SAH NEWS

Recognition and Honors Committee. In April of 1968 a committee, consisting of Stephen W. Jacobs, Chairman, H. R. Hitchcock, Edgar Kaufmann, Jr., Irving Lavin, and William L. MacDonald, was appointed to investigate the possibility of establishing new honors and awards to be made by the Society of Architectural Historians to individuals and groups meriting recognition. At present the Hitchcock Book Award is made annually, and letters are occasionally written on behalf of the Society commending those responsible for outstanding tours, exhibitions, or projects which emphasize architectural history. To show appreciation of their contribution to scholarship, preservation, exhibition, publication, or the education of architectural historians, individuals might be awarded citations, honorary memberships, medals or an international award. Closer liaison with scholarly societies and other groups which have related interests has been suggested, perhaps by the appointment of corresponding members.

At the January meeting of the Board of Directors it was agreed that two committees should share the charge of the original one. A Liaison Committee will take over the continuing responsibility for keeping in touch with other organizations in the field. A Committee on Recognition will continue to work on a modest program of awards and citations. The greatest interest has been shown in an annual award for the best article published in the Journal by a young scholar. This can be instituted only if adequate funding becomes available. The Committee(s) would appreciate comment or suggestions.

Preservation Committee. The Preservation Committee met on January 30 in Boston under the Chairmanship of Harley J. McKee to consider what activities are most appropriate to undertake as representatives of the Society. Aside from helping assure the continued existence of good and representative historical buildings, which is fundamental to our approach, we can exert a strong influence for quality. In consulting with public and private owners we should maintain that adequate knowledge, historical perspective, inclusive consideration and reason are essential to sound judgments about what ought to be preserved. We advocate the making and publishing of comprehensive local surveys, and can assist in finding qualified persons to do them. Cooperation with other organizations interested in preservation is desirable; we are establishing liaison with several at present.

Under the terms of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (PL89-665) each state has designated a Liaison Office to deal with requests for federal aid, nominate properties for listing by the National Register and prepare a statewide historic preservation plan. The American Institute of Architects has named a Preservation Coordinator for each state. Persons concerned with preservation would do well to establish a working relationship with these men in their state; their names may be obtained from the nearest member of this committee or from the office of the Executive Secretary.

The objectives of the national Preservation Committee will be attained only with the active support of a large segment of SAH members; this is earnestly solicited.

CHAPTERS

Latrobe Chapter of Washington. On April 7 Antoinette Downing of Providence, R.I., gave a special noon hour talk on the "Restoration of College Hill, Providence," co-sponsored by the National Park Service's Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation. The Chapter's Spring tour, to the historic Quaker village of Waterford, Va., was held on April 12 under the guidance of W. Brown Morton.

Missouri Valley. Officers for the 1969-1970 year are Theodore Seligson, President; George Ehrlich, Vice-President; Donald Hoffmann, Secretary-Treasurer; Curtis Besinger and Osmund R. Overby, Directors. Orval L. Henderson, Jr., Missouri State Park Board, spoke at the Chapter meeting March 28 on the historic preservation program of the State.

New York. Architect W. Knight Sturges spoke on "Colonial Revival Houses: 1875-1900" on April 10, at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

Philadelphia. Cecil L. Striker, University of Pennsylvania, spoke on "Hagia Sophia in Istanbul" at the April 9 meeting of the Philadelphia Chapter, held at the Athenaeum of Philadelphia. On June 14 there will be an all-day tour to Cape May, N. J., the noted Victorian seashore resort, led by M. Carolyn Pitts and Henry J. Magaziner. Information from Mrs. Guy L. Schless, 3926 Henry Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.

Southern California. The officers for 1969 are: Robert Winter, Occidental College, President; Emmet Wemple, University of Southern California, Vice-President; John A. Reed, Treasurer; and Michael Kwan, UCLA, Secretary.

PRESTATION AND THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

Preservation of architecture, and the unbuilt open spaces formed by architecture, for historic reasons implies at least two possible considerations: that the area or building was notable in its own time, in its own context, and/or that people in a later time have judged the area or building to be of historic value to them.

'Notable in its own time' should be interpreted with some latitude to include first those works judged to be of significance by those contemporary with their execution. Examples that come to mind are the new towns from the Renaissance to our times - new towns that were cited in contemporary literature - and town squares, sectors of cities such as Bath or Turin, and, of course, individual buildings such as those of Brunelleschi, Bramante, Wren, and our own Richardson and Sullivan.

'Notable in its own time' should secondly include those areas and buildings that were done in what might be called the contemporary vernacular, so valued by the
society that it produced this vernacular in quantity as a valid and valuable residential standard for the majority of the population or for the commercial, institutional, and industrial life of the period. Levittown and developer suburbs or the Park Avenue office building and suburban factory may someday be examples of mid-20th century vernacular and important as such.

Architecture of the past that people in a later time judge to be of value involves not only an awareness of what predecessors thought should be built but also what earlier periods thought should be saved. In medieval times when a church or cathedral plan was changed, often the pre-existing building was demolished, or preserved only the crypt or the crypt, but there are also cases in which earlier portions were incorporated in the later structure. Succeeding generations found tangible and visible evidence of some of the complex aims of the preceding generations. It is of importance, historically and culturally, to see and understand what our predecessors intentionally preserved.

Equally of importance is that which has been lost and the reasons for the loss. Motives for demolition or preservation and the eventual effect of contemporary efforts become a part of history. The past was faced with similar problems. We can benefit by knowing what previous generations thought their problems were and the decisions they made. With an awareness of the thoughts and actions that formed us and an awareness of our changing needs, we may be able to act rationally in advocating the preservation or destruction of an area or building.

A sound preservation policy would identify areas or buildings of great or little value and contribute thereby to the formulation of a rational planning policy in which development would reinforce the environmental values of an area. Such a policy would also delineate the contribution made to our architectural environment by the size, shape, and nature of open spaces. The dimensions of sidewalks, streets, squares, both in themselves and in relation to vegetation, the dimensions of buildings along or around these open spaces would be a part of any preservation or planning program.

As careful attention as is paid to the architectural attitude in changing environments under architectural controls should be paid to the relationship between the built and non-built environment to insure that desired qualities are not lost. Any rational planning and development program must contain an integral preservation program.

Contemporary concern for the condition of man in urban centers in a rapidly urbanizing world has shifted the attention of social and political scientists, of anthropologists and architects, of churchmen and psychiatrists to the larger problems of urban culture. Some of the major ills of our times are centered in the densely populated urban centers. Some historians of architecture have also shifted their interests from the work of an individual or of a period to an area. But through its monumental buildings (undoubtedly of importance as societal paradigms) to a consideration of the urban context in which much of the architectural activity of man is found.

The 20th century concern that works of art and architecture be seen and studied in context, and that a reconstruction of the situation that produced the work is essential to the understanding of the work, has greatly expanded the historical disciplines that contribute to the history of architecture. The history of architecture is a social as well as a formal and iconographical discipline.

The enlargement of context within which any work must be seen, when coupled with the contemporary concern for urban problems has given support to the present emphasis on, and recognition of, the value of preservation of complete environments or areas as well as buildings.
consider when physical changes are contemplated.

We all have seen the effects of urban renewal realized and plans for urban renewal in the future. Urban renewal has done many good things for many cities, and will do more, but it has also caused much anguish among those least capable of assuaging their grief. Equally thoughtless is the destruction of elements of the environment that could with care continue to function as useful parts of the social and physical environment. Often retention of a valuable area, open space, single building or groups of buildings within an area would enhance the positive value of change within a context of continuity and change. Rational change that recognizes and emphasizes both the value of the new and old and the enrichment each may experience in juxtaposition with the other is of central importance today.

Henry Millon, President
Society of Architectural Historians

ORGANIZATIONS

American Council of Learned Societies. The 50th Anniversary meeting of the ACLS was held in New York, January 17 and 18, 1969. To celebrate the anniversary two special program sessions were held at the Morgan Library; the first was featured by an address by the Right Hon. Lord Annan, Provost of University College, London. After cocktails and lunch at the Union League Club the second session was held, consisting of an address by Dr. Caryl P. Haskins, President of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. In the evening the Annual Dinner was given at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, in celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary; the speaker was Dr. Charles E. Odegaard, President of the University of Washington, a member of the National Council on the Humanities, and a former Executive Director of the ACLS. Special guests brought from abroad for the 50th Anniversary included the officers of the International Union of Academies and the International Council for Philosophy and Humanities Studies (9 of them).

After these academic festivities and celebrations the Council's annual business meeting was held, on January 18, at the International Center. Robert M. Lumiansky was re-elected Chairman, Curt F. Buhler Secretary, and Whitney J. Oates Treasurer. Frederick Burchhardt remains as President. The budget for 1969–70 was presented and voted: $950,500. The income expected includes $567,000 from the Ford Foundation, $75,000 from the Carnegie Corporation, $160,000 from Reserve Funds (endowment income) of the ACLS, and $118,000 from the newly formed Associates of the ACLS. This is a group of 63 universities that have agreed to contribute $2,000 annually to the ACLS.

The disbursements, totalling $950,500, are largely for grants-in-aid to individual scholars, $475,000; administration, $287,500; scholarly representations at foreign conferences, $45,000; and special conferences and projects, $61,000. Staff salaries, including social security and annuities, came to $227,000 (staff of 19, including 7 secretaries and 3 office assistants or receptionists).

The ACLS Fiftieth Anniversary Campaign Fund has brought in $1,652,180 in gifts and pledges, the largest gifts being $500,000 each from the Old Dominion Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation, $250,000 from the Avalon Foundation, and $210,000 from the Carnegie Corporation.

The ACLS is made up of 33 constituent societies. A resolution was passed that reinforced the high criteria for admission (17 societies have recently been denied admission, largely because they were regional or religiously oriented). The President spoke on the number of international conferences held in the U.S. during the past year, partially supported by the ACLS. The 1970 Annual Meeting will be in Washington. Paul Ward of The American Historical Association was elected the new Chairman of the Conference of Secretaries, succeeding John Hurt Fisher, Modern Language Association, who had held that post for three years.

Contributed by Richard H. Howland
SAH Delegate to the ACLS

Art Librarians Conference. College and research museum art librarians are invited to attend the open meetings of the Art Libraries Subsection of the Association of College and Research Libraries at the American Library Association convention in Atlantic City, N. J., on June 24 and 26. Plans will be discussed to organize a national forum of art librarians. The American Library Association Bulletin May issue will carry the exact time and place. Further details may be had by writing to Herbert Scherer, Art Library, 104 Jones Hall, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455.

National Association of Restorations Specialists. According to an announcement, the Association is dedicated to the preservation and restoration of our heritage. It will lend its support locally, statewide and nationally to the preservation of historic sites and restoration of historic buildings. An energetic effort will be maintained to encourage adequate research and proper planning and programming for true restoration and preservation. Membership invitations are extended to all who share a mutual interest in the field of restoration and preservation. Persons desiring membership in this organization should send Name, Address, Occupation, Years of Preservation, Interest, Projects Involved In, and $6.00 to NARS, P. O. Box 33, Murphys, California 95247.

Preliminary design for the 42nd Street elevation of Grand Central terminal, New York. Part of a large collection of drawings of the terminal recently acquired by the Smithsonian Institution.
National Park Service. The National Register of Historic Places, the government’s official list of scheduled historic properties, has been published in the Federal Register for February 23, 1969, Part II. The Register now comprises about 1000 historic buildings, sites and objects in 54 states and territories. Also published in the Federal Register are the regulations for the inclusion of properties in the Register, and the legal protection they receive under the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (PL89-665). William J. Murray (SAH) is Keeper of the National Register, in the Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, National Park Service, Washington.

Royal Institute of British Architects. James Palmes, the well known Librarian of the RIBA, and a scholar and translator in his own right, has retired after twenty-one years as librarian.

SAH—Great Britain. The 1969 Annual Conference will be held at the University of Lancaster, September 12-14, with the theme of the Northernness of Northern Architecture. The Society’s Alice Davis Hitchcock Medallion for 1968 has been awarded to Christopher Hussey on the occasion of the re-publication of The Picturesque, and the publication of English Gardens and Landscapes 1700-1750. Officers of the SAH-GB for 1969 are: President, Peter Murray; Chairman, Frank Jenkins; Honorary Secretary, Miss Patricia Somers Brown; Honorary Treasurer, Peter Willis; and Honorary Editor, J. Mordaunt Crook.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

H. ALLEN BROOKS, University of Toronto, is a visiting professor at Dartmouth College for the spring quarter....

BAINBRIDGE BUNTING, University of New Mexico, has been appointed to the newly formed Old Town Architectural Review Board in Albuquerque....HENRY F. DU PONT, founder of the H. F. Du Pont Winterthur Museum died this month....ADA LOUISE HUXTABLE, architectural critic of the New York Times, has been named recipient of the 1969 American Institute of Architects’ Architectural Critics Medal....We regret to note the death last month of Architect EDWARD D. JAMES of Indianapolis, long identified with historic buildings and their preservation in Indiana....D. PETER MYERS, National Park Service has been elected a Director of the Victorian Society (USA).

MARVIN EICKENROHTH 1898—1969

Marvin Eickenroth, FAIA, was a practicing architect in San Antonio, Texas for more than forty years, and a leading figure in the preservation of historic buildings in his native State. He was widely known for his pioneering efforts to identify and restore both the early Spanish period buildings and the 19th century German structures that so distinctively mark the central Texas area. A graduate of both the University of Texas and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, he was an active member of the American Institute of Architects, serving twice as chapter president. He was made a Fellow of the Institute in 1966 in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the architectural profession, particularly to the cause of historic buildings preservation. Mr. Eickenroth was the author of The History of the Development of Architecture in Texas; Fredericksburg, Queen City of the Hill Country; and, “The Kaffeekirche at Fredericksburg, Texas, 1846” in the SAH Journal for March 1966. Much of his career was devoted to public service, the study of architectural history in Texas, and the restoration of historic houses. More recently he was the sponsor for a large scale survey of the historic architecture of San Antonio carried out in 1967-8 by the HABS and the San Antonio Conservation Society. He was also Chairman of the Texas Society of Architects’ Committee on the Preservation of Historic Buildings for more than ten years.

BOOKS


REPRINTS AND NEW EDITIONS


BOOKLETS AND CATALOGUES


Belle Grove. Washington: The National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1968. 84 pp., illus. A collection of articles pertaining to Belle Grove, a c. 1794 stone house
ar Middletown, Va., belonging to the National Trust. Included is an article on the building by Frederick D. Nichols (SAH). Available: N.T.H.P., 748 Jackson Place, NW, Washington, D.C. 20006. $1.50.


Springside. A Partnership with the Environment. Poughkeepsie, N.Y.: Dutchess County Department of Planning, 1968. 61 pp., illus. Informational report focusing on the importance of preserving Springside, the Matthew Vassar house, for which A. J. Downing designed not only the grounds but the buildings. SAH member Thomas McCormick, Vassar College, has been a leader in the campaign to preserve Springside.


JOURNALS

Boletin Del Centro De Investigaciones Historicas y Esteticas No. 10. Caracas: Universidad Central De Venezuela, 1968. A well printed and illustrated 128 page journal, mainly concerned with architectural history, and in this number, planning history. Limited number of copies available: Address: Director, Centro de Investigaciones Historicas y Esteticas, Facultad de Arquitectura, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Caracas.


ARTICLES


COURSES AND CONFERENCES
Alfred University. A summer seminar on historic preservation will be offered at Alfred University, Alfred, N.Y., July 21-5, co-sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, The Landmark Society of Western New York, and Alfred University. For details, address Seminars, The Landmark Society, 40 Atkinson Street, Rochester, N.Y. 14608.

Fairleigh-Dickinson University. An archeological field school will be presented July 17 - July 25, during which Chester, N.J., a colonial site with an industrial area will be excavated. Academic credit will be given. For information write Edward S. Rutsch, Social Science Dept., Fairleigh-Dickinson University, Madison, N. J. 07490.

Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies. There will be two short courses of interest to architectural historians offered by the IAAS at the University of York from July 26 - August 2. Vernacular Architecture will be given by Ronald W. Brunskill, and the Medieval Countryside will be given by a group of five professors. For further information address the Institute at Kings Manor, York Y012EP, England.

New York State Historical Association. The Association's annual seminars on American Culture will be held from June 29th through July 12th, 1969. Quite different from anything offered by university summer schools, or graduate workshops, these seminars are designed for interested amateurs as well as spirited professionals. The curriculum will include courses in history, folk culture, art, and technology; museum techniques; and a workshop in early American spinning techniques. The faculty, professionals from all over the United States, is chosen for its ability to translate its scholarship into terms which can excite and enlighten. Courses are not taught in a cut-and-dried manner but through discussion, demonstration, field trips, and actual participation.

Registration fees and cost of room and board are moderate. Twelve courses will be offered; six each week. For further information write Seminars on American Culture, Cooperstown, New York 13326.

Pennsburry Manor. The first in a new series of spring seminars was held at Pennsburry Manor, William Penn's reconstructed house in Pennsylvania April 19-20, under the direction of Pennsburry Curator Dewey Lee Curtis. "Great American Rooms:" was the seminar theme discussed by prominent scholars. Papers covered "The Period Room as a Curatorial Publication," by E. McClung Fleming, Winterthur Museum; "The Great Room in Wetherburns Tavern," by Barry A. Greenlaw, Colonial Williams-

**Victoria Society (Great Britain).** The 1969 annual conference will be held in Cardiff Castle, at the invitation of the Lord Mayor of Cardiff, September 26–8. The conference, which will fall within the official program for the investiture of the Prince of Wales, will be devoted to the subject of South Wales in the nineteenth century. There will be lectures and tours. Information from Jane Fawcett, 12 Magnolia Wharf, Strand-on-the-Green, London W4, England.

**ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING NOTES**

**Grand Central Terminal.** The Smithsonian Institution has received several hundred architectural and engineering drawings for both the original and the present Grand Central Terminals in New York City. The drawings, acquired by Robert M. Vogel (SAH), Curator of Engineering, from the Penn Central Railroad, provide comprehensive documentation of the terminal from preliminary design and track layouts through to the final realized scheme that occupies an important place in city planning history.

**LAW**

*Museum News,* the magazine of the American Association of Museums, has recently carried two articles of possible interest to the SAH membership. One, on the tax exempt status of non-profit organizations is in the November 1968 issue, p. 23. It was written for the American Association of Museums to clarify the regulations for tax exempt status, by the Association’s general counsel, Reavis, Pogue, Neal and Rose. In the December 1968 issue is an article by Kyran McGrath on the "Deductibility of Membership Dues," p. 24.

**RESEARCH QUERY**

A.W. Pugin. Mrs. Phoebe Stanton (SAH), professor at Johns Hopkins University, is preparing a book on the gothic revivalist A.W. Pugin, and would appreciate hearing from other architectural historians who may have or know of Pugin Material. She may be reached at Crosby Hall, Cheyne Walk, London SW3, England.

**EXHIBITS**

Sir Christopher Wren. An exhibit of the architecture of Sir Christopher Wren will be held at the City Art Museum of St. Louis, May 6–July 6 in connection with the dedication of the reconstructed St. Mary Aldermanbury at Fulton, Mo. For the St. Louis exhibit there will be 160 architectural drawings, engravings and photographs comprising an overall survey of Wren’s work. The exhibit was selected by John Harris, Royal Institute of British Architects, who will give a lecture on Wren at the Museum on May 13 at 8:00 p.m.

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

**Proposed Restoration.** The Victorian Society (G.B.), with the patronage of Prince Philip, proposes to restore Schloss Rosenau in Coberg, Germany as a museum to Prince Albert. It is also hoped to establish a 19th century study center in the castle, which was the boyhood home of Prince Albert. The Medieval castle was ghoticized in 1810 by Prince Ernst, Albert’s father, and was a personal favorite of Queen Victoria.