

## Drew, Jane Beverley 1911 - 1996



Joyce Beverley Jane Drew [commonly known as Jane B. Drew and as Jane Drew\*] was born in Thornton Heath, Surrey, England, on 24 March 1911 and studied at the Architectural Association School in London. She worked as an assistant to the architect Joseph Hill in London in 1938-39. From 1934 to 1939 she was also a partner with [James Thomas Alliston](#) (1908-2000) in the London-based architectural firm [Alliston & Drew](#). Houses in Cambridge and Cliftonville, Kent designed by Alliston & Drew are discussed in *Small Houses £500-£2500*, edited by H. Myles Wright (1937 pp. 52, 110-111). She had married Alliston in 1934 and they divorced in 1939.

Drew ran her own independent architectural practice, Jane B. Drew, from 1940 to 1945, during which time she was a consultant on kitchen planning for the British Commercial Gas Corporation (1941-43) and in 1943 organized the Royal Institute of British Architects' 'Rebuilding Britain' exhibition held at the National Gallery in London. In 1942 Drew married the architect [E. Maxwell Fry](#) (1899-1987), and from 1944 to 1946 they were assistant town-planning advisers to the colonies of Nigeria, the Gold Coast (Ghana), Sierra Leone and the Gambia. The pair subsequently had a long architectural association with this region of Africa. In 1946 they co-founded the firm Fry Drew & Partners in London. In 1951 Lindsay Drake and Dennis Lasdun joined the partnership which was then known as Fry Drew Drake & Lasdun until 1958. When Frank F. Knight and Norman Creamer joined the partnership in 1973 the name of the firm changed to Fry Drew Knight & Creamer.

Drew was Beamis Professor at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts (1961), Visiting Professor of Architecture at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts (1970), and Bicentennial Professor at the

University of Utah in Salt Lake City, Utah (1976). In 1945 Drew co-founded the 'Architects Year Book' (London: Paul Elek) and, with Trevor Dannatt (1920-2021), co-edited the first four volumes. She was the author or co-author of a number of books including 'Village Housing in the Tropics' with E. Maxwell Fry and Harry L. Ford (London: Lund Humphries, 1947) and 'Tropical Architecture in the Humid Zone', with E. Maxwell Fry (New York, NY: Reinhold, 1956).

Drew was elected an Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects (ARIBA) in 1935, a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects (FRIBA) in 1942, Honorary Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, and President of the Architectural Association. She died in Cotherstone, Durham, England, on 27 July 1996.

\* Note her full name is given as Joyce Beverley [Jane] Drew by the DNB; Jane B(everley) Drew by Grove; and as Jane [Joyce] Beverley Drew by other sources

Worked in  
UK  
Works

Architectural projects by Drew included houses in Cliftonville, Kent (with James Thomas Alliston, 1937), houses in Winchester, Hampshire (with James Thomas Alliston, 1937), Walton Yacht Works in London (1940), Saint Giles Mount in Winchester, Hampshire (1941), Prempeh College in Kumasi, Ghana (1946), Adisadel College, Ghana (with E. Maxwell Fry, 1946), Wesley Girls College, Cape Coast, Ghana (1947), Passfield flats in Lewisham, London (with E. Maxwell Fry, 1950), Waterloo Bridge entrance and Harbour Bar at the South Bank Exhibition of the Festival of Britain (1951), the architecture and planning of Chandigarh, India (with E. Maxwell Fry, Le Corbusier, Pierre Jeanneret and Albert Mayer, 1951-56), Whitefoot Lane Flats in Lewisham, London (with E. Maxwell Fry, 1953), University College in Ibadan, Nigeria (with E. Maxwell Fry, 1953-59), housing, health and amenity buildings for the Iran Oil Company in Tehran, Iran (1957-59), Women's Teacher Training College in Kano, Nigeria and the Teacher Training College in Wudil, Nigeria (with E. Maxwell Fry, 1958), planning of Gach Saran New Town in Iran (1959), offices for the Co-operative Bank in Lagos, Nigeria (1959), the Co-operative Bank Assembly Hall and maisonettes in Ibadan, Nigeria (1959), a house in Hendon, London (1960), the Apowa Training Centre in Ghana (1964), Institute of Contemporary Arts, London (1964), housing in Hatfield, Harlow and Welwyn, Hertfordshire (1964), Olympic Stadium and Swimming Pool in Kaduna, Nigeria (1965), School for the Deaf in Herne Hill, London (1966), buildings for the Open University in Milton Keynes, Nuffinghamshire (1969-77), Carlton House Terrace

and Art Gallery in London (1970), hospital and nurses' residence in Torbay, Devon (1973), a factory for Gestetner in Stirling, Scotland (1976), and the Institute of Education in Reduit, Mauritius (1977).

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## Links

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