

Fred S. Toguchi, FAIA

Fred was attending the University of California, Berkeley, CA when the attack on Pearl Harbor occurred on December 7, 1941.

On March 2, 1942 issuance of First Proclamation made the western halves of the states of Washington, Oregon and California military areas. Consequently, on May 9, 1942 every person of Japanese ancestry, both alien and American citizens of Japanese descent were ordered to assemble in designated areas. Tanforan Race Track, San Bruno, CA, was renamed Tanforan Assembly Center which was the destination of Fred, his brother, sister, mother and father. Each person was only allowed to take what he or she could carry; they lost most of their belongings and treasures. The family was transported by Army truck to the Tanforan Assembly Center. Many had to live in stables and the more fortunate families were housed in Army barracks. Each family was allowed one room regardless of the number. This was a temporary camp while ten relocation camps were being constructed by the U.S. Government to detain and house 75,000 American citizens of Japanese ancestry and 45,000 non-citizen parents.

In September 1942, Fred and his family were transported at night by train to Topaz, Utah. Population in the Topaz Relocation Center was 9,000. The camp was completely surrounded by barbed wire fencing with Army soldiers stationed in sentry towers around the camp. Warnings were posted that anyone coming within ten feet of the fence would be shot.

In 1943 Fred was permitted to leave Topaz to attend Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. He lived in a private home working for his room and board. He graduated in 1945 with honors, from the School of Architecture. Upon graduation Fred was drafted into the U.S. Army. After the war ended he returned to Cleveland.

In the 1960's while working for an architectural firm in Cleveland, he was invited to teach architecture at Western Reserve University (now Case Western Reserve University). He taught for seven years while still working full time and eventually opened his own office during that period. As Associate Professor of Architecture he taught Design and Planning.

Fred was a charter member in establishing the University for Young Americans in which he annually offered an orientation seminar for potential architects. He served fourteen years a Member of the Cleveland City Planning Commission's Fine Arts Advisory Committee; served twelve years on the Board of Zoning Appeals of Cleveland Heights as a Member and Chairman. He served on the Design Review Committee for the Shaker Square Historic Landmarks District. Fred also was a Trustee of the Inner City Protestant Parish for twelve years and was Chairman for three years.

Fred Toguchi's most significant architectural work includes: Case Western Reserve Student Housing, Clark Tower and Flora Stone Mather Dormitories; Commons Building, Gilmore Academy; Mayfield Regional Library; Burke Lakefront Airport; Firelands

Branch, Phase II Bowling Green State University; Ashtabula Arts Center; Buckeye Woodland Elementary School; Engineers Building, Lakeland Community College; Frank J. Laushe State Office Building; Kenneth C. Beck Center for the Cultural Arts; Laurel School Gymnasium (The Toguchi Bridge, Laurel School is named in memory of Fred); St. Phillip Evangelical Church.

Fred was killed in an automobile accident in Tokyo, Japan while visiting the country for the first time. His family established the Fred Toguchi Lecture at Kent State University in his memory.

This history was prepared by Betty H. Toguchi, Fred's Widow

Toguchi Lecturers

2009	Friedrich St. Florian	WWII Memorial Designer
2008	Brad Cloepfil	Principal, Allied Works Architecture
2006	Sacha Menz	
2005	Peter Bohlin, FAIA	Bohlin Cywinski Jackson
2004	Juan Herreros	Abalos y Herreros
2003	William Sharples	Principal, SHoP Architects
2002	Warren Byrd	Professor, University of Virginia Nelson-Byrd Landscape Architects
2001	Daniel Wheeler	Wheeler Kearns Architects
2000	Michael Manfredi Marion Wiess	Wiess Manfredi Architects
1999	Gary Hack	Dean, University of Pennsylvania College of Fine Arts
1998	Rafael Vinoly	Rafael Vinoly Architects (cancelled)
1997	Curtis Worth Fentress	Fentress Bradburn Architects
1996	Peter Katz	author, <i>New Urbanism</i>
1995	James Stewart Polshek	James Stewart Polshek and Partners
1994	Robert Mack	
1993	Fay Jones	Fay Jones Architects
1992	Antoine Predock	Antoine Predock Architects
1991	Mac Scogin	Scogin, Elam and Bray

1990	Malcolm Holzman	Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer
1989	Anthony Ames	Anthony Ames Architects
1988	Arthur Erickson	Arthur Erickson Architects
1987	Bruce Graham	Skidmore Owings and Merrill
1986	Eugene Kohn	Kohn Pederson Fox
1985	Hugh Newell Jacobsen	Hugh Newell Jacobson Architects
1984	Robert A. M. Stern	Robert A. M. Stern Architects
1983	Richard Meier	Richard Meier Associates