

**ARLIS/NA + VRA 3rd Joint Conference 2016, Seattle – Conference Session**

**Terra Fluxus: Surveying the Digital Information Landscape of Environmental Design**

*This session will be recorded*

Librarians and archivists play vital roles in stewarding our environment and its record. Informing and documenting its greatest changes in the digital age compels us to traverse an untamed landscape. Increasingly sophisticated information systems and services enrich the evidence base for highly sustainable design practice, but complicate its evermore iterative process. As students, practitioners, and scholars tell the story of an increasingly precious planet, so must we seek to sustain its most wild and fragile forms of documentation. This session will highlight the lessons learned by panelists from leading institutions of environmental design, its history, and its future. They will survey a new landscape of resources, their challenges, and plans to protect them for future generations alongside legacy resources. They will share new models for providing the visual and geographic reference materials upon which the design research process depends, including new competencies and portfolios among professional library staff. They will benchmark best preservation practices for their composite products, including illustrative and construction documents, in both corporate and academic research environments. Each will share case studies that illustrate their respective experience providing these services to design students, practitioners, and/or scholars.

**Moderator**

Karl-Rainer Blumenthal, Web Archivist, Internet Archive

**Speakers**

Valerie Collins, National Digital Stewardship Resident, American Institute of Architects

Carole Ann Fabian, Director, Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library

Aliza Leventhal, Corporate Librarian/Archivist, Sasaki Associates

Ann Baird Whiteside, Librarian/Assistant Dean for Information Resources, Harvard Graduate School of Design