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# NEWSLETTER

# THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

OCTOBER 1968 VOL. XII NO. 5 PUBLISHED SIX TIMES A YEAR BY THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS 1700 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19103 HENRY A. MILLON, PRESIDENT EDITOR: JAMES C MASSEY, 614 S. LEE STREFT, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314. ASSOCIATE EDITOR: MARIAN CARD DONNELLY, 2175 OLIVE STREET, EUGENE, OREGON 97405

#### SAH NOTICES

SAH Alice Davis Hitchcock Book Award. This award, for the most distinguished work of scholarship in the history of architecture published by a North American scholar during the year 1968, will be made at the time of the annual meeting in Boston. Richard Pommer, Chairman of the Book Award Committee, would be pleased to receive nominations of books for consideration for this annual award. Any suggestions should be sent to the Executive Secretary, SAH, 1700 Walnut Street, Room 716, Philadelphia, Pa. 19103; they will be forwarded to the Committee.

Annual Meeting. Boston — Jan. 30 — Feb. 2, 1969. Elisabeth MacDougall will assist General Chairman A. Henry Detweiler as Local Chairman. Her committee includes Stanford Anderson, Robert Berger, Abbott Cummings, Peter Ferguson, Margaret Floyd, Mrs. Robert W. Reardon, Robert Rettig, Eduard Sekler and Albert B. Wolfe.

Tours. Domestic. 1969 Annual Tour — Richmond, Va., Oct. 15-20. 1970 Annual Tour — New Mexico and Colorado, Oct. 9-18. Prof. Bainbridge Bunting, University of New Mexico, will serve as Chairman. The tour will include architecture of the region, 800 A.D. to the present, in areas of Mesa Verde, Abiquiu, Taos, Santa Fe and Albuquerque.

Tours. Foreign. 1969 – Windward Islands of the Caribbean, June 14 – June 28, 1969. As in 1967, yachts will be chartered from V.E.B. Nicholson and Sons, Antigua, for an architectural study cruise to begin in Antigua. The tour will include the overseas departments of France – Guadeloupe and Martinique—as well as the former French possessions of Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenada, ending in Barbados. (Tour limited to approximately 50 persons.) Members will receive the tour announcement on or about Feb. 1, 1969. 1969-70 Foreign Tour — Mexico (or Mexico-Guatemala) — December 28, 1969-January 7, 1970. Prof. John D. Hoag, University of Colorado, will serve as Chairman.

### NEWPORT TOUR

The Society's traditional annual tour was held this year in Newport, Rhode Island, certainly one of the richest sites for the study of architectural history in the United States. This, the third SAH tour to be held in Newport, was under the very able Chairmanship of Antoinette F. Downing, with Mrs. George Henry Warren as Honorary Chairman. On the tour committee were Winslow Ames and William H. Jordy, and the Preservation Society of Newport County served as host organization, with the further cooperation of the Oldport Association, Operation Clapboard and the Point Association.

The SAHers who were fortunate enough to obtain places on the heavily-oversubscribed tour were not disappointed as they were favored by perfect weather to visit the endless variety of Newport buildings from the late 17th through the early 20th centuries, and to enjoy a series of receptions, luncheons and dinners.

After orientation talks Thursday afternoon by Antoinette F. Downing and William H. Jordy at Trinity Church, there was a walking tour of centrally-located landmarks, including Colony House, the Vernon House, and Touro Synagogue. In the evening the tour was honored by a reception at Mrs. George Henry Warren's impressive 1809 house on Mill Street. After dinner there was a late-hour panel discussion on the "Problems of Urban Renewal in Historic Cities," to which Newport preservationists were also invited. President Henry A. Millon was in the chair, and panelists included Antoinette F. Downing, Bainbridge Bunting, Richard W. Hale and Roger Webb. Regrettably the panel did not delve as originally intended into the urgent problems raised by the massive destruction of historic buildings in Newport itself, now underway in the name of progress. Few historic districts in the United States have suffered as much demolition of their cores for redevelopment and highway construction, and we missed this timely opportunity to review the issue, and the related problem of the development of the downtown business district.



NEWPORT TOUR.
Stephen Jacobs,
Tour Chairman,
Antoinette F.
Downing, Executive Secretary,
Rosann S. Berry,
and H. Allen
Brooks, at the
Vernon House.
PHOTO: J.C.MASSEY

Friday morning was given over to a tour of the Easton Point area, with visits to the notable Washington Street landmarks - the Hunter House, the Captain John Warren House, the "Quaker Tom" Robinson House, and an altogether remarkable example of Victoriana, the M. H. Sanford House of 1870. Other houses in the neighborhood, which is undergoing extensive restoration through the efforts of groups such as Operation Clapboard, were also visited. After lunch at the Whitehorse Tavern, the tour continued with a detailed examination of the Quaker Meeting House of 1700 (with later additions) by the architects for the restoration, SAH members Orin M. Bullock, Jr., FAIA and Donald Dodge, AIA. This large early structure, remarkable for its size and massive framing, is being carefully restored under the patronage of Mrs. Sydney Wright. The afternoon was completed by the first of a series of visits to some of the important late-19th century cottages for which Newport is justly famous.

Perhaps the high point of the tour program was the Friday evening reception and dinner at The Elms, Horace Trumbauer's 1901 mansion for Edward J. Berwind of Philadelphia. This was followed by a talk by Winslow Ames, "The Vocabulary of Nineteenth Century Architectural

Detail."



NEWPORT TOUR. William H. Jordy talking to members of the tour at Berkeley House, by McKim, Mead and White, 1888.
PHOTO: J.C.MASSEY

Most of Saturday was concerned with the Victorian period, and included visits to many of the summer cottages from the 1841 Kingscote on through to the ostentatious Breakers of 1895, where we enjoyed a reception. In light of the rising interest and increased scholarship being devoted to the 19th century, it was particularly welcome to see many of the best buildings of the period.

On Sunday the tour members, many now wearying from a nonstop morning-to-night schedule, turned out for a bus trip around Ocean Drive, visits to more historic houses, and then a restful and pleasant box luncheon at Green Animals, Miss Alice Brayton's estate in Portsmouth, and the end of a memorable SAH tour. Mrs. Downing and her committee are to be congratulated for arranging a superb tour for the Society!

Special note should be made of the tour notes prepared by Mrs. Downing and Messrs. Ames and Jordy; they are an excellent start on a much-needed small guide for Newport architectural tourists. Incidentally, the long-out-of-print definitive history of Newport architecture, The Architectural Heritage of Newport, Rhode Island by Antoinette F. Downing and Vincent J. Scully, is again available in a 2nd revised edition (Potter, \$22.50).

# CHAPTERS

SAH members who are interested in the activities of the chapter in their area, please write the Secretary of that chapter, or for information on starting chapters, contact the Executive Secretary.

New York. Winston R. Weisman, Pennsylvania State University, will be the guest speaker at the first fall meeting of the New York Chapter, to be held at the Graduate Center, City University of New York, on October 24, at 8:30 p.m. His topic will be "The Early Commercial Architecture of George B. Post."

Northern Pacific Coast. A fall meeting and tour of historic buildings will be held at Portland, Oregon, November 2, 1968.

Washington. The fall season opened October 3 at the Smithsonian Institution with a talk by Crombie Taylor (SAH), University of Southern California, jointly sponsored with the Smithsonian, "The Stencil Ornament of Louis Sullivan," on the occasion of an exhibit on the same subject. In cooperation with the Philadelphia Chapter a joint tour to "Fallingwater," the Kaufmann house by Frank Lloyd Wright, and Pittsburgh was held October 19-20.

On November 8 Carl Feiss (SAH) will speak after a dinner meeting of the Chapter at the Arts Club on "The Historic Courthouses of Virginia."

Western Reserve Architectural Historians. The Chapter's 1968-9 year includes five programs for architectural historians in the Cleveland area. The first was a field trip to Akron and Peninsula, followed by an illustrated lecture on the "Ohio Canal," by Jack Gieck on September 28. Future programs include a lecture on "Early Master Builders in the Western Reserve" by Eric Johannesen (SAH),

Mount Union College, November 15; "Louis Kahn," a lecture by Lewis I. Schwartz (SAH), Case Western Reserve University, January 31, 1969; "Greek Revival Architecture in the Western Reserve," March; and an auto tour of the Northeastern Western Reserve, including Madison, Unionville, Austinburg and Jefferson, May.

#### ORGANIZATIONS

ACLS. In anticipation of its Fiftieth Anniversary in 1969, the American Council of Learned Societies is conducting a fund-raising campaign to insure its long-range planning and developmental activities. ACLS was founded in 1919, and has been dedicated to the advancement of humanistic learning in all its universal contexts. SAH is a constituent society, as are thirty-two other learned societies. The Council will welcome individual pledges or gifts in any amount; SAH members interested in making such contributions should write to the American Council of Learned Societies, 345 East 46th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017.

Pioneer America Society. The recently-formed Pioneer America Society, 626 South Washington St., Falls Church, Va. 22046, is expanding its activities in the fields of folk culture and indigenous architecture by publishing a semi-annual journal Pioneer America. The first sample issue is available at \$.75; regular issues will commence in 1969 at \$2.50 per year to members, or \$3 to non-members. Manuscripts for the journal are solicited.

### NEWS OF MEMBERS

Bernd Foerster, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, has been appointed to the New York State Historic Sites Consulting Committee by Governor Nelson Rockefeller ... Suzanne Ganschinietz has been appointed an architectural historian with the National Park Services' Historic American Buildings Survey in Washington... David Gebhard, Director of the Art Galleries, University of California at Santa Barbara, presented the opening program at the Annual International Design Conference held at Aspen, June 17-21... Harold Kalman is now on the faculty of the Department of Fine Arts of the University of British Columbia, Vancouver . . . William L. MacDonald and Bernard M. Boyle surveyed and measured the Small Baths at Hadrian's Villa this past summer under a permit from the Italian government, and with the support of the William Emerson Fund. Minor excavations were also carried out... Herman G. Pundt is now at the University of Washington, Seattle ... Harlyn E. Thompson is Chairman of the Department of Architecture at North Dakota State University after two years as lecturer in the Department of Architecture and Planning at Queen's University of Belfast, Northern Ireland . . . Winston R. Weisman, Head of the Department of Art History and Director of the Center for the Study of Renaissance and Baroque Art at Pennsylvania State University, will be Concora Lecturer at Northwestern University for the spring of 1969. He will give a graduate course on problems in skyscraper history and an undergraduate course on the history of commercial architecture. In addition, there are plans for a conference debating the issue of the Chicago School ... Richard P. Wunder, of the Smithsonian Institution, has been named the first Director of the Institution's Cooper-Hewitt Museum of Design in New York, formerly the Cooper Institute Museum.

# BOOKS

Casanelles, E. Antonio Gaudi: A Reappraisal. Greenwich, Conn., 1968. New York Graphic Society, \$10. English edition of the 1965 Spanish original.

Fabos, Julius; Milde, Gordon; and Weinmayr, V. Michael. Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. (Amherst), 1968. University of Massachusetts Press, \$12.

Donnelly, Marian C. (SAH) New England Meeting Houses of the Seventeenth Century. Middletown, Conn., 1968. Wesleyan University Press, \$7.50.

James, Cary. The Imperial Hotel. 1968. Charles E. Tuttle Co., \$7.50.

Michaelides, C. (SAH) Hydra: A Greek Island Town: Its Growth and Form. Chicago, 1968. University of Chicago Press.

Naylor, Gilliam. The Bauhaus. London, 1968. Studio Vista-Sutton, \$1.95.

Pevsner, Nikolaus. The Sources of Modern Architecture and Design. New York, 1968. Praeger, \$7.50 (also available in paperback).

Roop, Guy. Villas and Palaces of Andrea Palladio 1508-1580. 1967. \$49.50. Available: Friends of Palladio, 925 Las Palmas Drive, Santa Barbara, Calif.

Smith, Robert C. The Art of Portugal 1500-1800. New York, 1968. Meredith Press, \$24.95.

Stanton, Phoebe B. (SAH) An Episode In Taste. The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture. Baltimore, 1968. Johns Hopkins University Press, \$12.95. The first in a new series, "The Johns Hopkins Studies in Nineteenth-Century Architecture," of which Mrs. Stanton is general editor. The series will include critical biographies, studies of themes and trends, and collections of essays on architecture and architects. Advisory editors are Peter Collins, Henry-Russell Hitchcock, William H. Jordy and Nikolaus Pevsner.

Ware, Dora. A Short Dictionary of British Architects. London, 1967. George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., 48s.

## REPRINTS

Hitchcock, Henry-Russell (SAH) Rhode Island Architecture. New introduction by the author. New York, 1968. Da Capo Press, \$15. Original edition, 1939.

Kaufmann, Emil. Architecture in the Age of Reason. New York, 1968. Dover, \$3.50. Original edition, 1955. Kimball, Fiske. Thomas Jefferson, Architect. New introduction by Frederick D. Nichols (SAH). New York, 1968. Da Capo Press, \$80. Original edition, 1916.

Lafever, Minard. The Beauties of Modern Architecture. New introduction by Denys Peter Myers (SAH). New York, 1968. Da Capo Press, \$17.50. Original edition, 1835.

Le Corbusier and Ozenfant, Ed. L'Espirit Nouveau. 8 vol. New York, 1968-9. Da Capo Press, \$250.

Saarinen, Aline B. (Ed.) Eero Saarinen on His Work. New Haven, 1968. Yale University Press, \$17.50. Revised and completed edition.

Shurtleff, Harold R. *The Log Cabin Myth*. A Study of the Early Dwellings of the English Colonists in North America. Magnolia, Mass. 1968. Peter Smith Publishers, Inc., \$5. Original edition, 1939.

Vaux, Calvert. *Villas and Cottages*. New introduction by Henry Hope Reed (SAH). New York, 1968. Da Capo Press, \$15. Original edition, 1857.

Waterman, Thomas T. and Barrows, John A. Domestic Architecture of Tidewater Virginia. New York, 1968. Da Capo Press, \$27.50. Original edition, 1932.

# BOOKLETS AND CATALOGUES

Dulaney, Paul S. (SAH) The Architecture of Historic Richmond. Charlottesville, 1968. University of Virginia Press. 208 pp., illus.; maps. \$2.45. An especially good guidebook to Richmond's historic buildings.

Kalman, Harold. (SAH) The Railway Hotels and the Development of the Château Style in Canada, Studies in Architectural History, No. 1. Vancouver, B.C., 1968. Maltwood Museum, University of British Columbia. 47 pp.

Koeper, Frederick. (SAH) Illinois Architecture From Territorial Times to the Present. A Selective Guide. Chicago, 1968. University of Chicago Press, 304 pp., illus., \$1.95.

Reed, Henry Hope. (SAH) The Elms. Newport, 1968. Preservation Society of Newport County. 24 pp., illustrated brochure about Horace Trumbauer's magnificent 1901 mansion for Edward J. Berwind.

Sharp, Dennis. Sources of Modern Architecture: A Bibliography. Architectural Association of London Paper 2. New York, 1967. George Wittenborn, Inc., 56 pp., \$4.75. Werner, Constance W. (SAH) Georgetown Historic Waterfront. A Review of Canal and Riverside Architecture. Washington, 1968. Commission of Fine Arts and National Park Service, 92 pp., illus. Available: Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. Catalog no. 129-74: G29/2, \$.70.

Birmingham-Pittsburgh's South Side. The Stones of Pittsburgh No. 7. Pittsburgh, 1968. Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation, 15 pp., illus. Available: PHLF, 900 Benedum-Trees Building, Pittsburgh, Pa., \$1. Nineteenth Century Dwelling Houses of Greenwich Village. New York, 1968. 12 pp., illus., with measured drawings. Available: Association of Village Homeowners, P.O. Box 209, New York, N.Y. 10014, \$1 plus \$.25 mailing charge. Oklahoma Landmarks. Stillwater, 1967. Oklahoma State University, 81 pp., illus. Exhibition Catalogue. Available: School of Architecture, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Okla. 74075, \$1.

Andre Lurcat: Architecte. Paris, 1967. Conservatoire National des Arts et Metiers. Exhibition Catalogue, 94 pp., illustrated. Available: Worldwide Art Centre, 250 W. 57th St., New York 10019, \$3.75 plus \$1 handling charge. Bernardo Vittone Architetto. Vercelli, 1967. Exhibition Catalogue, 48 pp., 179 illus. Available: Worldwide Art Centre, 250 W. 57th St., New York 10019, \$5.75 plus \$1 handling charge.

Disegni Di Francesco Borromini. Rome, 1967. Accademia Nazionale di Santa Luca. Exhibition Catalogue, 300th anniversary of architect's death. 33 pp., 61 illus. Available: Worldwide Art Centre, 250 W. 57th St., New York 10019, \$3.40 plus \$1 handling charge.

Disegni Di Giacomo Quarenghi. Bergamo, 1967. Palacio della Ragione. Catalogue of exhibition marking 150th anniversary of the architect's death. 130 pp., 268 illus. Available: Worldwide Art Centre, 250 W. 57th St., New York, 10019, \$9.50 plus \$1 handling charge.

L'Europe Gothique. XIII-XIV Siecle. Paris, 1968. Musee du Louvre. Catalogue of exhibit organized by Council of Europe. 344 pp., 158 illus. Available: Worldwide Art Centre, 250 W. 57th St., New York 10019, \$6.95 plus \$1 handling charge.

#### ARTICLES

Creese, Walter L. (SAH) "The Equitable Revisited" in Architectural Forum, June, 1968, pp. 40-45. A re-examination of the major Chicago building after 20 years of use.

Holloway, R. Ross. (SAH) "Architect and Engineer in Archaic Greece" in *Harvard Studies in Classical Philology*, Vol. 73 (1968) pp. 281–290.

Prairie School Review. Vol. V. No. 1-2, (1968). Special double 51-pp. issue devoted to the neglected American architect, Harvey Ellis. Available: Prairie School Press, 12509 South 89th Ave., Palos Park, Ill. 60464, \$2.50. Annual subscription \$5.

# MISCELLANEOUS

SAH member Edward Teitelman, 305 Cooper Street, Camden, N. J. 08101, has issued a 36-page sale catalogue of

American architectural slides. Copies will be sent to seriously interested persons.

## POSITION OPEN

Massachusetts; Survey Director for the Massachusetts Historical Commission. M.A. in Architectural History or Architecture preferred. Car necessary. Contact: Richard W. Hale, acting chairman Massachusetts Historical Commission, State House, Boston, Mass.

#### **EXHIBITS**

A major exhibit of the work of the Historic American Buildings Survey, "Preservation Through Documentation" is at the Library of Congress from September 25, 1968 to January 1, 1969. The exhibit, showing almost 500 photographs and measured drawings, provides a summary of American architecture from the early Spanish settlements through the development of modern architecture in Chicago at the end of the 19th century. A 16-page illustrated brochure, "Preservation Through Documentation: The Historic American Buildings Survey," is available at the exhibit, or from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 at \$.25.

# HISTORIC PRESERVATION

**Preserved.** Hyde Hall, Cooperstown, N.Y., built 1819–1833 by Philip Hooker, will be maintained by the New York State Historic Trust. The plan follows several years of threatened demolition by the State of New York, which owns the 600-acre property.

Threatened. The Villard houses of 1882–1883 at 50th St. and Madison Avenue, New York, Joseph M. Wells and Stanford White, for McKim, Mead & White. Random House, occupying the north wing, will move next year into a 40-story sky-scraper three blocks east. The Catholic Archdiocese of N.Y., owner of the rest of the houses, according to the New York Times will sell if the price is right. This may indicate the end of the single most important building in heralding the academic reaction in late-nineteenth-century American architecture. (Donald Hoffman, Kansas City Star).

Saved. The Church of the Holy Trinity, Philadelphia, 1857. Since the initial press release, September 8th, public attention in Philadelphia has been focused upon the proposed demolition of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, West Rittenhouse Square, one of the major surviving works of architect John Notman, who also designed the Athenaeum of Philadelphia, as well as St. Mark's and St. Clement's. The proposal, already approved in August by vestry of the church, called for the replacement of Holy Trinity and the Church House (headquarters of the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania) with two apartment towers between which a smaller, new church and chapel were to be erected. The developer of the properties, headed by Jack L. Wolgin, was to have leased the church sites for a 65-year period after which the buildings were to revert to the church and diocese.

A majority of the 450 members of the congregation of Holy Trinity had to approve the proposal before the project could go through. The first meeting of the parishioners was held on September 10th at which time members decided that more information was needed; in order to give time to study the details, voting on the demolition plan was to take place by mail with ballots due by September 30th. On October 1st a radio news bulletin at 2:30 P.M. announced that the congregation of the Church of the Holy Trinity had voted against demolition.

The events of the last twenty days of September read like a case history of architectural preservation. Swift action was taken by all who opposed the demolition of a major landmark of Philadelphia's heritage. First, a group of parishioners circulated letters asking the congregation to vote against razing. At the same time, architectural, historical and preservation groups, both local and national, joined the protest. Letters and telegrams asking the Right Rev. Robert L. DeWitt, Bishop of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, the Rev. Cuthbert Pratt, Rector of Holy Trinity, and the vestry of the church to refrain from this shortsighted act and to rescue the church came from leading officials of such diverse groups as the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Smithsonian Institution, the Philadelphia Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians, the American Philosophical Society, the Philadelphia Historical Commission, the Historic American Buildings Survey, the Philadelphia Chapter, AIA, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

The climax of these protests was an emergency public meeting called by the Philadelphia Chapter, SAH, and organized by its Executive Committee in cooperation with Jonathan L. Fairbanks, of the Henry F. duPont Winterthur Museum. At this meeting, held at the Philadelphia Athenaeum on Thursday, September 19, over 250 concerned Philadelphians heard more than a dozen persons speak for the preservation of Holy Trinity. There was full press and television coverage and petitions to save the church were

circulated and signed.

The panel of distinguished speakers whose statements about Holy Trinity and its architect, John Notman, did so much to focus attention upon the importance of saving this building which means so much to Rittenhouse Square included the Rev. John Craig Roak, Rector of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes) Church, who asked members to "stand up against this materialism" and George Bishop Tatum, Univ. of Delaware, and author of Penn's Great Town, an architectural history of Philadelphia, who said that he doubted if anything built on Holy Trinity's site "will be any great improvement." Other speakers were Whitfield J. Bell, Jr., of the American Philosophical Society, and Jonathan L. Fairbanks, of the Winterthur Museum who is writing a monograph on Notman. In contrast to these impassioned pleas urging the church and diocesan officials to use the magnificent facilities of the building were the statements from the Ven. Robert Wainwright, Archdeacon (representing the Diocese) and Dr. Cuthbert Pratt, the Rector, both of whom advocated demolition in order "to place priority for people over property" and the need for the deployment of the church's resources.

Everyone at the Philadelphia Chapter's meeting-panel of speakers, representatives of the Diocese, parishioners, interested Philadelphians, members, of other Episcopalian churches-made the public aware of the problems involved in historic preservation and the strong human dimension which a building such as Holy Trinity adds to the lives and spirit of man.

Nancy Halverson Schless, President, Philadelphia Chapter

HUD. Under its new grant program in historic preservation, the Department of Housing & Urban Development has provided matching funds for ten projects in seven states totaling \$829,000. The following projects have been aided: The Rochester (a Victorian apartment house), Los Angeles, Calif.; Gallier Hall (1845–53; James Gallier, architect), New Orleans, La.; one grant for seven colonial houses, plus a second grant for the Paca House (1763), all in Annapolis, Md.; Shirley Eustis House (1747) Boston, Mass.; a private academy attended by John Greenleaf Whittier in Haverhill, Mass.; Jones House (1830's), Detroit, Mich.; Frederick Kinsman House (1832), Warren, Ohio; Lehigh Canal, Easton, Pa.; and Morton-Mortensen House (late 17th century), Norwood Park, Pa.