

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 956-6100 Cable: Modernart

267
NO. 110
FOR RELEASE:
NOVEMBER 6, 1974

ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN STUDY CENTER

FACT SHEET

The Architecture and Design Study Center of The Museum of Modern Art is now open in new and expanded quarters, with more than 3,000 works in the Museum's Architecture and Design Collection available for examination by appointment, to students, scholars and professionals.

The Study Center combines both study-storage space and seminar areas. The study-storage facilities have been designed for maximum flexibility, permitting easy access to most of the numerous items which are not on public view in the Philip L. Goodwin Galleries. The Goodwin Galleries can only accommodate approximately 250 items from the Collection; the others are now kept in the Study Center. These include design objects ranging from household furnishings and office equipment to tableware, appliances, and textiles, and architectural drawings and posters. Smaller items are stored in cabinets with sliding glass doors where they can be easily seen, and architectural drawings and posters are stored in felt lined cases, drawers, and closets. Large items of furniture and many of the architectural models are still kept in separate storage, however, and can be retrieved for viewing only under special circumstances. X

The Study Center's separate entrance on 4 West 54 Street allows the facility to be used during non-Museum hours, and its design permits frequent changes as material is acquired, placed on public view, or sent out on loan. The Study Center also contains space for classes and committees to meet and large work tables on which objects and drawings can be examined. In order to take advantage of the Center's unique educational possibilities, a special series of seminars is being developed by the Architecture and Design Department, and will be announced shortly.

(more)

The Museum first began to exhibit and collect design material in the early 1930's. In 1964, The Philip L. Goodwin Galleries for Architecture and Design were opened, the first permanent galleries for the display of a selection of items in the Collection. The Study Center first opened in 1968, but not until the present expansion has the majority of the Collection material been available for study at the Museum.

RESOURCES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

Over 3200 architectural

drawings: stored in specially prepared cases and adjacent drawers. Includes majority of existing drawings by Mies van der Rohe, and 80 works by Louis Kahn.

2300 design objects: stored in dustproof, lighted glass cabinets and larger storage areas. These range from hand produced Art Nouveau vases to industrially produced objects such as radios, tools, appliances, silverware, and china and crystal; as well as 20th century crafts.

More than 2000 posters: hung in protective closets from which they can be easily pulled out for viewing. These range from the turn-of-the-century to the present.

Documentary materials: photographic archive and reference file on modern architecture; card catalogue and photographic record of the Design Collection, which includes photographs of non-Collection items; collection correspondence; biographical information from questionnaires; Museum exhibition records.

STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN:

Arthur Drexler, Director
 Emilio Ambasz, Curator of Design
 Ludwig Glaeser, Curator of the Mies van der Rohe Archive
 Kathryn Eno, Administrative Assistant
 Katherine Mansfield, Executive Secretary
 Mary Jane Lightbown, Researcher
 Susan Evens, Secretary, Mies van der Rohe Archive
 Jerry Bowen, Preparator

 Additional information available from Michael Boodro, Assistant, and
 Elizabeth Shaw, Director of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art,
 11 West 53 Street, New York, NY 10019. Phone (212) 956-7504; 956-7501.
