

# NEWSLETTER

THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

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## SAH NOTICES

**1968 Annual Tour.** Don't forget the tour of Newport, Rhode Island (and vicinity), August 29 – September 1. Notices reached the membership by May 1.

**1969 Annual Tour.** The Society will hold the 1969 annual tour in Richmond, Virginia, October 15–20, at the invitation of The Latrobe Theatre, Mrs. Lewis H. Bosher, Jr., President (see enclosed brochure). Mrs. Douglas P. Rucker will serve as Chairman of the Local Committee, which will be composed of representatives of local organizations interested in architectural history and preservation.

## CHAPTERS

**Chicago.** In March the Chapter met in the Morton Auditorium of the Art Institute of Chicago to hear Robert A. Kostka, University of Illinois at Chicago Circle, speak on Frank Lloyd Wright's Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, as well as the Japanese art which influenced Wright's design. The April meeting was addressed by Barbara Wriston, Art Institute of Chicago, on "Spanish and Portuguese Influences in Latin American Architecture." Dues are \$3 and should be sent to Treasurer Robert Jorgensen, 555 Walnut Street, Winnetka, Illinois.

**Missouri Valley.** The Chapter, on March 23, 1968, held its annual social meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Seligson, Kansas City, Mo., and slides were shown of the work of Richardson, Adler & Sullivan, Burnham & Root, Holabird & Roche, and Frank Lloyd Wright.

**New York.** The New York Chapters' March 19 meeting was devoted to a special panel program "Wright Redivivus: The Buffalo Story." Frank Lloyd Wright's Buffalo work was discussed by Edgar Tafel, Architect, and Mr. and Mrs. Eric Larrabee, New York State University at Buffalo, and Architect, respectively.

**Northern Pacific Coast.** The Section held a meeting April 20 for the election of officers, and to discuss future plans for meetings. Prospective members should contact James R. Burch, 1531 Edith Street, Berkeley, Calif. 94703.

**Philadelphia.** On April 26 James C. Massey, National Park Service, spoke to the Philadelphia Chapter in the Board Room of the PSFS Building on "American Architectural Drawings and City Plans in Foreign Collections." On May 25 there will be an excursion to "Fallingwater," on Bear Run near Ohiopyle, Pa., by bus. The cost will be \$15.05. Write Mrs. Guy Lacy Schless, 3926 Henry Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. 19129, for information.

**Southern California.** New officers have been installed as follows: President, Crombie Taylor, University of Southern California; Vice President, Sim Bruce Richards, Architect, La Jolla; Secretary, Thomas R. Owen, Los Angeles Central Library; and Treasurer, Esther McCoy, University of California at Los Angeles. The next Chapter meeting will be an all-day visit to La Jolla on May 18 to hear papers on San Diego area architecture, and to take a tour

of buildings in La Jolla designed by Irving Gill and other architects.

**University of Virginia.** Adolf K. Placzek, Columbia University, spoke to the Chapter on "Gems Among Modern Architectural Books," at Charlottesville on March 8.

**Washington.** On April 11, at 4:30 p.m. Eric Entwistle spoke to the Chapter at the Smithsonian Institution on "Wallpaper from the Great Exhibition to Art Nouveau." The program, originally scheduled for 8:30 p.m., was changed at the last minute to 4:30 due to the early closing of the Institution during the Washington riots. Kenneth Hudson, Bath University of Technology, was the speaker on April 29 in a program jointly sponsored with the Smithsonian Institution's Division of Mechanical and Civil Engineering. Mr. Hudson spoke on "Industrial Archeology: Whose Responsibility, Whose Advantage." The meeting also served to open a joint SI-HABS industrial archaeology exhibit at the Institution. The next program will be a tour to the picturesque Virginia Quaker village of Waterford on May 19, under the direction of W. Brown Morton III, National Park Service.

**Western Reserve Architectural Historians.** On March 17, Henry Hawley, Cleveland Museum of Art, spoke on "The Revolt Against Historicism, 1850-1910" to a Chapter meeting held at the Cleveland Museum of Art.

## ORGANIZATIONS

**American Institute of Architects.** The Institute's 1968 convention will be held in Portland, Oregon and Honolulu, Hawaii, June 23-29, at which time Marcel Breuer will receive the Institute's highest honor: its Gold Medal. Also honored will be The Graham Foundation for Advanced



Henry Russell Hitchcock and Nikolaus Pevsner, at the Smith College program arranged in honor of Professor Hitchcock's retirement in June.



Studies in the Fine Arts which will receive the citation for an organization. Under the leadership of Charles F. Murphy and John D. Entenza, Hon. AIA, the Foundation is devoted to the fostering of architecture and its allied arts. The Institute has also announced that one of the first recipients of its new Critics Medal for architectural criticism has gone to SAH member Lewis Mumford.

**Columbia University.** The University's Twentieth Annual Bampton Lectures in America were given March 5-14 by Sir John Summerson on the general subject of "Victorian Architecture: Four Studies in Evaluation." The lectures were "The Evaluation of Victorian Architecture," "Two Victorian Railway Stations," "Two Victorian Churches," and "A Victorian Competition."

**Latrobe Theatre.** Plans are being made by The Latrobe Theatre, a new Richmond, Virginia organization, to build the theatre designed for Richmond by Benjamin Henry Latrobe in 1797. Though never erected, Latrobe's fine drawings are at the Library of Congress, and would facilitate its construction. Of interest is Brooks McNamara's article, "The English Playhouse in Eighteenth Century America," in *The Connoisseur* for December, 1967 pp. 262-7. Several of Latrobe's drawings are reproduced in *Virginia Cavalcade*, Summer 1966; pp. 43-7.

**SAH-Great Britain.** The Alice Davis Hitchcock Medallion for the year's best British architectural history book has been awarded to Mark Girouard for his *Robert Smythson and the Architecture of the Elizabethan Era*. The volume was published by *Country Life* in 1966.

**World Congress of Housing and Planning.** The Congress will meet in Philadelphia, June 30 to July 6, with 1,500 international planners, architects and scholars expected to attend. SAH is a sponsoring organization of the Congress and the program should be of particular interest to SAH members concerned with Modern Architecture; for information and registration contact P. Weinberg, Coordinator, 702 City Hall Annex, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107.

#### NEWS OF MEMBERS

**Walter L. Creese**, University of Oregon, has received an award from the American Council of Learned Societies for research in the "History of the Effect of American Government on the American Arts from Washington's Time," as an ACLS Fellow in Residence at the Smithsonian Institution... **Leonard K. Eaton**, University of Michigan, will teach this summer at the University of Victoria in British Columbia... **Richard H. Howland**, since 1960 Chairman of the Smithsonian Institution's Department of Civil History, has been appointed Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. In his new post he will devote his principal attention to architectural and historic preservation projects... Two SAH members have received Grants-in-Aid awards from the American Council of Learned Societies. **Spiro Kostof**, University of California, Berkeley, will study "An Environmental History of the City of Rome," and **Damie Stillman**, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, will work on "The Second Phase of English Neo-classical Architecture, c. 1770-1800,"... On April 11-13 **Henry-Russell Hitchcock** was honored at Smith College on the occasion of his retirement. The program was arranged by the College authorities, and by local SAH members led by **B. Michael Boyle**. On Thursday the eleventh, a concert was held in the Smith Museum and on Friday the twelfth, a large gathering of Professor Hitchcock's friends celebrated his fame, and his pre-eminence as an architectural historian, at cocktails and dinner at the Smith Alumnae House. The following day an overflow crowd, many coming from considerable distances, attended a special program of lectures arranged by the Art Department in his honor. The first speaker was Nikolaus Pevsner, University of London, who spoke on Robert Willis, the 19th century architectural historian. The second speaker was Robert Rosenblum, New York University, who discussed "The Gothic Revival

in Painting." Introductory remarks were made by the distinguished architect Philip Johnson, who was associated with Mr. Hitchcock in the pioneering days of the modern movement in architecture... **Frank J. Schmidt** is the Director of the new Bureau of Historic Sites and Properties of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Harrisburg. He has been responsible for the successful dismantling and re-erection of the Pennsylvania-German Bertolett-Herbein log house at the Commission's Boone Farm in Berks County. The 1738 house is considered to be one of the most authentic Germanic log houses to survive in Pennsylvania... **Myron Bement Smith** has received a grant from The National Endowment for the Humanities to complete his study of Persian arches, vaults, and cupolas and their relationships to such features in other architectures. He has also been named Visiting Distinguished Professor of History of Architecture by The Pennsylvania State University. He is in need of a Research Assistant in the history of Persian architecture. Command of the typewriter and of at least one European language are mandatory. Write P.O. Box 21141, Washington, D.C. 20009... Architect **Paul Thiry** of Seattle has been appointed to the U.S. Post Office Department's Research and Engineering Advisory Council.

#### PUBLICATIONS

**CIHE.** The Centro de Investigaciones Históricas y Estéticas of the Universidad Central de Venezuela issues an attractive and well-illustrated 142-page journal largely devoted to architectural history. The *Boletín*, of which eight numbers have appeared, is available in limited numbers and on exchange by request to Director Graziano Gasparini, CIHE, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Caracas.

**ICOMOS.** The International Council of Monuments and Sites, sponsored by UNESCO, has issued the first number of its journal, *Monumentum*. The large and well-illustrated semi-annual international review is available at \$12 (\$8 to members) annually. Send fees to Compte No. 46851, Sté Générale De Banque Leunen, Belgium. John C. Freeman, University of Victoria, has been named General Editor of the American Life Foundation's series on *Classic Guide Books to the Visual Arts*. To this end, the Foundation's National Committee on the Decorative Arts has initially recommended the compilation of an annotated union catalogue of books published to 1915 on North American architecture, landscape gardening and city planning. In conjunction with this bibliography, a number of inexpensive re-issues with new reference material added will be published; already available is: Norman Isham's *Early American Houses: The Seventeenth Century*, with a new essay and bibliography on the Colonial Revival, 1880-1930. This will be followed by *Early American Houses: The Eighteenth Century*. In the nineteenth century field, the Foundation also announces its *Library of Victorian Culture*, a twenty-volume series. In architecture, already published is: *A.J. Downing's Cottage Residences* (\$15) with an introduction by Michael Hugo Brunt, Cornell University, "Downing and the English Landscape Tradition" (11 pp.), and a new index and bibliography of all published work of Downing. Write L.M. Goodman, Century House, Watkins Glen, N.Y. 14891 for further information.

#### NEW BOOKS

Ames, Winslow (SAH). *Prince Albert and Victorian Taste*. New York, 1968. Viking Press, \$12.

Ritchie, Thomas. *Canada Builds, 1867-1967*. Toronto, 1967. University of Toronto Press, \$12.50.

Schwartz, Marvin D. (SAH). Wolfe, Richard. *A History of American Art Porcelain*. New York, 1968. Renaissance Editions, \$7.50.



Tunnard, Christopher (SAH). *The Modern American City*. Princeton, 1968. Van Nostrand, \$1.75. A paperback history of the American City, plus readings from other sources.

## REPRINTS AND NEW EDITIONS

*Antiques at Savannah*. Reprint of March 1967 special Savannah issue of *Antiques Magazine*. 52 pp. Available: Historic Savannah Foundation, Box 1771, Savannah, Ga. 31402. \$1.75.

Forman, Henry Chandler. *The Architecture of the Old South: The Medieval Style, 1585-1850* (Reprint of original 1948 edition) New York, 1967, Russell, \$10.

Mumford, Lewis. *The South in Architecture* (Reprint of original 1941 edition) New York, 1967, Da Capo Press, \$6.50.

Van Rensselaer, Marianna Griswold. *Henry Hobson Richardson and His Works*. Park Forest, Ill., 1967, Prairie School Press, \$25. Handsome limited edition reprint of original 1888 publication, with a new introduction by James D. Van Trump.

Watterson, Joseph. *Architecture, A Short History*. Revised Edition. New York, 1968. Norton \$10.00.

## BOOKLETS AND CATALOGS

Angle, Paula (Ed). *City in a Garden...Homes in the Lincoln Park Community*. Chicago, 1963. Illustrated 64 pp. Available: Coach House Press, 53 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Ill., at \$2.

Buchwald, Hans H. *Form From Process - The Thonet Chair*. Exhibition Catalog. Cambridge, Mass., 1967. Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts. Available from the Center, \$1.50.

Gebhard, David. *Drawings for Architectural Ornament by George Grant Elmslie, 1902-1936*. Santa Barbara, Calif., 1968. University of California at Santa Barbara. Limited Edition of 250 copies of 12 plates of Elmslie drawings, with notes by David Gebhard. Available while edition remains, at \$6.50 from Art Gallery, USCSB.

Hermansen, David R. *Indiana County Courthouses of the Nineteenth Century*. Muncie, Indiana, 1968. Ball State University. Illustrated, 25 pp. Available without charge from the author, Department of Architecture, BSU, Muncie, Indiana.

Lalibela - Phase I - *Adventure in Restoration*. New York, 1967. International Fund for Monuments, 15 Gramercy Park, New York 10003. Illustrated, 39 pp. Free. Report on the restoration of the medieval rock cut churches of Ethiopia at Lalibela.

O'Neal, William B. *Architecture in Virginia*. Richmond, 1968. Walker & Co., for Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. Illustrated, 192 pp. A carefully-selected official guide to four centuries of building in Virginia. Available: VMFA, Boulevard and Grove Ave., Richmond, Va. 23221 at \$2.95.

Wooden, Howard E. *Architectural Heritage of Evansville*. Evansville, Ind., 1962. Available: Evansville Museum of Arts and Science, 411 S.E. Riverside Drive, Evansville, Ind. 47713, at \$1.50 postpaid.

## ARTICLES

Candee, Richard M. "The Rediscovery of Milk-based House Paints and the Myth of 'Brickdust and Buttermilk' Paints" in *Old Time New England*, LVIII, 3. Winter, 1968 pp. 79-81.

Maass, John. "The Great Happenings (The Worlds Fair from 1851 to 1976)" in *Landscape*, Winter, 1967-8. pp. 27-32.

Robinson, Willard. "Helena's Fabulous Business Blocks" in *Montana, The Magazine of Western History*, XVIII, 1. January, 1968. pp. 44-59. Available: Montana Historical Society, 225 N. Roberts Street, Helena, Mont. 59601, \$1.50.

Vogel, Robert M. "Industrial Archeology at the Smithsonian Institution: An Interim Report" in *Technology and Culture*, VIII, 3. July, 1967, pp. 379-87.

## COURSES AND GRANTS

**Cooperstown.** The New York State Historical Association has announced that its Seminars on American Culture in 1968 will be held from June 30th through July 13th. Quite different from anything offered by university summer schools, or graduate workshops, the Seminars are designed for the interested amateur as well as for the professional. The curriculum includes courses in American history, folk culture, art, and technology; museum techniques; and workshops in early American crafts. For further information write Seminars on American Culture, Cooperstown, N.Y. 13326.

**Cornell University.** The Summer Institute in City and Regional Planning of Cornell University is offering a course in Historic Preservation Programs, June 16-21. The course will serve as an introduction to preservation planning for private citizens, urban planners and other professionals. It presents not only the means of safeguarding our heritage, but also the opportunities of using the values of the past as a resource for future planning. In addition to discussions of case studies there will be lectures on survey techniques, visual programming, scenic and historic legal controls, private involvement, and the potential of federal-and state-aided programs for preservation planning. No previous academic training in the field of planning is required. Tuition, including housing and use of university facilities is \$175. Scholarships covering the above and part of travel cost are available. For further information write: Department of City and Regional Planning, 106 West Sibley Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14850.

**Institute for Advanced Architectural Studies.** The Institute, part of the University of York, will offer two courses this summer: Medieval Towns, and Vernacular Architecture, which will be under the direction of Ronald Brunskill, University of Manchester. The courses will be offered July 27-August 3; for further information, write Institute for Advanced Architectural Studies, King's Manor, York, England.

**University of Manchester.** The University of Manchester's summer school at Bangor, Wales, will include a seminar on "Vernacular Architecture in North Wales," from July 13-20. The fee is £15, including tuition, accommodations and all service charges. For information, address Department of Extra Mural Studies, The University, Manchester 13, England.

**University of North Carolina.** The Institute of Government's first short course "Planning for the Preservation of Historic Buildings and Areas" was held at Chapel Hill March 10-16, under the direction of SAH member Robert E. Stipe, Assistant Director of the Institute. The course, concentrating on the planning side of preservation consisted of lectures, discourses, films and field trips to preservation projects, and included papers by several SAH members: Lawrence Wodehouse, North Carolina State University, Russell Wright, Cornell University; and William J. Murtagh and James C. Massey, National Park Service.

**Smithsonian Institution.** The Smithsonian Institution has recently established the Architectural Records Project, under Richard H. Howland, with the aid of a grant from the Kress Foundation. This project is a continuation of the work started in Philadelphia in 1964 as the Catalog of



American Architectural Drawings, under a Kress grant to the Philadelphia Chapter, AIA. The project has now been extended to include other architectural records — papers, prints, photographs, and bibliographical and biographical information, as well as architectural drawings. It will eventually provide a detailed archive of information on all aspects of American architecture. The project is headed by Moira B. Mathieson, who was assistant editor of the Catalog of American Architectural Drawings.

The Smithsonian Institution has also announced that an exhibition of English Architectural Drawings from the collection of the Metropolitan Museum in New York will be shown April 19 — May 31, 1968, at the Museum of History and Technology.



*"Elements of National Thrift and Empire," by J. G. Bruff from the collection of the Architectural Records Project, Smithsonian Institution, exemplifies the wide interest of this new national architectural reference project. (Photo: Smithsonian Institution)*

## ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS NOTES

**UCLA.** Graduate student Michael Kwan, is making use of his knowledge of computer techniques to computerize the Richard Neutra Archives, which is now housed at UCLA, and comprises Neutra's drawings, Specifications and Correspondence. The subject of his master's dissertation is the engineering concepts of Neutra's early work. Esther McCoy, of UCLA's School of Architecture and Urban Planning, serves as his committee chairman and directs the project. One of the aims of George A. Dudley, first Dean of UCLA's new School of Architecture and Urban Planning was to develop an archival system which would permit a quick sampling, and toward this end modular units to house collections are under study. The method of preserving archival material was demonstrated at the Spring 1967 meeting of the Southern California Chapter, SAH when, to honor Neutra's 75th birthday, plans and old photographs of his 1929 Lovell house were microfilmed and projected.

**University of California, Santa Barbara.** Over the past years the Art Galleries of the University, under the direction of David Gebhard, have become a major repository for American architectural drawings. Their concern for the preservation and care of those basic documents of American architectural history makes a commendable model that many other institutions might well follow.

In 1963, The Art Galleries of the University acquired their first collection of architectural drawings. These represented the work of the Santa Barbara architect and landscape architect, Francis T. Underhill. In June of 1967, The Art Galleries acquired their second collection; this being the extensive archives of the well-known American architect, R.M. Schindler. The gift was presented by Mr. Schindler's son, Mark Schindler, and consists of all of the working drawings, sketches, presentation drawings, notes, specifications and all other related material which formed part of the files of Schindler's office. In addition to the usual array of strictly architectural material, the collection also contains an extensive file of correspondence between Schindler and many of the major European and American architectural figures-writers, architecture critics, etc. A special room has been constructed to house the archives, and presently two graduate students are working on the collection. Following the success of the comprehensive exhibit (with published catalog) of

the work of the pioneer modern architect R. M. Schindler, arranged by Art Gallery Director, David Gebhard, and shown at the Los Angeles County Art Museum, arrangements have been made to send the exhibit abroad. Under the auspices of the U.S. Information Agency it will travel to Vienna, Berlin, and probably also London and Rome.

The Art Galleries have now been fortunate in obtaining a third important architectural collection; these are the working drawings, presentation drawings, sketches, of the pioneer California architect, Irving J. Gill. These have been presented to The Art Galleries by Louis J. Gill, FAIA. A preliminary cataloguing of these drawings will be completed by June of this year, and it is planned that they will occupy their own separate exhibition gallery and research room.

The purpose behind the acquisition of these collections is twofold. In the first place to establish a safe repository for the material, which is organized in such a manner that it can be used by scholars and students involved in architectural research and two, to provide a stimulus for the very serious study of California's architectural history. Several other collections of architectural drawings are now being negotiated for and it is intended that the collection will continue to expand through the years.

**Visionary Architects.** Those attending the January SAH annual meeting in St. Louis were able to see a remarkable collection of French architectural drawings from the Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris, at the city Art Museum. "Visionary Architects of the Late 18th Century" organized for Houston by Dominique de Menil, opened earlier at St. Thomas University, Houston, and is being shown at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, April 15-May 13, and will be at the Art Institute of Chicago, June 6-July 15, and M.H. de Young Museum, San Francisco, September 6-October 20. A catalog is being prepared for spring publication by St. Thomas University.

## EXHIBITIONS

**Mies Van Der Rohe.** A major exhibit of Mies work is being shown at the Art Institute of Chicago, this spring in honor of Mies' vast contributions to the development of contemporary architecture. A catalog of the exhibit is being prepared by the institute.

## QUERIES

**Centennial Buildings.** Information is being sought on any of the buildings from the Centennial Exposition (Philadelphia 1876) which may yet be standing in the Philadelphia area or elsewhere. An example would be the Maryland Building, now housing a natural history museum in Druid Hill Park, Baltimore. Write Ranulph Bye, Doylestown, R.D. 2, Pennsylvania 18901.

**Peabody and Stearns.** Wheaton Holden, Art Department, Room 414 HA, Northeastern University, Boston, Mass., is seeking information about the Boston architectural firm of Peabody and Stearns, active 1870-1917, for a Ph.D. dissertation.



*R.M. Schindler's drawing for the Rupert R. Ryan Beach House from the Schindler Archives, University of California at Santa Barbara.*