

# A2MODERN

SELECTED WORKS OF RESIDENTIAL MODERN  
ANN ARBOR HILLS / ARBORETUM / GEDDES

- 1 Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Metcalf, 1052 Arlington Blvd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1952)
- 2 Mr. and Mrs. Everett Brown, 2576 Devonshire Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1959)
- 3 Mr. and Mrs. Mischa Titiev, 910 Heather Way, Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1958)
- 4 Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Magee, 1109 Heather Way, Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1957)
- 5 Mr. and Mrs. William Muschenheim, 1251 Heather Way, William Muschenheim, architect (1954)
- 6 Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Eaton, 2601 Heather Way, Edward Olencik and Joseph Albano, architects (1962)
- 7 Mr. and Mrs. William Wilcox, 2650 Heather Way, George B. Brigham, architect (1954)
- 8 Mr. and Mrs. Hollis Peter, 2649 Heather Way, Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1959)
- 9 Mr. Elmer Gilbert, 2659 Heather Way, Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1967)
- 10 Dr. and Mrs. Fred Kahler, 2267 Glendaloch Rd., David Osler, architect (1966)
- 11 Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Moore, 2255 Glendaloch Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1955)
- 12 Dr. and Mrs. William Mann, 1329 Glendaloch Circle, Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1965)
- 13 Mr. and Mrs. Walter Holcomb, 1336 Glendaloch Circle, Herbert Johs, architect (1959)
- 14 Ms. Linda Eberbach, 2249 Glendaloch Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1964)
- 15 Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Buhrman, 2347 Londonderry Rd., David Osler, architect (1959)
- 16 Mr. and Mrs. David Dennison, 2511 Hawthorne Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1954)
- 17 Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Kabza, 2417 Londonderry Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1959)
- 18 Mr. and Mrs. Richard Leabo, 2424 Londonderry Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1965)
- 19 Dr. and Mrs. Jacques Les Strang, 2427 Londonderry Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1959)
- 20 Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Weller, 2508 Londonderry Rd., George B. Brigham, architect (1959)
- 21 Mr. and Mrs. John Laird, 1035 Chestnut Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1964)
- 22 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Schultz, 2120 Tuomy Rd., Walter Sanders, architect (1950)

- 23 Dr. and Mrs. John Sheldon, 2121 Tuomy Rd., Walter Sanders, architect (1951)
- 24 Mr. and Mrs. Robert O'Hara, 1620 Sheridan Dr., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1956)
- 25 Mr. and Mrs. Haven Spencer, 2645 Bedford Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1955)
- 26 Mr. and Mrs. John Stegman, 2638 Bedford Rd., James Livingston, architect (1961)
- 27 Dr. and Mrs. Sibley Hoobler, 2228 Belmont Rd., Alden B. Dow, architect (1950)
- 28 Dr. and Mrs. Albert Furstenberg, 2240 Belmont Rd., George B. Brigham, architect (1952)
- 29 Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Eberbach, 2250 Belmont Rd., Walter Sanders, architect (1950)
- 30 Mr. and Mrs. Damon Woods, 1041 Belmont Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1957)
- 31 Dr. and Mrs. Stefan Fajans, 2485 Devonshire Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1957)
- 32 Mr. and Mrs. Arjay Miller, 2320 Devonshire Rd., (1951, T. Tanner), Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1965)
- 33 Mr. and Mrs. George Brymer Williams, 2316 Devonshire Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1955)
- 34 Mr. and Mrs. Philip Elving, 2309 Devonshire Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1954)
- 35 Mr. and Mrs. Christian Rondstedt, 2104 Vinewood Blvd., George B. Brigham, architect (1949)
- 36 Dr. Harry and Margaret Towseley, 1000 Berkshire Rd., Alden B. Dow, architect (1952)
- 37 Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Grimond, 19 Heatheridge Ave., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1959)
- 38 Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Chase, 2855 Devonshire Rd., David Osler, architect (1965)
- 39 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Phillips, 912 Aberdeen Dr., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1956)
- 40 Mr. Albert Duckek, 2901 Devonshire Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1963)
- 41 Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Case, 1021 Chestnut Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1961)
- 42 Dr. and Mrs. Reed Dingman, 1029 Chestnut Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1959)
- 43 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Campbell, 1035 Chestnut Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1959)
- 44 Dr. and Mrs. Edmund Botch, 1058 Chestnut Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1955)

- 45 Dr. Lyle Elliott, 1075 Chestnut Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1961)
- 46 Mr. Albert Duckek, 1119 Chestnut Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1957)
- 47 Dr. and Mrs. Walter Schwartz, 1120 Chestnut Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1964)
- 48 Mr. and Mrs. Albert Duckek, 2996 Devonshire Rd., George B. Brigham, architect (1953)
- 49 Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Moyer, 2935 Hickory Lane, Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1962)
- 50 Mr. and Mrs. John Airey, Jr., 3020 Hunting Valley Rd., David Osler, architect (1962)
- 51 Mr. and Mrs. John Laird, 3150 Hunting Valley Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1975)
- 52 Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Krigbaum, 3075 Override Dr., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1963)
- 53 Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Engel, 3087 Override Dr., Edward Olencik/Joseph Albano, architects (1963)
- 54 Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Bartell, 381 Riverview Dr., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1989)
- 55 Mr. and Mrs. John Bareham, 309 Riverview Dr., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (2005)
- 56 Dr. and Mrs. Keve Siegel, 276 Indian River Place, Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1967)
- 57 Mr. and Mrs. Erich Steiner, 268 Indian River Place, Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1969)
- 58 Mr. and Mrs. James Olds, 260 Indian River Place, Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1964)
- 59 Drs. Ian and Millicent Higgins, 252 Indian River Place, Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1967)
- 60 Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Lopez, 2998 Geddes Ave., George B. Brigham, architect (1954)
- 61 Mr. and Mrs. Wells Bennett, 2045 Geddes Ave., Wells B. Bennett, architect (1953)
- 62 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sawyer, 2 Highland Lane, George B. Brigham and Joseph Lee, architects (1958)
- 63 Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Ross, 3 Highland Lane, David Osler, architect (1966)
- 64 Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hodges, 5 Highland Lane, George B. Brigham, architect (1956)
- 65 Mr. and Mrs. Peter Van Boven, 6 Regent Court, Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1963)
- 66 Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Morris, 7 Regent Dr., Alden B. Dow, architect (1965)

- 67 Mr. and Mrs. Stipe, 9 Regent Dr., David Osler, architect (1968)
- 68 Mr. and Mrs. William Mundus, 11 Regent Dr., David Osler, architect (1978)
- 69 Mr. and Mrs. William Mundus, 13 Regent Dr., David Osler, architect (1964)
- 70 Mr. and Mrs. James Heywood, 19 Regent Dr., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1963)
- 71 Mr. Elman Service, 401 Awixa Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1954)
- 72 Mr. and Mrs. Kent Terwilliger, 345 Orchard Hills Dr., Trudor Balogh, architect (1967)
- 73 Mr. and Mrs. John Holt, 250 Orchard Hills Dr., George B. Brigham, architect (1954)
- 74 Dr. and Mrs. Jerome Conn, 200 Orchard Hills Dr., George B. Brigham and Joseph Lee, architects (1958)
- 75 Mr. and Mrs. William Palmer, 227 Orchard Hills Dr., Frank Lloyd Wright, architect (1952)
- 76 Mr. and Mrs. Guy Swanson, 305 Awixa Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1967)
- 77 Dr. and Mrs. Wayne Whitaker, 406 Lenawee Dr., George B. Brigham, architect (1949)
- 78 Dr. and Mrs. Wayne Baum, 15 Harvard Place, George B. Brigham, architect (1952)
- 79 Ms. Anna Burt and Mr. and Mrs. George Brigham, 515/517 Oswego St., George B. Brigham, architect (1937)
- 80 Mr. and Mrs. George Brigham, 517 Oxford Rd., George B. Brigham, architect (1940)
- 81 Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Dana, 2027 Hill St., George B. Brigham, architect (1949)
- 82 Dr. and Mrs. Konstantin Scharenberg, 2065 Day St., George B. Brigham, architect (1955)
- 83 Mr. and Mrs. Paul Greene, 501 Burson Place, James Livingston, architect (1957)
- 84 Mr. and Mrs. William Bandemer, 505 Burson Place, James Livingston, architect (1958)
- 85 Mr. and Mrs. H. Richard Crane, 830 Avon Rd., Robert C. Metcalf, architect (1954)
- 86 Mr. and Mrs. Leslie White, 819 Avon Rd., George B. Brigham, architect (1950)

This biking/walking tour highlights just a selection of the array of modern architecture and architects working in Ann Arbor at mid-century. The map indicates original owner name, architect, and date built. All of the properties listed are private property - please respect owner's privacy and no trespassing.



## FEATURED ARCHITECTS

### Tivadar Balogh (1926-2006)

Educated at the University of Michigan, served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and again during the Korean War. After working with Robert Metcalf and several other firms, he opened his own practice in 1961 in Plymouth, MI. Balogh also taught drawing, graphic design and visual studies throughout his professional career at U-M. Well-known for his architectural renderings, Balogh completed approximately 150 residential, institutional and commercial projects in Michigan, Illinois and Arizona. He received two design awards from Progressive Architecture and the Michigan Governor's Award for Excellence in Design in 1977.

### Wells Bennett (1888-1965)

Wells Bennett became dean of the U-M architecture school in 1937 when it was transitioning from Beaux Arts to Modern. At that time he designed several homes in Ann Arbor in the Colonial Revival style, but quickly began to appreciate Modernism in his practice and in his classroom. As dean, he made a number of impressive hires including William Muschenheim, Edward Olencki, Theodore Larson, Walter Sanders, Robert Metcalf and Tivadar Balogh. When Bennett retired in 1957, he built himself a very modern house at 2045 Geddes (#61).

### George B. Brigham (1889-1977)

Educated in Beaux-Arts style at MIT, Brigham pursued modern architecture after being exposed to modern architectural design and philosophy while teaching at Cal Tech. He came to U-M in 1930, where he taught while concurrently practicing his trade, introducing modern architecture to the community. Starting in 1936, he designed over 40 houses in the area, including a two-family house he built for himself in 1937 at 517 Oswego (#79).

### Alden B. Dow (1904-1983)

Columbia and Taliesin trained, Midland-based Dow designed his first house in 1932 in Ann Arbor for his sister Margaret Towsley, 1000 Berkshire (#36). It was so unique for the time that one neighbor compared it to a gas station. His other Ann Arbor work includes the city hall, district library, university buildings, and two other houses [2228 Belmont and 7 Regent Drive]. His motto "Gardens never begin and houses never end" is exemplified in the Towsley house with trees and planters coming up to the house.

### Herb Johe (1914-2005)

Johe came to teach at U-M in 1947. Although his academic duties gave him limited time to practice architecture, he did manage to build nine houses including 1336 Glendaloch Circle (#13) in 1959, which was his favorite because he was given free rein in the design. The Scandinavian influence reflects the trip he and his wife, Sue, took there in 1956, studying contemporary church architecture.

### Joseph Lee (1918-2009)

Trained at U-M and Columbia, he came to teach at U-M in 1952 after working in New York with both William Muschenheim and Walter Sanders. He often partnered with George Brigham, but also did many projects by himself including the adaptive reuse that is now known as Kerrytown Market & Shops.

### James Livingston (1922-1975)

U-M trained Livingston worked closely with the original owner to design this strongly California-influenced house (#84) at 505 Burson Place. Livingston also designed 500 and 501 Burson Place as well as public buildings including the Lawton Elementary School, Lurie Terrace, and Weber's Hotel.

### Robert C. Metcalf (1923-present)

Educated at and on the faculty of U-M, Metcalf worked as a draftsman for George Brigham before starting his own practice. In 1953 he and his wife Bettie built a house for themselves at 1052 Arlington (#11) to show potential clients what he could do. Metcalf went on to design 68 houses in Ann Arbor, the majority of which are on this tour. His houses are known for his careful attention to detail and for siting to maximize the light and view. U-M graduate and colleague William Werner practiced in Metcalf's office for over fifty years.

### William Muschenheim (1902-1990)

Educated at MIT and in Bauhaus architecture under Peter Behrens in Vienna, Muschenheim was a well-established New York architect when he came to U-M in 1950, where he taught until 1989 and lived in the gem of a modern house at 1251 Heather Way (#5) that he designed for himself in 1953. Muschenheim was known for using color as an architectural medium and in its original execution, his own home utilized thirty-five different colors.

### Edward Olencki (1922-2002)

Olencki studied architecture in Chicago at IIT under Mies van der Rohe, who invited him to work with him after graduation. Olencki joined the U-M faculty in 1948. In breaks from teaching, he managed to design at least four area houses, a Detroit office building, and worked on several churches. The house at 2601 Heather Way (#6), arranged in boxes similar to some of Mies van der Rohe's work, but in brick, was designed for U-M colleague Leonard Eaton, who taught architectural history. Olencki worked with U-M colleague Joseph Albano. Albano was a graduate of the Armour Institute and Northwestern. He began teaching at U-M in 1947.

### David Osler (1921-present)

An Ann Arbor native, Osler worked with Douglas Loree before starting his own practice in 1958. His 1950s and 60s residential work was usually for people in his age group with limited budgets, so he tried to make simple straight forward houses that would function well. Not adhering strictly to modern principles, he created interesting one-of-a-kind houses, including #15 (1959) and #10 (1966) and #50 (1962).

### Robert Pond (1926-present)

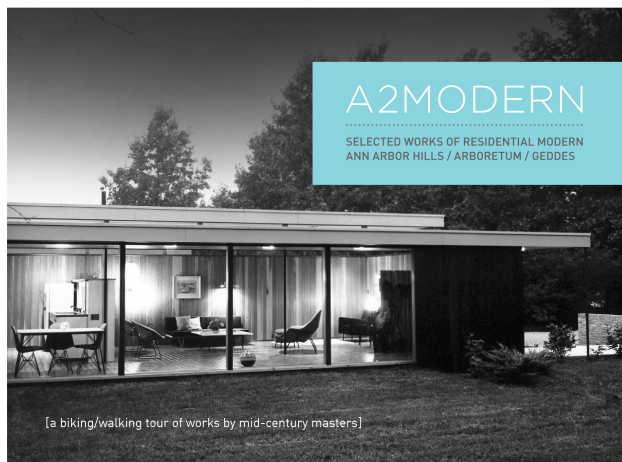
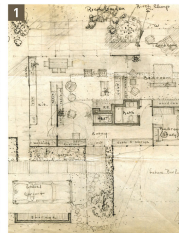
Trained at Taliesin, Pond came to Ann Arbor in 1950 to work for George Brigham, who gave him the job of designing this house at 2417 Londonderry (#17) because he was too busy to do it himself. Pond left Ann Arbor when FLW asked him to supervise the building of the Turkel house in Detroit in 1955.

### Walter Sanders (1906-1972)

Sanders was lured from his practice in New York to U-M in 1949. Sanders built three houses in Ann Arbor Hills including (#29) at 2250 Belmont and two others at 2120 and 2121 Tuomy. He was especially interested in the uses of Unistrut, a steel framing system, which he studied and used to build his own home in Barton Hills.

### Frank Lloyd Wright (1867-1959)

In 1950 Mary and Bill Palmer, a young faculty couple, convinced the then 83-year old FLW to design the house at 227 Orchard Hills (#75) simply by asking. The Palmers stayed true to the original design, consulting Wright, or people trained under him after he died, before making any changes. Now a guest house, it served as the Palmers' family home for over fifty years.



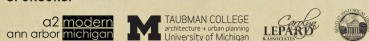
## A2MODERN

SELECTED WORKS OF RESIDENTIAL MODERN  
ANN ARBOR HILLS / ARBORETUM / GEDDES

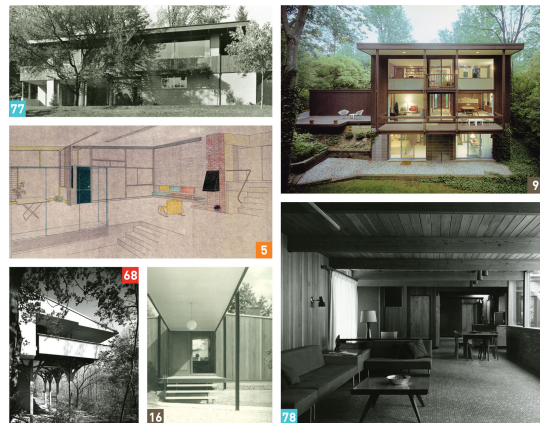
[a biking/walking tour of works by mid-century masters]



### SPONSORS:



All archival images are courtesy of Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan. COVER (#1) Robert C. Metcalf collection; Page 2, (#77) and (#78) George B. Brigham collection; (#9) and (#16) Robert C. Metcalf collection; (#68) David Osler collection; (#95) William Muschenheim collection; Page 3, (#5) William Muschenheim collection; (#79) George B. Brigham collection; (#1) and (#58) Robert C. Metcalf collection; (#64) courtesy of Howard Shapiro. BACK COVER: (#31) Robert C. Metcalf collection. For further reading on the history of the U-M College of Architecture, see Nancy Bartlett, "More Than a Handsome Box: Education in Architecture at the University of Michigan 1876-1986," Ann Arbor, Michigan: 1995.



**VISITORS TO ANN ARBOR MAY BE SURPRISED** that amidst the academic buildings and historic nineteenth century homes are some of the finest examples of modern architecture in the Midwest. Modern architectural design was able to grow and develop in this region because Ann Arbor was, and still is, an open, diverse community that fosters an atmosphere ideal for creative expression and experimentation. The University of Michigan provided access to the advancements in engineering and building materials, as well as many of the forward-thinking architects, needed to create these new works.

Emil Lorch, who in 1906 came to the University of Michigan to establish a department of architecture in the College of Engineering, set the pattern in teaching modern ideals. In 1923, Lorch brought Finnish architect Eliel Saarinen as visiting professor and then in 1930 he hired MIT trained architect George B. Brigham, who introduced residential modernism to the community. Other impressive hires by Lorch and his successor, Wells Bennett, led to Modernism eclipsing the Beaux-Arts, which had been the dominate American architectural style since the 1880s. Starting in the 1940s, modern design was further strengthened through the College's support of the "Ann Arbor Conferences." This series of meetings brought architects and designers including Mies van der Rohe, Walter Gropius and Laszlo Moholy-Nagy to campus as a means to exchange ideas.

Research and practice were added to traditional studies and out of Brigham's studio came Robert C. Metcalf, who in turn became a prolific modern designer based in Ann Arbor. In addition to private practice, Metcalf was a leader through his positions as chair and then dean of the architecture school from 1968-1986.

After World War II, with a booming economy and an influx of new students and faculty, the area was ripe for residential development. The result was this remarkable collection of fine architect-designed homes in the style that has come to be known as mid-century modern. This brochure highlights a selection of residential architecture and architects working in Ann Arbor during this period.

COVER: Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Metcalf residence (#1). BACK COVER: Dr. and Mrs. Stefan Fajans residence (#31).