



NEWSLETTER

THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

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SAH NOTICES

The 1966 August Tour will be held in Québec City, August 18-21, 1966. Co-chairmen for the tour will be Alan Gowans, University of Delaware, and A. H. J. Richardson, Canadian Historical Sites Division, Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources. Local Chairman will be M. André Robitaille, Président, Société des Architectes de Québec.

CHAPTER NOTICES

Note: The Editor would appreciate receiving notices of meetings from all Chapters so that a complete report may be maintained in the Newsletter.

Philadelphia The first meeting of the Chapter's second year was held on October 10, at the Mercer Museum of the Bucks County Historical Society, Doylestown. The program, preceded by a tour of historic Doylestown homes, was chaired by George B. Tatum, University of Pennsylvania, and devoted to nineteenth-century Philadelphia architecture. The speakers included Lee H. Nelson, National Park Service, "Robert Mills"; Richard J. Webster, University of Pennsylvania, "Stephen D. Button"; Jonathan Fairbanks, Winterthur Museum, "John Notman"; John C. Poppeliers, National Park Service, "John Windrim"; John Stewardson, Princeton, "Cope and Stewardson"; and William B. Bassett, University of Pennsylvania, "Dr. Mercers' Concrete Buildings." Following the papers, and a tour of the Mercer Museum, the members enjoyed cocktails and a buffet supper. The next meeting will present David M. Robb, University of Pennsylvania, speaking on "Pre-Romanesque Churches of Spain," January 11, at the Fleisher Art Memorial, 8 p. m. Memberships in the Chapter are invited: address Moira Mathieson, 20 W. Montgomery Avenue, Ardmore, Pa. 19003.

Chicago On Saturday, October 23, the Chicago Chapter presented a special tour of the new University of Illinois, Chicago Campus. This significant new university campus by Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, at Chicago Circle in an urban renewal area southwest of the Loop district, has attracted wide architectural and planning attention. The next meeting is to be held on December 9, at which time John Parker will speak on "Italian Villas and Garden Architecture."

ORGANIZATIONS

"Responsible Action for Historic Preservation: A New Jersey Landmarks Conference," will be held in Newark, N. J., December 3-4, sponsored jointly by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the New Jersey Historical Society. There will be papers on historic preservation and tours of historic areas. Among the speakers are SAH members William J. Murtagh, James C. Massey, and Mary Caroline Pitts.

The Fall Meeting of the Central New York Architectural Historians was held on October 30, at Syracuse, N. Y., as guests of Syracuse University. The all-day program included tours of Syracuse University and the surrounding countryside, luncheon, and seminar discussions. Among the participants were SAH members Harley J. McKee, Gerda Peterich, and Charles E. Croom.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation will hold its annual Conference for Historic Museum Associates, February 6-18, 1966 at Woodlawn Plantation, Mt. Vernon, Va. For information address William J. Murtagh, at the Trust, 815 17th St., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20006. Applications for the course must be made before January 15.

The Smithsonian Institution has recently inaugurated a program of foreign currency support for American institutions of higher learning interested in archeological excavation or research in the so-called "Public Law 480 excess countries." These are nations in which the Government holds foreign currencies, which are in excess of our normal requirements. Under this program, American universities or museums may apply to the Smithsonian for foreign currency grants to cover the field costs of archeological surveys, excavation or research in the excess currency countries. At the present time these countries are Burma, Ceylon, Egypt, Guinea, India, Israel, Pakistan, Poland, Tunisia and Yugoslavia. Further information may be obtained by writing to: Foreign Currency Program, Office of International Activities, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C. 20560.

Phelps Warren, President of the American Friends of Attingham, 1 E. 70th St., New York 10021, has announced the 1966 Attingham Summer School Course on the Historic Houses of England, conducted under the auspices

of the National Trust (Britain) from July 4-25, 1966. For information write to the above address. Completed forms must be returned by February 15, 1966; limited scholarships are available.

MEMBERS

Carl W. Condit, Northwestern University, writes that he spent the summer at the University of Pennsylvania, giving a course in the History of American Building Materials and Techniques, which he believes is the first time such a credit course has been given at a university. Professor Condit is now offering a course at Northwestern University on the History of Chicago Building, and in 1966-7 will establish a two semester course there on the General History of Building Techniques. These are certainly important developments in the study of the history of building techniques and engineering; a field that has been all too slow to develop in the United States. . . Eugene M. Dodd has been appointed Curator of Hancock Shaker Village, the large preservation program near Pittsfield, Mass. . . Newton LeVine is Associate Professor of Architecture at Auburn University. . . Russell V. Keune is HABS Architect for the National Capitol Office of Design and Construction, National Park Service, Washington, D. C. . . Media, Pa., architect and SAH Treasurer, John M. Dickey, has announced that SAH member John D. Milner has joined his staff. . . Richard H. Howland, Smithsonian Institution, has been named President of the American School of Classical Studies in Athens. . . Charles E. Peterson, Philadelphia, has received the National Trusts' sixth annual Louise du Pont Crowninshield Award during the Trusts' recent conference in Raleigh, N. C. . . Arnold L. Markowitz is the new Librarian of the New York University Institute of Fine Arts. . . Patrick Horsbrugh is at the University of Texas, Austin. . . W. L. Whitwell is now at Plymouth State College, New Hampshire. . . Robert H. Luck has been appointed Assistant Director of the American Federation of Fine Arts, New York. . . Bunji Kobayashi, Nihon University, Tokyo, has prepared an exhibition "I Photograph American Architecture," which is being shown throughout Japan this year. The show is based on Professor Kobayashi's three trips to the U.S. . . This November the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia featured an exhibit of the art work of the late architect and SAH member, Alfred Bendiner. . . Roger Montgomery, Washington University of St. Louis, has received a grant from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare to undertake an extensive study into the determination and measurement of blight in areas under urban renewal consideration. . . James G. VanDerpool will retire as Executive Director of the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission on January 1, 1966, and will be succeeded by Alan Burnham who joined the Commission staff this fall. . . We regret to note the death this fall of Giles Y. van der Bogert, Schenectady, N. Y. architect.

PUBLICATIONS

Single copies of the March, 1965 Journal of SAH are available at \$3.50 a copy. The 72-page illustrated guide prepared for the 1965 August tour by Professor Carson Webster, Architecture of Chicago and Vicinity, is available at \$2.50 a copy, from SAH, Box 94, Media, Pa., 19063.

Recently noted publications of architectural history interest:

Wilson, Samuel, Jr., and Huber, Leonard. The Basilica on Jackson Square and its Predecessors Dedicated to St. Louis, King of France. New Orleans, 1965. 80 p. Available from Basilica of St. Louis, Jackson Square, New Orleans, \$1.

A Guide to the Architecture of Washington, D. C. Hugh Newell Jacobsen, Editor. Published for the Washington Metropolitan Chapter, A.I.A. by Frederick A. Praeger. New York, 1965. \$2.95 softbound.

Tatum, George B. "Architecture and Medicine in Philadelphia" in The Art of Philadelphia Medicine. Philadelphia, 1965, the Philadelphia Museum of Art. p. 103-128. A generously illustrated and carefully prepared history of Philadelphia hospitals and medical buildings. Available from PMA, \$1.50 + .25 mailing.

Poppeliers, John D. (Ed.) Historic American Buildings Survey Massachusetts Catalog. Boston, 1965, Massachusetts Historical Commission. 80 p. Available from Public Documents Division, State House, Boston, Mass., \$.50. A detailed listing of the over 800 Massachusetts buildings in HABS.

Charlton, John. The Banqueting House, Whitehall. London, 1964, Her Majesty's Stationery Office. 66 p. Available from British Information Services, 845 Third Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

Gibbs Smith, C. H. The Great Exhibition of 1851. A Commemorative Album. London, 1964 (reprinted with amendments), Her Majesty's Stationery Office. 142 p. Available from British Information Services, 845 Third Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

National Monuments of Ireland. Dublin, 1964, Bord Failte Eireann, 116 p. Price: 7 s. 6 d. Official listing of Ireland's prehistoric and historic sites, monuments and buildings under government ownership or protection.

Morrison, Jacob H. Historic Preservation Law, Washington, 1965, National Trust for Historic Preservation. 198 p. \$7.50. Revised and greatly expanded new edition of original 1957 issue.

Architectural History. Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians of Great Britain. Vol. 8, 1965. 124 p. from the contents: "The Protectorate Citadels of Scotland," by A. A. Tait; "Ambrose Phillipps of

Garenden," by Mark Girouard; *The Restoration of the Temple Church: Ecclesiology and Recrimination*, by J. M. Crook; "Letters of Philip Webb and his Contemporaries," by John Brandon-Jones; "All Saints Church, Margaret St. Reconsidered," by Paul Thompson; and "The Roofs of York Minster," by C. W. D. Green.

Schmidt, Carl F. More Cobblestone House Entrances. Part III. A portfolio of drawings published by the Cobblestone Society. Childs, N. Y. \$3.50.

Van Trump, James D. 1300-1335 Liverpool Street, Manchester, Old Allegheny, Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation, 1965. 34 p. A commendable and detailed study for the preservation of a victorian block of homes in Pittsburgh. Available from the Foundation, 404 Triangle Building, Pittsburgh 22, Pa.

Foerster, Bernd. Architecture Worth Saving in Rensselaer County, New York. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N. Y., 1965. 205 p. Sponsored by the New York State Council on the Arts, this publication, like an earlier one for Onondaga County (Syracuse), focuses attention on the significant early buildings of an important New York County in a handsomely illustrated volume. Available from RPI for \$2.75.

New Books by SAH Members

Meeks, Carroll L. V. Italian Architecture, 1750-1914. New Haven, 1965.

Nicholson, Arnold. American Houses in History. New York, 1965.

Finley, David E. History of the National Trust for Preservation 1947-63. Washington, 1965.

PROFILE

GEORGE B. TATUM

by

William B. Bassett, University of Pennsylvania



George B. Tatum, V.P. of the Society of Architectural Historians

Photo: Fabian Bachrach

During the past academic year George B. Tatum, the Vice President of SAH and professor of the History of Art at the University of Pennsylvania, lectured twice weekly on television on American Art for a credit course sponsored jointly by the University of Pennsylvania and WCAU-TV. He also has been writing on 17th and 18th Century Architecture for *The Arts in America*, to be published in the Spring of 1966. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Princeton University in 1940, Mr. Tatum continued at Princeton to do graduate work in the History of Art. This was interrupted by World War II during which he rose from private to captain in the Army Air Corps in the China-Burma-India theatre. His article on "The Paliotto of Milan" appeared in *The Art Bulletin* in 1944, and after the war he received his M.F.A. from Princeton in 1947 and his Doctorate there in 1949. Mr. Tatum was Lecturer in Christian Art at Princeton Theological Seminary from 1946 to 1948, as well as an Instructor at Princeton University from 1947 to 1948. Since 1948 he has been at the University of Pennsylvania, first as Assistant Professor of the History of Art, later as Vice Dean of the School of Fine Arts, 1951 to 1954, and Chairman of the Department of the History of Art, 1954 to 1958. It was in 1951 that his study of "The Beautiful and the Picturesque" appeared in the *American Quarterly*. Since 1961 he has been a Professor of the Department of the History of Art.

For a number of years Mr. Tatum has been a member of the informal "Friday Roundtable," architecture discussion group of the Philadelphia Art Alliance, which has included the late George Howe, David M. Robb, and Theo B. White. It was for the book Philadelphia Architecture of the Nineteenth Century, edited by Mr. White in 1953, that Mr. Tatum was responsible for the part on the period 1850 to 1875. He also wrote the essay on the architecture of A House Called Morven by Alfred H. Bill in 1954. He is, besides, a Fellow in American Studies and a member of the literary group, The Franklin Inn Club. In 1960 Mr. Tatum was elected an Honorary Member of the American Institute of Architects at the time of the publication of his book Penn's Great Town, a significant comprehensive history of Philadelphia architecture. At the University of Pennsylvania he gives courses in the History of American Art, Nineteenth Century American Architecture, and the History of Garden Design. In the latter field he has made a study of the English landscape tradition in the United States and particularly the work of A.J. Downing, about whom he is preparing a book-length study. He has lectured at the Antiques Forum at Williamsburg, the National Trust, and the Institute of Pennsylvania Life and Culture. His article on "The Origins of Fairmount Park" appeared in *Antiques* in 1962.

Mr. Tatum was born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1917, and received his early education at Western Reserve Academy, Hudson, Ohio. He resides near Philadelphia in Wynnewood, Pennsylvania, with his wife Alma and their three children, Susan, John Richard, and Daniel.

RESEARCH QUERIES

For his forthcoming catalogue, Drawings for British Architecture, Sculpture, Decoration, and Landscape Gardening in American Collections, to be published in 1966, John Harris, Curator of Drawings for the Royal Institute of British Architects, 66 Portland Place, London, W. 1, is searching for Mrs. Merrit Ruddock, who has an important

collection of Sir Christopher Wren drawings for the following churches: St. Georges, Botolph Lane; St. Brides, Fleet Street; St. Dunstan in the East; St. Edmund, Lombard Street; St. Anne's, Soho; St. Clement Danes; and St. Benet, Thames Street. If anyone knows of Mrs. Ruddock's current address, or this collection, please notify Mr. Harris. Mr. Harris' volume is to be a companion to the RIBA's 5 volume Catalogue of the Drawings Collection of the RIBA, Volume 1 of which will appear starting in Spring, 1966.

For a Master's thesis on James O'Donnell, architect, (1774-1830) and the Church of Notre-Dame in Montréal, Canada (1824-29), Frank Toker, Allen Art Museum, Oberlin, Ohio, is seeking information on buildings attributable to O'Donnell. He was born in Ireland, trained in England and practised from 1812 to 1824 in New York State. His plans for Notre-Dame in the neo-Gothic style, dated 1824 and 1825, may also exist in the United States.

EXHIBITIONS

The Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service will circulate a new architectural history exhibit starting early in 1966, "Early Architecture of Chicago." It will consist of 26 40x40 panels of photographs and measured drawings of the key monuments illustrating the rise of modern architecture in Chicago, drawn from the collections of the Historic American Buildings Survey. A catalog to accompany the exhibit, comprising a complete list of the 307 historic Metropolitan Chicago area buildings in HABS will be issued by the Prairie School Press of Park Forest, Illinois. For details about the exhibit, which rents for \$125, write Mrs. Erika Passantino, Traveling Exhibition Service, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

PRESERVATION NOTES

Through a substantial grant of \$130,000 from the Ford Foundation, a thorough study of the entire historic preservation movement in the United States is now underway, under the auspices of the Joint Committee on Housing and Urban Development, Washington, with the close cooperation of government agencies, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The Hon. Albert Rains is Chairman of the committee directing the study, and Laurence G. Henderson is Project Director. The study, which will be published, includes a detailed evaluation of the present status and achievements of the preservation movement, with particular concern to governmental involvement, a comparative study of preservation programs in Europe, and will as a final result produce a "National Plan for Historic Preservation." Among the SAH members working on the study are Christopher Tunnard, Worth Bailey, Richard H. Howland, Carl Feiss (who is serving as Technical Director) and Joseph Watterson.

In a noteworthy recent move the American Institute of Planners has instituted a national Committee on Historic Preservation. Mary R. Small, National Capitol Planning Commission (and SAH member) who is the committee Chairman sends the following report.

"The newly established AIP Policy Committee on Historic Preservation includes the following: Charles E. Aguar, Lachlan F. Blair (SAH), Howard J. Grossman, Barclay G. Jones (SAH), George T. Marcou (SAH), William H. Potts, Jr., Stanley M. Sherman (SAH) and Robert E. Stipe. Chapter Presidents are now being invited to appoint Chapter correspondents to the Committee. The Committee has been charged by the Board of Governors to develop a statement of policy for AIP on historic preservation. It has also been authorized to serve as liaison with other national organizations to discuss historic preservation. One of the first acts of the Committee will be to review a 'Report on Principles and Guidelines for Historic Preservation in the United States.' The Report was prepared by a special committee appointed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Colonial Williamsburg, in which Chairman Small participated. The Report will be submitted to AIP for endorsement. The committee plans to meet with a similar committee representing the American Society of Landscape Architects. When the AIP Committee on Historic Preservation was first established it urged the chapters to give consideration to establishing Chapter-level Committees on Historic Preservation. Local Chapter Committees might meet with their counterparts in AIA and ASLA. The Chapter Committees might identify those structures, vistas, and areas to be preserved. Members interested in further details of the Committee's activities should contact Miss Small."

Threatened: Walter Luther Dodge House, Los Angeles Co., California, Irving Gill, Architect 1916.

Preserved: Burlington Co., New Jersey Jail, Robert Mills, Architect 1812... "Oatlands," Leesburg, Va., an important mansion of 1803 has been given to the National Trust for Historic Preservation by Mesdames David E. Finley and Eustis Emmet... The Greek Government has announced plans to preserve the oldest quarter of Athens, the Plaka, through controls on construction in the area.

To be Restored: The Bauhaus, Dessau, East Germany, Walter Gropius, Architect. The work will be done by the City of Dessau, with the assistance of a grant from the Ministry of Culture of DM 1,000,000. Comments the Times (London, 9/10/65) "The plans to restore the Bauhaus of the American Gropius marks a turning point, cautious and underplayed by the regime, but all part of the crab-like advance of east German architecture."



"Oatlands," Leesburg, Va., recently given to the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Photo: Edmund Barrett, courtesy NTHP