Richard Knight: Photographing Saarinen
September 2 – October 12, 2008
HGA and Architecture Library Galleries, Rapson Hall

Richard Knight's photographs offer an unprecedented glimpse behind the scenes at the architectural practice and office of Eero Saarinen and Associates. His photographs cover the period from 1957 to Saarinen's death in 1961, when Saarinen was working on iconic projects such as the Dulles International Airport Terminal, the former TWA Terminal at John F. Kennedy International Airport and the Gateway Arch in St. Louis. Working as Saarinen's "house photographer," Knight documented in black and white photographs both the professional process and personal dynamics of this celebrated office. Many of the photographs featured in this exhibition are collected in a recent monograph and personal memoir by Richard Knight published by William Stout Publishers, San Francisco, titled Saarinen's Quest: A Memoir of A Photographer. The book includes a foreword on Saarinen's artistic vision and office culture by Cesar Pelli, who began his career in the architect's office. Knight, who lives in California, is known today for his creative work as a sculptor. Before working for Eero Saarinen, he studied design at Cranbrook Academy of Art in the mid-1950s.