Scholars and Sightseers: The Society of Architectural Historians In Northern California and the Pacific Northwest 1954 - 2004

An Account of 50 Years
ERRATA SHEET

SCHOLARS AND SIGHTSEERS:
THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS
IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AND THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST
1954-2004

Elisabeth Walton Potter for
Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter, 2004

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Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter

An Account of 50 Years

Elisabeth Walton Potter
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Seal of the Society of Architectural Historians

The seal was introduced in 1941 as a cover emblem for the mimeographed second issue of Volume I of the Society’s Journal edited by Turpin C. Bannister. The seal was modified in accord with a name change in 1947 and later the band circumscribing the field was darkened for contrast. Nevertheless, the rectangular configuration containing the essential elements: the organization’s founding date (1940), name and motto, endures. The motto, “utility, strength, and beauty,” is derived from Roman Antiquity. In her fluid history of the SAH published in 1998, Marian Card Donnelly explained, “The words of Vitruvius defining the qualities of architecture: firmitas, utilitas, and venustas, were chosen and encircled [by] the name of the Society. A departure from the Vitruvian [word] order was made, however, following the example of Palladio.” In the current styling of the seal, as it appears on the frontispiece of the quarterly Journal, on the Web site, and so on, the organization’s name occupies a lengthened field and the motto fills the encompassing band.
Acknowledgments

The main sources for chapter history are to be found in the Division of Special Collections and Archives of the University of Oregon Library System. They consist of two complementary records groups: papers of the long-time guiding spirit of the regional organization, University faculty member Professor Marion Dean Ross, and the chapter archive, which was established during the productive tenure of president Miriam C. Sutermeister.

The initial deposit of records for the chapter archive was accepted under arrangements made with Special Collections curator Bernard McTigue in 1998. Since 2000, the chapter’s materials have been under the care of McTigue’s successor, James Fox. Mr. Fox and his Special Collections staff, particularly manuscripts librarian Linda Long, have been generous in making the chapter’s archive available for review during the accession process.

Others who assisted with research were Patricia Keats, library director, and registrar Susan Haas of the Society of California Pioneers, Sara Gunasekara, Department of Special Collections, Shields Library, University of California, Davis, and Thomas Carey, San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library.

Chapter members too have been helpful in bringing this account to print. Those who contributed illustrations include Sheila Finch-Tepper, Grant Hildebrand, Helen Edwards, and Arthur Hart. The cover and text-page design are adapted from a uniform format for chapter publications – an officers’ handbook and a membership brochure – produced in 2001 by Jeannette Reynolds and Shirley Courtois. Robert W. Winter, Pasadena, and Bridget Maley of San Francisco were helpful in pin-pointing the founding dates of the Southern and Northern California Chapters, respectively.

At the national headquarters in Chicago, staff of the Society of Architectural Historians have been gracious in responding to requests for verification of facts. Especially appreciated was the assistance of membership coordinator Nick Curotto and administrative assistant Heather Plaza-Manning.

At a minimum, an essay on chapter history was long planned to celebrate the Pacific Northwest regional group’s 50th anniversary. Retrospective accounting was considerably spurred, however, in 2000 when, at the initiative of national president Christopher Mead, the board of directors, and executive director Pauline Saliga, the Society began promoting “closer and more consistent ties” between the Society and its local chapters. As part of the initiative, the Society invited the chapters to submit articles on their founding and development to the Newsletter of the Society of Architectural Historians through editor Mark Hewitt. First to respond to the projected occasional series, “Focus on the Chapters,” was Marilyn Harper, president of Latrobe Chapter (Newsletter, October, 2000). In the spirit of encouraging dialogue, the Society designated Isabelle Gournay chapter liaison. Professor Gournay, a former president of the Latrobe Chapter, was industrious in connecting with chapter representatives. Her request for summary statements covering a number of issues and questions resulted in a report on the state of constituent groups that was published in the Newsletter for August, 2001 under the title “The Local Chapters of the Society of Architectural Historians.”

For the ultimate paradigm of SAH organizational history, one may turn to work of the late Professor Marian Card Donnelly, a colleague of Professor Ross in the University of Oregon Department of Art History. Professor Donnelly, a past president of Society, was named to the first class of SAH Fellows recognized for exceptional, long-term service to the organization several months before her death in 1999. Professor Donnelly had lately completed A History: The Society of Architectural Historians, 1940-1995. Her account of the national learned society was published by the University’s School of Architecture and Allied Arts in 1998. In A History, and in other published work named under selected sources, the chapter gratefully acknowledges the solid foundation for writing its story. ✿
Fig. 1. Marion Dean Ross, founding member of the Society of Architectural Historians, and Marian Card Donnelly, president of the Society 1976-1977, are pictured at the Empress Hotel in Victoria, British Columbia during the 34th Annual Meeting, 1981. A meeting of the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH was convened April 3 in connection with the international conference. As his badge ribbon signified, Professor Ross was chair of a session of scholarly papers. The topic was Architecture in the Pacific Northwest: The Imperial Age.

Sheila Finch Tepper photo, April 3, 1981.
Introduction

The first and obvious purpose of this brisk overview is to commemorate the chapter’s semi-centenary. The account defines who we are and may be useful in shaping discussion of directions the chapter should take in the future. But another aim is to provide members with a sense of the records available for research and thereby underscore the value of maintaining the collection. Professor Ross’s papers concerning the formative years of the Society of Architectural Historians on the West Coast, together with the newly-established chapter archive, give a nearly continuous picture of the affairs of a regional body of the learned society from the inception fifty years ago.

A few gaps in the record, specifically in 1956, 1963, 1966, and 1992, could be partly the result of meeting announcements being missing from the files, but mostly the lacunae are explained by brief lapses in chapter activity.

The Society of Architectural Historians was organized nationally at Harvard University in 1940. The Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter evolved from the Pacific Section, which was convened in San Francisco in 1954 as the sixth local chapter of the Society. The Pacific Section was renamed Northern Pacific Coast Chapter in 1965 to distinguish itself from the Southern California Chapter centered in Los Angeles. In 1995, when the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter reorganized under its present title, the traditional domain extending from the San Francisco Bay Area north to include British Columbia was redefined to exclude California and allow Bay Area constituents to organize separately. By the time the Northern California Chapter was duly incorporated in 1996, the Pacific Coast region had been subdivided into three distinct chapters.

Today, there are more than twenty local chapters and six affiliated societies of the Society of Architectural Historians.1 The Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter shares with its counterparts around the country the common purpose of promoting the understanding and apprecia-


2 Mimeographed report headed “Society of Architectural Historians, News of Local SAH Chapters, October, 1955.” Marion Dean Ross Collection, Special Collections Division, University of Oregon Library.
participation of leading figures in the Society who have relocated to the West Coast. Rexford Newcomb, the Society's second president (1943-1944), joined the Pacific Section after retiring to California. The late Alan Gowans, long-time director who was president of the Society in 1972-1974, participated in chapter affairs after coming to the University of Victoria in 1966. Leonard Eaton, Emeritus Professor of Architecture, University of Michigan, who retired to the Oregon coast, is a frequent contributor to chapter programs.

At the same time, the chapter has fostered promising students who have dispersed to positions of prominence in other parts of the country. The late Lee H. Nelson, long-time chief of the Preservation Assistance Division of the National Park Service, spent the early years of his career directing restoration of Independence Hall in Philadelphia and in later years was adviser on exterior restoration of the White House. He had been a charter member of the Pacific Section while a student of Professor Marion Ross at the University of Oregon, and he occasionally returned to the University as a guest speaker. In 1976, Mr. Nelson gave a public lecture in Eugene on the state of historic preservation in the Soviet Union. His talk about the U.S.-U.S.S.R. sponsored cultural exchange on monuments and the built environment was the special address of the fall chapter meeting.

The chapter's other point of distinction is its geographic scope, which includes as many as three states and a province of Canada. Rotating meetings throughout the sizeable region, the willingness of leaders to try new approaches, the general quality of material presented by speakers, and the hospitality of local hosts and guides have played essential parts in keeping the chapter's far-flung membership connected to the community of scholars affiliated with the SAH.

Fig. 2A. Earl Drais Layman prepared this pen-and-ink composite drawing of local landmarks and used it to promote the fall chapter meeting in Astoria, Oregon in 1993. The two-day conference he organized in cooperation with secretary-treasurer James Hamrick was decisive in reviving the schedule of meetings after a year's lapse stemming from extenuating circumstances. Lapses in meeting continuity had not occurred since the 1960s. "The Captain George Flavel House" (1884) and "Grace Episcopal Church" (1886) are typical of the deft sketches Mr. Layman made while touring with the SAH at home and abroad. Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter Archive.

Fig. 2B. Calvary Presbyterian Church (1882-1883), Portland (The Old Church) was among buildings visited by a party of forty-two registered for the SAH domestic study tour of northwestern Oregon led by Mr. Layman in 1988. His sketch was one of eleven vignettes he used to illustrate the tour booklet, now a collector's item. Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter Archive.
General Considerations

The make-up of the Society nationally was analyzed in the Directory of Members, a special edition of the *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* issued in 1999. At that time, the organization counted 2,500 individual and 900 institutional members. By far, the largest occupational constituencies were architectural historians (896), architects (475), and art historians (403), with historic preservationists making up the next highest tier at 150. Other disciplines represented in the membership included planners, landscape architects, interior designers, archaeologists, museum and library professionals, editors, writers, and photographers. This disciplinary diversity, naturally, is reflected in the roles of local chapters.

It has been pointed out that the proportion of members of local chapters who also belong to the national SAH typically does not exceed one-third.\(^1\) Comparing the chapter’s 1999 mailing list with the SAH Directory of Members of the same year, it is possible to say that, calculated as an average, the proportion of the Marion Dean Ross Chapter members in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and British Columbia holding individual membership in the Society is about the norm — not much more than 33 percent. Taking into account the fact that the national member census includes individuals who are not on the chapter rolls, the imperfect statistical exercise nevertheless supports the Society’s impression that the majority of those affiliated with chapters are not paying dues to participate at the national level.

In 1999, individual names on the Marion Dean Ross Chapter mailing list (about 234) broke down along geographic lines as follows: Oregon, 74; Washington, 123; Idaho, 24; and British Columbia, 13. Of these constituencies, British Columbia claimed the highest proportion of national Society members at 69 percent. The 1999 chapter roll also included associate members in states outside the Pacific Northwest. The break-down was as follows: Alaska, 0; Montana, 3; North Dakota, 1; Nevada, 1; California, 42; Hawaii, 1; and Australia, 1. The census of members for that part of the old domain now served by the Northern California Chapter has averaged about sixty since the newer chapter was organized in 1996.\(^2\) The Marion Dean Ross Chapter has enjoyed the continued participation of California associates such as Michio Yamaguchi and Richard Rowe, who is active in the Southern California Chapter and regularly attends annual meetings in the Pacific Northwest. Since 2001, the chapter has claimed Grant Crosby, a National Park Service preservation architect headquartered in Anchorage, as its present-day associate in Alaska. Donald Leslie Johnson of Kangarilla, Australia, a member since 1994, is the chapter’s most distant affiliate.

Chapter Meetings

The format of chapter meetings has not changed fundamentally in fifty years. As would be expected, the gatherings are patterned after annual conventions of the Society. The typical program has included a session of talks and papers followed by an experience of local specialties, perhaps a museum or library collection, a walking tour of the host institution’s campus, or a chartered bus tour of architectural landmarks in the vicinity. Touring, typically, is followed by a reception in a setting of architectural interest. When the meetings were of more than one day’s duration, a banquet was added to the program to be capped by the presentation of a featured speaker, either a member or guest.

In the first fourteen years, all the meetings with one important exception were convened in California, most often in San Francisco at headquarters of the Society of California Pioneers or the California Historical Society, where, as Professor Ross put it, the facilities and materials of the collections were

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\(^2\) Gournay, 2.
suited to the interests of architectural historians. The University of California also played host to the chapter at various campuses of its system, from Berkeley and Davis to Santa Cruz. The Stanford University campus also was a recurring venue.

Once Professor Ross attracted the chapter to meetings convened in Oregon, a sufficient body of “northerners” emerged, and it became traditional to alternate fall and spring meetings between California and varied locations in Oregon, Idaho, Washington, and British Columbia. The vastness of the chapter’s jurisdiction was a strength in that members willing to travel to the antipodes enjoyed their exposure to a wider variety of resources and contacts. Eventually, it became an issue. Owing to the expense and time involved in travel, some of the “southerners” concentrated in Sacramento and the Bay Area found it inconvenient to attend any but the meetings held within their own ambit. In an attempt to accommodate the dispersed constituency, Mirza Dickel, following her election as president in 1980, launched a member preference survey with the help of Secretary-Treasurer Dorothy Gilmore. Based on the feedback, the chapter embarked on an experiment in which auxiliary “southerners” and “northerners” meetings were added to the regular schedule of alternating meetings, north and south. Chapter members then had an opportunity to attend at least two meetings a year in their own area. As expected, the extra “north and south” meetings were well attended by local constituents, but the demanding pace could not be sustained for long.

Chapter meetings that focused on remote locales or pushed the boundaries of precedent were among the most fondly remembered. The year after the Pacific Section was organized, section chairman Mary Hill of the California Division of Mines was inspired to lead a two-day caravan tour through the Mother Lode country when members expressed interest in an architectural junket modeled after the offerings of national meetings. The most daring concept for a meeting venue was acted on in 1982, when meeting organizers booked a commercial ferry and used the run from Seattle in which to conduct business and hear papers before disembarking for a walking tour of Port Townsend on the opposite shore of Puget Sound.

Even meetings of one day’s duration require some effort in organization. Usually, the chapter officers make the arrangements with the help of a local resident or designated coordinator. Since the chapter reorganized in 1995 and adopted an annual meeting schedule, the meeting coordinator has called upon an entire committee for arrangements.

Chapter Administration

It was in 1994, under leadership of Bill Booth, Miriam Sutermeister, and James Hamrick, that the chapter came to grips with the meeting schedule, which lately had been irregular. It was recognized that one substantive three-day gathering per year was a reasonable objective. There began a series of annual meetings that mirrored the professionalism of conferences of the national body. Papers proposals were carefully reviewed. Access to rarely seen architectural master works of the region was arranged to add to the existing format an optional, pre-conference experience. Book tables were set up for the sale of publications. It was at this time the chapter re-wrote its bylaws, officially reduced its geographic scope to exclude California, and adopted the name of SAH charter member Marion Ross. While meetings were down-sized in number, new services were added, including a regular semi-annual newsletter and a home page on the Worldwide Web. The list of chapter officers and appointees to fulfill special functions by now had become elaborate. Whereas in 1954 and for seventeen years following there were but a chairman, or president, and a secretary, in 2004 there were five officers, three or four regional delegates, two chapter advisors, an honorary board member, and four other appointees covering scholarly paper and special fund coordination, membership development, communications, and records management.

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3 Marion Ross to Thomas Vaughan, Director, Oregon Historical Society, May 7, 1968. Marion Dean Ross Collection, Special Collections Division, University of Oregon Library.
In the 1980s, a constituent expressed concern that the organization’s academic character was being diluted by too much emphasis on historic preservation. Providing expert testimony in the cause of preserving architectural landmarks always has been integral to the objectives of the SAH. Writing in defense of threatened buildings has been a thread of chapter activity since Stephen Jacobs of the University of California at Berkeley, chapter president, roused support for the federal government’s plans to adapt San Francisco’s Second U. S. Mint (A. B. Mullett, 1869-1874) for use by the National Park Service. Since 1974, the chapter has elected or appointed a preservation officer in accord with SAH policy. The first such designated officer was Wallace Kay Huntington.

Membership Development

In any variation of its meeting program, the organization has always found agreeable its hour for conversation and conviviality at the end of business. The social hour affords the opportunity to exchange ideas about the content of the meeting and share news of scholarly work in progress, careers, and so on. The ongoing health of the chapter depends upon the social bonds as well as committed leadership and strong ties to academia and the Society. Local associates who are not dues-paying members of the national organization have always been welcomed as a membership base. The expectation is that some of the local associates eventually will be motivated to join the Society.

Shortly after the Pacific Section was organized at the call of Elliot A. P. Evans in 1954, annual dues were set at a nominal $1.00. By 1964, the dues had been raised to $1.50 to better cover the cost of producing and mailing mimeographed meeting notices. In consideration of budget-conscious graduate student participants, the chapter has always been reluctant to raise dues significantly. In 1979, the idea of a student rate was debated but not immediately adopted. Dues had been raised to $2.00, then $4.00, and finally $5.00 by 1981. In 1993 dues were cited as $10.00 for regular membership; $5.00 for students. Since the chapter’s reorganization and adoption of new bylaws in 1995, full membership in the chapter has required membership in the SAH. Dues are scaled accordingly, as follows: $12.50 for current members of the parent organization and non-residents of the region who wish to be affiliated with the chapter; $15.00 for residents of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and British Columbia who are not SAH members; and $7.50 for students. The mailing list is trimmed periodically to eliminate names of persons who have not paid dues or attended meetings in several years.

As recently as 2002, regional delegate Harold Kalman of Vancouver, British Columbia advised the chapter’s board of directors that without a general effort in membership development, the group risks becoming more of a reunion club than a growing organization with a future. The chapter has launched a number of initiatives over the years to encourage student scholars and attract young professionals. Since the 1980s, there has been an attempt to reward young scholars for outstanding papers. The concept of a Chapter Founders Award for a student paper competition was floated, elaborated and finally announced in 1985. In the end, the award was never offered for lack of a sufficient number of entries. In 1996, the Lovett Prize was created and endowed by Wendell Lovett, F.A.I.A. and Grant Hildebrand as an incentive for student participation. The prize for an original paper on recent architecture in the region was first awarded in 1997. Thereafter, criteria regarding regional subject matter and period were dropped and the prize was awarded as a straightforward travel stipend of around $200.00 to help students or recent graduates not yet established to attend the annual conference and present their papers. The Wendell Lovett Award fund has been sustained by additional gifts since its inception. The award is reinforced by waiver of the recipient’s conference registration fees.

Chapter-Society Relations

From the time the Society of Architectural Historians was formed, six annual meetings have been convened on the West Coast. The earliest were in California, namely, the 18th (Los Angeles and San Francisco, 1965), the 25th (San Francisco, 1972), and the 30th (Los Angeles, 1977). The first
of the Society's annual meetings in the Pacific Northwest was the 34\textsuperscript{th}, held in Victoria in 1981. The Society returned to San Francisco for the 40\textsuperscript{th} Annual Meeting in 1987 and came to Seattle for the 48\textsuperscript{th} in 1995.

In conjunction with all the West Coast annual meetings except the California conventions of the 1970s, the chapter gathered, usually conducted business, and invariably had members involved in the programs and proceedings. At Victoria in 1981, chapter president Mirza Dickel, who was shortly to be elected to the SAH board of directors, was pleased to have been authorized by the chapter to present a check to the SAH during the annual business luncheon in the amount of $500.00 toward matching the Society's National Endowment for the Humanities membership development challenge grant. In Seattle in 1995, Jeffrey Karl Ochsner served as local chairman of the annual meeting and was supported by twelve chapter members, among others, in the planning and arrangements.

The Society will meet in the chapter's jurisdiction a third time when the 58th Annual Meeting is convened in Vancouver, British Columbia April 6-10, 2005 with chapter member Rhodri Windsor-Liscombe, University of British Columbia, as local chairman.

The distance of the West Coast from national headquarters in the East did not prevent early leaders of the Society from making periodic visits to constituents in the Pacific Section. Professor Ross, in his role as a director at various times between 1951 and 1966, encouraged the occasional visits of SAH presidents. The record shows that Agnes Gilchrist (1954-1955), Walter Creese (1958-1960), who would later be recruited as Dean of the University of Oregon's School of Architecture and Allied Arts, and Barbara Wriston (1960-1962), were welcomed at chapter meetings.

Throughout its span, the chapter has had members active in the Society at the national level. For example, Marian Donnelly was a member of the board of directors and commenced serving as associate editor of the SAH Newsletter in the 1960s. In the 1970s, she advanced through the chairs toward the highest rank of leadership. She was president of the Society for the years 1976-1978. Among her predecessors as president was chapter member Alan Gowans (1972-1974), a companion Fellow of the SAH. Professor Gowans was involved in the planning of the Society's major project, the Buildings of the United States series of scholarly, state-by-state architectural guidebooks.


What follows is a more detailed account of events as they unfolded. ♦


\textsuperscript{5} Leland M. Roth's award-winning article was "Three Industrial Towns by McKim, Mead & White," JSAH, Vol. 38, No. 4 (December 1979), 317-347.

\textsuperscript{6}Donnelly, 64-78.
Fig. 3. Professor Marion Ross (1913-1991), long-time Head of the University of Oregon Department of Art History, frequently led those enrolled in his course on historic architecture of the region on field trips through the Willamette Valley and southern Oregon. He is pictured here with his students on the grounds of the Oregon State Capitol in Salem in 1977. The camera was his indispensable accessory.

E. Walton Potter photos, July 9, 1977.
Fig. 4. Pioneer Hall, headquarters of the Society of California Pioneers, was located at 456 McAllister Street, San Francisco in 1954, when the Pacific Section of the Society of Architectural Historians conducted its organizing meeting there on May 22 at the call of Elliot A. P. Evans. The Pacific Section customarily gathered at Pioneer Hall in the early years.

Photographer unknown, c. 1950. Courtesy of Society of California Pioneers, SCP #C027410, neg. #10736.4.
Origins of the Pacific Section
1940-1954

With an air of expectation, registrants for the 43rd Annual Meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians crowded the Georgian Room in Boston’s Park Plaza Hotel on the evening of March 29, 1990 for a convocation in observance of the Society’s 50th anniversary. Eight of the twelve men and one woman counted as charter members of the Society formed at Harvard University in 1940 were present to be introduced by president Richard Betts. Each stood in turn, and when the last name was spoken, the assembly rose in tribute and broke into hearty, sustained applause.

Charter member Marion Dean Ross was pleased to have been in Boston for the accolade and to greet his friends and colleagues from around the country, as it happened, for the last time. He died at home in Eugene a year later, on April 2, 1991. The Harvard alumnus was a native of Pennsylvania, having been born on June 6, 1913 in Williamsburg in the Appalachian Mountains region of the south-central part of the Keystone State. In 1935 he was graduated with a degree in Architecture from Pennsylvania State College, located within convenient reach of his hometown.

The Harvard Connection

Following a summer’s work at the Universidad Nacional de Mexico in 1935, Ross entered Harvard University on a scholarship. He gained a Master’s degree in Architecture at Harvard in 1937 and commenced his teaching career at Tulane University in New Orleans, where he was an instructor of design and architectural history under J. Herndon Thomson, the department head whom he greatly admired. Ross became a registered architect in Louisiana. He continued a pattern of post graduate summertime study at Harvard and was on the campus in 1940 when the organization of students and teachers of architectural history began to take shape.

Following the auspicious summer of 1940, Ross continued to teach at Tulane until the Second World War, when he entered the U.S. Army. He achieved the rank of first sergeant by the time of his discharge in 1946. It was in 1943 that Private Ross had his first experience of the Pacific Northwest. He was for a time posted to Camp Abbot, a U.S. Army engineer training center in the high plateau country of central Oregon. The core of the Army camp eventually was incorporated into the planned resort of Sunriver, sixteen miles south of Bend.

Ross taught at Penn State for a year after military service. In 1947 he was recruited to the University of Oregon, where he joined the faculty of the School of Architecture and Allied Arts to teach architectural history. He did much to develop the Department of Art History by serving first as curricular head. He was administrative head from 1963, when the department was formally organized, to his retirement in 1978. He was Acting Dean of the School in 1962-1963.


Marion Dean Ross Curriculum Vitae, January 31, 1983. Marion Dean Ross /Pacific Northwest Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians Archive, Special Collections Division, University of Oregon Library.
The Ross Legacy

Professor Ross’s reputation as a “tough but inspirational teacher” grew from the principal courses he offered to students in the varied disciplines of the School and the University. Notwithstanding a magnanimous bequest that was revealed only after his death, his great service to the School was his insistence on a rigorous course in architectural history, ancient to modern, as an integral part of architectural education.

In an appreciation that appeared in the School’s news bulletin, Ross’s successor and holder of the Marion Dean Ross Distinguished Chair in Architectural History, Leland Roth, showed that while a student, Ross had been steeped in the International Modern movement. At a time when one of the leading figures of the movement, the German architect Walter Gropius, began teaching at Harvard, Ross was putting the polish on his education there with post graduate studies. But at Harvard also, as Roth pointed out, the young graduate student “came under the strong influence of the eminent architectural historian Kenneth J. Conant.”

In Oregon, Roth explained, Professor Ross pursued an interest in Victorian architecture and also was quick to appreciate the work of regional modern architects such as Pietro Belluschi and John Yeon, about whom he wrote and lectured from the 1960s. The talks Marion Ross presented to the regional chapter of the SAH, as listed in program announcements and reports from 1954 onward, are revealing of these developing interests and the breadth of his learning in general.

Professor Ross did not desert the lecture hall following his retirement. Ultimately, in 1990, a special reprise of his course on Oregon Architecture was opened to the public and video-taped as a permanent record. An outgrowth of the previous year’s observance of the School’s 75th anniversary, the lecture series was made possible by a grant from the Van Evera and Janet Bailey Fund, Oregon Community Foundation. Before his death, according to the School news bulletin, Ross had transferred most of his personal library to the Art and Architecture Library. Subsequently, Ross’s 25,000 slides were deposited with the Library’s Image Resources Division through the courtesy of Wallace Kay Huntington. Ross’s $1.1 million endowment to the Department of Art History provided matching funds for development of faculty positions and enabled rare book acquisitions that included, among the first, a 1642 edition of Andrea Palladio’s Quattro libri dell’architettura, described as “a foundation for all later studies in [western] architecture.” The bequest was hailed as one of the largest private endowments for architectural library collections in the country.

Lawrence Hall, which houses the University of Oregon’s School of Architecture and Allied Arts, underwent a major remodeling and expansion in the period 1989-1991. The reading room of the new Art and Architecture Library was to be dedicated to Ross. Before the professor’s death, close to $60,000 had been raised in tribute from several hundred colleagues, friends and former students to furnish the space. A number of the donations came from associates in the Society of Architectural Historians. Dedication of the building addition and official opening of the Marion Dean Ross Reading Room were celebrated in April, 1991.

6“Special Lecture Series Offered on Oregon Architecture,” School of Architecture and Allied Arts Review, Vol. 8, No. 2 (Spring 1990), 11.

7School of Architecture and Allied Arts Review, Vol. 12, No. 2 (Spring 1994), 17.


4“Special Lecture Series Offered on Oregon Architecture,” School of Architecture and Allied Arts Review, Vol. 8, No. 2 (Spring 1990), 11.

5School of Architecture and Allied Arts Review, Vol. 12, No. 2 (Spring 1994), 17.

SAH: The Beginning

At Harvard University, during the summer session of 1940, Dr. George M. A. Hanfmann called for the first extracurricular meeting of teachers and students having special interest in architectural history. After an enthusiastic response from more than twenty who gathered for the first dinner at the Faculty Club, a formal organization meeting eventually was held on July 31, during which time Turpin C. Bannister, a young professor at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute attending summer sessions, was elected president and directed to edit the scholarly journal of the American Society of Architectural Historians. 9

From the outset, the Society had four aims, the first of which was to provide a “useful forum” and facilitate “enjoyable contacts for all those whose special interest is the history of architecture.” The other purposes were: to foster an appreciation and understanding of great buildings and architects of historic cultures; to encourage research in architectural history and disseminate the results of such research; and to promote the preservation of significant architectural monuments.

While the Society struggled after the interruption of the war years to resume a regular schedule, essential elements of the organization’s program, namely, annual meetings, inspection trips, and publication of the Journal, were securely in place by 1947, when at a meeting in New York on February 1, the Society’s officers and directors approved the steps that had been taken toward incorporation. Although Harvard’s Kenneth Conrant had been

--9 Alan K. Laing and Edwin C. Rae, “The Founding and First Years of the Society of Architectural Historians from 1940,” Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, Vol. 49, No.1 (March 1990), 7. Making up the first part of the article are quoted passages from Turpin Bannister’s account of the Society’s beginning with which he, as editor, prefaced the first issue of the Journal. See also Marian C. Donnelly, A History: Society of Architectural Historians 1940-1995 (Eugene, Oregon: School of Architecture and Allied Arts, University of Oregon), 7.

president for several years, the Society of Architectural Historians was incorporated in the state of Connecticut, it is believed, for the convenience of incoming president Carroll L.V. Meeks, who was teaching at Yale University. The decision was made to drop the word “American” from the Society’s corporate title.

By this time, the Society had spawned several local chapters: those in Cambridge-Boston (1941), New York (1942), and Washington, D. C. (1943). Enduring features of the Society’s program were introduced in the early post-war years, such as the prestigious annual book award established by Henry-Russell Hitchcock and named in memory of his mother, Alice Davis Hitchcock. Although the Society published news of its members in the Journal, it did not issue a separate newsletter until 1957, when Agnes Gilchrist took on the task as first editor. The first salaried staff of the voluntary organization came aboard in 1955, when Rosann Berry of suburban Philadelphia was recruited as executive director. In time, the national office was moved from Mrs. Berry’s residence in Media to downtown Philadelphia, first to Walnut Street (1967-1987), then to Pine Street. In 1995, following Seymour H. Persky’s generous gift of a Louis Sullivan-Frank Lloyd Wright-designed property, the Society shifted its base of operations to permanent headquarters in the Charnley-Persky House (1891-1892) on Astor Street in Chicago.

By 1953, the census of the Society of Architectural Historians, including individual members and affil-
iated institutions, totaled 683. The membership was spreading west from the university towns and metropolitan areas of the eastern seaboard. By 1955, the total was 900.

As a signal of its growing prestige, in 1958 the SAH was elected to membership in the American Council of Learned Societies, a federation of national societies concerned with advancement of the humanities. As a charter member of the National Council for Historic Sites and Buildings, formed in 1947, the SAH played a part in promoting the National Trust for Historic Preservation, with which the Council eventually merged. Modeled on its British counterpart, the NTHP was chartered by Congress in 1949 as a nongovernment agency to acquire and maintain treasured properties and educate the public in the broad field of cultural preservation. As Marian Donnelly expressed it, “a number of [SAH] members already engaged in preservation work also became active in the National Trust.” Most prominent of these was Richard H. Howland, Fellow of the Society of Architectural Historians, who headed the Trust as president, 1956-1960.

The Invitation

It was in the midst of such promising post-war developments as these that Professor Ross, then teaching at the University of Oregon, became involved in the administrative affairs of the Society of Architectural Historians. He was just rotating from his first term on the board of directors (1951-1953) when a letter dated January 2, 1954 arrived from Elliot Evans, Chairman of the Department of Art at the University of California, Santa Barbara College. Addressed to “Western Members and Prospective Members of the Society of Architectural Historians,” the letter noted that “for the past several years the idea of a western section of the Society of Architectural Historians has had some currency.” In the West, far removed from the annual meeting sites (no annual meeting had been held west of the Mississippi to that time), members were nonetheless united by common interests shared through the Journal. Dr. Evans believed that others as well as he “might enjoy currency and exchange in a regional forum.” He invited recipients of the letter to return an attached response form indicating their interest in attending an organization meeting in the spring, at which time it was hoped the national president could be in attendance.

Returning from the Society’s annual meeting in Philadelphia, Ross responded to Evans in February, saying he had taken the opportunity to discuss the proposal with others on the board of directors who had “seemed to think that it was a step in the right direction.” He had spoken with the new president, Agnes Gilchrist, who was then with the Municipal Art Society of New York. Ross found that she expected to be in the West later in the spring and endorsed the idea that she be invited. Outgoing president, Henry-Russell Hitchcock was to be in Oregon in the spring, but his time would likely be too limited for extra travel, he said.

Heartened by the past director’s encouragement, Evans timed the organization meeting to coincide with the visit of Agnes Gilchrist and announced a date of May 22, 1954. The meeting place was to be

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12 Overby, 10.
13 Donnelly, 27.
14 Donnelly, 17.
Pioneer Hall, headquarters of the Society of California Pioneers on McAllister Street in San Francisco. Evans disclosed that he had been informed by Edward Farmer, Professor of Art at Stanford University, then serving as president of the Western College Art Administrators Association, that the W.C.A.A. would be meeting on his campus May 20-21. It was hoped a number of those attending the convention would find it convenient to attend both gatherings. "The near dating of these two meetings," Dr. Evans said, "is singularly fortunate."14

A good record of the organization meeting was made by Evans. The full day's program opened at 10:00 a.m. and concluded just before 4:30 p.m. The proceedings are worthy of recapitulating in some detail for they are revealing of the substance and spirit of many occasions to come in the early years of the regional chapter.

The Organization Meeting

The meeting announcement mailing list was a list of current members of the SAH residing in California, Oregon, and Washington that Dr. Evans had requested from the national secretary.15 It consisted of forty-seven names, including those of one member in Utah, some graduate students as well as professors, directors of library collections, State Park and National Park Service historians, and authors of emerging regional architectural studies. Among the architects were Charles S. Pope, San Francisco, who was promoting the Historic American Buildings Survey for the A.I.A. in California; Walter Church and Glenn Stanton, Portland, who had conducted architectural surveys

under auspices of the Oregon A.I.A. Chapter Committee on Historic Buildings; and Paul Thiry of Seattle, later a SAH Life Member. Also on the list was Elisabeth Kendall Thompson, Western Editor of Architectural Record.

In the minutes of the organization meeting of May 22, 1954, Elliot Evans reported that twenty-three were in attendance. Evans opened the meeting as temporary chairman and introduced national president Agnes Gilchrist. Mrs. Gilchrist, in turn, welcomed the conferees and reviewed the history and purposes of the SAH. The business meeting was commenced with Professor James Ackerman, Department of Art and Architecture, University of California, Berkeley, presiding. The conferees were invited to discuss "the desirability and purposes of a western section." Those who spoke on their current activities relevant to architectural history included Carroll D. Hall, Director, Sutter’s Fort Museum, who represented the California State Division of Beaches and Parks; Sanford Hill and John A. Hussey of the National Park Service San Francisco Office; and Charles S. Pope, president, Northern California Section of the A.I.A. Mrs. L. B. Miller, representing the Women's Architectural League, spoke of a possible institutional membership for her group, and Miss Mary R. Hill, California State Bureau of Mines, described a variety of regional building stones.

After luncheon, when the meeting was reconvened by chairman Ackerman, it was decided to adopt the name Pacific Section. The time and place of the next meeting, in October, was determined, and Elliot Evans was elected chairman and Arthur Waugh of the Architecture Library, University of California, Berkeley, was elected secretary-treasurer. Awareness of the potential for SAH local organization in the population center that is home to the University of Southern California was revealed in a succinct statement in the minutes. As Dr. Evans phrased it, the officers "were advised to explore the possibilities of... meeting and [promoting a] section in Los Angeles."16

14 Elliot Evans to Members, Prospective Members and Friends, Society of Architectural Historians, April 26, 1954. Marion Dean Ross Collection.


Additional extemporaneous reports on current activities were given by conference such as Helen Giffen, secretary of the Society of California Pioneers, who was tackling a large work, an index of photographs of adobe structures in California that were standing in 1930. The afternoon program concluded with two substantive presentations by Dr. Evans and Professor Ross. The former spoke on the value of lithographed town views by the California artists Kuchel and Dresel as a source for documenting the Greek Revival, and the latter gave as the title of his talk, “Some Aspects of Regionalism in Oregon.”

Apart from the account in the minutes of those who took part in the discussion and made presentations, there is no complete record of the names of all twenty-three persons who were in attendance at the organization meeting. Dr. Joseph A. Baird, Jr., was a member of the SAH whose name appears on the original member invitation list of c. 1954, but it is not evident that he was in attendance at the initial meeting. It is a matter of little consequence since, as a leading member of the Department of Fine Arts at the University of California, Davis, he was soon taking active part in developing the chapter.

In the compass of a single meeting, the Pacific Section was launched in the mold of its parent organization and with the direct endorsement of the Society’s executive board through the presence and participation of president Gilchrist.

**Elliot A. P. Evans**

Elliot Arthur Powell Evans was born in Santa Cruz, California on September 2, 1907. He died in Berkeley on May 8, 1988, at 80 years of age, having been a resident of Orinda for the past fifteen years. His survivors were his wife, Elizabeth, daughters, Edith Evans of Orinda and Allison James of Danville, and Arthur, a grandson. His career had been that of a professor of Art History, a noted lecturer, and an authority on early California silver and artists. 21 He was a graduate of San Jose State College and earned his Master’s and Doctoral degrees at Stanford University. He taught Art and Art History at the University of Colorado, Boulder, and at Stephen F. Austin College, Nacogdoches, Texas before returning to California to head the Department of Art at the University of California, Santa Barbara College. He was chairman of his department in 1954 when he called for organization of the Pacific Section, SAH.

From 1956 to 1971, Dr. Evans was Curator of the Society of California Pioneers. In ceremonies on January 24, 1973 he was honored by the institution as Curator Emeritus.22 His interests were broad and he collected extensive information on California artists and architects. From time to time over the span of his career, he contributed articles to such publications as the California Historical Society’s quarterly journal, the *Dictionary of American Artists Active before 1860* (New York Historical Society, 1957), and the *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*.21 He also was a consultant on restoration of a number of well-known historical properties, including Colton Hall, the alcalde’s town hall and school (1847-1849) in Monterey, and Burlingame Station in Burlingame. About the latter, Dr. Evans wrote an article for publication in the chapter’s 1978 *festschrift* honoring Professor Ross in which he sought to show that the first permanent structure employing all of the elements of the com-

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23 Elliot Evans’s articles in the *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* are as follows: “The East Texas House” *JSAM*, Vol. 11, No. 4 (December 1952), 1-7; and “Soledad,” *JSAM*, Vol. 15, No. 1 (March 1956), 20-26. The latter was part of the Spanish Empire issue of the *Journal*, a gathering of papers read during the Annual Meeting of the SAH in New York in 1955.
plex Mission Revival movement was the Southern Pacific Railroad Company’s passenger station at Burlingame (1893-1894) designed by Howard & Mathisen.  

**Joseph Armstrong Baird, Jr.**

Joseph Armstrong Baird was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1922. He died at his home in Tiburon, Marin County, California on December 22, 1992, at 70 years of age. He earned his baccalaureate degree at Oberlin College; his M.A. (1947) and Ph.D. (1951) at Harvard University. He traveled widely in Europe and Latin America. For him, as for Professor Ross, the art and architecture of Spain and her colonies in the New World was a subject of abiding interest. Dr. Baird gained experience in his chosen field in New York City preparing exhibits in an art gallery and working at the Museum of Modern Art in 1944-1945 before entering graduate school.

Baird commenced his teaching career at the University of Toronto in 1949 while in pursuit of his Doctorate. He was called to the University of California, Davis in 1953 and there helped develop the art history curriculum. Known for his expertise in art and architecture of California and Mexico, Professor Baird operated as an art consultant and founded in San Francisco the North Point Gallery, which specialized in American art, historic prints and photographs.

Books to Dr. Baird’s credit include The Churches of Mexico (University of California Press, 1962), and *Time’s Wondrous Changes: San Francisco Architecture 1776-1915* (California Historical Society, 1962). Along with that of his colleague Elliot Evans, his paper for the 1955 Annual Meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians was published as part of the Spanish Empire issue of the *Journal* the following year. He operated as Curator of Art for the California Historical Society 1962-1963 and 1967-1970. He designed numerous exhibitions of California art and wrote or edited accompanying catalogues, the most notable of which, printed in part in 1966, was that for the Robert B. Honeyman, Jr. Collection of drawings, paintings and watercolors at the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

Baird retired as Professor of Fine Arts at the University of California, Davis in 1985 and sold his gallery, but continued working as a consultant and art appraiser. He had lectured publicly in New York, at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., throughout California and elsewhere in the West. By his own statement in offering a paper, 

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27 Biographical summary statement, Joseph A. Baird, Jr. Collection, Department of Special Collections, Shields Library, University of California, Davis, Online Archive of California.

“Eighteenth Century Church Facades of Spain and Mexico,” for the chapter *festschrift* in 1978. Baird had been acquainted with Professor Ross “for over twenty years” and had been pleased by his colleague’s invitation to fill a visiting professorship at the University of Oregon in spring term, 1963. Baird recalled that he had been president of the Pacific Section “for several years in the 1960s.”

**The Meaning of the Meeting**

The figures who were central to the founding and early development of the Pacific Section — Evans, Ross, and Baird — were recognized as such from 1980 onward as the result of the first attempt to establish a chapter Founders Award. Dr. Evans undeniably had been the catalyst. Professors Ross and Baird were important to sustaining the fledgling organization by involving their colleagues and former students. It is interesting to consider the commonality of interest among the organizers. Ross and Baird were natives of Pennsylvania and alumni of Harvard Graduate School, albeit in different eras. Each of the three men was in charge of an art history program he had largely developed, Ross and Baird for long periods of more than thirty years. Each was a sought-after public lecturer. Evans and Baird made careers in curatorial following or concurrently with their teaching responsibilities. Both Ross and Baird were fluent on the arts of Latin America and held visiting lectureships abroad, Baird at the University of Mexico in 1957 and Ross as a Fulbright Lecturer in Paraguay in 1961. Evans and Baird shared a common interest in the painters and print makers whose landscapes and town views documented the built environment of early California. At the University of California, Davis, Dr. Baird involved his students in systematic content surveys of *California Architect and Building News* for the period 1879-1900, and the results were incorporated into his files on California architecture. In 1978 Dr. Evans’s research files on individual artists were combined with Baird’s files in the Joseph A. Baird, Jr. Collection, Department of Special Collections, Shields Library, University of California, Davis. The merger created a master resource for the study of California artists, including the lesser-known figures.

The Pacific Section was, fundamentally, the creation of men and women deeply engaged in the study of regional art and architecture, embracing everything from prints, paintings, and early photographs to native building stone. If there was an antiquarian flavor to the presentations of some, it only enhanced the perceptions of others who were gathering material for the pioneering inquiries into stylistic development in nineteenth century architecture on the West Coast. The writing of Marion Ross (“Architecture in Oregon, 1840-1895,” *Oregon Historical Quarterly* Vol. 57, No. 1, March 1956) and Harold Kirker (*California’s Architectural Frontier: Style and Tradition in the Nineteenth Century*, Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, 1960), for example, advanced general understanding of the region’s architectural heritage.

Elliot Evans and those he called together in 1954 had organized the first chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians in the western United States. The Pacific Section now would join the field of investigation that had been opened by the American Institute of Architects when the early Depression-era architectural surveys were undertaken by state chapters operating under the inspiration of the A.I.A.’s Committee on the Preservation of Historic Buildings. The A.I.A. had paved the way for the more formalized recording work of the

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31 Administrative Information, Scope and Content, Joseph A. Baird, Jr. Collection, Department of Special Collections, Shields Library, University of California, Davis. Online Archive of California.
Historic American Buildings Survey. HABS was that combination work relief and research program conceived by SAH Fellow Charles E. Peterson when he was Chief of the Eastern Division of the National Park Service Branch of Plans and Design. To administer the program, a three-way partnership between the National Park Service, the A.I.A., and the Library of Congress was activated by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration at the end of 1933. A revived Historic American Buildings Survey was one of the allied endeavors that Pacific Section SAHers would be supporting from the outset.

Fig. 5. Joseph Armstrong Baird, Jr. (1922-1992), longtime member of the faculty of the Department of Art at the University of California, Davis, was an authority on California artists and architects of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. He also served as Curator of Art for the California Historical Society. Dr. Baird was president of the chapter c. 1960. Of the California founders, he and Elliot Evans remained longest involved in chapter affairs.


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Fig. 6. Elliot A. P. Evans (1907-1988), Curator of the Society of California Pioneers 1956-1971, was photographed with wife Elizabeth on the occasion of his being honored as Curator Emeritus in 1973. The plaque marking the honor described Dr. Evans as a "distinguished authority and monographist on the artists, facts, culture, and history of California." It was he who initiated organization of the Pacific Section and was elected first chairman. He served on the SAH national board of directors 1956-1957.

Northern Pacific Coast Embraced 1955-1969

Eliott Evans presided over the second gathering of the Pacific Section, at which time the membership was counted as thirty-five.¹ The meeting held at Pioneer Hall, Society of California Pioneers, in San Francisco on October 30, 1954 set the stage for the ensuing period. The chairman opened with a message he had received from SAH president Agnes Gilchrist in which it was reported that "in Chicago another new section of the Society was holding its initial meeting."² Mary R. Hill was elected president for 1955, and Arthur B. Waugh would continue as secretary. This time, a list of those in attendance was included in the minutes. Eighteen members and guests were present, including Marion Ross and Joseph Baird, the two who, in addition to Elliot Evans, would in time be regarded as the principal chapter founders.

A chapter Committee on Preservation and Restoration was on the chairman’s agenda, and the topic prompted discussion of urban development in San Francisco and the growing number of late nineteenth century buildings being demolished without benefit of prior recording. Ideas were exchanged on enlisting amateur and student photographers in the making of photo-records. The chairman appointed four members to the Preservation Committee: Roy Flamm (a professional photographer), Jack Hillmer, Arthur Waugh, and Ellsworth Johnson. It was agreed that members of the section would notify the chairman when a building “worthy of preservation” was slated for destruction so that the chairman could direct the appropriate steps.

Among other matters discussed was the possibility of requesting that an entire issue of SAH Journal be devoted to the West. As a practical alternative, James Ackerman of Berkeley encouraged members to provide information about their current projects to Charles E. Peterson of the National Park Service, originating editor of a brief section of the Journal devoted to reporting progress in preservation work around the country. “American Notes” had been introduced in 1950 and would continue to 1967.³ Professor Ackerman had succeeded Marion Ross as the West Coast representative on the SAH board of directors.

The chairman also had placed on his agenda an item relating to formation of a Southern California Section. Dr. Evans agreed to make further inquiries into the subject. He pointed out, however, that “previous attempts” had “not been fruitful.”⁴ The record of the first two meetings makes it clear that, from the beginning, organizers of the Pacific Section had hoped to see a group organized in Southern California. The expectation would be fulfilled eight years later.

Joint Conference in Eugene

For the first fourteen years, all of the meetings of the Pacific Section of the Society of Architectural Historians were convened in California with one exception. Professor Marion Ross seized an opportunity to host the chapter at the University of Oregon, where the Western Division of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture was scheduled to meet at the School of Architecture and Allied Arts April 11-12, 1958. Apart from an inspection tour of the Mother Lode

¹ Mimeographed report headed “Society of Architectural Historians, News of Local SAH Chapters, October, 1955.” Marion Dean Ross Collection, Special Collections Division, University of Oregon Library.


region in central California that was organized by Mary Hill of the California State Division of Mines in the spring of 1954, it was the first two-day event scheduled by the chapter. On this occasion also, completion of Lawrence Hall, the School's newly expanded facilities named in honor of the late founding Dean, Ellis F. Lawrence, was celebrated. In conjunction with the School's dedication ceremonies, Pietro Belluschi, one of Oregon's foremost Modernists (he had just accepted the position of Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning at M.I.T.) delivered the banquet address.

The list of speakers for the 1958 meeting, reproduced in full in the appendix, reveals a varied program which Professor Ross developed in cooperation with president Stephen Jacobs. Professor Jacobs had said that he and his colleagues in Berkeley "...thought it important to take notice of the passing of Bernard Maybeck." The speakers included Walter Gordon, University of Oregon, who spoke on "The Architectural Scene;" Kenneth Cardwell, University of California, Berkeley, on Bernard Maybeck; Joseph Baird, University of California, Davis, on Sacramento; Charles Pope, San Francisco, on the Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory; Stephen W. Jacobs, University of California, Berkeley, on A. B. Mullett's San Francisco Mint and Portland Post Office; and Barclay C. Jones, University of California, Berkeley, on "The Historic Monument in City Planning."

Also on the program, at the invitation of Professor Ross, was Agnes Gilchrist, who as SAH president had attended the organizing meeting of the chapter in 1954 and now was a National Park Service historian in the Philadelphia Office. Mrs. Gilchrist was at this time serving as first editor of the Society's new Newsletter. Her topic was "G. Valadier, Roman Architect." Ross also had extended an invitation to SAH treasurer Barbara Wriston of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. In his letter of invitation, replete with news of travels abroad, Ross expressed a sentiment that no doubt was voiced to the executive board on other occasions: "Maybe it will be possible to have a national meeting in the West – in San Francisco, perhaps, before too many years pass."

Walter L. Creese

Although Miss Wriston was not able to come west, SAH national president Walter L. Creese, a prominent figure in the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, attended the conference. President Creese had been editor of the Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians (1950-1952) and served concurrently on the executive board. The Prairie School scholar was an exponent of environmental design and was leaving the University of Louisville to teach architecture and planning at the University of Illinois at Urbana. He would return to the campus in Eugene in 1963 to serve four years as Dean of the School of Architecture and Allied Arts, succeeding Ross, who had been Acting Dean since 1960.

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1 Marion D. Ross to Miss Barbara Wriston, Secretary [sic], Society of Architectural Historians, January 21, 1948. In his letter, Ross said he expected to be working at the Harvard-Cornell archaeological excavations in Asia Minor at Sardis (modern Turkey) in the coming summer with George Hanfmann (the Harvard University professor who had initiated the meetings leading to organization of the SAH in 1940).

2 Stephen Jacobs to Professor Marion D. Ross, January 30, 1958. Marion Dean Ross Collection.

4 Marion D. Ross to Professor S. Jacobs, November 24, 1957. Professor Ross explained to the chapter president he had written to Mrs. Gilchrist "to ask if it might be possible for her to come out for this meeting." Marion Dean Ross Collection.

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Bay Area Focus

Chapter meeting and tour venues – all in California in the early years – were predominantly in San Francisco and environs, with the Society of California Pioneers and the California Historical Society as recurring hosts. Meetings were held also on the University of California campuses in Berkeley, Davis, and Santa Cruz and at Stanford University. Sacramento, Monterey, and Alameda also were settings for twice-yearly meetings.

The start-up years of the 1950s and ‘60s proved to be somewhat problematic for the chapter leadership. Gaps in the available record are partly the result of some items being missing from the sequence of announcements. Mostly, however, the lack of records points to lapses in chapter activity. It is unclear whether 1956 was a lapse year, but if it was, it was quickly compensated for by a strong pair of officers for the following year in Stephen W. Jacobs, who was the first to use the term president as opposed to chairman, and Charles Pope, secretary.

By December, 1957, the Pacific Section would be working with a member list of seventy, not including institutional members – a roster that included a number of “former members.” On the 1957 list there appears one name of a member who is active in chapter affairs in the present year, that of Mark Ritter Spoonerburgh. It was noted that the University of Oregon professor in the Department of Fine Arts would be inactive for a time since he was en route to Pakistan.9

Stephen W. Jacobs

Stephen William Jacobs (1919-1978) of the Department of Architecture at the University of California, Berkeley, served as president of the chapter, 1957-1958. In that role he was energetic in soliciting support for re-use of the redundant Second U. S. Branch Mint in San Francisco.

While at the University of California, Jacobs was greatly interested in the part that architectural conservation contributed to urban design. He and his SAH colleague from the University’s Department of City and Regional Planning, Barclay C. Jones, collaborated on such work as City Design Through Conservation (Berkeley: University of California, 1960). Professor Jacobs’ Stable Values in a Changing World: Historic Preservation in City Planning and Urban Renewal was published under auspices of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1959.

In the 1960s, Professor Jacobs relocated to Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, where through curriculum development and writing he exerted increasing influence in the national historic preservation movement. Professor Jacobs served on the SAH board of directors in 1966 and 1968. A collection of his papers at Cornell spans the period from 1954 to his death in 1978 and documents his prominence in the new field of historic preservation theory and education.10

Second United States Branch Mint

Notwithstanding the group of four appointed by Elliot Evans to a Committee on Preservation and Restoration, Professor Jacobs was among the first of the Pacific Section members to engage in preservation activism. Though it would be sixteen years before the chapter elected a preservation officer in accord with Society policy, Jacobs, a champion of historic buildings in the urban landscape, had effectively fulfilled the function while serving as chapter president. His two-page report circulated on behalf of the chapter early in 1958 urged interested parties to send letters to the Public Buildings Administrator, U. S. Department of General Services, in support of retaining San Francisco’s Second U. S. Branch Mint.

Controversy swirled around the old Mint because the City’s mayor and others opposed rehabilitation

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10 Stephen W. Jacobs Collection Number 15-2-1713, Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections, Cornell University Library.
of the federal building for use as headquarters of the Western Regional Office of the National Park Service. Opponents of the adaptation believed that the landmark at Fifth and Mission Streets occupied a valuable site that could better contribute to the local economy if released to private development. They did not prevail. Pointing out that “the old Mint is probably the only building in San Francisco famous throughout the country for its design character,” Jacobs argued that the Classically-inspired building erected under Supervising Architect of the Treasury Alfred Bult Mullet in 1873 could reinforce surrounding revitalization efforts. “Current theory in the field of city planning stresses the importance of preserving historic monuments to provide a richer and more meaningful environment...,” he concluded.11

The Problematic 1960s

The Society of Architectural Historians took note of the vigor of its chapter on the West Coast at the approach of the 1960s. A successful tour of Sacramento had been organized for the fall meeting in October, 1958. SAH Newsletter editor Agnes Gilchrist reported: “The Pacific Section of SAH continues to be one of the most active local groups under President Stephen Jacobs.”12 While available records do not show who succeeded Professor Jacobs, it is clear that Richard C. Peters of the University of California, Berkeley was secretary-treasurer in 1959. During the fall meeting in 1960, the chapter was host to the new SAH president Barbara Wriston, who was at the time traveling to meet with the various chapters of the Society. According to secretary-treasurer Peters’ report, Miss Wriston “spent a number of days in the Bay Area and Sacramento” studying nineteenth and twentieth century architecture.13 In Sacramento, her guide had been Joseph Baird, who is known to have been president “for several years in the 1960s.”14 It has not been possible to pinpoint Dr. Baird’s tenure from records in the national office nor, so far, from the inventory of the Joseph A. Baird, Jr. Collection. Although serving as host to a national officer, together with organizing a series of meetings and tours is no proof of holding office, these facts are the basis for tentatively assigning Dr. Baird’s term as president to 1959-1960 in the accompanying list of chapter officers.

Southern California Chapter

It was around 1962 that the body of SAHers in Los Angeles organized the Southern California Chapter.15 In due course, the Pacific Section modified its name to distinguish itself from the more southerly group. According to a notation made by Marion Ross about 1984, when he was serving as chapter president for the second time, the name “Northern Pacific Coast Chapter” was adopted in January, 1965.16 The fact that the Annual Meeting


13 “A Short Report on the Fall Meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians, Pacific Section, Held on Saturday, Nov. 12, 1960.” Marion Dean Ross Collection.

14 Joseph Baird to Elisabeth Walton Potter, 1978, note accompanying chapter festschrift proposal. Chapter Archive [Festschrift file], Division of Special Collections, University of Oregon Library.

15 This information kindly provided by Dr. Robert Winter, chapter founder, via e-mail communication to author courtesy of John Berley, executive board member, Southern California Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians, July 27, 2004.

16 Society of Architectural Historians, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter [List of chapter meeting dates drawn by M. D. Ross c. 1984, last annotated 1985], Marion Dean Ross Collection.
of the SAH was held in Los Angeles and San Francisco in January of that year points to the likelihood that an understanding was reached by local leaders and the national body concerning the naming of chapters on the Pacific Coast.

Confirmation that 1963 was a lapse year takes the form of a post card. In 1964 there came this word from Joseph Baird to Professor Ross: “We are reactivating SAH on the Pacific Coast... Charlie Pope, Gus Keane and I are getting together with Elliot Evans, etc. to nominate Carter [Augustus C.] Keane as President.” 17

Indeed, Carter Keane of Alameda, president, and John P. Hunter, secretary-treasurer, organized a program for 1964-1965, but records for 1966 are lacking. The fact that James R. Burch of the Architecture Library, University of California, Berkeley signed himself “Acting Secretary” in 1967 indicates there had been another interruption in the schedule of about a year. It is tempting to assign the cause to preoccupation with student unrest on the Berkeley campus and elsewhere in the period of protest over the war in Vietnam. It is equally plausible that the effort required to plan and promote two meetings a year was proving difficult for busy faculty and professionals once the responsibility had been rotated through the initial group of leaders. Whichever was the case, momentum was regained when a “re-organization- al meeting to reactivate the local section” was held at the Society of California Pioneers on November 25, 1967. Professor Ross was named president of the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter for 1968-1969 and James Burch was secretary-treasurer. 18

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18 Fall Meeting Announcement, Society of Architectural Historians, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter [c. November 8, 1967]. Also: Marion Dean Ross to Thomas Vaughan, Director, Oregon Historical Society, May 7, 1968. Marion Dean Ross Collection.

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On to Oregon

Among the first steps taken by the new officers was requesting from the national office the latest SAH membership information expressly for northern California, Idaho, Washington, and British Columbia. The chapter mailing list, then including about seventy-six individuals and fifteen institutional members, was updated accordingly.

Seeking the kind of institutional atmosphere in an urban milieu that had proven so hospitable to the chapter in San Francisco, Professor Ross appealed for a meeting site to Thomas Vaughan, Director of the Oregon Historical Society, who lately had led his organization to a new, state-of-the-art building fronting on the South Park Blocks in downtown Portland. The meeting that was held at the Oregon Historical Center on November 2, 1968 – the first meeting of the chapter outside of California that was not on a university campus – was well attended and the list of speakers pointedly reflected the geographic diversity of the region. Those presenting papers were from Jacksonville, Salem, Portland, Seattle, and Victoria. A California speaker also had been scheduled but was unable to travel at the last minute. Ella-Marie K. Loeb of Berkeley, a Society patron, eventually would present her memorable paper, “Labyrinth Enclosures and Habitational Mazes,” to the chapter in Sacramento in 1973.

Once the chapter was convened in October, 1969 in Jacksonville, the historic gold rush town in southern Oregon that Professor Ross had brought to the attention of his peers in his 1953 article for the SAH Journal, it was no longer necessary for the area around San Francisco Bay to be the center of chapter affairs. From now on, the semi-annual meetings would alternate between northern California and the Pacific Northwest. It would prove an agreeable and rewarding pattern for years to come.
Other Developments

As an example of the continuing relationship of Pacific Section SAHers with the Historic American Buildings Survey, Professor Ross spent the summer of 1957 in the Great Smoky Mountains directing an architectural recording project under National Park Service auspices. During the November 12, 1960 chapter meeting at the Society of California Pioneers in San Francisco, Ross had presented a talk he titled “The Nouveau Louvre in Oregon,” in which he demonstrated the influence of the French Second Empire in designs for the original buildings on the University of Oregon campus. In the spring term of 1963, Dr. Baird was on the campus with a visiting professorship at Ross’s invitation. While there, Baird prepared historical data reports for HABS on Deady Hall (1873-1876) and Villard Hall (1886). At the urging of University President, Robert D. Clark, the venerable buildings ultimately were declared National Historic Landmarks by the Secretary of the Interior. When the data reports were complete, the author sent his working papers to be archived in the University Library’s Special Collections Division.  

Further involvement with the National Park Service and its Historic American Buildings Survey lay ahead for Professor Ross when, in the summer of 1971, he would conduct an architectural study of historic Jacksonville in association with George Washington University student Christopher Owens.

Across the country during the 1950s and ‘60s, massive clearance of early buildings in the course of inner-city renewal projects galvanized the preservation community and brought forth an appeal for action from the nation’s mayors that, in turn, led to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. This legislation of President Lyndon Johnson’s Great Society era was itself a watershed in federal legislation flowing from such antecedents as the Historic Sites Act of 1935. In a nutshell, NHPA authorized federal matching grants to the states for conducting surveys and preparing comprehensive cultural resource inventories and historic preservation plans. The matching funds also were allocated to restore properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Equally important, through a regulatory review process, NHPA aimed to protect National Register properties from avoidable harm by federally-sponsored projects of all kinds.

On the eve of the Society’s 50th Anniversary in 1990, SAH president Richard Betts would observe that the National Historic Preservation Act “called into being a whole new professional class of architectural historians.” Over the ensuing years, the chapter would draw heavily for leadership from men and women who served as staff and panel advisers to the State Historic Preservation Officers appointed to administer provisions of Public Law 89-665. Still others in the membership were preservation specialists for local governments and professional consultants involved in registration or regulatory review aspects of the federally-sponsored program. But for this momentous development at the national level, the year 1966 would have left no imprint on the chapter’s career whatsoever. As it happened, the new enabling legislation and the Ross tenure that completed the decade marked a propitious turning point for SAH on the Northern Pacific Coast.

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Fig. 7. The United States Hotel (1881) in Jacksonville, a gold rush town in southern Oregon, was a focal point of the third meeting of the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH to be convened outside California. The chapter met here (and next door at the Jacksonville Inn) in 1969 and 1990. Professor Ross's article in the *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* in 1953 brought wider recognition of the importance of the intact nineteenth century trading community and led to Jacksonville's designation as a National Historic Landmark district in 1966.
*E. Walton Potter photo, September 1980.*

Fig. 8. Historic Jacksonville, looking west on California Street from Third Street.
*E. Walton Potter photo, September 1980.*
Fig. 9. The University Club (1913) at SW Sixth and Jefferson in Portland was several times the venue for luncheon business meetings of Northern Pacific Coast SAHers through the courtesy of chapter members holding club membership. The Portland landmark was designed by the firm of Whitehouse & Fouilhoux.

Photo, December 1980, courtesy of E. Walton Potter.
A Far-Flung Constituency
1970-1983

Following the election of officers to succeed Marion Ross and James Burch as president and secretary-treasurer, Robertson E. Collins of Jacksonville and Marian C. Donnelly of Eugene assumed direction of the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter. In the hands of these experienced organizers, the chapter was placed on a business-like footing.

One of the enduring careers in SAH leadership was fulfilled by Marian Donnelly. Donnelly came to the University of Oregon Department of Art History from the University of Chicago in 1966 and formed a lasting and cordial friendship with Ross, her department head, with whom she had become acquainted while the two were serving together on the Society’s board of directors.

Marian Card Donnelly

A native of Evanston, Illinois, Marian Card Donnelly (1923-1999) was a 1946 graduate of Oberlin College in Ohio, where she continued post graduate study and earned a Master’s degree in 1948. She held several teaching and library positions while working toward the Ph.D. conferred by Yale University in 1956.1 Mrs. Donnelly moved with her physicist husband, Russell J. Donnelly, to Chicago and commenced raising son Jim. She had lately returned to academia as a visiting lecturer at the University of Chicago when she was invited to the University of Oregon. The University profited doubly when Russell joined the faculty of the Department of Physics, where, ultimately, he would achieve wide recognition and foundation grant support for advanced research in low-temperature physics (superfluidity and thermal convection). To the present day, Russell Donnelly has remained one of the Society’s abiding benefactors.2

Marian Donnelly’s teaching and writing reflected a breadth of interests as well as particular expertise in the art and architecture of Colonial America. Her books included *The New England Meeting Houses of the Seventeenth Century* (Wesleyan University Press, 1968), *A Short History of Observatories* (University of Oregon Books, 1974), and *Architecture in the Scandinavian Countries* (M.I.T. Press, 1992). Her unpublished manuscript on colonial architecture from Columbus to the American Revolution was brought to print posthumously as *Architecture in Colonial America* by the University of Oregon Press in 2003 with the help of her former junior colleague, Leland Roth, as editor. At the University of Oregon, in 1980, Professor Donnelly was co-founder with Professor Philip Dole of a graduate degree program in Historic Preservation. Created under joint sponsorship of the Department of Architecture and Department of Art History, the program was recognized as the first of its kind to be established on the West Coast.

The gifted Professor Donnelly had become a member of the SAH in 1948, the year she entered Yale University Graduate School. In 1964, while in Chicago, she was elected to the Society’s board of directors and soon signed on as the first associate editor of the SAH *Newsletter*. These roles she carried on after her relocation to Oregon. Although she rotated off the board in 1967, her work on the newsletter continued to 1972. After her enlistment as secretary-treasurer of the local chapter, she

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served with president Robertson Collins to 1972. Then, in a continuous rise that was customary for the leading officers, she advanced in national SAH executive affairs from the position of second vice president (1972-1974) to first vice president (1974-1976), and finally to president (1976-1978). Having had the satisfaction of presiding over the Society in the period when the country celebrated the bicentennial of nationhood, she remained on the board of directors until her retirement in 1981. She had been the third woman to head the SAH and one of the first scholars based on the West Coast to lead the organization.

**Robertson E. Collins**

Robertson E. Collins (1921-2003) was a businessman in Oregon’s Rogue River Valley, a Stanford University graduate who held many connections in cultural circles. In 1970 he became a trustee of the National Trust for Historic Preservation as well as president of the regional chapter of the SAH. In due course he was the Trust’s vice chairman.

Collins had been a resident of Jacksonville, Oregon since 1962 and was outspoken in defending the historic gold rush town against the pressure of encroaching development. He orchestrated restoration of the 1881 United States Hotel, a Department of Housing and Urban Development model cities demonstration project that was key to the town’s revival. He had hosted the chapter’s fall meeting in Jacksonville in 1969 and would extend his hospitality in the years to come whenever the chapter gathered in southern Oregon.

Collins exemplified the SAHers who became citizen advisers in the state and federal program authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. He was appointed to the relevant Oregon state review board in 1975 and was the chairman from 1979 to 1985. In 1985-1986 Collins served on the SAH board of directors, from which he retired to devote himself to international consulting on cultural tourism with emphasis on the Asian Pacific. He died of dengue fever at his overseas home base in Singapore in 2003.³

**Original Bylaws**

The new officers, one a committed preservationist and the other on the faculty of the University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts, were inclined to take advantage of a regional workshop on architectural preservation that was to be held on the campus early in December, 1970. The workshop was hosted by the Department of Architecture with grant assistance from the American Institute of Architects and co-sponsorship of the Southwestern Oregon Chapter, A.I.A., and the Oregon Council of Architects. Since a number of SAH chapter members were taking part in the panel discussions, the membership as a whole was invited to attend the workshop in lieu of a regular fall meeting. The event was significant because it was during a business meeting over luncheon on December 5 that chapter members present reviewed draft bylaws conforming to those of the national organization. The proposed bylaws were then distributed with a mail ballot to the members at large for approval.⁴

From her recent experience on the SAH board of directors, secretary-treasurer Donnelly was attuned to the desirability of conducting the chapter’s business according to form. The article of national SAH bylaws pertaining to local chapters required that members of local chapters “shall pay the regular dues of both the local chapter and the parent organization.” Those who paid only dues to the local chapter were associates but did not enjoy the

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⁴ Fall Meeting Report, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians Winter Notice, 1970, Robertson Collins, President. Chapter Archive, Division of Special Collections, University of Oregon Library.
benefits of full membership in the SAH. In the face of postal rate increases, the officers warned of the likely need to limit chapter mailings in the future to individuals who were current in their dues. Accordingly, Article III of the bylaws stated: "Membership is open to members in good standing of the Society of Architectural Historians upon payment of the dues annually. Persons whose interest in historic architecture is primarily local may be elected Chapter Associates, shall then be members only of the Chapter and pay only the dues of the Chapter." The dues were $2.00 per year, and the administrative year was matched to the fiscal year, July 1 to June 30.

Article VI added a vice president to the list of officers, and extended terms of office to two consecutive years. This sorted well with an observation Professor Ross had made to his supporting officer the year before, when he confided: "Though I am not anxious for more work and I imagine that you feel the same, I do think we both ought to be re-elected for another year. It would seem good policy to have the officers serve for two years at a time."6

The straightforward purposes of the chapter were declared as follows: 1) to further the stated objects of the national organization, SAH, 2) to hold meetings for the study and discussion of historic architecture, and 3) to organize visits to historic towns and buildings in the Pacific Northwest. The thirteen articles of the bylaws included the usual provisions for appointment of committees, election of officers, and amendments to the bylaws. Article IX is of interest since, in accordance with national bylaws, it fixed the number of meetings at two per year at least, with the annual business meeting to be held in the spring. In the absence of evidence to the contrary, the bylaws of 1970 are presumed to be the first formal operating rules adopted by the chapter apart from Robert's Rules of Order based on parliamentary procedure. The bylaws of 1970 remained unaltered until slight modifications were made during the annual business meeting in Berkeley on April 16, 1977 to raise annual dues to $4.00 and make formal the chapter's earlier adoption of a fourth elective position, that of preservation officer. 7

**Chapter Preservation Officer**

The impetus for adding a preservation officer to the executive roster came from work of the SAH standing committee on preservation chaired by Stephen W. Jacobs. Professor Jacobs led a meeting of the Committee on Preservation at the Harvard Club of New York City in January, 1973 during which members considered procedures followed by the Victorian Society in America and the American Institute of Architects. At issue was how the Society and its local groups would coordinate response to emergencies involving architectural landmarks. It was agreed by the national committee that "all SAH Chapters should be urged to

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5 Robertson E. Collins, President, and Marian C. Donnelly, Secretary-Treasurer, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians, to chapter membership, November 1970. Chapter Archive.

6 M. D. Ross, Head, Department of Art History, University of Oregon, to Mr. James R. Burch, Berkeley, California, March 10, 1969. Marion Dean Ross Collection. Division of Special Collections, University of Oregon Library.

7 During a chapter meeting at the Faculty Club, University of Oregon, Eugene, on October 9, 1976, a motion by Marion Ross to raise the dues was passed unanimously. Since there was no agreement on the amount, president Elisabeth Potter appointed a committee of three: C. Gilman Davis, Thomas Price, and Sheila Finch, to recommend an appropriate dues rate to the executive board so a bylaws amendment concerning dues could be considered by the chapter during the annual business meeting the following spring. Without benefit of amendment to the bylaws, the chapter voted to raise the dues one dollar more to $5.00 during the fall meeting in Ashland in 1981. At the same time, the billing period was changed to coincide with the calendar year instead of the administrative year. See: Minutes of the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH, Ashland, Oregon, October 10, 1981. Dorothy Gilmore, secretary-treasurer. Chapter Archive.
appoint Preservation Officers for their areas. Chapter bylaws should recognize the position of Preservation Officer... The role of the National Committee should be principally as a clearing house for regional or local Chapter efforts.” The national committee was absorbed in the controversy over the latest plan to extend the West Front of the United States Capitol and hoped to help influence a decision to restore the building front and preserve the terrace designed by Frederick Law Olmsted.

It is clear from the record of the meeting in New York City that the Society’s Committee on Preservation intended to take up cases of national import while the chapters would be expected to respond more effectively to issues as they emerged at the local level. The Northern Pacific Coast Chapter gamely fell into line with the national policy in 1974. The first chapter member installed as preservation officer was Wallace Kay Huntington, while Earl Layman was designated the regional representative of the West Coast on the Society’s standing committee.4

The function of the chapter’s preservation officer was exemplified by action arising from the chapter meeting held on the University of Oregon campus in Eugene on October 9, 1976. Earl Layman, who had succeeded Wallace Huntington in the role, reported on a threat to the integrity of the Smith Tower of 1914, the iconic skyscraper of the city’s early twentieth-century heyday as a railhead port. A top story restaurant development proposal called for removal of the observatory balustrade and other detrimental changes. Judith Rees described the circumstances of an even more serious threat to a local landmark, the redundant Eugene Armory of 1915, which was slated for demolition. After some debate on how the chapter should register its concerns, it was agreed that the president would write political letters on behalf of the chapter, and those members so inclined could express their concerns as individuals.10

Administrative Guidance from SAH

An important development in chapter administrative affairs during this period came in 1977 when Marion Donnelly was presiding at the national level. The central office was examining the status of the SAH chapters with regard to Internal Revenue Code. The Internal Revenue Service recognized the SAH as a tax-exempt organization whose donors qualified for deductions for their contributions. Recent changes to the Code, however,

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9 The first election of a chapter preservation officer followed soon after the SAH Preservation Committee’s 1973 policy initiative. See: Minutes of the Annual Meeting, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH, Boise, Idaho, May 11, 1974. That the standing committee’s recommendation that chapters elect or appoint preservation officers was embraced by the Society is confirmed by a letter to the chapters issued by SAH secretary Elisabeth B. MacDougaal, November 1, 1976, in which it is stated that the policy had been adopted by vote of the board of directors. See also: Sheila Finch, secretary, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH, to Earl D. Layman, Seattle, October 9, 1974. Secretary-treasurer Finch wrote to Mr. Layman to report on a meeting of the SAH Preservation Committee led by Stephen Jacobs, chairman, that had taken place during the recent annual conven-

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10 Minutes of Meeting of Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH, Eugene, Oregon, October 9, 1976. Sheila Finch, Secretary. Chapter Archive. Professor Philip Dole wrote to the Lane County Board of Commissioners concerning the Armory, as did president Elisabeth Potter. In due course, the Armory was razed. The president’s letter of October 18, 1976 to Ivar Haglund concerning the Smith Tower was rendered inconsequential after restaurant plans were dropped for incompatibility with the fire safety code.
er, made such status inapplicable to the chapters, which were viewed as separate organizations. Counsel to the central office advised that those chapters not having an independent I.R.S. determination of non-profit status, and those whose gross receipts did not exceed $5,000 annually, would find the most efficient means of gaining “the same federal income tax attributes” as the parent organization an Agreement of Trust certifying that the local chapter would operate in accord with the charitable purposes of the national SAH. The agreement provided for due limitation of liability to the parent organization for activities carried on by the chapter.11

The Trust Agreement was executed by the SAH signatory and each of the chapter’s executive officers on March 7, 1978.12 The Trust Agreement and the amended bylaws of 1977 then became the chapter’s cardinal operating documents until the time of reorganization in 1995.

As an indication of the thorough attention the Society was giving to the administrative affairs of its affiliates at the time, another directive was issued in 1982. Intended partly to limit the organization’s liability but mostly to standardize guidance and ensure accountability, the “Society of Architectural Historians Handbook for the Foundation and Activity of Chapters” was compiled and ratified by the board of directors on February 27, 1982.13

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13 Rosann S. Berry, Executive Secretary, Society of Architectural Historians, to Elisabeth Walton Potter, President, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, December 6, 1977. Chapter Archive. Mrs. Berry reported the number of local chapters of the SAH at the time to be twenty-three. The total moved up and down over the years as chapters emerged, became inactive, and were revived.

12 Agreement of Trust, Society of Architectural Historians and Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH, March 7, 1978. Chapter signatories: Elisabeth Walton Potter, president; Roger P. Scharmer, vice president; Sheila Finch-Tepper, secretary-treasurer; Earl D. Layman, preservation officer.

Evolving Meeting Patterns

Through a string of successful meetings in the 1970s, the chapter expanded its range of conference sites considerably, for the first time spreading north to Washington and British Columbia, east to Idaho, and even reaching the farthest sections of California and Oregon coastline. Port Townsend and Seattle, Washington; Eureka, California; Astoria, Oregon, Victoria, British Columbia, and, east of the Cascades, Spokane, Washington, and Boise, Idaho; and Nevada City in California’s gold region – all had been visited by 1976 along with several more familiar cities. In terms of architectural settings, an outstanding venue was chosen for the spring meeting in 1972. On April 15, the chapter’s host was the Roman Catholic Order of St. Benedict at Mount Angel Abbey, where the new Library (1970) designed by Finnish architect Alvar Aalto was perfectly situated for a hilltop view over the agricultural landscape of the Willamette Valley to Mt. Hood in the distance.14

14 The Aalto library at St. Benedict, Oregon was dedicated in 1970. At this date, St. Benedict and Cambridge, Massachusetts were the two places in the country where library work by the renowned Finnish architect could be seen. See: “Alto’s [1949] Poetry Room at Harvard [Lamont Library].” JSAH, Vol. 38, No. 2 (May 1979), 120-122. In April, 1971 an architectural conference was held at the Abbey Library through the offices of Fr. Barnabas Reasoner, O.S.B. and others. Pietro Belluschi spoke on Friday evening, April 16. Marion Ross led the program the following morning with a presentation titled “Oregon Architecture from Its Beginning to the Present.” The talk was followed by a panel discussion on the subject of modern architecture. It was reported that Ross’s 1971 conference lecture was recorded on video tape, but no tape is to be found in the Abbey Archive. In January, 1972 the Annual Meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians was convened in San
During the spring meeting in Boise, in 1974, the first of three conferences in Idaho's capital city in the chapter's career, Mirza Dickel presented a report on the SAH 1972 Foreign Tour to Japan, which had been the Society's first organized trip to the Far East. National SAH president Spiro K. Kostof attended the chapter meeting in Sonoma, California on April 5, 1975.

The regular spring meeting in San Francisco in April, 1982 achieved a record turn-out for the chapter. As many as seventy-seven registered for the customary Saturday morning session of papers that was followed by a walking tour of the Financial District and North Point, where founding member Joseph Baird received the group at his North Point Gallery. On Sunday morning, the group crossed by ferry to the Tiburon Peninsula, there to resume the walking tour in the village of Tiburon and to be hosted for brunch by the tour leader, Dr. Baird.

34th Annual Meeting of the SAH - Victoria

In 1981 the Annual Meeting of the Society was convened for the first time in the Pacific Francisco, where Professor Ross chaired a session on architecture of the Pacific Northwest as was customary when annual meetings were held on the West Coast. On that occasion, Ross invited Fr. Barnabas to deliver a paper on Aalto's Mt. Angel Abbey Library commission. Fr. Barnabas also was a speaker and guide for a tour of the library during the subsequent chapter meeting in April.


14 Minutes of the Business Meeting of the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH, Sonoma, California, April 5, 1975. Sheila Finch, secretary-treasurer. Chapter Archive.


Northwest. The meeting originally had been scheduled for Seattle, but as soon as it was announced that the convention hotel was to undergo renovation, local chairman Earl Layman recommended shifting operations to the venerable Empress Hotel in Victoria, British Columbia. Alan Gowans was then named honorary local chairman to serve with Mr. Layman.

On April 2, during a business meeting in advance of the opening of the convention program in Victoria, the chapter authorized a draft from the treasury of $500.00 as a contribution to the Society's campaign to meet a $60,000.00 National Endowment for the Humanities challenge grant for membership development. Chapter president Mirza Dickel presented the check to SAH president David Gebhard during the annual luncheon meeting the following day. The gesture of support from the local chapter in whose jurisdiction the Society was meeting was appreciated.

Another event connected with the 34th Annual Meeting in 1981 that was pleasing to the chapter involved the Founders' Award, an honor introduced ten years earlier to recognize the best article on architecture published in the Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians by a young scholar. As it was explained in an account of the meeting in the Society's Newsletter, "in order to close the one-year lag that had existed in the presentation of the Founders' Award, the Society made two awards this year..." Both were awarded to members of the chapter. The Founders' Award for 1979 was presented to Leland Martin Roth for "Three Industrial Towns by McKim, Mead & White" (JSAH, December 1979). Karen J. Weitz of Elk Grove, California, in the vicinity of Sacramento, received the 1980 Founders' Award for "Charles Beasley, Architect (1827-1913): Issues and Images" (JSAH, October 1980).
Advent of Featured Speakers

The accompanying list of papers read before the chapter over the years shows that before 1975, at which time the curator of the Presidio Military Museum in San Francisco had been invited to speak at the spring meeting in Sonoma, there had been no apparent practice of according special billing to a guest or member speaker. The practice of featuring a keynoter evolved as programs became more elaborate and extended over an entire weekend. When the chapter began to arrange communal dinners in place of the casual arrangements members made on their own, it became customary to arrange after-dinner presentations also. In Vancouver, British Columbia during the fall meeting in 1977, the chapter heard from past president of the Society, Alan Gowans following dinner service at the Faculty Club, University of British Columbia, arranged through the courtesy of Professor Abraham Rogatnick. Professor Gowans, then chairman of the Department of History in Art at the University of Victoria, titled his talk "Toward a Humane Architecture."

Alan Gowans

A Toronto native and graduate of the University of Toronto, Alan Gowans earned Master’s and Doctoral degrees from Princeton University and became a naturalized citizen of the United States. While teaching at Rutgers University, he commenced work on his authoritative The Architecture of New Jersey (1964). For seven years he headed the Art History Department at the University of Delaware. From 1966 to his retirement twenty-two years later, he held a professorship in the Department of History in Art at the University of Victoria, serving most of that time as department chairman. He was living in Washington, D.C. at the time of his death on August 19, 2001 at the age of seventy-seven. In 1999 he had been named a Fellow of the Society of Architectural Historians in the original group of thirteen to be honored for exceptional service to the Society.

Professor Gowans joined the SAH board of directors as first vice president in 1970 and was elected president for 1972-1974. He served on the editorial planning committee that developed the proposal for the Society’s Buildings of the United States series of scholarly state architectural guidebooks. He became a champion of under-documented vernacular buildings. His publications, including articles and reviews in the Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, make up a long list of credits. Images of American Living: Four Centuries of Architecture and Furniture as Cultural Expression (Lippincott) was accorded the Society’s Alice Davis Hitchcock Award as best scholarly work in architectural history published in 1964. The Comfortable House: North American Suburban Architecture, 1890-1930 (M.I.T. Press, 1986) is another noted title, as is his Styles and Types of North American Architecture (Harper Collins, Icon Editions,1991).

Lee H. Nelson

In 1976 an opportunity for a visiting lecturer (a featured speaker of a different sort) arose. Lee H. Nelson, who had been a charter member of the Pacific Section while a student at the University of Oregon, was scheduled to speak at the School of Architecture and Allied Arts of his alma mater. While the nation celebrated the bicentennial of the United States, the University of Oregon was observing its centenary. A special lecture by a distinguished alumnus was in order. Inviting his former student to return to campus, Professor Ross 21 Society of Architectural Historians Guide Book Project Proposal, including editorial board personnel, n.d. [c. 1983].

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was prepared for the possibility that the National Park Service architect might be glad for some relief from speaking on the restoration of Independence Hall in the bicentennial year.\textsuperscript{22} Nelson had been overseeing the restoration since 1961, the year the Berlin Wall, the potent symbol of the West's struggle with Communism during the Cold War, was erected. Mr. Nelson chose to speak on the current state of historic preservation in the Soviet Union, examples of which he had observed at first hand as a member of the professional team that had gone behind the iron curtain for three weeks in the spring of 1974. The cultural exchange was one of the several projects initiated by the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Joint Working Group on the Enhancement of the Urban Environment authorized by a 1972 bilateral agreement on environmental protection.\textsuperscript{23} The lecture was presented October 8, on the eve of the fall chapter meeting in Eugene. It was well attended by students and the general public as well as SAHers.

Mr. Nelson began writing architectural history during his student days in Eugene in the 1950s. His article on W. W. Piper and Warren H. Williams published in the bulletin of the University of Oregon Library ("Architects of Oregon: Piper and Williams," \textit{The Call Number}, Vol. 20, No. 2, Spring 1959) was the first detailed account of the noted nineteenth century Oregon architects. His student work on the state's covered bridges ("A Century of Oregon Covered Bridges 1851-1952, \textit{Oregon Historical Quarterly}, June 1960) became a popular separate reprinted from the journal of the Oregon Historical Society. His article for the SAH \textit{Journal} on Canadian architect C. S. McNally revealed the design for the new front of the Capital National Bank in Salem as a borrowing from Frank Furness's scheme for the National Bank of the Republic (1884) in Philadelphia.\textsuperscript{24}

The promising graduate was hired by Charles E. Peterson as a restoration architect in 1958 and within a few years was assigned to direct restoration of the World Heritage Property that was the focal point of Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia.\textsuperscript{25}

Nelson was a founder in 1968 of the Association for Preservation Technology and was the long-time first American editor of the \textit{APT Bulletin}. In 1990, after a career of thirty-two years with the National Park Service, he retired as Chief of the Preservation Assistance Division. While headquartered in Washington, D.C., he had directed the flow of technical publications that provided uniform standards and guidance for preservationists across the country. He had been elected a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects for his efforts to advance professional education and for his expertise, and he was a recipient of the Department of the Interior Distinguished Service Medal.

Lee Nelson's last lecture at the University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts was presented six months before his death in 1994. It had been sponsored by the School's graduate program in Historic Preservation. On May 12, he spoke on exterior restoration of the White House for which project he had lately been an adviser. In the lecture, he provided an arm's length view of the carved building stone and shed light on local non-

\textsuperscript{22} M. D. Ross, Head, Department of Art History, University of Oregon to Mr. Lee H. Nelson, Fairfax, Virginia, July 19, 1976. Chapter Archive.


mechanized sandstone quarrying techniques of the historic period. What he demonstrated was the importance of considering craft detail — too often overlooked in the documentation of cultural landmarks.

**Festschrift**

Marion Dean Ross, the chapter’s admired guiding spirit, had a cantankerous streak. He was frustrated and out of sorts at the approach of his sixty-fifth birthday, which under University rules in force at the time meant mandatory retirement. Even so, the chapter was determined that he should have an accolade for the milestone he dreaded in 1978.

The officers appealed for advice to Marian Donnelly, who was then engrossed in the affairs of the Society as national president. Professor Donnelly suggested that a traditional *festschrift*, a collection of 5,000-word essays by chapter members, be gathered in the founder’s honor. In the span of one year and three months from the time of a general invitation for proposals, a limited printing of 250 copies of a soft-cover publication titled *Festschrift: A Collection of Essays on Architectural History* was carried off in time to present a copy to the honoree during the spring chapter meeting on the Willamette University campus in Salem. Under general editor Elisabeth Potter, and with the support of secretary-treasurer Sheila Finch-Tepper, the chapter’s first publication was brought to print. The foreword was written by Wallace Kay Huntington, and the cover images were photographs of the Gothic Revival house of Peter Britt in Jacksonville that Lee Nelson had taken in 1956 during his student days with Ross. Essays were contributed by thirteen of the professor’s friends, colleagues, former students, and SAH associates. The essayists included his fellow chapter organizers, Elliot Evans and Joseph Baird. The complete list is as follows.


Finally, on May 6, came the day of presentation, and it was to be savored. Ross, by now reconciled to retirement and a more limited presence in the classroom, was at the top of his form. While the chapter had a heartfelt surprise in store for him on that occasion, he had chosen to surprise the chapter with a straight-faced talk in which he proposed to trace the bandstand, that popular fixture of Victorian parks, to its origins in Classical Antiquity. Everyone was taken in until the mounting improbability of the erudition began to dawn and the audience erupted in laughter. At the conclusion of Ross’s tongue-in-cheek talk, Professor Donnelly matched the spirit of the occasion. Rising to face the audience, she drew forth a pitchpipe and expertly sounded the note with which she directed the assembly to serenade the speaker with a rendition of the quaint old favorite, “Casey would waltz with a strawberry blonde, and the band played on...” It was the first time the chapter had participated in a sing-along.

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26 Elisabeth Walton Potter, Remarks
Representing the Society of Architectural Historians,
Festschrift had cost the chapter $2,595.00 to produce. It was underwritten in part by sponsors and subscribers making up a lengthy list of those, in addition to the essayists, who were in earnest about providing Ross with a tribute. The balance of the cost of printing was recouped from sales at $10.00 per copy. Copies of the festschrift were given as a courtesy to the SAH central office, the University of Oregon Library, University of Washington Library, and to the Avery Library, Columbia University. Avery Librarian Adolf Placzek, a past president of the SAH, wrote to acknowledge the compliment. "The effort," he said, "is particularly outstanding since, to my knowledge this is the first major work prepared and published by a local chapter of SAH." 27

Through subsequent sales, Festschrift was distributed to libraries throughout the chapter's jurisdiction, including California and British Columbia, and to the Art Institute of Chicago, Tulane University, M.I.T., Harvard University, and the British Architectural Library of the Royal Institute of British Architects. 28 It was helpful to sales promotion that notice of the festschrift was included in the list of recent publications appearing in the Newsletter of the Society of Architectural Historians (Vol. 27, No. 5) for October, 1978.


28 Professor Ross and Professor Donnelly both were Fellows of the Royal Society of Arts, London, and Professor Ross was a member of the Society of Architectural Historians, Great Britain. Of particular interest to the R.I.B A Library was Marian Donnelly's essay, "Batty Langley's Designs for Umbrellas and Temples," Festschrift: A Collection of Essays on Architectural History Prepared by the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians, Dedicated to Professor Marion Dean Ross, Chapter Founder, on the Occasion of His 65th Birthday (Salem, Oregon: Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians, 1978), 2-5.

Forestalling the Divide

The chapter had prospered under a succession of committed officers during the 1970s and '80s. Sheila Finch-Teppe and Dorothy Gilmore performed exceptional service when, one after the other, they fulfilled two consecutive two-year terms each. Their combined experience provided administrative continuity from 1974 through 1982.

By 1980, signs of dissatisfaction on the part of some San Francisco Bay Area members were becoming evident. The sense of separateness owed to the distances to be covered in attending meetings away from northern California. Partly, the problem was conflicting timetables for the academic year, but perhaps most of all, members were affected by curtailed travel budgets in the wake of the economic recession triggered by world-wide oil shortages.

The issue of polarization first surfaced during the chapter meeting in Bellingham on May 10, 1980. Stephen Tibriner, University of California, Berkeley, believed that the Pacific Slope should continue to be considered a single jurisdiction with a large enough membership to hold its own. Lewis L. McArthur of Portland supported that view, observing that if members met within a broadly-defined jurisdiction they would be "less likely to become parochial in their interests." For others, the point of the organization was to meet as often as possible in a convenient forum, and that implied a splintering of the Bay Area constituency. 29 The matter was referred to the incoming executive committee for further consideration.

Because the debate that continued over several meetings foreshadowed the divide that eventually would come in 1995, it is worthwhile to reproduce the argument as it was articulated by chapter preservation officer Michael Corbett of San Francisco. In September, 1980, he gave this

response to president Mirza Dickel’s request for opinion from her executive committee. “There is a strong sense among many people in the Bay Area that we need a forum for discussing local architectural issues as historians. The existing SAH chapter is, I think, perceived as too dispersed to serve as that kind of forum.” Also needed in Corbett’s view was “some kind of journal to publish work on California architecture, or at least some regular newsletter about sources, projects, and events of interest to architectural historians.” “It is my impression,” he continued, “that the Southern California Chapter, with its frequent meetings and newsletter is the kind of chapter that would attract larger and more committed Bay Area participation.” Another adviser pointed out that, in the north, members were not facing the same issue since there was no single major concentration of membership such as that in the Bay Area. The most promising venues for enhancing the regular program with visiting lecturers and extra meetings appeared to be university campuses and metropolitan areas.

Proceeding carefully in an effort to accommodate the far-flung constituencies, Mrs. Dickel canvassed the members at large for their preference among options that included the status quo, redrawing the boundaries of the domain, or trying a schedule of extra meetings for the balance of her term. On the basis of feedback, the officers undertook a program of auxiliary meetings, one in the north and one in the south. Organized with the help of local arrangers, the informal meetings supplemented the regular schedule of semi-annual gatherings that alternated between northern and southern sub-regions. The object was to give members in northern California and those in the Northwest at least two meetings per year in their own areas. The extra meetings that were held in Seattle and the Portland metropolitan area (Oregon City) in 1981 and 1982 were well attended. One extra event was organized in the Bay Area, at Stanford University, in 1981. While the experiment proved too ambitious to be sustained, it served well to keep the membership connected through the recession.

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30 Michael Corbett, chapter preservation officer, to Mirza Dickel, president, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH, September 6, 1980. Chapter Archive. Mr. Corbett was the author of Splendid Survivors: San Francisco’s Downtown Architectural Heritage for the Foundation for San Francisco’s Architectural Heritage.

31 Elisabeth Walton Potter to Mirza Dickel, president, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH, July 7, 1980. Chapter Archive.
Fig. 10. The Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival-style Union Pacific Railroad Passenger Station (1925) in Boise, designed by the New York firm Carrère & Hastings, is a dominant landmark of Idaho’s capital city. Its lofty main concourse was the dramatic setting for a catered dinner during the chapter’s spring meeting in 1974.
Arthur A. Hart photo, undated.

Fig. 11. The old California Governor’s Mansion (Gallatin House) at 16th and H Streets in Sacramento was built for private use 1877-1878 from plans by Nathaniel Goodell and was occupied as a governor’s residence for more than sixty years. It was among several stately houses of California’s capital city, including the E. B. Crocker Art Gallery and Leland Stanford’s gubernatorial residence, visited by the chapter in 1973 and again in 1983 following a tour of the State Capitol restoration.
E. Walton Potter photo, June 1996.

Fig. 12. In Nevada City, California, the M. L. Marsh House (1874) is a noteworthy example of an Italian Villa patterned after plans in Samuel Sloan’s The Model Architect: A Series of Original Designs for Cottages, Villas, Suburban Residences, etc., brought out in Philadelphia in five editions between 1852 and 1873. The house was among those seen by chapter members on the architectural bus tour during the 1976 spring meeting organized by Roger Scharmer.
E. Walton Potter photo, May 1976.
Holding Together
1984-1993

New officers elected for the period July 1, 1984 through June 30, 1986 were headed by Marion Ross, president, and Miriam Sutermeister of Seattle, vice president. The positions of secretary-treasurer and preservation officer were held by David Powers and Aaron Gallup of the Oregon and California State Historic Preservation Offices, respectively. Names on the chapter mailing list stood at just under 200, and dues had been raised to $5.00 informally, which is to say without benefit of an amendment to the bylaws. At this stage, annual dues for individual membership in the national organization had reached $48.00 (they are currently $115.00 for individual active membership, $45.00 for students). In 1984 the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians was poised to enter another round of lively programs.

Program Highlights of the '80s

In November, 1984 the chapter assembled in Oregon's metropolis, where the venue was the Portland Building (1982), the newly-completed Post Modern municipal office building designed by Michael Graves. The Friday evening opening reception had been a friendly "at-home" in Portland Heights hosted by Josephine Brownlow Davis. Saturday's session of papers included a talk by Pietro Belluschi entitled "Reflections on Portland Architecture and the Post Modern Movement." The Post Modern theme was picked up again in the afternoon walking tour, which included inspection of Zimmer Gunsul Frasca's KION Tower (1984) and Skidmore Owings & Merrill's US Bank Tower (1983). On Sunday morning conferees were entertained by Pietro and Marjorie Belluschi in the architect's C. D. Burke's house of 1949.

The spring meeting in Spokane in May, 1985 was held at the Eastern Washington State Historical Society, which was exhibiting a collection of drawings and memorabilia of Kirtland K. Cutter, the eminent and prolific Inland Empire architect of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The Historical Society's headquarters complex includes the Amasa B. Campbell House (1898) by Cutter & Malmgren. The keynote address, sponsored by the Historical Society in complement to the special exhibit, was presented by Arthur Hart and entitled "The Eclectic Context: K. K. Cutter and His Contemporaries."

Secretary-treasurer Powers changed the look of the chapter meeting announcements by incorporating vignettes to illustrate highlights. Notes on coming events, related exhibits, and local publications were continued from earlier practice and pithy historical background on the meeting locations and noteworthy buildings was added to good effect.

"An Idaho Smorgasbord" was offered as the featured presentation of the fall meeting in Boise in 1987. The speaker was Charles Hummel, F.A.I.A., grandson of Charles F. Hummel and principal of the firm of Hummel LaMarsh Hunsucker, successors to the historic firm of Tourtellotte and Hummel. The latter firm designed the Idaho State Capitol and leading first-class tourist hotels and commercial buildings throughout the Northwest. Mr. Hummel illuminated the work of his forebear for the chapter.

The spring meeting in Seattle in 1988, held in early June, was memorable for the opening talk by guest speaker Andrew Batten of the Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park. The National Park Service historian presented an overview of the port city as it was affected by the Klondike gold rush precipitated by discovery of gold in the Alaska-Canada border region in 1896. Saturday afternoon was the occasion for a bus tour to Olympia to view the restored Washington State Capitol with guide Norman Johnston, author of Washington's Audacious State Capitol and Its Builders, just released that year by the University of Washington Press.
Buildings of the United States Series

The Society officially adopted an important publication project by action of the board of directors in 1979. The objective was to produce state-by-state architectural guidebooks modeled on Nikolaus Pevsner’s 46-volume county-by-county series, The Buildings of England (1951-1974). The SAH guidebook committee announced the series title, Buildings of the United States, in 1983, and the project began to get underway thereafter with essential funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities. To the present time, the editorial board has raised nearly $3.2 million. But, as current BUS assistant editor Keith Eggener put it, “a sagging economy and the resulting decline in charitable giving” has hampered progress in recent years. The editorial board has been forced to explore new sources of funding for staffing and operational costs. Headway is being made where, as with Hawaii’s guidebook, private funds have underwritten production of a particular volume.

The Buildings of Alaska and volumes on Iowa, the District of Columbia, and Michigan were the first four guidebooks in the long-planned series to be completed. Published by Oxford University Press in 1993, the inaugural set was awarded the highest honor of the Professional and Scholarly Publishing Division of the Association of American Publishers as outstanding scholarly publication of the year.

West Coast SAHers on the original editorial board which crafted the project proposal were Alan Gowans of British Columbia and David Gebhard and Robert Winter of California, each of them experienced writers of architectural guides. At an early date, Oregon figured in discussions of potential contracts. In the Society’s Newsletter for June 1983, editor-in-chief Adolph Placzek named among planned guidebooks The Buildings of Oregon, which was to be sponsored by the Historic Resources Committee of the Portland Chapter of the A.I.A. The A.I.A’s proposal for Oregon did not come to fruition, however. The Society’s great enterprise, directed by Adolph Placzek and William H. Pierson, Jr., associate editor-in-chief, was becoming a reality by 1984. Recurring grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities were matched by other grants and gifts. It was recognized early that some states, such as Virginia, would require more than one volume, and large cities such as New York would require separate guidebooks.

By the date of the Society’s Annual Meeting in 2004, ten volumes of standard format were in print and three more were imminent. In addition, ten author contracts, including Hawaii’s, were in the pipeline and expected to produce guidebooks by 2010. While preparatory work and exploratory talks have taken place in the Pacific Northwest in recent years, no author contract for guidebooks treating the states of Oregon, Washington, or Idaho has been signed to date.

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SAH Domestic Tour of 1988 - Oregon

The Society's domestic and foreign study tours have been offered with nearly unbroken regularity since the 1950s and have encompassed many locations in the United States, some in eastern Canada, and such other parts of the world as the British Isles, Western and Eastern Europe, Scandinavia, Russia, North Africa, the Mediterranean, the Middle East, the Far East, the Caribbean, and Mexico. In 1988, the first year since 1966 that no foreign tour was offered, a particularly successful domestic tour was organized by Earl Layman with the support of SAH executive director David Bahlman. For the first time, an area on the West Coast was chosen for the five-day inspection trip, and Portland, Oregon, the lower Willamette Valley and Columbia Gorge were the destination points. In addition to the standard historical and architectural attractions, the prospectus promised visits to sites not generally accessible to the public.

Mr. Layman called upon chapter members and others for help in showing the region to advantage. Mirza Dickel and Wallace Huntington extended hospitality to the tour at their impeccably-restored farmhouse of William Case (1860) on French Prairie. Pietro Belluschi and John Yeon participated by providing access to and commentary on archetypical houses and gardens of the Northwest Regional style. Professor Philip Dole, the state's leading expert on architecture of the settlement period, conducted a portion of the tour in Aurora, the erstwhile utopian community of German-speaking followers of William Keil founded in 1857.

Sites visited by the tour participants ranged from The Dalles on the Columbia River to Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood (1936-1938), the state's foremost example of federally-sponsored Depression-era Arts and Crafts architecture and furnishings — from Fort Vancouver National Historic Site on the Washington shore of the Columbia to French Prairie, post-fur trade settlement area of Hudson's Bay Company engagés — from Classical Revival farmhouses in the rural landscape to early twentieth century terra cotta-clad skyscrapers in downtown Portland — and from Belluschi-designed metropolis churches to Alvar Aalto's library for the Benedictine Abbey outlying Mt. Angel. The tour was fully booked. 11

As customary, the Society proposed to award a tour scholarship to a graduate student in one of the disciplines relevant to architectural history. To provide for it, a tax-deductible surcharge of $20.00 was added to the fee of the other participants. At $710.00, the tour was economically priced in comparison to overseas travel. The fee was inclusive of registration and charter bus transportation, hotels for six nights, most meals, and scheduled functions.

Earl Drais Layman

Earl Drais Layman (1916-2001), a native of Oregon and long-time head of the Seattle Office of Urban Conservation, was one of the first municipal preservation officers in the nation. His was among the longest active involvements in the Society of Architectural Historians. On October 13, 2001, he and Leonard Eaton would be recognized by the chapter for the distinction they held in common.

Mr. Layman's name appeared on the original mailing list of SAH western members at the formation of the Pacific Section in 1954. He was a resident of Seattle at the time. He was an enthusiastic sub-

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10 Donnelly, 86-89.

11 "Portland, Oregon and the Willamette Valley, An Architectural Study Tour, Society of Architectural Historians, September 7-11, 1988, Earl Drais Layman, Tour Leader." Mr. Layman used eleven of his pen and ink drawings of local landmarks included in the itinerary to illustrate the tour booklet, which quickly became a collector's item for its illustrations.

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scriber to the Society’s foreign study tours, and in 1980 he led the overseas tour in France that focused on medieval architecture. He joined the SAH board of directors in 1980-1982, and he was the local chairman of the 34th Annual Meeting of the Society held in Victoria, British Columbia in 1981.

Layman was a loyal promoter of the local chapter. He frequently appeared on the program to report on the latest of the Society’s foreign tours. The deft pen and ink sketches he made during his travels were prized by the touring companions and colleagues on whom they were bestowed. He first entered chapter executive office as vice president in 1972-1974. He became preservation officer in 1976-1978 following a period as regional representative for the West Coast on the Society’s standing committee on architectural preservation. In 1980-1982, while on the national board, he served again as vice president and then succeeded Mirza Dickel as president for 1982-1984.

A 1946 graduate of the University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts with a degree in Architecture, Layman pursued postgraduate study in painting and history at the École des Beaux Arts, Fontainebleau. Having taught architectural history and design at Kansas State University and Auburn University in Alabama, he returned to Seattle, there to take up his role in shaping the city’s model historic preservation code. In 1975 the design review bodies for which he had been administrator, namely, the Pioneer Square Historic District Board and Seattle Design Commission, were merged into a centralized program which he then headed as City of Seattle Historic Preservation Officer until his retirement in 1982.

Upon his retirement, Mr. Layman returned to his native state and followed a long-held practice of lecturing on architectural history for the benefit of community arts groups, historic preservation agencies, and professional organizations such as the A.I.A. He was another of the SAHers who, like Marion Ross, fulfilled the professional requirement for an architectural historian on state review boards operating under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Mr. Layman was appointed to the Oregon State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation in 1995 and was serving his second term at the time of his death at his home in Neskwon on the central Oregon coast on October 30, 2001 at the age of eighty-five. Memorial gifts to the chapter in Mr. Layman’s name helped make the printing of this publication possible.

Chapter Founders’ Award Proposed

The idea for creating an incentive for student participation in the form of an award for exemplary scholarship came from Mirza Dickel, who in the spring of 1982 was concluding her two-year term as president of the chapter and was taking over as northern West Coast representative on the SAH board of directors. At the same time, Earl Layman was rotating from the national board and would be elected to succeed her as president at the chapter level. The equally important objective in the outgoing leader’s mind was finding a means of honoring the chapter founders, Joseph Baird and Marion Ross, for their years of service. During the


16 Marion Dean Ross was appointed to the original Oregon State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation as the architectural historian by Governor Tom McCall in 1970. He served two consecutive terms to 1976. In 1984 he was re-appointed to the state’s review board pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act and was fulfilling the second term of his later appointment at the time of his death in 1991.


14 Ibid.
Society’s Annual Meeting in New Haven, Connecticut in 1982, Mrs. Dickel learned that the “Society of Architectural Historians Handbook for the Foundation and Activity of Chapters” had just been issued by the board of directors. Among the recommendations that caught Mrs. Dickel’s eye was the option relating to scholarships.

“It was exactly along those lines that I had been thinking,” she wrote to secretary-treasurer Dorothy Gilmore. Since the chapter held semi-annual meetings, she proposed that an award in Ross’s name could be presented during the meeting in the Pacific Northwest, and the award in Dr. Baird’s name could be presented during the meeting in northern California. The amount of the award could be modest at the start, she suggested, and increased as available funds allowed.

A request for comment was sent by Mrs. Dickel to her vice president and successor, Earl Layman, whose opinion was that the more practical arrangement would be a single award of $100.00 annually to be alternated between north and south sub-regions. On the basis of the positive response from her officers, she wrote to Ross and Baird advising them of the proposed competition. The honorees gave their consent. In due course, Professor Ross requested that the award be dedicated also to the initiator of chapter organization, Elliot A. P. Evans.

In the meantime, Mrs. Dickel had asked Karen Weitze, the 1981 recipient of the SAH Founders’ Award for her nationally-judged Journal article, to help the incoming president establish procedures and ground rules for the competition. In a letter to president Layman, Dr. Weitze suggested a process for a competition that covered the alternating north-south sequence of awards, amount of the award, rules of entry and presentation, criteria for review and judging, and related issues. Some months passed as Dr. Weitze gathered information from other chapters sponsoring student competitions in order to determine what worked well and what should be avoided.

In November, 1984 Dr. Weitze issued a report based on her findings. A prospectus was drafted which proposed an award for “best student paper given at each year’s fall meeting.” The award would be a certificate and cash prize of $100.00. The key criteria for entry were straightforward. The entrant must be a current student in an institution of higher learning and a current member of the local chapter. The paper must be an original, unpublished work not previously presented at any scholarly conference. The other important rule was that there must be “a minimum of three students competing at any given meeting for the award to be offered.”

By 1984, Professor Ross had been elected president, and he asked Richard Engeman, then at the Suzzallo Library at the University of Washington, and Elisabeth Potter in Salem to join Dr. Weitze in refining the details of the award program, now known by the generic title of ‘Founders’ Award in consideration of the unanimous wish to include each of the primary founders in the dedication.

Among the remaining issues were the jury which, it was believed, should be composed of scholars.

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18 Mirza Dickel, president, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH, to Dorothy Gilmore, secretary-treasurer, May 4, 1982. Chapter Archive.

19 Mirza Dickel to Earl D. Layman and Dorothy Gilmore, June 1, 1982. Chapter Archive.

20 Karen J. Weitze to Earl Layman, president, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH, September 20, 1982. Chapter Archive.

independent of the executive committee. As to the frequency of the award, it was now thought once in two years was more realistic, in which case a cash award of $200.00, a complimentary membership, and waiver of registration fee for the meeting during which the paper is presented was reasonable. Further thought was given also to dispensing with the presentation of papers by those winning it. Rather, the focus could be on the winning paper. A subsequent suggestion from Mr. Engeman was that the student need be enrolled in an institution of higher learning only at the time of submitting the paper since it was possible that a worthy student could be graduated before he or she would have an opportunity to present the work to the chapter. Other suggestions to make the rules of entry more flexible were offered too.

First Competition Announced

The collegial back-and-forth on the Founders’ Award program was not over. By June of 1985, Karen Weitzel had agreed in principle to the refinements suggested by Mrs. Potter and Mr. Engeman, but there were other concerns. The meeting during which the paper was to be presented, if in a remote location, might work a hardship for the student in terms of time and travel expense. With regard to the prize, she suggested complimenting a year’s membership in the Society, rather than the local chapter, the better to acquaint the winning student with the benefits of full membership. She also thought the jury need not be entirely independent of the executive committee. The vice president could act as captain of a jury of academics.

At last, after perhaps too many months of deliberating the procedural pros and cons, president Ross called for the program to proceed. By August, 1985, a Founders’ Award executive committee was named to include Ross and vice president Miriam Sutermeister, who was designated as chairman; secretary-treasurer David Powers, Professor Weitzel, and Professor Philip Dole. The ground rules were streamlined for a one-page announcement that was enclosed in the mailing relating to the fall meeting in San Jose. In anticipation of the chapter’s spring meeting, Marion Ross wrote in January, 1986 to request that Ms. Sutermeister and Professor Weitzel make up a jury with Professor Dole and Mr. Powers. In due course, jury chairman Sutermeister reported that only one entry had been received for judging, namely, that of Kirk Savage, a History of Art student at the University of California, Berkeley. “Representing America: The Debate Over the Washington National Monument,” a paper of thirty-one pages plus illustrations, had been submitted by Mr. Savage on February 9. Since contest rules required a minimum of three entries, the competition was moot. However, the paper was presented to the chapter. Mr. Savage was the first speaker on the program for the spring meeting in Eugene on May 24, 1986. His manuscript is held among Professor Ross’s papers in the Division of Special Collections and Archives, University of Oregon Library.

23 Society of Architectural Historians, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter student competition announcement, Miriam C. Sutermeister, vice president, n.d. [c. 1985]. This, the first formal announcement of the Founders’ Award, is believed to have been issued with program information for the fall meeting scheduled for San Jose, California, November 9, 1985. The surmise is based on the response of David Powers, chapter secretary-treasurer, to the inquiry of University of Washington student Andrew Rocker, June 19, 1985. Chapter Archive.

24 Marion Dean Ross, president, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH, to Miriam C. Sutermeister, vice president, and Professor Karen J. Weitzel, University of California, Berkeley, January 8, 1986. Marion Dean Ross Collection, Division of Special Collections and Archives, University of Oregon Library.


Dénouement of the Founders' Award

Efforts of president Jennifer Eastman Attebery and secretary-treasurer David Powers to revive the award program in 1990 were soon overshadowed by events. The competition announcement was issued once again in advance of a projected spring meeting in Astoria in 1992 that did not take place. In the end, the Founders' Award program was, in part, a casualty of delay over concerns about competition procedure. But, more important, once launched, it foundered for lack of promotion (with a few notable exceptions) by university faculty. The Founders' Award was destined never to be conferred. By the end of 1992 Joseph Baird, the last survivor of the three principal founders, was no longer living.

The student prize idea would be taken up again in a new, successful initiative in 1996. Even then, it would become clear that the level of faculty-student promotion required to sustain a competition was insupportable. The Wendell Lovett Prize was soon recast as a straightforward scholarship award. The failed first effort had been the platform on which ultimately a simpler, more practical program for encouraging students of promise was built.

Administrative Matters

In 1988, with the election of Henry Matthews of Washington State University as president, and for the ensuing five years, the chapter's top leadership was concentrated in eastern Washington and Idaho. Matthews was supported by Arnold Panitch of Boise as vice president and, in 1990, was succeeded by Jennifer Eastman Attebery of the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office. Earlier, Mrs. Attebery had been chapter preservation officer.

The slate presented for election of officers for 1990-1992 included David Powers, who as Deputy Oregon State Historic Preservation Officer had ably supported Marion Ross as secretary-treasurer in 1984-1986. He had lately moved to San Francisco to enter private consulting in architectural preservation. He was elected vice president, and his successor in the Oregon SHPO, James Hamrick, was elected secretary-treasurer. Michael Crowe of the National Park Service Western Regional Office in San Francisco would be preservation officer. The executive team and local arrangers mounted a strong program of meetings through the summer of 1991, which culminated in a June meeting in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Once word of the death in Eugene of the chapter's founder on April 2 was received, the meeting was conducted in remembrance of Marion Ross.

Meetings with Southern California Chapter

In the fall of 1991 an emergency arose that compelled the president, an expectant mother, to resign her office. The supporting officers, busy with the demands exerted by recent changes in their professional lives, found it difficult to take up the slack resulting from the vacated presidency. Thanks to a joining of forces with the Southern California Chapter, momentum was maintained for a time.

Under the auspices of Richard Rowe as chairman of the organizing committee, a joint meeting of the Southern California and Northern Pacific Coast Chapters was arranged for three days of touring in October, 1991 in San Luis Obispo County on the California coast, half way between San Francisco and Los Angeles. Representing the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter on the planning committee were Maryln Lortie and Cynthia Howse. It was the first event jointly sponsored by the West Coast chapters of SAH, and it was so well received that a second joint meeting for touring was offered in Oakland in May, 1993. The Oakland Arts and Crafts weekend event, again coordinated by Richard Rowe of the Southern California Chapter, was a considerable success. After the event, Rowe wrote jointly with his chapter president, Diane Kane, to thank Mr. Powers for his part in coordinating the event and to present the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter with a check in the amount of $217.94, its share of the proceeds.27 By the time the acting president covered his expenses, the chapter had broken even and was gratified, with good reason, by the joint venture in California.

27Diane Kane, President, Society of Architectural Historians, Southern California Chapter
Guidance for Local Chapters

In 1990, the chapter was carrying account balances of $600.00 to $750.00 and struggling to make its expenses as the costs of meetings and the mailings associated with them increased. Registration fees had to be kept within affordable bounds, yet high enough to cover contingencies and clear a small profit for operating funds, if possible. Typically, the chapter was breaking even on the meetings and occasionally experienced a loss. Although the chapter was not yet carrying insurance, there was, technically, the obligation to pay annual dues to the Society at the institutional rate, which in this period was $150.00 to $200.00.

Presently, the number of local chapters and affiliated societies of SAH is about what it was in 1977 when executive secretary Rosann Berry reported the number as twenty-three. The number fluctuates as new chapters are formed and approved groups become inactive or are revived.

The “Society of Architectural Historians Handbook for the Foundation and Activity of Chapters” that had been issued by the SAH board of directors in 1982 was intended both to codify the organizing requirements for its chapters and to steer affiliates away from pitfalls. Where fund raising was concerned, the board saw a need to protect the interests of the national body. Chapters were directed to coordinate grant-seeking efforts with the central office in order to avoid competing for the same funds. This was especially important in the field of publishing. The directors did not wish to have local chapters applying to the Graham Foundation, for example, at the very time the editorial board was appealing to the same funding source for support of the Buildings of the United States series.

In other respects, the guidance was solicitous of the local chapters, which were recognized to be operating with limited funds. “Beware of anything costing more than a hundred dollars,” the handbook warned. At the time the handbook was issued, one requirement had been eased in the interest of helping local chapters stay the course. The requisite number of conventions was now expressed as “at least one meeting a year,” and the chapters were expected to “report annually” to the national secretary. In accordance with established policy, local chapters were to have a preservation officer in addition to four executive positions, namely, president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Not until reorganization in 1995 would the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter bring its executive roster into conformance. For now, the duties of secretary and treasurer would continue to be fulfilled, as before, by a single officer.

Chapter Policy on Preservation

During a meeting of the executive board at the chapter meeting in Berkeley on October 13, 1990, there arose a discussion – one in a long continuum over the chapter’s span – concerning the “appropriate role of the chapter in preservation issues and the

and Richard Rowe, Editor, SAH/SCC News to David Powers, Acting President, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH, June 13, 1993. It was at this time that Richard Rowe became a member also of the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH. Also: David Powers to James Hamrick, secretary-treasurer, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH, June 28, 1993. Chapter Archive.


39 Rosann S. Berry, Executive Secretary, Society of Architectural Historians, to Elisabeth Walton Potter, President, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, December 6, 1977. Chapter Archive.

degree to which the chapter should be involved in advocacy.” Preservation officer Michael Crowe had presented a report of current issues during the plenary session preceding the officers’ meeting. As president Attebery summarized the argument in her minutes, “one position is to see the chapter as primarily an academic organization; another is to see the chapter as one of the few organizations with the expertise to address preservation concerns.”

Architectural preservation was the last of four aims declared by the Society on its founding at Harvard University in 1940. Preservation was an aim in the chapter’s bylaws of 1970 only indirectly under the general purpose of “furthering the objects of the Society.” The compromise position reached by the officers during the executive meeting in 1990 reflected the practice of the chapter historically. The chapter would continue to choose its issues judiciously, relying upon the preservation officer to identify threats to important architectural landmarks of the region. The chief executive officer would address concerns to landmarks boards or other relevant bodies when so directed by the chapter.

SAH Guidelines for Testifying

During the real estate boom of the 1980s, property developers across the country recruited experts to testify before landmarks boards as to the significance, or lack thereof, of properties which might be proposed for protective zoning or for demolition. As Richard Candee, chairman of the SAH Preservation Committee, explained it in 1997, local landmarks and historic district commissions had “little basis for knowing whether someone testifying against the [landmark] designation or [against] survival of a building on behalf of a developer or property owner was an appropriate professional....” There was also the question of how the judgements of persons testifying about historic buildings should be tested.

Seeing a way for SAH to help ensure the integrity of the public review process, the Society decided to provide its members and allied organizations with a framework for establishing credentials and giving reasoned testimony in public hearings. The document titled “Guidelines for Architectural Historians Testifying on the Historic Significance of Properties” was prepared by the SAH Committee on Preservation and adopted by the board of directors on April 2, 1986. Continuing challenges to government regulation at every level into the 1990s prompted the Committee on Preservation to reissue the guidelines in the December, 1996 issue of the Newsletter of the Society of Architectural Historians. The guidelines have been useful to many who have written or appeared in public forums on behalf of threatened architectural landmarks.

Bridging the Gap

No meeting of the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter was convened during the calendar year 1992. While the lapse would not be the final crisis in the administrative succession, the hiatus of 1992 was the last, and probably only the fourth time in fifty years the chapter’s regular program of activities was interrupted.

In an apologetic letter to her vice president dated October 21, 1991 president Jennifer Eastman Attebery explained the necessity for her immediate resignation for reasons of family health. No meeting was organized the following spring, but secretary-treasurer Hamrick told fellow officers of his hope to coordinate a meeting in Astoria, Oregon in the fall of 1992. Writing from Seattle, Jeffrey

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33 James Hamrick, secretary-treasurer, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH to David Powers, acting president, August 31, 1992. Chapter Archive.
Ochsner offered his support as coordinator of papers and urged that the planning proceed even if it proved more practical to defer the meeting to the following spring. In a follow-up letter Ochsner proposed as keynoter his University of Washington colleague, Meredith Clausen, whose book, *Spiritual Space: The Religious Architecture of Pietro Belluschi*, lately had been released by the University of Washington Press (1992). When the spring, 1993 target date went by, Ochsner wrote again, asking, “Has the organization folded?” Ochsner’s growing concern over the viability of the chapter was directly related to the Annual Meeting of the Society scheduled for Seattle in the spring of 1995, now less than two years away and for which he was to be the local chairman. “In other cities the local SAH Chapter has provided a lot of support for the meeting in terms of volunteers to help with slides, to guide tours, to give directions, etc., etc. It is unfortunate,” he said, “that the local organization has become inactive just as a national meeting is imminent.”

Finally, through the determination of the secretary-treasurer to revive plans for the long-deferred meeting, came a memorandum confirming plans to convene in Astoria October 15-17, 1993. Earl Layman headed the local arrangements. James Hamrick reported the account balance at $2,382.43, of which $2,000.00 was receipts from registration. It was expected that, after meeting expenses, the chapter would have only a small reserve for operating. The object was to keep expenses down. Mr. Hamrick added a prudent warning: “...the organization needs to consider amending the bylaws to bring them up to date...” “I think it would be particularly helpful if the bylaws spelled out the responsibilities of the executive committee,” he said. In the election of officers that took place in Astoria, T. William Booth and Miriam Sutermeister of Seattle were named president and vice president, respectively; Gloria Scott of Sacramento was preservation officer, and Mr. Hamrick was re-elected secretary-treasurer. By consensus of the new executive committee, the annual dues were raised to $10.00 for individual members, $5.00 for students. Now, with a full complement of officers whose top leadership resided in Seattle, the chapter was in a favorable position to provide local support to planners of the Society’s 48th Annual Meeting in 1995.

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35 James Hamrick, secretary-treasurer, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH, memorandum to membership, October 11, 1993. Chapter Archive.


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Fig. 23. David Knoblach (center, in necktie) is one of five young scholars to have received the chapter’s Wendell Lovett Award since 1997. The travel stipend enabled the University of Washington graduate student to attend the 2001 annual conference in central Oregon and present his original paper on the “Geologic Origins of Early Architectural Designs in the Inland Northwest.” Pictured with the recipient are, left to right, walking tour commentator Ward Tonsfeldt, membership coordinator Jeannette Reynolds, and executive board member T. William Booth.


Fig. 24. In 2001 the executive board introduced an award to recognize outstanding service to the chapter. Elisabeth Walton Potter accepts the first award from presenter Philip H. Dole, Professor Emeritus of Architecture, University of Oregon, during the 2001 annual conference in Sunriver and Bend, Oregon.


Fig. 25. Grant Hildebrand (center), the “fine Italian hand” behind many productive initiatives of the past decade, accepts the Marion Dean Ross Service Award during the annual conference in Victoria in 2003. He is pictured with his presenters, Gil Eade, left, and Kenneth Guzowski, right.
Fig. 13. For the spring meeting in 1980, the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter gathered in Bellingham, Washington, where the Leopold Hotel was the banquet venue. Alfred Staehli, architectural conservator, Portland, and David Powers, Deputy Oregon State Historic Preservation Officer, toast the photographer. *Photo May 10, 1980 courtesy of Dorothy Gilmore.*

Fig. 14. In Bellingham, during the customary reception that is prelude to the evening program, newly-elected chapter president Mirza Dickel, A.S.I.D. greets conference speaker Stephen Tobriner, University of California, Berkeley. Looking on, left, is past chapter president Wallace Kay Huntington, landscape architect, Portland. *Photo May 10, 1980 courtesy of Dorothy Gilmore.*

In Bellingham, discussion of the distance separating San Francisco Bay from the Pacific Northwest triggered a two-year effort to forestall polarization of constituencies in the north and south.
Fig. 15. In the banquet room of the Leopold Hotel, Bellingham, left to right, George Bartholick, Seattle architect, and Earl Drais Layman, Seattle Historic Preservation Officer, engage in conversation with preservation planner Roberta Deering and architect Victor Steinbrueck, champion of the Seattle’s Pike Place Market. Mr. Bartholick, conference speaker, discussed his design for restoration of the meeting venue, the Whatcom Museum of History and Art (formerly New Whatcom City Hall, 1892).

Photo May 10, 1980 courtesy of Dorothy Gilmore

In the post-banquet address, Phil Gilmore, University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts, described his ongoing oral history project involving students of W. R. B. Willcox, one-time Seattle architect and Head of the University of Oregon Department of Architecture 1922-1947.
The Pacific Northwest On Its Own
1994-2004

Following the election of officers in Astoria in the
fall of 1993, the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter's
new executive team embarked on planning for a
meeting to be held on the Whitman College cam-
The meeting was pivotal in setting the chapter's
course.

President T. William Booth had lately returned
from the SAH Annual Meeting in Philadelphia,
where he had attended a special workshop for rep-
resentatives of local chapters. He had been
informed that the charter of the Northern Pacific
Coast Chapter had been abrogated "several years
ago," very likely the result of the year-long lapse of
1992. In any case, new bylaws were in order, as
were articles of incorporation. The national offi-
cers were reported to have been surprised to learn
that the chapter’s domain included northern
California. They suggested that the northern con-
tingent be organized separately from the Society’s
members in the San Francisco Bay Area, where it
appeared there were sufficient numbers to form a
new chapter. These matters were discussed during
a luncheon business meeting in Walla Walla. For
most, initiating a division from northern California
was not an obvious choice, but it was clear that
some action toward reorganization would be need-
ed if the chapter was to regain its momentum. 1

1 "Society of Architectural Historians, Northern
Pacific Coast Chapter, A Newsletter for September
1994," [Miriam C. Sutermeister]. Archive of the
Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter, Society
of Architectural Historians, Division of Special
Collections, University of Oregon Library

2 The 1982 SAH Handbook for the Foundation
and Activity of Chapters had included model articles
for those wishing to organize as voluntary unincorpo-
rated associations and as chapters of SAH.

Coordination of Scholarly Papers

The meeting in Walla Walla was pivotal for anoth-
er reason as well. Vice president Miriam
Sutermeister assumed the role of meeting coordi-
nator and proceeded with arrangements of a profes-
sional caliber which would distinguish the balance
of her career in executive office. Meticulous plan-
ning, carefully tested tours, access to little-seen pri-
vately-held landmarks, and well-selected meeting
places and catering services became the hallmarks

2 During the meeting in Walla Walla, James
Hamrick and Elisabeth Potter presented a memorial
tribute to David Powers, who had been chapter
secretary-treasurer during Marion Ross's final term as
president and who had been killed in San Francisco on
January 27, 1994. Mr. Powers had served also as vice
president and acting president in the period 1990-1993.
The Ontario, Oregon native was a graduate of
Willamette University, a veteran of the U.S. Navy sub-
marine service, and a graduate of the University of
Oregon, where he received his Master's degree in
Architecture in 1974. Since 1991, he had been associ-
ated with the San Francisco division of the geo-techni-
cal engineering firm Dames and Moore. Before his
entry into private consulting in the Bay Area, he had
been staff architect for the Oregon State Historic
Preservation Office for fifteen years. From 1979 to
1990 he was the office manager and Deputy State
Historic Preservation Officer. At the time of his death
he had nearly completed the manuscript on his
long-term research subject, the Reverend Reuben D.
Nevius, an Episcopal clergyman and builder who direct-
ed construction of mission and parish churches through-
out eastern Oregon, Washington and Idaho in the later
nineteenth century. Through the efforts of Mr. Powers' executor, Gregory L. Nelson, the valuable work was
brought to print posthumously with Nelson as co-author
under the title A Gentleman of the Old School: Reuben
Denton Nevius, 1827-1913, Botanist, Builder, Teacher,
Churchman (Keizer, Oregon: Gregory L. Nelson, 2001).
The chapter had recently lost another former officer,
Aaron Gallup, past preservation officer and David
Powers' successor as secretary-treasurer, died in
Sacramento on November 11, 1992.
of a two-term presidential tenure that was extended by an unprecedented fifth year as president pro tempore when no candidate could be found to stand for election as her successor. In a crucial supporting role, Grant Hildebrand, University of Washington College of Architecture and Urban Planning, coordinated scholarly papers for the initial sequence of meetings. The format and clear-cut ground rules of the call for papers that he composed in 1994 have remained the model to the present day. Since proposals are welcomed from all, regardless of membership standing, a stipulation in the call for papers is that those who are selected as presenters shall become dues-paid members of the chapter at least for the year of the conference.

In consideration of the fundamental importance of the scholarly papers to the chapter’s proceedings, the coordinator of papers became an appointive office during this period. Shirley Courtois of Seattle assisted Professor Hildebrand in 1996-1997 and subsequently was coordinator in her own right. Her immediate successor was Sherry McKay of the University of British Columbia, who was the only appointee to have responsibility for coordinating two concurrent paper sessions. An experimental double track of papers was one of the distinctions of the outstanding annual conference in Vancouver, British Columbia in 2000 organized by Harold Kalman. Thereafter, the role of papers coordinator would be performed by a designated member of annual conference planning committees.

Chapter Reorganization
48th Annual Meeting of the SAH - Seattle

In conjunction with the 48th Annual Meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians, which was convened at The Madison Hotel in Seattle in April, 1995, T. William Booth called members of the chapter together on April 6 to discuss the chapter’s proposed reorganization. The meeting over which he presided was the near equivalent of the organization meeting in 1954, for the chapter’s new constitution, title, and jurisdictional boundaries were laid down at this time. About twenty persons were in attendance, including Marian Card Donnelly, the chapter’s ranking member as past president of SAH.

Since there had been no meeting in the fall, this was the first time since the meeting Walla Walla a year earlier that the chapter had the opportunity to discuss the ramifications of reorganization. The articles of incorporation which Mr. Booth proposed to file with the Washington Secretary of State were approved. Equally important, the first steps toward registration as a non-profit organization with tax exempt status under Internal Revenue Code were approved. Based on consensus, the draft bylaws would be sent to the members at large in advance of the fall meeting in Ashland, where the bylaws would be voted on and election of officers would take place.

With regard to officers, it was readily agreed that, with the exception of the office of treasurer, whose banking and tax filings would be conducted in the United States, the bylaws should not exclude Canadian members from holding office. The central topic of discussion was separating from northern California, a step which, it seemed, would relieve the problem of alternating meetings between the Pacific Northwest and California. Constituents in the Bay Area were reported to have been discussing organization. In due course, Anne Bloomfield would agree to be the point of contact for those interested in forming a new chapter.4 Jeffrey Ochsner, local chairman of the national meeting, inquired about the strength of SAH membership in Montana and Alaska. There was an argument to be made, he said, for including Montana in the jurisdiction since the state has a school of architecture. Moreover, there had been participation from both states in the recent past. Mirza Dickel spoke in favor of providing an associate membership classification for those residing outside the jurisdiction who would like to be informed of meetings and other opportunities to participate. Mrs. Donnelly urged a student category also to encourage participation of young schol-

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4 Miriam Sutermeister, Society of Architectural Historians, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, Newsletter for September, 1994. Chapter Archive
ars. The consensus was that the chapter's jurisdiction would be defined as Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia. The membership categories would be full membership for those carrying memberships in the SAH; associate membership for those affiliated at the chapter level only, and student membership.

In recognition of the importance of SAH charter member Marion Ross to the development of the chapter from its formative years onward, it was proposed that Ross be commemorated in a renaming of the chapter. There followed a brief discussion of the usefulness of retaining some means of regional identification as well. Kate Krafft moved on the basis of a suggested compromise by Elisabeth Potter that the chapter be known henceforward as the Marion Ross Chapter with the understanding that where necessary for publicity purposes the organization could be co-titled Pacific Northwest Chapter. The motion was seconded by Grant Hildebrand and passed unanimously.

On April 7, the day after the chapter meeting, an evening reception for the SAH Annual Meeting conferees was held at the Seattle Art Museum (1933) in Volunteer Park in honor of Marion Ross. The Art Deco building designed by the Seattle architectural firm of Charles H. Bebb and Carl F. Gould had been newly re-dedicated to Asian Art. The event was jointly sponsored by the Dean’s Fund, University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts, and the Marion Dean Ross Endowment, Department of Art History. In tribute to the late SAH charter member, brief remembrances were offered by chapter members Leland Roth, Elisabeth Potter, Mirza Dickel, and Wallace Kay Huntington.

In anticipation of the SAH Annual Meeting of 1995, local chairman Jeffrey Ochsner edited and urged into production Shaping Seattle Architecture: A Historical Guide to the Architects (University of Washington Press in association with the American Institute of Architects Seattle Chapter and the Seattle Architectural Foundation, 1994). Professor Ochsner credited an editorial board that included chapter members, and still other members of the chapter contributed research and wrote entries on individual architects. The Annual Meeting program listed Professor Ochsner’s committee for local arrangements as T. William Booth, Susan McCarter, David A. Rash, and Thomas A. Veith. Advisers were Dennis A. Andersen, Meredith Clausen, Richard Engeman, Kathryn Hills Krafft, Gary Menges, and David Streetfield. Among those assisting with logistics during the meeting were chapter members Shirley Courtois and Mimi Sheridan.

Bylaws Adopted in Ashland

The proposed bylaws were “amended and adopted” by vote of the chapter in Ashland, Oregon on October 7, 1996. They followed generally the format of the old bylaws of 1970. One or two important points were taken from the 1982 SAH Handbook for the Foundation and Activity of Chapters, however. First was allowance for a minimum schedule of one meeting per year. The second was a separate office of treasurer. There was a slight modification of the objectives stated in the original bylaws. The general purpose of furthering the objectives of the SAH was retained. Holding meetings for study and discussion of architectural history and visiting historically significant sites were combined as a single objective and, the final objective was “to increase awareness and knowledge of our architectural heritage.” In time, these simple general purposes would be expressed in the style of a mission statement in the membership brochure of 2001, as follows: “It is the purpose of the... Chapter to: 1) further the objectives of the parent SAH, which state that membership is open

There had been a few very minor hand-written corrections to phrasing of the bylaws for purposes of clarity; no change as to substance.
to everyone, regardless of profession or expertise, who is interested in the study, interpretation, and protection of historically significant buildings and cities, [and 2) hold meetings for the discussion of studies in architectural history and to visit historically significant sites in an effort to increase awareness and knowledge of architectural heritage in the Pacific Northwest." In the millennial period, therefore, the chapter's mission finally was couched in explicit terms satisfying both to supporters of education and to preservationists.

The new bylaws established three membership categories but omitted to fix the dues, leaving the board of directors free to adjust the rates from time to time with the approval of the membership without amending the bylaws. In 1996, however, the dues schedule was understood to be $12.50 for members who are also dues-paid members of the national SAH, $15.00 for those seeking chapter affiliation only, and $7.50 for students. The terms of officers would continue to be two years, as had been the case since 1970. The calendar year was confirmed as the administrative year. Essential changes agreed to were scheduling the annual meeting in the fall and expanding the board of directors to include not only a treasurer but three regional delegates to be appointed by the officers. Under the proposed bylaws, the immediate past president was added to the board to serve as a fourth regional delegate. Telecommunications media were recognized as a valid means of convening meetings of the executive committee.

Articles of Incorporation for the non-profit corporation known as the Marion Dean Ross Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians had been filed with the Secretary of State for the State of Washington by T. William Booth, as registered agent, on July 17, 1995. The incorporators were the current chapter officers: Booth, as president; Miriam Sutermeister, vice president; and James Hamrick, secretary-treasurer. The certificate of incorporation was issued November 3, 1995. A certificate of amendment was issued May 1, 1996 upon receipt of the chapter's typewritten Articles, dated April 6, 1995, that had been omitted from the earlier submission. Application for recognition of exemption under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal revenue Code had been filed by Mr. Booth on November 10, 1995. The final determination letter approving exempt status and confirming expiration of the advance ruling period was dated April 12, 2000.

Financial Matters and the Succession

New officers elected for 1996-1997 were Miriam Sutermeister, president, James Hamrick, vice president, Kenneth Guzowski, treasurer, and Donna Hartmans, secretary. The value of having a separate financial officer in accord with national policy was soon evident as the treasurer focused on management of the account for growth. President Sutermeister drew attention to this fact in a retrospective note in the chapter newsletter in 1999. "Through careful planning and steady gains in meeting attendance, our bank account actually has a bit—a very little bit—of comfort zone," she said. "...After each annual meeting we now find ourselves slightly but solidly in the black."*

The chapter's new tax-exempt corporate status brought with it unprecedented opportunities for fund raising since donors could make tax-deductible gifts to the account. It also brought additional responsibilities, such as annual reporting to the Internal Revenue Service and the State of Washington Corporation Division. While the obligation of local chapters to pay annual dues to the parent organization was no longer enforced, there were filing fees, banking expenses, and a new requirement to carry liability insurance at a cost of about $200.00 per year to cover the annual conference tours.9 Treasurer Kenneth Guzowski ordered


Note: The practice of paying annual dues at the insti-
an independent audit of the chapter's books at about the time the final determination letter ending the provisional ruling on tax exempt status was received from the I.R.S. in 2000. The chapter's finances were in good order. The 1999 year-end balance was reported as $12,463.92.\textsuperscript{10}

As the administrative year 1999 drew to a close, Miriam Sutemeister announced that, having served two consecutive terms as president on top of the latest of two terms as vice president, she was ready to step down. As past president, she was expected, under the bylaws, to continue for a term on the board of directors. As Ken Guzowski observed, "Miriam has provided a huge amount of energy and enthusiasm for the chapter through probably some of our greatest transitions to date. It will be difficult to find someone to replace her."\textsuperscript{11} The treasurer was right. Since no member could be found to stand for election in her place, and because under bylaws officers are expected to serve until they are succeeded, Ms. Sutemeister continued for a fifth year as the chapter's exemplary leader. She was supported by Shirley Courtois, also of Seattle, as vice president, and Mr. Guzowski continued as treasurer. But the president had drawn the line at the end of the 2000 admin-

istrative year. In Vancouver, British Columbia, during the business meeting of a memorable conference, she was presented with a resolution of appreciation of her service that was adopted by acclamation and forwarded to the central office for the record.\textsuperscript{12}

The slate of officers elected for 2002-2003 during the business meeting in Sunriver was headed by Martin Segger of the University of Victoria and included Washington state residents Linda Smeins, Bellingham, and Michael Houser, Olympia, as vice president and secretary, respectively. Shirley Courtois, who had led successfully as acting president through 2001, was elected treasurer. This group of executives and their regional delegates and appointed officers performed with such efficiency, they were nominated and elected to serve a second administrative cycle, through 2005. At the board meeting in June, 2002, treasurer Courtois reported the account balance to be approaching $14,000. There were currently 150 dues-paying members and the mailing list was holding steady at around 300 entries. Such was the promise of affairs, since there had been word of a potential Canadian contributor, the board considered the possibility of opening a separate Canadian bank account.\textsuperscript{13} An all-time high in chapter assets was reached by the opening of 2004, by which time the account had grown to $18,241.27. The balance represented pre-conference assets. Some dedicated funds and operating capital would be expended as planning for the 50th anniversary meeting in October, 2004 went into full swing.\textsuperscript{14}

\textsuperscript{10}December 31, 1999 Financial Summary, Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians. Chapter Archive.

\textsuperscript{11}Kenneth Guzowski to Elisabeth Potter, August 2, 1999. Chapter Archive.


\textsuperscript{13}Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors, Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians, Victoria, British Columbia, June 29, 2002. Chapter Archive.
Lovett Prize and Ross Fund

In 1996, shortly after status as a tax-exempt organization was approved on a provisional basis by the Internal Revenue Service, an important contribution to the chapter reignedited the concept of a competition to encourage scholarly pursuit in architectural history among young scholars. The concept appealed especially to Wendell Lovett, F.A.I.A., Emeritus Professor of Architecture, University of Washington Department of Architecture, a distinguished alumnus of the University who would become one of the chapter's key supporters and an honorary member of the board of directors. Mr. Lovett matched Grant Hildebrand's proposed gift of $500.00 to make a shared contribution of $1,000.00 with which to fund an annual prize of $200 for a period of five years. The competition fund for best original paper on architecture in the region post-dating 1945 was reported to the SAH central office in October, 1996 and announced to the chapter soon after.

The prize was first awarded to Cloantha Copass of the King County, Washington Landmarks and Heritage Program at the Portland conference in 1997 for her paper titled “Gaffney’s Lake Wilderness Lodge.” When student response lagged thereafter, entry requirements regarding subject matter and historical period were dropped. The next award was given to University of Calgary Stephanie White, who presented “Small Embassies on an International Border: Canadian Customs Buildings at United States Crossings” to the chapter in Vancouver in 2000. By this time, the Lovett Award had been announced in the annual call for papers as a travel stipend for students or younger scholars not yet established in their careers who were invited to apply for assistance in attending the conference to present a paper. At the conference in central Oregon in 2001, the award was given to two young scholars presenting papers relevant to the theme of “Building East of the Cascade Range.” David Knoblauch, a University of Washington graduate student, presented “Geologic Origins of Early Architectural Design in the Inland Northwest.” Grant Crosby, recent graduate of the University of Oregon program in Historic Preservation, delivered “Handbuilding the Aneroid Lake Resort, 1896-1941: Charles Seeber’s Horizontal Log Cabins in Oregon’s Wallowa Mountains.” With additional contributions from the original donors together with Miriam Sutermeister and Bill Booth, the fund was replenished for another several years. The fourth Lovett Award was conferred in advance of the 2004 jubilee conference in Eugene to Rebecca Nielsen for her work as a University of Oregon graduate student titled “Finnish Immigrant Architecture in Blind Slough, Clatsop County, Oregon.”

The executive board, during a meeting held in Portland in January, 1997, acted to formally accept the Lovett Fund proposal and to set up a second dedicated fund in the chapter’s bank account. Arising from a discussion of ways and means of promoting new memberships, the Marion Dean Ross Fund was established that day with an initial contribution of $50.00. The Ross Fund subsequently was raised to the $1,000 level and invested in an interest-bearing certificate of deposit, as the


17 “A Call for Submissions for the 2000 Lovett Fund,” Call for Papers Reminder and Change in Meeting Date, Society of Architectural Historians, Marion Dean Ross Chapter, 2000. Chapter Archive.
Lovett Fund had been.\textsuperscript{18} The general purpose of the Ross Fund is to support chapter development and educational initiatives that promote the appreciation of architectural history. The fund is administered by the board of directors.

\textbf{Conference Themes}

Although in the past there had been occasions when an organizing theme was adopted for a given meeting of the chapter, in 1999 the idea of a stated focus was introduced and used with regularity through 2003. The conference sub-titles were as follows: "Modernism and Architectural History in the Making (Seattle, 1999), "Other Architectural Histories" (Vancouver, British Columbia, 2000), "Building on the East Side: Traditional Architecture to Post War Development East of the Cascades (central Oregon, 2001), "The Columbia Meets the Pacific: Fishing Villages, Summer Resorts, and Coastal Fortifications" (Ilwaco, Washington, 2002), and "Borders and Boundaries: How These Factors Have Shaped the Architecture of Their Areas" (Victoria, 2003).

Having a general thematic framework was useful to meeting planners wishing to tie together the conference venue, the keynote talk, and the inspection tour. If the thematic focus seemed to attract participation, it also was open to criticism. The call for papers announcement consistently stated that proposals on all topics relating to architectural history would be entertained in addition to those bearing on the chosen theme. Nevertheless, writing to president Miriam Sutermeister in 1997, Jeffrey Ochsner expressed concern lest the "determination of a narrow focus for the paper sessions sends a message of exclusivity – certain topics are privileged, while others are regarded less favorably," "In my opinion," Ochsner explained, "the goal of the Chapter should be to promote the highest quality of research in the region and to offer presentations that show the best the region has to offer... I believe it would be much better to indicate to scholars in this region that all work in architectural history will be valued." he concluded.\textsuperscript{19} Professor Ochsner's objection did not end the practice of theme-based conferences for which the practical benefits were proven. It did serve, however, to remind those coordinating the scholarly papers to make certain the invitation for proposals was absolutely clear on the important point. Papers treating any research topic relevant to architecture would be welcome for consideration regardless of any organizing theme chosen by conference planners.

\textbf{Keynoters, Awards, and Oysters}

\textbf{Tacoma}

The annual conference in Tacoma in September, 1996 introduced a tradition of special inspection tours of outstanding quality. The Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy, which was holding its annual conference in Seattle at the same time, welcomed SAH subscribers to join tours of the Usonian house Wright designed for William and Elizabeth Tracy (1956) in Normandy Park and, in nearby Tacoma, the house of Chauncey Griggs designed in 1946 and constructed 1953-1955. Griggs served as his own contractor initially and later sought the assistance of Tacoma architect Alan Liddle. At a subsequent meeting of the chapter in Vancouver, British Columbia, in 2000, Mr. Liddle, a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, would be a featured guest on the program to speak about his experience in bringing Wright’s plans to completion for the client. Tour subscribers profit ed from chapter member Donald Leslie Johnson’s article, “Frank Lloyd Wright Houses in the Seattle Area” in the \textit{Pacific Northwest Quarterly} (Vol. 88, No. 1, Winter 1996-1997, 33-40).


Portland

Registrants for the conference in Portland in 1997 were presented with similar options for extended inspection tours. Through the courtesy of resident host Richard Brown and the University of Oregon, property legatee, the house and garden of Aubrey Watzek (1936-1937), exemplars of the Northwest Regional style by designer John Yeon, were visited. The Library of the Benedictine Abbey at Mt. Angel (1970), about which T. William Booth had spoken during his keynote address, “In the Office of Alvar Aalto,” was an option for post-conference touring. The bus tour of Portland, led by Leland Roth in cooperation with Elisabeth Potter, was dedicated to George McMath, F.A.I.A., grandson of Albert E. Doyle, leading Portland architect of the turn of the twentieth century. McMath, sidelined by a stroke and unable to participate in chapter affairs as he had in the past, was the co-author with Thomas Vaughan of A Century of Portland Architecture (Oregon Historical Society, 1967) and the authority on the work of his architect forebear. A tribute to Mr. McMath’s path-breaking surveys of Portland architecture, his central part in developing the City’s preservation ordinance, and his role in restoring such landmarks as the Pioneer Courthouse (1869-1875), was delivered to the assembly and reprinted in the chapter newsletter following the conference.26

Boise

In Boise, in 1998, registrants heard from keynoter Nels D. Reese, University of Idaho, about the work of Boise-Ketchum area architect and industrial designer Arthur Trounter. They also had the opportunity to inspect the house the architect designed for his own use as well as the residences of clients Carley and Phillips during the post-conference tour. Trounter, co-founder of Trus-Joint Corporation, is noted for pioneering work in the field of wood technology.

Seattle

The annual conference in Seattle in 1999 was the occasion for celebration of modern architecture. Tours featured Steven Holl’s Chapel of St. Ignatius (1997) on the campus of Seattle University and noteworthy residential work including the Gilbert and Erselle Eade house (1969) at Hunt’s Point designed by Royal McClure. Houses employing high-tech materials in Bellevue, Medina and Leschi were chosen as a retrospect of thirty years of work by Wendell Lovett. They included the villa for Dr. Charles Simonyi (1987 onward) and the architect’s own house (1983), where the touring party enjoyed the hospitality of the architect and Eileen Lovett for a Sunday luncheon buffet.

Vancouver, British Columbia

The conference in Vancouver in 2000 was noteworthy for a first-time experiment, namely, a double track of scholarly papers running concurrently. The bus tour was led by conference coordinator Harold Kalman, author of Exploring Vancouver, official guidebook of the Greater Vancouver Chapter of the Architectural Institute of British Columbia (University of British Columbia Press, 1974). The distinguished keynoters were colleagues Cornelia Hahn Oberlander, Vancouver landscape architect, and Arthur Erickson, who at the University of British Columbia Museum of Anthropology (1973-1974) led a party through the great hall dominated by monumental crest poles of the Haida and Kwakiutl people. Following a catered dinner in the museum, Mr. Erickson spoke to the chapter about his commission for the museum building. In a final announcement, past president T. William Booth offered his congratulations on behalf of the chapter to Grant Hildebrand, whose latest book, Origins of Architectural Pleasure (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1999) earned the author the Washington State Governor’s Writers Award for 2000. Other chapter members to have been similarly honored are Henry Matthews, for his work on Kirtland Cutter, and Mr. Booth for co-authorship.


Sunriver and Bend

The chapter’s annual meeting in October, 2001 was well attended despite the gravity of the previous month’s terrorist attacks with hijacked airplaines on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington, D. C. In the weeks following September 11, as the country struggled for equilibrium, many scheduled passengers canceled their plans to fly. Most domestic travelers forged ahead. A number of chapter members arrived by air for the gathering in central Oregon. One of them was Jo Stubblebine, drawn from her home in Mill Valley, Marin County, California, by the post-conference inspection tour of houses designed by Pietro Belluschi. In 1942, as a recent graduate of the University of Oregon in Interior Design, she had entered the employ of the successor to the A. E. Doyle firm in Portland for the summer. Of the conference participants, she alone had first-hand knowledge of the houses of Robert and Charles Wilson (1947) on the Deschutes River at Mecca when they were newly constructed. Mrs. Stubblebine was among the first to publish a retrospective of Belluschi’s work. After the Second World War she returned to the Belluschi office to write an Architectural Record book, The Northwest Architecture of Pietro Belluschi (New York: F. W. Dodge Corporation,1953).

The primary speaker of the conference in Sunriver and Bend was Donald J. Stastny, F.A.I.A., whose Museum at Warm Springs, completed for the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation in 1993, was first in a succession of cultural centers he designed for tribal groups in the Pacific Northwest, Canada, Alaska, and the American Southwest. Mr. Stastny’s illustrated talk at the High Desert Museum was titled “Giving Form to Traditional Values.” The Museum at Warm Springs was among sites visited in the post-conference caravan tour.

Several honors were accorded during the course of the 2001 conference. Desk trophies incorporating the seal of the Society of Architectural Historians and the beginning dates of their membership in the national organization were awarded to Leonard Eaton, a member since 1952 when he was at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, and Earl Drais Layman, a member since 1954. The chapter was pleased to recognize the members for their long and active involvement in SAH affairs at both national and chapter levels. The executive board inaugurated a new honor. The Marion Dean Ross Award commemorated the chapter founder and recognized special service of long standing by a chapter member. The first recipient was Elisabeth Walton Potter, a former Ross student.

A planning schedule and budget for annual conferences was set down as a by-product of the 2001 meeting. It included target dates for completion of key elements such as meeting venue contracts, selection of caterers, menu selections for purposes of pricing the registration fee, due dates for paper proposals, selection of paper presenters and keynote speakers, outlining and road-testing tour itineraries, submitting program and registration information for printing in the newsletter, and issuing news releases to local media.


Ilwaco

The outstanding conference of 2002 at Ilwaco, Washington on the Columbia River estuary focused on the varied cultural landscape of the Longview Peninsula and environs, including fishing villages, post-Civil War seacoast fortifications, and early twentieth century resort architecture. At the conclusion of a walking tour of Oysterville near the peninsular point on Willapa Bay, the party was treated to a fillip unparalleled in the chapter’s occasional epicurean experiences. In a schoolhouse of 1907 restored as a community hall, Katherine Driscoll, co-owner of Oysterville Sea Farms and fellow members of the Oysterville Design Review Board served their guests champagne and oysters on the half shell freshly harvested from beds nearby.

Victoria

Highlights of the annual conference in Victoria in 2003 included a waterfront tour by harbor ferry and inspection of the British Columbia Parliament Buildings with architect Alan Hodgson, supervisor of the buildings’ restoration, and president Martin Segger, author-editor of *The British Columbia Parliament Buildings* (Vancouver: Arcon, 1979). The featured talk of the conference was presented by Donald Luxton, compiler-editor of *Building the West: The Early Architects of British Columbia* (Talon Books, 2003). Mr. Luxton’s illustrated biographical survey had just been accorded a Heritage Canada Achievement Award. Grant Hildebrand was presented with the second Marion Dean Ross Award for his dedication to strengthening the chapter’s program for scholarly papers.

Eugene

Planning for the 2004 annual conference on the University of Oregon campus in Eugene was headed by David Amundson, chairman, with support from papers coordinator Joby Patterson, Kenneth Guzowski, City of Eugene Department of Planning and Development; Christine Thompson, University of Oregon Planning Office; Professor Philip Dole, and members of the Eugene Historic Review Board. The conference focused on the chapter’s semi-centenary and remembrance of Marion Ross led by Wallace Kay Huntington, a distinguished alumnus and leading student of the chapter founder in years past. Others adding reminiscences included Professor Russell Donnelly, who spoke briefly about his late wife, SAH Fellow Marian Card Donnelly, and Professor Ross. The keynote speaker, Marion Dean Ross Award-holder Grant Hildebrand considered the newly-completed Seattle Public Library by Rem Koolhaas.

Edward Teague, Head of the Architecture and Allied Arts Library, and Leland Roth, Marion Dean Ross Professor of Architectural History, provided commentary on special exhibits relating to historical development of the campus plan and rare book acquisitions for library collections made possible by Professor Ross’s bequest. Miriam Sutermeister made a formal presentation of video tape material representing completion of Phase I of the chapter’s Video Documentary Project. The film and digital media were received by James Fox, Curator of the Division of Special Collections and Archives of the University of Oregon Library, who commented on the role of his division in housing the Chapter Archive.

First Class of SAH Fellows

Marian Donnelly had been chairman of the Fiftieth Anniversary Committee that planned semi-centenary observances for the 43rd Annual Meeting of SAH in Boston in 1990. Her research in the SAH archives in preparation for the meeting resulted in *A History: Society of Architectural Historians, 1940-1995*, which was published under auspices of Dean Robert Z. Melnick of the University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts in 1998. Not for that contribution alone, but for a record of long-sustained service generally, she was elected to a newly-created position, that of Fellow of the Society of Architectural Historians. The announcement was made after official action was taken by the Society’s board of directors during the Annual Meeting on April 14, 1999. She had been named to the Society’s first class of Fellows with
twelve of her peers. The chapter responded during its annual meeting in Seattle on October 2, 1999 with a formal resolution of greeting and congratulations concerning the high honor accorded her. Mrs. Donnelly died the following month, on November 15, in Eugene.

Marking the Millennium

In 1999 the Society of Architectural Historians prepared to commemorate the turn of the twenty-first century and the coming millennial year by publishing two supplementary issues of its quarterly journal. More pertinent yet was the fact that 2000 was the sixtieth anniversary of the Society’s founding. The intersection of these events was the propitious moment to launch a new campaign to build the endowment.

The first of the special issues of the SAH Journal (Vol. 58, No. 3, September 1999) was “Architectural History 1999/2000,” a three-part collection of essays on “changes in the discipline and practice of architectural history over the past three decades,” including as general themes the institutional, intellectual and methodological frameworks in which the discipline operates.

The companion Journal supplement “Society of Architectural Historians: Directory of Members” was published as Vol. 58, No. 1 (December 1999). The purpose of the directory, as Society president Richard Longstreth explained in the foreword, was to facilitate communication among the members. The directory contained other useful information, such as the names of current officers, directors, editors of publications, members in varied patron categories, and contacts for chapters and affiliated societies. Listed among the latter was the Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada, which had been organized in 1975 and became an SAH affiliated society in 1995. In accord with the directory’s stated purpose, and as a sign of the information age, contact information for individual members included e-mail addresses.

The ARCHES endowment fund-raising campaign was meant to secure the Society’s future by providing support for operations, programs, publications, and electronic media. The encompassing mission of the organization is implied in the acronym, which stands for advocacy, research, communication, history, education, and scholarship. In its initial phase, the campaign had raised $2 million in outright gifts, pledges, and bequests by 2003.

The significance of the ARCHES campaign had been foretold by president Richard Betts in 1989 when he appealed to the membership for contributions in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary. The present endowment “is not large,” he said at the time, “and the income is committed to meeting expenses of current programs…” He foresaw that increased income would be needed, not only for

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greater financial stability, but for “new initiatives” and “new possibilities.” ²⁷

SAH Fellow and former associate editor-in-chief of the Society’s Buildings of the United States series, William H. Pierson, Jr. reflected on these matters in an interview in 2004. “I have watched SAH grow greatly both in size and depth,” he said. “I see the biggest problem as raising the funds necessary to keep SAH going. One answer might lie in broadening the base of interest and support of the organization and thus the financial support...” In his view, an “outreach to new markets is essential to the continued success of SAH.”²⁸ The same need to ensure stability and growth is felt, albeit to a lesser degree, by the Society’s affiliates at the chapter level.

54th Annual Meeting of the SAH - Toronto

In 2001, the true millennium advent, the Society looked to Canada for the third time in fifty years to host the annual meeting. Toronto, one of the great cosmopolitan centers of North America was the chosen site, and the 54th Annual Meeting of SAH achieved a high point of international representation in its program of speakers, some of whom traveled from England and Australia, Western and Eastern Europe, Turkey, Israel, India, Japan, and Latin America to take part.²⁹ A number of Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter members also took part in the Toronto meeting, either chairing sessions of scholarly papers or presenting talks and reports. If a leitmotif of the conference was multi-culturalism, it was not out of tune with background events in the neighboring province, where Quebec City was host to the Summit of the Americas and scene of promotions for and demonstrations against globalization.

Another theme that could be traced through the conference was the meaning of space in architectural and land-use terms from Roman Imperial times onward. An honor came to chapter member Daniel Millette, University of British Columbia, who was awarded the Spiro Kostof Annual Meeting Fellowship for his paper, “Scripting Memories: On the Use of the Orders within the Gallo-Roman Theater at Orange.” The selection committee noted Mr. Millette’s paper as “exemplary in its interdisciplinary,” “the consequence of the author’s many-sided background including the classics and historical geography as well as architectural history and archaeology.”³⁰

The Antoinette Forrester Downing Award is presented annually for the best book devoted to topics in historic preservation. During the Annual Meeting, the award was conferred on co-editors Arnold R. Alen and chapter member Robert Z. Melnick, University of Oregon, for Preserving Cultural Landscapes in America (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2001). Writing of the collected essays, the award committee commended “a clear editorial vision” and “clear, jargon-free prose” for achieving the goal stated by Mr. Melnick, namely, “to clarify issues of cultural landscape preservation without simplifying them.”³¹


Chapter Web Site

In January, 1999 Michael Houser, then a preservation planner with the Deschutes County, Oregon Community Development Department, approached the board of directors concerning creation of a Web page, perhaps using the template offered by the central office. In this proposal he had been encouraged by treasurer Ken Guzowski. The utility of such an enterprise was in being able to publicize conferences, circulate the call for papers, and provide chapter membership information more efficiently, and a link to the SAH Web page could be provided for national membership information, he pointed out. The board of directors voted its approval to proceed. The Web site was operating with the local government providing the host site by the time of the annual conference in Seattle in October. It was noted that at least one meeting registrant, Elise Moentmann, newly arrived at the University of Portland, had found her way to the regional chapter through a link from the SAH home page.

By the time of the annual conference in Vancouver in 2000, the page had been on the Internet for a year. Webmaster Houser said he had appreciated suggestions from the members concerning images and additional links, and he received the chapter’s compliments for the appearance and content of the site. It was recommended that the chapter register for a domain in its own name that would be more directly accessible.

In January, 2002 it was brought to the chapter’s attention that the Web site could no longer be reached by link from the SAH home page. This prompted president Martin Segger to investigate the possibility of hosting the Web site without charge at the University of Victoria. Helen Edwards of Victoria, the chapter newsletter editor, offered to redesign the Web site, with her daughter’s help, and temporarily support the site on her own server. The board okayed the updated content, and Edwards became Webmaster as well newsletter editor. Treasurer Courtois registered the non-profit domain name (www.sahmdr.org) for a one-time fee, and David Broome facilitated the transfer of the site to the University of Victoria server. President Segger asked that the content, including such information as background of the chapter, membership, officers and board of directors, awards, bylaws, and current and recent conferences, be circulated to the executive board for vetting before being posted. On September 11, 2002, Edwards reported to the board that the new site with its approved content was “up and running” and linked to the SAH home page.

Two years later, president Martin Segger had an inspiration concerning the ongoing issue of member recruitment, and it hinged upon the Web site. He proposed to engage Jeffrey Werner, a University of Victoria student who was also a pro-

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32 Michael Houser, Memorandum to Board of Directors, Marion Dean Ross Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians, January 22, 1999. Chapter Archive.


35 Isabelle Gourney, SAH Chapter Liaison, to Martin Segger, President, and Michael Houser, Webmaster, Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter, SAH, e-mail communication, January 11, 2002.

36 Minutes, Meeting of the Board of Directors, Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians, Victoria, British Columbia, June 29, 2002. Chapter Archive.

37 Helen Edwards, Webmaster, to Board of Directors, Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter, SAH, e-mail communication, September 11, 2002.
fessional Web site designer, to bring the site up to date with current technology and standards of accessibility. As redesigned, the page would incorporate features to support interactivity and provide for online membership registration. Mr. Segger envisioned printing introductory membership cards bearing the Web site address by which route a student might register for a year’s complimentary membership and an electronic version of the newsletter. The cards would be mailed to “every architecture school, community college and university art history department in the Pacific Northwest” for distribution in the classrooms in the fall term. The board of directors responded favorably to the plan. The cost was estimated at approximately $900.00 in Canadian dollars. As of July, 2004, the designer had been placed under contract, and the new Web site was expected to be launched in the fall, 2004.

Video Documentary Project

The chapter’s annual conference in Seattle in 1999, memorable for its intimate view of the work of two renowned architects of the region, produced a collateral project unprecedented in the chapter’s experience, namely, video documentation of residential work visited by chapter members in the company of the architects. The subject properties were four examples of High Modernist residences representing a thirty-year retrospective of the work of Wendell Lovett from the 1970s to the present and a distinctive house of 1969 in the tradition of the Northwest School by Royal McClure. The houses were situated at various locations on the Lake Washington shore front. Start-up funds totaling $2,000.00 for the taping were contributed by Mr. Lovett’s current client, Dr. Charles Simonyi, and the architect himself. Cathleen O’Connell of Zia Films was selected as videographer. Grant

Hildebrand, who at the time was collaborating on a monograph on the architects Wendell Lovett and Arne Bystrom with T. William Booth, contributed a narrative script on the Simonyi Villa, and Mr. Booth was slated to be the narrator. For the taping of interviews and filming of the architects commenting on their work as they toured the buildings with chapter members, $1,120.00 was expended.

When a matching grant toward post production costs fell through, the project was stalled for several years while alternative sources of funding were explored. The most practicable estimate for post production work, submitted by Steve Crandall, was $9,375.00. The proposal included digitizing for online delivery with encoding compatible with the chapter’s Web site, and video products in both VHS and DVD form for distribution to subscribers and libraries. In May, 2004, Miriam Sutermeister, who had been the driving force to bring the interrupted project to fruition, was pleased to announce to the president and board of directors that private funds had been received to complete production of the footage of the McClure-designed house for Gilbert and Erselle Eade at Hunt’s Point (1969). The wrap-up of Phase I of the video documentary project was welcomed as a logical priority since the Eade house had been altered by subsequent owners in the interval since filming and it had not been previously published or documented. The products were copyrighted in the chapter’s name. Raw footage and narrative script for the four Lovett-designed houses, meanwhile, were reserved for editing in Phase II.

38 Martin Segger, president, to board of directors, Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter, SAH, e-mail communication, May 5, 2004.

39 Martin Segger, president, Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter, SAH, to Elisabeth Potter, e-mail communication, July 5, 2004.

40 Grant Hildebrand and T. William Booth, A Thriving Modernism: The Houses of Wendell Lovett and Arne Bystrom (Seattle Architectural Foundation in association with the University of Washington Press and the University of Washington School of Architecture, 2004).

41 Miriam Sutermeister to Martin Segger, President, and the Board of Directors, Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians, e-mail communication distributed May 31, 2004.
The chapter had learned from its most ambitious educational undertaking the importance of having a full picture of the costs associated with major projects. The outcome of Phase I was encouraging, however, and the privately-financed products would redound to the credit of the Society. As president Martin Segger expressed it, the chapter could weigh its approach to Phase II with the benefit of "...complete discussion regarding priorities and commitments and a forward financial plan..." 42

Chapter Member Survey

At first, the fact that in 2001 the position of president would be unfilled had seemed to be a crisis in the succession of leadership. But the millennial period continued to unfold as a highly productive one. Vice president Shirley Courtois acted in the capacity of chief executive officer and was ably supported by treasurer Kenneth Guzowski and Jeannette Reynolds, membership coordinator, whose many important voluntary duties now extended to serving as conference registrar.

The transitional period brought forth the first poster to advertise conferences, including an electronic version for the Web site; the first chapter membership brochure, including contact information and services of the national SAH; and the first officers' handbook to include the bylaws and set forth concisely the duties of the officers. It also was the period during which the newsletter was comprehensively redesigned to a standard format. Each of the chapter's publications now had a graphically unified look and was inexpensively produced. Expanding the newsletter was an outgrowth of the membership survey initiated by Courtois and Reynolds during the final meeting presided over by Sutermeister.

In October of 2000, during the annual conference in Vancouver, Jeannette Reynolds circulated a survey questionnaire in order to gain a sense of expectations and preferences of members as the chapter entered the new century. The survey invited suggestions regarding the newsletter, meeting announcements, conference programs, and membership development, among other things. The responses, representing 18 percent of the chapter census, were compiled and a summary was mailed to the board of directors by Shirley Courtois on January 4, 2001. 43 The survey summary was shared with the membership through the newsletter mailed later the same month and it was discussed during a colloquium held during the annual conference in central Oregon the following October.

Scholarly papers, diverse meeting sites, and social interaction with colleagues ranked highest among reasons for joining the chapter. The size of the chapter's dues-paying member census, about 130, was considered by the majority, though by a small margin, to be about right, and none thought the membership too large. The majority preferred alternating meeting sites between large cities and small towns or rural areas. By a small margin, the majority had been members of the chapter longer than five years. There was unanimous support for efforts to increase the size of the active membership and strengthen ties with academic institutions. Among general comments, there was a recurring call for more content in the newsletter and more timely notice of annual meetings. Respondents wished to see at least two newsletter issues a year, regular updates of the Web site, and consideration of an electronic version of the newsletter. Including abstracts of papers in the newsletter was another suggestion. Other respon-

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42 Martin Segger, President, Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians, to Miriam Sutermeister, e-mail communication, May 31, 2004.

dents called for expanding those parts of the chapter mission relating to preserving architectural landmarks and sponsoring publications.

SAH Member Survey

The Society’s executive director, Pauline Saliga, spotted Courtois’s summary of the survey in the chapter newsletter and asked to see the questionnaire since the Society was preparing a member survey of its own.44 The Society’s questionnaire, which reflected some of the same issues the chapter had pursued, appeared as an insert in the Newsletter of the Society of Architectural Historians for October 2001.45 The section of the national member survey that probed reasons why individuals join the Society paralleled that of the local chapter. Results of the survey were compiled for the Society’s membership committee in February 2002.46 Not surprisingly, the predominant incentives were “interest in architecture and the built environment” (77 percent) and receiving the SAH publications (66 percent).

The Society’s survey invited preferences concerning directions that might be taken for the Journal, Newsletter, Listserv and Web site. Twenty-nine percent of respondents had acquired the Alaska volume of the Society’s Buildings of the United States series. Alaska and Nevada are the only volumes for states in the far West that have been published to date. Sixteen percent of respondents had purchased the Nevada volume.

The personal profile section of the Society’s survey showed that 51 percent of the respondents held a Ph.D. Among initiatives the respondents wished to be undertaken, issue-oriented symposia ranked highest most often. The next most frequently top-ranked prospective initiative was a national traveling lecture program sometimes spoken of as a stellar speakers series.

Publication Committee

In 1998 most of the executive officers had been re-elected for a second two-year term. Caroline Swope joined the board as vice president to succeed James Hamrick. The officers began to give thought to the chapter’s approaching semi-centenary. An important project set in motion at the direction of Miriam Sutermeister was establishing an archive at the University of Oregon Knight Library. Though the chapter’s jurisdiction spread over three states and a province of Canada, it was thought logical to place the materials in the Library’s Division of Special Collections as a complement to the Marion Dean Ross Collection housed there. The papers of Professor Ross illuminate the early years of the SAH on the Pacific Coast. During its meeting on January 19, 1999, the board approved the archive project as outlined in a reconnaissance report by Elisabeth Potter.47

Another proposal for observing the fiftieth anniversary was production of a second festschrift that would consist of selected papers read before the chapter over the previous twenty years. During the annual conference in Seattle in October, 1999, Leonard Eaton spoke in favor of the retrospective concept and proposed that a publication committee

44 Shirley Courtois, vice president, Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians, to Elisabeth Potter, “Chapter Survey,” e-mail communication, February 15, 2001.


be formed to solicit papers and make the arrangements. Volunteering for the coordinating committee were Shirley Courtois, Michael Houser, Joby Patterson, Ayad Rahmani, and Christopher Thomas. Professor Eaton would serve as adviser.48

Shirley Courtois coordinated the first efforts of the volunteers organizing the anniversary *festschrift*. Joby Patterson reported on progress to the membership during the next annual meeting in Vancouver in 2000. Before 1994, typescripts of the papers presented to the chapter were not systematically collected. The committee would have to appeal to past presenters for manuscripts from which to make the selections. A list of papers from 1965 onward was compiled by Elisabeth Potter and, from it, Dennis Andersen created an index that allowed the catalog to be searched by subject matter as well as speaker. Bill Booth recommended that authors of the selected papers be asked to indicate whether the material had been published since it was presented to the chapter.

The next year, during the annual meeting in Sunriver, Oregon, Joby Patterson, now chairman of the Publication Committee composed of Courtois, Kate Krafft, Bill Booth, Michael Houser, Dennis Andersen, and Leonard Eaton, rendered a report. The *festschrift* would require a year’s time for production. Feelers were out for the papers, and a number had been gathered. The committee asked for the chapter’s decision as to whether to push on with the project given the time constraints. The chapter approved going forward with the project in the understanding that budget details would be worked out and funding sources identified as soon as possible. Patterson circulated a draft of proposed criteria for selection of papers. The sense of chapter was that the criteria were on the right track.49

The Publication Committee’s last formal report was made to the board of directors in Victoria in June, 2002. By that time, it was seen that the collection of manuscripts could not be completed satisfactorily in the time remaining. As an alternative, the idea was put forth to have a variety of new short essays by chapter members on such topics as the use of architectural history in education. Joby Patterson was exploring prospects with the University of Oregon Press in Eugene and other publishers. The lack of a product, however, made estimating and budgeting difficult. When the board declined to approve a budget request of $3,200, the project effectively came to an end.50 Though unrealized, the project had accomplished useful subsidiary goals, namely, cataloging the record of the chapter’s scholarly papers and recovering a number of scholarly paper manuscripts for the chapter archive.

**Looking to the Future**

Attendance at chapter meetings has remained fairly consistent over the years. The meetings in California during the initial period drew as many as forty at times. The typical range of attendance was between thirty-five to fifty through the 1980s.51 A record of seventy-seven was noted in San Francisco in April, 1982, when Joseph A. Baird, Jr. was among the tour guides and hosted the group at his home in Tiburon, on the bay shore opposite North Point. After 1994, the high end of attendance exceeded sixty. In the same period, the roster of pre-registered conference was introduced as a

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49 Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors, Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians, Victoria, British Columbia, June 29, 2002. Chapter Archive.

50 Marion Dean Ross to Thomas Vaughan, Director, Oregon Historical Society, May 7, 1968. Marion Dean Ross Collection, Division of Special Collections, University of Oregon Library.
regular feature of conference registration packets to aid networking. The professional touch also provided an approximate record of attendance.

Five times in fifty years, including the present anniversary year, the chapter has met on the campus of the University of Oregon. The meetings in 1958, 1970, 1976, and 1986 were organized by the founder, Marion Ross, and fellow faculty members. Professor Ross was accustomed to entertaining his visiting colleagues. During the first Eugene conference in 1958, president Stephen W. Jacobs was among those who appreciated the hospitality. Hoping to have the opportunity to reciprocate in the Bay Area in due course, he wrote to say, "I very much enjoyed the soirée in your atmospheric quarters."

Since meeting participation is the barometer of vigor, it would be natural to take stock as the chapter returns to Eugene to celebrate its roots. Stock-taking began, however, appropriately enough, in the millennium period in Vancouver, British Columbia in 2000 and continued at the 2001 conference in Sunriver, Oregon when a portion of the first-night program was reserved for a "candlelight colloquium." During the open discussion on the latter occasion, the central issue was framed. How can the chapter serve the multi-faceted professional constituency, including students, and appeal to a broader base of participants and supporters at the same time? As William H. Pierson, Jr. acknowledged in the aforementioned interview for the SAH Newsletter, the question of how to grow without abandoning the academic purposes of the Society figures into calculations at the national level as well.

Some thoughtful observations on the question of future directions have come from current vice president Linda Smeins, Western Washington University, Bellingham, who in 2001 pointed to present educational trends. Interactive sessions in which more time is allowed for response and discussion following the presentations could be both attractive and valuable, she suggested. Writing to the executive group in 2003, Professor Smeins offered the following. "The vitality of the current meetings comes from a confluence of various interests and perspectives, and it seems that we can build on this diversity of interest. Just as university education is shifting from the notion of expert... on stage to the concept of communities of learners, we can work to realize more fully an organization in which we learn from one another..."

Her thought was consistent with findings of the Society's national member survey of 2002, which showed that respondents wished to see issue-oriented symposia among program offerings of the future.

Leaders and members alike may be credited for not shrinking from discussion of needs that are no longer being served and what steps can be taken for improvement. The chapter has tried to meet the expectations of the academic community as well as those of an inclusive membership. Since the first meetings were held at the Society of California Pioneers in San Francisco in 1954, the amateur and the academic have mixed comfortably. As the chapter moves beyond its fiftieth year, undoubtedly it will wisely hew to what Grant Hildebrand has termed "the quality of our scholarly mission."

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52 Stephen W. Jacobs to Marion D. Ross, April 17, 1958. Marion Dean Ross Collection.


54 Linda Smeins, vice president, to Martin Segger, president, and executive board, Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians, e-mail communication, July 10, 2003. Chapter Archive.

55 Grant Hildebrand, Professor Emeritus of Architecture, University of Washington College of Architecture and Urban Planning, to Martin Segger, president, and executive board, Marion Dean Ross Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians, e-mail communication, June 24, 2003. Chapter Archive.
Fig. 16. Northern Pacific Coast SAHers gather for the chapter luncheon business meeting in the atrium of the 1910 Conservatory of Music on the Whitman College campus, Walla Walla, Washington in 1994. The conference in Walla Walla, planned by vice president Miriam Sutermeister and presided over by president Bill Booth, marked a turning point in chapter organization. Discussion of future directions during the business meeting led to reorganization under a new name and jurisdictional division from northern California the following year.

Grant Hildebrand photo, April 16, 1994.
Fig. 17. Members of the Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter, SAH inspect the interior of Tourtellotte and Hummel’s Romanesque Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Roman Catholic Diocese of Boise, during the annual conference in 1998. St. John’s Cathedral (1906-1921) was one of a number of prominent landmarks constructed of Boise sandstone that were seen during the architectural tour. The chapter made the metropolis of Idaho’s Snake River Basin its conference site in 1974 and 1984 as well as 1998.

Grant Hildebrand photo, October 3, 1998.

Fig. 18. Stadium High School, the 1906 adaptation of an earlier concept for a grand railroad terminus hotel, was among the landmarks viewed on the architectural tour of Tacoma, Washington during the annual conference of 1996. Architects of the 1891 design in the Château Gothic tradition were G. W. and W. D. Hewitt. Frederick Heath designed the remodeling of the early twentieth century and the adjoining athletic stadium bowl.

E. Walton Potter photo, June 1980.

Fig. 19. At twilight, chapter members toured the crest pole-lined Great Hall in the Museum of Anthropology on the campus of the University of British Columbia in Vancouver during the annual conference of 2000. Arthur Erickson, the building’s distinguished architect, addressed the chapter following a catered dinner in the museum.

Grant Hildebrand photo, October 14, 2000.
The Outlook

It is beyond the chapter’s capacity to make any kind of meaningful forecast of things to come, but it may be useful to point out where opportunities for a productive future have been nudged into place by past effort.

The foregoing shows that the chapter has been fortunate in its founders and leaders. The officers have tended to remain involved as presenters, advisers, and organizers of meetings for sustained periods of time. The chapter has benefitted also from the willingness of local historians and volunteers to help arrange meetings, guide tours, and smooth the course of events. The flow has been interrupted perhaps no more than four times in fifty years, and never for long. Each time, the membership has rallied to resume collective participation in the Society’s affairs. The chapter has profited from notable lectures by members and guests, and, historically, it has enjoyed good relations with the national SAH based on strong personal connections.

Whether chapter activities have greatly affected the study of architectural history in the region could be open to debate. Clearly, however, Pacific Section members helped expose to scholarly consideration a diverse range of settings and resources. Marion Ross, the masterful teacher who did the most to animate the northern Pacific group over the years, recognized that his travels abroad and throughout the region enhanced his authority in the lecture hall. He was acquainted at first hand with the archetypes of high style and the buildings that were modest reflections. He used the photographs of his findings effectively on the screen. His article on Jacksonville, an intact, nineteenth-century gold-mining and trading center in southern Oregon, appeared in the December 1953 issue of the Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, just ahead of the Pacific Section’s organization. 1

The article focused attention on the town, led to Jacksonville’s designation as a National Historic Landmark district, and made Professor Ross the logical expert to lead a documentation project for the Historic American Buildings Survey some years later. Because of the interest stirred by these events, Jacksonville was chosen as a meeting place of the chapter on two occasions.

Naturally, Professor Ross encouraged contributions to the study of the region’s architectural history from others. For example, in his capacity as chairman of sessions on architecture of the Pacific Northwest for annual meetings of the Society held on the West Coast, he invited papers from local SAHers. Papers were presented by members of the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter during the 25th Annual Meeting in San Francisco on January 27, 1972 and the 34th Annual Meeting in Victoria on April 2, 1981.

Scholarly Publications

Chapter meetings traditionally have provided a useful forum for presenting work in progress and dilating on work already in print. A number of the speakers who have shared their ideas and their slide illustrations are the authors of influential published work and peer reviews. As a recent example of the latter, the chapter’s Newsletter for Spring 2004 included a critique of Christopher Thomas’s The Lincoln Memorial and American Life (Princeton University Press, 2002). The review was submitted by fellow chapter member Leonard Eaton. Marion Donnelly, Alan Gowans, Leland Roth, and Harold Kalman published surveys of Scandinavian and North American architecture. Among the members who produced monographs on the work of individual architects are Sara Holmes Boutelle (Julia Morgan), Meredith Clausen (Pietro Belluschi), Grant Hildebrand (Frank Lloyd Wright), T. William Booth (Carl F. Gould), and Henry Matthews (Kirtland K. Cutter).

Among those who authored monographs on individual buildings or building types and styles are

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Norman Johnston (Washington State Capitol), Michael Crowe (Art Deco on San Francisco Bay), Christine Barnes (Rustic Arts and Crafts mountain lodges), Philip Dole (the picket fence in Oregon), William J. Hawkins (architectural cast iron in Portland), and Joby Patterson (traditional wooden churches of eastern Europe), to name a few. Also noteworthy are the city and regional guides authored or edited by Jeffrey Karl Ochsner (Seattle), Martin Segger (Victoria), Rhodri Windsor-Liscombe (Vancouver), Arthur Hart (Boise), Sally Woodbridge (states of Washington and California), and George A. McMath with Thomas Vaughan (Portland). Others, such as architectural conservator Alfred M. Staehli, have helped perfect a newer type of literature, the historic structures report. Biographical dictionaries of early architects of the region by Richard E. Ritz (Oregon) and Donald Luxton (British Columbia) recently were brought to print.

A complete record of major publications by chapter members from the founding date onward would make an interesting bibliographic study. A tentative start was made in that direction in 2000-2001, when the Publication Committee headed by Shirley Courtois and Joby Patterson compiled a list of those papers presented in recent years that resulted in published work. At the same time, a partial record of paper titles was entered into a database so that the list could be searched by subject as well as author. These well-spent efforts, the by-product of a once-planned 50th anniversary festschrift, could be continued.

The Society’s ongoing project to produce Buildings of the United States, the series of state-by-state architectural guidebooks, was approved in 1979 and was effectively underway by 1984 with essential funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and matching grants and gifts. The core project of the SAH has so far produced ten volumes published by Oxford University Press, and thirteen more are in various stages of production or contract development. Alaska and Nevada are the only states in the far West that have brought volumes to print to date. Although the BUS editorial board and an interim editorial committee continue to negotiate with prospective compilers and sponsors for states not yet covered, progress has slowed as funding dried up with the downturn in the economy. A tentative start was made in Washington by a working group including Jeffrey Ochsner, Dennis Andersen, Thomas Veith, David Rash, and Erin Doherty, but the project is presently suspended. In Oregon, prospective author Leland Roth is working with students to collect material, and exploratory talks have been conducted in Idaho. No contract for publishing BUS volumes in the Pacific Northwest is in force at the present time, however. The stumbling blocks are production schedules and funding issues. At the least, the chapter could play a useful part in securing sponsorship for volumes on Oregon, Washington, and Idaho by providing letters of support to accompany foundation grant requests.

Conquering Distance

Given the size of the jurisdiction and the area’s potential in varied meeting sites, the chapter has found it profitable to be adventurous from time to time. The current executive board is weighing the option of scheduling the 2007 annual meeting in Alaska, informally considered part of the chapter’s domain.

Even so, distance has been an ongoing challenge, both administratively and for the members at large, because of the time required for travel. Officers typically have been chosen with an eye to maintaining geographic balance on the executive board. With the last revision of bylaws in 1995, the chapter ensured representation by adding several regional delegates to the board. Although the executive group gathers for occasional interim meetings, business now is routinely conducted via the Internet.

On the matter of the chapter’s jurisdiction, the scope of which is almost a point of pride, it might be asked whether its dimension could prove to be a tripping point instead. Erosion of passenger railway and airline connections, stepped-up security procedures at the U. S.-Canadian border, spiking fuel prices, daunting congestion on the Interstate freeways, and curtailed travel budgets for university faculty and civil employees — all are factors that
can affect meeting attendance. Is it possible that the chapter could be compelled to splinter into smaller domains? The division from northern California that had been recommended by leaders of the national body in 1994 is lamented by some Pacific Northwest members to this day. Still, a sufficiently robust growth in the census of SAHers in the region could warrant discussion of further subdivision in time.

There are alternatives to attending meetings in “real” time. Video streaming of filmed events can reach a remote audience via the Internet. Digital technology offers the opportunity to spread conference proceedings as well as other kinds of information to the most distant members. The challenge would be finding ways to offset the cost of video taping without raising registration fees to prohibitive levels.

The chapter has been quick to avail itself of the new tools of the information age. Michael Houser created the chapter’s first Web site in 1999. Hosted by his employer, the Deschutes County, Oregon, Community Development Department, the Web site was linked to the SAH home page and was immediately instrumental in attracting a new face to the annual conference of that year. The Web site subsequently was mastered by Helen Edwards of Victoria and the chapter registered a new domain name. When the announcement for the 2003 conference in Victoria was posted on the Listserv, the Society’s widely used electronic bulletin board, a national member from as far away as Delaware registered to attend the event.

Under the resourceful leadership of current president Martin Segger, the board recently approved modifications to the chapter Web site to enhance interactivity. For example, students will be able to register online to receive a one-year complimentary membership and the newsletter in electronic form. This and other initiatives made possible by the Internet undoubtedly will be effective in keeping the organization connected and committed into the foreseeable future. Equally important, however, are parallel efforts on the region’s campuses, where university faculty are relied upon to promote the participation of their students. Whether or not a promising scholar remains in the Pacific Northwest to be claimed a chapter member for long, the outreach is worthwhile. Students who have had the experience of contributing to a chapter forum are more likely to become active in the SAH whenever they eventually settle to pursue their careers.

Communications

When he took on the job of editing the Society’s Newsletter at the end of 2000, Mark Hewitt gave thought to the importance of community in scholarly endeavor. Scholars prosper most when there is an audience, peer review, and the interchange of ideas. In an essay printed early in his tenure, the editor pointed out the SAH, a small, well-connected group of academics at the outset “now strives to reach a broad and diverse world of enthusiasts who see the historical built environment through many different lenses.” He pictured the Newsletter as a forum in which readers may post news, offer opinion and contribute other necessary information — all essential, in his view, for strengthening the “collective voice for the study and preservation of the global built environment...”;

By the late 1980s, the chapter’s announcements of meetings, then held twice yearly, had taken on an array of information relating to the prospective meeting location and supplementary news of general interest. Through the 1990s, a regular, semiannual newsletter evolved with compositional polish aided by varied personal computer software programs. It was first given a standardized format by Jeannette Reynolds and commenced to include reports on the SAH Annual Meeting as well as book notices and reviews, announcements, and registration information concerning the chapter’s annual conferences. The chapter’s newsletter has become that kind of vehicle for building community envisioned by the former SAH Newsletter editor

in his perceptive essay, and it was shaped, in part, by comments invited by the chapter's year 2000 member survey.

During the annual conference in Vancouver in 2000, membership coordinator Jeannette Reynolds and vice president Shirley Courtois presented a membership survey that invited, among other indications of preference, comments and suggestions for the chapter newsletter. The responses called for at least two issues per year and additional content such as abstracts of papers. An electronic version of the newsletter was recommended also. The member survey results, summarized early in 2001, remain a useful cross-section of chapter opinion and could be the basis of further fine-tuning and innovation.

**Special Projects**

While publication of the _festschrift_ in honor of Professor Ross in 1978 was a significant accomplishment, the most ambitious project ever taken up by the chapter was the production of video documentaries on several noteworthy houses of recent date in the environs of Seattle that were visited by the membership in 1999.

The concept behind the filming was to make a record of the work of renowned regional architects while the architects were on site to describe the creative process. Dr. Charles Simonyi, client, and Wendell Lovett, designer of the Simonyi Villa, donated start-up funds. Narrative texts were drafted and filming was done on the spot. When grant support for producing the footage fell through, private funds were sought to edit the first phase of the project. The Gilbert and Erselle Eade house (1969) at Hunt's Point by Royal McClure was given priority. The house changed hands after the chapter meeting of 1999 and was extensively remodeled. The chapter's copyrighted footage, produced in both film video and digital compact disk form, is a valuable record of the original design for an extraordinary house rooted in the tradition of the Northwest School. The chapter's documentary venture will be complete with production of the films featuring Mr. Lovett's High Modernist masterworks, Simonyi Villa (1987 onward) and the Cutler-Girdler house (1997) in Medina, overlooking Lake Washington.

There are other beckoning projects that can be carried out on the basis of solid beginnings. One of them is to continue collecting manuscripts of papers read before the chapter. Whereas since 1994, submission of a completed manuscript has been a prerequisite for speakers selected for the program, it takes follow-through to enforce the requirement. Thanks to the policy instituted by Grant Hildebrand and the vigorous round-up of papers by the Publication Committee, the chapter archive contains a representative sample of papers delivered in the 1980s and a more complete representation from 1994 onward. It is a boon to gain a sense of the subject matter that has engaged the interest of speakers at chapter meetings over fifty years' time, as one may do by scanning the list of papers that follows. How much more valuable still to have the scholarly texts.

**Dedicated Funds**

As part of the chapter's reorganization process in 1995, president T. William Booth filed articles of incorporation in the State of Washington and applied to the Internal Revenue Service for recognition as a non-profit educational organization. Tax exempt status was approved provisionally and announced to the chapter in January 1996. Shortly afterward, two ongoing dedicated funds were established within the treasurer's account to which donors could make tax deductible gifts.

The Marion Dean Ross Fund to support architectural history education and chapter development is managed by the executive board. The Wendell Lovett Award Fund provides stipends for young scholars to present papers on relevant topics at the chapter's annual conferences. The latter fund was initiated with a shared contribution of $1,000.00 by Mr. Lovett and Grant Hildebrand in 1996 and has since been replenished in generous spirit by the original donor and with additional gifts from Grant Hildebrand (the fund's administrator) and Miriam Sutermeister together with Bill Booth.
In due course, the chapter will need to consider how to sustain these funds in the long term. The possibility of establishing an endowment fund that would bring proceeds from interest earned on the principle undoubtedly will be considered. At that point, the chapter would decide whether to engage in systematic fund-raising. At the least, optional levels of membership in patron and corporate sponsor categories could be adopted. Whereas the executive board is well provided with regional delegates and appointees for particular functions, there is as yet no position for coordinating the kind of judicious grant-writing that could facilitate special projects and scholarships.

Benefits of SAH Affiliation

Local chapters benefit from their affiliation with the SAH in several ways. The Society provides standards and guidance on administrative matters that protect the local chapters from legal pitfalls and ensure that they are duly incorporated organizations that may receive and hold funds as tax exempt organizations under Internal Revenue Code. Affiliation with the Society of Architectural Historians provides local chapters and individual members with the legitimacy of belonging to a recognized professional society. By joining the larger movement, individual members of the national SAH gain access to conferences and foreign and domestic tours, receive the quarterly scholarly journal and a newsletter announcing meetings, exhibitions, new publications, and employment opportunities. In short, affiliation with SAH broadens the context for understanding and appreciating architectural history.

Conclusion

The Pacific Northwest and northern California, that part of the original SAH Pacific Section domain most recently subdivided, continue to be fertile ground for environmental design and, therefore, good places in which to study "architectural history in the making." The region is favorably positioned on the Pacific Rim for international trade and is developing an economy diversified by productive, high-tech industries. The region holds respected professional schools of architecture, enterprising clients, a dramatic and varied landscape, and vibrant cities from San Francisco to Vancouver and points inland. The region has produced, or has been hospitable to designers of merit and renown. Since the post-Second World War era, some of the world’s most celebrated architects have accepted commissions on the northern Pacific Coast. The continuum that began with a handful of Frank Lloyd Wright houses in Seattle, Tacoma and elsewhere and Alvar Aalto’s Library for Mount Angel Abbey at St. Benedict, Oregon seems unlikely to end with Rem Koolhaas’s Main Branch Seattle Public Library or Santiago Calatrava’s inventive cable-stay foot bridge spanning the Sacramento River in Redding, California — the latter two dedicated in the present year. At the convergence of these and other auspicious developments, the Marion Dean Ross Chapter marks its fiftieth year in the expectation of ever more rewarding opportunities for study and architectural sightseeing close at hand.

\footnote{Catchphrase employed as the theme of the chapter’s annual meeting in Seattle in 1999.}
Fig. 20. Tour coordinator Michael Houser leads chapter members on a walking tour of downtown Bend, a historic lumber manufacturing center, during the annual conference in central Oregon in 2001. 
*Helen Edwards photo, October 13, 2001.*

Fig. 21. David Hansen (far right, back to camera), Historic Preservation Officer of the Washington State Parks agency, leads conferees on a walking tour of Fort Columbia during the annual conference at Ilwaco, Washington in 2002. The U. S. military installation was one of several coastal fortifications developed in the later nineteenth century to defend the mouth of the Columbia River. Its features are preserved as a State Park. 
*Helen Edwards photo, October 5, 2002.*

Fig. 22. Conferees assemble at the waterfront for a harbor-view architectural tour of Victoria during the 2003 annual conference. In the background, the British Columbia Parliament Buildings designed by Francis Mawson Rattenbury and erected 1893-1897 extend a facade of 500 feet in length. In the foreground, left to right, are Grant Hildebrand and Emily Carter, Seattle, and Arnold Panitch, Boise. 
*Helen Edwards photo, October 5, 2003.*
Selected Sources

Manuscripts

Ross, Marion Dean, Collection, 231, Division of Special Collections and University Archives, University of Oregon Library System. Organizations: Box 14, Society of Architectural Historians (9 folders); Boxes 15-16, Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians (8 folders), and Southern California Chapter (1 folder).

Baird, Joseph A., Jr. Collection, D-231, Department of Special Collections, Shields Library, University of California, Davis. Includes the research files of Dr. Elliot A. P. Evans.

Articles


Monographs

Festschrift: A Collection of Essays on Architectural History Prepared by the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians and Dedicated to Professor Marion Dean Ross, Chapter Founder, on the Occasion of His 65th Birthday (Salem, Oregon: Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians, 1978).

Records of the Chapter Archive in 2004

The archive of the Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians, is held by the Division of Special Collections and University Archives, University of Oregon Library System. Unprocessed Records Group No. 00-00-38.

- Abstract of events leading to organization of the regional section of the Society in 1954
- 1978 chapter festschrift honoring Professor Ross - specimen copy, correspondence, records
- Tributes and memorials to Marion Dean Ross 1981-1991
- Member curricula vitae - assorted
- Member obituary information
- Earl D. Layman, 1988 national domestic study tour of Portland and the Willamette Valley
- Member mailing lists
- By-laws and articles of incorporation
- Documentation of exempt status for non-profit educational organizations under Internal Revenue Code
- Commercial liability insurance papers
- Chapter Founders Award 1982-1992 [not awarded under this title]
- Lovett Fund in support of young scholars [created in 1996, endowed by Wendell Lovett, F.A.I.A.,]
- Photographs of chapter activities 1994-2004 - miscellaneous
- Manuscripts of papers read before the chapter, assorted, indexed, 1985-2002
- Abstracts and proposals accepted for presentation to the chapter, assorted, indexed, 1981-2003
Recipients of Scholarship and Service Awards
1997 - 2004

**Wendell Lovett Award for Young Scholars**

1997  Cloantha Copass, King County, Washington Landmarks and Heritage Program, *Gaffney’s Lake Wilderness Lodge.*

2000  Stephanie White, University of Calgary, *Small Embassies on an International Border: Canadian Customs Buildings at United States Crossings*


**Marion Dean Ross Award for Outstanding Service to the Chapter**

2001  Elisabeth Walton Potter

2003  Grant Hildebrand
Society of Architectural Historians
Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter

Officers of the Chapter
1954 - 2004

1954
Elliot A. P. Evans, Chairman, SAH Pacific Section
Arthur B. Waugh, Secretary
Santa Barbara, California
Berkeley, California

1955
Mary R. Hill, Chairman, SAH Pacific Section
Arthur B. Waugh, Secretary
San Francisco, California
Berkeley, California

1956 No record available

1957-1958
Stephen W. Jacobs, President, SAH Pacific Section
Charles S. Pope, Secretary
Berkeley, California
San Francisco, California

1959-1960
Joseph A. Baird, President, SAH Pacific Section
Richard C. Peters, Secretary-Treasurer
Davis, California
Berkeley, California

1961-1962
Richard C. Peters, President, SAH Pacific Section
Carter Keane, Secretary-Treasurer
Berkeley, California
Alameda, California

1963 No record available

1964-1965
Carter Keane, President, SAH Pacific Section
John P. Hunter, Secretary-Treasurer
Alameda, California
San Francisco, California

1966 No record available

1967
James R. Burch, Acting Secretary
Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH
Berkeley, California

1968-1969
Marion Dean Ross, President,
Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, SAH
James R. Burch, Secretary-Treasurer
Eugene, Oregon
Berkeley, California
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<td>1974-1976</td>
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<td>Miriam Sutermeister</td>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>Seattle</td>
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<td>James M. Hamrick</td>
<td>Secretary-Treasurer</td>
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<td>Gloria Scott</td>
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<td>Special Appointments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant Hildebrand</td>
<td>Papers Coordinator</td>
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1996-1997
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James M. Hamrick, Vice-President
Kenneth J. Guzowski, Treasurer
Donna Hartmans, Secretary
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Lovett Prize Coordinator
Shirley Courtois, Papers Coordinator

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Jennifer Meisner
Seattle, Washington

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Seattle, Washington
Grant Hildebrand, Lovett Prize Coordinator
Seattle, Washington
Elisabeth Walton Potter, Historian
Salem, Oregon
James M. Hamrick, Advisor
Portland, Oregon

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Seattle, Washington
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Leland Roth
Jeannette Reynolds

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Wendell Lovett, Honorary Board Member
Sherry McKay, Papers Coordinator
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Michael Houser, Web Page Coordinator
T. William Booth, Advisor, Historian
James M. Hamrick, Advisor
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2001
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Regional Delegates
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Thomas Veith, Preservation Officer

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Bend, Oregon
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Seattle, Washington
Seattle, Washington
Eugene, Oregon
Seattle, Washington
Seattle, Washington
Redmond, Oregon
Seattle, Washington
Vancouver, British Columbia
Seattle, Washington
Eugene, Oregon
Seattle, Washington
Moscow, Idaho
Seattle, Washington
Eugene, Oregon
Seattle, Washington
Portland, Oregon
Salem, Oregon
Victoria, British Columbia
Bellingham, Washington
Seattle, Washington
Olympia, Washington
Seattle, Washington
Society of Architectural Historians

Harold Kalman
David Amundson
Arthur Hart
Miriam Sutermeister

Special Appointments
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Jeannette Reynolds, Membership Coordinator
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James M. Hamrick, Advisor
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Seattle, Washington

Seattle, Washington
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Portland, Oregon
Salem, Oregon

2004-2005

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Helen Edwards, Secretary pro tem. 2004
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Regional Delegates

Harold Kalman
David Amundson
Arthur Hart
Miriam Sutermeister

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Salem, Oregon
Society of Architectural Historians
Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter

Papers and Reports Read before the Chapter
1954 - 2004

* denotes banquet address or featured speaker
+ paper manuscript in chapter archive
++ paper manuscript in Marion Dean Ross Collection

San Francisco, California, May 22, 1954 - Society of California Pioneers

Convened at Pioneer Hall, Society of California Pioneers, for the purpose of organizing the Pacific Section, Society of Architectural Historians. Main presentations as follows:

Stanley, Wyland, Comments on a Collection of Photo-enlargements of California Mansions. (Exhibited items from the speaker's collection)
Flamm, Roy, San Francisco, Comments on a Photographic Project to Document Modern Architecture in California. (Exhibited items from the speaker's collection)
Evans, Elliot, Santa Barbara College Department of Art, Kachel and Dressel's California Views as a Source for Greek Revival in California.
Ross, Marion, University of Oregon, An Aspect of Regionalism in Oregon.

San Francisco, California, October 30, 1954 - Society of California Pioneers

Giffen, Helen, Secretary, Society of California Pioneers, San Francisco, Adobe Houses in California. (A sampling from the visual record assembled by the speaker)
Evans, Elliot, Santa Barbara College Department of Art, Visual Tour of a Lost Landmark: Thurlow Lodge (1874), the Milton S. Latham Estate near Palo Alto.

Central Mother Lode Region, California, April 2-3, 1955

Architectural tour of historic gold mining towns in El Dorado, Amador, and Calaveras Counties in central California led by Pacific Section Chairman Mary R. Hill, California State Division of Mines.

Berkeley, California, May 14, 1955 - University of California

No program information available

San Francisco, California, October 1, 1955

Architectural tour guided by Charles S. Pope on the theme A Century of San Francisco Architecture.
Society of Architectural Historians

Stanford, California, December 3, 1955 - Stanford University

Meeting arranged by Edward M. Farmer, Stanford University Art Department. No program information available.

1956 No record available

San Francisco, California, November 9, 1957 - California Historical Society

Temko, Allen B., University of California, Berkeley, California Victorian 1850-1890. Horn, Walter W., University of California, Berkeley, California Barns.

Eugene, Oregon, April 11-12, 1958 - University of Oregon

A joint meeting with the Western Division of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture was arranged by Professor Marion Ross. Sessions were chaired by Wallace Hayden, Head, Architecture Department, and Sidney Little, Dean, School of Architecture and Allied Arts; and Stephen Jacobs, University of California, Berkeley. Formal dedication of Lawrence Hall, the new building of the host professional school, and a dedication banquet address by Pietro Bellschi, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, were associated feature events.

Cardwell, Kenneth, University of California, Berkeley, Bernard Maybeck.
Horn, Robert D., University of Oregon, Impressions of Blenheim Palace.
Baird, Joseph A., University of California, Davis, East and West in Sacramento.
Barnett, Homer G., University of Oregon, Native Architectural Adaptations.
Paxson, Glenn S., Oregon State Highway Department, Covered Bridges of Oregon.
Schmitt, Martin, University of Oregon, The First Buildings at the University of Oregon.
Groat, Maurice, University of California, Berkeley, Old Portland.
Jacobs, Stephen W., University of California, Berkeley, The San Francisco Mint and the Portland Post Office.
Jones, Barclay C., University of California, Berkeley, The Historic Monument in City Planning.

Sacramento, California, October 4, 1958

Architectural tour of Sacramento arranged and text by Joseph A. Baird, University of California, Davis, Department of Art, and conducted by Hero E. Rensch, California State Division of Beaches and Parks.

San Francisco, California, November 15, 1958 - Society of California Pioneers

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McCarthy, James, Director, City of San Francisco Planning Department, and Evans, Elliot A. P., Curator, Society of California Pioneers. Early Towns of California. Talks based on concurrent exhibit of same title at the host venue, Society of California Pioneers, Reps, John W., City and Regional Planning Department, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, Thomas Jefferson and the Checkerboard Plan.

Friberger, Tomas, Sweden, and da Roza, Gustavo, Hong Kong. Tour of Sacramento to Foreign Eyes.
Pope, Charles S., National Park Service, San Francisco, Old Montgomery Block, San Francisco; Sanchez Adobe, San Mateo County; and Casa Amesti, Monterey.
(These buildings were objects of the first measured drawing projects undertaken for the Historic American Buildings Survey in the West in twenty years. Work was completed in the summer of 1958 by University of California architecture students.)

North Bay Area, California, April 25, 1959


Monterey and Carmel, California, November 14-15, 1959

Architectural tour including Mission San Juan Bautista; Hartnell Adobe in the Salinas vicinity; the Custom House and other landmarks in Monterey; and Carmel Mission.
Moore, Charles W., University of California, Monterey - Past and Present.

Davis and Woodland, California, March 26, 1960 - University of California

Baird, Joseph A., University of California, Davis, and Jacobs, Stephen W., commentaries on nineteenth century architecture of northern California. (Concurrent exhibition of photographs of early buildings of Yolo County from the collection of Walter Bernhardt, Woodland)
Architectural tour of historic Woodland, California.

San Francisco, California, November 12, 1960 - Society of California Pioneers

Wriston, Barbara, President, Society of Architectural Historians, Remarks on Publications and Plans of the National Organization.
Ross, Marion Dean, University of Oregon, The Nouveau Louvre in Oregon: Influence of the French Second Empire.
Evans, Elliot, San Francisco, the Redwood City: Aspects of Architectural Ornament.
Clark, Robert Judson, Louis Christian Mullgardt and the Court of the Ages at the 1915 Panama-Pacific Exposition, San Francisco.
Jenkins, Frank, Comments on the Formation of the British Division, Society of Architectural Historians.
Sacramento, California, March 18, 1961

Convened in conjunction with California Preservation Conference. No program information available.

Alameda, California, December 9, 1961

Evans, Kit, An Englishman’s View of Some American Historic Structures.
Lyndon, Donlyn, Organization of Former Hindu Temples.
A. C. Keane, Early Alameda. (Prelude to architectural tour of Alameda area.)

1962  No program information available.
1963  No record available

San Francisco, California, November 28, 1964 - Society of California Pioneers

Alexander, James Beach, A Visual Tour of Historic South Park and Rincon Hill, San Francisco
(employing historic photographs and prints).
Boucher, Mrs. Hazen, Jr. (Janice), Report on the Junior League of San Francisco’s Historical Sites
Publication Project Covering San Francisco and Marin and San Mateo Counties up to 1920.
Cole, Margaret van Barneveld, Recent Past, Present, and Possible Future Land Uses on
the Shores of San Francisco Bay.

San Francisco, California, January 31-February 1, 1965

Members attended the Annual 18th Annual Meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians, which
opened in Los Angeles on January 28 and proceeded to Part II in San Francisco on January 31. This
was the first annual meeting of the national organization held on the West Coast.

1966  No record available

San Francisco, California, November 25, 1967 - Society of California Pioneers

Evenson, Norma, University of California, Berkeley, Brasilia.
Platt, Mrs. Peter, Progress Report on the Junior League of San Francisco’s Historical Sites
Publication Project.
Evans, Elliot, Curator, Society of California Pioneers, talk and announcements
Myrick, David, San Francisco, Historic Resources in the Mining Town of Yreka..
Architectural tour of notable houses in Pacific Heights and viewing of a private collection of rare
historical photographs of San Francisco.

San Francisco, California, April 20, 1968

No program information available.
Portland, Oregon, November 2, 1968 - Oregon Historical Society

Walton, Elisabeth, Oregon State Highway Department, Sacred Heart Academy, Salem, Oregon, 1871-1873.
Merrill, David, University of Washington, Richard Munday and “The Mind of Wren.”
Grooms, Richard H., University of Victoria, The Spatial Experience of Peking.

Walking tour of architectural landmarks in downtown Portland conducted by George A. McMATH, A.I.A., The tour included the Pioneer Courthouse (A. B. Mulett, 1869), First Presbyterian Church and Calvary Presbyterian Church, and ended at the High Victorian Italianate Morris Marks House at the invitation of Wallace Kay Huntington.

Santa Cruz, California, March 29, 1969 - University of California

Papers and walking tour on the University of California campus at Santa Cruz was planned to include inspection of the university's collection of architectural slides and an automated indexing system for the collection. Bus tour of Santa Cruz area architecture.

Jacksonville, Oregon, October 18, 1969 - United States Hotel/Jacksonville Inn

Dole, Philip, University of Oregon, Box Houses in Oregon.
Cotton, Peter, Victoria, British Columbia, Craigflower Manor Restoration, Victoria.
Walking tour of the historic gold mining town of Jacksonville.

San Francisco, California, March 27-28, 1970 - California Historical Society

Donnelly, Marian C., University of Oregon, Viking Camps.
Beach, John, University of California, Berkeley, Ernest Coxhead.
Baird, Joseph A., Jr, University of California, Davis, California Architecture Illustrated.
Architectural tour of Napa and Sonoma Valleys.

Eugene, Oregon, December 4-5, 1970 - University of Oregon

In lieu of a regular meeting, the chapter participated in a workshop on historic preservation sponsored by the Department of Architecture, University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts, Eugene. The workshop was aided by a Historic Resources Program grant from the American Institute of Architects. It was co-sponsored by Southwestern Oregon Chapter, A.I.A., and the Oregon Council of Architects. Chapter members took part in panel discussions as follows:

Collins, Robertson E., Jacksonville, Oregon, Accomplishments in Jacksonville and Jackson County.
Dole, Philip H., University of Oregon, Contexts: Early Willamette Valley Buildings, Landscapes and People.
Society of Architectural Historians

Powers, Mrs. Albert H. (Ruth), Oregon City, Oregon, Accomplishments in Clackamas County.
Walton, Elisabeth, Oregon State Highway Division, Oregon’s Preservation Program.

On December 5, a brief business meeting for chapter members was held during which bylaws conforming to those of the national organization were reviewed and approved for distribution with a mail ballot to the membership at large. These, the first bylaws to be adopted by the Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, responded to the Society’s prerequisites. They would be amended several times over ensuing years. The chapter’s geographic bounds encompassed British Columbia along with the rest of the Pacific Northwest and continued to include northern California to the San Francisco Bay Area until formal action was taken to redefine the jurisdiction in 1995.

Port Townsend, Washington, March 26-27, 1971 - Port Townsend Art Gallery; Manresa Inn

Steinbrueck, Victor, University of Washington, Seattle’s Pike Street Market.
Ross, Marion D., University of Oregon, Nineteenth Century Architecture in Australia.

Eureka, California, October 9-10, 1971 - Eureka Inn

Genzoli, Andy, Ferndale, California Historical Landmarks Committee, Background of the Humboldt Bay Region.
Hannah, Tom, Eureka, California, The Archaeology of Indian Island.
Ross, Marion D., University of Oregon, Victorian Eureka (bus tour commentary).
Clarke, Janie, and Van Fleet, Bill, Eureka, California, Victorian Eureka (slide presentation).

St. Benedict, Oregon, April 15, 1972 - Mount Angel [Benedictine] Abbey

Vaughan, Thomas, Oregon Historical Society, Siberian Architecture in Transition.
Shannon, Mike, Bend, Oregon, Architectural Background of the Pilot Butte Inn, Bend, Oregon.
Ross, Marion D., University of Oregon, The Second Empire Style in Oregon.

Caravan tour of settlement era and Classical Revival houses in Molalla and Oregon City.
Seattles, Washington, October 14, 1972 - University of Washington


Johnston, Norman J., University of Washington, *The Appearance, Decline and Early Fall of Frederick Law Olmsted's 1873 Plan for the City of Tacoma.*

Freeman, John C., University of Victoria, *Francis Mawson Rattenbury: Architect to the Capitalist Establishment in Victoria.*


Sacramento, California, May 5, 1973 - E. B. Crocker Art Gallery

Loeb, Ella-Marie K., Berkeley, California, *Labyrinth Enclosures and Habitational Mazes.*

Ross, Marion Dean, University of Oregon, *The French Formal Garden.*


Astoria, Oregon, November 3, 1973 - Astoria Public Library


Loeb, Ella-Marie K., Berkeley, California, *Pre-Columbian and Old World Communal Houses.*


Kimbrrell, Leonard B., Portland State University, *Some Considerations of the Astoria Column.*

Boise, Idaho, May 11, 1974 - Idaho State Historical Museum


Streetfield, David C., University of Washington, *The Landscape Architecture of the Greene Brothers of Pasadena.*


Victoria, British Columbia, October 12, 1974 - British Columbia Provincial Museum


Sonoma, California, April 5, 1975 - Veterans Memorial Building


Scharmer, Roger P., California State Community Development Program, Historic Preservation: A Planning Opportunity.

Streatfield, David C., University of Washington, From Sands to "Verdant Umbrageousness:"
Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, 1870-1888.

Snyder, John W., North Highlands, California, Standardization in Construction and Decoration of Western Houses, 1880-1889.

Lundell, John H., Jr., The Dalles, Oregon, C. J. Crandall, Architect and Undertaker.

Sponenburgh, Mark, Oregon State University, The Folk Architecture of Swat-Kohistan.

Patterson, Joby, LaGrande, Oregon, The Romanian (Transylvanian) Folk House and Its Influence upon the Development of the Folk Church.

Miller, Jeanne Thurlow, Sonoma, California, Sonoma-Petaluma (bus tour commentary).

*Langellier, John P., Curator, Presidio Military Museum, San Francisco, Comments on the Historical Development of Fort Point, Alcatraz, and the Presidio from the 17th to 19th Centuries.

Spokane, Washington, October 18, 1975 - Eastern Washington State Historical Society

Caldwell, Susan H., Boise State University, The Romanesque Projecting Single Portal Unit.


Weir, Jean B., Oregon State University, Timberline Lodge, Mt. Hood National Forest, Oregon.

Segger, Martin, British Columbia Provincial Museum, Samuel Maclure’s Stylistic Idioms and Their Sources.


Hargrave, Terry, University of Idaho, Guided Tour of Spokane Architecture (bus/walking tour).


Nevada City, California, May 1, 1976 - American Victorian Museum

Waldhorn, Judith, San Francisco, California, San Francisco Victorian Builders.

Kray, Gary, San Francisco, California, Restoration of San Francisco Victorian Architecture.

Woodbridge, Sally, Berkeley, California, Willis Polk and the Bournes.


**Eugene, Oregon, October 8-9, 1976 - University of Oregon**


Harris, Robert, Dean, School of Architecture and Allied Arts, University of Oregon, Welcome and Introductory Remarks Noting the University's Centenary.

White, Herbert, Vancouver, British Columbia, The Influence of 18th Century France on Building in North America.


Loving, Ronald, University of Oregon, Restoration of the Peter Britt Garden in Jacksonville, Oregon.


**Berkeley, California, April 16, 1977 - Berkeley City Club**

Burke, Margaret, Belmont, California, The Hall Crypts of First Romanesque Architecture.

Brentano, Carroll, Berkeley, California, Brunelleschi in Berkeley.

Scharmer, Roger, Sacramento, California, Chatsworth: An English Country House and Its Gardens.

Radde, Bruce, San Jose State University, Riverside Versus Pullman: Romantic and Utilitarian Ideals in Chicago Urban Planning.

Bloomfield, Anne, San Francisco, California, David Farquharson, 1827-1914, Architect of the Master Plan for the University of California Campus at Berkeley.

Boutelle, Sara, Santa Cruz, California, Julia Morgan, 1872-1957: Notes on Her Training at the Ecole des Beaux Arts.

*Beach, John, Berkeley, California, Shanties and Tailfins: The Architecture of Lotus Land. Bus tour of East Bay Area with emphasis on the works of Julia Morgan and Bernard Maybeck.

**Vancouver, British Columbia, October 8, 1977 - Vancouver Centennial Museum; University of British Columbia**

Layman, Earl D., Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board, Some Aspects of Russian Churches.

Streatfield, David C., University of Washington, Picturesque Landscapes by Richard Payne Knight, Sir Uvedale Price, and Humphry Repton Re-examined.
Society of Architectural Historians

Davis, C. Gilman, A.I.A., Portland, Oregon, Civic Monuments Great and Small in Smaller Northwest Communities.
Segger, Martin, University of Victoria Maltwood Museum and Gallery, Western Architecture and the Canadian Pacific Railroad. [Not presented in deference to schedule overrun.]
Architectural tour of Vancouver arranged by Robert D. Watt, conducted by Martin Segger and Edward Gibson.
*Gowans, Alan, University of Victoria, Toward a Humane Architectural Environment.

Salem, Oregon, May 6, 1978 - Willamette University

Rhyne, Charles S., Reed College, Portland, Oregon, Structure and Aesthetic Effect in Pacific Northwest Bridge Architecture.
Anglin, Robert, City of Seattle Office of Urban Conservation, The Prairie Style Work of Seattle Architects Willatzen and Byrne.
*Ross, Marion D., University of Oregon, “And the Band Played On.” [A humorous tracing of the bandstand to Classical Antiquity]. During this meeting, Professor Ross was presented with the chapter festschrift in honor of his 65th birthday.

Belvedere [Marin County], California, October 7, 1978 - St. Stephens Church

Beach, John, Berkeley, California, Marin County Architecture.
Callister, Charles Warren, A.I.A., Marin County, California, Marin County Architecture.
Stoller, Claude, A.I.A., Marin County, California, Marin County Architecture.
Teather, Louise, and Teather, David, Belvedere, California, Comments on Belvedere History and Architecture.

Portland, Oregon, April 27-28, 1979 - Blitz-Weinhard Brewery

Layman, Earl D., Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board, Seattle Landmark Inventory.
Architectural tour of French Prairie and Aurora.

Santa Cruz, California, October 27, 1979 - University of California, Santa Cruz

Burke, Margaret, Belmont, California, Santa Maria de Ovila: Its History in the 20th Century.

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Ross, Marion D., University of Oregon, *The Earlier Work of Otto Wagner.*
Lewis, Betty, Watsonville, California, *William H. Weeks.*
Chase, John, Los Angeles, California, *Regionalism and Nostalgia in Santa Cruz During the 1970s.*
Zwart, Frank, A.I.A., Santa Cruz, California, *Buildings and Landscape Architecture of the Campus of the University of California at Santa Cruz* (walking tour commentary).

**Bellingham, Washington, May 10, 1980 - Whatcom Museum of History and Art; Leopold Hotel**

Dole, Philip, University of Oregon, *The Backs of Houses.*
Tobriner, Stephen, University of California, Berkeley, *Environmental Design Documents Collection.*

**Oakland, California, October 18, 1980 - East Bay Office, The American Institute of Architects**

Ross, Marion D., University of Oregon, *The Later Work of Otto Wagner.*
Mitchell, Dolores, California State University, *Paradise Lost*
Henry, Margaret, Kensington, California, *Bay Area Brick and Terra Cotta.*
Yip, Christopher L., University of California, *Is There a Chinese American Architecture?*
Woodbridge, Sally, Berkeley California, *Alameda Neighborhoods and Buildings* (bus tour commentary).
Carlson, Peter, Oakland, California, *Successful Residential Rehabilitation Projects in Oakland* (slide program).

**Victoria, British Columbia, April 1, 1981 - Empress Hotel; British Columbia Provincial Museum**

The chapter was convened immediately preceding the 34th Annual Meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians in Victoria, April 1-5. Luncheon and a business meeting at the Empress Hotel were followed by a program of gallery talks on Northern Pacific Coast Indian Art and Architecture at the British Columbia Provincial Museum.

Professor Marion Ross chaired a session on Pacific Northwest Architecture during this meeting, and members of the regional chapter presented papers in his session and others.
Seattle, Washington, August 8, 1981 - Pioneer Building, Pioneer Square - Auxiliary Meeting, North

Hildebrand, Grant, University of Washington. Chartres.
Neil, J. M., City of Seattle Conservator, Jewels and Trees: Preservation and the Historical Dimension.
Andersen, Dennis, University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections, Collecting Architectural History.

Ashland, Oregon, October 10-11, 1981 - Carpenter Hall, Oregon Shakespeare Festival

Snyder, John W., California Department of Transportation, The Bridges of John B. Leonard.
Fusco, Linda Smeins, Western Washington University, Western Wood Queen Anne: Clarification of a Boom Time Style.
McArthur, Lewis L., Portland, Oregon, The First Concrete Block.
Patterson, Joby, LaGrande, Oregon, Louis C. Rosenberg: Oregon Architect Abroad.
Dole, Philip, University of Oregon, Stage Station Architecture.
Atwood, Kay, Ashland, Oregon, A Pictorial Overview of Historic Ashland.
Clay, L. Scott, Jackson County Planning Department, and Atwood, Kay, Ashland and the Bear Creek Valley (bus tour commentary).
Evans, Gail E. H., Portland, Oregon, Historic Jacksonville (walking tour commentary).
Olson, Gregg, Restoration Contractor, David N. Birdseye House (1855), Rogue River vicinity, Restoration of a Historic Two-Story Log House (tour site commentary).

Stanford, California, October 23, 1981 - Stanford University - Auxiliary Meeting, South

Turner, Paul, Stanford University, Stanford University Campus (walking tour commentary).
Weitzel, Karen, California Department of Transportation, Mission Revival in California Schools: A Philosophy of Health and Heritage.

San Francisco, California, April 3-4, 1982 - Pacific Gas and Electric Building

Clausen, Meredith, University of Washington, The Department Store: A Synchronic and Diachronic Study of the Building Type.
Minor, Woody, Bay Area, California, City Parking Garages.
Anglin, Robert, City of Seattle Office of Urban Conservation, Seattle's Houseboat Communities.
Corbett, Michael, Bay Area, California, An Introduction to San Francisco's Financial District. Also: Walking Tour Commentary.
Brechin, Gray, Bay Area, California, San Francisco Undone: The Unrealized Projects that Might Have Changed San Francisco's Urban Character. Also: Walking Tour Commentary.
Walking tours of San Francisco Financial District, North Point, and Fisherman's Wharf areas; ferry trip to and walking tour of Tiburon led by meeting host Joseph A. Baird.
Oregon City, Oregon, May 8, 1982 - Portland General Electric Division Office - Auxiliary Meeting, North Dole, Philip, University of Oregon, Gothic Chimneys by the Reverend Charles Hamilton Wallace.
Potter, Elisabeth Walton, Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, Glenn Stanton and [Restoration of] the McLoughlin House [Oregon City].
Historical Overview of Oregon City preceded a walking/driving tour of Oregon City and environs.

Seattle to Port Townsend, Washington, October 16, 1982 - Aboard the M. V. Islander

Kreisman, Lawrence, Seattle, Washington, Art Deco in Seattle.
Gallup, Aaron A., California State Office of Historic Preservation, Mills College: 100 Years of Bay Area Architecture.
Sullivan, Michael, Bellingham, Washington, Copper Mines.
Layman, Earl D., Seattle Office of Urban Conservation, History and Architecture of Port Townsend (walking tour commentary).

Sacramento, California, March 19-20, 1983 - California State Railroad Museum

Gray, Walter, Sacramento, California, Museum Archivist, Tour Commentary, California State Railroad Museum.
Hastings, Richard, City of Sacramento Planning Department, Sacramento Victorians.
Girvigian, Raymond, Project Architect, Restoration of California’s State Capitol.

The Dalles, Oregon, October 7-9, 1983 - Old St. Paul’s Episcopal Church

No listing of papers and presenters in the program announcement.

Eureka, California, April 6-8, 1984 - Eureka Inn

No listing of papers and presenters in the program announcement.
Architectural tour of Victorian Ferndale and Eureka. Catered event and special tour of the William McKendrie Carson Mansion (Ingomar Club), 1885, Eureka.

Portland, Oregon, November 9-11, 1984 - Portland Building

Erigeron, Patricia, University of Oregon Graduate Program in Historic Preservation, The Panama-Pacific Exposition: Last Flowering of the American Renaissance.
Clarke, Ann Brewster, Portland State University, Wade Hampton Pipes: Exponent of the English Arts and Crafts Style in Portland, Oregon.
Yreka, California, October 10-11, 1986 - Yreka Elks Lodge

Henry, Margaret, Kensington, California, Brickwork: Painting and Pointing.
Snyder, John, California Department of Transportation, Railroad Vernacular: The Santa Clara Station.
McAfee, Fred J., and McAfee, R. Bernice, Yreka, California, An Introduction to Historic Yreka. Also: Yreka and Environs (bus/walking tour commentary).
*Parks, Bonnie, University of Oregon Graduate Program in Historic Preservation, From Floorcloths to Linoleum: Technology and Development of Oil-coated Floor Coverings.

San Francisco, California, April 22, 1987 - Galleria Park Hotel

Convened in conjunction with the 40th Annual Meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians. The chapter business meeting was followed by a reception co-hosted by the Northern Pacific Coast and Southern California chapters, after which members adjourned to opening events of the national meeting at the Sheraton Palace Hotel, the conference headquarters nearby.

Boise, Idaho, October 2-3, 1987 - Idaho State Historical Museum

Crowe, Michael F., National Park Service, San Francisco, California, Neon, The Living Flame.

Seattle, Washington, June 3-5, 1988 - Pike Place Public Market

Hanson, Peggy, Archivist, Episcopal Diocese of Olympia, A Welcome to Diocesan Headquarters, the Capitol Hill Mansion of Eliza Leary (1905), and Remarks on the Mansion's Arts and Crafts Interiors.
*Batten, Andrew, Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park, Seattle, Seattle and the Klondike Gold Rush. Also: Pioneer Square (walking tour commentary).
Layman, Earl D., Neskowin, Oregon, The SAH 1987 Foreign Tour of Portugal.
Lortie, Frank, California Department of Parks and Recreation, The Civilian Conservation Corps in the California State Park System.
Tapp, Marie Glassie, Seattle, Washington, Ceramic Tiles of the American Arts and Crafts Period, Being a Presentation of the Work of Some Major Tile Designers, Their Range of Style, Method of Production, and Where to See Their Works in Seattle.
Lakin, Kimberly, Research Associate, University of Oregon, The Residential Architecture of Ellis Fuller Lawrence.


Chico, California, October 14-16, 1988 - Stansbury House Museum; California State University

*Boutelle, Sara Holmes, Santa Cruz, California, Julia Morgan, Architect.
Bloomfield, Anne, San Francisco, California, San Francisco Fire Stations.
Jackson, Robert, historian, Oroville, California: An Historical Overview (preparatory to a walking tour of Oroville).
Bicknell, Catherine, Washington State University, Irving Gill: Neglected Visionary.
Kusaba, Yoshio, California State University, Chico, California State University Campus, Chico (walking tour commentary)
*Stover, Michele, California State University, Chico, Hidden Years and Lost Lives: Chico in the 19th Century.

Vancouver, British Columbia, June 16-18, 1989 - University of British Columbia

*Ochsner, Jeffrey Karl, University of Washington, Seattle Architecture, 1889-1895 (commemorating Washington Statehood Centennial).
McKay, Sherry, University of British Columbia. tour leader, metropolitan Vancouver.
*Rogatnick, Abraham, University of British Columbia (banquet address title unrecorded).

Pullman, Washington and Moscow, Idaho, October 6-8, 1989 - Washington State University; University of Idaho

Walking/driving tours of Pullman and environs, including the Washington State University campus, and Moscow, Idaho, including the campus of the University of Idaho.
Bartuska, Tom, and Young, Gerald, Washington State University, Round Forms and Rural Ruins: An Illustrated Talk on Round and Polygonal Barns and Silos in the Northwest.
*Boutelle, Sara Holmes, Santa Cruz, California, A Place for Women.

Jacksonville, Oregon, May 18-19, 1990 - United States Hotel

Donovan, Sally, Hood River, Oregon, Preserving Jacksonville's Historic Cemetery.
Berkeley, California, October 12-14, 1990 - University of California


Brechin, Gray, San Francisco, California, Phoebe Apperson Hearst and Her Design Competition for the University of California Campus at Berkeley.

Brack, Mark L., University of California, Berkeley, Disneyland: A Reconciliation.

Vanderburgh, David J. T., University of California, Berkeley, Cultures of Public Architecture in France, 1830-1880: The Case of the Cellular Prison.


Parks, Bonnie, Sacramento, California, Landscape as Historical Resource: The Etiwanda Windbreaks.

McMann, Jean, University of California, Berkeley, Loughcrew: An Irish Megalithic Landscape.

Snyder, John, Sacramento, California, Historic Uses of Asbestos in Buildings.

Brentano, Carroll, Berkeley, California, University of California Campus, Berkeley (walking tour commentary).

*Tobriner, Stephen O., University of California, Berkeley, The Earthquake of 1868 and the First Anti-Seismic Skyscrapers in San Francisco.

Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, June 14-16, 1991 - North Idaho College


Dole, Philip, University of Oregon, Around the Horn, 1850: Pacific Northwest Buildings Shipped from Maine.


Reese, D. Nels, University of Idaho, Olmsted and the University of Idaho Campus.

Ochsner, Jeffrey Karl, University of Washington, The Peripatetic Architectural Career of Willis A. Ritchie.

Heng, Chye-Kiang, University of California, Berkeley, Architectural Rendering in Chinese Pictorial Arts.

Keefe, E., University of California, Berkeley, Power Architecture: The History of Electric Substations.

Duncan, Robert I., University of Nebraska, Collaboration in a Design Ideal: Vienna 1900.

Sims, Cort, Kootenai County Historic Preservation Commission, Tour commentary: Fort Sherman Chapel.

Scudder, Bill, Park Manager, Old Mission State Park, Tour commentary: Mission of the Sacred Heart.


San Luis Obispo, California, October 12-14, 1991

Joint meeting with Southern California Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians. Bus Tour of sites in San Luis Obispo County on the central California coast. Richard Rowe, Chairman, Joint Event Committee.

*Upton, Dell, University of California, Berkeley, The Importance of Cross-Cultural Approaches As Applied to Architectural History.
*Snyder, John, California Department of Transportation, E. G. Lewis and the Women’s Republic at Atascadero, 1913-1920.

1992 No chapter meetings were held

Oakland, California, April 30, May 1-2, 1993

Joint meeting with Southern California Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians. Bus tour included a private showing of the Arts and Crafts exhibit at the Oakland Museum led by exhibit organizers Kenneth R. Trapp and Karen Weitz.

Speakers on the theme “Living the Good Life: The Arts and Crafts in California” were:

Wilson, Richard Guy
Weitz, Karen
Taylor, Joseph
Coontz, Stephanie
Delany, Randolph

Astoria, Oregon, October 15-17, 1993 - Astoria Public Library


Eaton, Leonard, Emeritus Professor of Architecture, University of Michigan (Otter Rock, Oregon), Fractal Geometry in the Late Work of Frank Lloyd Wright.
Matthews, Henry C., Washington State University, Elbert Hubbard on the Model City of America.
Ochsner, Jeffrey Karl, University of Washington, Regional Expression, Competition, and Controversy: Washington’s State Pavilion at the World’s Columbian Exposition, Chicago, 1893.

*Clausen, Meredith, University of Washington, The Lesser Known Church and Chapel Architecture of Pietro Belluschi.

Walla Walla, Washington, April 15-17, 1994 - Whitman College

Donnette, Jennifer, Klos, Mark, and Maund, Joyce, Seattle, Washington, A Demonstration of Interactive Architectural History.
Mutin, Anna, Washington State University, The Tall Building: Romantic Imagery, Transformation of Form and Other Issues.+
Holstine, Craig, Eastern Washington University, Cheney, Single Room Occupancy Hotels:
A Century of Housing the Homeless in Spokane.+
McClure, Wendy, University of Idaho, Using Computer Technology to Assess Adaptability of Early
20th Century Schools for a 21st Century Curriculum.
Meisner, Jennifer, City of Seattle Division of Urban Conservation, Roslyn, Washington: Preservation
of a Vernacular Town.+
Roth, Leland, University of Oregon, The Planned Lumber Town of Gilchrist, Oregon.+
Dodd, Larry, Whitman College Archivist, Whitman College Campus (walking tour commentary).
*Layman, Earl Drais, Neskowin, Oregon, Images of India: Moghuls, the Raj, and Corbu.

Seattle, Washington, April 6, 1995 - The Madison Hotel

A chapter business meeting was held in conjunction with the 48th Annual Meeting of the Society of
Architectural Historians, which took place in Seattle April 5-9. On April 6, the chapter considered
new bylaws, approved articles of incorporation, agreed to separate from northern California in the
understanding that a Northern California chapter was being organized, and adopted a compound
name to honor the late Marion Dean Ross and identify the Pacific Northwest domain.

Jeffrey Ochsner was local chairman of the Society’s annual meeting, and twelve other chapter
members were involved in planning and arrangements for registration, tours and varied meeting activities.

Ashland, Oregon, October 6-8, 1995 - Ashland Community Center (Women’s Civic Improvement
Clubhouse) and Pioneer Hall.

Ross, Karen, L., University of Washington, Sawmills of the Pacific Northwest.+
Eaton, Leonard, Emeritus Professor of Architecture, University of Michigan (Otter Rock, Oregon),
Music, Math, and Modules on Wright’s Windows.
Swope, Caroline, University of Washington, The Round Barn.+
Deines, Trina, University of Washington, The Basilica: Roman Court to Christian Church.
Eade, Gilbert, Bellevue, Washington, Why Do We Have Architects?+
Linder, Brad, Southern Oregon Historical Society, The 1854 Hanley Farmstead (site tour commenta-
tary).
Kramer, George, Ashland, Oregon, Historical Overview of Ashland.
Atwood, Kay, Ashland, Oregon, Ashland Historic Districts (walking tour commentary).
*Roth, Leland, University of Oregon, Architecture of the Original Oregonians.

Tacoma, Washington, September 27-29, 1996 - Old City Hall; Washington State History Museum

Pre-conference tours, courtesy of the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy, Wright’s Tracy
House (1955), Seattle, and Chauncey Griggs House (1951), Tacoma.
Fox, Susan, University of Washington, Old [Tacoma] City Hall (slide presentation).
Watts, Donald, Idaho State Historic Preservation Office, *Mr. Pegram's Idaho Bridges.*
Peterson, David R., University of Washington, *Temporary World War I Buildings at the University of Washington.*
Currier, Janice, University of Victoria, *Northwest Grave Houses and Russian Traditions.*
*Juroszek, Steve, Montana State University, *The Appeal of the Pike Place Market: Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of Its Salvation.*
Sivinski, Valerie, City of Tacoma Historic Preservation Officer, *A Brief Overview of Tacoma.*
Grant, David, and Grant, Nancy, Tacoma, Washington, *Tacoma's Broadway Theater District* (walking tour commentary).
*Hildebrand, Grant, University of Washington, *Wright, Darwin, Wells Cathedral, and the UPS [University of Puget Sound]. Also, Tacoma’s Warehouse District* (walking tour comments).

**Portland, Oregon, October 10-12, 1997 - Portland Art Museum, University Club**

Pre- and post-conference tours of John Yeon’s Aubrey Watzek House (1937), Portland; and William Case House (1858), French Prairie, courtesy W. K. and Mirza Dickel Huntington.
Ochsner, Jeffrey Karl, University of Washington, *Emulating Richardson in the 1880s and 1890s: The Romanesque Revival in the West.* (Presented on behalf of the author by: Rev. Dennis Andersen).
Matthews, Henry C., Washington State University, *Opposing Regionalism: The Campaign by MoMA toMarginalize Regional Architecture in the 1930s.*
Roth, Leland, University of Oregon, *Portland Architectural Highlights* (bus tour commentary).
Hildebrand, Grant, University of Washington, *Wendell Lovett, Architect* (introduction of Lovett Prize for Young Scholars, read for author by Miriam Sutemeister).
*Copass, Cloantha, King County, Washington Landmarks and Heritage Program, *Gaffney’s Lake Wilderness Lodge* (inaugural Lovett Prize speaker).
Boise, Idaho, October 2-4, 1998 - Idaho State Historical Museum; Basque Museum and Cultural Center

Ochsner, Jeffrey Karl, University of Washington, The University That Never Was: The 1891 Boone & Willcox Plan for the University of Washington.+

McCaughan, Karen, University of Washington, The Hughes Penthouse Theater: Preserving a Memory of the University of Washington’s History.+

Patterson, Joby, LaGrande, Oregon, Medieval Transylvania’s Wooden Churches: 800 Years of Tradition.


Booth, T. William, A.I.A., Seattle, Washington, By a Dam Site: Considering the Landscape Aesthetic of Dams.+


Seattle, Washington, October 1-3, 1999 - Suyama Space, George Suyama Architects

Conference organizing theme: “Modernism and Architectural History in the Making.”

Pre- and post-conference tours of contemporary residences on Lake Washington by architects Royal McClure and Wendell Lovett.

Ragan, Betty Sapp, University of Puget Sound, Architectural Series photo exhibit, offices of George Suyama Architects, meeting venue.


Maude, Gabrielle G. Braun, Bellingham, Washington, A Place to Be and Be Seen: Building Sun Valley, America’s First Destination Ski Resort.

Rash, David, Seattle, Washington, Publicizing Modern Houses.+

Thomas, Christopher, University of Victoria, Victoria Modern: A Different Part of the Coast.+

*Ochsner, Jeffrey Karl, University of Washington, Speculations on an Alternative Modernism: Two Projects by Lionel Pries.+


Vancouver, British Columbia, October 13-15, 2000 - Vancouver Rowing Club, Stanley Park; Vancouver Art Gallery; Museum of Anthropology, University of British Columbia

Conference organizing theme: “Other Architectural Histories.”

*Oberlander, Cornelia Hahn, Landscape Architect, An Illustrated Overview of Vancouver.
Atkin, John, Heritage Vancouver, Vancouver Neon (nocturnal bus tour commentary).
Marshall, Anne Lawrason, University of Idaho, Teaching Other Architectural Histories.+
Luxton, Don, Vancouver, B. C., Building the West: The Early Architects of British Columbia. Also: Walking Tour Commentary, Gastown and Chinatown.
White, Stephanie, University of Calgary, Small Embassies On An International Border: Canadian Customs Buildings at United States Crossings.+
Tyner, Jana, University of British Columbia, Vancouver’s Better Housing Scheme and the Lumber Industry.+
Houser, Michael, Deschutes County, Oregon, Community Development Department, Don Byers and the Universal Plan Service.+
McClure, Wendy R., University of Idaho, Restoring a Civic Culture: Profiles of Western Railroad Towns.+
D’Agnostini, Marco, Vancouver, B. C. Planning Department, Burrard and Granville Streets (walking tour commentary).
Kalman, Harold D., Vancouver, British Columbia, Vancouver Architectural Highlights (bus tour commentary).

Sunriver and Bend, Oregon, October 12-14, 2001 - Sunriver Resort; The High Desert Museum

Stevens, Donald E., A.I.A., Bend, Oregon, Preserving Camp Abbot’s Great Hall. Also: Site Coordination, Pietro Belluschi Houses for the Wilson Brothers at Mecca.
Boyd, Robert, Curator of Western Heritage, High Desert Museum, Basque, Buckaroo and Chinese Landscapes in the High Desert.
Tonsfeldt, H. Ward, Emeritus Professor of Humanities, Central Oregon Community College, Bend: A Central Oregon Company Town. Also: Bus tour commentary, Bend and Crooked River Bridges, Peter Skene Ogden Scenic Wayside, U. S. 97.
Hartmans, Donna, Boise, Idaho, Pacific and Idaho Northern Railroad Depot: Catalyst for Economic Development in New Meadows, Idaho.
Crosby, Grant, University of Oregon, Hand-building the Aneroid Lake Resort, 1896-1941: Charles Seeber’s Horizontal Log Cabins in Oregon’s Wallowa Mountains.
Sundt, Richard, University of Oregon, The Emergence of the Decorated Church among the New Zealand Maori.
Houser, Michael, Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Bend and Environs (bus/walking tour commentary).
Eade, Gil, Sunriver, Oregon, Central Oregon’s Geological Formations (tour comments).

*Stastny, Donald J., F.A.I.A., Portland, Oregon, Giving Form to Traditional Values: Reflections on The Museum at Warm Springs, Huhugam Heritage Center, and a Native American Student and Community Center for Portland State University.

**Ilwaco, Washington, October 4-6, 2002 - Ilwaco Heritage Museum; Fort Columbia State Historical Park; The Rebecca Inn

Conference organizing theme: “The Columbia Meets the Pacific: Fishing Villages, Summer Resorts, and Coastal Fortifications.”

Gallacci, Caroline, Ph.D., Overview of Ilwaco and Environ.

Gruich, Gene, A.I.A., Tacoma, Washington, Researching and Restoring the Colbert House (1872-1896), Ilwaco. Also: Restoration of Oysterville Church by the Oysterville Restoration Foundation (tour site commentary).

Edwards, Helen, Hallmark Society, Victoria, B. C., Wildwood Avenue: Victoria’s Neighborhood Development in Microcosm.

Hildebrand, Grant, Emeritus Professor of Architecture, University of Washington, Two Medieval Norwegian Stave Churches in the Pacific Northwest [vacation cabins on the Washington Coast designed by Arne Bystrom].

Hansen, David, Historic Preservation Officer, Washington State Parks and Recreation Department, It’s Not All Concrete [historical development of seacoast fortifications]. Also: Fort Columbia 1896-1904 (walking tour commentary).

Houser, Michael, Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Longview Peninsula (bus tour commentary).

Freshley, Gloria, and Driscoll, Katherine, Tom Crellin House (1869) and Oysterville Sea Farms, Historic Oysterville (tour site commentaries).


**Victoria, British Columbia, October 3-5, 2003 - Union Club of British Columbia; St. Ann’s Academy Auditorium

Conference organizing theme: “Borders and Boundaries: How These Factors Have Shaped the Architecture of Their Areas.”

Segger, Martin, University of Victoria, and Hodgson, Alan, Architect, Victoria, B. C., Victoria’s Parliamentary Precinct (tour commentary). Also, with Christopher Thomas, University of Victoria Campus (tour commentary).

Barber, Steve, City of Victoria Heritage Planner, Overview of Victoria’s Historic Preservation Program.

McGrail, Justin, University of Victoria, Shaping Social Spaces: Early Victoria and the Careers of Edward Mallandaine.

Moogk, Peter N., University of British Columbia, Fur Trade Architecture in the Pacific Northwest.

Anderson, Marvin J., University of Washington, Architectural Education in Early American Schools of Engineering.

Mackin, Nancy, University of British Columbia (proposed with Deanna Nyce, Wilp Wilxo’oskshi Nisga’a), Houses of Learning in British Columbia: An Architectural/Pedagogical History.

Matthews, Henry, Washington State University, Human Factors in the Mosques of Mimar Sinan.

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Swope, Caroline, Seattle Central Community College, *Go Abroad This Year!: Visiting “Germany” in the United States.*


*Luxton, Don, Vancouver, B.C., editor, *Building the West: The Early Architects of British Columbia.* [The story behind the 2003 publication that won a Heritage Canada Achievement Award.]*

Eugene, Oregon, October 8-10, 2004 - University of Oregon - 50th Anniversary Conference

Special exhibits in the University of Oregon Knight Library with commentary.

Teague, Edward H., Head, Architecture and Allied Arts Library and Exhibit Coordinator, *Building Oregon: Design and Documentation, the University Campus Since 1873.*

Roth, Leland M., Marion Dean Ross Professor of Architectural History, *Rare Architectural Books in the University Library System, Acquisitions Aided by the Marion Dean Ross Bequest.*

Turner, David, Director, University of Oregon Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, *A Welcome to the Renovated and Expanded Museum.*

Fox, James, Curator, Division of Special Collections and Archives, University of Oregon Knight Library; and Potter, Elisabeth Walton, Salem, Oregon, *Preserving and Writing Chapter History.*


Tice, James, University of Oregon Department of Architecture, *Frank Lloyd Wright and the Vicissitudes of Composition.*

Painter, Diana, Preservation and Planning Consultant, Petaluma, California, *The Pattern Book Houses of Spokane’s West Central Neighborhood.*

Nielsen, Rebecca, University of Oregon, *Finnish Immigrant Architecture in Blind Slough, Clatsop County, Oregon.*

Bell, Shannon M. S., University of Oregon, *The History and Preservation of Vertical Plank and Box-constructed Buildings in the Pacific Northwest.*

Eade, Gilbert, Sunriver, Oregon, *But is it Architecture?* Commentary: Miriam C. Sutermeister.

Segger, Martin, University of Victoria, *The Royal Architectural Institute of Canada Syllabus Diploma Program.*

*Hildebrand, Grant, Emeritus Professor of Architecture, University of Washington, *The Seattle Public Library and the MDRC.*

Thompson, Christine, University of Oregon Planning Office, *Highlights of the University of Oregon Campus* (walking tour commentary).

Guzowski, Kenneth, City of Eugene Department of Planning and Development, and Eugene Historic Review Board, *Downtown Eugene* (walking tour commentary).
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Fig. 26. The poster design for the 1999 annual conference of the Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians in Seattle was produced by Jeannette Reynolds. In the series of conferences meticulously planned by Miriam Suttermeister and her executive group 1996-2000, posters emerged as an effective way to publicize chapter meetings on campus bulletin boards and online.
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