa and Australia have already seen an exhibition dealing with the vital problems of war and peacetime housing which will be presented to New Yorkers themselves, in a new and revised edition in the auditorium galleries of the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, on Wednesday, January 17. The new edition, recently completed for use in this country, is based on the exhibition U. S. Housing in War and Peace prepared last year at the request of the Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects by the Museum's Department of Circulating Exhibitions with the collaboration of its Department of Architecture. The exhibition under the title The Lesson of War Housing will remain on view at the Museum through Sunday, February 25, and will then be sent on tour throughout the United States.

The initial showing of the exhibition in London in July and August of 1944 was greeted by a large and interested audience and an enthusiastic British press. The Office of War Information, Overseas Division, which sponsored and put on the exhibition in London, collated and shipped the material for assembly abroad. OWI also prepared the duplicates for Australia and South Africa and the copy of the section on prefabrication and building techniques for Russia. The original exhibition was directed and designed by Mary Cooke, with Catherine Bauer as consultant, and included an analysis of building techniques prepared by the Standards Section of the National Housing Agency.

The present exhibition, consisting of approximately 50 panels of photographs and photograph enlargements, drawings, plans and brief text, stresses the lessons for peacetime building and city planning which have been learned from wartime housing problems. Since large-scale housing is our major source of experience for the problems of city planning which must be faced after the war, this American edition places the emphasis on the lessons we have learned for the

peace.

The housing shortage in war-swollen industrial centers has necessitated the building of new houses in huge volume, at maximum speed, with a minimum of manpower, materials and movement. The first section of the exhibition deals with our extensive pre-war experience with large-scale, planned housing and shows the types of shelter developed to meet the new and crucial problems of the war emergency.

The second section consists of photographs and models of some of the best designed war housing projects: Channel Heights in California, the Lake Jackson project in Texas, and housing at Windsor Locks, Connecticut, Coatesville and New Kensington, Pennsylvania. Also included are examples of community buildings in various localities.

Emphasis is on the final section, which presents in lively fashion, through positive and negative examples, some things we have learned about construction, job organization and land use as well as about social, administrative and political planning.

It is hoped that the exhibition, to be shown in communities throughout the country, will serve to point out ways and means by which housing and town and city planning, either by private enterprise or government agency, can profit from both the mistakes and the discoveries made in solving wartime housing problems.

The exhibition has been arranged under the direction of Janet Henrich O'Connell of the Museum's Department of Circulating Exhibitions.