



NEWSLETTER

THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

May 1962 Vol. 6 No. 2

During the past several years the Society of Architectural Historians has experienced a vigorous growth in both membership (doubled since 1956) and stature as a learned society. And indeed architectural history itself has been an expanding field for scholarly attention. With this welcome growth the Society has become increasingly concerned with the need for its members to stress S. A. H. and its program. President J. D. Forbes has this to say:

President's Message on Public Relations

In order for the Society of Architectural Historians to be effective in its several jobs of stimulating the study and understanding of architecture and the protection of well-designed buildings, our ideas must be heard and this means they must appear in print. These ideas will carry increasing weight as more people learn about the Society, its size and the importance of its members in their communities and in the national scene.

Please contribute to the wider realization of the stature of the Society by (a) mentioning your own association with S. A. H. in all news stories and autobiographical notes, and (b) sending in copies of such material, together with reports on your activities, such as books published and appointments and honors received.

Direct this information to Mrs. Rosann S. Berry, Executive Secretary, S. A. H., Box 94, Media, Pennsylvania, for forwarding to Mr. Massey for the Newsletter and for release to appropriate periodicals. Press releases will be submitted to individuals for advance approval upon request.

This summer's tour will be in Kentucky on the 17th to 19th of August, under the direction of the University of Kentucky's Charles P. Graves and James P. Noffsinger. Registration will begin at the Phoenix Hotel, Lexington, at 12 noon, on Friday the 17th, and there will be a tour of the world-famous Bluegrass horse farms and their mansions in the afternoon. Among the highlights of the Kentucky program is a trip to Frankfort where the group will inspect the Old State House by Gideon Shryock, the 1796 Liberty Hall, and the Orlando Brown House. Later, there will be an interpretive tour of Shakertown at Pleasant Hill and, of course, visits to the historic architecture of Lexington, including Ashland (Henry Clay's home) and the John Hunt Morgan Home (headquarters for the Bluegrass Trust). Dinner speakers will address the group on Kentucky architecture and history.

Inadvertently omitted from the February Newsletter was an important resolution adopted at the January Annual Meeting, offering the Society's appreciation to the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in The Fine Arts for its grant in support of the twenty-year index of the JOURNAL. The resolution was proposed by Barbara Wriston and seconded by Wilbur H. Hunter, Jr. The Graham Foundation is an institutional member of S. A. H., and their \$2,500 grant represents the Society's first foundation support.

President J. D. Forbes has announced his appointees to the Society's three standing committees:

Nominating Committee: Barbara Wriston, Art Institute of Chicago, Chairman; Joseph Baird, California Historical Society; H. Allen Brooks, University of Toronto; Edward R. DeZurko, Rice University; Frederick D. Nichols, University of Virginia.

Book Award Committee: Thomas J. McCormick, Vassar College, Chairman; Nancy Boone, Burnham Library; James S. Ackerman, Harvard University; Paul F. Norton (ex-officio), University of Massachusetts; Adolph K. Placzek, Avery Library; Marion D. Ross, University of Oregon; Peter Collins, McGill University.

Annual Meeting Committee: Richard H. Howland (ex-officio), Smithsonian Institution, General Chairman; Wilbur H. Hunter, Jr., The Peale Museum, Baltimore, Local Chairman.

As chairman of the Nominating Committee Barbara Wriston, Art Institute of Chicago, Michigan Avenue at Adams Street, Chicago 3, Illinois, will appreciate suggestions for officers and directors of the Society for next year.

The 1963 Annual Meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians will be in Baltimore, Maryland, January 24-26 inclusive, with headquarters at the Lord Baltimore Hotel, meeting jointly with the College Art Association. There will be five sessions for the reading of papers:

Thursday morning, Jan. 24: THE CHANGING ROLE OF THE MONUMENT
Chairman: Robert L. Alexander, Department of Art, State University of Iowa, Iowa City, Ia.

Thursday afternoon, Jan. 24: THE WORLD OF ISLAM
Chairman: John D. Hoag, Art Department, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

Friday morning, Jan. 25: MEDIEVAL ARCHITECTURE
Chairman: Robert Branner, Department of Fine Arts and Archaeology, Columbia University, New York 27

Friday afternoon, Jan. 25: GENERAL SESSION
Chairman: George B. Tatum, Department of Fine Arts, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

Saturday morning, Jan. 26: MASTER ARCHITECTS OF THE LAST FIFTY YEARS
Chairman: H. Allen Brooks, Department of Art and Archaeology, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ont.

Members wishing to present 20-30 minute papers should submit requests and abstracts to the appropriate chairman or to the General Chairman, Richard H. Howland, Smithsonian Institution, Washington 25, D.C., before October 1. Responsibility for choice of papers to be read rests with the individual chairman.

A list of the back issues of the JOURNAL that are still available may be had from our Executive Secretary, Mrs. Rosann S. Berry. Send her a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Two other publications are also available from her at \$1.00 each:

"The Cape Cod House: An Introductory Study," by Ernest A. Connally (Booklet reprint from JOURNAL, May, 1960)

Manhattan Tour Guide (prepared for the XX International Congress of the History of Art)

Most of us know someone who has expressed interest in S. A. H. but who hasn't yet joined, and I'm sure we all have associates who should be members. Put their names and addresses--either individuals or institutions--on the blank at the close of the Newsletter and mail to our Executive Secretary, who will promptly send out brochure-application forms.

CHAPTER NOTICES

- Houston Chapter At the Chapter's April 4th meeting, held at Rice University, John Zemanek gave an illustrated talk on the "Historical Architecture of Japan."
- New York Chapter Secretary Jane B. Davies writes that the Chapter's Spring meeting was held on May first at Avery Hall, Columbia University. George R. Collins spoke on "Antonio Gaudí: Structure and Form," on the opening of an exhibition of Gaudí's work presented by the Columbia University School of Architecture, in cooperation with the archive "Amigos de Gaudí--U. S. A." The exhibit hung from May 1 to 18, and was organized by George R. Collins and Noel M. McKinnell, both of Columbia University.
- New England Architectural photographer Gerda Peterich of Concord, New Hampshire, proposes a New England Chapter of S. A. H. There certainly should be one! Write Miss Peterich at Route 2, Concord, New Hampshire.

ORGANIZATIONS

The National Trust for Historic Preservation will hold its 16th Annual Meeting this Fall in San Francisco from October 4 to 7. Plans are underway for charter plane flights from Washington at approximately one-half the commercial fare. For further information, write the Trust at 815 17th St., N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

Harley McKee writes that the Central New York Architectural Historians have elected John F. Fitchen, III, President of their upstate New York group. Write Prof. Fitchen at 43 University Ave., Hamilton, N.Y. for further information about this informal group.

The American Society of Architectural Bibliographer's latest bibliography, No. 22, Winter, 1961-2, is "Henry-Russell Hitchcock: The Second Ten Years, 1938-1948," by James H. Grady, a thorough list of Professor Hitchcock's many writings during this decade. It follows a bibliography of his earlier works, and a third section is now under preparation. Membership is \$2.00, which should be sent to the Association at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Walter Muir Whitehill has been named Chairman of the Boston Historical Conservation Committee that was appointed by Mayor Collins to formulate a public policy for historic sites and buildings, to survey the historic architecture of Boston, and to counsel the City on preservation problems. The Committee has been particularly concerned with historic sites in the redevelopment areas around Scollay Square, and in Roxbury and Charlestown. Several S. A. H. members are on the Committee, and William John Gurney of the Boston Redevelopment Authority is their efficient Secretary.

A twelve-member Landmarks Preservation Commission serving as an official agency of the City of New York in protecting structures and areas of historic or esthetic importance has been appointed by Mayor Wagner. Architect Geoffrey Platt (of S. A. H.) was named its chairman, and three of the others on the Commission are S. A. H. members: Russell Lynes, Loring McMillen and James W. Fosburgh. The Mayor, in setting up the Commission, expressed hope that it will serve as a "major step in preserving our City's rich historical and cultural contribution to our country. We are a City that is always looking to the future," he said, "but we must never forget that we are always building on the past. Our heritage and local traditions provide the basis for that vital sense of continuity, stability and pride which stimulates sound growth and development."

The function of the new Landmarks Preservation Commission is to:

- (1) Designate for preservation buildings, structures, monuments, statues and works of historic or esthetic importance, including the surrounding of any of the foregoing if necessary to protect their character, and groups of buildings or districts whose general character is important historically or uniquely valuable in design and location.
- (2) Receive questions on preservation from the City Planning Commission, the Housing and Redevelopment Board, the New York City Housing Authority and other public bodies and to recommend appropriate action.
- (3) Prepare for submission to the Mayor, within one year of its formation, a detailed legislative program for the effective protection of those portions of designated landmarks that fall within public view.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

We are very pleased to report that four of our architect members have been made Fellows of the American Institute of Architects at the Dallas Convention in May. Receiving this high honor are Alexander Smith Cochran of Baltimore, Carl Feiss of Washington, Douglas Haskell (Editor of Architectural Forum), of New York, Singleton Peabody Moorehead, of Williamsburg and Howard Hamilton Mackey, of Howard University.

The historic Caleb Pusey House at Upland, Pennsylvania, believed to date from 1683, is being restored by Architect William Nelson Anderson for the "Friends of the Caleb Pusey House." According to S. K. Stevens, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, a State of Pennsylvania grant of up to \$4,000 on a matching basis toward the restoration marks the first time the State has made funds available for such a project.

Architectural Historian Worth Bailey holds a Federal Executive Fellowship of the Brookings Institution on a year's leave of absence from the National Park Service's Washington office.

Included in the exhibition "The Ideal Theatre: Eight Concepts" prepared by the American Federation of Arts are designs by two S. A. H. members, Edward L. Barnes and Peter Blake. The work was shown at New York's Museum of Contemporary Crafts, and was done under grants from the Ford Foundation.

Each Sunday Philadelphians are enjoying Alfred Bendiner's needle-sharp and delightfully-illustrated essays, "Bendiner's Sketchbook" in the Sunday Bulletin Magazine. Little of the Quaker City's architectural scene escapes his penetrating eye and pen.

The Henry Francis du Pont Winterthur Museum's new Director is Richard P. Richardson, and former Director Charles F. Montgomery has become Senior Research Associate at the Museum.

Using color slides from his own collection, San Antonio architect O'Neil Ford spoke on "Architectural Absurdities" at the meeting of the Community Arts Forum, Monday, April 16, in the assembly room of the Main Library, San Antonio, Texas.

News of Japan: James P. Noffsinger, University of Kentucky, will spend the summer in Japan with the Experiment in International Living, and Bunji Kobayashi of Tokyo writes that his doctoral dissertation, The Birth of Architecture (Tokyo, 1959: Sagami-Shobō Publ. Co. about \$4.00) on the development of Mesopotamian architecture has received the annual prize of the Architectural Institute of Japan.

National Park Service Architect Russell V. Keune has been named Resident Architect for the new Minute Man National Historical Park at Lexington-Lincoln-Concord, Massachusetts.

Charles Peterson continues to warn the public and others about the dangers of urban renewal in historic areas. His talks include (May 1) Philadelphia Chapter, AIA, "The Ordeal of Society Hill," (May 4) Annapolis Roundtable Conference, "You Take the High Rise and I'll Take the Low Rise," (June 13) Baltimore Chapter, AIA, "Urban Renewal à la Mode--Can the Patient Survive?"

S. A. H. Director Charles van Ravenswaay has resigned as Director of the Missouri Historical Society to become President of Old Sturbridge Village in Massachusetts.

Eleanor P. Spencer of Baltimore's Goucher College has received a Fulbright Research Grant for 1962-3 to complete a book in Paris on fifteenth-century Paris book illustration. Miss Spencer also writes that she hopes to show her slides of contemporary American architecture while abroad.

Yale University Art Gallery held an exhibit of works by Theodore Sizer, Professor Emeritus of Art History at Yale, and former Director of the Gallery. The exhibit reviews half a century of Professor Sizer's works, including paintings, published articles and books, and decorative objects.

Margaret H. Wyatt has written an interesting article on "The Shell Motif in Architecture and Art" for Shells and Their Neighbors (April, 1962), the shell collectors' bi-monthly.

Two of our members have been appointed at the Historical Society of York County, 250 E. Market St., York, Pa. They are Frank Schmidt, Director, and Jane Cayford, Curator. Miss Cayford also writes us of an ambitious restoration program underway in York, sponsored by Historic York, Inc. Already completed is a two-story log house of 1811, and work is now being carried on by Architect G. Edwin Brumbaugh at the half-timbered Golden Plough Tavern and adjacent Gates House.

COURSES AND GRANTS

The University of Virginia School of Architecture has set up a highly-commendable program to train architectural historians at the undergraduate level. The course is based on a firm foundation in the principles of architecture and in scholarly research methods related to the history of architecture and architectural criticism. As far as I know, this is the first such program offered, and it should prove to be of great value in the training of our architectural historians. Professor Frederick D. Nichols writes, "This course was begun to train young men whose ability lies in the direction of history rather than design. We frequently have had requests for curators and for men who would work as researchers on restoration projects, and this course would fill these positions, as well as train boys who expect to go on with graduate work . . . Last year we graduated our first student and at the moment we have five students in the program who expect to graduate with the degree of Bachelor of Architectural History."

An experimental Modern Architecture Symposium chaired by Henry-Russell Hitchcock was held at Columbia University under the joint sponsorship of the Department of Art History and Archaeology and the Avery Architectural Library on May 4th and 5th with about eighteen participants from this country and abroad. The organizing committee consisted of George R. Collins, Henry-Russell Hitchcock, Philip Johnson and Adolph K. Placzek.

The American Council of Learned Societies, of which S. A. H. is a constituent member, offers a broad program of fellowships and grants largely for advanced research in the humanities. They are described in the Council's pamphlet Aids to Individual Scholars, 1962-3, available from the Council at 345 East 46th Street, New York 17, N. Y. In general the grants are available to scholars holding a doctorate or its equivalent, and are not restricted to members of academic faculties. Major awards include: (1) ACLS Fellowships, which are designed to provide opportunities for scholars to engage in research for periods of six months to a year. Awards will not exceed \$7,000 each. Deadline for applications: October 16, 1962. (2) Study Fellowships, which are intended to aid young scholars in the humanities and social sciences to enlarge their range of knowledge by study in fields outside their present areas of specialization. These Fellowships are also awarded for periods of six months to a year, and carry a maximum stipend of \$7,000. Applicants for Study Fellowships are usually under 36 years of age. Deadline: October 1, 1962. (3) Grants-in-Aid, which are awarded to support significant programs of research. Stipends will not exceed \$2,000. Deadline for applications is September 3, 1962 and February 15 1963. (4) In addition to these major programs awards are also made in Linguistics, for foreign scholars to do research in the U. S., for area studies of Asia, Latin America, Africa, Middle East and East Europe; and for travel to International Congresses and conferences abroad. One of our members, Howard Hibbard of Columbia University, is currently holding an ACLS Fellowship to work on a monograph of Carlo Maderno.

RESEARCH

Architect Robert P. Raley, Route 3, Newark, Delaware is compiling material for a biographical dictionary of American architects and builders before 1850, and would appreciate hearing from others who may have had similar projects.

Your Editor will be glad to publish notices of members' research projects and requests for information. Let me hear from you!

PUBLICATIONS

The American Association for State and Local History has published the 1961 edition of its Directory of Historical Societies and Agencies in the United States and Canada. It is available from the AASLH, 151 E. Gorham St., Madison, Wisconsin for \$1.50.

New Orleans' Architect Samuel Wilson, Jr. has written an exemplary architectural history of The Capuchin School in New Orleans 1725: The First School in Louisiana. Mr. Wilson's handsome booklet is carefully illustrated with early maps and architectural drawings, as well as photographs, and is available from the Archdiocesan School Board, c/o Rt. Rev. Monseigneur Henry C. Bezou, 724 Camp St., New Orleans 12, Louisiana, for \$1.00.

The Historic American Buildings Survey has prepared a Checklist of the 61 historic Cape Cod Buildings now in the Survey's Massachusetts collection. Copies are available without charge from the Historic American Buildings Survey, National Park Service, 143 S. Third St., Philadelphia 6, Pa. This summer, a field office will be set up in the new Cape Cod National Seashore under the direction of Ernest A. Connally, of the University of Illinois, to add to these records.

Maryland Architect Henry Chandlee Forman has shown us two recent publications of his: "Swain's Burnt-Out Polpis Lean-to" in Historic Nantucket (Vol 9 No 3, January 1962), an interesting illustrated article on one of the picturesque cottages at Polpis on Nantucket Island, and "A New Story About the Old Thoroughgood House" in the Norfolk Museum Bulletin (Vol XII No 1, January 1962) reporting on a careful architectural investigation of the house made by Dr. Forman at the request of the Norfolk Museum.

Available from the National Trust for Historic Preservation are two publications of interest to S. A. H. members: A Future for the Past, by Moultrie R. Kelsall and Stuart Harris (Edinburgh and London: 1961, \$3.00) which deals with the restoration of the restrained domestic architecture of Scotland, and Historic Houses and Castles in Great Britain and Northern Ireland (London: 1962, \$.60), a guide to more than 500 historic houses open to the public.

POSITIONS OPEN

The Historic American Buildings Survey has a position at its Eastern headquarters in Philadelphia for an historical architect. The position is primarily that of professional editor of the architectural and historical records gathered for the Survey's collections at the Library of Congress, but also involves research, writing, and travel. The Survey's program covers a broad range of American architecture from the 17th through the late 19th centuries, from Maine to the Virgin Islands. A B. Arch. and experience in historic architecture and/or a graduate degree in architectural history are required, although applicants without the professional degree but with a good background in architectural history will also be considered. Entrance grade and salary depend on qualifications, but would probably be \$6,345 or \$7,095 plus generous government benefits. Write Charles E. Peterson, Supervising Architect, Historic Structures, National Park Service, 143 S. Third St., Philadelphia 6, Pa.

We will be glad to have other notices of positions open in the field of architectural history.

James C. Massey, Editor, 206 Gulph Creek Rd., Radnor, Pa.

Send the names of prospective members (either individuals or institutions) to Mrs. Rosann S. Berry, Executive Secretary, S. A. H., Box 94, Media, Pa., and a descriptive brochure (with application blank) indicating you have suggested them for membership, will be sent to each.

_____	_____
Name	Address
_____	_____
Name	Address
_____	_____
Name	Address