

NEWSLETTER

THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

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SAH NOTICES

1974 Annual Meeting New Orleans — April 3-8

The principal speaker at the annual meeting will be Charles W. Moore, who will address the plenary session on Friday evening, April 5, following the SAH dinner. Mr. Moore is Professor of Architecture at Yale University, where he headed the School of Architecture between 1965 and 1971. He is also partner in the firm of Charles Moore and Associates.

Several exhibitions are planned at the time of the annual meeting: *Gingerbread Age in New Orleans*, Gallier House; *Evolution of French Domestic Architecture in the Mississippi Valley*, Marriott Hotel; an exhibition of architectural drawings of a selected group of New Orleans architects, and an opportunity to see *The Historic New Orleans Collection*, Merieult House; *The Personal Eye* (photographs of Clarence John Laughlin), New Orleans Museum of Art; *Latin American Architecture*, Tulane University; and *Architectural Drawing in New Orleans, 1940-1973*, Tulane University.

Important Note: Because of hotel arrangements, all SAH members (and their guests) who plan to attend the annual luncheon at the Marriott Hotel on Thursday, April 4, are urged to preregister by mail, if possible, or to purchase luncheon tickets only in advance from the central office, even if planning to register at the time of the meeting. The only time period in which these luncheon tickets may be purchased in New Orleans is during registration on Wednesday afternoon, April 3. (Tickets will not be sold on the day of the luncheon.)

1975 Annual Meeting, Boston (April 23-27). Abbott L. Cummings will serve as local chairman.

1974 Foreign Tour — Morocco (May 27-June 14). John D. Hoag, University of Colorado, is tour chairman.

1975 Foreign Tour — Denmark (May 26-June 13). Steffen Fisker, Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Copenhagen, is tour chairman. Announcements will be sent to the membership in early September 1974. All SAH members living outside the United States and Canada who wish to sign up for this tour should write the SAH office so that the announcement may be sent airmail to them at the time of distribution.

1974 Annual Tour — Utica-Rome, N.Y. Area (Upper Mohawk Region) — August 28 — September 1. Stephen S. Olney, Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program, will serve as chairman of the tour. Announcements will be sent to the membership in early April 1974.

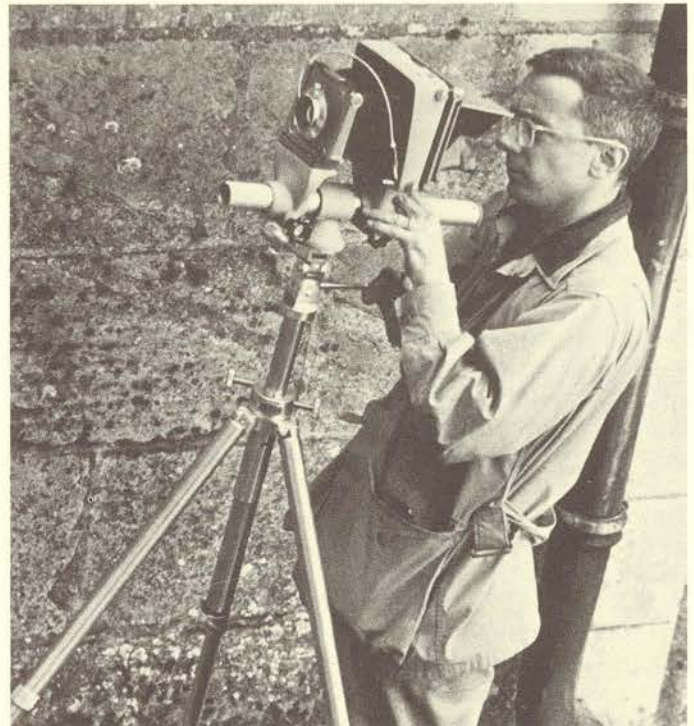
SAH Placement Service Bulletin. Full information is enclosed with this issue of the *Newsletter*.

The Society of Architectural Historians wishes to express deep gratitude to Osmund Overby and James C. Massey for their long and excellent services to the Society, on the occasion of their retirement as Editor of the *Journal* and *Newsletter* respectively. Few of our members realize, perhaps, how much dedicated work is required for the Society's continued effectiveness. These two men have done truly outstanding work for the Society, and I speak for all our members, in saying thank you!

Alan Gowans
 President

ROBERT BRANNER (1927-1973)

Robert Branner died in New York on 27 November 1973 at the age of 46, following heart surgery. He was professor of the history of art and archaeology in Columbia University where he had taught since 1957 with the exception of two years spent at the Johns Hopkins University from 1969-1971. He



Robert Branner at Bourges Cathedral in 1959.

was a member of SAH for twenty years and served as a director from 1960 to 1963, was vice-president elect in 1964, and was the editor of the *Journal* from 1964 to 1966. He was instrumental in stimulating interest in a twenty-year index of the *Journal* compiled on the most modern lines. He actively raised money for the project and served as the chairman of the Index Committee from its establishment in 1964 to 1971. The *Index*, whose publication has now been announced, was compiled by his wife, Shirley Prager Branner.

Bob Branner was an historian of medieval art trained at Yale where he received his BA in 1948 and his Ph.D. in 1953. His interests and competence in medieval art were catholic. His last work, which will appear posthumously, deals with manuscript painting in Paris during the reign of St. Louis. Yet Gothic architecture was his great love and it is for his work in that field that he is best known. His doctoral dissertation, on Bourges Cathedral, written under the sponsorship of Sumner McKnight Crosby, was published in 1962 as *La cathédrale de Bourges* and received the Society's Alice Davis Hitchcock Book Award for the most distinguished book on architectural history for that year. It was preceded by *Burgundian Gothic Architecture* in 1960 and followed by *Saint Louis and the Court Style in Gothic Architecture*. These scholarly contributions were supplemented by a general work, *Gothic Architecture*, in 1963 and a historiographical textbook, *Chartres Cathedral: Sources Readings, Analysis and Criticism*, in 1969. His bibliography is further enriched by some fifty published articles with a further six still in the press.

No American historian of medieval architecture of his generation enjoyed so high an international reputation. He was a member of the Société française d'archéologie and an Associé correspondant étranger of the Société Nationale des Antiquaires de France, as well as a member of the leading societies of medieval studies in this country.

The keen intelligence, the rigorous mind, and the unflagging energy that made Bob Branner so fruitful and productive a historian were also generously placed in the service of his university and our Society. At Columbia he played a prominent role in the late fifties and throughout the sixties in the creation of an international reputation for excellence of its Department of Art History and Archaeology. In 1969 he succeeded the late Rudolf Wittkower as its chairman. As a teacher he was primarily concerned with graduate instruction and the students who wrote their dissertations under his supervision are as numerous as they are excellent. As a member of the Society at large, as a director, and as editor of the *Journal*, he was fervently committed to the life and growth of the Society as a vehicle for the history of architecture as a broad and profound humanistic discipline unrestricted by narrow considerations of period or place.

Bob Branner had an acute sense of the preciousness of time. Perhaps, anticipating how little of it he could expect, he never wasted a moment. He was almost always working, and always according to a carefully considered plan and method. His work, in all of its many facets, always came first. It was this sense of the value of time and the concentrated energy with which he used it that made his career so resemble those of the great scholars of the nineteenth and early twentieth century and which resulted in a body of work that would be a signal accomplishment of a scholar almost twice his years. Yet when he was not working he enjoyed fully the good things of life — art, music, conversation, good food and wine — as all those of our Society who have enjoyed his and Shirley's hospitality will attest. They will join in remembering the loss not only of an outstanding scholar but a good friend as well.

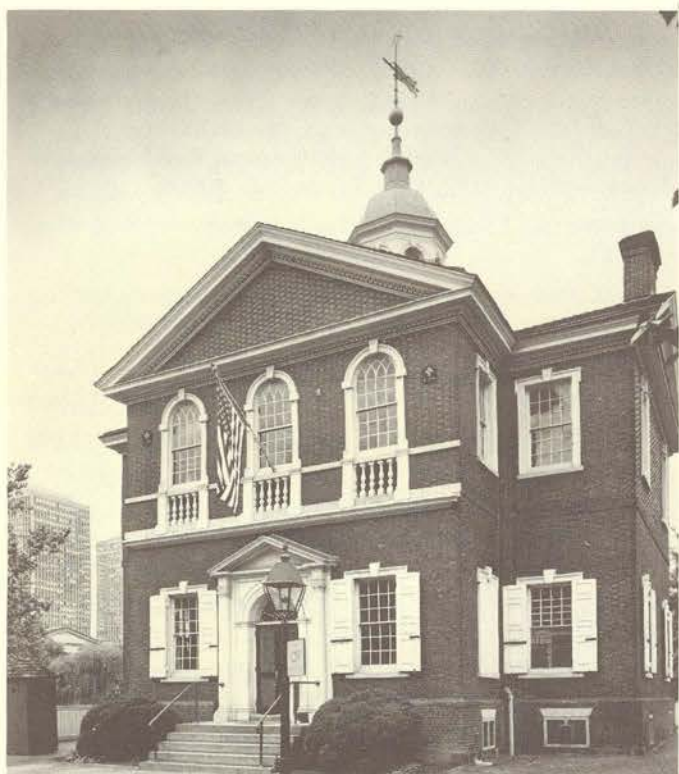
Contributed by Alfred Frazer

JAMES A. ACKERMAN received a National Endowment for the Humanities Senior Fellowship for the academic year 1974-75 . . . WINSLOW AMES has been made an honorary member of the Rhode Island Chapter of the AIA. Mr. Ames, known to members as an historian, once designed a house which is still occupied by his client . . . PERRY BORCHERS, JR. assumes a major teaching role in the new Architectural Preservation and Restoration program in the graduate architecture program at Ohio State University . . . FRANÇOIS BUCHER has been named co-director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, SUNY, Binghamton . . . KENNETH JOHN CONANT made a 52-minute film interview on "Cluny and Its Archaeologist" for French TV . . . PHILIP DOLE is a visiting faculty member at the University of Virginia . . . ADA LOUISE HUXTABLE was presented the Diamond Jubilee Medallion of the City of New York by Mayor Lindsay in recognition of her appointment to the editorial board of *The New York Times*. Mrs. Huxtable was guest of honor at a dinner in the old Custom House sponsored by the Architectural League of New York and the New York Landmarks Conservancy. BRENDAN GILL acted as toastmaster. ROBERT A. M. STERN, president of the Architectural League was one of the speakers . . . ELLEN NICHOLS JOHNSTON has joined the staff of the National Capital Planning Commission, Washington, D.C. . . . E. FAY JONES received a 1973 Architectural Award of Excellence for designing the gazebo in North Little Rock's Laman Plaza . . . FRED KOEPER is now the acting dean at California State Polytechnic University at Pomona . . . WILLIAM LUKACS was elected president of the New York Society of Architects . . . DONLYN LYNDON will again represent the United States as juror for the UNESCO student competition on "Emergency Habitat" . . . ELISABETH B. MAC DOUGALL has been appointed a visiting associate professor of the history of landscape architecture at the Graduate School of Design, Harvard . . . CONSTANTINE E. MICHAELIDES has been named dean of the Washington University School of Architecture . . . CHARLES MOORE is a visiting lecturer at UCLA . . . GEORGE ALAN MORLEDGE was elected president-designate of the Virginia Chapter of the AIA . . . A. CRAIG MORRISON has been appointed historical architect of the Edison Institute (Greenfield Village and the Henry Ford Museum) in Dearborn, Michigan . . . JOHN PASTIER participated in the annual convention of the Associate Student Chapters of the AIA . . . GEORGE E. PETTENGILL, librarian of the AIA for 22 years, has been named librarian *emeritus* and given special new responsibilities as archivist and historian for the AIA . . . ROBERT B. RETTIG was elected secretary of the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers . . . ANGELO S. VILLA has received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to study and photograph pre-Romanesque Hispanic architecture . . . ELISABETH WALTON was elected to the Executive Committee of the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers . . . BARBARA WRISTON was elected a board member of the Midwest Art History Society.

SYMPOSIUMS

Carpenters' Company of the City and County of Philadelphia. The Carpenters' Company, perhaps the senior trade organization in America, has announced plans for a symposium on early American building to be held in Philadelphia, March 27-29, 1974 in commemoration of the

250th anniversary of the organization. It was formed by a group of master mechanics "for the purpose of obtaining instruction in the science of architecture and assisting members in the need of support." They were responsible for designing and erecting the principal buildings of the colonial metropolis, Philadelphia. Incorporated finally in 1792, the Company continues in active existence, a body of building contractors plus a few architects.



Carpenters' Hall was built in 1770-1773 from designs by Robert Smith. In this building the first Continental Congress met in the fall of 1774.

Photo: Jack Boucher, HABS

The sessions will begin with an examination of early building technology: what buildings were made of, how they were put together, and how they were mechanically equipped. They will end with a consideration of the business of historic preservation. Opening with a survey of builders' achievements in Britain, the program will discuss the first shelters of the colonists and the attack on the American forest. Passing from the age of handicraft to the age of steam power, technological innovations on both sides of the Atlantic in the matter of convenience will be examined. The climax of the first two days will be a paper on the design and construction of the "extensions" or wings and dome of the United States Capitol.

The third day will begin with an account of how Her Majesty's government cares for Britain's architectural treasures. There will follow accounts of the new professional training courses at York, England and at Ottawa, Canada. The restoration projects at York Minster and St. Paul's Cathedral will be presented at a luncheon sponsored by the English Speaking Union, Philadelphia Branch. This paper is to be followed by U.S. National Park Service architects, who will describe their work at Independence Hall and other buildings, with time out for a quick visit to the structures under consideration. Finally, the architects of the New York State Office of Parks and Recreation and the National Trust for Historic Preservation will describe the work of the building craftsmen they are organizing into travelling work crews.

Among the numerous speakers are: Dr. Brooke Hindle; Bernard M. Feilden; Robert P. Multhaupt; Paul Buchanan; Kenneth M. Wilson; Harley J. McKee; J. Mordaunt Crook; R.J.M. Sutherland; Eugene S. Ferguson; Loris S. Russell; Diana S. Waite; Roger W. Moss, Jr.; Robert M. Vogel; Mario E. Campioli; P.A. Faulkner; Derek Linstrum; Jacques Dalibard; Lee H. Nelson; Penelope Hartshorne Batcheler; John G. Waite, Jr.; and James C. Massey. The papers are to be published in a volume entitled *Building Early America: Contributions Towards a History of the Construction Industry*.

Patrons are sought for contributions of \$1,000 each. On request, each will receive 25 admission tickets for three days of the Symposium plus volumes of the proceedings. Sponsorships available at \$500, Friends at \$250. Individual subscriptions for the three sessions, plus a volume of the proceedings are \$40. One day attendance: \$15.

For information write to Building Early America, 320 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106 or telephone: (215) WA2-3623.

University of Delaware. The Department of Art History at the University and the National Collection of Fine Arts, Washington, D.C., are sponsoring a Symposium on "Late 19th Century American Art: Cosmopolitan Tastes and the Genteel Tradition." The one-day program will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on April 19, 1974 at Clayton Conference Center on the University of Delaware's North Campus. The Symposium will feature eight scholars in the field of 19th century American art. The speakers are: Lawrence Wodehouse, "Stanford White and the Mackays of Roslyn, Long Island"; Thomas M. Slade, "The Early Work of Richard Morris Hunt"; Theodore E. Stebbins, Jr., "The Victorian Watercolor"; Martha Kingsbury, "Sargent's Hall: John Singer Sargent's Murals for the Boston Public Library"; Richard N. Murray, "A Late Nineteenth Century Mural Project: The Library of Congress"; Marjorie Balge, "William Ordway Partridge: 'Sculpture for America' in the 1890's"; and Claudia Kern, "Thomas W. Dewing: The Artist and His Era." An exhibition to accompany the Symposium will be open until May 13. For further information and brochure, write Patricia Heintzelman, Department of Art History, 343 Smith Hall, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware 19711.

BOOKS

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Eastlake-Influenced American Furniture, 1870-1890. Intro. and notes by Mary Jean Smith Madigan. Yonkers: The Hudson River Museum, 1973. \$5 postpaid. Available from Museum, 511 Warburton Avenue, Yonkers, N.Y. 10701. Fully illustrated catalog of exhibition (see *NSAH* - Dec. 1973).

Virginia A. Palmer and Mary Ellen Wietczykowski, SAH. *Walker's Point: Two Walking Tours*. Milwaukee: Land Ethics, Inc., 1972. \$0.25. Guidebook to proposed preservation district in Milwaukee. Available from Land Ethics, Inc., 813 South Third Street, Milwaukee, Wis. 53204.

JOURNALS

Classical America 3, 1973. Contents include: William A. Coles, "The History of America's Greatest Fountain: The Scott Memorial Fountain on Belle Isle, Detroit"; Henry Hope Reed, "An Interview with Allyn Cox"; William A. Coles and Priscilla Mead, "Rose Terrace, Grosse Pointe, Michigan"; Henry Hope Reed, "A Classical Garden in Modern Times"; Richard Cornfeld, "The Design of the St. Louis World's Fair"; John B. Bayley, SAH, "The Villa Vizcaya"; H. Stafford Bryant, Jr., "Architecture and Urbanism in Riverhead, Long Island"; and John B. Bayley, "The Dinsha House."

Prairie School Review X, 1, 1973 includes Paul Sprague, SAH, "Griffin Rediscovered in Beverly" and "Griffin's Beverly Buildings: A Catalog." X, 2, 1973 includes Francis Steiner, "E. E. Roberts: Popularizing the Prairie School" and "E. E. Roberts: A Catalog."

CHAPTERS

Chicago. On January 24, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of his arrival in Chicago, the Chapter held an "Homage to Louis Sullivan" at the Art Institute of Chicago. Following dinner, Paul Sprague spoke on the exhibition of Sullivan drawings and architectural fragments, and David Travis lectured on the photography of Richard Nickel.

New England. On January 23, the Chapter held its Annual Business Meeting and Dinner. Richard M. Candee was elected President, James F. O'Gorman, Vice-President, Amy E. Cohn, Secretary, J. E. Robinson III, Treasurer, and directors: Paul F. Norton; Abbott Lowell Cummings; and Margaret Henderson Floyd. A lecture by Ellen Weiss on Wesleyan Grove, The Methodist campground at Oak Bluffs, Martha's Vineyard, followed.

New York. David Gebhard presented a lecture on "Newsom and Newsom: A 19th Century Architectural Practice in California" on December 10. Preceding the lecture Morrison Heckscher was elected President, Selma Rattner, Vice-President, and David DeLong, Secretary-Treasurer.

Philadelphia. On December 13, Robert Ennis lectured on "Thomas Ustick Walter, the First Career, 1829-1851." Preservation was the theme of the joint meeting on January 11, with the Victorian Society in America. Richard C. Frank spoke on Woodward East, Detroit, its value in preservation and relevance to Philadelphia.

Southern California. The Spring Tour visited the houses of Harwell Hamilton Harris on February 9. Mr. Harris conducted the tour which concluded at the studio of Lloyd Wright where he and Mr. Wright discussed their work and the architecture of the 1930's in the region.

Western New York. The newest Chapter held its first meeting on November 2. Francis Kowsky was elected President and Peter Kaufman Secretary-Treasurer. Future events and speakers were discussed. The *Newsletter* welcomes them to the column and anticipates many interesting events.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Saved. *The Paramount Theatre* (1931), former grand-scale movie palace in Oakland, California, noted for its 87-foot-high Art Deco mosaic facade has been adapted for use as a much-needed theatre of the arts at a cost of \$2 million. The landmark, designed by prominent Bay Area architect Timothy L. Pflueger, was officially reopened during a gala benefit event last September.

Handbook Series on Early American Building. The first in a series of handbooks on the technology of early American building has been prepared jointly by the National Trust for Historic Preservation Department of Historic Properties and Columbia University's Graduate Program in Restoration and Preservation of Historic Architecture. Titled *Introduction to Early American Masonry — Stone, Brick, Mortar and Plaster* and authored by Harley J. McKee, FAIA, it is a solid 92-page technical monograph for lay readers and specialists alike. It is well documented and illustrated with diagrams and photographs. Publication was assisted by matching grants made available to the National Trust under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. (See **Books.**)

APT Annual Conference. The fifth annual conference of the Association for Preservation Technology was held in Boston September 27-30, 1973. Host organization was the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities. The December *APT Newsletter* noted that the 1973 conference offered concurrent sessions for the first time. Among session topics were: "Fire Hazard in Historic Buildings"; "Probing without Destroying"; "Timber Framing in France and New France, England and New England"; and "Historic Landscape and Gardens." Proceedings of the fire detection and prevention seminar are expected to be published. The following were elected or reelected to posts within the organization during the business meeting: Lee H. Nelson, American editor of the *APT Bulletin*; Louis W. Collins, Canadian Membership Chairman; and Hugh C. Miller, American Membership Chairman.

California Symposium. "Planning for the Past, a Conference on Historical Preservation" addressed to the questions of planning, financing, strategy and adaptation for modern use, was held in Berkeley January 25-26. Sponsored by the University of California University Extension division concerned with continuing education in city, regional and environmental planning, the symposium featured speakers and workshop leaders from Washington, D.C., Chicago and New York, as well as California. Program coordinators were Don A. Denison, AIP, Instructor in City and Regional Planning, University Extension, Berkeley and Cynthia G. Gall, California Coordinator, America the Beautiful Fund, San Francisco.

Study in Progress. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation announced last November that it is undertaking a comprehensive study of the historic resources of the nation. Its aim is to "identify the essential components of our heritage, determine the needs for adequate preservation, evaluate the effectiveness of present programs,...and clarify the respective roles of the federal, state, and local governments..." The study was prompted by the need to strengthen state and local programs, to encourage increased participation by the private sector, and to examine the apparent overlap of preservation programs in federal agencies. Upon completion of the study the Advisory Council will forward its findings and recommendations to the President and the Congress.

Housing Act of 1973. The October 1973 *Newsletter* of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation reported that S. 2507 (the President's proposed Housing Act of 1973 introduced by Senator Tower of Texas) had been referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. The *Newsletter* made the following statement: "While the broad approach to housing set forth in the 112-page bill will affect preservation in many indirect ways through restructuring the Federal housing program and policies, one specific historic preservation measure has been included in the draft bill. Section 301 authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development to undertake a loan guarantee program, one of the expressed purposes of which is the financing of historic structure preservation. Historic structures are defined as residential structures listed on the National Register or certified by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting National Register criteria. 'Preservation' means restoration or rehabilitation undertaken in accordance with regulations to be prescribed. Loans under this program would be available in amounts up to \$15,000 and would extend for up to fifteen years. This provision compares with limits of \$5,000 and seven years under present loan guarantee programs." The inclusion of this loan guarantee program in the housing reforms was recommended by the Advisory Council as

a balance for the economic incentives afforded commercial historic properties by H.R. 5584, the proposed Environmental Protection Tax Act still pending before Congress.

New York State Preservation Conference. The Landmark Society of Western New York and the National Trust for Historic Preservation are serving as co-sponsors, with additional support provided by the Architectural Environmental Arts Program of the New York State Council on the Arts, for New York's first state-wide preservation conference to be held April 26-27, 1974. The meeting in Rochester will cover through sessions and workshops new directions in and methods for preserving historically and architecturally significant parts of the man-made environment. Optional tours on Sunday, April 28, will illustrate local preservation districts, adaptive use, rehabilitation, and restoration of inner-city properties. For more information contact Dennis Connors, Landmark Society of Western New York, 130 Spring Street, Rochester, New York 14608.

1973 PROGRAM – INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR STUDY OF THE PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY – ROME, ITALY

The International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property in Rome, Italy was begun by UNESCO and the University of Rome in 1958 to train specialists from all nations in architectural preservation and the conservation of art treasures. The six-month course in preservation, extending from January to June, has grown to be a truly international program. Its participants come from 57 member states, and expertise is drawn from many countries. It trains approximately 45 persons each year.

Architecture students and practicing architects who are interested in a graduate program of preservation studies should consider the advantages of this internationally oriented program as an alternative or complement to the nationally oriented programs available at some American universities. In addition to the attractiveness of a study program in Rome, the International Centre program affords the unique experience of an international group of professionals studying under faculty and guest lecturers gathered from all parts of the world. There is real excitement in participating in discussions with a leading English architect and planner, a French or German preservation architect or engineer, or the leading expert in architectural photogrammetry. Last year, for example, it was possible to compare the methods of integrating housing programs with preservation of historic city centers under different political systems.

The International Centre is popular with architecture students from the University of Rome because it approaches the informality of an American university in breaking with traditional European lecture room rigidity. It has introduced an increasing number of English and American teaching methods, including more illustrative media, discussion, and recounting of practical work experience. The program continues to devote a substantial amount of time to the

history and theory of preservation, emphasizing the Italian experience and the preservation and restoration of single buildings and monuments. However, the course is now becoming involved with the historic town center and the larger problem of preserving urban culture. Field trips are taken frequently in Rome and vicinity. Last year, a week-long trip was made to Urbino and Bologna to investigate current projects.

The participant is given a good introduction to the related work of archeology, fresco and mural restoration, architectural photogrammetry and many other special aspects of the field. The Centre is building its own specialized library on the conservation of art and architecture which is richly endowed with references on many subjects. However, the American participant quickly discovers the absence of building code information, fire prevention data, and all of his familiar structural, mechanical, and electrical references. The memorization of a few metric-avoirdupois equivalents will enable him to adjust to metrification of the familiar formulas. Lectures given in English, French, or Italian are simultaneously translated via individual wireless receivers for those students requiring the service.

The Centre is required to balance its program in order to be stimulating to architects and graduates with advanced educational background and experience and at the same time not overwhelm the architect from a country of modest resources. The Centre does this fairly successfully by making as much use of its more experienced students as possible in the program.

The practicality of the 1973 program was dramatized by an incident in which three students, a Viet Nameese, a Cambodian and a Korean, were arrested by the Rome police for working on an historic building without a permit. They had been investigating a suspected structural division in the exterior wall of the Ospizio di San Michele which would have demarcated the earlier work of Carlo Fontana and Nicolo Forti. The misunderstanding was soon explained, and the three were quickly released, having suffered only the chiding of fellow students.

The International Centre course is also an excellent opportunity for learning Italian. Intensive lessons in conversational Italian are provided in Rome in December before the beginning of the course. This is done to give all the students a common language, and it makes the time spent in Italy a much richer experience. Knowledge of Italian is also essential for those who wish to take the examinations for the diploma from the University of Rome.

I learned about the International Centre in 1971 through the National Trust for Historic Preservation. I was the only student from the United States enrolled for 1973. The course gave me a rewarding experience in preservation studies, European history, and travel. My family accompanied me for a nine-months stay. Those interested in the International Centre in Rome should write to the Executive Director, International Centre Committee, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Suite 430, 1522 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005, or to the Executive Secretary, International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property, 13 Via de San Michele, Rome, Italy.

A Report by Alfred M. Staehli, Portland, Oregon