



FLORENCE-LAUDERDALE
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Lambert to take a look back at Rosenbaum house restoration

What: Local architect and author **Don Lambert** presents: Rosenbaum House Restoration Project

When: 5:30 p.m. Thursday, June 30

Where: Florence-Lauderdale Public Library Fiction Colonnade

When the city of Florence purchased the former home of Stanley and Mildred Rosenbaum, the house was in serious, critical shape. Years of leaks had damaged joists, ceilings, wall and parts of the exterior trim. Termites had left their paths in many of the walls. The recommendation from a city building inspector: tear it down.

But the house was - and is - an architectural treasure. It was designed by renowned, visionary architect Frank Lloyd Wright in 1939 and built for the Rosenbaums when they were newlyweds.

After the city bought the structure in 1999, Florence architect Don Lambert teamed with the then-city's museum director, Barbara Kimberlin Broach, to help lead volunteers, professionals and tradesmen in restoration work that saved this national, architectural gem.

Lambert will discuss the restoration work during a presentation at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, June 30, at the library's Fiction Colonnade. The program is free and open the public.

The Rosenbaum house was one of the first few examples of Wright's Usonian concept, which was designed for informal living among middle-class families of the day. It is L-shape and made from natural materials - cypress wood, brick and glass - capped by cantilevered roofs over the living and carport spaces that blend the house into its outdoor environment.

The Frank Lloyd Wright Rosenbaum House Museum is the only Wright-designed

house open to the public in the southeastern U.S., and features some of the original furnishings Wright designed for the home.

You will not want to miss hearing how this restoration project brought a classical Wright-designed structure into public domain where people from around the world have the opportunity to experience the work of a man the American Institute of Architects calls the "greatest American architect of all time."

Lambert's presentation is provided by the Florence library through a partnership with the Alabama Public Library Services and The Institute of Museum and Library Services. It was made possible through a grant from the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).

