SAH NOTICES


The preliminary announcement (containing full information on sessions and tours), the preregistration form and hotel reservation cards will reach the membership by January 15, 1976.

1977 Annual Meeting, Los Angeles (with College Art Association)—February 2-7. Adolf K. Placzek, Columbia University, is general chairman of the meeting. David S. Gebhard, University of California, Santa Barbara, will act as local chairman. The call for papers appeared in the June Newsletter.

1976 Foreign Tour—Malta (May 31-June 16). Richard England, Malta architect and designer, is chairman of the tour.

1976 Annual Tour—Lexington, Kentucky (and vicinity)—October 6-10. Eric S. McCreedy, Elvehjem Art Center, University of Wisconsin, Madison, and James P. Noffsinger, College of Architecture, University of Kentucky, will serve as co-chairmen. Announcement of the tour will be sent to the SAH membership by May 1, 1976. Members abroad who wish to have the announcement sent airmail should notify the SAH office (1700 Walnut Street, Room 716, Philadelphia, Pa. 19103).

1977 Special Tour—Newfoundland (July 24-30). Douglas S. Richardson will act as chairman; he will be assisted by Shane O'Dea and George T. Kapelos.

SAH Placement Service Bulletin. The next Bulletin will appear with the February 1976 issue of the Newsletter. Deadline: position-available and member-applicant listings must reach the SAH central office (1700 Walnut Street, Room 716, Philadelphia, Pa. 19103) no later than January 15, 1976. We urge prospective employers to submit listings of positions open (under categories of Academic, Business and Professions, Government, and Other), which will be published free of charge.

American Friends of Attingham, Inc. A tuition-scholarship will be awarded to an SAH member for the 1976 Attingham Summer School for the study of English Country Houses and Their Contents. Enrollment details and brochures on the 1976 course may be obtained from the American Friends of Attingham Summer School, Miss Anne Sharkey, Executive Secretary, 41 East 65th Street, New York, N.Y. 10021. Closing date for completed applications is February 6, 1976. Any SAH member is eligible. The School will convene for three weeks on July 7 at Hawkstone (near Shrewsbury, Shropshire). The final week before the July 27 dispersal will be spent in study of selected sites in the Melton Mowbray area, the School residing at nearby Brooksby in Leicestershire.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS—1976 ANNUAL TOUR
Lexington, Kentucky and Vicinity
October 6-10, 1976

Beginning with the 1976 annual tour, the Society will hold yearly competitions for student scholarships to enable outstanding students to participate on domestic tours. The 10% surcharge on non-student participants' registrations will be applied toward two or three tour scholarships, which will defray wholly or in large part the cost of the tour itself, the hotel accommodations and air or train fare (depending upon the travel distance involved).

To be eligible, a student must be engaged in graduate work in architecture or architectural history, city planning or urban history, landscape or the history of landscape design. Students interested in being considered for a scholarship should write the SAH central office (Room 716, 1700 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19103) for an application blank. The application should be completed (attaching a vita and one or more departmental recommendations) and returned to the SAH office by March 1, 1976. A scholarship committee will be appointed by the President of SAH to make the awards. Notification will be sent to all applicants by May 1, 1976.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

JAMES S. ACKERMAN and GEORGE L. HERSEY participated in the New England Renaissance Conference at Boston University . . . GIORGIO CAVAGLIERI has been appointed a member of the 1976 AIA Honor Awards Jury for Extended Use . . . JEAN R. FRANCE has accepted a position teaching American architecture at the University of Rochester . . . PETER L. GOSS, Graduate School of Architecture, University of Utah, has been appointed to the Governor's Historic and Cultural Sites Review Committee of Utah and to the Board of Trustees of the Utah Heritage Foundation . . . RICHARD H. HOWLAND, Special Assistant to the Secretary, Smithsonian Institution, has been reappointed to a four-year term on the Consulting Committee for the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings. He...
was also redesignated chairman of the committee... The 1975 Louis Sullivan Award for Architecture has been awarded to PHILIP JOHNSON... ALFONZ LENGYEL, Northern Kentucky State College, has been elected a member of the Consultative Committee of UNESCO Carthage Project in the status of observer member... ERIC S. McCREADY, University of Wisconsin, has been judged recipient of the James L. Sellers Memorial Award for his article "The Nebraska State Capitol: Its Design, Background, and Influence," which appeared in Nebraska History, Vol. 55, no. 3 (1974)... ROBERT J. MULLEN has accepted a position teaching Latin American art and architectural history at the University of Texas at San Antonio... DEBRA PINCUS, Sarah Lawrence College, has been awarded a post-doctoral research grant by the American Council of Learned Societies for: "An iconographical investigation of Antonio Rizzo's tomb for Doge Nicolò Tron in the Frari, Venice"... WILLARD B. ROBINSON was recently named acting director and curator of historical architecture for the Ranching Heritage Center... MYRA N. ROSENFIELD, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, has also been awarded a grant by the ACLS for research on the subject of Sebastiano Serlio's Chateau of Ancy-le-Franc... ANATOLE SENKEVITCH, JR. served as faculty advisor to a student team from the School of Architecture, University of Maryland, which received a special award from the Committee on Historic Resources of the Washington Metropolitan Chapter of the AIA, chaired by NICHOLAS A. PAPPAS. The project, "Old Anacostia Preservation Study," was funded by a City Options Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts... FREDERICK A. STAHL was the recipient of an award from the General Services Administration for the firm's work in the recycling of the historic Old Federal Courts Building in St. Paul, Minnesota... CHRISTOPHER TURNARD has announced that he is now professor emeritus of city planning at Yale University... KATHERINE VAUX, president, Philadelphia Chapter of SAH and HUGH J. McCAYLEY, Chapter Preservation Officer, were married October 11.

CONFERENCES

Art Libraries Society of North America. The Fourth Annual Conference of the ARLIS/NA will be held January 28-February 1, 1976 at the Palmer House Hotel in Chicago. For information contact: Judith A. Hoffberg, ARLIS/NA, P.O. Box 3692, Glen­dale, Ca. 91201.

International Sculpture Conference. The National Sculpture Center has issued a call for papers to be presented during the Ninth International Sculpture Conference to be held in New Orleans March 31-April 3, 1976. Elden Tefft, director of the Center, said proposals should indicate the nature of the presenta­tion by a two-page synopsis, which should include a description of the visual materials to be used, necessary equipment and the space required. The proposal should be accompanied by a brief biographical sketch of the author, including past accomplishments. Although special consideration will be given papers that support the theme, "Monumental Sculpture Today," proposals in any area of interest to sculptors are invited. Deadline is December 15, 1975. Write to: Elden Tefft, Director, National Sculpture Center, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas 66045.

ORGANIZATIONS

Historic Charleston Foundation. Over eighty-five private houses and gardens will be open during the Twenty-Ninth Annual Festival of Houses from March 18 through April 17. The distinguished dwelling houses which will be shown only during this event cover more than two centuries of our country's most exciting period of architectural development. All profits go to Historic Charleston Foundation's Revolving Fund for preservation. Write to Alice W. Rudolf, Tours Director, Historic Charleston Foundation, 51 Meeting Street, Charleston, South Carolina 29401.

National Endowment for the Arts. The NEA is seeking to establish a list of individuals and organizations with known experience and research capabilities in the arts. Those interested in the project are requested to send summaries of their background, resource, research and management capabilities to: Research Division, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, D.C. 20506.

COURSES

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. The International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property, Rome, Italy, is offering three training courses in conservation and restoration. Designed for architects, art and architectural historians, archaeologists, engineers and planners, the three courses cover architectural conservation, conservation of mural paintings and fundamental principles of conservation. Applications received by January 15, 1976 will be considered for 1977 courses. Write to: Executive Secretary, International Centre Committee, 1522 K Street, NW, Suite 1030, Washington, D.C. 20005.

Historic Deerfield, Inc. The annual Summer Fellowship program in Early American History and the Decorative Arts will be held from June 15 to August 14, 1976. A limited number of fellowships will be awarded to single men and women of undergraduate status who are interested in careers in the museum field and related professions. The fellowships are designed to provide students who are interested in a professional career in the field of preservation or interpretation of early American history and culture an opportunity to explore that interest in an intensive program of museum apprenticeship and an independent research project. Completed applications must be received before February 1, 1976. For further information and applications, write to: Historic Deerfield, 1976 Fellowship Program, Deerfield, Mass. 01342.

Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies. "Maintenance of Historic Buildings," a course at the Institute February 16-20, 1976, will deal specifically with maintenance of historic and old buildings. It will include lectures and discussions of maintenance procedures and repair techniques which are peculiar to old buildings and will concentrate on materials and craftsmanship. All sessions will take place in the King's Manor, York. The fee is £95 or £82.50, depending on hotel accommodations. Write to: David Rymer MA, Secretary, Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies, University of York, King's Manor, York, Y01 2EP, England.
Massachusetts Institute of Technology Ph.D. Program in Architecture, Art and Environmental Studies. The department of architecture program includes both studio instruction and studies in history, theory and criticism of art, architecture, and urban form. Doctoral studies within the department, which have begun with a small class in the present academic year, are conceived to take advantage of this coincidence of fields and people. Consequently, the program emphasizes: the study of modern urbanism, architecture and art (eighteenth century to the present); theory and method of these fields; theory and method of historical and critical studies. The intention is to have a small number of doctoral candidates working in close association with the faculty, on mutual research programs where appropriate.

The previous university work of those who apply may be either in academic or professional schools, although in history of architecture some preference will be given to professional experience. In either case, the candidate should already have a master's degree or the equivalent through advanced work. This latter requirement is set in order that concerted research work may begin early and thus minimize the time to the granting of the degree. Further information may be obtained from Stanford Anderson, Room 4-209, M.I.T., Cambridge, Mass. 02139.

University of Cincinnati. A new master's program in architecture was instituted this fall. The College of Design, Architecture and Art is offering a two-year program leading to a Master of Science in Architecture with emphasis on applied research in the field of architecture. William Rudd, SAH, is in charge of the program. Each student will work on a tutorial basis with an advisor and a faculty committee. For information contact: William Rudd, Associate Professor of Architecture, University of Cincinnati, College of Design, Architecture and Art, Cincinnati, Ohio 45221.

Winterthur Program. The two-year graduate course of study in Early American Arts and Cultural History leads to a Master of Arts Degree. Planned as preparation for careers in curatorship, teaching, research and writing, it is an interdisciplinary curriculum sponsored by the Henry Francis du Pont Winterthur Museum and the University of Delaware. Only applicants who are appointed Winterthur Fellows are admitted to the program. Applications should be filed by February 1, 1976. Graduate Record Examination scores must be filed with applications. For application forms and further information write: The Coordinator, Winterthur Program, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware 19711.

FELLOWSHIP AND GRANT OPPORTUNITIES


Smithsonian Programs for Visiting Investigators and Students. For information on a variety of pre-doctoral and post-doctoral fellowships write to: Office of Academic Studies, Room 20560, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560. Application deadline, January 15, 1976.

West Virginia Board of Regents. The West Virginia Society of Architects has announced that advanced architecture students who are residents of the state may be eligible for tuition assistance from the West Virginia government. The state legislature earmarked $50,000 to aid students at out-of-state institutions. Lacking a school of architecture, the program is aimed at residents who qualify for it through universities in other states. Write to: West Virginia Board of Regents, 1316 Charleston National Plaza, Charleston, W. Va. 25301.

THE ARCHITECTURE OF BOOKS: CONTINUED
by John Maass

In the December 1972 SAH Newsletter I reported with a sense of wonder on the extraordinary record made by books on architectural history in the "Fifty Books of the Year" shows sponsored by the American Institute of Graphic Arts. The making of a book is now a complex collaboration between several exacting crafts which makes the "Fifty Books" the toughest possible competition. Appropriateness and originality of design, format, layout, typography, reproduction, presswork, paper, binding, jacket—all are scrutinized by a jury of five experts. A single flaw in any respect may eliminate a volume from consideration.

In checking the 1973 and 1974 catalogs, I find that books on architectural history have again triumphed. In 1973 the following made the ultra-select "Fifty":

Robert de Gust, The Lighthouses of the Chesapeake, Johns Hopkins University Press, $12.50.

Nader Ardalan and Laleh Baktiar, The Sense of Unity, University of Chicago Press, $17.50.


Three books on contemporary architecture and environmental design also made the "Fifty" that year.

In 1974 these books on architectural history were chosen:


One book on contemporary environmental design was also selected in 1974.

Now for some simple arithmetic: In 1973, 39,951 titles were published in the United States and eligible for the "Fifty Books of the Year." From keeping a list for the Hitchcock Book Award Committee I know that the number of new books on architectural history was approximately 50 that year. In 1974, the total number of titles was 40,846 (including 1,525 on art, and 1,292 on history); the number of books on architectural history was again about 50,
Thus, in the period 1973/1974, 1 out of 14 architectural history books were selected for the "Fifty." For the 80,700 books on all other subjects the score was 1 out of 870.

How can we explain this record of consistently superior excellence? There can be no doubt that there is a historic affinity between architecture and book design. Architectural books are almost always illustrated, and architectural plans, drawings and photographs make striking images. Finally, there must be something about architectural history that inspires authors, publishers, editors, designers, illustrators, and printers to produce great books.

BOOKS


Neighborhood Preservation and Revitalization. A description of 100 locally initiated preservation programs. $5.15. Available G.P.O., Washington, D.C. 20402. Stock Number 023-00-00285-0.


REPRINTS AND NEW EDITIONS


4


**ARTICLES**


**JOURNALS**


Vasconielllos, "San Jose de Minas Novas y su Extraño Antecedente"; and Santiago Sebastian, "Arquitectura Del Siglo XIX en Santa Fe de Antioquia (Colombia)."


**QUERIES**


**Robert H. Robertson (1849-1919).** Information on the drawings and office records, or their whereabouts, is desired. Especially interested in the Burden Company Office Building (1881), Troy, N.Y. Write to Mary Ellen Domblewski of Mendel-Mesick-Cohen, Architects, 388 Broadway, Albany, N.Y. 12207.

**EXHIBITS**

**Metropolitan Museum of Art.** The ten new galleries for Islamic Art opened October 4th. Probably the largest collection of its kind in the world, the installation includes: a reception room from an 18th century house in Damascus complete with painted and gilded walls and ceiling, stained glass windows, and an elaborate inlaid marble floor with a mosaic fountain; a superb 14th century Persian Mihrab made of brilliantly colored tile mosaic; and a gallery with a 14th century panelled ceiling from Spain. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Fifth Avenue at 82nd Street, New York, N.Y. Hours: Tuesdays, 10-8:45; Wednesdays-Saturdays, 10-4:45; Sundays, 11-4:45.

**Museum of Modern Art.** "The Architecture of the Ecole des Beaux Arts" is an important exhibition of about 200 student drawings. Organized by Arthur Drexler, the drawings present each phase and step of what was a unique educational experience. Ada Louise Huxtable, SAH, states "... the Ecole des Beaux Arts is more than a school. It is la source, the fountainhead for Old and New Worlds." A total of three rooms are devoted to related materials, two for photographs of French and American Beaux Arts buildings and one room to drawings for the Paris Opéra by Charles Garnier of 1861-75, and the Bibliothèque Sainte-Geneviève by Henri Labrouste of 1850. The exhibit is open through January 4. A book will appear later this year, with essays by Drexler, David Van Zanten, SAH, Richard Chafee, SAH, and Neil Levine. Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53rd Street, New York, N.Y. Hours: Daily 11 to 6 and Thursday evenings to 9. Closed Wednesdays.

**The Octagon.** "Bridges and the City of Washington" is the theme of an exhibition of photographs, models, drawings, and artifacts relating to the development of the variety of bridges that cross the Potomac River, the Anacostia River and Rock Creek. Compiled by Donald Myer, SAH, Assistant Secretary of the Commission of Fine Arts, and jointly sponsored by The Octagon and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts. The Octagon, 1799 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. Hours: Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10-4; Sundays, 1-4; closed Mondays.

**The Prairie School in Iowa.** A multimedia exhibit by Richard Guy Wilson, SAH, and Sidney K. Robinson, SAH, to be shown at the Brunier Galleries, Scheiman Building, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, January 17-March 15, 1976, and then to tour. Funded by the Iowa Arts Council and National Endowment for the Arts.

**The Walter Burley Griffin Centennial Exhibition.** An exhibit of the architecture and city planning of Walter Burley Griffin (1876-1937) is being prepared by Donald Leslie Johnson, SAH, under a grant from the Australia Council. Initial plans include travel of the exhibit in the United States and India during 1976-77. Support is requested of people and institutions possessing material on or by Griffin, by allowing selection for the exhibition. Write to: Donald Leslie Johnson, Coordinator, The Griffin Centennial Exhibition, Art Gallery of South Australia, North Terrace, Adelaide, South Australia 5000.

**1975 ANNUAL TOUR—ANNAPOLIS**

A tour of buildings in Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties was planned by Jesse Nalle of Annapolis, and his committee—James Wood Burch, Lois Greene Carr, Cary Carson, Orlando Ridout IV, and Arthur C. Townsend (with the Maryland Historical Trust as host organization). Eighty SAH
members participated from noon on 1 October to noon on 5 October 1975. The weather, but for one muggy afternoon, was perfect. Mrs. St. Clair Wright, President of Historic Annapolis, Inc., Dr. Edward Paperfuse, the State's archivist, and Cary Carson of the St. Mary's City Commission gave an orientation program; the tours were variously conducted by John Pearce (State's Historic Preservation Officer), Orlando Ridout, Constance Werner Ramirez (editor of the HABS Maryland survey), Mary Warren, Dr. Carr, and Dr. Carson, whose particular study of southern Maryland demography offered graphic contrast to the more familiar standard northeastern image of theocratic villages with dependable vital statistics. He stressed the short lives of Maryland settlers, a great number of bond-servants, and antiquated land tenures as causes of impermanent building and consequent loss of almost all building from before about 1690. He and others often mentioned the value of Henry Chandlee Ford's pioneer architectural histories and the need for fuller study and publication.

To many of the company the most interesting new architectural personality was Richard Boulton, church builder of the 1760's and 'seventies who favored plaster barrel "vaults" on square piers with home-made near-Italian caps, box pews, and flagged aisles; his churches seem simpler but more spacious than the generally earlier South Carolina rural chapels. He used the fine sand-struck over-size brick general in the region: his St. Andrew's, Leonardtown (1766 ff.), has square west towers with quoins, niches, and toy pinnacles flanking a Palladian window which floats above an entrance loggia. All this, if it were larger and stuccoed, would look Central-American; in the same church the ornamental flourishes of the Commandments tables, Creed, and Lord's Prayer, which are otherwise sedately lettered, also have a rather Latin look. How come? Quite otherwise is All Saints', Sunderland (1774-77), four bays by three, which has walls two stretchers thick spanning between piers (four stretchers square) which end at the top in proto-Bulfinch arches enclosing two tiers of segmental-headed windows. All remarkably logical and almost "constructivist," with no ornament except a moulded quarter-round base topped by a moulded reversed cavetto. Boulton's All Faith church, Huntersville (1773), besides his usual vault and "Ionic" piers, and clear-glass arched windows and central doors on three sides, has a highly effect recent rose window in strong colors, and admirable Victor brass chancel fittings. Three other churches were visited.

The grand axial houses, Whitehall, Chase-Lloyd, and Hammond-Harwood, gave an opportunity to see William Buckland's Georgian wood-carving gradually adjusting to the American scale which Buckland had not understood at Gunston Hall. The degree to which Whitehall emulated Stratford at the center, but then spread itself theatrically thin and flat at the ends, became interestingly evident. The full five-part plan of Tulip Hill, standing clear at the head of its long informal slope of tremendous trees, and with its long formal box-flanked descent to the river on the other side, gave us the Hammond-Harwood sort of order plus great space and freedom. Most of us were unprepared for the beauties of smaller and earlier houses in the country: Maidstone, with its steep roof and powerful chimney (1678?-1699); Ocean Hall, of similar two-room plan, but in brick and with altered fenestration of 1725 and bold slightly later paneling; Sotterley, enlarged from a two-room frame house about 1725 to a complex T and L plan with rich interior woodwork and another tremendous river view; and Cedar Park, a two-room plan of larger dimensions, with a fine eighteenth-century chimney-breast in one room and an added semi-octagonal room at the back, the combination providing a reminiscence of Acton in Annapolis itself. Cedar Park, with its long slow slopes full of brood mares and foals, its large-scaled early nineteenth-century furniture, and its strange end chimneys from which the adjacent wall steps back on one side but not the other, conceals under the low slope of its latter-day verandah a large area of the steeper round-shingled original roof laid over riven oak clapboards. Similar hidden bits of old structure were visible at Ocean Hall (a "cruck" type of roof framing) and at Holly Hill, a house which grew very much as Sotterley did and thus encapsulated at an internal angle a fascinating bit of almost Gothic roof.

Holly Hill, in a sheltered intimate setting among huge trees, was perhaps the most generally admired of all. It seems to have been begun about 1667 as a frame house on posts plunged into the ground, which, on the addition of two more rooms in an L about 1704, was encased fully in brick, and about 1730 given a T form by a further addition. All this is documented in a painting on panel (before 1733) in one of the chimney-breasts, which bears a plan of the land with an inset view of house and garden. This and other chimney-breasts are boldly paneled, one is marbleized, and another bears a charming landscape. The genealogical interests of the owner, reflected in numerous photographs and brass-rubbings, combine with excellent furniture to make an unforgettable whole.

The only competition is West St. Mary's Manor, farther south and again with a tremendous river view across the St. Mary's and Potomac out to the Chesapeake. The house is a frame one with two pair of chimneys, each pair with pents between the stacks. The scale, except for the sculptural quality of the chimneys, is small, and a recent and well-scaled box garden helps to adapt to the vastness of the fields beyond. Internally the house has been made comfortable by ingenious partitions and a shift of almost all the modern housekeeping fitments and activity to the basement. The result is a setting of almost Pepysian flavor for the owners'

*Lighthouse at Thomas Point, Annapolis Harbor*  
Photo: R. E. Berry
Back in Annapolis, we saw the house of Charles Carroll “the Barrister” and the outside of the house of Charles Carroll of Carrollton the Signer, the latter an example of adaptive use for a hundred years or so as part of a Redemptorist community. The recent happy re-creation of William Paca’s city garden not only will give a visually comprehensive approach to his house (whose five-part front opens on the other side to a narrow street) but has also already given its neighbor the Brice House a delightful view from its back windows, long impeded by a hotel. In the Paca house, whose grander rooms have detail by Buckland, restoration presents many puzzles; Russell Wright and his crew gave a first-class show of detective work, restoration techniques, moulded substitutes for lost carved elements, and ingenious insertion of plumbing. Mr. Wright’s own demonstration of a surprise (Paca used a second-hand stairway) was splendid.

We were privileged to see the ground floor and much of the high-vaulted basement of the Brice House, whose plan is reminiscent of Shirley in Virginia, with the curious addition of a small “warm room” at the foot of the stairs, almost like a British porter’s cubbyhole.

Two taverns complete the roster. The one now called London Town Publik House at Edgewater was long the ferry tavern on the south bank of South River, and for even longer it was a county almshouse. Almost a cube in all-header brick, it stands high on the bank, its two great parallel interior chimneys serving three tiers of four corner rooms; these are kept remarkably private by cross-shaped halls, the narrower of which is arched over by the chimneys; in many rooms a brick niche flanks the fireplace; on the main floor the rooms are a step up from the halls. A most interesting building (c. 1744-50), it is well though perhaps too sanitarily restored. In Annapolis itself, on Church Circle near the State House of 1779 (which we of course visited), is the Reynolds Tavern, recently acquired by the National Trust, but long used as county library headquarters and before that as a bank and as the official dwelling of a bank president. It probably dates from 1748, and possesses interesting plank partitions in the upper storeys and good later fireplaces, as well as a fine lot of cooking fireplaces and ovens in the basement.

In sum, this was a well-planned and very rewarding experience, and all of us appreciate the opportunity we had to participate.

Contributed by Winslow Ames

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Survey of Courthouse Architecture. Joseph E. Seagram and Sons, Inc. formally announced plans to commemorate the United States Bicentennial during a reception at the Seagram Building in New York on October 21. The company is assembling an unprecedented photographic record of extant historic courthouses across the country. Each of the nation’s more than 3,000 county jurisdictions has been contacted and although response for the most part has been very good, the project’s general editor is still seeking pertinent information and pictures. Results of the survey will be exhibited and published sometime in 1977. In addition to specially-commissioned photographs and data entries on each building, the proposed publication will include two essays in its format: an analysis of courthouse architecture and a historical perspective. Upon completion of the project survey materials will be deposited with an agency or institution where they may be used by scholars. To provide information, or obtain further details, contact: Richard Pare, General Editor, U. S. Bicentennial Project, Joseph E. Seagram and Sons, Inc., 375 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.

In Brief. The State of Oregon has passed a bill which offers tax relief to those who restore and maintain historic properties. Effective January 1, 1976, HB 2476 provides that qualified commercial and residential properties may be assessed for fifteen years at the true cash values recorded at the time owners apply for certification from the State Historic Preservation Officer and local assessment offices.

Two major Chicago School buildings were declared official landmarks by the Chicago City Council last June after lengthy negotiations extending over several years. Holabird and Roche’s Marquette Building (1894) and D. H. Burnham and Co.’s Reliance Building (1895) are now protected to the extent possible under the city’s landmark ordinance.

The Detroit Club (1892) in Detroit, Michigan has been restored to its original appearance in a project which included interiors. The men’s club was designed by Philadelphia-based architect, Wilson Eyre, Jr.

The historic Renaissance Revival West Wing of California’s State Capitol (1860-1874) in Sacramento is to be restored in a $34.5 million project recently authorized by the state legislature. To protect against threat of earthquakes, project plans include reinforcing the gilded steel-trussed dome and installing a concrete framework which is to be concealed by original brick walls.

The City of New Haven has announced plans to restore the façade and clock tower of its High Victorian Gothic City Hall (1861-1862) designed by Henry Austin. Incorporation of the façade into the city’s new Government Center opposite New Haven Green represents a compromise reached when strong objection to an earlier plan calling for the city halls demolition was voiced by the New Haven Preservation Trust. Unless city officials and the Government Center architect are persuaded to consider other alternatives, however, three-fourths of the existing city hall and the complementary Victorian Gothic courthouse (1873) adjacent to it will be destroyed.

A Richardsonian-Romanesque police station in Boston’s Back Bay, designed by Arthur H. Vinal in 1886, has been adapted for use by the Institute of Contemporary Art. It was opened last May under an 80-year lease from the Boston Redevelopment Authority.

The Historic Richmond Foundation announced in August that it has given final approval to a $400,000 revolving fund and construction budget for 1975. Among projects currently scheduled by the city-wide, nonprofit organization is restoration of Carrington Row (1818), the finest block of row houses in Richmond dating from the Federal period. Once attributed to Robert Mills, the row is now thought to be the work of a skillful imitator.

Follow-Up. During the past summer, Atlanta Landmarks, Inc. succeeded in taking over purchase agreements on the pseudo-Islamic Fox Theater (1929) held by the Southern Bell Telephone Company. The preservation group faces the task of raising $2.5 million during the next year to cover a loan and initial costs of restoring the Atlanta movie theater for use as a civic and performing arts center. The future of another notable movie palace, Omaha’s Orpheum Theater (1925) by Chicago theater architects Rapp and Rapp, has been similarly secured. The French Renaissance Revival landmark was reopened this year as a city-sponsored performing arts center.