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Guide to the Peter Blake (1920-2006) Papers, 1950-1998

1999.016

- Date Range:** 1950-1998
- Size:** .5 linear foot (1 manuscript box)
- Preferred Citation:** Peter Blake Papers, 1950-1998. Department of Drawings & Archives, Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, Columbia University.
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- Location:** Materials are located onsite at Avery Library.
- Processing Information:** This collection was processed by Annemarie van Roessel, Archivist, Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, in January 2007.

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Biographical Note:

Born Peter Jost Blach in Berlin in 1920, Blake was educated as an architect at the University of Pennsylvania under Louis Kahn. Blake worked professionally as curator of architecture and design at the Museum of Modern Art in New York from 1948 to 1950, served on the editorial staff of *Architectural Forum*, *House & Home*, and *Magazine of Building*, founded *Architecture Plus* magazine, and wrote numerous monographs and critical articles on contemporary architecture. Although he practiced architecture intermittently, Blake taught architecture at several universities and was chairman of the Boston Architectural Center and of Catholic University's department of architecture and planning. Blake also maintained close friendships with many prominent architects and artists, publishing a memoir *No Place Like Utopia: Modern Architecture and the Company We Kept* in 1993. Blake died near Branford, Connecticut, in 2006.

Scope and Content:

This small collection contains primarily original and reproduced correspondence to and from Blake and numerous prominent architects, with some complementary manuscript and published materials.

Arrangement and Organization:

Materials are organized alphabetically by correspondent name, and therein chronologically.

Related Collections:

Serge Ivan Chermayeff Architectural Records and Papers, 1909-1990.
Douglas Putnam Haskell Papers, 1866-1979 (bulk 1949-1964).

Controlled Access Terms:

Architects--United States--Correspondence.
Correspondence.
Typescript papers.
Carbon typescript papers.
Printed papers.
Architects.
Blechman, R. O. (Robert O.), 1930-
Chermayeff, Serge, 1900-
Ellwood, Craig.
Entwistle, Clive
Fuller, R. Buckminster (Richard Buckminster), 1895-1983.
Kaufmann, Edgar, 1910-1989.
Krasner, Lee, 1908-

Le Corbusier, 1887-1965.
Mies van der Rohe, Ludwig, 1886-1969.
Moholy-Nagy, Sibyl, 1905-
Moltke, Willo von.
Nervi, Pier Luigi.
Neutra, Dion.
Oud, J. J. P. (Jacobus Johannes Pieter), 1890-1963.
Pollock, Jackson, 1912-1956.
Rudolph, Paul, 1918-1997.
Rogers, Ernesto N.
Saarinen, Aline B. (Aline Bernstein), 1914-1972.
Saarinen, Eero, 1910-1961.
Seidler, Harry, 1923-2006.
Soleri, Paolo, 1919-
Soriano, Rafael, 1920-
Stubbins, Hugh, 1912-2006.
Tafel, Edgar.
Tange, Kenzo, 1913-2005.
Ungers, O. M. (Oswald Mathias)
Venturi, Robert.
Wachsmann, Konrad, 1901-1980.
Wright, Frank Lloyd, 1867-1959.
Wright, Lloyd, 1890-1978.
University of Wyoming. American Heritage Center.

CONTAINER INVENTORY

<i>Folder #</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Items</i>
Box 1:01	Blake, Peter. "West Berlin's IBA: A City Re-invents Itself." Typescript. With annotations.	Undated	1
Box 1:02	Blechman, R. O. (Robert O.) Correspondence to Blake. Photocopied paper. Regards proposed exhibition.	Undated	1
Box 1:03	Chermayeff, Serge. Correspondence to Blake. ALS. Regards various subjects.	1980	2
Box 1:04	Ellwood, Craig. Materials by and about Ellwood, including manuscripts, published articles, correspondence, exhibition materials, and office brochure from Blake & Ellwood. Various media.	1959-1992	14
Box 1:05	Entwistle, Clive Correspondence to Blake. Photocopied paper. Requests Blake's collaboration on the *holopolitan project.	1966	1
Box 1:06	Fuller, R. Buckminster. "What I Am Trying To Do," poem. Typescript. Inscribed by Fuller to Blake.	1974	1
Box 1:07	Kaufmann, Edgar, Jr. Correspondence to and from Blake. Photocopied papers. Regards Santiago de Compostela, Spain.	1968	2
Box 1:08	Le Corbusier. Correspondence to Blake. TLS. Expresses pleasure with Blake's treatment of him in The Master Builders.	1961	1
Box 1:09	Mies van der Rohe, Ludwig. Correspondence to and from Peter Blake, Mies van der Rohe, and James Marston Fitch. Various media. Regards various subjects, including symposium at Columbia University organized by Fitch, and published materials about Mies van der Rohe.	1960-1992	19

Box 1:10	Moholy-Nagy, Sibyl Correspondence to Blake. Photocopied paper. Regards guests at a recent party.	Circa 1964	1
Box 1:11	Moltke, Willo von Correspondence from Blake. Photocopied paper. Reports new position at <i>Architectural Forum</i> and requests assistance identifying new work from architects under 35.	1950	1
Box 1:12	Nervi, Pier Luigi. Letter of recommendation for Harry Seidler. Photocopied paper.	1972	1
Box 1:13	Neutra, Dion. Correspondence to Blake. Photocopied papers. Regards photography of the Lovell house and suggests other projects to photograph, and includes letter from Kit Tremaine.	1968	2
Box 1:14	Oud, J. J. P. Correspondence to and from Blake. Photocopied papers. Regards permission to quote Oud in <i>House & Home</i> and Oud's work in row-house design.	1955	2
Box 1:15	Pollock, Jackson and Lee Krasner Manuscript by Blake regarding Thanksgiving celebration with Pollock and Krasner. Typescript carbon. Also includes photocopied photograph of Pollock and unidentified man.	Undated	2
Box 1:16	Rogers, Ernesto. Correspondence to and from Blake. Photocopied papers. Regards Blake's proposed trip to Italy and Blake's article on Paul Rudolph in <i>Casabella</i> .	1952, 1955	3
Box 1:17	Rudolph, Paul. Materials to, from, and about Rudolph. Various media. Includes correspondence and interview transcripts.	1950-1998	39
Box 1:18	Saarinen, Eero and Aline Correspondence to and from the Saarinens. Various media. Regards various subjects.	1950-1963	15
Box 1:19	Seidler, Harry. Correspondence from Josef Albers to Seidler and from Seidler to Blake. Photocopied papers. Regards Albers' influence on Seidler's work.	1971	2

Box 1:20	Soleri, Paolo. Correspondence to and from Blake. Photocopied papers. Regards article in <i>Architectural Forum</i> about Soleri and Soleri's fellowship from the Graham Foundation.	1961	3
Box 1:21	Soriano, Rafael. Correspondence from Blake. Photocopied paper. Requests information about Soriano's design for the Lukens Residence.	1950	1
Box 1:22	Stubbins, Hugh. Correspondence from Blake. Photocopied paper. Regards Robert Venturi's unsuccessful election to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects.	1976	1
Box 1:23	Tafel, Edgar. Correspondence to Blake. Photocopied paper, with typescript and ink annotations. Regards article in the <i>Milwaukee Journal</i> about Frank Lloyd Wright that cites Blake.	1985	1
Box 1:24	Tange, Kenzo. Correspondence to and from Blake. Photocopied papers. Regards Blake's inability to travel to Japan for the World Design Conference.	1960	2
Box 1:25	Ungers, O. M. (Oswald Mathias). Correspondence to and from Blake. Typescript carbon and photocopied papers. Regards publication of Ungers' Ambassador's Residence, Washington, D.C.	1995	5
Box 1:26	University of Wyoming, American Heritage Center. Correspondence to and from Blake. Various media. Regards donations of Blake's personal papers to the library.	1976-1989	30
Box 1:27	Venturi, Robert. Correspondence to and from Blake. Photocopied papers. Regards Venturi's unsuccessful election to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects, including published articles.	1976	8
Box 1:28	Wachsmann, Konrad. Correspondence to and from Blake. Photocopied papers. Regards various subjects.	1951-1954	10

Box 1:29	Wright, Frank Lloyd. Correspondence to and from Blake. Photocopied papers and typescript carbons. Regards various subjects.	1950-1958	9
Box 1:30	Wright, Lloyd. Correspondence to and from Blake. TLS and typescript carbon. Regards proposed publication of the Huntington-Hartford Theater and information about best architectural photographs in Los Angeles.	1950	2