

## ANNUAL MEETING FEATURES TALK ON ARCHITECTURE

*Our evolving landscape—from mining to medicine and much more along the way*

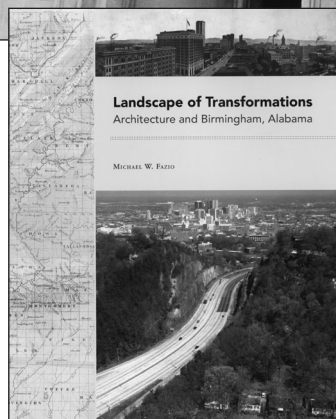
Birmingham is quick to self-criticize, says Dr. Michael W. Fazio, Mississippi State emeritus professor of architecture who'll praise and explain us in a talk entitled "Birmingham, Alabama: The Country's Most Misunderstood City."

The event (which includes the talk, a reception and signing of Dr. Fazio's recently released book, *Landscape of Transformations—Architecture and Birmingham, Alabama*) is scheduled for Monday, February 21 at 7:30 p.m. at Birmingham Botanical Gardens.

First order of business: why are we our own worst critics (and why we shouldn't be). "It all started in 1912 when a philanthropic organization called The Survey came here to study industrial housing," explains Dr. Fazio, a Homewood native. "They were accustomed to writing about industrial cities of the North and didn't say good things about many. The level of criticism set a pattern which reached an apex during the Civil Rights era when the national press focused negatively on the city's racial turmoil."

Other points Dr. Fazio addresses in his talk—and notably includes in his book as well—concern Birmingham's...

**Placement:** "Birmingham enjoys an extraordinary setting," he says. "Red Mountain, the reason the city exists, is the source of iron ore. On the other hand, the mountain now splits Birmingham apart in a way uncommon in almost any other city's setting."



Annual Meeting guest speaker on February 21, Michael Fazio, pictured at the historic Jemison & Co. Headquarters, 3rd Ave. N. and 21st Street. Photograph 2010 by Michelle Chapman, *The Birmingham News*.

### SOCIETY CALENDAR

#### Annual Meeting

February 21, 7:30 p.m.  
Birmingham Botanical Gardens

#### Tour of the Old Mill

March 26, 3 p.m.  
*Heritage Society Membership required.*

#### Lunch at the Residence of Mrs. David Roberts

The Home of Morris and Brenda Hackney  
April 10, Noon  
*Heritage Society Membership required.*

#### Preservation Awards

Place & Time in May TBA

#### *The Birmingham Scene: Paintings & Works on Paper, 1930-1947*

Exhibition at Birmingham Public Library Gallery  
Opening Lecture & Reception  
November 6, 2:15-5 p.m.

**Innovation:** "I'll talk particularly about the iron and steel industry, but also about medicine and the medical center," says Dr. Fazio.

**Talent:** "Many individuals have done great things," he continues. "I'll address some of these—like the legacy of Robert Jemison Jr. and the other superb developers, designers, and landscape artists who have shaped the region."

**Leadership:** "We'll talk about where Birmingham has thrived and where it has failed in this regard," he says. "Industrial leaders, yes, but political leaders not as often; medical leaders, absolutely, but white civic leaders during Civil Rights, not a sterling performance."

*Carolanne Roberts*

## SOCIETY NEWS

### *Local Ash Can Advocate to Be Featured*

Martha Henderson trained at the New York School of Fine and Applied Art (Parsons) in New York before returning to Birmingham to sketch its neighborhoods in her 1930s Ash Can style. Henderson-Goings seldom-seen watercolors will be featured in the fall exhibit. Block prints of Frank Hartley Anderson and engraved painting of Ernest Henderson will also be shown.

### *From Plantation to Suburban Community- The History of Smithfield and Dynamite Hill*

Interviews and research are ongoing with those who grew up on "the hill" in the turbulent times of the 1950s and 1960s and those whose memories and archives date back to the antebellum era. Barbara Shores and Marjorie White are heading the current effort, which has received funding from the City of Birmingham.

### *Jemison Magazines to Be Issued*

What did Mr. Jemison say, i.e. Mr. Robert Jemison Jr., real estate entrepreneur extraordinaire? What he and his many firms said was printed in company periodicals issued from 1910 to 1914 and from 1926 to 1930. Scanning, placing the magazines online and publishing them in print form will make accessible a wealth of visual and factual information about Jemison's various undertakings and what was going on in the Birmingham region during these significant periods in its growth. Original copies of the magazines are currently held at the Birmingham Public Library Archives, which will host the online copies.

### *Endowment Back Up*

The Society's Endowment increased beyond 2008 levels to \$740,000 as of February 2, 2011 thanks to contributions from members and investment gains. Thank you. Thank you to our donors.

### *Officers and Trustees to Be Elected*

Carol Slaughter, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presents the following candidates to serve as Officers and Trustees for 2011. Officers: Wayne Hester, President; Marjorie White, Chairman; Pat Camp, Julius Linn Jr., Richard W. Sprague, Katherine M. Tipton, Vice Presidents; Carol Slaughter, Secretary; Edgar Marx Jr., Treasurer. Trustees: Cathy C. Adams, Regina Ammon, Lee M. Bowron, Alice M. Bowsher, Kaydee Erdreich Breman, Charles S. Caldwell III, Belle Sumter Coleman, David M. Driscoll, James E. Emison, Samuel H. Frazier, William D. French, Harold H. Goings, James Grisham III, Dr. F. Cleveland Kinney, Sallie M. Lee, Chuck Lowe, Louise J. McPhillips, Linda J. Nelson, Katherine Shannon Owens, Carol J. Poe,



Bob Mead, rain catchment system expert and Sallie Lee, Urban Agent with the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service, meet to study the possibilities for capturing water from a shotgun roof to supply the Society's veggie garden at Sloss Furnaces. Photo 2011, MLW.

Richard R. Randolph III, Henry B. Ray Jr., Carolanne Roberts, Brian R. Rushing, Barbara S. Shores, B. Hanson Slaughter, Paula Stanton, Lucy Thompson, Karen Utz, Marion Walker, Kay I. Worley. Under terms of the Society's By-Laws Officers and Trustees serve for one-year terms. Members will vote on the Nominees at the Annual Meeting. Additional nominations must be received in the Society's offices two weeks prior to the meeting.



### 2011 MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my contribution:

\_\_\_\_ Individual Member @ \$40.00 . . . . . \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Donor Member @ \$100.00 . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Heritage Society Member, receives  
invitations to special gatherings @ \$400.00 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Contribution to the Endowment . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

My TOTAL GIFT . . . . . \$ \_\_\_\_\_

BHS Membership is for the calendar year: January 1-December 31.

One Sloss Quarters  
Birmingham, Alabama 35222  
www.bhistorical.org  
Join us for our  
Annual Meeting  
February 21, 7:30 p.m.  
Birmingham Botanical Gardens

