Welcome to USC!: A Brief History of Its Campus from 1880 to the Present

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Abstract
This course will serve as an introduction to the USC campus from its founding in 1880 to the present day. Day-one will consist of a lecture on the history of the university with historic images and plans. Day two will be devoted to a walking tour of the campus. The various phases of architectural development that will be examined and the architectural forms and images that were chosen by its leaders to reflect its growth are closely related to their desire to advance USC as a nationally and then internationally recognized institution of higher education.

Faculty Biography
Ken Breisch is an Associate Professor in the USC School of Architecture and the Dornsife Department of American Studies and Ethnicity. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan and served as founder and Director of the USC Graduate Programs in Historic Preservation (now Heritage Conservation) from 1997 to 2011. He has published on American architectural history, including three volumes on the history of libraries: Henry Hobson Richardson and the Small Public Library in America (MIT, 1997); The Los Angeles Central Library: Building an Architectural Icon, 1872-1933 (J. Paul Getty Trust, 2016); and American Libraries: 1730-1950 (Library of Congress and W. W. Norton, 2017). Breisch is a past president of the Society of Architectural Historians and has served on the Board of The Vernacular Architecture Forum. He was a Santa Monica Planning Commissioner from 1993 to 2000, and a member of the Board of the Santa Monica Public Library from 2001 to 2014. He currently serves on the Board of the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy, the Santa Monica Landmarks Commission and is Board Member Emeritus of the Santa Monica Conservancy.