



NEWSLETTER

THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

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SAH NOTICES

1977 Annual Meeting, Los Angeles—February 2-6. Adolf K. Placzek, Columbia University, is general chairman and David Gebhard, University of California, Santa Barbara, is local chairman.

Sessions will be held at the Biltmore Hotel February 3, 4 and 5. (For a complete listing, please refer to the April 1976 issue of the *Newsletter*.) The College Art Association of America will be meeting at the Hilton Hotel (a few blocks from the Biltmore) at the same time. As is customary, registration with either organization entitles participants to attend either SAH or CAA sessions, and a fruitful scholarly exchange is anticipated.

The local committee is planning several exhibitions, as well as numerous tours of Los Angeles and surrounding cities. Tours in the greater metropolitan area of Los Angeles will include Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, architecture of the 1920s and '30s from the Los Feliz area to Beverly Hills, the Silverlake District, Pasadena, and Wilshire Boulevard. On Sunday, February 6, three all-day bus tours are being arranged: the San Diego-La Jolla area; Santa Barbara and environs; and a tour to Ojai.

SAH members will receive the preliminary program, accompanied by registration form and hotel reservation card, by late October. To insure places on the tours and attendance at functions where numbers are limited, members are urged to preregister promptly.

1978 Annual Meeting, San Antonio—April 5-10. Adolf K. Placzek, Columbia University, will be general chairman of the meeting. O'Neil Ford of Ford, Powell and Carson will be honorary local chairman, and Mary Carolyn Jutson will act as local chairman.

1977 Annual Tour—Upper Hudson Valley (Troy-Albany-Schenectady-Saratoga Springs and vicinity)—August 24-28. A. Donald Emerich will serve as chairman. Announcement of the tour will reach the SAH membership by April 15, 1977.

1977 Foreign Tour—Sicily (Ancient, Medieval and Baroque)—June 10-28. Spiro Kostof, University of California, Berkeley, and Henry Millon, American Academy in Rome, will serve as co-chairmen.

1977 Special Tour—Newfoundland (July 24-30). Douglas S. Richardson, University of Toronto, will serve as chairman of the tour. He will be assisted by Shane O'Dea and George T. Kapelos.

SAH Placement Service Bulletin No. 3, October 1976 is enclosed with this issue of the *Newsletter*. The next *Bulletin* will appear with the December 1976 issue. **Deadline:** position-available and member-applicant listings must reach the SAH

CONTRIBUTIONS OF BACK ISSUES OF SAH JOURNAL REQUESTED

The Board of Directors of SAH voted at their May, 1976 meeting to request those members who have the back issues of the SAH *Journal* listed below and are willing to part with them to donate them to the central office: Vols. I-VIII (1940-1949)—all numbers; Vol. IX (1950)—nos. 1, 2, 3; Vol. X (1951)—nos. 1 & 3; Vol. XI (1952)—nos. 1, 2, 4; Vol. XII (1953)—no. 2; Vol. XIII (1954)—nos. 1 & 2; Vol. XIV (1955)—all numbers; Vol. XV (1956)—nos. 1, 2, 3; Vol. XVI (1957)—nos. 1, 2, 3; Vol. XVII (1958)—nos. 1, 2, 3; Vol. XVIII (1959)—nos. 1 & 2; Vol. XIX (1960)—nos. 1, 2, 3; Vol. XX (1961)—all numbers; Vol. XXI (1962)—nos. 1, 2, 3; Vol. XXII (1963)—no. 1; Vol. XXIV (1965)—nos. 1 & 2.

central office (address above) no later than November 15, 1976. **We urge prospective employers to remember this deadline and to submit listings of positions open (under categories of Academic, Business and Professions, Government, and Other), which will be published free of charge.**

Abstracts of Papers Presented at Philadelphia Meeting. Sets of abstracts are available from the central office of SAH (1700 Walnut Street, Room 716, Philadelphia, Pa. 19103) at \$3.00 postpaid. **All orders should be prepaid.**

American Friends of Attingham, Inc. For the eighth consecutive year, a tuition-scholarship will be awarded by the American Friends of Attingham to an SAH member for the 1977 Attingham Summer School (July 6-25). The course offered in 1977 will be the twenty-sixth annual course of the Attingham School, which concentrates on the historic houses of England, their architecture, contents and social history.

SAH members may obtain full details and application forms from the Executive Secretary, American Friends of the Attingham Summer School, Inc., 41 East 65th Street, New York, N.Y. 10021, and completed applications must be returned there by February 15, 1977. The SAH committee which will review all applications has been appointed by President Marian C. Donnelly: Billie Britz, Selina Little and Roy E. Graham, chairman.

SPECIAL OFFER

Society of Architectural Historians of Great Britain Pre-publication Offer. *Modern Houses in Britain, 1919-39*, by J. H. Gould (72 pages of text, 24 pages of plans and forty plates, gazetteer of more than 300 houses—address of each house, name of architect and client, dates of construction—and index of

architects) will be published early in 1977, and will be uniform with *Architectural History*, the first volume of a new series of monographs. The special price will be \$10 to members of SAH-GB and \$14 to nonmembers. (The post publication price will be \$25.) Requests, enclosing a cheque or money order for the proper amount, should be sent to The Honorary Editor, Society of Architectural Historians in Great Britain, Courtauld Institute of Art, 20 Portman Square, London W1H 0BE, England. To obtain the special price all requests must be received by January 31, 1977. Inclusion in the list of subscribers, however, cannot be guaranteed after November 30, 1976.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

In New Jersey Governor Byrne has appointed DAVID V. ABRAMSON, restoration architect with the Department of Planning and Development, Trenton, to a two-year term on the Historic Sites Review Committee . . . JOHN BOLLES has published a work on the Nunnery at Chichen Itza, called *Las Monjas*; it is Volume 139 of the University of Oklahoma's Civilization of the American Indian series . . . RICHARD N. CAMPEN spoke to the Cleveland Restoration Center about the local architectural firm of Walker and Weeks (1911-1941) . . . Recipient of a Design Fellowship of the National Endowment for the Arts is JEAN PAUL CARLHIAN of SHEPLEY BULFINCH RICHARDSON AND ABBOTT, Boston; he will study the influence of French classical teaching on American architecture from 1886 to 1936 . . . The American Council of Learned Societies has awarded Grants in Aid to the following SAH members: ERIC G. CARLSON (The abbey church of St.-Etienne, Caen), LEONARD K. EATON (Warehouses and warehouse districts in Western Canada), SUZANNE S. FRANK (The Amsterdam School of Architecture), DORA L. WIEBENSON (The origins of the integration of vernacular architecture with French "classical" architecture); these grants are funded by the Ford Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities . . . Joseph Esherick of ESHERICK HOMSEY DODGE AND DAVIS, San Francisco architecture and planning firm, has been elected an Associate of the National Academy of Design. Esherick's firm has been honored by an Heritage Award of Merit for urban conservation in the remodeling of an old loft building in San Francisco into the Far West Laboratory for Educational Research and Development . . . Honored in Canada was R. BUCKMINSTER FULLER, who received an Honorary Fellowship of the RAIC College of Fellows . . . DEBORAH S. GARDNER of Columbia University has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Institute for Historical Research in New York City. She also gave a paper at the Third Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, entitled "Federal Housing Projects and Women's Lives" . . . The American contribution to the Venice Biennale is organized by the Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies; the following SAH members have prepared original projects for the exhibit: JOHN HEJDUK, RICHARD MEIER, CHARLES MOORE, and ROBERT STERN . . . A different kind of honor came to San Francisco architect KENNETH HOUSEHOLDER, who won the Irish Sweepstakes to the tune of \$800,000 . . . A Loeb Fellowship in Advanced Environmental Studies at Harvard University has been awarded to ROGER P. LANG; he will work on formal frameworks to encourage restoration and recycling of buildings and neighborhoods . . . To the south, HUGH MILLER of the National Park Service lectured and participated in field trips during a two-week seminar in Mexico City on the conservation of sites and objects, with particular reference to the colonial period . . . The Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada has chosen SHANE O'DEA as Library Chairperson . . . In Pennsyl-

vania, MELANIE L. SIMO has been appointed administrative assistant to the chairman of the board of county commissioners of Allegheny County (Pittsburgh).

AGNES ADDISON GILCHRIST

Agnes Addison Gilchrist, a founder and first woman President of the Society of Architectural Historians, died suddenly July 3, 1976.

Born in Philadelphia, Agnes graduated from Wellesley in 1930 and received her PhD from the University of Pennsylvania in 1938. She studied at the Courtauld Institute in London and at the Institute d'Art et d'Archeologie in Paris.

Her teaching career was in Denton, Texas, at Randolph-Macon, the University of Pennsylvania and New York University. While at Randolph-Macon she wrote several articles for the *Alumnae Magazine* and did research for the *Catalogue of Randolph-Macon Woman's College Collection of American Paintings*.

Her full-length biography of William Strickland, first published in 1950, was re-issued in 1969. She had been at work on the *New York Architect, McComb*, before her death.

In addition to her book on Strickland, she wrote: *Romanticism and the Gothic Revival* (1938), *Portraits in the University of Pennsylvania* (1940), and many articles and book reviews.

More recently she had also catalogued the work of Daniel Huntington and chosen seventy-five of his works for a potential exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery in Washington. As one of the founders of the Society, she served as Secretary-Treasurer, Vice President and President. At the time of her death she was a member of the Society's Alice Davis Hitchcock Book Award Committee.

Although her teaching career was interrupted by marriage and children she continued her research, in the late fifties and early sixties working for Sleepy Hollow Restoration in Tarrytown, New York, almost commuting to Holland. From 1962-64, she did research for the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission and was a Director of The Municipal Art Society of New York, 1951-58.

One of her important contributions to architectural history was through the Historic American Buildings Survey where she worked with former SAH President, Charles E. Peterson, who writes as follows:

Agnes had a large measure of enthusiasm and a sense of humor. In addition she had a streak of originality. It may have been she who suggested the first SAH tour of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard. She was also the first editor of the *Newsletter*. These innovations took place in my year as President.

In 1956 when the Historic American Buildings Survey was first funded through a regular appropriation to the Interior Department we suddenly had \$200,000 to spend in one year without any personnel to direct it.

We surveyed the whole United States and plotted the existing coverage on county maps, state by state, set up operating standards and recruited architectural personnel and photographers. On the basis of our organizational techniques, San Francisco and Washington offices were later set up. A quality product was obtained from the start and many areas of the Eastern half of the country came to be recorded. A great deal of effort was made to contact the leading authorities in each locality and make friends.

Perhaps her finest legacies were catholicity of interests, judgment, sharp eye, humor, and, above all, her integrity.

Contributed by Barbara Wriston

ROBERT CHESTER SMITH, JR.

Robert Chester Smith, Jr., 53, died at his home on August 21, 1975. Professor of Art History at the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Smith was foremost scholar of both Portuguese and American Art.

Professor Smith graduated from Harvard College *summa cum laude* (and was a Paul Sachs fellow) in 1933. The following year he received a Master of Arts degree and in 1936 a PhD in the History of Art from Harvard. Professor Smith was awarded an



Robert Chester Smith, Jr.
Photo supplied by Nancy H. Schless

honorary PhD by the University of Bahia and the University of Rio de Janeiro in recognition of his research and writing on the arts of Portugal and Brazil in 1973. In both countries he was accepted as the leading scholar on their arts of the 18th century. Architecture, sculpture, wood carvings and furniture were of particular interest to him. He was a prolific writer and published more than a hundred articles and seventeen major books. A gifted linguist and a Fellow of the Gulbenkian Foundation, he actively carried on research and writing concerning the arts of Portugal and Brazil. "For the best book about Portugal published in a foreign language," *The Art of Portugal* (1968) he was awarded the Camoes Prize. He was also the recipient of the Order of the Southern Cross from Brazil; the Order of Christ (Portugal); the Gold Medal of the city of Brago (Portugal); the Medal of Merit from the city of Oporto (Portugal); and the Gold Collar and Chain of the Academic Faculty of the University of Coimbra (Portugal).

During the second world war Professor Smith was a member of the Office of Strategic Services and served in Washington and Brazil.

From the early 1950s Professor Smith actively carried on re-

search and writing about Philadelphia arts and crafts and architecture, and published many articles on these subjects. In 1969 he received the Philadelphia Athenaeum Literary Award for the best non-fiction book written in 1968. Professor Smith was a member of the College Art Association, the Society of Architectural Historians, the American Portuguese Cultural Society, a Fellow of Brazilian and Portuguese Studies, Library of Congress and many other learned societies.

At the time of his death Professor Smith had just completed a book on the subject of his 1959 Winterthur lecture series, *The History of Furniture from the Earliest Times to the Present*, which is to be published by Phaidon Press.

From the obituaries written by Charles F. Montgomery and Nancy H. Schless

ORGANIZATIONS

American Historical Association. An affiliate of the Association, SAH has been invited by the interim editor of *The American Historical Review* to submit manuscript essays to the *Review* which would be appropriate for publication. Robert F. Byrnes also seeks volunteer reviewers. Reviewer cards are available from Rosann Berry, Executive Secretary of SAH. Members are encouraged to contact Robert F. Byrnes, Interim Editor, *The American Historical Review*, Indiana University, Ballantine Hall, Bloomington, Ind. 47401 (812-337-5644/7609).

Northeast Victorian Studies Association. The Association will sponsor a bulletin serving as a clearing house for those interested in Victorian Britain. Its content will be interdisciplinary, covering such fields as art, architecture, literature, history, economics, medicine, science, religion, law and photography. Contact Lynne F. Sacher, Editor, *Victorian Studies Bulletin*, Baruch College, CUNY, 17 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10010.

BOOKS

- American Victorian Architecture: A Survey of the 70's and 80's in Contemporary Photographs*. New York: Dover Publications, 1975. Paperback, \$6.00. ISBN 0-486-23177-1. Reproductions of illustrations from *L'Architecture Americaine* published by Andre, Paris 1886.
- Andrews, Wayne. *American Gothic: Its Origins, Its Trials, Its Triumphs*. New York: Random House, 1975. Paperback, \$6.95. ISBN 0-394-49760-0.
- Arceneaux, Marc. *Streamline: Art and Designs of the Forties*. San Francisco: Troubadour Press, 1975. \$2.95. ISBN 0-912300-63-9.
- Artley, Alexander (ed.) *The Golden Age of Shop Design European Shop Interiors 1880-1939*. New York: Watson-Guill Publications, [1976] c. 1975. \$22.50. ISBN 0-8230-7215-0.
- Bayard, Tania, SAH. *Bouges Cathedral: The West Portals*. New York: Garland, 1976. \$30.00. ISBN 0-8240-1977-6.
- Boatner, Mark. *Landmarks of the American Revolution: A Guide to Locating and Knowing What Happened at the Sites of Independence*. New York: Hawthorn Books, 1975. \$6.95. ISBN 0-8015-4390-8.
- Butler, Phyllis F. *The Valley of Santa Clara—Historic Buildings, 1792-1920*. San Jose: Junior League of San Jose, 1975. \$12.95. ISBN 0-916286-02-9.
- Chase, John. *The Sidewalk Companion to Santa Cruz Architecture*. Santa Cruz: Chase: Distributed by Santa Cruz Historical Society, 1975. \$5.95.
- Coulson, William D. *An Annotated Bibliography of Greek and Roman Art, Architecture, and Archaeology*. New York: Garland, 1975. \$14.00. ISBN 0-8240-9984-2.
- Davis, Terence. *The Gothick Taste*. First American edition. Rutherford, N.J.: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 1975. \$30.00. ISBN 0-8386-1746-8.
- Doxiadis, Konstantinos and Papaioannou, J. G. *Ecumenopolis: The Inevitable City of the Future*. First American edition. New York: Norton, 1975. \$14.95; paperback, \$5.95. ISBN 0-393-08730-1; ISBN 0-393-08741-7.
- Elling, Christian. *Rome: The Biography of Her Architecture from Bernini to Thorvaldsen*. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, 1975. \$65.00. ISBN 0-89158-514-1.
- Faensen, Hubert and Ivanov, Vladimir. *Early Russian Architecture*. New York: Putnam, 1975. \$42.50. ISBN 0-399-11293-6.
- Giurgola, Romaldo and Mehta, Jaimini. *Louis I. Kahn*. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, 1975. \$39.50. ISBN 0-89158-502-8.
- Hayden, Dolores. SAH. *Seven American Utopias: Landscapes, Dwellings, and Towns, 1790-1940*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1976. \$16.95. ISBN 0-262-08082-6.

- Hogarth, Paul. *Paul Hogarth's Walking Tours of Old Philadelphia: Six Walking Tours in Independence National Park, Society Hill, Southwark and Washington Square*. New York: C. N. Potter, 1976. \$15.00; paperback, \$6.95. ISBN 0-517-52384-1.
- Hull, John. *Art Deco: Design Motifs of the 20's and 30's*. San Francisco: Troubadour Press; c. 1975. \$2.95. ISBN 0-912300-62-0.
- Kauffman, Henry J. *The American Farmhouse*. New York: Hawthorn Books, 1975. \$16.95. ISBN 0-8015-0220-9.
- Kertesz, Andre. *Washington Square*. New York: Grossman Publishers, 1975. Paperback, \$4.95. ISBN 0-670-00601-7.
- Kidson, Peter. *Sculpture at Chartres*. London: Academy Editions, 1975; New York: St. Martin's Press, 1975. \$9.95. ISBN 0-85670-130-0.
- Kraft, Ken. *The Best of American Gardening: Two Centuries of Fertile Ideas*. New York: Walker, 1975. \$10.00. ISBN 0-8027-0497-2.
- Morgan, Neil. *Yesterday's San Diego*. Miami: E. A. Seeman Publishers, 1976. \$9.95. ISBN 0-912458-63-1.
- Quantrill, Malcolm. *Ritual and Response in Architecture*. London: Lund Humphries, 1974. \$15.00. ISBN 0-85331-287-7.
- Reese, Thomas F. *The Architecture of Ventura Rodriguez*. New York: Garland, 1976. \$80.00. ISBN 0-8240-2004-9.
- Rivoira, Giovanni. *Moslem Architecture, Its Origins and Development*. Translated from Italian by G. McN. Rushford. New York: Hacker Art Books, 1975. \$35.00. ISBN 0-87817-136-3.
- Rolleston, Sara E. *Historic Houses and Interiors in Southern Connecticut*. New York: Hastings House, 1976. \$15.00. ISBN 0-8038-3035-1.
- Scott, Jonathan. *Piranesi*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1975. \$50.00.
- Scully, Vincent. *Pueblo: Mountain, Village, Dance*. New York: Viking Press, 1975. \$19.95. ISBN 0-670-58209-3.
- Strong, Roy et al. *The Destruction of the Country House, 1875-1975*. London: Thames and Hudson, 1974. \$15.00. ISBN 0-500-24094-9.
- Tafuri, Manfredo. Translated from the Italian by Barbara Luigi La Penta. *Architecture and Utopia: Design and Capitalist Development*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1975. \$9.95. ISBN 0-262-20033-3.
- Turner, Paul V., SAH. *The Founders and the Architects: The Design of Stanford University*. Stanford: Stanford University Department of Art, 1976. Paperback, \$4.80. Available from the Art Department, Stanford University, Stanford, Ca. 94305; postage \$.70.
- Wentz, Robert. *Portsmouth, [Va.] A Pictorial History*. Virginia Beach, Va.: Donning Co., 1975. \$13.95. ISBN 0-915442-04-3.
- Wight, Jane A. *Medieval Floor Tiles*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1975. \$17.95.
- Zibart, Carl. *Yesterday's Nashville*. Miami: E. A. Seeman Publishers, 1976. \$9.95. ISBN 0-912450-57-7.

CHAPTERS

Chicago. In May the Chapter had a display of "Chicago Architects" described by Stanley Tigerman and a lecture by Jack Hedrich on architectural photography techniques. There was also a dinner meeting with election of officers: Melvyn A. Skvarla, president; Thomas Heinz, vice president; Lawrence Vonckx, treasurer; Lois Raasch, secretary; Mary Ellen Sigmund, preservation officer. Late in June the Chapter completed their season with a bus tour of Riverside.

Decorative Arts. A private gallery tour of the American wing of the Metropolitan Museum was held in late May for the Chapter. Leaders of the tour were Marilyn Johnson Borden and Morrison H. Heckscher.

Minnesota. The Chapter met in the Frank Lloyd Wright house of Don and Virginia Loveness, near Stillwater. "In view of the balmy June day . . . we dispensed with a business meeting and luxuriated in the whole situation."

New Jersey. At its annual meeting, the Chapter elected the following officers for 1976-77: Sandy Brown, president; John Bristow, first vice president; Paul R. Baker, second vice president; Marion Bensky, secretary-treasurer; and Charles Detwiler, Jr., preservation officer.

Ohio Valley (Kentucky, Indiana, Western Ohio and Illinois). This new Chapter plans a series of weekend meetings with papers and tours, emphasizing but not confined to local architecture. The officers are: Christopher Owens, president; Carl Saladino, vice president; Thomas Schlereth, secretary-treasurer; Walter Langsam, preservation officer.

Philadelphia. The Chapter met jointly in June with the German Society to hear a lecture by William Woys Weaver on "Domestic Architecture of the Pennsylvania Germans 1700-1800." The meeting included a tour of the German Society building and election of officers: H. Reed Longnecker, president; Perry Benson II, vice president; Harry Schalck, secretary; Donald W. McPhail, treasurer.

Southern California. A peripatetic meeting with preservation as its theme was the final 1975-76 activity for the Chapter; they visited the Hale House in Heritage Square and then an Ernest Batchelder house in Pasadena where they heard Deborah Feldman talk on the craftsman tradition in Pasadena.

QUERIES

For an annotated edition of his writings, the letters and other papers of General Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben are sought by Dr. Edith von Zemzensky of the Van Pelt Library of the University of Pennsylvania, 3410 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104.

Harvey Mitchell, Department of History, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, is looking for material on the role of architects and their relations with doctors, administrators of hospitals, and politicians during the period of the French Revolution.

EXHIBITS

SITES. A new exhibition on railroad architecture, *Terminal, Station, and Depot*, is now available from the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service. The exhibition spans the first railroad station built in Baltimore in 1830 to those of the 1920s. It focuses on the railroad station as a unique architectural structure as well as the need to preserve these historic buildings. Organized and researched by the Historic American Buildings Survey, the exhibit consists of twenty framed panels, each measuring 3' x 4' and containing both color and black and white photographs with text silk-screened onto each panel. Fee: \$275.00; space: 100 running feet; weight: 780 lbs. (three crates). Contact Lary Rosenblatt, Exhibition Coordinator, SITES, Washington, D.C. 20560 (202-381-6631).

In Brief. Recently in Victoria, British Columbia, the Provincial government employed provisions of the Archaeological and Historic Sites Act to halt demolition of an early work by Samuel Maclure, a leading architect of the Province at the turn of the century. It was the first time a demolition had been suspended under the Act for the express purpose of allowing a building to be recorded.

In Boston the City Conservation League has been formed and publishes a newsletter, *drumlin*. They are particularly interested in preserving the Jordan Marsh Department Store on Washington Street. A conglomerate of six separately constructed retail buildings, two are of special interest. The earliest of the group was designed by N. J. Bradlee in 1860 and is a rare survivor of the 1872 fire. The other is the corner tower building designed by Samuel J. F. Thayer in 1880. The remaining structures were built during the 1870's and 80's. The CCL has been involved with presenting alternative schemes to the Jordan Marsh Company. The CCL is also involved in other preservation projects and a comprehensive survey of Boston.