

SAH IMAGE EXCHANGE / SAH ARA



Photo: M. Nilsen

In August 2006, several editors and officers of SAH were invited to participate in a Scholarly Communications Institute (SCI 4) that focused on the presentation of digital scholarship in architectural history and its related disciplines. Following SCI 4, which was sponsored by the Mellon Foundation and held at University of Virginia, SAH was invited to apply for a grant from the Mellon Foundation to study how to expand the Image Exchange into the SAH Architecture Resources Archive (SAH ARA).

With funding granted in early 2007, SAH engaged a team of historians, librarians, and digital content experts to serve on the SAH ARA Development Committee. The Committee's role is to help the Society develop a plan to transform the SAH Image Exchange into the SAH ARA, a bank of richly-annotated digital images that would include photographs as well as other digital media including film and video clips, QTVR panoramas, computer-generated (CAD) models and reconstructions, plus interactive commentary spaces and other participatory collaborative environments. In addition to focusing on architecture, SAH ARA would like to include images from the related disciplines such as landscape design, urban planning, and engineering.

After one year of research, discussion and consultation, in late 2007 the SAH ARA Development Committee will submit a written report with recommendations to the SAH Board and the Mellon Foundation. How the development of the SAH ARA will proceed will be determined at that time. In the mean time, the SAH Image Exchange remains intact on both the SAH and Bryn Mawr College websites.