



NEWSLETTER

THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

APRIL 1978 VOL. XXII NO. 2 PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS
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SAH NOTICES

1979 Annual Meeting, Savannah—April 4-8. David Gebhard, University of California, Santa Barbara, will be general chairman of the meeting. Leopold Adler II and Dean Owens will be honorary local chairmen, and Holly Symmes Montford and Beth Latimore Reiter will act as local chairmen.

Sessions are being organized on the following topics: *General Session: Europe: Medieval through the 17th Century* (chairman to be announced); *History and Purpose in the Modern Movement*, chaired by Christian F. Otto (College of Architecture, Art, and Planning, Sibley Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. 14853); *America, 1750-1810*, chaired by Marian C. Donnelly of the University of Oregon (2175 Olive Street, Eugene, Oregon 97405); *The Historian as Historical Writer and Critic* (chairman to be announced); *Borrowing, Historicism and Historic Preservation, 1931-1942*, chaired by Robert A. M. Stern of Columbia University (Stern and Hagmann, 200 W. 72nd St., New York, N.Y. 10023); *Southeastern United States, 1810-1860*, chaired by George J. Andreve of the Maryland Historical Trust (105 Roselawn Road, Annapolis, Md. 21403); *Landscape Architecture* (chairman to be announced); *The Decorative Arts*, chaired by Jessie J. Poesch (Art Department, Newcomb College, Tulane University, New Orleans, La. 70118); and an evening session on *Urban Planning*, chaired by Norma Evenson (Department of Architecture, University of California, Berkeley, Ca. 94720).

Call for Papers: Persons wishing to submit papers for the Savannah meeting are urged to do so immediately, and proposals for papers should be sent directly to the session chairmen, as listed above. (If the chairman of a session is yet to be determined, paper proposals may be sent to the SAH central office, for forwarding.)

In addition to the sessions there will be several tours: On Friday afternoon, April 6, two concurrent ones: "Savannah Preservation Workshop on Wheels" and "Savannah Work of John Norris, Architect"; on Saturday afternoon, April 7, there will be a "Victorian Tour (Work of Preston and Eichberg)"; on Sunday morning, April 8, two tours: "Ardley Park/Granger Tract" and "Factors Walk." There will also be an all-day tour on Sunday, April 8, of Beaufort, South Carolina and vicinity.

Important Note. SAH members or other interested persons who wish to participate in any of the tours or receptions held in conjunction with the Savannah meeting must preregister for the meeting (by March 15, 1979). The preliminary program (with hotel reservation cards) will be distributed by January 3, 1979. Persons who wish to attend only the sessions and annual luncheon/business meeting may register at the DeSoto Hilton at the time of the meeting.

1980 Annual Meeting—Madison, Wisconsin (April 23-27). David Gebhard, University of California, Santa Barbara, will be general chairman of the meeting. University of Wisconsin members Eric S. McCreedy, Elvehjem Art Center, and Narciso Menocal, Department of Art History, will be local chairmen.

1978 Annual Tour—Portland, Maine (and Vicinity), August 16-20. Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr., Director of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, will serve as chairman. The tour will include visits to Wiscasset, Brunswick, Bath, Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, and Cape Arundel. The tour announcement will be mailed to reach the membership by April 15.

1978 Foreign Tour—Greece (and Turkey). Paul M. Mylonas, National Academy of Fine Arts in Athens, will act as chairman on two tours, as follows: 1) **May 26-June 17** (filled, with waiting list); 2) **September 22-October 14.**

1979 Foreign Tour—Spain, May 24-June 16. John D. Hoag, University of Colorado at Boulder, will be chairman of the tour. Announcements for the tour will reach the SAH membership immediately after September 4 (Labor Day).

SAH Placement Service Bulletin, No. 2, April 1978 is enclosed with this issue of the *Newsletter*. The next *Bulletin* will appear with the October 1978 issue. **Deadline:** position-available and member-applicant listings must reach the SAH office (address above) no later than September 10, 1978.

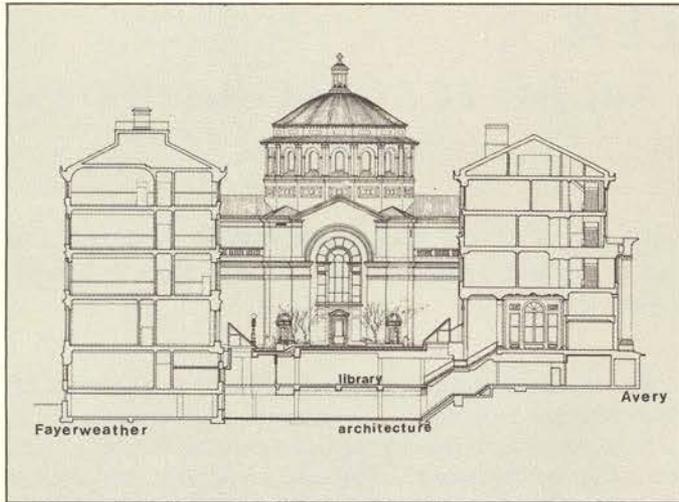
New Chapters. Petitions for two new chapters have been approved by the SAH Board of Directors: Michigan and Tucson.

SAH DUES. Members are reminded that dues are on a calendar-year basis. The third and final billing for 1978 went to the membership early in March; dues payments should be made promptly to ensure the uninterrupted receipt of SAH publications and other membership mailings.

SAH FUND RAISING

An announcement of the Society's Challenge Grant application to the National Endowment for the Humanities was made in the February 1978 *Newsletter*. Many corporations maintain foundations which match funds given by their employees to "cultural organizations," under which category SAH qualifies. Members of the Society who are employed by such corporations are urged to investigate the possibility of assisting SAH through an employee gift-matching program.

BROOKLYN BRIDGE



Avery Library Addition

Drawing: Alexander Kouzmanoff, Architect

EVERY LIBRARY

A new, expanded home for the Avery Library was dedicated on November 21, 1977. At the ceremonies, the first Dean's Medal was awarded to Temple Hoybe Buell, architect and builder who conceived the country's first open-mall shopping plaza (in Cherry Creek, Colorado) and who has been a benefactor of Columbia University.

The occasion was also marked by special exhibitions, and by tours of the new underground facility, designed by Alexander Kouzmanoff, former chairman of Columbia's architecture division, working with Avery Librarian Adolf Placzek and campus architect Dean Telfer.

Of special interest to SAH members is the new Henry-Russell Hitchcock Archive Room; Professor Hitchcock's collection of American architecture books, considered among the most complete in the world, is now part of the Avery library.

In a speech at the dedication, Librarian Placzek reviewed the growth of the library: "We have, as a library, been in business continuously since 1890. We have grown from the approximately 2,000 volumes of Henry Ogden Avery which the founding father Samuel Putnam Avery, Sr. gave to Columbia College in that year to the approximately 33,000 volumes when the great Talbot Hamlin became Avery Librarian in 1933. When in 1960 I had the honor to follow my eminent predecessor James Grote Van Derpool as Avery Librarian, the count stood at 61,000. We now count somewhere over 115,000 volumes. To this are now added the 60,000 volumes of the Fine Arts Library with which we are re-united in the new quarters with a new Librarian, Carolyn Adams. These may not seem high figures for, let us say, a Law Library, but for an Architecture Library they are staggering, almost unique in the world. But numbers alone do not tell the story. It is the combination of all the classics of architecture, from 1485 on to the newest, diversified and forward-looking material, which makes the library so unique. I wish I had time to brag about our architectural drawings, over 10,000 of them, all the way from Serlio to Sullivan, and on to Philip Johnson. A few words about the history of our *physical* surroundings. We started in a small single room on the 49th Street campus, moved to a larger room in the newly built Low Memorial Library, and in 1912 to the new Avery Hall. We have now what we hope will be our permanent home."

Avery is considered the foremost architectural library today.

The "Brooklyn Bridge" was the subject of a recent two-day symposium at Skidmore College in Saratoga, New York. Over two hundred bridge buffs followed the signs which read "Saratoga" and "Brooklyn Bridge"—a strange, head-turning juxtaposition of places—to hear Lewis Mumford and David McCullough (SAH), on the afternoon of September 30. Mumford spoke of his own interesting experiences and recollections of the bridge during his earlier years. McCullough, who wrote "The Great Bridge" presented a well illustrated slide talk entitled "The Roeblings and the Heroic Mode".

"An Architect's Perspective of the Bridge" by Patrick Quinn (SAH), Dean of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute School of Architecture in Troy, New York, opened the evening session and was followed by "Drawings of the Great Bridge". During the latter presentation, Gail Guillet and Barbara Millstein of the Brooklyn Museum showed some slides of the many original drawings that were discovered in the early seventies and are the property of the City of New York. The two speakers have devoted much of their time to the cleaning and cataloguing of the drawings in preparation for a touring exhibit of Brooklyn Bridge memorabilia prior to the Centennial celebration in 1983. The carefully rendered, numbered and signed drawings of the huge wooden caissons, which required a drawing for every course, as well as for many individual components, were prepared by Washington Roebling or his assistants. These drawings provide a complete record of the building of the bridge; no other great engineering accomplishment of the past is as well documented. Lewis Mumford observed at the time of their discovery that the event was comparable in significance to the finding of Louis Sullivan's papers.

The October 1 morning session featured Blair Birdsall, engineer, bridge builder, and consultant on "The Concept of the Bridge" and Dr. Alan Trachtenberg of Yale University, who spoke on the "Bridge as Symbol", a scholarly investigation into the impact of the bridge on literature and painting. Birdsall, who worked with the Roebling Company for thirty-one years, possessed first-hand technical knowledge of bridge building and provided a unique opportunity for spectators to learn how and why certain specific construction practices were followed.

Professor Tom Lewis of the Skidmore College English Department conceived of the "Brooklyn Bridge" seminar, made the arrangements and participated in the sessions. His initial interest in the bridge resulted from his study of Hart Crane who wrote the American epic poem, "The Bridge". The seminar was sponsored by grants from the Hudson-Mohawk Association of Colleges and Universities and the New York Council for the Humanities.

For those who attended this excellent seminar, the Brooklyn Bridge seemed very real in Saratoga—strange juxtaposition notwithstanding.

Contributed by Marjorie Semerad

Its holdings include also 10,000 rare books.

Costs of the Avery expansion project were largely met by an endowment gift made 64 years ago by Samuel Putnam Avery, Jr., who gave the University \$250,000 in 1913 and asked that the fund be allowed to grow until it reached sufficient size to finance a building. The fund grew to more than \$4 million.

TEACHING AMERICAN URBAN HISTORY

Teaching American urban history is challenging because the field is relatively new and complex. The selection of lecture topics and bibliography is dependent upon the instructor's choice of emphasis and the needs of the students. In addition, shaping a course must be based on an understanding of the evolution of two strains of urban history.

As America's population swung from one quarter to three quarters urban in the hundred years between 1870 and 1970, various social scientists used their disciplines to explain urbanism as a major force in national culture, historians among the earliest. Some studied the sociocultural results of metropolitan development while others investigated the physical manifestations of city growth. Over time, these approaches solidified into separate fields: urban history and city planning history. Each has its own methodology. Each covers similar issues, yet each emphasizes them differently.

The source of the socio-cultural strain was in the work of Arthur M. Schlesinger, Sr., Harvard professor and author of *The Rise of the City, 1878-1898*.¹ Publishing the book in 1933, he demonstrated the effects of urban experiences upon American political, social and economic institutions and provided an interpretative counterweight to Frederick Jackson Turner's "frontier theory" which had dominated historical thought until that time. As writer and teacher, Schlesinger inspired several generations of followers who produced a wide and varied body of literature: urban biographies such as Bayrd Still's *Milwaukee: The History of a City*; comparative studies such as Richard C. Wade's *The Urban Frontier: The Rise of Western Cities*; socio-institutional works such as Oscar Handlin's *Boston's Immigrants*; and philosophical endeavors such as Morton and Lucia White's *The Intellectual and the City*.² They, and the others who joined them, focused on specific issues: class structure, racial and ethnic group behavior, residential mobility and institutional development. Their primary question was: how has urban life affected human behavior? They based their studies on newspapers, diaries and other contemporary documents supplemented by statistics. When they included descriptions of the physical form of cities, they did so to add dimension to their work, but such descriptions were not central to their interpretations.

Others began to ask another question: how has human behavior affected city form? Sam Bass Warner in *Streetcar Suburbs* and Stanley Buder in *Pullman* investigated the interrelationship of social, political and economic decisions as sources of the growth of areas on the outskirts of Boston and Chicago.³ More recently, others have used computer methods to digest statistical evidence about societal organization. The massive Philadelphia Social History Project, basically concerned with ethnic behavior in the 19th century, has yielded much information about neighborhood settlement patterns.⁴ In many ways, these later works provide a conceptual bridge between the urban and city planning historians.

While urban history flourished, city planning history evolved more slowly. One reason for this lagging behind is its role as a subsidiary, non-required course in most architectural and planning curricula which tend to have a professional, contemporary outlook. Nonetheless, American city planning history began as a separate field in the nineteen forties when the *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* began to publish special studies. By 1945, Christopher Tunnard, Yale professor and later co-author of the important *American Skyline*, published a comprehensive view, "American Planning Tradition" in the *Ar-*

chitectural Review. In this article and others, he created a standard method of looking at cities and gauging the extent of man's "imprint" upon them. He was followed by John Reys whose *Making of Urban America* documented the physical plans of urban growth and Mel Scott whose *American City Planning Since 1890* traced the development of the profession.⁵ These studies were concerned with some or all aspects of four issues: the settlement patterns of a nation or region; urban physical plans and their transferal; the fabric or "build" of the city; and the location and sources of metropolitan institutions. Their basic question was: to what extent has human behavior included conscious efforts to affect urban form? Planning historians drew their information and methods from many areas: art and architectural history, archaeology, geography and urban history. Their descriptions of the physical structure of cities were central to their analyses demonstrating the sources of specific urban forms.

The creation of an urban history course must take all these considerations into account. The two currents provide enough material for many courses: American Urban History, History of American City Planning, or History of American Urban Form (a blend of the two previous, documenting the physical growth of cities paralleled by the development of urban socio-cultural institutions).

For such courses there is literature enough for the urban history but less for the city planning. The lack of the latter has come about in part because most bibliography shows a bias toward older civilizations, not American. This is partly because of the bias, intrinsic to the field, which seeks to trace ever-earlier roots of plans, and partly because of the personal preferences of many eminent American scholars dealing with the material.⁶

Curriculum development highlighting city planning history is dependent on new research. Although there have been some outlets for this work, there has been no national sustaining organization to support scholarly exchange.⁷

Contributed by Eugenie Birch

Footnotes

¹Arthur M. Schlesinger, Sr. *The Rise of the City 1878-1898* New York, MacMillan, 1933.

²Bayrd Still, *Milwaukee, The History of a City*, Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1948; Richard C. Wade, *The Urban Frontier: The Rise of Western Cities, 1790-1830*, Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1959; Oscar Handlin, *Boston's Immigrants, 1790-1865: A Study in Acculturation*, Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1941; Morton and Lucia White, *The Intellectual and the City: From Thomas Jefferson to Frank Lloyd Wright*, Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1962.

³Sam Bass Warner, *Streetcar Suburbs: The Process of Growth in Boston 1870-1900*, Cambridge: Harvard and MIT Press, 1962; Stanley Buder, *Pullman, An Experiment in Industrial Order and Community Planning, 1880-1930*, New York: Oxford, 1967.

⁴Theodore Hershberg, "Philadelphia Social History Project 'Documents', An Introduction to Analytic Goals, Data and Methods," University of Pennsylvania, October, 1974.

⁵Christopher Tunnard, "American Planning Tradition" *Architectural Review* v. 98, Aug. 1945, Nov. 1945; Tunnard, "The City and Its Interpreters," *Journal of the American Institute of Planners*, XXVII:4, Nov. 1961, Tunnard "The Customary and the Characteristic: A Note on the Pursuit of City Planning History" in *The Historian and the City* (ed. Oscar Handlin) Cambridge, MIT Press; John W. Reys, *The Making of Urban America: A History of City Planning in the United States*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1965; Mel Scott, *American City Planning Since 1890*, Berkeley: University of California Press, 1969.

⁶The focus of this short article has been on curriculum development referring to American urban and city planning history. This narrow definition excludes recognition of many Americans who have made important contributions to broader histories such as George and Christiane Collins and Barbara Miller Lane.

⁷The journals of the Society of Architectural Historians, American Institute of Planners, American Institute of Architects and the American Historical Association, the *Journal of Urban History* and *Urbanism Past and Present*—have all dedicated space. The Columbia University Seminar on the History of the City and the newly formed Urban History group of the SAH provide opportunities for exchange.

CHAPTERS

Southern California. In January, Esther McCoy led a tour of Case Study Houses; her book on this topic has been re-issued.

New Jersey. In February, Carol Krinsky spoke on Radio City Music Hall and Rockefeller Center; her book on the latter appears in April.

Decorative Arts. Fall 1977 issue of the newsletter of this chapter concerned itself mainly with exhibitions; the next issue will include an article on *Japonisme* by Kenneth Trapp, and several reviews of publications. For membership, write to Miss Lynn Springer, St. Louis Art Museum, Forest Park, St. Louis, Missouri 63110.

Latrobe. Meeting with the Victorian Society in January, this chapter heard Pamela Scott on "Federal Architecture of the Victorian Era as seen through 19th Century Architectural Drawings," and saw a film, "Conquering the Paper Mountain" about the origins of the National Archives (made in 1935, by John Russell Pope).

Texas. Elected new officers at a business meeting held in November; serves as host chapter for the National annual meeting in San Antonio; heard Arthur Veltman Jr., on "Rehabilitation and Development of Downtown Property."

Missouri Valley. *Kansas City, A Place in Time*, guidebook recently published, was the topic of Jane Flynn, administrator of the Landmarks Commission, at the December meeting of this chapter.

Chicago. Show and Tell in December; F.L.W.'s integration of nature and geometry, as analyzed by Donald G. Kalec, in January; Sarah Harkness on "The Fate of Women Architects in a Man's Profession," in February; material on Russian Architecture from a recent tour by Barbara Wriston in March, were the winter activities of this chapter.

New York. In December, Helen Searing spoke on "The Amsterdam School in the Post-Modern Era."

OFFICERS OF SAH CHAPTERS

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Wesley Shank (Treas.)

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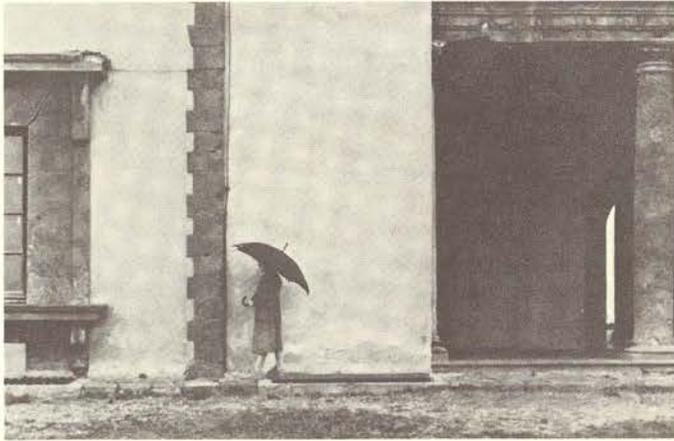
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MEMBERS

Currently an NEH postdoctoral research fellow at Winterthur, JOHN R. ZUKOWSKY joins the Art Institute of Chicago in July as architectural archivist. HARRY WEESE served on a jury that selected honor awards winners for the Connecticut Society of Architects; one winner was RICHARD BERGMANN's restoration of an 1836 Greek Revival house as his office. "Beyond the Modern Movement," a panel arranged by student editors of the *Harvard Architectural Review*, included STAN ANDERSON, JOHN HEDJUK, DONLYN LYNDON, and ROBERT



Photographs by Alice Atkinson Lyndon, fruits of her recent study trip to Italy and Switzerland, were recently exhibited at MIT's Hayden Gallery.

STERN. GERALD McCUE spoke in the fall lecture series at Harvard, and has won a first award from the Red Cedar Shingle & Handsplit Shake Bureau/AIA Architectural Awards, for his Oakes College, University of California at Santa Cruz. A grant from the Vogelstein Foundation will enable RICHARD LONGSTRETH to travel to England to study Ernest Coxhead. MARCUS WHIFFEN has been named Distinguished Professor in the College of Architecture at Arizona State University. The Tennessee Arts Commission has presented a Certificate of Merit to CHARLES A. HOWELL III for his historic preservation efforts. Representing the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, HYMAN MYERS will serve three years on the board of advisors of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. News has been received of the deaths of JOHN ALBURY BRYAN, OTHO T. BEALL, MRS. JOHN M. BULLARD, and MARGARET LLOYD-BUTLER. On leave from Louisiana State, JOHN H. STUBBS heads up an archeological site survey in Quesir, Egypt, this spring. A correction: CHARLES MOORE may be the first American to receive a Ph.D. in architecture from Princeton; ELLEN MORRIS remains the first woman to do so. ROD FREEBAIRN-SMITH is visiting professor of environmental design at MIT this spring. The Frank Lloyd Wright association begins publication of a newsletter; editor is THOMAS A. HEINZ; the board of correspondents includes H. ALLEN BROOKS, LEONARD K. EATON, DAVID GEBHARD, FREDERICK GUTHEIM, DAVID A. HANKS, H. R. HITCHCOCK, DONALD G. KALEC, EDGAR KAUFMANN, JOHN D. RANDALL, KATHRYN SMITH, BRIAN A. SPENCER, PAUL E. SPRAGUE; previews of new books will include *F.L.W. in Wisconsin* by BRIAN SPENCER; write to P.O. Box 2100, Oak Park, Ill. 60303. Winners of NEH research fellowships are George Kubler, WILLIAM H. JORDY, and JANE B. DAVIES. The Producers Council has given an award of merit to BURTCH W. BEALL, JR. WILLIAM SEALE and JOHN MAASS were among the speakers at the Victorian Society Symposium on 19th Century Photography. At a memorial service for Agnes Rindge Clafin, speakers were H. R. HITCHCOCK, RICHARD KRAUTHEIMER, and Barbara K. Debs. As architectural historian in the mayor's office in Providence, Rhode Island, LEE JON JUSKALIAN has been appointed to the downtown design committee of the local preservation society, serves on the Blackstone Canal Urban Park Committee, and coordinates several programs such as historic buildings. TOM HINES has received an NEH fellowship to complete a book on Richard Neutra.

RECORDS

Now that California has a **Historical Records Advisory Board**, there are 46 states with boards to evaluate historical records, grant proposals and coordinate records programs activities. Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands also have boards. Only Maine and Wyoming have chosen not to nominate Advisory Boards in accordance with the guidelines of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. This GSA division supports projects for the preservation and use of historical records. Write: NHPRC, Records Programs, National Archives, Washington D.C. 20408 or phone (202) 724-1616.

The **Committee for the Preservation of Architectural Records** has completed a state-wide survey to find out where the architectural records of New York are located, to alert institutions to the importance and value of these records; to serve as a prototype for other groups in other states which might want to prepare local or statewide research guides similar to ours. As project director Catha Rambush writes, "First, we amassed a mailing list of historical societies, local and college libraries, museums, and other similar institutions. In addition to personal knowledge, lists were obtained from:

- American Association for State and Local History Directory*, 1975
- Bibliography of Research Projects Reports; Checklist of Historical Records Survey Publication*, 1943. (WPA project, 1943)
- A Guide to Archives and Manuscripts in the U.S.* (compiled for the National Historical Publications Commission, Philip M. Hamer, Ed.)
- Historical Societies and Other Historical Agencies in New York State* (New York State Educational Department)
- National Museums Directory*
- National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections* (Library of Congress)
- Regional Historical Agencies Guide* (compiled by the Regional Conference of Historical Agencies; Liverpool N.Y.)

"When the duplicate names were eliminated from the lists, there remained about 600 institutions to be contacted. State Councils on the Arts are good sources of institutional lists, and incorporated municipalities may, as New York State has, have offices of municipal "historian" which can provide additional names to contact.

"Next, a photo-offset letter was personally addressed, signed and sent to a specific individual at each institution. The envelope contained a covering letter which defined the project and described what we meant by architectural records—drawings, renderings, blueprints, photographs, personal and/or business records, design or pattern books. Attached to our letter was a simple questionnaire, requesting the institution's name, name of the respondent, address, telephone, admission policy, hours, general outline of collection, major holdings and duplicating processes available. In addition, our envelope contained the Library of Congress Preservation Pamphlet #1, entitled "Selected References in the Literature of Conservation." Thus, even if the institution did not have records of interest to the Committee, we would have performed a useful and educative function and would not have wasted our postage. Being thrifty people, we did not enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for the return of the questionnaire. Only one person chastised us for this.

"No return deadline date was stated in the letter. We had an

initial reply of 18%. Because some of these replies contained such interesting information, we decided to do a follow-up mailing to elicit other replies. A facsimile handwritten note on conspicuous lime-green paper was sent to those who had not replied. Headed with a rhetorical "REMEMBER?", this note stated a deadline date. Our final tally shows a return of 261 questionnaires, a 43% return.

"Our expenses for this survey totaled \$493.08 (\$346.31 for supplies, printing and labor, and \$146.77 for postage). Funding for this project was provided by the New York State Council on the Arts and the Architectural League of New York. The Committee is now funded solely by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

"We have classified the data received in this survey by architect's name, name of institution, geographic location (often a small historical society's name does not include its geographic location), and type of record. A grant from the New York State Council on the Arts enables us to offer typescript copies of this information. Please send a stamped (\$.26) self-addressed envelope, 9½" × 12½", to the Committee offices, 15 Gramercy Park South, New York, New York 10003; telephone: (212) 533-0711.

"Some examples of the types of records we located are:

I. HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

Broome County Historical Society

Roberson Center
30 Front Street
Binghamton, NY 13905

Alonzo Roberson House (1904-1910)

entire set of blueprints for house designed by C. Edward Vosbury
watercolor drawing for lighting fixtures specified by Cassidy & Co. of New York City.
room schematics for furniture arrangement by interior design firm of Hess & Co.
almost complete correspondence relating to the design, decoration and furnishing of house

Columbia County Historical Society

Kinderhook, New York 12106

-1797 edition of Asher Benjamin's *Country Builder*
-1850-1910 photos of county institutional schools
-1875 specifications for a domestic dwelling
-1940 box of photographs from real estate dealer

-April 15, 1851 letter from Richard Upjohn to Smith Van Buren regarding plans for the local Episcopal church, St. Paul's.

DeWitt Historical Society of Tompkins County, Inc.

The Clinton House, 118 N. Cayuga Street, Ithaca, NY 14850

-Original document between owners and builders of Clinton House built as a hotel in 1831, including specific costs and materials used for building.
-City directories
-Sanborn insurance maps 1904 and 1910 for city of Ithaca
-birdseye view of Ithaca 1873 and 1882 with border showing structures in Tompkins County
-1867 masonry specification sheets for the Boardman House, Ithaca
-1894 specifications for the "Old Court House" made by William Henry Miller (1848-1922) for renovation of the "Old Court House."
-1850-1875 diaries of Rev. Daniel Elmore with specific reference to the construction of the Baptist Church (b. 1853-54) in Trumansburg and the Trumansburg Academy (b. 1851)
-Minute books for Tompkins County schools, including Lansing, Forest Home, Danby, Willow Glen-Dryden, Ithaca, Caroline, Ulysses, Jacksonville. These contain details regarding construction of schools.
-1860-present stereopticon views, photos, postcards organized by subject.
-1925 catalog of Driscoll Co. illustrated with examples of houses they built

Herkimer County Historical Society

400 North Main Street, Herkimer, NY 13350

-Late 18th or early 19th century 6-page, 6" × 7" book of plans and specifications and evaluation for house to be built at Little Falls for William Alexander by

Philip Hooker, Albany architect

-1834 floor plan of Herkimer County Jail by architect Francis E. Spinner
-1884 four floor plans of Victorian dwelling in which the Society is housed
-700 photographs taken c. 1900 of buildings and classes at Fairfield Academy, an early medical college operating from 1803-1902
-Photos c. 1900 and postcards of buildings and business districts in Herkimer County

Schenectady County Historical Society

32 Washington Avenue
Schenectady, NY 12305

-1763 Samuel Fuller's account book in his own hand. Part I-work on Captain Clark house for Sir William Johnson. Part II-work done at Johnson Hall.

II. LIBRARIES

Historical Museum of the D. R. Barker Library

Fredonia, NY 14063

-1854 Chautauqua County map with border showing local structures
-1867, 1881 Chautauqua County atlases
-c. 1845 wood engravings of local structures by Melancthon Pettit, local craftsman
-1862 two oil paintings of Fredonia Commons by local artist, Julia Parker Wilcox Clark
-c. 1890 photographs of exteriors and interiors of local houses and shops
-William Pain, *The Practical Builder; or Workman's General Assistant*, 4th edition, London, 1789
-William Pain, *The Carpenter's and Joiner's Repository*, London, 1792 These two pattern books were owned by local architects Thomas Jones and his son, John Jones (d. 1852).

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library

Rare Book Room
Lafayette Square, Buffalo, NY 14203

-watercolors, drawings, design books, student and business papers of local architect George Cary, 1859-1915.
-George Nathan Newman's 6 volume assemblage (1930s) of graphic records of vanished and vanishing structures in Buffalo

III. MUSEUMS

Fort Plain Museum

Box 324 - Upper Canal Street
Fort Plain, NY 13339

-1861, 1879, c. 1885 birdseye views of Fort Plain
-1899 watercolor by Rufus Grider of Peter Wermuth house built c. 1750, destroyed 1877
-scrapbooks and drawings of Nelson Greene, local artist and historian, including drawings of houses such as the Paris-Bleeker house built 1786.
-photographs: c. 1860 of David Lipe House, built 1848; c. 1900 of unidentified Ft. Plain dwelling; c. 1890 of Clinton Liberal Institute building, built in 1875, destroyed in 1900."

QUERIES

Material on the architectural history of Alaska is sought by Alfred Mongin (SAH), architectural historian with the Department of Natural Resources, 619 Warehouse Dr., Suite 210, Anchorage, Alaska 99501. Specifically, he is looking for details on **Clyde Maclaren** who built the May Mills House in Sitka in 1911-13; he may have practiced in San Francisco. In addition, bibliographic and manuscript materials about present or past sites of **Russian Orthodox churches** are sought for an annotated history of the subject to be published by the Division of Parks, Office of History and Archeology.

Joseph Kuba, Director, Narodni Technicke Museum v Praze, Kostelni 42, 170 78 Praha 7, Czechoslovakia, would like to **exchange professional magazines** of architecture.

The Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands is interested in helping fund surveys of traditional and post-contact **architecture in Micronesia**; they also need trained architects to help with execution and documentation of restoration programs. For further information, write: Micronesian Archeological Survey, Division

of Lands and Surveys, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Nominations are sought for a new edition of the Directory of American Scholars. Acceptance is based on achievement and current activity in scholarly work, publications, and positions of responsibility. Write: P.O. Box 25001, Tempe, Arizona 85282.

Workshop. "Reconstructing the Past," a workshop about using historical records in the collections of the City of New York, was held December 3rd for the Columbia University Seminar of the City and the Institute for Research in History. New York Building Records Collection director Deborah Gardner (SAH), and her associates Dennis McFadden (SAH), and Douglas Brenner introduced the graphic records in this collection, spoke on analysis of written documents, and showed how these resources may be applied to historical research. Persons wanting more information on the collection, or on the special project now underway to make these records available to the public, or help in organizing a similar archive, may write to them at: 23 Park Row, New York, New York 10038. Information includes "A Basic List of Sources for Research on the Built Environment in Manhattan."

The **Preservation League of New York** has issued the following "Preservation and the Tax Reform Act of 1976"; "Property Owner's Guide to the Maintenance and Repair of Stone Buildings"; "Saving Large Estates"; "Guidelines for Establishing a Local Preservation Revolving Fund."

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has established a

lending library, with about 25 examples of each of 5 types of publication: newsletters; brochures; preservation surveys, plans and guidelines; walking tours; and preservation information sheets. For information on borrowing this, write: Division of Planning, Preservation Press, National Trust, 740 Jackson Place N.W., Washington D.C. 20006.

Awards. San Antonio Conservation society has received the highest award for historic preservation, the Louise du Pont **Crowninshield Award** of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, for their preservation and interpretation of works of national significance; the award carries with it a trophy and \$1000 cash prize.

The U.S. **Army Engineers design awards** program winners for 1977 were announced in October. Honor award in architecture went to Lost Creek Powerhouse and Service Building on the Rogue River near Medford, Oregon. Awards of Merit to the Eisenhower Hospital in Fort Gordon, Georgia; Leech Lake Comfort Station in Cass County, Minnesota; Visitor Center, Lewis and Clark Lake, Nebraska; and honorable mentions to Mill Springs Mill, Lake Cumberland, Kentucky; Consolidated Base Personnel Office, Arizona; and Table Rock Resident Office and Visitor Center, Taney County, Missouri. In engineering, Awards of Merit went to the W. G. Huxtable Pumping Plant, Marianna, Arkansas and the Monroe Floodwall, Monroe, Louisiana; honorable mentions to Kaskaskia Lock and Dam on the Kaskaskia River, Illinois, and to the Rirle Dam and Lake, Idaho. Jurors for the architectural awards were John McGinty, President of A.I.A., Frank Hope Jr., and Douglas Carter; for the engineering awards, Leland Walker, President of the A.S.C.E., William Clevenger, President of A.C.E.C., and Eason Cross Jr.

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PRESERVATION

Report of the Committee: All are welcome to attend the Preservation Committee's **meeting in San Antonio**, set for Friday April 7, from 3 to 5 pm. in the Cavalier Room. The agenda is:

1. "The House at Lobster Cove," an early preservation film, shown with a new sound track.
2. A presentation by the South Gulf Chapter of TV clips and other advertising samples of visual material which banks have devised in connection with preservation activities.
3. Report on banking/preservation cases in Kansas City (Erllich).
4. Report on banking/preservation cases in New England (SPNEA).
5. Discussion of problems of preservation education.

Liaison with the **College Art Association Preservation Committee**. The second meeting of this committee was held in New York City in January, just after the statement of purpose for the committee had been accepted by the CAA board of directors. As now constituted, SAH has a permanent representative on the committee of ten; the National Trust and other organizations have a rotating ex-officio membership. The National Trust is represented by James Massey (SAH), and the National Collection of Fine Arts by Bates Lowry (SAH). The operation of this committee in tandem with ours on a number of preservation issues looks promising.

Within the next few months, decisions will be made about the future of **Radio City Music Hall**. The matter of theater preservation is cropping up everywhere—Boston, Providence, Kansas City as well as New York. The League of Historic American Theaters was formed last year, and there is also the group called Historians of American Theater.

Margaret Henderson Floyd, Chairman
SAH Committee on Architectural Preservation

Activities. The city of Poughkeepsie received an award from Friends of Cast-Iron Architecture, at the November rededication ceremony of **Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Fountain Park**. The Award was presented by Margot Gayle (SAH), President of the Friends.

The whole town of **Cape May, New Jersey**, having recovered from the shock of finding itself six years ago on the National Register of Historic Places, thanks to the efforts of Carolyn Pitts (SAH), has now moved up in status and become a National Historic Landmark. The designation celebrates the charm of its exceptional array of Victorian architecture.

The August 1977 *Newsletter* reported there was known to exist only one set of photographs of the stained glass in Richard Upjohn's **St. Mary's, Burlington, New Jersey** (1846-48), destroyed by fire in 1976. After reading this, Arthur Channing Downs, Jr. (SAH), contacted the church's rector about a color slide he had made in 1975 of one of the three original geometric windows then still remaining in the transept. From the Rev. Canon James Greene he learned that only the later pictorial windows had been photographed before the fire. Thereupon Dr. Downs added a color illustration of the geometric window to an article he was about to publish on Victorian stained glass. The window can be seen in the Winter 1977 issue of *Nineteenth Century*, plate IV, page 59.

Buildings. In Providence, Rhode Island, the **Ocean State Theatre** is the object of a concerted preservation drive. The **Rogers Locomotive Erecting Shop** in Paterson, New Jersey, will be converted into a museum with the help of a matching grant from N.E.H.; it will house an exhibit on the history of the city. The only through-**lenticular truss bridge** extant in New Jersey, in Neshanic Mills Historic District, is in danger of being torn down and replaced, because of structural problems. To make a park the **Pan Pacific Auditorium** in Los Angeles may be torn down, in spite of its value as a landmark structure of the Streamline Moderne. **Olana**, home of the 19th century landscape painter Frederic E. Church, located on the Hudson river one mile south of the Rip Van Winkle Bridge, had to be closed in mid-September because the plaster ceilings began falling. These are now being restored, and the house is expected to re-open beginning Memorial Day weekend.

Conferences. The National Trust for Historic Preservation announces the **Co-Sponsored Conference Grant Program**, to assist local sponsors with 1) grants of up to \$1500 for speakers' costs, printing, etc.; 2) the expenses of one official N.T. representative; 3) mailing labels for member organizations in the conference region; 4) 100 copies of *Preservation News* for distribution. Applications should be submitted six months before the conference. Write: Financial Aid Assistant, Advisory Services Division, Office of Preservation Services, National Trust, 740 Jackson Place N.W., Washington D.C. 20006.

At a conference in Vermont, a **Society for Commercial Archeology** was founded. For information, write: Chester H. Lieb, SCA, Room 300, Wheeler House, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont 05401.

School. Established in 1958, the **International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property**, is an international, intergovernmental organization devoted to the study of the preservation and restoration of historic property. Organized under the auspices of UNESCO, the International Centre is an independent body consisting of 58 member nations. Conceived as a research and training center and as a clearinghouse for the exchange of conservation information and specialists among nations, the Centre today has established itself as the foremost international preservation institution. The statutes of the Centre direct it to: (a) collect and circulate information concerned with the scientific and technical problems of cultural conservation, (b) institute and coordinate research, (c) give advice and recommendations, and (d) assist in training research workers and technicians and in raising the standard of restoration work.

Scholarships may be obtained from three sources—the International Centre, UNESCO, and the Italian government. For further information and the necessary forms, inquiries should be addressed to the following: United States Commission for UNESCO, U.S. Department of State, 515 22nd Street, Washington, D.C. 20520; Institute of International Education, 809 United Nations Plaza, New York, New York 10017.

Publications. The Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission has issued two reports: *Woonsocket, Rhode Island*, by David Chase and *The West Broadway Neighborhood, Newport, Rhode Island*, by John F. A. Herzan. About 30% of the reports of this Commission are used as texts in the schools of Rhode Island.

Deadline for news items in *American Preservation* is about two months ahead of date of publication. Write: P.O. Box 2451, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203.