

ARC brownbag series



7 Dec FRI
Annmari Adams

Venue : Room 104, Wurster Hall
Time : 12 noon
Bring your own lunch!

Annmari Adams is William C. Macdonald Professor at the School of Architecture, McGill University, Montreal, where she teaches courses in architectural history and directs the M.Arch. option in Housing, Cultural Landscapes/Domestic Environments. Adams is the author of *Architecture in the Family Way: Doctors, Houses, and Women, 1870-1900* (McGill-Queens University Press, 1996) and co-author of *Designing Women: Gender and the Architectural Profession* (University of Toronto Press, 2000), with sociologist Peta Tancred.

"Kitchen Stories": Sigrun Bülow-Hübe as Scientific Researcher

This talk explores the planning of Expo 67, the rise of the architect as social-science researcher, and the design of ordinary kitchens in Montreal. In particular, it examines the kitchen research of Swedish-born Montrealer designer Sigrun Bülow-Hübe (1913-94). The main argument of the paper is that the ideal kitchen of the late 1960s used centralization (rather than efficiency) as a model of industrial organization. Bülow-Hübe's detailed studies of the traffic between the sink, mixing area, and range, for example, were intended to eliminate congestion (rather than save time or labour), just as the smooth, flowing minirail and pavilions at Expo were meant to minimize walking. In the kitchen based on these same notions of centralization, then, Montrealers could re-visit the "dream city" in their own homes.

