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JULIA MORGAN, FAIA: CALIFORNIA'S GOLD



Julia Morgan, FAIA: California's Gold AIACC

By Sandhya Sood, AIA
23 September 2014

Sandhya Sood, AIA (M.Arch '99) has studied, conducted research and written extensively on Julia Morgan's, FAIA, work with a focus on sustainability. As the sustainability expert, Sood's work was included in the nomination materials presented to the AIA Gold Medal Selection Committee and contributed to the success of the nomination. Sandhya Sood has closely studied Julia Morgan, and the Mayor of Berkeley, Tom Bates, will recognize her on October 7 with a

proclamation for her contributions to preserving the history of Julia Morgan and the City of Berkeley.

The American Institute of Architects Board of Directors posthumously awarded the AIA Gold Medal to Julia Morgan. The early 20th-century architect's body of quality work secured her position as the first great female American architect. Morgan is the first woman to ever be given the AIA Gold Medal. By receiving the award, Morgan was elevated to the College of Fellows.

Sood writes, "Morgan focused on climate responsive design, material conditions and spatial efficiency. In her mind, this approach could facilitate essential qualities that make buildings work, adapt and endure. By incorporating passive design, Morgan created sustainable spaces that benefit human lives through wellness, good indoor environmental quality and adaptability to changes in use."



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