

**SCHENK, John COLLECTION**  
**Architecture Museum, University of South Australia**

**SCHENK, JOHN**

**Series 224, 225, 227, 238, 239, 240, 295**

**BIOGRAPHY**

John Schenk studied architecture at the University of Adelaide, South Australia, graduating with honours in 1964. Bonded to the Commonwealth Department of Works following four years as a cadet, he worked as an Architect Class 1, firstly at Woomera, where he was in charge of a day labour force of 400 personnel and then as a contract supervisor based in Adelaide. He continued his professional studies at the University of California at Berkeley and was awarded a Master of Architecture in 1967. His first teaching job was as a Teaching Assistant at an experimental "Summer Residence College" within the U.C. College of Letters and Science, an initiative organised as a reaction to large class sizes, in which the students obtained a grant, administered the program and selected the faculty. This was followed by professional experience in a number of prestigious firms in the Boston and Cambridge area. These American experiences greatly influenced his architectural and educational philosophies.

From there he was appointed to the School of Architecture and Building at the SAIT. He has maintained his association with the School (now Art, Architecture and Design at the University of South Australia) for four successive decades, as Lecturer, Program Director and Acting Head. During this time he has continued to teach collaboratively with staff and students in the Planning and Construction Management and Economics disciplines. In the same vein, he spent periods of study leave at the South Australian Housing Trust, The State Heritage Branch and at Cambridge University.

John has maintained a close involvement with the architecture profession serving as Chapter Councillor and a Vice President of the Australian Institute of Architects (SA Chapter), on various national and chapter committees, as a jury member for the awards program, and has been involved in architectural competitions as winner, jury member and competition advisor. He was the State Coordinator of the RAI A Significant 20<sup>th</sup> Century Architecture Program (1982 – 85). He has served as the national assessor for the National Program of Assessment by the Architects Accreditation Council of Australia and sat on a number of National Visiting Panels for the accreditation of Schools of Architecture. He is a Life Fellow of the AIA and was appointed a Sessional Commissioner in the South Australian Environment Resources and Development Court.

**SOURCES**

John Schenk, University of South Australia home page

<http://www.unisanet.unisa.edu.au/staff/Homepage.asp?Name=john.schenk>

**COLLECTION DESCRIPTION**

The Schenk collection is comprised of general correspondence; information on Plenwood Systems and under floor temperature control in houses; information on systems for building houses out of timber logs, information on architectural design competitions for 1997 and 1985; items relating to the RAI A Significant 20<sup>th</sup> Century Architecture list; various student works c.1960-1990 and records of architectural work by John Schenk, including drawings.

**SCHENK, John COLLECTION**  
**Architecture Museum, University of South Australia**

**SERIES LIST**

General Correspondence

**S224**

See Special List

Plenwood Systems

**S225**

Under floor temperature control in houses

See Special List

Log Systems

**S227**

Building houses out of timber logs

See Special List

Design Competitions

**S238**

Information on Design Competitions for 1997, 1985

See Special List

Significant 20<sup>th</sup> Century Architecture

**S240**

See Special List

Student works

**S295**

Various student works c.1960-1990

See Special List

Architectural Work by John Schenk

**S350**

**SCHENK, John COLLECTION**  
**Architecture Museum, University of South Australia**

**GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

**Series 224**

This series consists of general correspondence to John Schenk

Special List

<u>Series No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
S224/1/1	Brochures from Berry Polomka (Unknown) and Raffin Maron Architects (1984)

**SCHENK, John COLLECTION**  
**Architecture Museum, University of South Australia**

**PLENWOOD SYSTEMS**

**Series 225**

Under floor temperature control in houses

SPECIAL LIST

Series No.	Description	Date
S225/1/1	Correspondence from Techsearch Inc. including feasibility studies, memoranda from and to J Schenk, personal notes, technical drawings of Plenwood Type A ducted air conditioning and progress reports in both word-processed and hand written form.	Jul. 1982-Apr. 83
S225/1/2	Australian Bureau of Statistics report Domestic Appliance and Energy Usage	Apr. 1979
S225/2	Untitled Manila folder containing more Plenwood System information.	
S225/2/1	Memoranda, word processed correspondence between Techsearch Inc and Radiata Pine Research Institute Inc.	Unknown
S225/2/2	Photocopy of brochure entitled: Plenwood Underfloor Heating/Cooling System. Author/Pub: Western Wood Products Place Pub: Portland, Oregon	(1976?)
S225/2/3	Photocopy of article entitled: Underfloor Plenum System for Heating and Cooling Author: Fasdick, Clyde A & Dickerhoof, H. Edward Place of Pub: Unknown Pub: Forest Products Journal Series: Vol 20, No. 1, pg 10-15.	Jan. 1970
S225/2/4	Photocopy of article entitled: The Under Floor Plenum: an alternative to concrete slab and crawlspace construction. Author: Dickerhoof, H. E. Place of Pub: Asheville, North Carolina Pub: Forest Service, US Department of Agriculture Notes: USDA Forest Service Research Paper SE-85, 26 pages.	Sept. 1971
S225/2/5	Photocopy of article entitled: The Plenwood System: (Revised July 1979) containing the N.A.H.B. Research Foundation Inc. Underfloor Plenum Manual Author: unknown Place of Pub: Tacoma, Washington Pub: American Plywood Association Notes: 7 pages + N.A.H.B. manual 20 pages published	Jan. 1980

**SCHENK, John COLLECTION**  
**Architecture Museum, University of South Australia**

by the N.A.H.B. Research Foundation Inc, Maryland.

- S225/2/6      Photocopy of article entitled: Plenwood: an improved wood floor system.      Jun. 1979  
Author: Countryman, David  
Place of Pub: unknown  
Pub: Forest Products Journal  
Series: Vol. 29, No. 6, pg 29-33.
- S225/2/7      Photo copy of article entitled: Low Profile Wood Floor unknown Systems: Technical Report No. 4.  
Author: Roughana, E. J.  
Place of Pub: Washington, D.C.  
Pub: National Lumber Manufacturers Association  
Notes: stamped: Bradley Southern Division, Polatch Forests Inc, Warren, Arkansas.
- S225/2/8      Looseleaf sheets containing technical drawings, word processed and hand written correspondence and a computer print out of a DIALOG database search concerning the Plenwood System dated Wednesday, 9 Feb. 1983.

**SCHENK, John COLLECTION**  
**Architecture Museum, University of South Australia**

**LOG SYSTEMS**

**SERIES 227**

Building houses out of timber logs

SPECIAL LIST

Series No.	Description	Date
S227/1/1	Photocopy entitled: Patent Specification: Original 89211/82, John Joseph Vitkovsky: 527346 Notes: Patent for method of constructing an external wall from wooden logs	3 Mar. 1983
S227/1/2	Photocopy of technical drawing: Log Panel to Reinforced Raft Footing specifications	Unknown
S227/1/3	Document entitled: Specifications: Prefabricated CCA Reinforced Raft Footing	Unknown
S227/1/4	Photocopy of technical drawing: Wall Section consisting of selected lathe tuned 120 diam. CCA treated logs. 140 x 45 pressure treated sills, stiles & heads etc.	Unknown
S227/1/5	Hand written note beginning: Client briefing - 2hrs Library research - 2hrs etc	Unknown
S227/1/6/1	Technical drawing entitled: General Construction Details 1:10 Reference: Revised Construction Detail, Sheet 1 Architect: Shen, P. Scale: As indicated Company: Log Systems SA, Address: Shop 5, Crafers Court, Main Street, Crafers 5152 Notes: also contains Panel to Panel Joint 1:PS	Mar. 7 1983
S227/1/6/2	Technical drawing entitled: Cross Sectional Detail Reference: ? Architect: Smith, N. Scale: ? Company: Log Systems SA, Address: Shop 5, Crafers Court, Main Street, Crafers 5152 Telephone: 339 5846	Jul. 21 1983
S227/1/7	Brochure entitled: Quality Solid Log Homes Company: Log Systems SA Pty. Ltd. Notes: Various floorplans & design features from company. 6 pages	Unknown

**SCHENK, John COLLECTION**  
**Architecture Museum, University of South Australia**

Series

<u>No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
S227/1/8	Construction manual for Log Systems homes Company: Log Systems SA Pty. Ltd. Notes: Designed and Coordinated by P.Y.W. Shen Illustrated Bohdan Dorniak. 12 pages	May 1983
S227/1/9	Kit Price List Company Log Systems SA Pty. Ltd. Notes: Price list for Log Systems SA kit homes 1 page double sided.	1 May 1983
S227/1/10	Hand written notes and sketches relating to Unknown Log Systems SA. 12 pages	

**SCHENK, John COLLECTION**  
**Architecture Museum, University of South Australia**

**Design Competitions**

**Series 238**

Information on Design Competition for 1997, 1985

See also S154 for Design Competition Entry by Schenk 1986

In folder marked '269 RAIA National Architecture Awards'  
St Pauls Redevelopment, 200 Pulteney St, Adelaide. No date.

**Architect: Peter J Milne of Kean Milne Holden Architects Ltd**

S238/1/1-5 Nomination form, ground floor, first floor section plans (letraset), six A4 size B/W photos of exterior and interior and 12 coloured slides of building.

In folder marked '272 RAIA National Architecture Awards'  
Loreto College Junior School, 1 Talbot Grove, Marryatville, 1985.

**Architect: Geof Nairn of Geof Nairn Pty Ltd**

S238/2/1-5 Nomination form, ground floor, upper floor plans, six, 2 external views of buildings, five A4 size B/W photos (3 exterior and 2 interior), and 11 coloured slides of building.

In folder marked '291 RAIA National Architecture Awards'  
Wren House, 166 Longwood Rd, Heathfield SA. No date.

**Architect: Christopher Wren**

S238/3/1-5 Nomination form, photos of plans for levels 1, 2 & 3, seven A4 size B/W photos of exterior and interior and 11 coloured slides of building.

In folder marked '257 RAIA National Architecture Awards'  
Four 2 storey townhouses, 24-30 Charlotte St, Adelaide. 1985

**Architect: Andrew Philip Russell of City of Adelaide**

S238/4/1-5 Nomination form, site and ground floor plans, elevations, eight A4 size B/W photos of exterior and interior and 6 coloured slides of building.

**SCHENK, John COLLECTION**  
**Architecture Museum, University of South Australia**

**Significant 20<sup>th</sup> Century Architecture**

**Series 240**

- S240/1 Correspondence relating to 20C Significant Architecture Project  
 S240/2 Minutes and agendas relating to 20C Significant Architecture Project Co-ordinating Committee  
 S240/3 Data sheets for 20C Significant Architecture Project  
 S240/4 Register of 20<sup>th</sup> Century architecture in South Australia. Minutes and agenda of Steering Committee meetings.  
 S240/5 Register of Significant 20<sup>th</sup> Century Architecture. Royal Australian Institute of Architects - NSW chapter, Bulletin Mar. 1979.  
 S240/6 Register of Significant 20<sup>th</sup> Century Architecture. Booklets of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Architecture relating to Victoria.

SPECIAL LIST

Series

<u>No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
S240/1/1	Correspondence relating to the Register of Significant 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Architecture	Sep. 1982-Sep. 85
S240/1/2	Correspondence from the Australian Heritage Commission to the Significant 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Architecture Project.	Jun. 1984-Jul. 85
S240/1/3	Correspondence relating to the RAIA Significant 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Architecture Project. In an unmarked Manilla folder	
S240/1/4	Correspondence to Schenk regarding financing and upcoming meeting of the Significant 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Architecture Project.	13 Jan. 1986
S240/1/5	Correspondence from the Australian Heritage Commission to the RAIA Significant 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Architecture Project. In an unmarked Manila folder	Sep. 1985-Mar. 86
S240/1/6/1	Correspondence between Australian Heritage Commission and the RAIA Significant 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Architecture Project. In a Manila folder marked " <i>Aust Heritage</i> "	May 1985-Dec. 86
S240/1/6/2	Correspondence from the Australian Heritage Commission to the Significant 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Architecture Project. In a Manila folder marked " <i>Aust Heritage</i> " Contained in a binder: " <i>Register of the National Estate</i> " by Robert Bruce and Robert Lanel	Unknown
S240/1/7	Correspondence relating to the Significant	Mar. 1984-Aug 84

**SCHENK, John COLLECTION**  
**Architecture Museum, University of South Australia**

20<sup>th</sup> Century Architecture Project.  
 In an Manila folder marked  
 "20 various items"

- |           |  |                 |
|-----------|--|-----------------|
| S240/2/1  | Minutes and Agenda for 20th Century Architecture Coordinators Meeting at RAI A Headquarters  | 11-12 Mar. 1986 |
| S240/3/1  | Data sheets for Significant 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Architecture Project.<br>For buildings classed <b>M</b> . Includes photographs  | Unknown         |
| S240/3/2a | Data sheets for Significant 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Architecture Project.<br>For buildings classed <b>A</b> . Includes photographs  | Unknown         |
| S240/3/2b | Data sheets for Significant 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Architecture Project.<br>For buildings classed <b>A</b> . Includes photographs.<br>Envelope holds two plastic sleeves.  | Unknown         |
| S240/3/3  | Data sheets for Significant 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Architecture Project.<br>For buildings classed <b>C</b> . Includes photographs  | Unknown         |
| S240/3/4  | Significant 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Architecture Project.<br><u>Index and data cards</u> for houses built out of concrete.<br>Some are of Significant 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Architecture.<br>Some give appearance of concrete construction.  | Unknown         |
| S240/4/1  | Register of Significant 20th Century Architecture in South Australia.. Minutes of a meeting of the Steering committee held at 48 Kingston Terrace North Adelaide, Tuesday the 20 <sup>th</sup> March 1984 at 4.00pm<br><br>Register of Significant 20th Century Architecture in South Australia. Notice of a meeting of the Steering committee held at 48 Kingston Terrace North Adelaide, Tuesday the 17 <sup>th</sup> April 1984 at 4.00pm<br>Notes: Agenda in word-processed form plus other related documents. |                 |
| S240/4/2  | Register of Significant 20th Century Architecture in South Australia. Notice of a meeting of the Steering committee held at 48 Kingston Terrace North Adelaide, Tuesday the 16 <sup>th</sup> October 1984 at 4.00pm<br>Notes: Agenda in hand written and word-processed form plus other related documents.   |                 |

**SCHENK, John COLLECTION**  
**Architecture Museum, University of South Australia**

- |          |  |            |
|----------|--|------------|
| S240/5/1 | Register of Significant 20th Century Architecture.<br>R.A.I.A., NSW chapter, Bulletin, March 1979<br>Title: <i>Twentieth Century buildings of Significance: list revised as at 31 December 1978.</i><br>Notes: Listing by address of 20 <sup>th</sup> Century significant buildings in Sydney and suburbs.<br>4 pages  | March 1979 |
| S240/6/1 | Register of Significant 20th Century Architecture.<br>Booklets of 20th Century Architecture relating to Victoria.<br>Title: <i>Twentieth Century Architecture and Works of Victoria</i><br>Author: Butler, Graeme<br>Notes: photocopied word-processed pages stapled to form a booklet. Booklet contains a register of Victorian architecture built after 1900. Compiled alphabetically by general location each page then contains a list of individual buildings described by name/address, architect/firm and year of construction. | Oct.1982   |
| S240/6/2 | Register of Significant 20th Century Architecture.<br>Booklets of 20th Century Architecture relating to Victoria.<br>Notes: Untitled booklet relating to <i>Twentieth Century Architect and Works</i> , (See S240/6/1).<br>Photocopied photographs and brief descriptions of 69 examples of 20 <sup>th</sup> Century architecture in Victoria, Stapled to form a booklet.  | Unknown    |

**SCHENK, John COLLECTION**  
**Architecture Museum, University of South Australia**

Student works

**S295**  
Special List

Various student works c.1960-1990

S295/1	n.d.	No name	Villa of Pope Julius	
S295/2	n.d.	M.B. Weir	The Villa of Pope Julius	
S295/3	n.d.	Desmond Ballantine	Temple on the Ilissus – Athens	Architectural History 1A
S295/4	n.d.	Laurence Schneider	Julius Caesar (Shakespeare) Anthony's Speech	
S295/5	n.d.	A Siksna	A Primitive House	
S295/6	n.d.	Louis M. D. Stenson	Sketch design for production in Sydney Opera House	Studio Work 4 Uni of Adelaide
S295/7/1-4	n.d.	Reynolds	Seaview, Chapel Hill	Tectonics SAIT
S295/8	1957	I B Swanson	A Bus Shelter	Arch Design 1 SoM
S295/9	1957	R.E. Johns	An Espresso Coffee Lounge	Arch Design 3 SoM
S295/10	1958	Gavin B. Hughes	The University Bookroom	Architectural design 1
S295/11	1968	William F Shepherd	A Bank and attached residence	Arch Design 2a SAIT
S295/12/1-5	1970	John Hinds	Paterson Residence	Interior Design 4 SAIT
S295/13/1-5	1973	Michael Lip Yoke Cheong	10 Avenue St, Millswood	Arch Design, 4 <sup>th</sup> Year SAIT
S295/14	c.1990s	No name	No title, possibly for Peter Burgess Studio Architecture	SAIT/UniSA

**SCHENK, John COLLECTION**  
**Architecture Museum, University of South Australia**

Architectural Work by John Schenk

**S350**

Residence at Benacre, 1971