

NEWSLETTER

THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

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Advance Registration Closes January 15, 1965

By using the forms enclosed with the Preliminary Program, mailed October first, you will save time at the annual meeting registration. Those who pre-register by mail will find a packet of program materials (tour guides, tickets, etc.) awaiting them in California. Advance registration helps insure a place in hotels, on tours, and at official dinners.

For additional forms, write to the Executive Secretary, Box 94, Media, Penna.

1965 Annual Meeting Beverly Hills and San Francisco, California (January 28-30; January 31 - February 1)



SAH NOTICES

Richard H. Howland, Smithsonian Institution, has sent this interesting report on the SAH tour to the Aegean.

The SAH 1964 European Tour to Greece and Turkey started June 11 with a group flight from New York to Athens, and ended in New York on July 12. Forty-five members of the Society took advantage of the reducedfare flight, the seven-day trip to Macedonia and Thessaly, and/or the twelve-day cruise to ten small Greek islands and five major archaeological sites in Turkey. In between the organized excursions were free periods of several days each. The SAH, following its traditional policy in visiting European areas of architectural interest, did not attempt to guide its members to the wellknown sites; the organized trips were to places difficult to reach in a short time, or of specialized interest, or requiring special permission. The Tour was organized by

Richard H. Howland, Smithsonian Institution, and a former vice-president and director of the Society of Architectural Historians, assisted on the cruise by Paul Norton, University of Massachusetts, the retiring editor of the <u>Journal</u> of the Society of Architectural Historians.

The bus tour to northern Greece spent six nights away from Athens. Among the places visited were Thermopylai, the remote mountain village of Ambelakia with its magnificent 18th century houses, Platamon and its Frankish castle next to a wide sandy beach, Pella and its superb mosaics recently discovered in situ in a vast complex of building foundations only a foot or two below the surface, and Edessa, with its torrents of water pouring in gigantic falls over the cliff. The principal object of this tour was to see Byzantine architecture, so two days were spent in Salonica to visit its churches and museums. Of additional interest were the seven Macedonia Byzantine churches in Castoria, the early church in Kalambaka, and the Meteora monasteries nearby. An afternoon was devoted to the important 11th century churches and monastery of Hosios Loukas. The 18th century houses in Castoria were of additional interest, combining rococo Viennese elements and Byzantine-Turco antecedents. The excavations and museum at Delphi, on the return journey, were major attractions of the classical period. At various places extensive courtesies were shown the members. Professor George Bakalakis, Dean of the University of Salonica, spent much of one day guiding the group through the two museums, the important church of St. George, and discussing his recent finds of a series of gigantic archaic Ionic capitals. Bruce Lansdale, Director of the American Farm School in Salonica, was host for a visit to this significant private American undertaking that has re-vitalized so much of the Greek agricultural economy. Mr. John Mazerakis, Governor of the Province of Northern Thessaly, extended many courtesies and put special police at our disposal for ease in maneuvering through narrow streets.

The cruise to the islands and Asia Minor, June 25 - July 6, was on the yachts <u>Blue Horizon</u> and <u>Sunion</u>, each accommodating 20 persons. Visits were made to ten Greek islands, many of them seldom visited by tourists: Syra (19th century town square, opera house, etc.), Delos (excavations of the Ecole Francaise d'Archeologie), Mykonos (pre-Corbusier

rectangular white houses), Naxos (doorway of Temple of Dionysos and 30-foot archaic statue still in quarry), Patmos (monastery of St. John), Samos (sanctuary of Hera at Tigani), Chios (monastery of Nea Moni), Kea (excavations of prehistoric site by University of Cincinnati), Hydra (18th century houses around port), Aegina (temple of Aphaia). The yachts left the group at the Turkish port of Kusadesi, where a new hotel on a nearby beach served as headquarters for two nights. The Governor of the province came down to receive the group as they disembarked and extended every courtesy. The better part of a day was spent at Priene. Another day was devoted to Didyma and Miletus, with a swim and lunch between. A third day was given over to the very extensive site of Ephesos, covering many miles and including of course the great basilica of St. John. Two comfortable nights were spent in Smyrna, at the gigantic new Hotel Ephèse, adjacent to the bazaar section and facing the bay. A long day was devoted to Pergamon and its important museum. The group left Turkey from the tiny port of Cesmet, with its castle of the Knights of St. John.

The members enjoyed various aspects of the Athenian scene before and after the cruise. The group flight was planned in advance so that members arrived in Athens two days before the closing of the great International Exhibition of Byzantine Art. The date for the departure of the cruise was scheduled the day after the full moon, so that members could visit the Akropolis in Athens by moonlight the night before. The Director of the American School of Classical Studies and Mrs. Henry Robinson invited all members to a garden party and reception on June 22. Francis Walton, Director of the Gennadeion Library, conducted a tour of the Library (Byzantine and later Greek collections) for the group. Homer A. Thompson, Director of the Agora Excavations, and a director of SAH, gave a special tour of the excavations and the Stoa of Attalos. Mr. & Mrs. Jean Serpieri invited all members to a receiption at their country house, Pyrgos, and a special showing of their historic house museum "Tour la Reine," the 1840 Gothic summer-house of Queen Amalia of Greece. Mr. Paul Mylonas, well-known architectural historian and architect, arranged a tour to contemporary buildings in and around Athens, including the club at Vougliameni (where lunch was served), the mountain-top hotel on Mt. Parnes, and many private houses, housing developments, etc.

CHAPTER NOTICES

Milton Lewine, Columbia University, has been elected President of the New York Chapter, SAH. New York

Philadelphia Over one hundred members and friends attended the first meeting of the new Philadelphia Chapter SAH, held on October 2nd at the Athenaeum of Philadelphia. The following officers were elected: President -- James C. Massey, National Park Service; Vice President -- Robert M. Walker, Swarthmore College; Treasurer - George Vaux; Secretary -- Moira Mathieson. At the inaugural meeting, Charles E. Peterson and Francis James Dallett were the featured speakers. The second Fall meeting was held on November 15th at the U.S. Naval Asylum, designed by William Strickland. Speakers on the special Strickland program were Agnes A. Gilchrist, Joseph Petrak, National Park Service, and William B. Bassett, University of Pennsylvania, and the Chapter was honored by a visit from SAH President H. Allen Brooks. The next meeting of the Chapter will be January 13th, at the Franklin Inn Club, 205 S. Camac St., Philadelphia, at 8 p.m. Richard H. Howland, Smithsonian Institution, will be the speaker.

> Moira Mathieson, Chapter Secretary, reports that the Philadelphia group already numbers 160 members, and continues to grow. This wide interest in SAH and architectural history in the Delaware Valley area is very gratifying, and speaks of the importance of local chapters in forwarding the program of the Society of Architectural Historians. Membership in the Philadelphia Chapter is \$2.50 per year; applications should be addressed to Mrs. Moira Mathieson, 20 W. Montgomery Avenue, Ardmore, Pa.

Plans are being made to form a Southwestern chapter of SAH. Drawing interest primarily from university Southwest communities in Arizona and New Mexico, meetings would coincide with field trips. The first such trip, proposed for early spring by Marcus Whiffen of Arizona State University at Tempe, is to the churches and missions of Northern Sonora, Mexico. Persons interested in the proposed chapter should write Mr. Whiffen or Bainbridge Bunting, Department of Architecture, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque.

> Through the efforts of Architect William Woollett, of Los Angeles, and David Gebhard, University of California, Santa Barbara, a Los Angeles chapter is being organized this fall. The first meeting was scheduled for November 20th, in Pasadena.

An all day program in San Francisco was planned by the Pacific Coast Section, SAH for November 28. James Beach Alexander, Mrs. Hazen A. Bericher, Jr., and Margaret van Barneveld Cole were the speakers.

ORGANIZATIONS

At the annual meeting of the American Association for State and Local History, held in Oklahoma City, October 28-30, Henry D. Brown, Director of the Detroit Historical Museum and the Detroit Historical Commission, was elected President. Among the speakers at the meeting, was SAH member James C. Massey, National Park Service. Also, two SAH members were honored by Awards of Merit -- architects, Alan Burnham, Greenwich, Connecticut, and Richard W. E. Perrin, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Several SAH members participated in the National Trust for Historic Preservations' Annual Meeting and Preservation Conference, held at San Antonio, Texas, October 29 - November 1. Speakers included Ernest A. Connally, University of Illinois, William J. Murtagh, National Trust, Samuel Wilson, Jr., and O'Neil Ford. The Trust has announced that next year's meeting will be held in Raleigh, North Carolina, from October 7-10, 1965, and also that a two-week seminar for historic museum associates has been scheduled for February 7-20 at Woodlawn Plantation, Mt. Vernon, Virginia. program is intended to provide training in museum management to history and historic house museum personnel. For information, contact William J. Murtagh, Director of Education, National Trust, 815 - 17th St., N.W., Washington, D. C.

SAH President H. Allen Brooks, University of Toronto, has sent us this report on his attendance at the Annual Meeting of SAH-Great Britain:

Eight years ago a chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians was founded in Great Britain. The date was March 2nd, 1956, and in the year following a major decision was made that altered the basic character of this new chapter.

Los Angeles

Pacific Section A journal was to be published and this seemed to favor the establishment of an independent society which, nevertheless, "should be affiliated to the Society of Architectural Historians in the United States of America" (to quote their Constitution). Thus the Inaugural General Meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians of Great Britain was held at York on June 1st, 1957 and subsequently their journal, Architectural History, has become one of the major media for the publication of his-From the outset the bond between our societies has been an intimate one. Two of our members, Henrytorical research. Russell Hitchcock and Walter Creese, were present when the British Society was launched at the Three Tuns Inn in Durham, and it was actually a suggestion from Turpin Bannister that led to the founding of the chapter. Since then there have been several occasions when members of one group have attended the meetings of the other, and there is an ever-growing list of those who belong to both societies. Our members have contributed to their journal, and -- as last year at Philadelphia -their members have presented papers at our Annual Meeting.

The past year marked another first -- the first occasion when the president of one society attended the other's annual meeting. I was asked by the British group to participate in their Annual Conference, and this invitation I was fortunately able to accept. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in Northumberland, was the site, and the program consisted of papers and tours. Included were walking tours in Newcastle and trips out to Seaton Delaval, the charming hamlet of Bywell with its two Saxon churches, and, naturally, the Roman Wall. The entire affair was a most enjoyable and rewarding experience and I was delighted to observe how pleased my hosts were that I had made the effort to come. Not least among their expressions of amity was the offer, from several of their number, to organize our next European tour. The day after the British conference terminated, the Twenty-first International Congress of the History of Art opened at Bonn. This I was also able to attend and represent the SAH, prior to my return to North America.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

New appointments of SAH members this fall include: A. J. Diamond, University of Toronto. William I. Homer, Cornell University. John N. Pearce, National Trust for Historic Preservation. Peter Serenyi, University of Pennsylvania. Robert G. Stewart, National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution. Carl T. Weinhardt, Jr., Director, Gallery of Modern Art, New York.

Newly published books by SAH members this fall include:

Leonard Eaton, University of Michigan - Landscape Artist in America; The Life and Work of Jens Jensen. Alan Gowans, University of Delaware - Architecture in New Jersey (Vol. 6, New Jersey Historical Series)

Ada Louise Huxtable - Classic New York. (Volume 1 of a 6-volume history and guide to the architecture of Manhattan)

E. Graeme Robertson and Edith W. Craig, Early Houses of Northern Tasmania.

Recent pamphlets of architectural history interest include:

Robert C. Spencer, Jr., "The Work of Frank Lloyd Wright", reprinted from The Architectural Review, May, 1900, by the Prairie School Press, 117 Fir St., Park Forrest, Illinois, \$2.50.

Jack E. Boucher, Batsto and Bog Iron 1964. The story of a Jersey iron furnace and its restoration. \$.25 from

Batsto Citizens Advisory Committee, Box 1889, Trenton, New Jersey. Harold Donaldson Eberlein 1875-1964, A Bibliography, published by the Philadelphia Chapter, SAH, as a memorial to the late Harold Eberlein. Lists 332 articles and books on architecture and the decorative arts. Available at \$.50 from Moira Mathieson, Secretary, Philadelphia Chapter, SAH, 20 W. Montgomery Ave., Ardmore, Penna. Charles E. Peterson "Pioneer Architects and Builders of Honolulu" in Seventy Second Annual Report of the Hawaiian Historical Society, 1963. p. 7-28.

EDUCATION

This year the Henry Francis Du Pont Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, Delaware, is sponsoring an important new seminar, open to the public. Early American Buildings and Their Settings is being given by Charles E. Peterson, of Philadelphia, on seven Thursday evenings from November to April. For further information contact E. McClung Fleming, Head, Education Division, at the museum.

The 1965 Attingham summer school course on the Historic Houses of England, conducted under the auspices of the (British) National Trust, will be held July 2-24, 1965 at Attingham Park, and in Derbyshire and Scotland. Information from: American Friends of Attingham, Inc., 1 E. 70th St., New York, New York.

RESEARCH

It is a pleasure to present this report from George S. Koyl, FAIA, of Philadelphia; it contains news of great significance to architectural historians:

Members of the Society of Architectural Historians will welcome the news of a Grant-in-Aid of \$70,000 to the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation for the compiling and editing of a manuscript for the Catalog of Original and Measured Drawings of Historic American Buildings, proposed by the Chapter's Committee on the Preservation of Historic Buildings, of which John F. Harbeson, FAIA, is Chairman. Upon completion, the manuscript will be published by the University of Pennsylvania Press.

While the results of a preliminary survey started in May, 1963 have been encouraging, it is believed that many institutions throughout the United States, to which the Catalog will be limited, have either not reported their holdings of Original Drawings by the hand of the Architect, Amateur Architect, Master Carpenter or other, or of Measured Drawings (drawings made from measurements of historic buildings of the 17th, 18th or 19th centuries by architects or delineators), of which by far the largest numbers are in the Historic American Buildings Survey at the Library of Congress. Others were produced under the sponsorship of the New York and Philadelphia Chapters of the AIA and are known as the New York State Survey and the Old Philadelphia Survey respectively. Many other collections from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans could be named if space permitted.

It is of vital importance to the completeness of data in the Catalog that members of the Society of Architectural Historians provide information as to the locations of repositories having either Original Drawings or Measured Drawings of buildings of historic significance and architectural merit. Original Drawings — be they a single sheet wash drawing or sets of many drawings — will be considered for listing if executed prior to World War I and if the architect is no longer living. Unexecuted drawings such as those submitted in competitions for buildings having great or less architectural distinction as built, but having the quality of historic significance, will be considered for listing.

The Committee on the Preservation of Historic Buildings, with a representative from the Society of Architectural Historians, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the National Park Service, the Library of Congress and the National AIA Committee on Preservation of Historic Buildings, will act as the Jury in decisions as to eligibility of entries for the Catalog. George S. Koyl, FAIA, Emeritus Professor of Architecture and former Dean of the School of Fine Arts, University of Pennsylvania, has been appointed Editor. Mrs. Moira Mathieson, Secretary of the Philadelphia Chapter of SAH, recently arrived from her native England where she was Production Editor of the Architectural Review for several years, and also for a time Secretary to the Georgian Group, has been appointed Assistant Editor. The Kress Foundation Grant-in-Aid covers a three-year period. It is therefore important that information concerning the whereabouts of architectural drawings be sent to the Editor, George S. Koyl, 4400 Spruce Street, Philadelphia 4, Pennsylvania. The distribution of questionnaires or check-lists giving the format for entries in the Catalog will begin before the end of 1964.

From Bainbridge Bunting, University of New Mexico comes these notes:

The work of recording buildings of architectural importance has received considerable assistance in the past several years from many architectural schools. For the past six years students at the University of New Mexico have been given the option of writing conventional term papers for their courses in architectural history or of measuring and drawing selected buildings in the Rio Grande Valley. In these assignments particular attention has been paid to domestic architecture built in adobe, as the old adobe dwellings are disappearing rapidly. Although the churches and the Indian pueblos are somewhat better preserved, almost no houses for Spanish or early American occupancy have survived unaltered. Indeed the tradition of adobe construction, which has persisted for almost a thousand years in the Rio Grande Valley, may be approaching an end. During the summers of 1961-2, the Fort Burgwin Research Center gave fellowships to two UNM students to record buildings in the area of Taos, N. M. The students, Jean Lee Booth and William Sims worked under the direction of Bainbridge Bunting, Professor of Architectural History, UNM, and Fred Wendorf, director of the Fort Burgwin Center. The buildings were selected to illustrate the types of houses and various stages in the evolution of domestic building from 1825, the date of the oldest well preserved hacienda in the area, to 1900. In addition, one Penitente chapel, which is essentially domestic in architectural character, was included. 69 sheets of drawings of 11 buildings were made, and these have been deposited with the HABS Collections, which in turn had the buildings photographed to supplement the drawings. Subsequent to the survey, the drawings, together with photographs by SAH member Jack E. Boucher, National Park Service, were collected in book form. These were accompanied by a text prepared by Mr. Bunting, consisting of an introductory essay on the technology of adobe construction and a brief history of each building. Entitled Taos Adobes, the book was a joint public

PRESERVATION NOTES

Threatened: Dooley Block, Salt Lake City, by Adler and Sullivan, one of the major monuments of the early modern movement in the West.

One hundred covered bridges in Vermont, under a new program of the Vermont State Highway Commission. Highway Commissioner, Russell A. Holden, deserves our Society's commendation for his recognition of

these picturesque structures, and for taking action to preserve them.

Restored:

The Lloyd Street Synagogue, Lloyd and Watson Streets, Baltimore, designed by Robert Cary Long, erected in 1845. Shabby and run down, it came to the attention of Wilbur H. Hunter, Jr., Director of the Peale Museum, in 1959, when it was included in the Historic American Buildings Survey, and through his efforts, the Jewish Historical Society of Maryland was formed to purchase and restore the venerable structure, which was the first synagogue in Maryland. By 1963 sufficient funds were raised to purchase the building, and restoration was completed this month. Our congratulations to Mr. Hunter for his fine efforts on behalf of this

handsome building!

Reprieved:

Following the Seminar on Preservation and Restoration sponsored by the National Trust and Colonial Williamsburg last fall, a committee was appointed to prepare a report formulating the findings of the seminar. This committee has deliberated during the past year, and their "observations on the present state of affairs, together with a statement of the principles involved and some recommendations for improvements" have now been published by the National Trust. A Report on Principles and Guidelines for Historic Preservation in the United States, 23 pages, is available for \$.25 from the National Trust at 815 - 17th St., Washington, D. C.

EDITOR: James C. Massey 206 Gulph Creek Road, Radnor, Pennsylvania

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Address