

NEWSLETTER

THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

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SAH NOTICES

1980 Annual Meeting—Madison, Wisconsin (April 23-27). David Gebhard, University of California, Santa Barbara, will be general chairman of the meeting. Gordon D. Orr, Jr. and Richard W. E. Perrin will be honorary local chairmen, and University of Wisconsin members Eric S. McCready, Elvehjem Museum of Art, and Narciso Menocal, Department of Art History, will be local chairmen.

A listing of sessions, with names and addresses of persons chairing them, appeared in the April 1979 Newsletter. Since the publication of that Newsletter, a session has been added: Architecture and Decorative Arts of America's Ethnic Communities, chaired by Marion John Nelson (Art History Department, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455). The Decorative Arts will be chaired by Gillian Wilson (J. Paul Getty Museum, 17985 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu, CA 90265).

Persons wishing to submit papers for the Madison meeting should write directly to the person chairing the session (addresses above or in April *NSAH*). The **deadline** for submission of papers is September 1, 1979.

1979 Annual Tour—Princeton (and Central) New Jersey, October 17-21. Constance M. Greiff, Director, Heritage Studies, will serve as chairman of the tour. In connection with the tour, the New Jersey Chapter of SAH will have an exhibition on New Jersey architecture, September-December 1979 (Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.) in the Archibald S. Alexander Library, Rutgers-The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick. The exhibition will be organized by Ronald Becker, Curator of Exhibits, and Ferris Olin, Rutgers University Art Librarian (and treasurer of SAH/NJ).

1980 Foreign Tour—France, May 23-June 15. Earl D. Layman, Historic Preservation Officer for the City of Seattle, will be chairman of the tour. Announcements for the tour will reach the SAH membership immediately after September 3 (Labor Day).

Nominating Committee for 1979-1980 Slate. President Placzek has appointed William H. Pierson, Jr. chairman of the Nominating Committee. Suggestions for nominations should be sent to him at 107 South Street, Williamstown, MA 01267.

SAH 20-Year Index (1941-1961), Softcover. These are now priced at \$6.50 each. Prepaid orders should be sent to the SAH central office (address above).

SAH Placement Service Bulletin, No. 2, June 1979 is enclosed with this issue of the *Newsletter*. The next *Bulletin* will appear with the October 1979 issue. **Deadline:** September 10, 1979. Beginning in 1980, the *Bulletin* will be published in February, April and October.

Annual Business Meeting DeSoto Hilton Hotel Savannah, Georgia April 6, 1979

The thirty-second annual business meeting of the Society was opened by President Placzek at 2:05 p.m. The *minutes* of the business meeting held in San Antonio, Texas, on April 7, 1978, were approved by the members assembled, as distributed in the June, 1978, *Newsletter*. President Placzek said that he had appointed Marian C. Donnelly as parliamentarian for the meeting.

In his opening remarks, President Placzek said that the evident success of the Savannah annual meeting was the work of a great number of people. He extended thanks to the local hosts, and especially to the honorary local chairmen, Leopold Adler II and Dean Owens, and the local chairmen, Holly Montford and Beth Reiter, for their warm hospitality and endeavors on the annual meeting, as well as the members of the local committee: Emma Adler, Shirley Carson, Charlotte Hallock, Rita Jones, Barbara King, Alvin Neely, Joan Sumner, and Roger Warlick. Placzek thanked David Gebhard, First Vice President, for his work as general chairman of the meeting and the planning of the sessions; and Rosann Berry, Executive Secretary, and her Assistant, Freda Church, for the meeting planning. He also extended thanks to the staff members in the Philadelphia office: Annette Hoth, Deborah Broadnax, and Camille Pello.

Placzek acknowledged their service and thanked the outgoing Directors of the Society: Winslow Ames, Margaret H. Floyd, Thomas S. Hines, Spiro Kostof, Eileen M. Michels, William H. Pierson, Jr., and Sally Woodbridge.

Before proceeding with reports, President Placzek made the following announcements: 1) Elisabeth B. MacDougall has been appointed SAH delegate to the American Council of Learned Societies for the next four years, succeeding Robert J. Clark. 2) The American Friends of Attingham has generously awarded a 1979 Attingham Summer School scholarship to SAH member Ellen Coxe, Maryland Historical Trust. 3) Margaret H. Floyd is retiring as chairman of the Committee on Architectural Preservation at the end of her term. He thanked her for her efforts and announced that Richard W. Longstreth has been appointed as the chairman. 4) William H. Pierson, Jr. has been appointed chairman of the Nominating Committee for 1979-80.

President Placzek said that in general terms the Society is doing well in its activities intellectually, organizationally, and in the publication of the *Journal* and the *Newsletter*. In the past year the Code of Ethics has been completed under the direction of Eileen M. Michels. Work is continuing on the *Index*, which will be available on a computer printout basis, with Christian F. Otto supervising. The Education Committee, under Dora L. Wiebenson's chairmanship, is continuing its work and is holding joint meetings with representatives of the American Collegiate Schools of Architecture, American Institute of Architects, and National Architectural Accrediting Board. However, inflationary circumstances over which the Society has no control are causing financial pressures on SAH—everything is going up, except income. He urged the members assembled to pass the word to other members that the Society needs new members, contributions, and upgrading of memberships.

Treasurer's Report. Robert W. Jorgensen reported on the good news first: as of December 31, 1978, SAH had \$74,270 in current assets and \$37,640 in current liabilities. The Endowment Fund as of March, 1979, had a maturity value of \$81,000 and an annual yield of 11.3% or \$7,750. The Society is solvent at this time, but he feels it will not last long under the present inflationary circumstances. He read from the auditor's report for 1978: SAH had a total income of \$259,611 and a total operating cost of \$269,382—in short, a net deficit of \$9,972. The slender surpluses of the Society were reduced by \$10,000 caused by inflation. Mr. Jorgensen said that, although it was painful for him to say so, he feels the Society must recognize a financial emergency, and he urged all members of SAH to work to solve the problem.

At the conclusion of the Treasurer's report, President Placzek said a great deal of thought had been given to the financial problem, and, after consulting fund-raising counsel, a Development Steering Committee, under the chairmanship of Damie Stillman, had been appointed. Other members of the Committee are James H. Halpin, vice chairman; Paul B. Henderson, Robert W. Jorgensen, Hyman Myers, Christian F. Otto, Osmund Overby, William H. Pierson, Jr., and Barbara Wriston, with Rosann S. Berry and Adolf K. Placzek, *ex officio*. This Committee met in February and has developed some far-reaching and serious recommendations.

Report of Development Steering Committee. Damie Stillman reported that at its February 26th meeting in Philadelphia, the Committee considered the Society's activities and what they should be in the future. Everyone on the Committee collaborated on the report, which was subsequently distributed to the Board of Directors. Essentially, the Committee feels that all the present activities are important and should be strengthened and continued and that new projects should be undertaken. The Committee made the following recommendations to meet the Society's financial problems and presented them to the Board of Directors at their meeting on April 4, 1979: 1) Appointment of a Membership Committee, with the aim being to double the membership of the Society in all categories*; 2) increase in dues of Active Individual and Institutional and Joint memberships of \$5, effective January 1, 1980; 3) approval under the Bylaws of new membership categories and dues amounts; 4) application for NEH Challenge Grant, to be submitted by January 15, 1980, but with all money raised from October 1, 1979 applicable for matching. The new dues structure will be as follows: Individuals: a) Student-\$15; b) Active-\$30; c) Joint-\$40; d) Supporting-\$60; e) Patron-\$100; f) Contributing-\$250; g) Benefactor-\$500; h) Life-\$2,500 (payable in five yearly installments of \$500 each, if desired); Institutions: a) Active-\$30; b) Sustaining-\$100; and c) Corporate-\$500. He added that all categories of Joint and above would carry with them the possibility of two places on annual domestic and foreign tours and two registrations at members' rate at annual meetings.

The Board of Directors, at their meeting on April 4, 1979, approved the new dues amounts and categories and will submit the matter of new categories to the membership for a vote of approval under the *Bylaws*, either by proxy or in person at the annual business meeting in Madison, Wisconsin, on April 25,

*President Placzek has appointed Barbara Wriston chairman of the Membership Committee.

1980. Mr. Stillman urged all members of the Society to enroll at least one new member, to encourage any firm, institution, or organization with which they are connected to become Sustaining or Corporate members, and to work on the forthcoming fund-raising effort. All of these things are necessary if the Society is to keep abreast of inflation and to continue to pursue activities desired by the membership.

First Vice President's Report. David Gebhard reported on the success of the Savannah meeting and the plans for the annual meeting in Madison, Wisconsin (April 23-27, 1980), under the local chairmanship of Eric S. McCready and Narciso Menocal. He said that plans for the sessions, tours, exhibitions, and receptions were well underway. The domestic tour in 1979 will be in Princeton (and central), New Jersey, under the leadership of Constance M. Greiff.

Second Vice President's Report. Damie Stillman reported that the 1981 annual meeting will be held in Seattle, Washington (April 1-5), with Earl D. Layman serving as local chairman; and the 1982 annual meeting will be in New Haven, Connecticut (April 21-25), with Elizabeth Mills Brown serving as local chairman. He said that SAH-Great Britain has invited our Society to meet with them in Edinburgh in 1983 (combined with a foreign tour), but that the Board of Directors has asked the Society in Great Britain to come to the United States. (It is doubtful if they will come for an annual meeting, but might hold their annual tour here at the time of one of our meetings.) He asked for an expression from the members present concerning the desirability of these alternatives. More members were interested in combining a foreign tour at the time of the SAH-GB annual meeting than in holding a joint meeting with SAH-GB in the British Isles.

Mr. Stillman reported on upcoming domestic and foreign tours: *Domestic*: 1980—Southwestern United States (October 4-11); 1981—Great Mansions of Virginia; and 1982—Natchez; *Foreign*: 1980—France (May 23-June 15), with Earl D. Layman as chairman; and 1981—Southeast Asia, with W. Dean Eckert as chairman.

Secretary's Report. In the absence of Secretary David T. Van Zanten, Acting Secretary Stillman read the Secretary's report which noted that there are now 23 chapters of the SAH, including two newly-founded chapters—the Saarinen Chapter (Michigan) which held its organizational meeting on January 7, 1979, and at which interim officers were elected; and the Lehigh Valley Chapter, which held its organizational meeting in February 1979 (Nicholas Adams, president; John Pharo, vice president; Peter Blume, secretary; Anna Adams, treasurer; and Ricki Hurwitz, preservation officer).

Newsletter Editor's Report. Dora P. Crouch introduced both her Assistant Editor, Kathryn Smith, and Judith Holliday, who is now preparing the publications lists for the *Newsletter*, and thanked them for their efforts.

Report of the Nominating Committee. George Ehrlich, chairman, reported on behalf of the 1978 Nominating Committee. The following nominations were made for officers for 1979-80: President, Adolf K. Placzek; First Vice President, David Gebhard; Second Vice President, Damie Stillman; Secretary, David T. Van Zanten; Treasurer, Robert W. Jorgensen. On the call of the Acting Secretary, Mr. Ehrlich MOVED that these nominations be accepted. SECONDED and carried without dissenting vote. Mr. Ehrlich read the report of the Committee for seven directors to serve until 1982: Drury B. Alexander, Richard J. Betts, Judith A. Hoffberg, D. Arnold Lewis, Eric S. McCready, H. Keith Sawyers, and Thomas Gordon Smith. He MOVED that these nominations be accepted. SECONDED and carried without dissenting vote.

Founders' Award. Chairman Neville Thompson, reporting for herself and her committee (Richard Guy Wilson and Patricia Waddy), said the unanimous choice was Richard J. Betts for his article "On the Chronology of Francesco di Giorgio's Treatises: New Evidence from an Unpublished Manuscript." Mr. Betts was present and accepted the award.

The Society's Alice Davis Hitchcock Book Award. Kenneth LaBudde presented the award on behalf of the committee (Rosemarie Bletter, Kenneth LaBudde and Anatole Senkevitch, chairman) jointly to Myra Nan Rosenfeld and the Architectural History Foundation for *Sebastiano Serlio on Domestic Architecture*. The award was accepted by Ms. Rosenfeld and by Victoria Newhouse for the Foundation.

New Business. Dora Crouch reported that there was a problem in gaining access to or knowledge of architectural images, because of the sheer volume of such materials. A committee is now working on establishment of computerized archival access and that it is hoped a thesaurus will be published in the future. Ford Peatross of the Library of Congress is working on a classification system and needs people to evaluate it. For information, please write Dora Crouch at School of Architecture, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY 12181.

President Placzek announced that the next general business meeting will be in Madison, Wisconsin, on Friday, April 25, 1980.

The meeting was adjourned at 3 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

May 2, 1979

Damie Stillman Acting Secretary



SAH Founders' Award Winner Richard J. Betts

FOUNDERS' AWARD

The recipient of the 1977 Founders' Award of the Society of Architectural Historians is Richard J. Betts. This citation is presented each year for the best article on the history of architecture published in the Society's *Journal* by a young scholar. Professor Betts received the award for his article "On the Chronology of Francesco di Giorgio's Treatises: New Evidence from an Unpublished Manuscript,'' which appeared in the March 1977 issue of the *Journal*.

Betts is currently Assistant Professor of Architecture at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He attended Rice University, where he received his undergraduate degree; he received an M.A. degree in art history from the University of Pennsylvania; and Princeton University awarded him both the M.F.A. and Ph.D. degrees in art history.

Professor Betts has been the recipient of two Kress Fellowships, the Special Harrison Fellowship, and awards from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Council of Learned Societies. He has contributed numerous articles to publications in the fields of art and architectural history.



SAH Alice Davis Hitchcock Book Award Winner Myra Nan Rosenfeld

HITCHCOCK AWARD

The Society of Architectural Historians' Alice Davis Hitchcock Book Award was presented to the Architectural History Foundation, Inc. and to Myra Nan Rosenfeld, for the text of *Sebastiano Serlio on Domestic Architecture* (foreword by Adolf K. Placzek and introduction by James S. Ackerman) and to the Foundation for publishing the book (jointly with M.I.T. Press). The book was cited as the most distinguished work of scholarship in the history of architecture published in the two preceding years in North America.

The Architectural History Foundation is a non-profit association of professionals, formed for the purpose of publishing books devoted to the study of architecture, the environment, and related areas of design. A distinguished editorial board and board of directors are serving the Foundation; Victoria Newhouse is president-publisher and Julianne Griffin is managing editor. The Serlio book is the first publication of the Foundation.

Myra Nan Rosenfeld is currently the Chief of the Research Department of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. She took her undergraduate degree at Sarah Lawrence College, followed by study at the University de Paris, France; she was awarded a M.A. degree from Columbia University and a Ph.D. from Harvard University. Dr. Rosenfeld is the recipient of many awards and grants, including travel grants from Radcliffe College, Harvard University, and the American Council of Learned Societies, as well as a Fulbright travel grant. She received a Canada Council Grant for the publication of a facsimile edition of S. Serlio's *Sixth Book on Domestic Architecture in the Avery Library* (Columbia University). She is a lecturer and a frequent contributor to publications in the field.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

NICHOLAS A. PAPPAS, recently elected to the Board of Managers of the Columbia Historical Society, Washington, D.C., did a construction using Lincoln Logs for the Architectural Toy show at the Octagon. The late CHARLES GILMAN DAVIS and MIRZA DICKEL received a 1978 AIA honor award for distinguished architecture for collaborating on the restoration of the William Case house owned by WALLACE K. HUNTINGTON. ELLIOT WILLENSKY has been appointed as Brooklyn Borough Historian. DORA WIEBENSON was a plenary speaker at the Annual Meeting of the American Society for 18th Century Studies in Atlanta in April. Editorship of Columbia University's Preservation Bulletin has been assumed by SELMA RATT-NER. The Bradford Williams Medal for a professional article was awarded to DAVID C. STREATFIELD by the American Society of Landscape Architects. JAMES JEWELL has been elected to the Executive Committee of the United States National Committee of the International Commission on Illumination. NICHOLAS ADAMS and THOMAS J. MCCORMICK spoke at the Saeger Lectures, "Visionaries of the 18th Century," at the Allentown Art Museum. EDUARD F. SEKLER presented a paper on "The use of collective space in the historic towns of the Kathmandu Valley, Nepal," in Paris. DAVID GEBHARD, ESTHER MCCOY, STEFANOS POLYZOIDES, BARBARA GIELLA, KATHRYN SMITH, and REYNER BANHAM were featured in the lecture series, "The Architecture of R. M. Schindler," a fundraising event to benefit Friends of the Schindler House in Los Angeles. KATHRYN SMITH has received a grant from the Graham Foundation, Chicago, to research a book on Frank Lloyd Wright's designs for Aline Barnsdall's Olive Hill. WILLIAM MURTAGH presented a session on restoration at the annual meeting of the League of Historic American Theatres in Georgia in April. JOHN HEJDUK spoke at the University of Detroit in March. ARTHUR COT-TON MOORE was featured at the AIA's Grassroots North conference in January. THOMAS S. HINES, PAUL GOLD-BERGER, and EDMUND BACON spoke on "Urban Design: A New Civic Art," sponsored by the Rice Design Alliance in Houston in February. The work of MACY DuBOIS has been acknowledged through a travelling exhibit of the firm, DuBois & Associates and by the Masonry Relations Council Award of Excellence for the Joseph Shepard building. THOMAS GOR-DON SMITH and PATRICK QUINN have received Rome Prize Fellowships in Architecture, and will be at the American Academy in Rome during 1979-80. At the "Guidebooks" conference in Indianapolis, JOHN FONDERSMITH and PAUL GOLDBERGER were speakers. A series of lectures on eclecticism at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art listed as speakers DAVID GEBHARD, CHARLES MOORE, Christian Norberg-Schulz, THOMAS GORDON SMITH, John Beach, MICHAEL GRAVES, DAVID VAN ZANTEN, ROBERT STERN, and ROBERT JUDSON CLARK. ARNOLD L.

MARKOWITZ has published "Paul Zucker, Architect/Art Historian, 1888/1971: A Bibliography" in **papers of the American Association of Architectural Bibliographers**, Vol XII. (Zucker was a charter member and Director of SAH and a founding member and President of the New York Chapter.)

CHAPTERS

Minnesota. Eileen Michels presented observations from her recent trip to Greece on March 25. Hazel Brewer Wilson spoke on "A Painter's View" at a dinner meeting, May 2.

New England. Program schedule: March 17, an all-day Student Symposium covering topics from H. H. Richardson to the environment of Arab-Muslim cities; April 29, a visit with Mrs. Walter Gropius at her home; May 2, an exhibition and gallery talk on "LeCorbusier in India," by Peter Serenyi; May 26, tour of Portsmouth, NH.

Philadelphia. David A. Hanks, author of *The Decorative Art of Frank Lloyd Wright* spoke on his book at the April meeting. Edmund Bacon spoke on "The Architectural Planning of Rome under Pope Sixtus V," in March.

Texas. Tour of the De Golyer Estate and special viewing of "Pompeii 79 A.D." exhibit took place in February.

New York. Bluma Trell, Professor Emeritus at New York University, spoke on discovering lost ancient buildings using coins as evidence in February, Sarah Bradford Landau on late 19th century American architecture in March, and Colin Amory on recent English architecture in April.

Harley McKee. new officers are as follows:

Mary Ann Smith (Pres.), 7146 West Genesee Street, Fayetteville, N.Y. 13066 Stephen Olney (1st V.P.) Ed Polk Douglas (2nd V.P.) David Rowe (Sec.-Treas.) Paul Malo (Pres. Off.)

Southern California. A weekend tour in March of Riverside, Redlands, Palm Springs included visits to diverse locations such as the Mission Inn, the home of Raymond Loewy and a visit with Albert Frey, FAIA. The May meeting was a "Memorial Tribute to Lloyd Wright" with a lecture by Kathryn Smith and a tour the following day, both covering his career to 1930.

Saarinen (Michigan). The June 2 meeting was held in conjunction with the Society of Industrial Archeologists at Fair Lane, the former home of Henry Ford, in Dearborn.

Decorative Arts Society. The membership of 650 has supported programs which include a fundraising event at Christie's which brought \$5,600; a symposium, "Historic Upholstery and Drapery," at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; and an upcoming conference, "Decorative Arts Archives," to be held Oct. 19-20 at the Metropolitan Museum.

University of Virginia. Officers elected in March: Stuart Siegel, president; Claire Welch, vice-president; Sally Lanford, secretary, and Grace Gary, treasurer. A picnic was held in April, and the chapter hosted the Latrobe Chapter in May.