SAH NOTICES

1979 Annual Meeting, Savannah—April 4-6. David Gebhard, University of California, Santa Barbara, will be general chairman of the meeting. Leopold Adler II and Dean Owens will be honorary local chairman, and Holly Symmes Montford and Beth Lattimore Reiter will act as local chairman.

Persons wishing to submit papers for the Savannah meeting are reminded that the Deadline for submission of papers to session chairmen is September 1, 1978. (Sessions listed in April or June Newsletters, with addresses of persons chairing each session.)

1980 Annual Meeting—Madison, Wisconsin (April 23-27). David Gebhard, University of California, Santa Barbara, will be general chairman of the meeting. University of Wisconsin members Eric S. McCreary, Elvehjem Art Center, and Narciso Menocal, Department of Art History, will be local chairmen.

1981 Annual Meeting—Seattle, Washington (April 1-5). Damie Stillman, University of Delaware, will be general chairman of the meeting. Earl D. Layman, Historic Preservation Officer of the City of Seattle, will serve as local chairman.

1979 Annual Tour—Princeton (and central New Jersey), October 17-21. Constance Greif, Director, Heritage Studies, will serve as chairman of the tour.

1979 Foreign Tour—Spain, May 24-June 16. John D. Hoag, University of Colorado at Boulder, will be chairman of the tour. Announcements for the tour will reach the SAH membership immediately after September 4 (Labor Day).

SAH Alice Davis Hitchcock Book Award. The 1979 chairman is Anatole Senkevitch, Jr., with Rosemarie Bletter and Kenneth LaBudde serving with him on the committee.

Founders’ Award. Neville Thompson will chair the committee, and will be assisted by Richard Guy Wilson and Patricia Waddy.

SAH Placement Service Bulletin. The next Bulletin will be enclosed with the October issue of the Newsletter. Deadline: position-available and member-applicant listings must reach the SAH office (address above) no later than September 10, 1978.

CHAPTERS

(Note from the editor: Chapters should send news directly to me at RPI. Deadline is six weeks before date of publication. Advance news is more publishable than after-the-event reports. A list of current officers will be published in the December issue; deadline is October 14.)

FUND DRIVE

Although notification has not been received from the National Endowment for the Humanities concerning the SAH application for a Challenge Grant, we are happy to report that $18,741.38 toward the first year’s (October 1, 1977—September 30, 1978) required $20,000 matching funds had been raised by June 30. The response from individual and institutional members has been very gratifying, and we hope that all members of the Society will contribute to the fund-raising effort.

James H. Halpin
Finance Committee Chairman

Landscape Architecture. This Chapter now publishes a newsletter, of which Vol. 3 No. 1 includes announcements of landscape architecture programs, tours, exhibits, and publications. Membership secretary is William Grundman, Department of Landscape Architecture, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa 50010.

New York. Spring semester speakers: Eloise Angiola, on the symbolic meaning of baptistries; Robert Freeman (SAH), on preservation and revitalization efforts in Providence; Alfred K. Frazer (SAH), on “The Propylon of Ptolemy II in Samothrace.”

Henry-Russell Hitchcock, 75th birthday celebration: On April 13 at the Century Association, over a hundred people gathered at a reception for Professor Hitchcock. Heartfelt congratulations and sincerest good wishes were extended to him by close friends and associates who represented all those who have worked with him as colleagues and students at Smith, at the Institute of Fine Arts, the Museum of Modern Art, in the Victorian Society, among the Friends of Cast-Iron Architecture, at Avery Library, and the SAH. The guests were treated to some personal reminiscences as well. One old friend, for example, said that the hyphen had been inserted in his name to forestall his being called Mr. Russell Hitchcock by Europeans, but Brendan Gill (SAH) declared that the hyphen disguised the existence of twins—one Henry and the other Russell; a single Hitchcock could never have published so much work of outstanding quality in one lifetime!

New England. Spent a morning with Mrs. Walter Gropius, on April 30 or May 28; joined with the Tupin Bannister Chapter for a tour of Amherst and Old Deerfield, led by Paul Norton, May 6 and 7.

Harley McKee. This Chapter now publishes a newsletter, which includes a calendar of local events of interest to architectural historians.
**Missouri Valley.** In February, a showing of slides taken in the U.S.S.R. by Geraldine Fowle and Milton Perry; in April a tour of Elsah, Illinois and Principia College.

**Philadelphia.** Toured Lancaster, Pennsylvania, with the Victorian Society on May 13, guided by Elaine Holden and John Snyder.

**UBRAN HISTORY**

At a breakfast meeting during the annual convention in San Antonio, some 35 persons agreed to the formation of a Committee on Urban History of SAH; in the course of the convention, another 65 signed a list requesting to be mailed information by the committee. This brings the total of interested persons to about 150. In preparation for the Savannah meeting in 1979, Kurt Forster of Stanford University has agreed to chair a group planning a panel discussion of the nature and extent of architectural historians' dealing with urban history. An evening session on Urban History, chaired by Norma Evenson, had already been announced for 1979.

Barbara Wriston will investigate the possibility of a conference on American Urban History, and Joan Draper will work with Dora Crouch on the long-range possibility of an international conference. Other committee members are Jean Henry, Barry N. Zarakov, Margot Gayle, Michael F. Crowe, Karl T. Haglund, David Schuyler, and Marta McBride.

Others who wish to have their names added to this mailing list, please write: Dora Crouch, School of Architecture, RPI, Troy, New York 12181.

**South Atlantic Urban Studies** seeks manuscripts for forthcoming issues; persons interested in doing book reviews should submit vitaes to the editor. Write: SAUS, Urban Studies Center, College of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina 29401.

The Archeology Services Division of the Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, United States Department of the Interior, Washington D.C. 22040, is issuing a new study of the special problems of archeology in urban settings.

**TEACHING URBAN HISTORY**

At the EDRA conference in Tucson in April, one symposium dealt with environmental history and historic research as part of the design process. Participating were Ricardo L. Castro, Thomas Hubka, Robert Melnick, who state, "Our research, focused on the notion of generative historic imagery as a fundamental grammar in the design process, illustrates the role which historic-environmental research should play in such a process."

**Structures and the Urban Environment** is a course taught by David P. Billington at Princeton. In the preface to the book which accompanies the course, he writes:

"This course seeks to develop a basic understanding of the scientific rationale behind the structural form for large-scale urban public works, of the urban social context within which such works are funded and built, and of the symbolic meaning of these structures seen as cultural monuments and works of art.

These lecture notes that are the substance of this volume discuss the political issues raised by large public works structures because of their great cost and of the changes they bring to the fabric of the city. They develop these issues by compara-

tive critical analyses of, for example, such individual works as the Washington Monument and the Eiffel Tower, such building complexes as Chicago's John Hancock Center and New York's World Trade Center, and such regional structuring as the port complex of Greater Rotterdam and that of Greater New York. Here the engineering student can find through specific examples, how the works of engineers and in some cases the actions of engineers have played a central role in modern society while at the same time the liberal arts student has the experience of seeing the central issues of urban life from the perspective of the engineer. By studying these selected structures students can see how public works designed by the visually sensitive engineer provide not only needed public facilities at minimum public cost, but also essential visual elegance with maximum access. Technological parks, such as the Brooklyn Bridge's central elevated walkway or Rotterdam's Berenplaat water treatment plant, show how public structures essential to urban life can become, at the same time, elegant environments for relaxation and for recreation.

Following the lecture notes are a series of structural studies which present the elements of structural form using equilibrium equations to compute internal forces arising from external loads. By emphasizing overall behavior, these studies develop by simple computations the rationale for such forms as, for example, the Eiffel Tower, the Brooklyn Bridge, and the Chicago John Hancock Center. Such computations provide the engineering student with an insight into form not normally available in technical courses and give the liberal arts students an introduction into engineering concepts by learning some of the simplest techniques used by practicing engineers.

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**Term Paper Criteria**

The book may be ordered from the Princeton University Bookstore for $7.50.
ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

In connection with the teaching of architectural history, the following resolution was introduced at the ACSA convention (held in Tucson, Arizona):

RESOLUTION OFFERED ON SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1978, TO THE ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGIATE SCHOOLS OF ARCHITECTURE

Interest in teaching the History of Architecture is being renewed. Factual knowledge in history has increased by leaps and bounds over the last decade, as even a cursory examination of the latest journals and books quickly shows. Although the study of history involves a different methodology, and may not appear to have the immediate applicability of design, structures, construction, mechanical services, and other like subjects, is it not equally true that in working into an unsettling future, the balance, maturity, and steadying effect of history may prove extremely useful to the survival of the integrity of the profession we all care about?

For these reasons the ACSA now urges that the National Architectural Accrediting Board invite one or more architectural historians of national repute and highest credentials to join them on the top review board as full-fledged members, and that the board do all in its power as quickly as possible to encourage the presence of architectural historians as voting members of accrediting teams.

In addition to strengthening the teaching of architectural history itself, such an action would also emphasize the growing awareness of architectural theory and the practice of rehabilitation, and the ability of history to support and assist both of them.

While it is inevitable that architectural historians will remain a minority in numbers within architectural faculties, can that fact be a legitimate reason for depriving them of adequate representation in council, or for denying them the opportunity to assist each other toward improving the quality of the teaching of history which would be made possible by their membership on accrediting teams?

Walter Creese (SAH) introduced the resolution. It was seconded by Patrick Quinn (SAH) of RPI and Bernd Foerster (SAH) of Kansas State.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

The annual report of the International Research and Exchanges Board is now available from 110 East 59th Street, New York, New York 10022.

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission has a volunteer intern program for upper level undergraduate or graduate students with backgrounds in American history, American studies, or archives administration. They will work with one of two Commission staffs—either preparing a computer-assisted guide to archives and manuscripts in the United States or doing research at the National Archives and Library of Congress. Write: Nancy Sahli, Coordinator, Guide Project, NHPRC, National Archives, Washington, D.C. 20408, or Mary A. Giunta, Archivist, NHPRC Research Staff, same.

A Fulbright grant is available for 1979 and later, for an American scholar to study a New Zealand topic at the Alexander Turnbull Library (P.O. Box 12349, Wellington, N.Z.).

ADVERTISEMENT

JOHN UNRAU

Looking at Architecture with Ruskin

Ruskin's sensitivity to the complexity of visual experience, coupled with his power as a draughtsman, makes him one of the most exciting commentators on architecture. This survey of how Ruskin looked at buildings brings to light many passages, previously unknown or ignored, which express some of his most interesting insights. His awareness of the importance of viewpoint, colour, and shadow, and even of the role of subliminal perception shows him to be astonishingly in advance of his times. Much of his insight has not yet been absorbed, let alone superseded by modern criticism. The text is accompanied by more than a hundred illustrations, including 64 drawings by Ruskin.

$15.00

University of Toronto Press

33 East Tupper Street, Buffalo, NY 14203
Information about the Woodrow Wilson fellowships may be obtained by writing to the Smithsonian, Washington, D.C. 20560; scholars in the humanities, at the postdoctoral level and usually with major publications already to their credit may be supported for four to twelve months. Deadline for applications is October 1.

The American Council of Learned Societies has a number of programs; an important deadline is September 30. Write: ACLS, 345 46th Street, New York, New York 10017.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Winner of the 1978 AIA Gold Medal is PHILIP JOHNSON, architect and author of The International Style, Architecture Since 1922 (with HENRY-RUSSELL HITCHCOCK) and Mies Van Der Rohe. MARJORIE PEARSON has replaced ALAN BURNHAM, who retired, as Director of Research, Landmarks Preservation Commission, New York, effective March 1. GEORGE EHRlich has assumed Chairmanship of the 1978 SAH Nominating Committee. News has been received of the death of BENJAMIN M. RICE, New Hampshire. DAVID F. RANSOM is the author of a new book, George Keller Architect. JAMES MASSEY has left his post as vice president for historic properties with the National Trust to assume the executive directorship of the Historic House Association, a new group formed to represent the interests of private owners of historic houses. The National Academy of Design has elected VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY to Associate Membership. GEORGE M. NOTTER of Anderson Notter Finegold recycled an abandoned tannery complex in Peabody, Mass., into housing for the elderly. A paper, "Architecture or Revolution?" was presented at the Viennese colloquium, "Europesprache," by EDUARD SEKLER, Harvard Graduate School of Design. NEA's Architecture and Urban Design Director ROY KNIGHT was a visiting critic at Catholic. New faculty at RPI include MICHAEL KWARTLER, JOHN STUBBS of LSU is on leave this semester to direct an archaeological site survey of Quesir in Egypt and to assist the National Park Service in D.C. in implementing the Tax Reform Act as it benefits architectural preservation. Los Angeles architect WILLIAM KELLY will lead a summer architectural tour of European capitals. GERALD MCCUE and CHARLES MOORE were part of a special two-day visiting committee at the School of Architecture, RPI. James Barker, MICHAEL FAZIO, and Hank Hildebrandt are co-authors of The Small Town as an Art Object. ROBERT WINTER took part in a UCLA symposium in May, called "A Tale of Two Cities": he debated the relative merits of architecture in San Francisco and Los Angeles, with Judith Waldhorn. DOLLYN LYNDON, now FAIA, will be a jury member for the UIA international Student Design Competition; he is joining the faculty at Berkeley. At the University of Wisconsin/Milwaukee, EDMUND BACON will be Visiting Eschweiler Professor of Architecture. Testifying before the Senate public works committee, R. RANDALL VOSBECK has urged augmented funding for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; in a related effort, GORDON D. ORR, JR. has urged the House appropriations subcommittee on the Department of the Interior that money is needed for increased federal historic preservation activities, since only about half as much has been funded as was authorized. A series of town meetings on the quality of life are being held across Texas, sponsored by the Texas Society of Architects; speakers include HANS BLUMENFELD and R. BUCKMINSTER FULLER.

JOHN McANDREW

I would like to pay tribute to one of our colleagues, who was also my friend and mentor for forty years. John McAndrew died last month at the age of 73. A native New Yorker and a graduate architect, he was, one might say, an activist among architectural historians. He did much to awaken New York's and indeed America's awareness of the art.

As a brilliant young professor at Vassar he brought architecture to life for young ladies of the Establishment, a number of whom were to play important roles in cultural enterprises. Later in the 1930s he became head of the Department of Architecture and Design at the Museum of Modern Art. He gave cachet to its 1939 interiors, introducing the new furniture of Aalto and Mathsson. Earlier he had staged a one-building show devoted to Fallingwater, which led to its widespread fame, and in 1940 McAndrew organized a great, inclusive Frank Lloyd Wright exhibition at the Museum. As a result in 1941 Fritz Gutheim's book of excerpts was published, Frank Lloyd Wright on Architecture, followed by Professor Hitchcock's basic In the Nature of Materials, 1942, and in 1943, a new edition of Wright's An Autobiography. (All three books are still in print.) This remarkable coordinated effort helped to launch Wright on his "second career." Furthermore, McAndrew gave an important first exhibition in America to Alvar Aalto, and in many other ways added luster to architectural activities in American museums.

In ensuing years John McAndrew's work centered first on Mexico, whose architecture he explored with profound enthusiasm (witness his tome on 16th-century open-air churches), then, on Wellesley College where he was Chairman of the Department of Art and Director of the Museum. His distinguished record there included bringing Paul Rudolph as first modern architect to the campus. Finally John and his delightful Bostonian wife Betty began to spend more time in Venice, and their home there became an international center for lovers of architecture. The McAndrews were leaders in the movement to save Venice, achieving wonders with the help of their many friends. John's large manuscript on Renaissance architecture in Venice is being readied for publication.

McAndrew's professional writings and activities were outstanding, but he was also widely appreciated as one of the kindliest and most entertaining of companions, temperament rich knowledge with a deft, perceptive humanity. He was a truly enlivening man who will be greatly missed.

—Edgar Kaufmann, Jr.

PUBLICATIONS LIST


Slides. Slides of the SAH Kentucky tour, autumn 1976, are available from Richard F. Campen (SAH), Architectural Slide Collection, Chagrin Falls, Ohio, who also offers slides of New England, Middle Atlantic States, Annapolis, southern Maryland and Philadelphia, as parts of his general collection "Architecture in the U.S."
RECORDS

A well-illustrated and interesting article by C. Ford Peatross (SAH) has been issued by the Library of Congress as a booklet entitled Architectural Collections of the Library of Congress. It originally appeared in the July 1977 issue of the Library's Quarterly.

Under UNESCO auspices, the Spanish Ministry of Housing and the International Union of Architects are conducting an international survey on the following questions:

- What are the information needs of architects, construction policy-makers, researchers and architectural educators in various parts of the world?
- What private/governmental organizations and information centers exist to meet these needs?
- What information services and products are needed but do not now exist? Who should provide them, at what cost, and how should they be implemented?

To list your collection or obtain information, write: Donald Conway, Arkivist, UNESCO, Sector of Social Sciences, 4 Place de Fontency, 75700 Paris, France.

Various agencies of the federal government generate or collect architectural records. Guidelines for their retention and disposal are the subject of the General Records Schedule 22, "Design and Construction Drawings and Related Records." This schedule, which was prepared by the staff of the Center for Cartographic and Architectural Archives, was issued as one of twenty-two General Records Schedules which are included in the Federal Property Management Regulations. These schedules provide disposition standards for records common to several or all agencies of the Federal Government. Those items which are designated permanent records will be considered by the National Archives for accessioning when the records are no longer needed by the agencies for current administrative activities. Xerox copies of General Records Schedule 22 are available for $2.00. To order, send a check or money order payable to the National Archives Trust Fund (NNTS), and addressed to the Cashier, National Archives (GSA), Washington, D.C. 20408.

QUERIES

Information concerning the present location of nine ledger-sized scrapbooks for the years 1904-1909 and 1911-1929, prepared by the Chicago (Winnetka) architect William A. Otis and donated in 1961 by his daughter, Louise Otis (Mrs. Maurice A.) Burlinson, to an unnamed historical society, is sought by Barbara J. Buchbinder-Green (SAH), 1232 Asbury Avenue, Evanston, Illinois 60202.

Mark Wheeler, 320 Bawden St. - 701, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901, paints watercolors of historic buildings and would like to find someone to write historical background material for his works.

Information concerning drawings, photographs, architectural specifications and correspondence relating to the life and work of the architect John Notman (1818-1865) is sought for a catalog raisonne being written in conjunction with a major Notman exhibition by The Athenaeum of Philadelphia scheduled to open in October, 1978. Please contact Constance M. Greiff (SAH), The Athenaeum, 219 S. 6th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106.

Richard Upjohn. The National Park Service which has charge of the restoration of the home, known as "Lindenwald," of President Martin Van Buren, in Kinderhook, New York, is urgently seeking drawings, plans, and specifications of improvements on the building including two roofs, library wing, additional living quarters, Victorian portico, and Italianate tower designed by Upjohn from 1849-1850. Please contact William N. Jackson, United States Dept. of Interior, National Park Service, Martin Van Buren National Service Site, P.O. Box 545, Kinderhook, New York 12106. In reply refer to H22.

Information concerning the American gasoline station is sought for a social/architectural history of the building type. Any material about specific unusual, well preserved, or adaptively reused stations is welcome. Contact: Daniel Vieyra (SAH), Rice University, School of Architecture, Houston, Texas 77001.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of a folio of drawings of a (Boston?) town house dated c. 1833 by Asher Benjamin or any other similar material should contact Jack Quinan (SAH), Art History Department, 345 Richmond Quad, Ellicott Complex, SUNY at Buffalo, Amherst, New York 14261. This folio was sold by Goodspeed's of Boston in 1931.

LETTERS

To encourage submission of Letters to the Editor, we offer the following excerpt from a letter:

To the Editor:

It is so rarely that I feel qualified to make any comment on the learned writings in the SAH publications that I fairly leap to point out a couple of trivial errors in the April Newsletter (errors so small that they definitely do not require public correction):

In the Avery Library article:

Temple Hoyne Buell should read Temple Hoyne Buell.

The Shopping plaza referred to is called "Cherry Creek Shopping Center," but is located in Denver, Colorado, not in Cherry Creek.

These two points are matters of fact. Another point I am less sure about: I find it hard to believe that Cherry Creek Shopping Center was "the country's first open-mall shopping plaza." Without checking reference material, I feel that there must have been other plazas of this sort before approximately 1947 when Cherry Creek was built. Possibly you know.

Sincerely,

Philip Atchison, AIA

SCHOOLS AND CONFERENCES

Association for Preservation Technology will meet September 20-24 in Ottawa, Canada, on the theme "Conservation of Sites and Structures—State of the Art in 1978." Before the meeting, two technical conservation courses will be given September 18-20: "Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering for Conservators of Historic Structures" and "Conservation of Wood in Historic Buildings: II." Write APT Executive Secretary, Ann Falkner, P.O. Box 2487, Station D., Ottawa, Ontario, Canada KIP 5W6.
BOOKS OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

Many members of the SAH are already on our permanent mailing list. So, to avoid expensive duplication, we have not used the SAH list to distribute "Some Books About The Nineteenth Century"—a catalogue of thirty-two pages featuring ten color plates. If you have not received a copy, please send us a postcard or letter requesting one.

What follows is a short list of books in the catalogue possibly of interest to you. The list of reprints (many of which have new introductions, bibliographies, illustrations, and indices) is followed by original publications.

ALL BOOKS ARE SHIPPED POSTPAID

REPRINTS

*Victorian Village Builder* by A. J. Bicknell (1872). Hitchcock, 160. Four color plates, casebound. 20.00

*Specimen Book of One Hundred Architectural Designs* by A. J. Bicknell (1878). Hitchcock, 171. Paper. 4.00

*Victorian Architecture: Two Pattern Books* combines A. J. Bicknell’s "Detail, Cottage and Constructive Architecture" (1873), Hitchcock, 164, with its sequel by W. T. Comstock, "Modern Architectural Designs and Details" (1881), Hitchcock, 279. Casebound. 20.00

*Village and Farm Cottages* by H. W. Cleaveland and the Backus Brothers (1856). Hitchcock, 272. Paper. 6.00

*Country Seats (1863) and Modern Dwellings (1878)* by Henry Hudson Holly. Hitchcock, 598 and 600. Paper back. 9.00


*Model Homes by Palliser & Palliser* (1878). Hitchcock, 915. Paperback. 4.00

*Victorian Gardens*, a reprint of the first half of Frank J. Scott’s "The Art of Beautifying Suburban Home Grounds" (1870). See Hitchcock, 1137. Paper. 7.00

*Country Homes* by George E. Woodward (1866). Hitchcock, 1427. Paperback. 5.00

*National Architect* by George E. Woodward (1869). Hitchcock, 1436. Two color plates, casebound. 20.00


*Victorian Ironwork*, a reference edition of J. B. Wickersham’s catalogue of 1857. Casebound. 15.00


*American Woman’s Home* by Catharine E. Beecher and Harriet Beecher Stowe (1869). Paperback. 6.00

*Lectures on Ventilation* by Lewis W. Lees (1868). Paperback. 3.00

*Modern Ornamentation* by Christopher Dresser (1862). Fourteen color plates. Paperback 9.00

*History of the Gothic Revival* by Charles Eastlake (1872). Paperback. 7.00

*Harrison Brothers Paint Card of 1871*. A single folio sheet reproducing nearly fifty exterior colors. 2.00

ORIGINALS


*A Walking Tour in Canandaigua, New York* by Mary Radant Tomlan (1977). Paperback. 3.00


*Early Architecture in the Genesee Valley*, an exhibition of drawings by Carl F. Schmidt and photographs by Roger B. Smith (1975). Paperback. 5.00

*The Glorious Enterprise: The Centennial Exhibition of 1876* by John Mass (1973). Casebound. 15.00


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**AMERICAN LIFE FOUNDATION**  
**AND STUDY INSTITUTE**  
**Watkins Glen, New York 14891**
A two-day seminar entitled "Effective Management of Costs, Codes and Design in Building Re-Use" is being sponsored by Architectural Record magazine to help building design professionals and developers take advantage of the many opportunities to give new life to old buildings. The schedule for this seminar is:

- San Francisco (August 7-8, 1978);
- New York (September 11-12, 1978);

The three lecturers for this program are: Herbert McLaughlin, a partner in the San Francisco firm of Kaplan/McLaughlin Architects/Planners; George M. Notter, Jr. (SAH), a principal of Anderson Notter Finegold Inc., Boston; and Roger P. Lang (SAH), vice president for Preservation, Restoration and Adaptive Use Services at the Boston firm of Perry, Dean, Stahl & Rogers, Inc., Architects.

Contact Mr. Hamlin or Ms. Ting at (212) 997-3088.

The Regional Conference of Historical Agencies announces the Seneca Falls Women's History and Studies Conference on Friday and Saturday, November 3-4, 1978. Papers with interests in New York women's history and women's studies and workshop proposals should be sent to The Program Committee, RCHA, 314 E. Seneca St., Manlius, New York 13104.


EXHIBITS

On May 14, a retrospective exhibit on the Architectural Partnership of Hornblower and Marshall opened at the Woodrow Wilson House in Washington, D.C. The exhibit is the first serious examination of this prolific Washington firm, architects of many houses and the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History, the United States Custom House at Baltimore, Maryland, and the Monkey House at the National Zoo.

A catalog with over 20 photographs and illustrations will accompany the exhibit. It includes a brief history of the architects and their firm as well as a self-guided walking tour of their work in the Kalorama neighborhood surrounding the Wilson house. The book, entitled Hornblower and Marshall, Architects, (written by Anne Peterson, drawings by Matthew Mosca, and photographs from the F. B. Johnston Collection at the Library of Congress) is available through the Wilson house for $3.95.

The exhibit, which will run through September 30, 1978, is the latest in a series at the Wilson House documenting the architectural history of Washington, D.C. The Woodrow Wilson House is a property of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. It is located at 2340 S Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008, and is open weekdays, 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. and weekends, 12:00 noon to 4:00 P.M.

American Cities and Towns as seen in engravings, etchings, and lithographs, are on display through October 1978 at Winterthur near Wilmington, Delaware.

University of Detroit. "America's Architectural Heritage," a major photographic exhibition of outstanding examples of architecture, presented a selection of 234 black and white photographs and accompanying text by G. E. Kidder Smith (SAH). The scope of the exhibition ranged from structures built by Southwest Indians in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries through World War II architecture.

PRESERVATION


Taxes. The following story is quoted from the Newsletter of the Preservation League of New York:

In reversing its earlier decision, the Internal Revenue Service has issued a finding in favor of the tax-exempt status of the Roslyn Preservation Corporation. The Corporation was organized in 1971 by members of the Roslyn Landmark Society and other citizens as a revolving fund under Section 404 of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law of New York State; in 1972 it was granted exemption under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The corporation's sole stated purpose was the acquisition, restoration, and disposition of historic buildings. During its first years the corporation restored a number of buildings in Roslyn which were subsequently sold with restrictive covenants.

In 1976, after a routine field audit, IRS proposed revocation of the tax-exempt status of the Roslyn Preservation Corporation, claiming that the purposes of the corporation were too narrow and too similar to those of a commercial real estate developer. In appealing these arguments last year, the corporation argued that its purpose was indeed public in scope and that Congress, through legislation and the creation of the National Trust, has given support to the position that preservation of historic structures constitutes a public purpose.

In November, 1977, IRS found that the corporation "has preserved various historical structures in a historic area for the benefit of the general public, made the public aware of the historical background or significance of each historic site by allowing studies to be made on the historic sites and made available to the public the results of these studies, and combated community deterioration by the renovation of such houses." IRS concluded by recommending that the corporation's tax-exempt status be continued since it is operated exclusively for educational and charitable purposes. In a related ruling, IRS has revoked its earlier denial of the tax-exempt status of the Historic Preservation Fund of North Carolina, Inc., a state-wide revolving fund.

The first part of a detailed article by Dr. Roger G. Gerry on the Roslyn Preservation Corporation appeared in Preservation Notes/Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities, October, 1976; the conclusion in June, 1978. Single copies of each issue are available without charge from SPLA, 93 North Country Road, Setauket, New York 11733.

Computer Aided History. A history of engineering project at Texas Tech. (Lubbock) provides the locating and documentation of historic engineering sites throughout New Mexico. The sites will be programmed into a statewide inventory. Anyone wanting to build new facilities will be able to learn to what degree, if any, new plans would conflict with a program to preserve engineering sites of historic value in the state. The project is managed by William Cumiford, and among others working on it is Willard B. Robinson (SAH). Write to the project at TTU or to Thomas W. Merlan, New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer, New Mexico State Library, P.O. Box 1629, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503.
Conferences. At the State Historic Preservation Officers conference in Washington in February, Chris T. Delaporte, director of the new Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service of the Dept. of the Interior, said:

Historic preservation in the latter part of the twentieth century is inextricably linked with the vitality and promise of our communities. The movement is a part of, not apart from, America’s most compelling social issues and goals. It plays in every game in town. Our partnership has an exciting opportunity, working with local initiatives, to make an extraordinary positive impact on the physical and spiritual quality of life in our country. I know we all welcome the challenge of getting historic preservation on the fast track.

The National Trust will hold its annual meeting in Chicago Oct. 11-15. In July they held a meeting in San Francisco called “Building Community Support for Urban and Small Town Conservation.”

Preservation and Banking in Kansas City, Missouri: A Progress Report

Within the past several years, one can discern signs that banks in Kansas City have begun to take a more positive institutional stance toward historic preservation. While comprehensive data on the support provided by banks are not available, the trend toward greater institutional support is clear, and it follows earlier, individual commitments by members of the banking community. This trend has manifested itself in several ways, thus making it difficult to make a quantitative analysis of the actual support provided. However, some patterns can be noted, and one can group the preservation activities of banks into four categories.

Perhaps the most obvious form of historic preservation, which a bank can and often does support, is the effective conservation of architecturally noteworthy bank buildings still used as banks. In Kansas City, such retention and maintenance seems to have concentrated on buildings constructed in the early years of this century, which are occupied by, as it happens, the largest of the banks in the city. Three of these are 1906 structures in close proximity along Tenth Street, helping preserve a significant section of the downtown district. Regrettably, this concern has not always been extended to neighboring structures that have been demolished to provide for expansion or parking. Nevertheless, the continued use of older buildings, even when new, high-rise facilities have been built, is laudable.

A second category of preservation support is the alternative use of landmark buildings as banks or branches. This option, while an obvious way to aid the preservation movement, has received rather limited use within Kansas City, though a Kansas City-based bank did in fact recently preserve a landmark residence in St. Joseph, Missouri as a branch bank. And within the city, there is at least one case of a bank converting a gas station to branch use, which suggests at least a willingness to consider older buildings for this purpose. Given the rather large number of branch banks that have been newly built, one might have expected a greater commitment to the preservation of smaller landmarks by this means, but one must assume that the current requirements for drive-in and parking facilities have been limiting factors in this type of conversion in Kansas City. If so, the challenge should be accepted by both architect and patron.

A third category, seen as most important by some, is the willingness of banking institutions to support mortgages for older homes as well as for preservation/renovation loans. Happily, this does seem to be a growing trend. However, loans seem a bit easier to obtain for areas where some effective preservation and renovation have helped stabilize them. Also, governmental support for preservation has somewhat eased past reluctance to lend money for this purpose. As might be expected, smaller banks, in or near neighborhoods in which preservation is progressing, have indicated a willingness to provide fiscal assistance for additional work of this kind.

Finally, a number of banks in Kansas City have provided support, usually by indirect but nevertheless valuable means, for organizations engaged in preservation. This has ranged from such projects as providing “wooden nickels” to be used as tokens for games at the annual Night in Old Possum Trot, which raises money for the revolving fund of the Historic Kansas City Foundation, to helping launch a businessmen’s association for the Historic Ninth Street District.

An important factor in this growing interest by the banking community in preservation has been the nature and the work of the Historic Kansas City Foundation. The Foundation has been the vehicle that has brought together a remarkably diversified group, ranging from city officials, to lawyers, to real estate people and bankers, to historians, professional preservationists, and hardworking volunteers for historic preservation. The effective interaction and the broadly based commitment of this diverse group, that is fostered by the Foundation, has in my opinion, made historic preservation comprehensible and thus more supportive by the banks of Kansas City.

Contributed by George Ehrlick

SAN ANTONIO GRANT

A grant of extreme importance to preservationists was made to San Antonio when this city was included in the 20 cities to receive Urban Action money from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. San Antonio is the only city in Texas to receive the grant and this project is the only one in the United States built around preservation of a city’s historic resources.

A goal of the development is to spur revitalization of the downtown central city by offering economic opportunities for low and moderate income citizens by use of a relatively small amount of public dollars to stimulate private investment. The San Antonio project will see construction of a walkway linking the street on Alamo Plaza to the river level on Paseo del Rio. Restoration of the historic buildings on Alamo Plaza and South Broadway will be made, and a new luxury hotel in the walkway area will be built on the river. An extensive archaeological investigation will be made, to uncover the original outer walls of the Alamo and a major section of the Acquéa Madre; these remnants will be incorporated into the new design.

All phases of the historic portion of the project have been coordinated through San Antonio’s Historic and Cultural Heritage Officer, Patricia Osborne (SAH). The grant for the river linkage is $6.5 million. The private sector commitment generated by the grant to date totals $37.1 million. In addition $570,000 has been committed by the city for facade loans for the Alamo Plaza buildings and another $1.3 million has been requested by the city from EDA for a new historic restoration fund for the project area.

Honors. O’Neil Ford (SAH) has received the 1977 Ruth Lester Award for outstanding service in historic preservation, the highest honor given by Texas in this field.