## **Design Issues:** Archive

## Gretchen Lagana

The archives of *Design Issues: History Theory Criticism* are located in the University Archives of the Special Collections Department, Richard J. Daley Library, University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). This is because *Design Issues* was originally published for UIC's School of Art and Design, College of Architecture, Art and Urban Planning. Additionally, many of its editors and early contributors were associated with UIC, including Victor Margolin, John Massey, Martin Hurtig, John Greiner, Lawrence Solomon, Leon Bellin and John Cullars. University Archives is the University's official depository for its records and publications of historic value, along with selected professional and personal manuscripts of faculty, staff, students and alumni.

The collection totals some 27 linear feet and consists of drafts of articles and reviews in typescript and on computer disk; correspondence; meeting and agenda notes, review books and journals, miscellaneous books on design, biographical and miscellaneous visual materials.

The archive is more that just a record of the journal's activities. It charts the rise of the journal, from its beginnings in 1984, as a unique voice in the national and international design network; offers a first hand view of the development of the field of design, including design practice and design education, over the past 20 years; and identifies issues as well as the professional and academic voices associated with them.

Design Issues is only one of many design collections located in the Special Collection's Department. Others include the records of the New Bauhaus/Institute of Design, and John E. Walley Papers, and the R. Hunter Middleton Chicago Design Archives. Named after Chicago type designer Robert Hunter Middleton, the Middleton collection is devoted to Chicago design and designers. It was organized in the early 1980s to support the University's design academic programs in recognition of the importance of design history as a field of scholarly study. Holdings consist of individual collections with special emphasis on graphic, industrial, and communications design, from the period of Chicago's New Bauhaus through the present. They comprise a variety of formats—manuscripts, books, periodicals, photographs, audio and videotapes, artifacts—along with an extensive range of printed graphic materials. Currently there are over fifty individual collections. The recently organized African-American Chicago Design Archive, which aims at collecting the personal papers, design work and business records of Chicago's African-American designers is another important component of the Department's design collections.

Anchored by the *Design Issues* archive, the UIC design collections comprise a rich and varied resource for anyone interested in design history. For more information contact the Special Collections Department:

Mail Address: Special Collections

Richard J. Daley Library

Box 898

Chicago IL 60680

E-Mail: lib-special@listserv.uic.edu

Telephone: 312-996-2742

Gretchen Lagana Associate Professor

Special Collections Librarian (Head of Dept.) and Curator of the Jane Addams Memorial Collection