

NEWSLETTER

THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

SEPTEMBER 1967 VOL. XI NO. 4 PUBLISHED FIVE TIMES A YEAR BY THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS
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SAH NOTICES

Annual Meeting. Don't forget the dates for the 1968 Annual Meeting in St. Louis, January 25-28. Under the general chairmanship of Vice-President Henry A. Millon, many of the sessions will be devoted to aspects of theatre design and occasional architecture (festivals, world fairs, funerals, etc.) Buford L. Pickens and George McCue will serve as local co-chairmen. The sessions include: STAGE DESIGN AND OCCASIONAL ARCHITECTURE, chaired by Rudolf Wittkower (a joint session for members of SAH and CAA); THEATER AND FESTIVAL ARCHITECTURE, Wilbert Hasbrouck, chairman; USE OF DRAWINGS IN PRODUCING ARCHITECTURE, Richard Pommer, chairman; LATIN AMERICAN ARCHITECTURE: STAGE AND THEATRE - RITUAL AND CEREMONY, Edward T. Hinderliter, chairman; THE THEATRE IN MODERN EUROPEAN ARCHITECTURE, Stanford Anderson, chairman; THE PRESERVATION OF EARLY MODERN ARCHITECTURE, Charles B. Hosmer, Jr., chairman; FROM QUEBEC TO NEW ORLEANS, Charles E. Peterson, chairman. In addition to the regular sessions, a special session on ST. LOUIS ARCHITECTURE will be held Thursday evening, January 25. In 1968 the SAH will for the first time hold joint sessions with College Art Association (Thursday, January 25), and will have concurrent SAH sessions during the remaining two days of the meeting. *Preliminary programs and pre-registration forms will be mailed to SAH members early in November.*

New Orleans Tour. The tour, the first to be held in the Fall, takes place on October 26-29 under the chairmanship of Samuel Wilson, Jr. In addition there will be a post-annual tour to the Teche Country on October 30-31. All places on the tours have been taken.

Newport Tour. The 1968 Annual Tour will be held in Newport, Rhode Island (and vicinity), August 29-September 1. Mrs. George Henry Warren will serve as Honorary Chairman, with Mrs. Antoinette Downing acting as General Chairman. The cooperating organization will be The Preservation Society of Newport County, Mr. Harold R. Talbot, Executive Director.

Turkish Tour. The Society of Architectural Historians has requested Drake Travel Service (Chicago) to organize an architectural tour of Turkey for its members, to be held June 3-July 1, 1968. Visits to the archaeological and architectural sites will be under the professional guidance of Arthur R. Steinberg, Assistant Professor of History and Archaeology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and a Fellow of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens and of the American Academy in Rome. An announcement of the tour, which will be limited to 35 persons, will be sent to SAH members by the Drake Travel Service in October.

CHAPTERS

Missouri Valley. The Missouri Valley Chapter met August 5 at the Nelson Gallery of Art in Kansas City to discuss bylaws for the Chapter, and the year's activities.

Southern California. The Fall meeting is scheduled to be held at the University of California at Santa Barbara Art Gallery on October 21.

Washington, D.C. George B. Tatum, University of Delaware, will address the Fall meeting of the Chapter on "Form Follows Fancy - American Architecture of the 19th Century", on October 5, at Dumbarton Oaks.

Western Reserve. The Western Reserve Architectural Historians in Cleveland have completed their third year, which featured no less than six programs, as reported in their informative midsummer *Newsletter* (could not other chapters have newsletters?). Plans for the 1967-8 season are far advanced, and will commence on October 8 with a walking tour of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, led by Clyde Patterson and Dick Campen. Chairman of the Chapter's program committee for 1967-8 is architect Robert Gaede.

New York. Rudolf Wittkower, Columbia University, will speak on "The Personality of Francesco Borromini" on October 10, 8:30 p.m. at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

ORGANIZATIONS

Victorian Society. The Victorian Society held its fifth annual conference in Liverpool, England, September 29-October 1, on the theme of "Victorian Seaport". The program, under the chairmanship of Nikolaus Pevsner, concentrated on the city's rich architectural heritage of the period, and included visits to notable monuments.

Irish Georgian Society. The Society is now installed in permanent quarters of its own at Castletown House, Celbridge, Co. Kildare. The house was built in 1722 for William Conolly, Speaker of the House of Commons and the architect was Alessandro Galilei, who later designed St. John in Lateran, Rome. Pearce, the architect of the Parliament House, Dublin (now the Bank of Ireland), although only 23 at the time, carried out Galilei's designs after the Italian left Ireland. The house is one of the finest in Ireland, and has escaped nineteenth century "improvements". Most of the original panelling is still *in situ*, the mantels and plasterwork intact, and the Print Room and Long Gallery are as they were in the eighteenth century. It is intended to open the principal rooms to the public; curiously enough there is no country house near Dublin open to visitors at present. In the future the Society hopes to use Castletown for symposia of the kind organized at Attingham Park. Furnishing the main rooms is the immediate problem. If anyone is prepared to lend furniture, pictures, carpets, or other objects of the period, they will be glad of them. Also, £10,000 is urgently needed for minimal redecoration, heating, plumbing, etc., and all contributions will be gratefully received. In the U.S.A., cheques payable to the Society for the Preservation of Historic Ireland will qualify as tax deductible. They should be sent to the Society, c/o Desmond Guinness, Leixlip Castle, Co. Kildare, Eire.

SAH-Great Britain. The Society's annual meeting was held at the University of Exeter, September 8-10.

OAHP. The new Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, National Park Service will move to new quarters of its own at 801 19th St. NW., Washington, D.C. on September 30. Ernest A. Connally is Chief of the Office, which includes archeology, history, the National Register, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Restoration of historic buildings and the HABS.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Architect **Orin Bullock** of Baltimore has opened his own office as a restoration architect and consultant at 1432 John Street, Baltimore, Md. 21217 . . . **James D. Gough, Jr.**, has been appointed Director of the School of Architecture of Montana State University, Bozeman . . . **Terry Brust Morton** has been promoted to Editor of the National Trust, responsible for their publications *Preservation News* and *Historic Preservation* . . . **George Vernon Russell, FAIA**, writes that the June *Newsletter* was in error in naming him as first vice president of the American Institute of Architects. The correct incumbent is **George Kassabaum, FAIA**. Mr. Russell also reports that his firm was a co-winner of the international town planning competition for Bratislava, Czechoslovakia. He believes that he is the first American winner of an award from an International Union of Architects competition . . . **John A. H. Sweeney** has been appointed Senior Deputy Director for Collections and Interpretation at the H. F. du Pont Winterthur Museum, and **Jonathan L. Fairbanks** has been named Associate Curator in Charge of Conservation . . . **James G. Van Derpool** has been appointed Chairman of the National Screening Committee for the selection of Fulbright Fellows under the Fulbright-Hays Program for 1968-69 . . . **Robert C. Weinberg** has been reappointed to the Visiting Committee, Department of Architecture, Carnegie Institute of Technology. As critic-at-large in architecture and planning for Radio Station WNYC, he comments twice-weekly on news and views of the New York building scene, covering a wide field, from new buildings to landmark preservation . . . **Peter M. Wolf**, New York University, has received a grant from the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts for an investigation of sources of contemporary planning for the high density city.

PUBLICATIONS

Adolf K. Placzek, Columbia University, has been named General Editor of the Da Capo Press Series in Architecture and Decorative Art, which plans extensive reprints of significant architectural and decorative arts books including both modern out-of-print editions and the classics. All will be chosen for their basic reference value. Included among the first publications will be such works as *Thomas Jefferson, Architect*, by Fiske Kimball, with a new introduction by Frederick D. Nichols, Norman Isham's *Early American Homes* and *A Glossary of Colonial Architectural Terms*, and Abraham Swan's *The British Architect*. Later works will include a number of 19th century American architectural books, and particularly seven of Asher Benjamin's volumes.

MEMBERS' NEW BOOKS

Gilchrist, Agnes Addison. *Romanticism and the Gothic Revival*. New York, 1967. Gordian Press (reprint of original 1938 edition).

Guinness, Desmond. *Portrait of Dublin*. New York, 1967. Viking Press. \$10.00.

Silver, Nathan. *Lost New York*. New York, 1967, Houghton Mifflin Co., \$12.50 to December 31. A timely and well considered guide to New York's lost and to be lost landmarks.

Zucker, Paul. *Fascination of Decay: Ruins-Relics-Symbols-Ornaments*. Grove Press, \$8.95.

BOOKLETS AND CATALOGS

Barringer, Floyd S. *Historic Homes of Springfield* (Ill.). Springfield, 1967. Available: Phillips Brothers Printers, 831 E. Adams St., Springfield, Illinois, \$3.00.

Hosmer, Charles B., Jr. *Elsah: A Historic Guidebook*. Elsah, Illinois, 1967. Historic Elsah, Inc. 64 pp. Available: Charles B. Hosmer, Jr., Principia College, Elsah, Ill., for \$2.00 plus \$.10 postage.

Pagel, Mary Ellen and Palmer, Virginia. *Guides to Historic Milwaukee: Kilbourn Town Walking Tour*. University of Wisconsin, 1967, 19 pp. Available: Guides, University Extension, 600 West Kilbourn Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisc. No charge, but send a large self-addressed, stamped envelope with 10¢ postage.

Wilson, Samuel, Jr. *Colonial Fortifications and Military Architecture in the Mississippi Valley*. (Reprinted from *The French in the Mississippi Valley*) Available: Louisiana Landmarks Society, 203 Gallier Hall, St. Charles at Lafayette, New Orleans, La. \$.75 plus \$.15 mailing.

Monarchy Promenade, an illustrated leaflet issued by the State Parks Division of the State of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii, lists numerous historic buildings, palaces and houses associated with the Hawaiian monarchy and the early settlers.

ARTICLES

Hoffman, Donald L. "The Brief Career of a Sullivan Apprentice: Parker N. Berry" in *Prairie School Review*, Vol. IV, No. 1, First Quarter, 1967, pp. 7-15.

Robinson Cervin. "Modern Antiques: Twentieth Century Landmarks" in *Architectural Forum*, June 1967, pp. 74-81. Second report on the present state of repair or alteration of earlier modern buildings in Europe.

Winslow, Carleton M. "Baja California" in *Arts and Architecture*, February, 1967.

CARIBBEAN TOUR

Rosann S. Berry, Executive Secretary of the Society, has prepared this report on the SAH tour to the Caribbean, June 11-24, 1967.

Forty-seven members of the Society, from Hawaii to the Eastern Seaboard, literally went on an eight-day voyage of architectural discovery through Antigua, St. Kitts, St. Croix and St. Thomas during the SAH Caribbean tour, before proceeding to another five days in Puerto Rico. Under the guidance of general chairman Frederik C. Gjessing, National Park Service, and with the assistance of his committees on the various Islands, participants saw the interesting architectural diversity, and the contributions made by Europe, Africa and America to the architecture of the region.

Sailing from Antigua in five sailing vessels and a motor yacht (chartered from V.E.B. Nicholsons, Antigua), the group was afforded an unusual opportunity to approach the Islands as did the early explorers. The sail was unique in another way: it was the second multiple yacht charter in the Caribbean, but the first to be organized with a specific purpose other than a pleasure cruise. The ships were under four flags: "Black Dog", United States; "Lord Jim", "Ron of Argyle" and "Xebec", British; "Eudroma", Belgian; and "Captain Cap", French. The friendliness and competence of the skippers and their wives won the admiration of their SAH guests. Beginning in Antigua on Sunday, June 11, the group saw the ruins of the fortifications on Shirley Heights overlooking English Harbour, visited Clarence House, and toured Nelson's Dockyard. Before the Society's dinner that evening, Commander V.E.B. Nicholson entertained at the "Powder Magazine". After a day's sail to Nevis on June 12, the "fleet"

went on to St. Kitts on June 13, to be greeted by D. L. Matheson, tour chairman for the Island, and his committee. Members spent a delightful and engrossing day: a walking tour of Basseterre; a tour in private cars to the site of de Poincy's Chateau at Fountain; a brief stop at Old Road, the site of the first English settlement in 1623; and an afternoon at the fortifications on Brimstone Hill, aptly called "the Gibraltar of the West Indies", where the first guns were placed in 1690. On the Hill, the group was welcomed by Sir Geoffrey Boon, President of the Society for the Restoration of Brimstone Hill, and were feted with a magnificent luncheon, served under canopies set up on the plateau just below the citadel.

On the fourteenth of June, the party landed on St. Croix, and were welcomed by Mr. Leroy Arnold, the Governor's representative, at a reception at Government House. The following day, Frederik Gjessing and Hubert Hilder (co-chairman with Walter Lewisohn for the Island) led a bus tour of private houses, including Sion Hill (1766) with its great house and well-preserved sugar mill ruins; Estate Grange (1761); Estate Butler Bay (18th century); and a walking tour to view the 18th and 19th-century Danish architecture in Frederiksted. As a finale, the St. Croix Landmarks Society was host to the SAH, with a reception and tour of Estate Whim and its Great House, the old Danish sugar plantation currently being restored by the Landmarks Society. Before their departure from St. Croix for Caneel Bay, St. John, on June 15, participants took a walking tour of Christiansted. The arrival at Caneel Bay was early enough for members to enjoy a swim in the crystal-clear waters of the Bay. In the evening, Noble Samuel and Edward Rothfuss, of the Virgin Islands National Park, took the group on a tour of the sugar mill ruins on St. John. On the 17th, the six yachts were moored at King's Wharf in Charlotte Amalie, and the afternoon was devoted to a bus tour of St. Thomas, including Nisky, Mafoi and Loisenhøj, followed by a reception at Government House, where SAH members were greeted by Governor and Mrs. Ralph M. Paiewonsky. A panel discussion on Virgin Islands architecture, and its preservation, was held at the College of the Virgin Islands in the evening. The following day the group toured the downtown area of Charlotte Amalie. A pleasant interlude was the buffet luncheon on the Wharf given by the St. Thomas Historical Trust.

On June 19, the group flew to San Juan, Puerto Rico, exchanging Danish architecture for Spanish, for another five days of architectural exploration. At the SAH dinner at the El Convento Hotel that evening President George B. Tatum welcomed members of the Puerto Rico tour committee present; Sr. Guillermo Silva, President of the Board of Directors of the Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña, and Director Luis Roderiguez-Morales of the Archivos General, spoke briefly, and a talk on Puerto Rican architecture was given by Sr. Julio Marrero-Núñez, Superintendent, San Juan National Historic Site. Dr. Ricardo Alegría, chairman of the tour for Puerto Rico and Executive Director of the Instituto de Cultura Puertorriquena, was in Spain, and regrettably could not return in time to join the tour. On June 20, the day was devoted to touring Old San Juan—including Calle Cristo, Iglesia de San Jose (ca 1523), Palacio del Arzobispado, and the Puerta de San Juan—led by Frederik Gjessing with the assistance of Architect José Firpi, stopping at Casa del Callejón, where SAH members were entertained at luncheon by the Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña, and had an opportunity to visit the Museum. A late-afternoon reception was given by the Mayoress of San Juan, the Honorable Felisa Rincón de Gautier, who graciously presented scrolls giving the history and bearing the coat of arms of the Capital of Puerto Rico to President Tatum and several other members of the group. The tour of Old San Juan continued the next day with visits to the fortifications of El Morro (1539 on) and San Cristóbal (1634 on) and the Military and Naval Museum at San Jerónimo.



The beginning. . . English Harbour, Antigua, W.I.

(Photo: Priscilla Crane)

The tour ended at the Governor's palace, Fortaleza. On the third day in Puerto Rico, participants took a bus tour to Ponce, enjoying a walking tour of the historic downtown area, an explanation of the plan for renewal of this area by architect Thomas Marvel, and were welcomed to El Museo de Arte de Ponce by Director Rene Taylor, for a tour of the new building by Edward Durell Stone. Nineteenth-century architecture and modern architecture in Santurce and Hato Rey was on the itinerary for the final day under the guidance of Sr. Carl Brunner, President of the Instituto de Arquitectos de Puerto Rico, and Sr. Carlos Sanz, President of the Puerto Rico Chapter, AIA, whose organizations were hosts to SAH at a luncheon at the Bankers Club. During the afternoon, Dean Jesus Amaral welcomed the tour members to the University of Puerto Rico, where they had an opportunity to see and enjoy the hospitality of the new School of Architecture.

In this space it has been possible to give only an indication of the sites seen by the participants during the tour. However, Mr. Gjessing is preparing a guide on the Island architecture, and SAH member F. Blair Reeves' guide to Puerto Rican Architecture will also be available soon. It has been possible here to mention only a few of the people who gave unstintingly of their professional knowledge and hospitality in such a friendly manner. It gave all who participated an opportunity to gain a broader understanding of present-day life in the Caribbean.



The end . . . Puerto Rico (group shown at El Morro)

(Photo: John W. Parker)

COURSES AND GRANTS

ACLS-NEH Travel Grants. The National Endowment for the Humanities has renewed for a second year its grant to the American Council of Learned Societies to assist in defraying the expenses of scholars participating in international meetings abroad. Priority is given to scholars who are required to attend meetings in order to exercise some policy-making function. Write Executive Secretary, SAH, 1700 Walnut Street, Room 716, Philadelphia, Pa. 19103.

University of Delaware. The University of Delaware has announced the establishment of a Ph.D. Program in Art History, effective 1967. While the Department will maintain traditionally close ties with the Winterthur Program, which grants the M.A. in Early American Culture, it will also offer curricula leading to the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Art History. Although the Department offers courses in history of art from ancient to modern times, particular emphasis on the graduate level is placed on American and European art from the Renaissance to the present, art and architectural theory, and the history of landscape gardening. Information about fellowships and admission may be obtained from William I. Homer, Chairman, Department of Art History, University of Delaware, Newark, Del. 19711.

University of York. The University's Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies, Kings Manor, York, England will again have a summer course on historical architecture, July 27-August 3, 1968. Details will be released later, and will be sent by the Institute on request.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Back Bay. Boston has established a five-man Architectural Commission under a state law to promote and protect the architectural heritage of the 19th century Back Bay district. This marks the culmination of long efforts on the part of architectural historians and preservationists to protect the remarkable Victorian area.

Restored. The U.S. Galveston, Texas, Courthouse and Post Office, completed just before the Civil War, has been restored by the U.S. General Services Administration, and was dedicated on June 17. (See JSAH, March 1966)

To be demolished. The noble 1906 Singer Building in New York designed by Ernest Flagg is about to be destroyed to make way for new offices. Forty-seven stories high, it was once the world's tallest building.

Preserved. A campaign for funds needed to complete restoration and provide maintenance for the 230-year-old Van Alen House in Kinderhook, N.Y., has been undertaken by the Columbia County Historical Society. Considered to be one of the finest examples of early Dutch architecture existing in the United States today, the southern portion of the house built in 1736 has gabled ends with handmade bricks set in a mice-tooth pattern, stone slaps, Dutch doors, 42-pane windows, and handhewn timbers. A hallway and a room matching the rest of the house were added to the north end about 12 years later. It was given, together with 33 acres of land and funds to start restoration, to the Historical Society by William L. Van Alen of Philadelphia.

President's Advisory Council. The advisory Council on Historic Preservation held its organizational meeting on July 20-21 at the Department of the Interior, Washington. Dr. S. K. Stevens, Chairman, extended greetings on behalf of President Johnson and read his message to the Council: "As the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation meets to begin its work, I am delighted to extend to the members my greetings and best wishes. You have a special trust as guardians of our Nation's memory. Citizens across the country will look to you for leadership in protecting landmarks which reflect our country's history - and our peoples spirit. I have high hopes for the Council. I look forward to receiving reports of your program and your rec-

ommendation on how we can enrich our future by paying proper reverence to our past."

After hearing statements on the purposes and function of the Council, the meeting was recessed. Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson welcomed the Council to the White House and expressed her interest in the work of the Council and her confidence that the future would benefit from its efforts. The Council is administered by the Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation of the National Park Service; Robert R. Garvey is Executive Secretary.

HONORS TO RICHARD KRAUTHEIMER

At a party in honor of his 70th birthday, given at the New York University Institute of Fine Arts by his colleagues and former students, Professor Krautheimer received the Presidential Citation of the University, among tributes from many institutions and former pupils. Dr. Krautheimer has been at the Institute of Fine Arts since 1938, and last year was named the first Jayne Wrightsman Professor of Fine Arts. Dr. Krautheimer is a prolific writer, and the party came at an auspicious moment in his writing career, as the last of three volumes on the early Christian basilicas in Rome was just going to press. The work was begun in 1934, shortly after Dr. Krautheimer left his native Germany. Dr. John Coolidge, director of Harvard's Fogg Art Museum and a former student of Dr. Krautheimer's, presented a fine tribute: the original typescripts of essays written by more than 60 colleagues and former students in Dr. Krautheimer's honor, which will appear in various publications.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS - SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING

This supplements the nationwide report published in the *Newsletter* for June, 1967. For further information contact Associate Editor, Marian Card Donnelly.

The Past in Our Future
Picturesque Sensibility in Theories of City Design
Index of Architectural Monuments
Architecture of Quebec
Historic Preservation in the United States, 1926-1947
Bernard Maybeck - Design of Principia College, 1923-37
Guidebook to the Village of Elshah
Prairie School, American Midwest, 1900-1916
Cooperstown, N.Y., 1850-1870
Chicago Tribune Competition of 1922
United Church, New Haven, Conn.
James H. Dakin's New York Years
Alexander J. Davis
Maximilian Godefroy
Non-palatial Building Construction at Mycenae
Studies in Ostian Architecture
Romanesque Sculpture of the Cathedral of
Santiago de Compstela
Urban Studies of some Fortified Cities of Lombardy
History of the Architectural Model in Europe
Beginnings of High Victorian Architecture in
England 1849-1858
English Architectural Literature 1563 to end 18th C.
Charles Bridgeman and the English Landscape Garden
James and Decimus Burton
Eugène Henard and Paris City Planning 1900-1941
Antonin Nechodoma
George Steuart
B. H. Latrobe, the Early Years