



# NEWSLETTER

THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

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## SAH NOTICES

**Domestic Tours.** CHARLESTON, S.C., October 20-24, 1971 (revised date), (Mrs. S. Henry Edmunds, Chairman), members to receive announcement of tour by May 15, 1971; 1972, H. H. RICHARDSON, HIS CONTEMPORARIES AND HIS SUCCESSORS, IN BOSTON AND VICINITY, August 23-27 (Robert B. Rettig, Chairman); 1973, PHILADELPHIA; 1974, UTICA, NEW YORK and vicinity.

**Foreign Tours.** 1971, NORTHERN BRITAIN (Frank Jenkins, Chairman); May 28 - June 18, 1972, JAPAN (Bunji Kobayashi, Chairman and Teiji Itō, Co-Chairman), members to receive announcement on or about September 1, 1971; 1974, MOROCCO or SICILY.

**Cancellation of Contest.** John Forbes reports that none of the entries in the hundred-dollar prize competition was an improvement over "Queen Anne" or "Eastlake" or any of the other misnomers for turn-of-the-century American jig-saw-decorated domestic architecture. He has called the whole thing off and turned the prize over to the SAH restoration-preservation fund.

**Book Award Committee.** President James F. O'Gorman has named Henry A. Millon Chairman of the SAH Alice Davis Hitchcock Book Award Committee for 1971. Members of the Committee include Franklin Toker, Alfred Frazer, Christian Otto, and Gunter Nietschke. Suggestions for possible books to be considered for this Award should be sent to Professor Millon, 7-308, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass. 02139.

**Liaison Representatives.** The Society has appointed members to serve as official liaison representatives to other professional organizations concerned with architectural history. They are: American Institute of Architects, Russell V. Keune; American Studies Association, Wallace Davies; American Antiquarian Society, Charles van Ravenswaay; Archaeological Institute of America, Richard H. Howland; Association for Preservation Technology, John M. Dickey; College Art Association, Irving Lavin; National Trust for Historic Preservation, Terry B. Morton; SAH-Great Britain, Frank I. Jenkins; Society for the History of Technology, Carl Condit; and Victorian Society of America, George B. Tatum.

**Foreign Correspondents.** A number of distinguished foreign architectural historians have been appointed to serve as correspondents for the SAH *Newsletter*, and will make periodic reports on activities in their nations, including publications, exhibits, new discoveries, historic preservation, and personnel changes, among other items. Their first contributions will appear in an early issue. They are: Austria, Renate Wagner, Universitat Wien; Eastern Canada, C. Ross Anderson, Universite Laval; Western Canada, Harold Kalman, University of British Columbia; England, Peter Willis, University of Newcastle upon Tyne; Germany, Jürgen Paul, University of Tubingen; Holland, H. P. R. Rosenberg, Rijksdienst v/d Monumentenzorg; Ireland, Percy Le Clerc, Architect; Italy, Giovanni Fanelli, Architect; Japan, Mitsuo Inoue, Yokohama National

University; Peru, José García-Bryce; and Switzerland, Jacques Gubler.

## ORGANIZATIONS

**American Institute of Architects.** Among the Institute's 1971 awards, to be presented in June at the Detroit convention are:

Albert Kahn Associates, Inc. (Sol King, SAH, President) - Architectural Firm Award

Wharton Esherick - (post.) Craftsmanship Medal

Alexandre Georges - Architectural Photography Medal  
San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission - Citation of an Organization

*Perspecta*, the Yale Architectural Journal - Architecture Critics Citation

Gerald M. McCue, SAH - Edward C. Kemper Award

Sibyl Moholy-Nagy, SAH - (post.) Architecture Critics Medal

**APT.** The Third Annual Meeting of the Association for Preservation Technology will be held September 30 - October 3, 1971 at Cooperstown, N.Y. Harley J. McKee, SAH, 701 Crawford Avenue, Syracuse, N.Y. 13224, is President.

**Continuum.** "Continuum, inc., Analysts of Land Use History," is a new firm staffed by a landscape architect - historian and an architectural and planning historian under the direction of Joanna Sears, SAH. Knowing that the past has shaped the present and must be taken into consideration when planning for the future, Continuum is equipped to give landscape architects, planners, architects, and government agencies planning large scale development detailed historical reports of the area or region being taken under consideration. Continuum was organized with the idea that their seminal studies will be done in advance of design and thus aid organizations by giving them a broader background of knowledge to work from. Further information may be obtained from Continuum, inc., 1559 Peachtree Street, Suite A2, Atlanta, Georgia 30309.

**Friends of Cast Iron Architecture.** The FCIA is a recently organized action group concerned with the preservation of historic examples of the cast iron buildings erected in the United States during the mid- and later 19th century. Honorary Chairmen are Henry-Russell Hitchcock, SAH, and Sir Nikolaus Pevsner; Chairman and founder is Margot Gayle, SAH. For information and membership (\$2.00) write Room 20, 44 West Ninth Street, New York, N.Y. 10011.

**International Fund for Monuments.** In addition to its important work on monuments on Easter Island and in Ethiopia, the Fund now has undertaken a vigorous campaign to raise funds through a national series of local committees, to aid in the restoration of damaged and neglected historic buildings and art objects in Venice. The peril to Venice is emergency in nature, and the floods and pollution of recent years threaten its very existence over the long term. The International Fund for Monuments,

Inc. is a nonprofit fund raising organization affiliated with the United Nations; James A. Gray is Executive Director. To dramatize the dangers at Venice they have published an attractive book *Venice In Peril*, documenting the damage in excellent color photographs. For information about the Fund's Venice Committees, donations, and orders for the book at \$5.95 postpaid, address Fund at 15 Gramercy Park, New York, N.Y. 10003.

**Victorian Society-GB.** Mrs. Edward Fawcett, the very able Secretary of the British Victorian Society, will again be on a lecture tour to the United States this fall, in November. Should any organization be interested in arranging a lecture, contact Mrs. Fawcett at Victorian Society, 29 Exhibition Road, London SW7, England. Lecture topics include: Attitudes to Historic Buildings: A History of Architectural Taste; The Changing Fabric of English Cathedrals; The Evolution and Origins of the Victorian Country House; The Architectural Impact of Social Change in the Nineteenth Century: Cause and Effect; The Conservation of Historic Britain; and Victorian London.

### NEWS OF MEMBERS

GALE BROOKS of Miami University (Ohio) is conducting a survey of rural architecture in Butler County with a grant from the Ohio Arts Council . . . Kansas State University has named BERND FOERSTER Dean of the College of Architecture and Design, effective July 1. Foerster was formerly Professor and Dean of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute School of Architecture . . . VINCENT P. FOLEY was elected President of the International Society for Historical Archaeology at their annual meeting in January hosted by the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. . . . Under the Charles T. Mathews bequest, HENRY-RUSSELL HITCHCOCK has given a series of lectures, "Gothic Revived: 1700-1900," this spring for the school of Architecture of Columbia University, where he is serving as Visiting Professor . . . LEWIS MUMFORD has received the Philadelphia Art Alliance Award of Merit this spring . . . EDUARD F. SEKLER has received the Cross of Honor for Science and Art of the Austrian Republic for his contributions as "creative designer, historian and theorist, and representative of the Austrian cultural tradition at its best." Born in Vienna in 1920, Dr. Sekler is now Osgood Hooker Professor of the Visual Arts at Harvard University, and Director of the Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts . . . PHOEBE STANTON, Johns Hopkins University, has been awarded a Senior Fellowship by the National Endowment for the Humanities . . . BARBARA WRISTON, Art Institute of Chicago, has been elected a Fellow of the Society of Arts, London.

### OBITUARY

Recent deaths of SAH members: BARBARA FIELD KENNEDY, Houston, Texas; R. DANIEL RICKS, Ocala, Florida; and HAROLD H. WILCOX, New York.

### BOOKS

Ulrich Conrads. *Program and Manifestos on Twentieth Century Architecture*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1971. \$10. Originally published in Germany, 1964.

Sigfried Giedion. *Architecture and the Phenomena of Transition*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1971. \$18.50.

Alan Gowans, SAH, Ed. *On Arts In Society*. Victoria: University of Victoria, 1970. A selection of the periodical writings of Donald Egbert, in the form of a "festschrift" marking his retirement from Princeton University. Series: History in the Arts, 3. Available: American Life Foundation, Watkins Glen, N.Y.

Jacob Landy, SAH. *The Architecture of Minard Lafever*,

New York: Columbia University Press, 1970. \$17.50.

James Lees-Milne. *Another Self*. New York: Coward-McCann. \$4.95. An intensely private autobiography of the noted English architectural historian.

Pausanias. *Guide to Greece* 2 vol. Translated, with an introduction by Peter Levi, S.J. Baltimore: Penguin Books, 1971. \$6.50. New translation and commentary on a major 2nd century A.D. guide to Greece, and its monuments.

Nikolaus Pevsner. *Ruskin and Viollet-le-Duc Englishness and Frenchness in the Appreciation of Gothic Architecture*. London: Thames and Hudson, 1971. 42s.

Herbert Pothorn. *Architectural Style*. New York: Viking, 1971. \$7.95. Originally published in Germany, 1968.

Paul Simonsen. *Gothic: The Age of the Cathedral*. New York: Exposition Press, 1970. \$7.50. Intended principally for students of architecture.

Phoebe Stanton, SAH. *Pugin*. London: Thames and Hudson, 1971. 50s. (An American edition is expected.)

*Survey of London*. (F. H. W. Sheppard, General Editor). Vol. 35: The Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, and the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. £6. Vol. 36: The Parish of St. Paul, Covent Garden, £10. London: Athlone Press for the Greater London Council.

*Venice In Peril*. New York: International Fund for Monuments, 1970. \$5.95. A documentary account of the threatened and decaying buildings and art objects of Venice, which the Fund, at 15 Gramercy Park, New York, is trying to assist in protecting.

Wallace Reyburn. *Flushed With Pride. The Story of Thomas Crapper*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1971. \$2.45. Originally published in England, 1969. A useful contribution to the sparse literature of plumbing history.

### REPRINTS AND NEW EDITIONS

*Historic Homes of Alabama and Their Traditions* by National League of American Pen Women. Birmingham: Southern University Press, 1969. Some updated material included. \$12.50. Original edition, 1935.

*The Rise and Progress of the Present Taste in Planting Parks, Pleasure Grounds, Gardens, Etc.* Newcastle upon Tyne: Oriel Press, 1970. New introduction by John Harris. £5(\$13). Originally published in 1767. Available: publisher, 32 Ridley Place, Newcastle upon Tyne NE 8 LH, England.

John Summerson. *Victorian Architecture in England*. Four Studies in Evaluation, paperback ed. New York: W. W. Norton and Co., Inc., 1971. \$2.25. Originally published, 1970.

Nicholas B. Wainwright. *Philadelphia in the Romantic Age of Lithography*. Philadelphia: Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1970. \$15. An invaluable graphic reference for the architectural history of Philadelphia. Originally published in 1958.

Frank Lloyd Wright. *The Industrial Revolution Runs Away*. New York: Horizon, 1970. \$40. (A facsimile of Frank Lloyd Wright's copy of the original 1932 edition of *The Disappearing City* as subsequently revised in his hand; new text complete with his revisions on facing page.)

### BOOKLETS AND CATALOGUES

A. L. Bedingfeld and R. Gilyard-Beer. *Creake Abbey, Norfolk*. London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1970. 15 pp., illus., including fold-out measured drawings. 10p. Available: publisher, 49 High Holborn, London WC1 V6HB, England.

Myra Tolmach Davis. *Sketches in Iron. Samuel Yellin*,

*American Master of Wrought Iron 1885-1940.* Washington: Dimock Gallery, George Washington University, 1971. 31 pp., illus., catalogue of an exhibit of the great Philadelphia architectural ironworker artistry, with a list of his major works.

*Fifty Years Bauhaus.* London: Royal Academy of Arts, 1968. 365 pp., illus., Exhibition Catalogue. Available: Worldwide Books, 1047 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Mass. 02215. \$12.50 plus \$1 mailing charge.

*The Finest Thing of Its Kind in America, The Story of the Old Court House, Dayton, Ohio.* Dayton: Montgomery County Historical Society, 1971. 16 pp., illus. Available: publisher, The Old Court House, Dayton, Ohio 45402. \$1.12 postpaid.

*Göynük. A Survey of A Town in A Timber Region.* Ankara: Department of Restoration, Middle East Technical University, 1970. 63 pp., illus. Architectural survey of an historic Turkish village carried on under the direction of Cervat Erder, Department Chairman.

Frances Griffen. *Old Salem: An Adventure in Historic Preservation.* Winston-Salem, N.C.: Old Salem, Inc., 1970. 74 pp., illus.

*The Hudibras Tavern Dig.* Princeton, N.J.: Historical Society of Princeton, 1970. 40 pp., illus. Results of the archaeological excavation of the 18th century Hudibras Tavern, on Nassau Street. Constance Greiff, SAH, was active in the project.

Jain MacIvor. *Fort George.* Edinburgh: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1970. 43 pp., illus., including architects' and measured drawings of notable Scottish fort. 25p. Available: publisher, 49 High Holborn, London WC1 V6HB, England.

Mart Stam - *Documentation of His Work 1920-1965.* London: Royal Institute of British Architects Publications,

1970. 40 pp., illus. Originally published in Holland, 1969. Thorough documentation of the career of a neglected pioneer of modern architecture and planning. Available: publisher, 66 Portland Place, London W1N 4AD, England, \$3.85 postpaid.

C. A. Ralegh Radford. *Glasgow Cathedral.* Edinburgh: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1970. 42 pp., illus. 16p. Available: publisher, 13A Castle Street, Edinburgh, EH23AR, Scotland.

*Search for Total Construction - Art, Architecture and Town Planning-USSR 1917-1932.* Cambridge: Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, Harvard University, 1971. Exhibition Catalogue. 32 pp., illus. Based on an exhibit at the Carpenter Center that was originally prepared by the Technological University of Delft, and amplified for the showing at Harvard.

## JOURNALS AND ANNUALS

*Bulletin of the Association for Preservation Technology* Vol. II, 3-4, 1970. Special double issue, comprising a guide to the historic architecture of Quebec by A.J.H. Richardson, SAH, pp. 7-144.

*Historic Preservation*, January-March 1971. Special issue publishing the papers delivered at the 1970 National Trust Annual Meeting in Charleston, S.C. Includes articles on Charleston, contemporary buildings in historic areas, legal aspects of preservation and architectural surveys, including several by SAH members.

*Classical America* Vol. I, No. 1, 1971. \$2.00. New publication of Classical America Society, 10-41 51st Ave., Long Island City, N.Y. 11101. Includes articles of architectural history interest, including Henry Hope Reed, "The Vision Spurned, The Story of City Planning in New York," pp. 31-41.

## JAPAN, IN 1972 . . .

Announcements for the 1972 architectural tour in Japan (May 28-June 18) will reach the SAH membership on or about September 1, 1971. The tour will be under the Chairmanship of Professor



Bunji Kobayashi, Nihon University. Dr. Teiji Itō, who is to become a professor on the faculty of Kōgaku-in College of Technology in Tokyo, serves as Co-Chairman.

The tour will be extensive, including the Kashikojiima, Kyoto, Nara, Osaka, Nagoya, and Tokyo areas, with excursions to various points of interest away from these centers.

Pictured at the left is one of the sites to be visited - Hō-oh-dō, Hall of Amitabha, Byōdō-in Buddhist Temple (Uji-shi, 1053 A.D.)

*Byōdō-in, Uji,  
Japan*

## ARTICLES

Carlo Berghinz. "Venice is Sinking into the Sea," *Civil Engineering*, March 1971, pp. 67-71.

Herbert L. Harper. "The Antebellum Courthouses of Tennessee," *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, Spring 1971, pp. 3-25.

Mary Josephson. "Architecture: Lapidus' Pornography of Comfort," *Art In America*, March-April 1971, pp. 90-5.

Spiro Kostof, SAH. "Soleri's Arcology: A New Design for the City?," *Art In America*, March-April 1971, pp. 108-9.

Royster Lyle, Jr., SAH. "Rockbridge County's Boom Hotels," *Virginia Cavalcade*, Winter 1971, pp. 5-13.

James F. O'Gorman. "The Villa Lante in Rome: Some Drawings and Some Observations," *The Burlington Magazine*, CXIII, March 1971, pp. 133-138.

William E. Pritchard. "Uncovering Spanish Forts at Monterey," *The Pacific Historian*, Vol. 14, No. 3, Summer 1970, pp. 98-103.

"Restoration of Monuments in Tuscany," (Editorial), *The Burlington Magazine*, CXIII, December 1970, pp. 789-790. A critical view of the Soprintendenza's post-war policies.

## GRANTS

**National Endowment for the Humanities.** The NEH is accepting applications for Senior Fellowships for 1972-3 until June 21, 1971. The Fellowships are for periods of 6 to 12 months, and carry a stipend of \$1,500 per month. For additional information, write: Division of Fellowships and Stipends, National Endowment for the Humanities, Washington, D.C. 20506.

## COURSES AND CONFERENCES

**Cooperstown.** The 24th Annual Seminars on American Culture will be given at Cooperstown by the New York State Historical Association in two sessions, June 27-July 2, and July 4-10. For information address: Frederick L. Rath, Jr., Vice Director, New York State Historical Association, Cooperstown, N.Y. 13326.

**Institute of Pennsylvania Rural Life and Culture.** The 15th annual Institute will be held June 22-5 at the Pennsylvania Farm Museum near Lancaster, Pa. For additional information address: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Institute, Box 1026, Harrisburg, Pa. 17108.

**Irish Georgian Society.** The Society's Chairman, Desmond Guinness, SAH, has announced a seminar on Irish Art and Architecture, June 20-6, at Castletown House, County Kildare, the Society's headquarters. Members of SAH are invited to attend; the cost is \$120. For further information contact Irish Georgian Society, Castletown, Celbridge Co., Kildare, Ireland. Several free places have been reserved for young American professionals.

## TOURS

**Smithsonian Institution.** Among the Smithsonian's foreign study tours for 1971 are: Architectural and Historical Tour in Scotland, Wales and Ireland: May 31-June 15. Includes visits to private properties, in conjunction with the Irish Georgian Society and the Scottish National Trust. The tour will be directed by Richard H. Howland, SAH.

"No-Tour" Tour: May 26-June 16. Air France Excursion-Dulles/Paris/Dulles. Members make their own arrangements for travel in Europe.

South America: August 4 for 21 days. Tour of Brazil, Peru, Ecuador and Colombia, with emphasis on archaeology, old and new architecture, museum and private collections, plus a short visit to the upper Amazon.

"No-Tour" Tour: July 15-Aug. 3. New York/Vienna/New York.

Russia: October 25-Nov. 19. An unusual tour that includes Armenia, Samarkand, Kiev, Vladimir, and Novgorod besides extended visits to Moscow and Leningrad.

For itineraries and details, please write to Susan Kennedy, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560.

## EXHIBITS

**Art Institute of Chicago.** The Burnham Library of Architecture Gallery is showing the "Architecture of David Adler" through May 31. The exhibition includes photographs and drawings of elevations and details of ornament, both interior and exterior. On June 19 an exhibition of American architectural drawings from the collection of the Burnham Library will open. Supplementing the exhibition *Rise of an American Architecture* in the Morton Wing, the drawings are of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and include work by Peter B. Wight, Louis H. Sullivan, D.H. Burnham, John Wellborn Root, and I.K. Pond.

**Octagon.** During the month of June, an exhibit of landmarks in downtown Washington, D.C. will be at the Octagon House, Washington, D.C. The photographs document significant historical and architectural sites and buildings in the Downtown Urban Renewal Area. It is jointly sponsored by the American Institute of Architects Foundation and the National Capital Planning Commission. The Planning Commission's 1970 report on Landmarks in the Downtown Urban Renewal Area was the inspiration for the exhibit. In it, the Joint Committee on Landmarks, Washington's landmarks board, identified and classified landmarks which should be preserved and restored in the renewal process of this traditionally important business district, now in need of revitalization. It is hoped that the exhibit will create additional interest and concern for Washington's heritage of historic sites and their precarious future, and therefore encourage preservation and restoration to contemporary usage.

Sara Jameson

**Rome.** The Museo di Roma, Palazzo Braschi, had an exhibit of old photos of Rome - some in the 1840's - "Roma Cento Anni Fa/nelle Fotografie del Tempo," December 17, 1970 to March 17, 1971. This more or less celebrates the centennial of the capital. The catalogue at 2000 lire is illustrated and very well edited. Gives brief biographical notes on early photographers and notes on changes in topography.

Bernard Lemann

## SIBYL MOHOLY-NAGY

Sibyl Moholy-Nagy, who died in New York on January 8, 1971, was one of the sharpest critics the Society of Architectural Historians ever encountered. Her last letter to the *Journal* (published in March 1970) can hardly be surpassed in acidity. Yet she was also a life member and a most generous financial supporter of the Society, an avid reader of the *Journal* and a frequent contributor to it. In a way, all of her life's activities were mirrored in this charged positive-negative relationship to the SAH: impatient criticism and passionate concern went together, frequently confusing the recipient, but always meant to improve, to set right - and to help. When she hurt people's feelings (and she often did), she was genuinely, ingeniously surprised.

Sibyl Moholy-Nagy came to her pre-eminent position as an architectural critic and historian relatively late. She was born Dorothea Maria Pauline Alice Sibylle Pietzsch in Dresden on October 29, 1903. Her father was an architect and her family background was patrician. She started her lifelong rebellion by stepping out of that background: she became a dancer and an actress - and what a step out that was!

And she also began to write. The great event of her life was her marriage to Laszlo Moholy-Nagy, painter, writer, photographer, filmmaker, teacher, and an early member of the Weimar Bauhaus. To him — a man of powerful convictions, eloquence and strength — she became the most supportive, indeed self-effacing companion. Much later she was to write his biography under the title *Moholy-Nagy, Experiment in Totality* (1950, reprinted 1969), and some of the most poignant passages ever written by an architectural historian can be found in that tender and insightful book. Laszlo Moholy-Nagy and his wife came to the U.S. in 1937 and settled in Chicago, where he directed the New Bauhaus and its successor, the Institute of Design. He died, tragically before his time, in 1946. Only after his death did Sibyl Moholy-Nagy start on her own great career as a critic and historian, tentatively at first and then with ever-increasing momentum, assurance and mastery of the English language, which, after all, was not her native tongue. She also became an indefatigable lecturer and — by the testimony of literally hundreds of students — one of the most inspiring teachers of architectural history and architectural thought, a subject not always presented with the liveliness, the wit and the love she brought to it. She taught at Pratt Institute for 18 years, until her resignation in 1969, and then for a short time at Columbia University.

All her adult life she fought a hard fight against the mechanical, the mass-produced, the non-designed in modern architecture. She also fought against the functionalist theory. She became strongly anti-Gropius and anti-the-later-Bauhaus. Her article "Hitler's Revenge" (*Art in America*, September 1968) is rather eloquent on that score, to say the least. She of course ardently disliked Mies (cf. *SAH Journal*, October 1965). She believed in architecture as an art, in the building as form and space, in the city as a multi-faceted thing of visual beauty. She believed that "aesthetic deprivation can be as antisocial as the worst slum" (*Matrix of Man*, p. 111). Much of her anger can be understood from this passionate, compassionate conviction. Coupled with this anger, however, was a fine sense for quality. She had profound respect for Frank Lloyd Wright and for Le Corbusier. When a new building of merit arose, she would go all out in her interpretation and praise; her articles on the Art and Architecture Building at Yale (*Architectural Forum*, February 1964) and on the Boston City Hall (*Architectural Forum*, January 1969) stand out.

She did not, however, appreciate only the great architect. Time and again, she encouraged the young designer; and she pointed — before it became fashionable again — to the beauty of folk architecture. Her *Native Genius in Anonymous Architecture* (1957) is one of her most stimulating contributions, both in the material she collected and in the values she propounded. She was sustained by a strong sense of history and was always on the look-out for exciting inter-connections, whether in a small motif or in vast over-all patterns. She was often led astray, but bravely, even with a certain insouciance, tried again. I believe she will be proven right in seeing a strong link from Egypt to the beginnings of Greece. Her search for connections between pre-Columbian America and Asia was — to me — less convincing, but equally exciting. The verdict is still out.

Her last book, *Matrix of Man. An Illustrated History of Urban Environment* (1968), a strong affirmation of her faith in the historic city, deals not only with the organic forms of the past, with the morphology of urban growth; it reaches beyond the terrible blight of today into concepts for an ordered urban-architectural future. The book shows all her great strength and weaknesses in stark profile: the vision, the sense of values, the range, and the impatience with details. In her last years she ap-

peared driven, as if she felt that time was running short. She wanted to crown her life's work with a book on the very essence of architecture itself, which she called the *Canon of Architecture*, a title she later changed to *Pragma of Architecture*. It was to continue where *Matrix* left off; but it is unfinished. It is very much to be hoped that in some form it can be published. On her deathbed, in pain, this was her main concern.

Since this is not meant to be a bio-bibliographical notice, but an obituary for a remarkable human being in the center of constant controversy, I may be permitted to end on a personal note. It was not always easy to distinguish between a blunt, or even abrasive manner and the depth of the generosity and integrity underneath it: she was a critic; but I found her a true supporter when — with her fine instinct — she felt that support was more important than criticism. She was a friend full of warmth, gaiety, spontaneity, zest and strength. The world, without her, seems a bit paler to me.

Adolf K. Placzek

## RESEARCH

**Chartres Cathedral.** A foot rule, steel tape and string may seem like pretty simple tools, but they're all a Pennsylvania State University professor is using to set the record straight on one of the world's most famous buildings.

It is Chartres, glory of French cathedrals and a magnet for scholars and writers ever since it was rebuilt more than 750 years ago. According to Dr. Jan van der Meulen, SAH, professor of art history at the University, "No one has ever really measured or scientifically described Chartres — they've only 'interpreted' it." During the course of his research on the Cathedral, which began in 1958, Dr. van der Meulen has applied his ruler, tape and string to every square inch of the building he can reach. Many of his discoveries date from his examination of the Cathedral's foundations.

His painstaking measurements of its various axes have revealed that what scholars accepted as a crypt — the vaulted room built under the church in 1020 after fire destroyed an earlier building — is really the remains of a great buried cathedral going back at least 200 years earlier. "This means," Professor van der Meulen reports, "that the dimensions of the present Cathedral of Chartres, which were to become the model for all later French high Gothic churches, were not chosen freely by some 12th century architect with a brand new plan. They were fixed by an ancient crypt dating from the first millennium."

Van der Meulen thus points to the danger of the popular dating for Chartres which places its building essentially between 1194 and 1235, the result of a burst of inspired piety. "Evidence shows that the site had been a religious sanctuary since before the birth of Christ," he says, "and right through to the 16th century work continued on the building's sculpture." It is the sculptures which grace the facades of the church and its magnificent stained glass which have made Chartres a fulcrum for scholarly theories. Using reconstructions from carefully scaled drawings, Dr. van der Meulen believes he has proven a once discredited theory that sculptures on the Cathedral's north and south entrances were originally made for the west facade. "This helps explain," he notes, "why Chartres is the only cathedral with a triple sculptural program of such large size."

As for the windows, the Penn State art historian believes that many of them have been dated incorrectly because no one had previously ever bothered to describe the relationship of the windows to the architecture or even the windows themselves. "Contrary to what has been written," Dr. van der Meulen notes, "some of the famous windows were assembled after the medieval period."

from a Penn State University press release

## CHAPTERS

**Chicago.** On April 29, the Chapter will have its annual business meeting in the Burnham Library and hear a lecture by Horst de la Croix on "Military Architecture and Art History." Mr. de la Croix is currently visiting professor at the Chicago Circle Campus, University of Illinois. The last meeting of the season will be an architectural tour to Dwight and Kankakee, Illinois on May 22. This will include lunch at the Lodge in Dwight (formerly the Keeley Mansion) and supper in Yesteryear, the Bradley house by Wright in Kankakee.

**Latrobe Chapter of Washington.** On March 29, the Chapter was privileged to hear Barbara Wriston, SAH, Art Institute of Chicago, speak on "The Development of the Square in Europe and America," at the Woodrow Wilson historic house museum of the National Trust. A reception for Miss Wriston followed the lecture.

**New York.** Myra Nan Rosenfeld, SAH, spoke on "French Renaissance Domestic Architecture" March 10 at The Institute of Fine Arts. Michael Gold, Landmarks Preservation Commission, James Marston Fitch, SAH, and members of his Graduate Program in Restoration and Preservation, Columbia University, presented a program on "The Bogardus Buildings: Cast Iron Preservation in N.Y." on April 13, 1971, also at The Institute of Fine Arts.

**Northern Pacific Coast.** On March 27 the Chapter held its spring meeting at Port Townsend, Washington. In the morning session at the Port Townsend Art Gallery papers were presented by several SAH members, including Arthur A. Hart, Boise, Idaho, "The Victorian Architecture of Idaho"; Wallace K. Huntington, Portland, Oregon, "Victorian Gardens and Bedding Out"; Jay C. Henry, Berkeley, California, "Federal Architecture of the Brown Decades"; Victor Steinbrueck, Seattle, Washington, "Seattle's Pike Street Market"; and Marion D. Ross, Eugene, Oregon, "Nineteenth Century Architecture in Australia." After a luncheon and business meeting there was a bus tour of Port Townsend during which several of the Victorian houses of the town were visited.

*Marian Card Donnelly*

**Southern California.** On the occasion of a small but significant showing of designs by Will Bradley, arranged by Robert Wark of the Henry E. Huntington Gallery, the Southern California Chapter met in Pasadena on February 27 for a tour of Craftsman houses in the morning and a round of Craftsman talks in the afternoon. A group of about 80 SAH members and friends met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Musso, who live in the old (1910) E. J. Cheesewright house near the Arroyo Seco, and had coffee and instructions for a walk which took them to the house built by Jean Mannheim, the Pasadena artist and student of Frank Brangwyn. After admiring the studio-house and the paintings by Mannheim (and one by Brangwyn), the group went down the street to the home of Mr. Francis Dean, built originally by Ernest Batchelder, the famous Pasadena tile-maker and contributor to the *Craftsman Magazine*. The house and gardens are decorated with Batchelder products, but the sensation is the fireplace, a cascade of Batchelder tiles. After viewing several other fine Craftsman homes in a walk around the block, the Chapter drove a few blocks to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Raoul Savoie, a house designed by Greene and Greene in 1906, and then went to the Gamble House (only a chimney fell during the earthquake) for a picnic lunch. The Bradley show at the Huntington Gallery and three papers by SAH members Esther McCoy, "Mackintosh," David Gebhard, "Voysey," and Robert Winter, "Ashbee" completed the all-day program.

**University of Virginia.** Bruce MacDougal has been elected President of the University of Virginia Chapter. At the

February meeting, the Chapter heard James Sibley Jennings, SAH, Commission of Fine Arts, speak on the preservation of Milledgeville, Georgia.

A tour of the Green Springs area of Louisa County, Virginia was arranged for March 6, conducted by Mrs. Hiram Ely of "Hawkwood," leader of the Green Springs residents concerned over the projected state penal institution planned for the area. It is Mrs. Ely's contention that the proposed institution will disrupt the ecological balance of the region as well as destroy the rural atmosphere of this historic area.

On March 17, the Chapter presented James Wollon, SAH, architect with the firm of Orin M. Bullock, Jr., FAIA, SAH, of Baltimore, speaking on "Problems in Architectural Restoration." The talk was illustrated by slides of restoration projects handled by the firm during the past two years. The speaker also provided examples of original and reproduced woodwork, working drawings, and project books to further illustrate the process of restoration.

**Western Reserve Architectural Historians.** The Chapter had a successful "Show and Tell" slide program on March 31 in the new Marcel Breuer addition to the Cleveland Museum of Art. Participants and their subjects were as follows: Bruce Hedderson, "Ohio City Renaissance"; Martin Linsey, SAH, "French Ancestor of Cleveland Door"; Clyde Patterson, AIA, "Ohio Arts Council"; Genevieve Miller, SAH, and A. Benedict Schneider, SAH, "Bavarian Holiday" (briefing on SAH tour); Richard N. Campen, SAH, "Court Houses of Ohio"; Frances Taft, SAH, "Beyond Knossis"; and Gertrude Hornung, "Megalithic Period."

The Chapter's next meeting will be held on Sunday, May 16, when, tentatively, a tour of the old Francis Drury estate (Charles Schneider, architect) will be combined with a tour of the new University School plant (Peter Van Dijk, designer), of Gates Mills and Hunting Valley respectively.

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION

**Chicago.** The Old Chicago Stock Exchange at 30 North LaSalle Street is the last Adler and Sullivan office building left in Chicago, and one of their finest works. Yet paradoxically, developers in February announced plans to demolish it this May. Fears for the building's fate were first aroused last August when the Chicago City Council refused to designate it a "Chicago Landmark," despite the recommendation of its own Landmarks Commission. Following the demolition announcement, interested individuals and organizations petitioned the City's Landmarks Commission to begin new proceedings to designate the building a Chicago Landmark in order to prevent demolition. The commission voted unanimously to do so.

On February 24 the Landmarks Preservation Council, an Illinois nonprofit corporation, was formed by architects, architectural historians, lawyers, city planners, real estate and financial experts and representatives of local and national organizations. While it has a broad purpose for preservation and restoration in and about the Chicago metropolitan area, initial efforts are being devoted exclusively to saving, restoring, and preserving 30 North LaSalle as a viable commercial office building and a showpiece of the Chicago School of Architecture.

A Task Force is developing a comprehensive program for the acquisition of 30 North LaSalle by the City or other appropriate agency, for its transfer to an appropriate holding organization and for its restoration and long-term preservation using available means and financing. The program comes to grips with the tough financial

problems of preserving and maintaining landmark structures in prime commercial areas.

Strange as it may seem in a city which for 90 years has been one of the world's great innovative centers of modern architectural design, the City has generally shown little interest in preserving what is, in fact, an important element of the national heritage. However, in response to the clamor over the Stock Exchange, Mayor Richard J. Daley has held up a demolition permit and appointed a blue-ribbon committee to examine the situation. During this study SAH members are urged to write to the Mayor of Chicago asking him to save the building (The Honorable Richard J. Daley, Mayor, Room 507, City Hall, Chicago, Illinois 60602).

The Landmarks Preservation Council needs the support of all interested individuals and organizations. Dues are \$8.

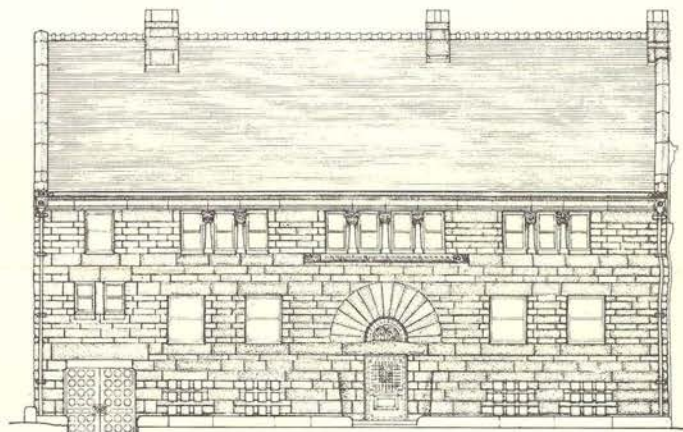
**Laing Stores.** The preservation of the Bogardus' Laing Stores in New York City — the earliest surviving cast iron building in the United States — has been assured by the careful dismantling of its cast iron sections under the direction of Winston R. Weisman, SAH, Penn State University. As part of an urban renewal project, the building has been removed in an outstanding operation involving the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, Columbia University, and Professor Weisman, for later reassembly in the Borough of Manhattan Community College. Students in the graduate program in restoration and preservation at Columbia assisted in the documentation of the structure as the building came down, and the process was photographed by the Historic American Buildings Survey, National Park Service.

**Museum of Afro-American History.** The Museum of Afro-American History in Boston, Massachusetts and the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities have put together an *ad hoc* committee to save the Old African Meetinghouse. The Old African Meetinghouse, #8 Smith Court, Boston, was built by Africans in 1806

with funds raised by Cato Gardner, a freed slave. The Abolitionist Movement was founded within its sanctuary in 1832. In 1905 the Meetinghouse was purchased from the black congregation by Congregation Lebaiz for use as a synagogue. This congregation is now selling the building and has agreed to accept a price below market value if the tradition of the building is to be preserved. Working against time, upwards of \$100,000 must be raised to secure the purchase price and accomplish necessary rehabilitation. Tax deductible contributions to the Museum of Afro-American History are earnestly solicited and may be sent to the Committee Coordinator, 74 Joy St., Boston, Mass. 02114.

**National Park Service.** National Historic Landmark status has been awarded an additional 38 properties by Secretary of the Interior Rogers C. B. Morton. Among the sites honored are: Lockwood-Matthews Mansion, Norwalk, Conn.; Avery Coonley House, Riverside, Ill.; Unity Temple, Oak Park, Ill.; New Old South Church, Trinity Church and First Harrison Grey Otis House, Boston; Memorial Hall and Sever Hall, Cambridge; Gore Place, Waltham, Mass.; the U.S. Post Office and Custom House and the Union Station, St. Louis; Watts Sherman House, Newport; and three historic districts — Pullman, in Chicago, Ill., College Hill, Providence, R.I., and The Green, New Haven, Conn. For more information contact National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings, National Park Service, Washington, D.C. 20240.

**Philadelphia.** Efforts are now being made by the Friends' Historical Commission to save the 12th Street Meeting House from destruction when the Society of Friends sells the property for redevelopment. It is hoped to move the building in sections to a new site, possibly in Society Hill, if an organization is found to use the relocated structure. SAH member Thomas Wistar called this to our attention, and requests that helpful suggestions be sent to the Friends' Historical Commission, 1515 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, Pa.



John Glessner House, H.H. Richardson, Architect, 1886-7. Object of a new fund raising drive by the Chicago School of Architecture Foundation.

HABS, BY ERIC DE LONY

Chicago Stock Exchange, Adler and Sullivan, Architects, 1894. Threatened with demolition, despite the efforts of preservationists.

PHOTO: CERVIN ROBINSON FOR HABS