SAH NOTICES

PLAN FOR 1974

Marriott Hotel New Orleans 27th Annual Meeting April 3-8, 1974

Sessions:
Thursday, April 4: General Sessions
Friday, April 5: A series of sessions devoted to one theme: "The history of the architectural profession, with emphasis on the training of the architect and his role in society." Sessions will include one on antiquity (Bernard M. Boyle, Arizona State University, chairman), one on late Medieval and Renaissance, focusing on technology and economics as co-determinants of the architect's style (Kurt W. Forster, Stanford University, chairman), one on the modern period (chairman to be announced), and one dealing with the role architectural historians have played in shaping architectural practice (Alan Gowans, University of Victoria, chairman).
Saturday, April 6: A session dealing with the built environment of New Orleans and its conservation, and a session on Latin American architecture (Donald Robertson, Newcomb College, Tulane University, chairman).

SAH Annual Luncheon: Thursday, April 4, 1974 (Marriott Hotel). In addition to the Society's annual business meeting following the luncheon, announcement will be made of the Society's Alice Davis Hitchcock Book Award for the most distinguished work of scholarship in the history of architecture published by a North American scholar during the years 1972 and 1973, and of the Founders' Award for the best article by a younger scholar published in the Journal of SAH during 1972.

SAH Dinner: Friday evening, April 5, 1974 — Marriott Hotel Tours: Saturday, April 6 — Walking tours (Vieux Carré and central business district)

Sunday, April 7 — Garden District, Lower Garden District, Bayou St. John (18th and early 19th century houses)

Monday, April 8 — All-day bus tour of plantations (the River Road and the Felicianas)

Architectural Exhibits:
- Drawings of New Orleans' Architects
- Latin American Architecture
- Louisiana Plantations

General Chairman: Spiro K. Kostof (University of California, Department of Architecture, Berkeley, California 94720)
Local Co-Chairmen: Bernard Lemann


1974 Foreign Tour — Morocco (May 26-June 14), John D. Hoag, University of Colorado, is tour chairman. Announcements will be sent to the membership in early September, 1973.


ORGANIZATIONS

The Association for Preservation Technology. The 1973 APT Annual Meeting will be held in Boston, September 27-30. Host for the meeting will be the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities. Chairman for the meeting is APT President, Jacques Dalibard, SAH, Box 2682, Ottawa, Ontario. Four sessions have been arranged: Fire Protection of Historic Structures; Probing Without Stripping; Wooden Forts of the Early West; and Period Landscapes and Historic Gardens.

Chicago School of Architecture Foundation. The Chicago region has recently been developed into a series of architectural tours by the Chicago School of Architecture Foundation. Foot, bike, car and bus are the various modes of transportation employed for the tours created under the direction of Mrs. Jeanette Fields, Executive Director, CSAF. For a nominal contribution, the volunteer guides provide a detailed presentation of the homes, buildings, neighborhoods, and cities of the Chicago region. Architecture is the theme, be it the Prairie Style, or the ever-changing fabric of the contemporary scene. The tour program for 1973 includes: Chicago Loop, Glessner House, Frank Lloyd Wright, Hyde Park, A Restoration Walk, Wacker Drive, North Michigan Avenue, Evanston Along the Lake, Historic Pullman, Gold Coast, Hyde Park/Kenwood by Bicycle, Riverside by Bicycle, and Frank Lloyd Wright by Bicycle. Forced by the popularity of the tours, the Foundation has developed an educational program to train its own docents. Partial support for the ambitious program has come from the Illinois Arts Council. Interested individuals and groups should contact: Chicago School of Architecture Foundation, Glessner House, 1800 S. Prairie Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60616.

The Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies. The course outlines for the 73-74 calendar are now available. The Institute program will offer in-depth studies in special problems such as conservation of historic structures, maintenance of historic buildings and aspects of urban conservation. Those wishing to receive a prospectus of the courses should write to The Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies, The King's Manor, York, England YO1 2EP.
National Trust. The 27th Annual Meeting of the NTHP will be in Cleveland, October 11-14. "Preservation in Your Town" is the theme of this year's meeting. Twelve content sessions are proposed to investigate the following topics: Business Problems of a Preservation Group; Preservation Education Activities; A Case Study for a Successful Program - Marshall, Michigan; How to Raise Funds; Historic Housekeeping; Publicity and Public Relations; Publications You Can Do; Preparation and Funding of Bicentennial Projects; Recent Restorations - Midwest; Preservation for the People; Observations from the Field; and Historic Preservation and the Environment. The highlight of the meeting will be Saturday evening's reception and dinner in The Cleveland Arcade (see JSAH, December 1966).

The Victorian Society in America. The Society has planned a workshop to be held September 20-23 in Philadelphia. Registration (open to the public) will be Thursday evening. After a brief welcome by Henry-Russell Hitchcock, president, and George Vaux, president of The Athenaeum, John Maass will speak.

Concurrent panel programs and lectures will be held Friday and Saturday, with Sunday devoted solely to tours - culminating with tea in an appropriate setting. Some of the participants are Henry Magaziner, John Milner, C. Dudley Brown, Jonathan Fairbanks, William L. Faude, Carolyn Pitts, James Marston Fitch, and William J. Murtagh, who will be the speaker for Saturday's lunch at Bookbinders.

A registration fee of $55.00 includes lunch both Friday and Saturday, and a picnic supper Saturday night, to be held at a Victorian house in Villanova (transportation via chartered bus included). Write The Victorian Society in America, The Athenaeum, Washington Square, Philadelphia, Pa. 19106, attention of Marjorie R. Maurer, Executive Secretary.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

MARTIN H. COHEN, chairman of the AIA Committee on Historic Resources, testified recently before Congress in support of the programs begun by the 1966 Historic Preservation Act. LEO A. DALY, chairman of the Task Force on Energy Conservation, also appeared before Congress.

FREDERICK FROST is co-chairman of the AIA Minority Disadvantaged Scholarship Program. Assisting in the effort to raise $600,000 over the next three-year period are WALTER A. NETSCH and ALEXANDER S. COCHRAN.

GEOFFREY W. FAIRFAX, Honolulu, is preparing drawings and specifications for repairs to Kalahikiola Congregational Church in Kapaau, Hawaii, an 1855 missionary church damaged by a recent earthquake. MRS. PAUL KAYE has been elected Secretary of the Goodspeed Opera House Foundation, Inc. (East Haddam, Connecticut). TIMOTHY KAORI KITAO, Swarthmore College, has won a National Endowment for the Humanities Younger Humanist Fellowship. He will spend the academic year 1973-74 in Rome to continue research on the architecture of Bernini. HENRY A. MILLON, recently appointed director of the American Academy in Rome, has been awarded a fellowship by the American Council of Learned Societies for work on the second volume of the Corpus Juvarrianiun. LON ROYCE SHELBY, Southern Illinois University, has also received a fellowship from the ACLS for research on the medieval master masons. BENJAMIN THOMPSON, in partnership with The Rouse Company, has been selected by the Boston Redevelopment Authority to restore and revitalize Boston's historic Faneuil Hall Market area.

BOOKS

NOTE: All books with an asterisk are available on the SAH 1973 booklist, which is enclosed with this issue of the Newsletter.


REPRINTS AND NEW EDITIONS


ARTICLES


BOOKLETS AND CATALOGUES


Beaux-Arts Toronto: Permanence and Change in the Early 20th Century Architecture. Comp. and intro. by Douglas Richardson, SAH. Catalogue of a photographic exhibition executed with the support of the Toronto Historical Board and presented by the City of Toronto Display Co-ordinating Committee. Free catalogue available: City of Toronto Display Co-ordinating Committee, c/o Development Department, City Hall, Toronto, Ontario.


JOURNALS AND ANNUALS


QUERY

Patrick Charles Keely's St. James Catholic Church (1897) at 29th and South Wabash, Chicago, is undergoing renovation. Paul Straka and Associates, SAH, 205 East Grand Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611 (tel. 312-644-4989) is engaged in the project. In addition to information concerning Keely and his office, they seek leads as to the whereabouts of the original frescoes, that are known in all the world (see for example the truly excellent article by R. Hughes in Time, June 5, 1972: "Can Italy be saved by itself?").

Let us look, instead, at some past achievements. At least the level of cultural debate has been clarified the concept that cultural goods (from art objects to monuments to towns) are also economic ones and to be managed in the interest of all of the community.

The problem of preservation of cultural goods rests on two basic points: 1) problems of knowledge about the things themselves and 2) operative problems.

In regard to the first point it can be reported that for several years now the Ministry of Public Education has allotted a more substantial sum for the census of art works, monuments and historical settlements. Ministerial funds are managed by the regional Soprintendenze ai Monumenti (Superintendencies of Monuments) with still uncertain criteria. Notable is the activity of the Soprintendenza di Bologna where, thanks to the passionate commitment of Andrea Emiliani, there have been initiated in the last few years important undertakings - apart from the museographic reordering of the artistic patrimony in Bologna - for the census of works of art and historic buildings in the regional territory; now is being projected the possibility (through contact with like projects in France of the Office d'Inventaire Generale des Monuments et des Richesses Artistiques de la France) of utilizing electronic data processing in future census operations. The results thus far have been published in a very useful series of "Reports" of the Soprintendenza alle Gallerie di Bologna now up to its thirteenth volume (this last one with the significant title of Territorio e Conservazione).

In regard to the operative level, always at Bologna, the municipal administration presented at the end of 1972 (see the volume, Bologna Centro Storico, ed. Alfa, Bologna) an urban plan that can be considered exemplary. On the basis of an accurate series of analyses and measured drawings (along with a fine photographic documentation of P. Monti) this plan provides for the recuperation of the old city and its patrimonial heritage, but through a project of controlling the edifices, on the one hand, and utilizing them for activities and functions (especially for cultural and residential use) compatible with these structures, on the other hand. The project relies on the Housing Law n. 865 as a decisive instrument for expropriating land areas and buildings by public authority. Other instances of such initiative can be cited (even if more sectorial or less organic) in seeking the solution of problems of historic centers.

In Como the municipal government and the local section of Italia Nostra have worked on accurate economic analyses for the recuperation of historic buildings.

In Feltre public and private enterprises coordinated with the Soprintendenze ai Monumenti e alle Gallerie di Venezia have brought about an interesting series of restorations and preservations. Particular care has been given to the restoration of frescoed facades, largely of the sixteenth century, that constitute a unique characteristic of the townscape of that city.

ITALY - ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY REPORT

Giovanni Fanelli

In our last report (Newsletter, Oct. 1971, XV, n.5) attention was placed upon the dramatic situation of the monumental and environmental patrimony in Italy. This time we do not wish to insist on this point which, sadly, is already so well known in all the world (see for example the truly excellent article by R. Hughes in Time, June 5, 1972: "Can Italy be saved by itself?")

Let us look, instead, at some positive achievements. At least on the level of cultural debate has been clarified the concept that cultural goods (from art objects to monuments to towns) are also economic ones and to be managed in the interest of all of the community.

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The Regional Government of Tuscany has destined funds to a pilot project for intervention in the historic centers of Pietrasanta, Collesalvetti, San Giovanni, and Montepulciano.

In various Italian cities is being recognized the absolute necessity of excluding motor traffic from historic centers (see the dramatic results of investigations on the effects of city traffic on monuments such as the Colosseum in Rome or the Cathedral of Milan). Partial provisions (exclusion from small areas) have been made in Rome, Florence, Siena and Milan, but it is hoped that with opportune planning these measures will be extended to the entire historic area of every city.

An interdisciplinary group has projected a study for the creation of an archeological-nature park in Tarquinia.

In Florence on April 7, 1973, almost 30 years after the end of the Second World War, which had damaged its structure, was reopened to the public the Vasarian Corridor, the passage (1 kilometer long and 10 meters above street level) created in 1565 upon the occasion of the marriage of Francesco I dei Medici to Joan of Austria to connect Palazzo Vecchio over the Ponte Vecchio to the new granducal residence of Palazzo Pitti.

During excavations under the pavement in the Cathedral of S. Maria del Fiore in Florence to uncover the structure of the old cathedral of S. Reparata came to light (July 1, 1972) the tomb of Brunelleschi with a simple slab of pietra serena inscribed in classical script: "Corpus magni ingenii viri/Philippi Ser Brunelleschi florentini."

Recent Italian publications in the sector of architectural history have shown a renewed interest in nineteenth century architecture; among these is to be mentioned the monograph on Lorenzo Nottozini (Lucca, 1972). Interest has also been growing in the field of reprints of historic texts on modern architecture such as those in the collection "Il Vitruvio" edited by P.C. Santini and A. Righi for Valecchi Publishers or in the new collection directed by L. Quaroni for Masciotta Publishers.


As for periodicals on architecture, while there has been a fall in the qualitative level of the glorious Casabella and in part also of L'architettura, cronaca e storia, there is to be signaled the valid contributions in the recently formed periodical Parametro, edited by a group of young Bolognese architects and critics. The well known magazine Urbanistica now publishes a bimonthly supplement with reports and brief news on current problems and events.

To conclude and in reference to our preceding report we inform that: 1) in April 1973 was finally approved by Parliament (after more than two years since the beginning of the issue) the law that permits the borrowing and use of 300 milliards of lire (at first 250) assured by an international loan to save Venice (see also the monography n.59/60 of Urbanistica). It is hoped that now the funds will be utilized with rapidity and intelligence; 2) in 1972 was approved by the Consiglio Superiore delle Antichità e Belle Arti and sent to all the Soprintendenze ai Monumenti the new "Paper on Restoration" (see Italia Nostra Bulletin, n. 97) which among other things excludes completions 'in style' — those restorations that destroy the additions from the various centuries of life of the monuments —, alterations of ambiance, as well as elimination of patinas. It is hoped that these new norms impede past errors, in particular, the destruction of the historic strata for the reconstruction of hypothetical original situations; 3) the Law on university reforms has been postponed by one legislative session after another and has not yet been approved by Parliament.

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

**U.S. Capitol Expansion Project.** On July 16 the Senate voted 92 to 0 to deny the request for $58 million to build the 88-foot marble addition on the West Front. Sen. Ernest F. Hollings (D-SC) convinced the Senate instead to authorize $18 million for restoration of the existing west facade, $15 million for underground offices on the House side and $300,000 for preparation of a master plan of the entire Capitol complex.

Congratulations to the A.I.A. Task Force on the West Front. It appears that a possibility exists for the adoption of their creative proposal by the conference committee. Sen. Hollings has indicated that he will push for adoption of the "Senate bill which meets all reasonable arguments put forth by the extension commission." As recounted by the Washington Post editorial:

In short, as Rep. Samuel S. Stratton (D-NY), an ardent opponent of the extension folly, remarked, 'The Senate and Sen. Hollings have done a truly remarkable job. They have come up with a really ingenious compromise that preserves the Capitol and its handsome terraces. It will save the taxpayer $30 million and will also provide the House with three times the additional office space the extension would provide at one-seventh the cost per square foot. I don't see how the House can possibly turn down this compromise, once its members understand it.'

However, the conference committee could let the matter die. Thus it is an appropriate time for all SAH members concerned about the only original sandstone portion of the walls and the Olmsted terraces to write their congressional representatives.

**Tax Act Analysis Available.** Copies of a detailed analysis of H.R. 5584, the Environmental Protection Tax Act, are available from John Fowler, Legal Assistant, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 1522 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005. First introduced to Congress in 1971 and resubmitted by the President again this year, the proposed legislation would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 to encourage the preservation of coastal wetlands, open space, and historic buildings and to encourage the preservation and rehabilitation of all (certified) structures . . . "Whereas the Internal Revenue Code presently tends to encourage demolition of older commercial structures by allowing the building owner to deduct from his income the expenses of demolition and his unrecovered investment, the Environmental Protection Tax Act would penalize the owner of a property listed in the National Register of Historic Places for tearing down his structure. Moreover, it would provide economic incentive for restoration. Under the proposed bill a substantially renovated building listed in the National Register could be treated by the owner as a new structure for tax depreciation purposes.

The bill currently before the 93rd Congress is looked on by preservationists as a critically important complement to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. While the latter provides protection of registered historic structures from federally-financed demolition, H.R. 5584 is a means of rolling back destructive moves of the private sector on a nationwide basis.

**Revenue Sharing Funds Applied.** In recent moves by state and local officials substantial amounts of revenue sharing funds have been committed to historic preservation. In Seattle, Washington, Mayor Wes Uhlman and a concurring City Council authorized the expenditure of $600,000, when funds are appropriated, to establish a revolving fund for the city's preservation efforts. The City Council also has under consideration a city-wide preservation ordinance and an ordinance to uphold standards of maintenance of designated properties.
Acting on the inspiration of a citizens group, in 1972 the Georgia General Assembly appropriated $12.5 million, including $10 million in revenue sharing funds, to establish a 15-member State Heritage Trust Advisory Commission to "identify, acquire and protect environmental, recreational and historical areas within the state." From a list of 500 properties, the advisory commission, assisted by an inter-agency task force of state employees and staff within the Department of Natural Resources, developed priorities for acquisition which include a country gas station as well as architectural landmarks. Activities of the commission may be halted, however, if additional monies are not appropriated next year.

Congressional action is pending on the Administration's proposed $2.3 billion Better Communities Act (S. 1743) and other versions of the bill which would use revenue sharing funds to replace the traditional HUD grant programs. Hearings before the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee are expected to begin in September.

UNESCO Calls for Rescue of Borobudur. Member states of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization have been called upon to contribute to a project estimated at a cost of over $7.5 million to preserve the 8th century Buddhist sanctuary of Borobudur on the island of Java in Indonesia. Early this year the Indonesian government entered into an agreement with UNESCO to undertake the urgently needed project provided that pledges of cash and services in kind have reached at least $3 million by June 30. As described by UNESCO Director-General Rene Maheu, work required to reverse the processes of decay and to stabilize crumbling foundations includes dismantling the lower terraces and balustrades of the temple complex, building a watertight concrete base, draining the ground, cleaning individual stones, and reconstructing the monument.

Sitka Reconstruction Continues. St. Michaels Cathedral (1844) in Sitka, Alaska, a landmark of Russian culture on the Northwest Coast of America, recently became an exception to the National Park Service rule-of-thumb which shuns reconstruction. The primitive church with its octagonal dome and cupola was destroyed by fire in 1966. During a historic preservation workshop in Sitka in June, Park Service officials announced that a National Register grant-in-aid amounting to $18,313 would be made available to continue the reconstruction project begun by the Orthodox Church and Sitka Historic Restoration Committee, Inc. Some $400,000 is still to be raised to complete interior work and exterior finishing of the concrete shell.

Surplus Property Saved. The Old Post Office Building (1884) in Concord has been purchased by the State of New Hampshire and may be utilized as a legislative office building. An Office Space Study Committee established by the Legislature in 1970 concluded that restoration and renovation of the French Renaissance Post Office for adaptive use would be more sound economically than demolition and new construction. A bill to appropriate funds for the necessary work is presently under consideration.

Ohio District Named. The largest urban district designated in Ohio to date, the Old West End District of Toledo comprising 210 acres has been entered in the National Register of Historic Places. The Old West End was Toledo's fashionable residential area from 1870 through the early 20th century. Notable among homes of the city's wealthy merchants and industrialists of the period is the Rudolf A. Bartley House (1905) designed by Edward Fallis in the style of the French Renaissance. The designation followed from intensive survey work sponsored by the Maumee Valley Historical Society and Lucas County. A zoning ordinance to protect the district from locally-funded projects is now being developed.

Kingston Stockade Project. The Friends of Historic Kingston have purchased the late 18th-century Kiersted House, located in the Kingston (N.Y.) Stockade area, from the Kingston Urban Renewal Agency. The restoration and preservation of this structure is the first of a series of projects within the historic Kingston stockade area, the original outlines of which were laid out in the 17th century. Active in the restoration of Kiersted House is architect Harry Halverson, SAH.

Philadelphia. According to the Preservation Committee of the Philadelphia Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians, the city is in the midst of a preservation crisis of awesome proportions. Detailing the issues, the Preservation Newsletter, edited by George E. Thomas, SAH, has suggested strengthening of the Historical Commission, amendment of the City Charter to provide for preservation incentives and efforts to stabilize the real estate market. A major threat of the moment is the imminent demolition of the Reading Terminal. Opened in 1893, it was the widest single-span train shed in the world.

Reading Terminal — Photo: Courtesy George E. Thomas

It now stands as the oldest long span roof in the world and the sole surviving single-span arched train shed in the United States. Truly a megastructure, the complex included a farmers market and cold storage facilities, post office, stores, offices, and power plant in addition to passenger services and train arrival platforms. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, petitions and letters should be addressed to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 1522 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

The Philadelphia Architects Charitable Trust has been awarded a Consultant Services Grant by the Field Services Department of the National Trust. The grant will assist in the development of a feasibility study to save a row of townhouses attributed to Thomas U. Walter threatened by expansion of the Pennsylvania Hospital along Spruce Street. The Episcopal Academy, Merion, Pa., also received a grant for an adaptive use study for the Main Hall of the Upper School. Designed by Wiliam Price, the building has been placed on the National Register. The school is presently planning demolition of all its older buildings.

This issue was prepared under the direction of Associate Editor Thomas M. Slade.