

February 1958

Vol. 2 No. 1

As we still say each year, the ANNUAL MEETING was the best ever. About 300 members attended. Twenty-five Directors, including incoming and outgoing attended the Directors' meeting. The quality of the papers was as high as the quantity of the attendance. Those which seemed most pertinent to our current understanding of architectural history, were those which dealt with problems of construction such as William MacDonald's comments on Roman concrete; Walter Horn's magnificent synthesis of early medieval timber work; Ralph Griswold's analysis of garden construction in the early civilizations. The new sessions on Landscape Architecture and on Architectural Photography were well received. Gerda Peterich surveyed architectural photographs from the first daguerreotypes of the 1840's to 1900. G. E. Kidder Smith concluded the meeting with a brilliant analysis of the factors of where, when and what, which guide him in taking photographs. Fourteen SAH members sent in photographs which were exhibited in the Administration building of the A. I. A. They will be on display until about the first of March. Frank Cole and his committee prepared a good list of Washington buildings. Mr. Leisenring and Mrs. Helen Bullock aided greatly in its compilation. The list is especially to be commended because the architects and dates of recent restorations were included. There was an immense waiting list for the Sunday Bus Tour. Two buses were completely filled. Richard Howland guided the tour which showed us significant but little known examples of Washington architecture from Benjamin Henry Latrobe's Main Gate to the Navy Yard to Frank Lloyd Wright's 1957 house for his son Llewellyn in Bethesda.

AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS At the Directors' meeting on Jan. 30, one of the main topics was trying to clarify the relation of the parent Society to Local Groups. As a result the following amendment to the Bylaws was presented and passed at the annual business meeting. "A local group may be formed when five members request the secretary permission to form a group and pay the treasurer \$10. Institutional membership annually."

Philip Johnson is the second Life Member. He hopes that his contribution will go towards an enlarged JOURNAL. It is to be hoped that not only the JOURNAL will increase in size but also the print of the book reviews.

At the Reception which the American Institute of Architects gave for SAH at the Octagon on January 30, John D. Forbes, Editor of the JOURNAL SAH since 1953 was honored by being made an Honorary Member of the A. I. A. at a brief ceremony at which President Leon Chatelain of the A. I. A. presented Editor Forbes with the certificate of membership to which the latter returned thanks in a whimsically witty speech. Also at the same time at the Octagon, there opened an excellent exhibition of architectural drawings selected by George Pettengill and hung by Mrs. Korff.

One Director, Sam Wilson, could not come to the Washington meetings because he was scheduled to appear on Dave Garroway's Wide-Wide World Program to talk about historic landmarks in New Orleans.

SAH officers have just been notified that the Society has been elected to membership in the American Council of Learned Societies.

Alexander Soper, Art Department, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pa. announced at the Business meeting that a Japanese Architectural Historian had written to him offering 500 slides of Japanese art in exchange for American or European art slides. Anyone needing Japanese slides and having slides for exchange, please write Dr. Soper.

Mrs. John Ingram of Cleveland, Ohio is also eager to start an exchange of slides among SAH members in this country.

Cleveland was announced to be the site of next year's annual meeting.

SAH- Great Britain is making good progress according to acting-secretary Frank Jenkins. They have a committee on Publications and not just one editor.

The program of the 1958 courses to be given by the York Institute of Architectural Studies is available from the secretary, John West-Taylor at the Institute, York, England.

Edward Steese and Robert Trump both wrote in about china door knobs for which many thanks, but no documented use of a china door knob has been forthcoming. Hamilton Grange, 1803, New York City and the 1805 Bowie or Sevier House in Washington, D. C. both have china door knobs of the light brown streaked variety. Is this just a coincidence?

May 1958

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In connection with the dedication of the new Architecture and Allied Arts building of the University of Oregon at Eugene, Marion D. Ross, Professor of Architecture, Charter member of SAH and former Director, organized a two-day meeting for the PACIFIC SECTION of the Society of Architectural Historians on April 11 and 12. The West Coast section of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture met at the same time and some of the sessions were joint. The arrangement seemed so agreeable that both groups are invited to meet together again next spring in Vancouver, B.C. A partial list of papers given includes: Walter Gordon, University of Oregon, "The Architectural Scene"; Kenneth Cardwell, University of California, "Bernard Maybeck"; Robert D. Horn, Oregon, "Impressions of Blenheim Palace"; Joseph A. Baird, UC, Davis, "East and West in Sacramento"; H. H. Waechter, Eugene, "The Work of Bruce Goff"; Charles Pope, National Park Service, "The Historic American Building Inventory". Mr. Pope is secretary-treasurer of the PACIFIC SECTION SAH: his address is 318 Laurel St., San Francisco 18, Calif.

The exhibition of photographs by SAH members which was shown at the Octagon at the Washington meetings in January was shown in Eugene for these meetings. Stephen W. Jacobs, President of the Pacific Section of SAH is now showing the exhibition at the University of California at Berkeley. The exhibition is available to any institution which wishes to exhibit it.

The papers given the second day of the meeting at the University of Oregon were, Homer G. Barnett, University of Oregon, "Native Architectural Adaptations"; Glenn S. Paxson, Salem, "Covered Bridges of Oregon"; David S. Duniway, Salem, "The Bush House, Salem"; Martin Schmitt, UO, "The First Buildings at the University of Oregon"; Maurice Groat, UC, Berkeley, "Old Portland"; Stephen W. Jacobs, UC, Berkeley, "The San Francisco Mint and the Portland Post Office"; Barclay Jones, UC, Berkeley, "The Historic Monument in City Planning."

Walter L. Creese, national President of SAH attended the meetings. Since 1946, Dr. Creese has been at the University of Louisville, where he has been active on University Committees and on municipal committees including former chairmanship of the City-County Planning and Zoning Commission. Last month, the Louisville newspapers announced his resignation from the University of Louisville to be effective September 1, when Dr. Creese goes to the University of Illinois at Urbana to become professor of architecture teaching in the schools of planning and architecture.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION Jacob Landy, Assistant Professor of Art of the City College of New York, is working on the architecture of Minard Lafever in relation to the general architectural scene in New York City from about 1825 to 1860. He would be grateful for more Lafever material and information as to its whereabouts.

Samuel Landsman, 1120 McBride St., Far Rockaway, N.Y., is making a study of St. John's Park, New York City and wishes to know if there are any drawings of houses of that area made prior to 1867-8 when the Park was abolished to make way for the so-called "Railroad Terminal"?

PRESERVATION FORUMS are being given in a number of places this spring all sparked by Richard Howland and Helen Bullock of the National Trust cooperating with local organizations. In St. Louis with the Missouri Historical Society and Charles van Ravenswaay; in New York City with the Municipal Art Society and the Museum of the City of New York at which many SAH members participate including Gerald Watland and Carroll Meeks; and in Providence with many groups under the chairmanship of John Nicholas Brown. Antoinette Downing and Barbara Wriston will be on the program.

Positions Paul Norton, SAH Journal Book Review Editor is leaving the Pennsylvania State University to become head of the new Art Department at Massachusetts State College at Amherst. Under the reactivated Historic American Building Survey at the National Park Service in Philadelphia under Charles Peterson, a new job carrying the title of Architectural Historian has been instituted, the first in the annals of the Federal Government. Agnes Gilchrist had the position for seven months.

The search for the documented china DOORKNOB continues. Winslow Ames writes that the porcelain doorknobs and push plates used on many of the doors at Osborne House were doubtless Prince Albert's choice, can certainly be dated to the mid-1840's. Through the query of Edward Steese to I.S. Eshleman of New York, research in London was done by James Gibbon, Ltd. on the beginning of commercial manufacture of white porcelain doorknobs. This began in 1870 by Buller & Co. of the Staffordshire Potteries by the opening of a factory in Birmingham. A copy of the report by James Gibbon, Ltd., will be deposited in Avery Library.

Frank Jenkins, secretary of SAH-GREAT BRITAIN, writes that their annual meeting will be on August 30 and all SAH members in England at that time will be welcomed at the meeting.

Ada Louise Huxtable who has been writing the series of articles on important buildings of the past for PROGRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE is the SAH member from the New York area who received a Guggenheim Fellowship for the coming year. She has also given a course on New York architecture at the Museum of Modern Art.

A new book by Harold Donaldson Eberlein with photographs by Cortlandt Hubbard on the Historic Houses of GEORGETOWN has just appeared. Mr. Eberlein's first book on COLONIAL PHILADELPHIA was published in 1912, and he has produced a book a year almost ever since.

Winston Weisman of the Pennsylvania State University recently gave a talk at the School of Design of North Carolina State College on "The Origins of the Skyscraper" and this spring has been giving a graduate seminar at the University of Pennsylvania on the "History of the Skyscraper."

Buford L. Pickens, Washington University, St. Louis and former SAH president is now president of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture. Their publication, THE JOURNAL OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION, XII:2, summer 1957 was devoted to articles on the teaching and materials of architectural history. Of special value was the article by Caroline Shillaher of M.I.T. on "Architectural Libraries: Their Resources."

Barbara Wriston, SAH vice-president, has just been appointed a member of the Board of Directors of the College Art Association.

Frederick Gjessing of the National Park Service has made a photographic survey in color slides of Old San Juan in Puerto Rico. Each building in each block in the area has been recorded and descriptive cards made for each building giving the history of each edifice.

Architectural history and city planning are problems which concern SAH members Holmes Perkins, President Philadelphia City Planning Commission and Edmund Bacon, Director of the same. In Baltimore, Alexander Cochran is a member of City Planning Commission. Carl Feiss is on a Committee on Community Planning of the AIA for Washington, D. C.

New SAH Director, Leonard Eaton of the University of Michigan, is a member of the City Council of Ann Arbor and author of New England Hospitals: 1790-1833 published in 1957.

SAH is always well represented on the faculty of the Seminars on American Culture given by the New York State Historical Association at Cooperstown, New York. A new seminar this summer will be on VICTORIAN TASTE: Architecture, Furniture, The Decorative Arts given by Alice Winchester, Ruth Davidson, Robert C. Smith, Marvin Schwartz, Edgar Kaufmann and Thomas Buechner.

As an aftermath of the SAH August tour to Cooperstown in 1956, Dorothy Barck and others have had photographed and prepared folders on all the buildings of the area and had a successful series of meetings to discuss the architecture of the region.

William W. Huse, Jr., of the California Institute of Technology, an active SAH member, died suddenly of a heart attack on January 23, 1958.

SAH President - Walter L. Creese, Hite Art Institute, University of Louisville,
Louisville 8, Ky.

SAH Newsletter Editor - Mrs. John M. Gilchrist, 286 E. Sidney Ave.,
Mount Vernon, N. Y.

SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS NEWSLETTER

September 1958

Vol. 2 No. 3

In order to meet both budget and increased postal rates we are omitting envelopes this mailing. Any comments, along with news of chapters and individuals gratefully received.

Gerda Peterich, Eastman House and Harley McKee, University of Syracuse were in charge of the August Tour of western New York south of Rochester. They got out maps and guides and edited an excellent pamphlet for which a number of people wrote short articles on their special topic as Mrs. Guptill on octagonal houses of the area and Carl F. Schmidt on cobble-stone architecture. All the contributors and volunteers whose work made the brochure and the four day tour possible are much to be congratulated.

George Hersey of Bucknell had a scholarship this summer given by the Episcopal Church to study at the Seminary in Cambridge. His topic of research was Gothic Revival churches of the second half of the 19th C. The Church of the Messiah, 1888, Woods Hole, Mass., he selected for special study as an example of ecclesiological architecture in this country.

The NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE ARTS IN EDUCATION was incorporated in April. SAE is a charter member of the Council and was represented at the organizational meeting by Paul Zucker of Cooper Union.

Carl W. Condit, Northwestern University, writes that a new society and journal devoted to the history and social effects of technology was founded last January at the Case Institute of Technology. The first meeting was to be held at Berkeley, California with the Humanistic-Social Division of the American Society for Engineering Education last June. The next meeting is to be held with the American Historical Association in Washington, D. C. on December 29, 30, 1958. Dr. Condit, as program chairman, would like to hear from SAH members who would like to give papers or contribute to the future publication of the society.

Ernest Allen Connally, University of Illinois, Urbana, informs us that the restored Louis Bolduc House at Ste. Genevieve, Missouri was opened May 7. The architectural restoration and the reconstruction of the garden (1956-58) were carried out under Dr. Connally's direction. It is one of the best examples of French colonial surviving from the late 18th C.

Henry Hope Reed, whose new book, The Golden City is to be published in November by Doubleday & Co., writes that the subtitle will be something like "A Pictorial Discussion of the Raging Argument of the Classical vs. Modern." Mr. Reed has been conducting the bi-yearly Walking Tours which are becoming important features of New York. The next one will be conducted by the Municipal Art Society and the Staten Island Historical Society with the help of Loring McMillan, who conducted the fine tour for SAH in January 1955.

All changes of address and queries about reprints, back numbers or single copies of the SAH JOURNAL should be addressed to the Treasurer, Dr. Robert W. Walker, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pa.

Walter L. Creese, SAH President, was the summary speaker at a conference of European and Asiatic research Scholars in this country under the Smith-Mundt Act, held last June at Allerton House at Urbana under the sponsorship of the University of Illinois. The meeting was to acquaint the foreign scholars with the customs and practices of American education.

Gerald Watland sent a postcard from Holland saying that he was seeing the prototypes of Dutch Colonial Architecture this summer.

Henry Detweiler, Cornell, George Hanfman, Harvard and Marion Ross, Oregon were all at Sardis this summer excavating and recording.

Ellen Kramer received her doctorate from N.Y.U. last February. Her thesis title was "The Domestic Architecture of Detlef Lienau, a conservative Victorian." The work was completed under the direction of Carroll Meeks and Henry-Russell Hitchcock.

Carroll Meeks, past President of SAH, was made full professor of architecture at Yale last May.

James Ackerman is teaching at harvard this year.

Abbott Cummings and Bill Warren will be at the Preservation Seminar at Old Sturbridge next month.

Through the zeal of Dan Hopping, money was donated to SAH which has been used to present foreign institutions with membership in SAH. These gifts have been well received. Restoration of old buildings is the practical application of architectural history. Mr. Hopping has been engaged in this also, for with Gerald Watland, he was architect of the restoration of the Bush-Holley House, 1680, for the Historical Society of the Town of Greenwich. Mr. Hopping was also, consultant for this year's August Tour which he reports was most successful with about 50 attending and the walking tour of Geneva and the bus tour of Rochester being high points.

William Murtaugh moved from Bethlehem to Washington, D. C. on September 1, to begin his new job with the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Buford Pickens has just written to President Creese that Gallier's City Hall in New Orleans is seriously threatened. Louisiana Landmarks, SAH member, under the leadership of Martha G. Robinson, Pres., 26 Audubon Place, is asking for an SAH and AIA resolution for its preservation. The National Trust will be meeting in New Orleans at the end of October and many SAH members will be there at that time and may take a special look at the City Hall.

REMINDER, especially for INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS. Complete series of back issues of the JOURNAL SAH is available on microfilm. Order from University Microfilms, 313 North First Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

SAH Patron member, Mrs. Frank B. Crowninshield, who entertained the SAH August Tour so memorably in 1954, died last June.

Mrs. Ralph Catterall, Curator of Prints and Manuscripts of the Valentine Museum, Richmond, Va., reminds us of the magnificent survey made by SAH member Mary Wingfield Scott in 1942-45. The survey resulted in 1200 cards which recorded 1200 Richmond buildings which were built before 1861 and which were still standing at that time. Each card has a photograph of the building with its history, when built, by whom, present owner, alterations and brief architectural description. By May 1957, 250 of the 1200 buildings had been demolished. At present the Museum is building up a collection of color slides of the remaining ante-bellum structures.

The destruction last June of the Harral-Wheeler house in Bridgeport, Conn. makes us aware how important it is to record the distinguished buildings of the more recent past including those of this century which have not yet been remodelled.

At the Dryden Gallery of the George Eastman House in Rochester, through September 28, there was an exhibit of 19th century architectural photographs assembled by Gerda Peterich. An exhibition of early architectural photographs is opening now at Cooper Union in New York. The architectural drawings owned by the Metropolitan Museum were on view at the Century Club in New York during the summer.

The new officers of the New York Chapter elected last May when Clay Lancaster spoke on "The Japanese Influence on American Architecture" are, President, Wayne Andrews of Scribners; Sec'y-Treas., Mrs. Ellen Kramer (see above) and Program chairman, Dr. Robert Branner of Columbia. The Nominating Committee was Agnes Gilchrist, Paul Zucker and Dean Leopold Arnaud, chairman.

THE DOCUMENTED CHINA DOOR KNOB Samuel J. Dornsife has sent a contribution for the continuing quest. It is from RURAL HOMES by Gervase Wheeler, Charles Scribner, 145 Nassau Street, New York, 1851, p. 210. "PORCELAIN, as a finish to ornamental articles of hardware used in buildings, is now in general use. As a cleanly, cheerful, and durable material, it is highly recommended, and for all such articles as project, door-knobs, bell-pulls, etc., is very suitable. It requires no cleaning like metal and does not soil the hand..... These articles can be procured, together with a vast number of others in the same material, of Baldwin & Many, New York."

The SAH Photography Show is Still circulating. After Washington, D.C., it went to Oregon and California. It is now in Phoenix, Arizona and will be sent to eleven boys' Prep schools, members of The Arts Association of New England Preparatory Schools. Any other institution wishing to exhibit the outstanding collection of architectural photographs write to Vice-President Barbara Wriston, Education Division, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston 15, Mass. Anyone wishing to give a paper at the annual meeting in January in Cleveland should also write to Miss Wriston.

The fall directors' meeting will be held in New York in October. Members having topics to bring before the Board, please write the Secretary, Virginia Lewis, Frick Art Department, University of Pittsburgh.

SAH President - Walter L. Creese, University of Illinois, Urbana
SAH Newsletter Editor - Mrs. J. M. Gilchrist, 286 E. Sidney Ave., Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

Sir John Summerson, Curator of the Soane Museum in London and author of many books on architectural history, including Heavenly Mansions, was knighted last June at the Birthday Honours, the first to receive a knighthood for "contribution to the history of architecture."

SAH NEWS - J.D.Forbes, who for six years has been editor of the SAH JOURNAL, retires from that arduous labor of love with the December issue. He and Donnelley & Sons have done a superlative job. His successor is Paul Norton, Art Dept., University of Massachusetts, Amherst.----At the October Directors' meeting in the Rockefeller Guesthouse, Richard Howland presented plans for an SAH sponsored week, June 21-28, of study of Irish Palladian architecture in and about Dublin, guided by Percy Le Clerc, Chief of Ireland's Historic Monuments. It will be limited to 33 SAH members. Those interested, write D.M.C.Hopping, 120 Midland Ave., Bronxville, N.Y.----The annual meeting in Cleveland will have unusual sessions, as usual: Primitive Architecture, chrmn., George Kubler; Influence of American Architecture on Europe, chrmn., H.R.Hitchcock, etc. and an all-day bus tour.----There will be no poll of SAH members for the Book Award this year. Too few voted last year is the reason. Paul Norton is the Chairman of the Book Award Committee and would be glad of nominations from members.----A few copies of the excellent brochure prepared by Gerda Peterich and Harley McKee for this summer's August Tour of the Finger Lakes Region are available for \$2.00 from Treasurer Robert Walker, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pa.

PUBLICATIONS - Leslie Cheek, SAH Director and Director, The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, to give historical perspective to a show devoted to the new Reynolds Metals Company General Office Building in Richmond, Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, Architects, asked SAH members Frederick D. Nichols and William B. O'Neal to make a survey of Virginia architecture. The result is ARCHITECTURE IN VIRGINIA 1776-1958: THE OLD DOMINION'S TWELVE BEST BUILDINGS, a handsome brochure published by the Virginia Museum.----Grace M.Mayer of the Museum of the City of New York, has sifted through the magnificent photographs of New York by Percy C. Byron and his father, who gave more than 10,000 prints to the Museum in 1942. She has assembled a stunning show which will be on view through January 4 and written the witty, informative text for the book ONCE UPON A CITY, which through the over 200 Byron photographs presents a nostalgic, pungent picture of New York City about 1900.----Dr. George S. Koyl reminds us of the importance to future and present architectural historians of the monumental AMERICAN ARCHITECTS' DIRECTORY, which he edited for R.R.Bowker Co.----Two other important reference books are: THE AMERICAN SYNAGOGUE - A PROGRESS REPORT and AN AMERICAN SYNAGOGUE FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW, edited by Peter Blake, both available from Union of Hebrew Congregations, 838 Fifth Ave., N.Y.C. 21.----WILLIAM BUCKLAND by Rosamond Bierne and John Scharf has been published by the Maryland Historical Society.----PHILADELPHIA IN THE ROMANTIC AGE OF LITHOGRAPHY by Nicholas B. Wainwright has been published by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.----Colonial Williamsburg announced the publication of THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS OF COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG by Marcus Whiffen.----The first volume in the ambitious publishing project of Blunt and Wittkower has appeared. The project is a series of studies of architects. The published volume concerns PHILIBERT DE L'ORME by Anthony Blunt.----The Pelican Series continues with ITALIAN BAROQUE ART AND ARCHITECTURE by Rudolf Wittkower and the difficult subject of MODERN ARCHITECTURE by H.R.Hitchcock.****Reminder to SAH members. George Wittenborn, 1018 Madison Ave., N.Y.C.21, the bookseller sans pareil for architectural historians, continues to give a discount to SAH members.

PEOPLE AND PLACES - Myron Bement Smith, Ph.D., Director Islamic Archives, Library of Congress, has recently returned from a seven month Islamic tour during which he gave 31 lectures and exhibited his photographs of Islamic architecture, which exhibit may be loaned from the Smithsonian. In Lahore, Pakistan, he attended the International Islamic Colloquium; at Aligarh, India, he took part in the All-India Islamic Studies Conference; he was delegate to the Colloque Orient-Occident of UNESCO in Brussels; in London, he was an observer at the Conference on Historical Writing on the Near and Middle East. He finds there is a shortage of young scholars entering the field of Islamic architecture.----Harry H. Hilberry is Visiting Professor of Art at the University of Delaware during the winter of 1958/59.----The Oregon Historical Society, Portland 1, a new SAH institutional member, is in the happy state of working on plans for a million-dollar museum-library building of which it will be the sole tenant. They are seeking pertinent material on library and museum architecture so that their building may be as efficient as possible. The president, Donald H. Bates, would welcome suggestions.----"Requiem for a House", an account of the bulldozing of the Harral-Wheeler House on June 30 appeared in the August BRIDGEPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS.

LOCAL SAH GROUPS - The annual meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians of Great Britain was held in York, August 30-31. Russell Hitchcock was present and at the request of the Honorary Acting Secretary, Frank I. Jenkins, moved the adoption of the constitution. A slate of officers with Professor Cordingley of the University of Manchester as President and Frank Jenkins as Secretary was elected. The principal speaker was Professor Geoffrey Webb; short papers were given by John Gloag, S. Lang, Peter Murray and H.R.Hitchcock. At the Society's dinner, held in the Merchant Tailors Hall, Prof. Hitchcock announced that he was instituting a version of the Alice Davis Hitchcock Medallion to be given each year to the winner of the British Society's Book Award. The British Medallion will have the same relief of James Stuart as the American one, but the ground will be green instead of dark gray and there will be no frame, the inscription appearing on the back of the Wedgwood medallion itself. This meeting followed the summer school on Railroad architecture which, owing to the absence of former President Meeks, was opened on August 23, by Prof. Hitchcock at the York Institute of Architectural Study. The course was so successful that it is planned to repeat it next year when Canal Architecture will also be included.----The Pacific Section of SAH continues to be one of the most active local groups under President Stephen Jacobs. On October 4, there was a tour of Sacramento guided by Hero E. Rensch, California State Division of Beaches and Parks and co-author of HISTORIC SPOTS IN CALIFORNIA. The meeting was under the chairmanship of Joseph A. Baird, Univ.Cal, Davis, who prepared an excellent description for the tour, of which I hope he has extra copies. On November 15, there was a meeting in San Francisco, arranged by Elliott A.P.Evans, first president of the Pacific Section and now Curator of the Society of California Pioneers. Talks were given in the hall of the Society by Prof. John W. Reps of the City and Regional Planning Dept. of Cornell on "Thomas Jefferson and the Checkerboard Plan"; by James McCarthy, Director of Planning for the City of San Francisco and by Dr. Evans on early city plans in California; by Tomas Friberger of Sweden and Gustavo da Roza of Hong Kong on how the tour of Sacramento appeared to foreign eyes. Charles Pope, Secretary of the Pacific Section told of the work of the National Park Service in the West for the Historic American Buildings Survey. Three buildings: the old Montgomery Block in San Francisco, the Sanchez Adobe in San Mateo County, the Casa Amesti in Monterey, were measured and drawn by University of California Architectural students this summer; the first buildings in the West to be recorded for the Library of Congress in 20 years.----The Central New York group had its annual fall tour with over forty present.----A new group is being formed in Houston, Texas by Edward De Zurko.----Alberti's architectural contributions were discussed by James G. Van Derpool on Nov. 18 for the New York Chapter. N.Y. SAH members were invited by the America-Italy Society to hear Captain John Jay Ide's illuminating talk on "Villas of the Veneto" on Nov. 12. His colored slides brought new significance to these villas dating from c.1500-1800.----The Pittsburgh Chapter is having the opportunity of seeing at the University's Art Gallery, drawings and watercolors of America, 1815-35 by the French Naturalist, Charles-Alexandre LeSueur, Nov. 4-28.

RESEARCH - Rev. James F. White is preparing a doctoral dissertation on "The Cambridge Camden Society" as a source for the understanding of contemporary liturgical architecture. Thesis was begun at Cambridge University and is being completed at Duke University under Dr. Petry.----Mrs. Ralph E. Ditson, 1902 Smith St., Centredale 11, R.I. seeks information about the use of small openings in interior doors of early 18th C. houses. Many romantic explanations have been given, but are not convincing.

RESEARCH - Rev. James F. White is preparing a doctoral dissertation on "The Cambridge Camden Society" as a source for the understanding of contemporary liturgical architecture. Thesis was begun at Cambridge University and is being completed at Duke University under Dr. Petry.----Mrs. Ralph E. Ditson, 1902 Smith St., Centredale 11, R.I. seeks information about the use of small openings in interior doors of early 18th C. houses. Many romantic explanations have been given, but are not convincing.

SURVEYS - A basic need for the growth of our architectural history is the survey of existing structures. Douglas A. Fuller, Architect, of Nashville recognizes the need for a survey of East Tennessee architecture and hopes for the cooperation of the Tennessee Historical Society with its president Mr. Quarles. Mr. Fuller also hopes that a survey of Nashville buildings will be made before the bulldozing begins for the Urban Renewal Program.----Richard Sharpe, Architect, of Norwichtown, and lessee of the original Joseph Carpenter Shop which he has brilliantly adapted to his needs, is making a survey of the Norwich area with special emphasis on comparative quality. ----Joseph A. Baird, Art Dept., Univ. of California, Davis, has made a photographic survey of Sacramento architecture which is available to all interested.----The Historic American Buildings Index continues under Earl Reed, F.A.I.A., 343 So. Dearborn Ave., Chicago, Illinois and he is grateful for the help of SAH members in filling out the forms and hopes for more cooperation.

The deadline for the next NEWSLETTER is Feb. 1. Thanks to all who contributed to this one.

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