

# OAH Newsletter



Vietnam Veterans Memorial

*Jeff Ploskonka, Smithsonian Institution*

## The Project on the Vietnam Generation

Organization of American Historians  
**Newsletter**

Volume 14, Number 1

February 1986

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The OAH Newsletter is published in February, May, August, and November by the Organization of American Historians, 112 North Bryan Street, Bloomington, Indiana 47401. Material for publication should be submitted to the editor two months before each issue. Copy should be double-spaced; footnotes should be kept to a minimum and integrated into the text parenthetically. The Newsletter disclaims responsibility for statements by contributors, and the editor will condense items when necessary and reject items because of length.

Full, half, quarter-page, and job announcement advertisements are available. Contact the advertising manager for rates and deadlines.

Selected back issues of the Newsletter are available for \$1.50 each. For more information, contact the editor.

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# History Over the Years

## From Heresy to Legitimacy: The Legitimation of Afro-American History

August Meier  
Elliott Rudwick

[Editor's note: Elliott Rudwick, professor of history and sociology at Kent State University, died suddenly on December 20, 1985.]

When we first became interested in the study of the black experience some forty years ago, the field of Negro history was a specialty marginal to the discipline, and one that lacked legitimacy in the eyes of nearly the entire profession. With the exception of a part-time slot at City College of New York, Afro-American history was taught only at the black colleges. Not a single Negro was a full-time faculty member in a history department in a predominantly white college or university. Prior to the appearance of an article by Benjamin Quarles in the Mississippi Valley Historical Review (MVHR) in 1945, not a single essay by a black scholar had been published in the three major historical journals--the American Historical Review (AHR), the MVHR, and the Journal of Southern History (JSH)--except for W.E.B. DuBois's lonely essay on Reconstruction in the AHR in 1910. Similarly, not one Negro had ever appeared on the programs of the Southern Historical Association and the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, and no black historians had participated in a convention of the American Historical Association between DuBois's 1909 appearance and a session arranged by program chair Merle Curti for the meetings in 1940.

The views of Ulrich B. Phillips and William A. Dunning dominated the teaching of slavery and Reconstruction, and in other respects textbooks ignored the role of blacks in American history and tended to portray the Abolitionists as disagreeable zealots at best and as insane at worst. Although DuBois and the circle of black scholars (like Luther Porter Jackson and Lorenzo J. Greene) around Carter G. Woodson in his Association for the Study of Negro Life and History had produced a significant corpus of scholarship, there was no

satisfactory survey volume in the field of Afro-American history. At the time, in fact, most of the outstanding work on blacks in America had been done in sociology rather than in history.

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It is true that under the impact of the crisis of the New Deal and World War II, a small band of liberal and radical white historians, deeply aware of the importance of black history, had appeared. The situation was epitomized by the way in which the young historian Kenneth Stampp welcomed the appearance of Herbert Aptheker's 1943 American Negro Slave Revolts. Writing in Dwight McDonald's sectarian, Marxist anti-Stalinist journal Politics, Stampp welcomed the appearance of this fellow "heretic," part of a "dissenting minority" willing to challenge the "upholders of the Southern legend" who dominated the profession.

The contrast between this situation and the attention that black history has received since the death of Martin Luther King Jr. is as profound as it is obvious. From being a specialty on the fringes of the profession, it had moved to a central place in the study of the American past. Moreover, in the late 1960s and early 1970s, it was undoubtedly the liveliest and most innovative field in American history. While this is no longer the case, it is clear that the serious study of the history of race relations and the black experience has permanently entered the mainstream of American historical writing and teaching.

A brief review of some highlights suggests the

changes that were occurring in the years following World War II, and which helped pave the way for the explosion of

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scholarship that made history the discipline that has provided the most important contributions to the study of the black experience.

In 1947, the appearance of John Hope Franklin's survey, *From Slavery to Freedom*, was like a breath of fresh air to the tiny group of scholars who were then seriously interested in the subject, coherently synthesizing as it did all of the best research that had been done. In 1955 appeared C. Vann Woodward's *Strange Career of Jim Crow*, and the following year came Kenneth Stampp's epochal reversal of Phillip's *American Negro Slavery*. This was also the year in which John Hope Franklin was named the chair of Brooklyn College's history department, thus becoming the first black historian to secure a regular position in a predominantly white institution in the United States. The fact that by mid-century young scholars of the caliber and interest of Woodward and Stampp had found positions in two of the most prestigious history departments in the country--Johns Hopkins and the University of California at Berkeley--was itself an indication of the way in which things were moving. Moreover, during the 1950s, the two of us, along with other young white scholars like Carl Degler, David Brion Davis, Francis Broderick, Leon Litwack, Winthrop Jordan, and Louis Harlan were undertaking our early research in the field. Yet as late as 1960 the situation was such that Litwack, who had finished his influential dissertation (published as *North of Slavery* in 1961), upon being advised by a friendly professor that to become identified with black history would be a serious impediment to his career, turned to another area of study for several years. Stanley Elkins's provocative *Slavery*, which was published in 1959, had miniscule sales,

but then became virtually a best-seller in the profession in 1963, at the climax of the nonviolent phase of the black protest movement.

The basic factor underlying the gradually growing interest in the black experience and the history of race relations had been the rise of liberal intellectuals in the ranks of the profession since the late 1930s. By mid-century scientific racism had lost its respectability among historians and other social scientists. Younger historians, socialized first during the New Deal and World War II and then during the growing salience of the civil rights issue from Truman through Martin Luther King's Montgomery Bus Boycott and Little Rock, exhibited growing sensitivity to the subject.

Curiously enough, paralleling the growing interest in

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black history to be found among younger white historians during the 1950s, there were changes in attitude among young black intellectuals that inhibited scholarly inquiry into the black past and created what has been called a "generation gap" in the ranks of black historians making contributions to the field. Developments in the postwar years actually promoted among many black intellectuals a cautious optimism and universalistic aspirations that together produced a marked tendency among black doctoral students to do their dissertations on other aspects of American history than the black past. (Two good examples of this tendency were Nathan Huggins and David L. Lewis, both of whom would later become well known for their important contributions to Afro-American history.) The ironic result is that following the early works in the 1940s of Rayford Logan, Benjamin Quarles, and John Hope Franklin (who himself is actually a specialist in Southern rather than black history) the important monographs being done in the field by young Ph.D.s were written

by white scholars. The generation gap during which few new publishing black scholars were attracted to the field of black history is an arresting anomaly. The great majority of the articles published in the *Journal of Negro History* were the product of white scholarship, and whites seemed to pretty much dominate the growth of black history scholarship during the 1950s and 1960s. Then in the early 1970s, with the appearance of a new generation of black scholars, the situation changed dramatically.

The events of the 1960s were important for young historians, both black and white. The enormous rise in productivity in the field that began at the end of the decade, while partly reflecting a new interest by individuals already established in other fields of American history, was the product of young scholars of both races, born in the 1940s and socialized by the drama and moral fervor of the black protest movement of the 1960s. This interest in the black past intersected with other intellectual and social influences that helped produce the new social and working class history. In turn, black history and the new social history strengthened, and as has been said, "fed upon," each other. The result was that the late 1960s and early 1970s marked the period when black history can properly be regarded as being at the very center of the study of the American past. Attesting to the importance and legitimacy of the field was the number of

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articles on the subject that were appearing in all the major historical journals, and of papers presented on the programs of the major historical conventions. At the same time, blacks were participating in the activities and offices in an unprecedented way in the major predominantly white professional organizations, a trend epitomized by the election of John Hope Franklin to the presidency of the SHA, the

OAH, and the AHA between 1970 and 1980.

Thus the historical discipline today with black history securely legitimated as a research field and teaching specialty is the beneficiary of the changes in the intellectual and social milieu that were becoming evident as we were starting our careers about four decades ago.

August Meier, University Professor of history at Kent State University, and Elliott Rudwick, professor of history and sociology at Kent State University, have collaborated on numerous works in Afro-American history. Their most recent work, *Black History and the Historical Profession, 1915-1980* (University of Illinois Press), will be available in April.

## NICLOG Offers Aids for Records Preservation

The National Information Center for Local Government records (NICLOG) has published a new brochure on the protection of local public records. "Guardians of the Public Record" informs local government officials about the basic steps in records management, and the benefits to be gained from them. Also included are addresses and telephone numbers of members of the Joint Committee on the Management, Preservation, and Use of Local Government Records.

Additionally, NICLOG has produced an audiovisual program that presents the same material as the brochure, and has commissioned a basic technical manual on local records management that will be published later in 1986.

Finally, NICLOG offers a free reference and referral service to help callers find sources of assistance for records problems, which includes referring them to state archival and records management agencies.

Copies of the brochure can be obtained by writing NICLOG, 172 Second Avenue North, Suite 102, Nashville, Tennessee 37201, or by calling (615) 255-2971.

# Taking Aim on Saigon: Rambo, Writers, and the Vietnam War

Sandra Taylor

If visual images alone made history, April 30, 1975--a day whose most abiding memory is that of a helicopter picking up people off the roof of the American embassy in Saigon--would have taken its place as one to "live in infamy." Lest we forget, television provided a visual orgy of remembrances in the three-week period from mid-April to early May 1985. In a year crammed with anniversarizing, Vietnam grabbed its share of video spectaculars, series from Saigon, and documentaries.

But what did the American public learn from the week? That Communist Vietnam is poor, totalitarian, and wants American money seemed to be the common and unsurprising denominator. While some tidbits of interest were aired, only NBC was bold enough to rehash the Tonkin Gulf incident and inform the ahistorical masses that the second attack on the Maddox and the C. Turner Joy was spurious.

Otherwise, in clips that featured every possible segment of the Vietnam Generation from POWs and nurses to anti-war protestors like Tom Hayden, the media provided an anthology of opinions

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and a potpourri of post-mortems from which to draw whatever conclusions possible for a public increasingly ignorant about America's longest war. Still nursing their own wounds, the networks generally strove to avoid accusations that they considered the war wrong. (Curious, since a Newsweek poll April 15, 1985 revealed that the public as a whole still views the war as a mistake.)

The tube not only invokes memories: popular culture is creating a new image of the war. Vietnam is now background for standard, action-packed adventure stories on video, film, and the mass paperback market, and its veterans have become transmogrified into glamorous crime fighters like Magnum, P.I.

The current theme of choice involves rescues of POWs and MIAs supposedly abandoned at war's end and ignored by an indifferent government. Although no one has yet advanced a plausible reason

why--even if they were alive--Hanoi would want to keep them, the MIA issue has struck an emotional response akin to that produced twelve years ago by the POWs. Despite all logic to the contrary, their families cling to clues of their survival and the public suspends disbelief and flocks to films where a superhero comes to the rescue.

The big money-maker of summer 1985, Rambo: First Blood Part II, is, one would hope, the ultimate of the genre. Following on three earlier variations on the MIA theme (Uncommon Valor [1983], Missing in Action [1984], and Missing in Action II [1985]), Rambo would seem to have reached the point of ultimate absurdity. Yet underneath its glossy exterior lies a jingoistic view of the past and a distortion of any sense of the realities of Vietnam. Rambo is revisionist, exploitative, stereotypical, and insulting to veterans all at the same time. But the public does not care; the image of a muscle-bound hero bashing "gooks," pushing over "ruskies," and winning the war ten years after the fact of defeat through a combination of exploding arrows and superhuman bravado signaled that the war President Reagan has been so determinedly promoting as a "noble cause" has finally become big box office.

This right-wing vision of the war promoted by the media even has had its semi-scholarly aspects. One of the less-memorable media events of the spring was the hour-long program produced by Accuracy in Media (AIM) as a rebuttal to PBS's 1983 award-winning series, Vietnam: A Television History. Titled Television's Vietnam: The Real Story, it treated viewers to Charleton Heston playing the historian, assuring his audience that Ho Chi Minh really was a murderous Communist, and that Ngo Dinh Diem was indeed the George Washington of South Vietnam. Wounded, PBS fought back with its own Vietnam: Op Ed--An Inside Story, and the war of the documentaries still continues.

In some ways, this new image of the Vietnam War has affected popular consciousness. There is a belated recognition, dating from the building of the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in 1980, that the veterans are not drug-crazed baby killers. Some are anguished (as the film Cease Fire dramatizes), some are successful, but few deserved to be treated like the murderers of My Lai. Yet one must be cautious before assuming that the new media image of Vietnam has drastically altered historic consciousness of the war.

Richard Nixon would certainly like to think so. The AIM effort must surely have pleased him. His historic consciousness, as evinced in his memorial

to Saigon, No More Vietnams, is clearly revisionist. In a book aimed at the Rambo mentality, he presents a version of the war's history that is the old conventional wisdom; he justifies intervention, supported escalation--bemoaning only its slowness, and believes in a military solution regardless of the costs. The only villains to Nixon are the anti-war movement and Congress, so befuddled by Watergate that it emasculated aid to Saigon after victory was presumably assured in 1972. Bombing to sustain the cause would have ensured its triumph, Nixon postulates, but America let victory slip through its fingers and lost a critical episode in the ongoing "third World War." Lest anyone mistake the meaning of Nixon's title, his thesis is much the same as Rambo's: next time, we win.

Yet when one turns to more scholarly assessments, the vision of Vietnam that undergirds the mid-1980s may have its own byword: no final answers. For historians, journalists, and refugees of the Vietnam era have continued to limn the outlines of this most troubling conflict, while their conflicting conclusions seem to ensure that there will be no consensus--at least not for this generation.

The rhetoric of Richard Nixon finds no exact counterpart with scholars, but several military writers seem to share his belief that just a little more firepower would have done it. Today, few are as shrill in advancing the "hands-tied-behind-our-backs" thesis as General William Westmoreland was in A Soldier Reports, and many, like Colonel Harry Summers in On Strategy, have taken issue with the way the General fought the war. However, the military has not abandoned that easy target, the politicians.

The thoughtful personal memoir and military reassessment by Major Bruce Palmer (The Twenty-Five Year War) hints at the Westmoreland complaint, but is somewhat less sanguine that America could have triumphed. However, like Summers, Palmer believes that, while Vietnam probably was not vital to national security, America was correct in intervening. To him, the major lessons are that the U.S. should not fight unless people perceive the war to be in the national interest, and that Congress and the public must be more involved in the decision-making process. Palmer also deplores the lack of a defined military objective and a winnable strategy.

Military historian Shelby Stanton in The Rise and Fall of an American Army presents a detailed account of military operations in Indochina. He corrects the mistaken notion that American forces always won, but he reaffirms the notion

of political restraint--that the military's inability to conduct ground operations outside South Vietnam prevented victory. However, his analysis of the cost to the army of faulty strategy, incomplete preparation, and what he considers the "tardy move toward Vietnamization" is extremely useful. Stanton's work, coupled with Ronald Spector's thorough study, Advice and Support: The Early Years, 1941-1960, provides comprehensive coverage of most of the American military effort.

While the military counts the costs, blames the politicians, assesses the errors, and, one hopes, seeks to avoid a repeat of disaster, yesterday's radicals have taken a different tack. New left historians William Appleman Williams, Lloyd Gardner, Walter LaFeber, and Thomas McCormick have looked to classroom needs and compiled America in Vietnam: A Documentary History. Slyly adapting the title of one of the original New Revisionist histories of the war, authored by Guenter Lewy in 1978, these scholars not only have collected pertinent documents but also have provided incisive introductions to material that will challenge the Rambo thesis of Vietnam.

The most provocative of the new liberal responses to the war, however, is Backfire: A History of How American Culture Led Us into Vietnam and Made Us Fight the Way We Did. Written by the cultural historian Loren Baritz, Backfire is one of those rare works that may live up to the enthusiastic encomiums that adorn the book jacket: "Provocative. Confrontational. Healing." Baritz maintains the Vietnam War must be examined from the perspective of culture, rather than from the standpoint of strategy and military operations. Detailing underlying racist and xenophobic themes in American society, Baritz sketches the "chain" that led the nation into Vietnam and examines the stereotypes that produced such misunderstanding of both ally and enemy. His history of the war bears little resemblance to Nixon's, as Baritz, like

**Baritz is provocative throughout, but never more so than when he analyzes the "enabling ignorance" that enabled the country to conduct a war both more brutal than any other it fought, and at the same time more stupid.**

the little boy in "The Emperor's New Clothes," is bold enough to acknowledge that America did indeed lose the war and to accept that defeat without palming it off onto scapegoats. The United States converted the problem created by Communism in Vietnam into a disaster; we did it to ourselves and we are likely to do it again, he warns.

Baritz is provocative throughout, but never more so than when he analyzes the "enabling ignorance" that enabled the

country to conduct a war both more brutal than any other it fought, and at the same time more stupid. When something did not work, the military did more of it. When the newly designed M-16 rifle turned out to have too high a velocity standard to meet some arbitrary specifications, it was redesigned to be less reliable. The Pentagon deliberately torpedoed the Green Berets and the counter-insurgency program since it did not want to fight that kind of war. The Air Force used B-52s to bomb Vietnam despite knowledge that propeller-driven aircraft would be more effective at locating the enemy, in order to have more large craft available at the end of the war. His list is endless, and it makes the military arguments about winning the war in 1972 and having victory negated by a parsimonious Congress appear as hollow and self-serving rhetoric.

What, then, was the problem? Baritz looks to American culture, to an obsessively technological and bureaucratic society, overwhelmingly powerful but complacent and rigid. Its strength is ignorance, for it deceives Americans into thinking they do not have to understand the rest of the world. We are what went wrong in Vietnam, and we are likely to re-create another Vietnam as we move into an era of self-congratulatory complacency. Baritz despairs that any lessons have been learned.

Beautifully crafted and argued with the passions of the war years, Baritz's work will give a new arsenal to those who still maintain that Vietnam was an unjust, immoral war. But his provocative arguments render unlikely the acceptance of his conclusions. A nation that flocks to see Rambo spurns the kind of self-analysis that Baritz prescribes, and scholars determining what military mistakes we made will not agree that being there at all was the first and final one.

Yet, few Americans have investigated the Vietnamese story. The conflict was at the outset a revolution, not the romantic depiction of Frances Fitzgerald, but an intensely nationalist, anti-foreign conflict where the intervening Americans became of necessity the enemy. A Vietcong Memoir: An Inside Account of The Vietnam War and Its Aftermath by Troung Nhu Tang, the former minister of justice in the People's Revolutionary Government and the highest-ranking former enemy official in exile, looks at the other side.

Tang was a non-communist nationalist who helped found the National Liberation Front. His account of a life of resistance against foreign domination and corrupt rule makes the futility of American intervention graphic. Yet Tang's painful disillusionment with the North, which led him ultimately to flee his homeland, is an indictment that will be gratifying to many Americans anxious to cast Hanoi in the bleakest of lights. Just as the journalists who visited Vietnam in April ignored the effects of the war in their depiction of the unpleasantness of life under Communism,

Tang berates the North for having imposed totalitarianism on the South, yet he glosses over the destruction of the Viet Cong in the Tet offensive and the deadly consequences of the Phoenix program that probably made it inevitable.

Had the U.S. not intervened, perhaps Tang's comrades in the National Liberation Front could have won independence from foreign domination and replaced the autocratic regimes of Diem and Thieu with a genuine third force. Tang's artfully rendered story raises, however unconvincingly, that possibility.

Interest in the Americans who lived and died in those troubled times has mushroomed since the dedication of the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial. Among the most thoughtful accounts of the Vietnam Generation is Myra MacPherson's Long Time Passing: Vietnam and the Haunted Generation. Rich in anecdotal material and comprehensive in its depiction of the diversity of Americans ensnared by the war or its consequences, MacPherson's work leaves little doubt that Vietnam marked a generation and left it scarred. Her opening scene, the story of two brothers who fought side by side in the war, yet came home with radically different opinions about its worth, epitomizes not only the divisions among the veterans but among all members of the Vietnam Generation. To MacPherson, the veterans are neither forgotten heroes nor psychopathic killers, nor were those who did not fight either idealists or cowards. That complex and divisive war sparked a rainbow of responses and a flood of postwar reactions, and the word "haunted" is well justified.

If MacPherson's book is as moving as Frances Fitzgerald's Fire in the Lake, John Wheeler's Touched with Fire: The Future of the Vietnam Generation is more subtle than the shrill diatribes of Nixon and Norman Podhoretz (Why We Were In Vietnam), yet still sympathetic to a conservative assessment of the war. Emphasizing that most veterans are responsible members of society, Wheeler, who organized the Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program and helped create the Washington memorial, predicts great things from that generation, whom he sees as proud of their war experiences. Back to a noble cause.

Work on the war goes on. Renewed interest in the anti-war movement, military histories, analyses of the role of the media, and personal memoirs pour from the presses along with more popular accounts. Although scholars are hampered by restricted access to documents, a critical problem exacerbated by the Reagan administration's compulsion with secrecy and its determination to re-censor even those documents previously opened, research continues. Although archivists labor at declassification, scholars working at the Lyndon B. Johnson Library encounter pink sheets listing, to their dismay, hundreds of documents in the National Security Files that remain closed, and with grim determination, file their requests for

compulsory review. It may be many years before their hopes are answered. Scholars of the Nixon years will wait even longer. A mountain of paper documenting that most anguished of wars is still under lock and key, its secrets kept from public scrutiny. While the ideologues of the Right view Vietnam through the prism of Ramboism, the public has not been converted. Many who remember the war oppose intervention in Central America, and although they vote for Ronald Reagan, few see Vietnam as a noble cause. Grenada may have been a quick and easy victory, but those are rare, and Vietnam remains the paradigm for intervention into Third World revolutions--long, costly, uncertain, and ultimately unsatisfactory. Those

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who would understand on the basis of evidence and analysis continue their search for answers. They may not come in our generation.

Sandra C. Taylor is professor of history at the University of Utah. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Colorado in 1966. Her book, *Advocate of Understanding: Sidney Gulick and the Search for Peace with Japan*, was published in 1984 by Kent State University Press. A diplomatic historian, her current interests focus on the history of the Vietnam War; she was a member of the first delegation of educators to visit Laos, Vietnam, and Kampuchea, organized by the U.S.-Indochina Reconciliation Project in Philadelphia. She also holds the rank of University Professor for 1985-86.



Courtesy of The State Historical Society of Wisconsin

**Frederick Jackson Turner, c. 1884**

## OAH/FIPSE Project Now Underway

The OAH/FIPSE Project to Revitalize Graduate Training in American History has received an additional two years of funding from the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE). The grant is based on the success of the regional workshops and consulting faculty team visitations developed during the Project's Pilot Phase, which ran from December 1983 to August 1985. Under the direction of Professor Robert F. Berkhofer, Jr., the Project sponsored two regional workshops for chairs of departments of history and graduate program directors. In addition to these workshops, the Pilot Project visited the history departments of the University of Kentucky, Indiana State University, Ball State University, and Purdue University.

The Project recently has appointed a National Board of Directors under chair Michael Hogan (Miami University, Oxford, Ohio). The Board members are: James F. Adomanis (South River High School, Annapolis, Maryland); James B. Crooks (Professor of History, University of North Florida); Claire L. Gaudiani (Assistant Director, The Lauder Institute of Management and International Studies, University of Pennsylvania); Paula Gillett (Resident Scholar/Project Coordinator, University of California, Berkeley); Mary M. Heiberger (Associate Director, Career Planning and Placement, University of Pennsylvania); James K. Huhta (Director, Center for Historic Preservation, Middle Tennessee State University); Henry M. Hutson (Director of Personnel, Cummins Engine Company); Heather Huyck (National Park Service, Washington, D.C.); Walter Nugent (Professor of History, University of Notre Dame); Herbert J. Rissler (Chair, Department of History, Indiana State

University); Lois Scharf (Executive Director, National History Day); Mary Hayes Somers (Scholars in Transition, Institute for Research in History); Noel Stowe (Professor of History, Arizona State University); David Thelen (Editor, *Journal of American History*); Joan Hoff-Wilson (Executive Secretary, Organization of American Historians); Roger Wangen (Minnesota Department of Education); and Joel Zimelman (Administrative Director, Career Opportunities Institute, University of Virginia). The Board had its first meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana January 30-31.

On November 1, 1985, Dr. William H. A. Williams became the new Project Director. Dr. Williams holds a Ph.D. in American history from The Johns Hopkins University and a Masters of Library Sciences from Indiana University. He has taught American history at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, the National University of Ireland in Dublin, and Arizona State University at Tempe. He also taught American Studies at the Justus-Liebig Universitäts in Giessen, West Germany. In recent years, he has worked as a futurist consultant. Dr. Williams has published a book on H. L. Mencken and articles on Irish Studies and Future Studies.

Mr. Michael Regoli, who continues as Project Coordinator, completes the first full-time staff the OAH has had in this Project.

Departments of history interested in regional workshops or receiving a Team visitation from the Project should contact Dr. Williams at (812) 335-7312 as soon as possible.

## Third Volume on Wisconsin History Available

The third volume of a six-volume project on Wisconsin history, published by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, presents a comprehensive and balanced account of an important but generally little-understood chapter of the state's history.

The History of Wisconsin Volume III: Urbanization and Industrialization, 1873-1893, written by Robert C. Nesbit, details a period of Wisconsin history that--on the surface--lacks the large-scale events on which the first two volumes were based: early explorations to the attainment of statehood, and the supreme test of the Union during the Civil War. Yet Nesbit's treatment of the period offers the reader new insight into a time during which a major shift in the state's economy took place.

The two decades between 1873 and 1893 were marked by sweeping changes in the ways people lived, worked, associated, and responded to the society around them. An extractive frontier economy in 1873 emerged as an urban-centered industrial economy in 1893. Wisconsin

farmers undertook the long transition from wheat farming to dairying and other forms of intensive agriculture. Railroads crisscrossed the state by 1893, thus allowing for settlement of land once dotted only by temporary shelters.

These changes in the economy inevitably wrought far-reaching adjustments of Wisconsin's social and political structures. The population of the state became highly mobile; a large influx of immigrants put new demands on the social and political systems; women began entering the paid work force in unprecedented numbers; and the advent of industry led to strife in the workplace between management and labor.

The History of Wisconsin Volume III is available from the Publications Department, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 816 State Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53706. Within the book's 720 pages are twenty-three two-color maps and thirty-two pages of period photographs. Cost of the hard-cover book is \$30.00.

## That's Show Biz?

# Consulting Historians and Television Documentaries

Norman Silber

On September 16, at 10:00 p.m., I found myself watching a new television documentary with far less detachment than usual, since I had been a consulting historian on the project. The Public Broadcasting Network schedules nearly a dozen such documentaries during a regular season, ranging from ambitiously scaled, multi-part shows (the recent series Vietnam: A Television History, Bill Moyer's Walk Through the Twentieth Century, and History of Judaism come to mind) to more modest but equally penetrating explorations of people, events, and movements (recent documentaries about Herman Melville and the New York World's Fair, for example). In all of these, professional historians generally are asked to help make programs accurate, substantial, and faithful to our professional understanding. In many cases, the quality of the relationship between the historian and filmmaker is central to the success of a program. Weak collaborations have the potential to impair an otherwise excellent treatment; strong involvement by historians can distinguish a show.

The program I worked on was an hour-long documentary called America At Risk: A History of Consumer Protest--the first such history, and one designed to provoke thought about the continuity and influence of consumer reformers since the colonial era. Sarah Stage, Allis Wolfe and I collaborated on the film's production, working with six major funders and an independent film producer on the project over a period that spanned more than two years. At times, the chances for the completion of the project--to say nothing of its success--were in serious doubt. Ultimately, however, a good working relationship developed among those involved, and the project bore fruit. America At Risk received praise from historians and positive reviews in papers including the New York Times. The Times regretted its tendency to try to do too much in an hour, but called the show "a fine example of a television history lesson."

Those of us who participated as historical consultants seemed pleased by the success of the program, but were aware of its limitations. Parts worked well, but others did not. We wondered how flaws that we had noticed in other documentaries and had determined to avoid managed to creep into our program. Why, we wondered, couldn't we dissolve the tensions that encumber so many historical documentaries--between scholarly accuracy and popular entertainment, between visual excitement and verbal interest, between depth and coverage, between fostering appreciation for the past and bringing insight to contemporary problems?

Beyond the fundamental difficulty of finding enough money to produce a professional piece of work, the reasons for the imperfect integration of historical substance into documentary television programs lie with the institutional process of documentary filmmaking. Unless checked, this process does not promote community among historians and others involved with a program: instead it promotes conflict. The extent to which our program succeeded can be traced to those who coordinated the project; for they identified those characteristics of the

*If filmmaking operates according to interest-group demands, historical accuracy suffers more than other interests.*

filmmaking process that were endangering our collaboration, and took steps to avoid them.

Here briefly, are six of the problems that were identified, and some ideas about their solution:

The members of a documentary project may see themselves as struggling against each other to reach competing objectives. In a typical project, the historian is the guardian of one discrete interest--ensuring some minimal level of verisimilitude--while there are many interests that

need to be served. No wonder that the historian then views his or her own role in excessively narrow terms, and that other participants treat historical accuracy as an irritant to their purposes!

If filmmaking operates according to interest-group demands, historical accuracy suffers more than other interests. In seeking to change the way historical themes are treated, for example, producers, directors, and other members of the project can appeal to each other on the grounds that money will be saved, that the process will be more efficient, or that commercial success of the project will be assured. Funding sources or budget overseers thus may try to change the emphasis of the film to avoid spending money; or the director and scriptwriter may want to provide a show with contemporary political impact; or the producer and executive producer may prevent money from being spent for rare footage or for musical rights; or the film crew may place time deadlines on historical review, which makes checks for the accuracy and polishing of the script impossible; or network executives may decide not to air a documentary unless particular segments are added or deleted.

The consulting historian, on the other hand, cares deeply about historical precision. Yet when push comes to shove, he or she lacks real authority over the script and has little leverage to use in trying to change it--he or she is hired to lend advice. He or she can appeal to the disapproval that the historical community may express about a particular subject, or in extreme cases can threaten to remove his or her name from the credits, but these are weak and even counterproductive measures. From a practical as well as theoretical perspective, the consultant does best by building joint responsibility for historical accuracy into the project, at every possible step.

The filmmaker works steadily; but the consulting

historian may be hired on an ad hoc, part-time basis. While the rest of the crew works together routinely, the historian becomes an outsider; while the rest of the team develops an intimate familiarity with the technical aspects of a production, the historian has little exposure to the intricacies and costs of the process. A lack of day-to-day experience, in turn, depreciates the value given to a historian's suggestions, which can be rejected or impeached on the grounds that they are too late or impractical or both. Furthermore, if more than one historical consultant has been chosen, and they are remote from the television studio, and they do not communicate regularly with one another, disagreements between them can be exploited by others. Being around is the best defense against the element of surprise.

The visual and textual elements in documentaries may come into conflict with each other. Film producers tend to build their historical conceptions with visual, not textual, elements in mind. If made to prepare a full written script before they start shooting, they feel chained to a visually dull treatment. Historians, in contrast, are trained to conceive problems textually. They are at sea without a precise, complete script to review. They feel confined by the requirement for pictorial support for their descriptive statements. They are frustrated by the difficulty of developing their analytical points visually.

Where this duality is not confronted at the beginning, a strong collaboration is hard to achieve. For historical consultants, little can be as frustrating as being forced to use unreviewed, inaccurate visual sequences because thousands of dollars have been spent to do on-location photography. Presumably film directors become equally infuriated by small-minded historians who fail to appreciate footage that is spiritually correct, if literally inaccurate or irrelevant. Yet conflict can be minimized or eliminated entirely in the early stages of

budgeting by providing time for weaving together visual and textual aspects allowing extra hours for polishing, editing, and reshooting after all visual material has been assembled.

Consultant and filmmaker may impinge on each other's expertise as the process continues. Ideally, the consultant and the other participants continually challenge each other, pressing for the best way to present the subject matter of the program. But as self-confidence about the subject matter increases on all sides, willingness to take advice may diminish. Producers or directors may believe, after days or weeks of reading the sources that

the consultant has given them, that they have sufficient historical judgment to override the judgments of the consultant. Similarly, encounters with the technique of filmmaking can lead historians

*Producers or directors may believe, after days or weeks of reading the sources that the consultant has given them, that they have sufficient historical judgment to override the judgments of the consultant.*

to insist that their interpretation of events ought to be accepted wholeheartedly or that the film should elaborate

on historical details, when an experienced producer knows that viewing audiences would not care about them.

The consultant's role and entitlements may be poorly defined. Too often, issues of real importance to historians--particularly screen credits, fees, travel funds, and post-broadcast publicity--are left unresolved, either because of the consultant's reluctance to destroy a spirit of cooperation or because the producer finds it in his or her interest to retain the power to decide these questions on an ad hoc basis. It is in the interest of everyone that such ambiguity be avoided. Only after other participants in the project have learned that the consultant has a major institutionalized role to play, has a reputation at stake in the program, and has been allotted time and resources to participate meaningfully, can a basis for respectful interaction exist.

Television shows may be historical documentaries in name only. The historian may be dissatisfied with the film as a whole because the documentary is not truly meant to generate appreciation for the past. After all, few documentaries aspire only to recreate a sense of history. In truth, the appeal of making television programs in large

part comes from contributing to present-day cultural and civic discourse; and this discourse invites historical insight only where its applicability to contemporary values is readily apparent. Instilling films with dramatic significance, with protagonists and antagonists, with a sense of mystery and contingency is essential to presenting history effectively on television.

When aspects such as commercial entertainment, propaganda, or cinematic experimentation usurp the heart of the enterprise, however, serious problems can develop. Then the historian should acknowledge the minimal role that can be played in such situations. Or better yet, he or she should fight for changes: If today the "flickering lamp of history" is really a television camera, as some say, then consulting historians may be guardians of the flame.

Norman Silber is an interviewer for the Columbia Oral History Project and an editor of the *Columbia Law Review*. Currently he is completing an oral history of Philip Elma, a lawyer in government service during the Eisenhower and Kennedy years.

• • •



Courtesy of PBS

Scene from "America at Risk"

## Research Grants Available in Indiana

The Indiana Committee for the Humanities and the Indiana Historical Society have pooled their resources to fund a new historical research program called Indiana Heritage Research Grants. The program will provide matching grants of up to \$2,500 for research projects on state or local history. Applicants must match the grant with cash contributions or in-kind services. The program was specifically designed to stimulate renewed investigation of significant past events in the state. According to Peter Harstad, Indiana Historical Society director, new knowledge and fresh insights are needed to break the cycle of merely repeating untested "common knowledge" about the past.

Eligible applicants include non-profit organizations such as local historical societies, museums, libraries, and universities. Individuals are not eligible to receive grants. In all cases, however, the involvement of a historian and the participation of a state, county, or local history organization is required.

"One of the goals of this new grant program is to encourage contact and cooperation between historians and local historical organizations," said Kenneth L. Gladish, executive director of the Indiana Committee for the Humanities. "We hope to support the development and growth of both scholarly achievement and organizational resources related to the study of Indiana's past."

The central thrust of fundable projects must be historical research. Using primary resource material found in local historical societies, public libraries, county courthouses, private collections, or state/national repositories, projects should focus on substantive cultural themes in the county or local community. Closely related activities such as editing, cataloguing, oral history collection and transcription, translation of manuscripts and documents, and interpretive research for photographs and artifacts are also eligible.

Indiana Heritage Research Grants will

be awarded on a competitive basis. A review body comprised of members from the two funding organizations, the Indiana Committee for the Humanities and the Indiana Historical Society, will make final decisions. Applicants must submit forms that fully describe the project, identify research goals, methods and timetables, and provide details about staffing structure.

Organizations receiving the one-year grants must present an abstract of their project at the end of that year. The reports will be published through the cooperation of the Indiana Historical Bureau and distributed to local libraries and repositories for future research use. Deadline for preliminary applications is March 3, 1986 followed by a detailed proposal on April 1, 1986. Those receiving grants will be notified by June 1, 1986. Guidelines and application forms are available by contacting: Indiana Heritage Research Grants, 3135 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46208.

# The Project on the Vietnam Generation

*Whether or not we all believe there is such a thing as a "Vietnam Generation," most of us agree that those who lived through the events and cultural influences of the 1960s and early 1970s were "touched with fire."*

Sandie Fauriol

Some historians may disagree that there is such a thing as a "Vietnam Generation," but no one can deny that the tumultuous events of the 1960s and early 1970s had a profound effect upon those who came of age during that time.

The Project on the Vietnam Generation, a nonprofit organization housed in the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History, was established in February 1985 to "foster scholarship on the dynamics of the generation." We believe there is such a thing as a definable generation, and that studying how our past shapes us will help us govern how that past shapes us.

***We believe there is such a thing as a definable generation, and that studying how our past shapes us will help us govern how that past shapes us.***

Studying generations is a relatively new idea. There are occasional studies of the "baby boom" generation, but their focus remains on the generation's marketing value and political views. Our focus is on the current and future actions of the Vietnam Generation--their sense of responsibility toward their own lives, vocations, and others, and their ultimate sense of stewardship toward our country.

The Project serves as a clearinghouse of information about Vietnam era events and the life of the generation. We are a growing network of over 1,000 scholars, writers, journalists, business professionals, clergy, and others who are studying how Vietnam era events--the civil rights movement, the Vietnam War, war protest, assassinations of national leaders, the growth of the environmental movement, the women's movement, and Watergate--shaped the generation. Our network is interdisciplinary; the scholars include, for example, historians, sociologists, political scientists, psychologists, and anthropologists.

Fostering scholarship means increasing public awareness about the generation--its actions, history, motivations, potential, tensions, divisions, and contributions; probing such questions as "Is this a 'Lost Generation,' like those who came of age in World War I?"; examining how Vietnam era events shaped the views of educators and trends in how we rear children; exploring how Vietnam era events influence the way we address questions of faith

and spirit; and conducting original research, including empirical data and sponsoring field surveys.

While the Project's first year is devoted to planning and network-building, we have already launched specific programs to support scholarship on the dynamics of the generation.

During the fall of 1985, we conducted a survey of courses on Vietnam era events. The distinctive aspect of the survey was to find teachers and courses that are open to or already exploring the interconnections among the major events of the Vietnam era. The response was enthusiastic and valuable. More than 250 replies were received from professors in colleges and universities (and some high schools) nationwide who teach courses on the civil rights movement, the 1960s, the Vietnam War, or the women's movement. The majority of these courses were taught in the history departments (56%); other departments represented were Black Studies, American Studies, English, Sociology, Political Science, Religious Studies, and Women's Studies. Forty-eight percent of the courses were on the Vietnam War, 12% were about the 1960s, and 6% and 9% of the classes focused on the civil rights and women's movements, respectively.

Many of the courses dealt with a number of Vietnam era events. The subject areas appearing most often in the survey returns (ranked by frequency) were the Vietnam War, war protest, civil rights movement, women's movement, the 1968 Democratic convention, the sexual revolution, and Watergate. The majority (79%) of the reported courses were undergraduate, although 16% were graduate level, 4% honors courses, and nearly 1% at the high school level.

Most of the professors surveyed said they did not explore the dynamics of the Vietnam Generation in their classes, although 43% said they did. However, the majority of professors (60%) indicated this was an appropriate subject to study in their courses.

The complete results of the survey are documented in a Survey Report (available from the Project for \$30).

The other new programs include a quarterly newsletter that provides progress on our efforts as well as a list of "who is doing what in the field" of Vietnam era events and the life of the generation; the tracking of "signs of new awakening in the generation"; a Memorial Center to document Vietnam Veterans' Memorial efforts nationwide;

mapping patterns of emerging leadership and philanthropy in the generation; and contributions to American life by Vietnam veterans.

Future activities include compiling a bibliography of written materials on Vietnam era events and a national conference scheduled for late 1986 or early 1987.

We have found a hunger for the work the Project is advocating and value in challenging (and through knowledge, helping) the generation live up to its potential. Whether or not we all believe there is such a thing as a "Vietnam Generation," most of us agree that those who lived through the events and cultural influences of the 1960s and early 70s were "touched with fire." Surely this is worth exploring, to see what legacy the Vietnam Generation will leave upon our nation's history.

Sandie Fauriol is the executive director of the Project on the Vietnam Generation. She has been an independent fund raising and nonprofit management consultant as well as the staff fund raiser for a number of charitable organizations.

## Request for Assistance

The Public Citizen Litigation Group of Washington, D.C. has filed suit to obtain the release of 1.5 million sensitive documents from the Central Files of the Nixon papers. At issue is the overlap between the Freedom of Information Act and the 1974 Presidential Materials and Preservation Act, and exactly which documents fall under National Archives jurisdiction.

The Group is interested in receiving FOIA requests for agency records that are in the possession of the National Archives pursuant to the Materials Act. An example of such a request would be for records concerning National Security Council discussions leading to the secret bombing of Cambodia, documents that were previously in the possession of the State Department. The goal is to establish that the public is entitled to obtain, under the FOIA, all agency records that are a part of the Nixon materials in the possession of the Archives.

Persons having such requests, or seeking more information on the lawsuit, may write Eric R. Glitzenstein, Public Citizens Litigation Agency, Suite 700, 2000 P Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

# Archives and Historians: The Experience of the Michigan State University Archives and Historical Collections

Frederick L. Honhart

The University Archives and Historical Collections is responsible for the management and preservation of Michigan State University's records. It is also responsible for the acquisition and arrangement of, and access to, the Historical Collections, which are non-university manuscript collections and institutional records donated to the university for research. Like many archives, the holdings, programs, and number of researchers have increased significantly, in some instances, by a factor of ten or more. However, the budget, staffing, and space have remained static or made only minimal increases after inflation. In seeking to deal with these problems and constraints, the Archives purchased two years ago a microcomputer and related peripherals and software. The goal has been to use automated systems to achieve greater efficiency in the operations of the Archives.

The microcomputer, a Columbia MPC-4, is an IBM compatible with a 360K floppy

*The goal has been to use automated systems to achieve greater efficiency in the operations of the Archives.*

disk drive, ten megabyte hard disk drive and 256K memory, subsequently expanded to 640K. Two printers were purchased, a C-Itoh dot matrix and a Diablo daisy wheel letter-quality printer, and also a modem. In addition to the software package that came with the purchase of the computer, we purchased dBase II, a database management system. A year ago, we added a second identical microcomputer, and updated dBase II to dBase III.

At the time the first microcomputer was purchased, none of the staff of the Archives had had any significant experience working with automated systems. One way the university reduces the cost of computer equipment is purchasing the equipment

without any follow-up support from the vendor, including instruction on how to use the computer and associated software. However, because we were one of the earliest purchasers of such equipment on campus, it was several months before the User Services Division of the MSU Computer Laboratory instituted its workshops on the use of such systems. Needless to say, this led initially to what are now amusing, but which were then extremely frustrating, problems for the staff as they learned how to use the system. When our system was installed, there was no autoexec file on our disk operating system. This meant as soon as the computer was turned on the word processing system appeared on the screen. Because we wanted to use other software as well, the autoexec command had to be removed from the system. The problem was that we did not realize this at first, and for several days we could not figure out how to obtain access to the various programs in the computer, even though we could see the files we wanted listed on a directory of a disk. We had been trying to get to the files directly through the operating system, instead of first calling up the particular program, that is, word processing or database management, that we wanted to use.

The initial use of the microcomputer was for word processing. The Archives create a wide variety of written documents, and the microcomputer quickly demonstrated how useful and flexible word processing could be. One of the first projects was the preparation of a grant proposal. We were able to write three successive versions of the proposal, with numerous corrections and additions, in a week and a half. This was something that would have been impossible for us if we had had to use a typewriter for preparation of the proposal. It probably should be noted that this was done by members of the professional staff, who were just learning how to use the system, because until October 1985, the

Archives had insufficient funding to support a professional secretarial position. This means that all work with the computer has either been done by the staff or student assistants.

The advantages of word processing systems for archives are probably most apparent in the preparation of inventories, which are the

*The advantages of word processing systems for archives are probably most apparent in the preparation of inventories, which are the basic finding aid for most archives and manuscript repositories.*

basic finding aid for most archives and manuscript repositories. This is a written document that may be as short as a page or more than one hundred pages, depending on the materials being described and the level of description. It generally will include a brief history of the individual(s) or institution in question, a note about the organization and content of the records, and a container list. Not only is the preparation of inventories or other finding aids easier and quicker with the microcomputer, but the correction and revision of such documents requires only a fraction of the time it previously did. This is particularly useful for processing university records, or for that matter, any institution that is constantly adding to the existing body of archival records. The result is better and more complete documentation, and therefore better access for researchers to the holdings of the repository.

While we only have been using word processing for a relatively short period of time, we have already seen examples of the above. The preparation of container lists is significantly faster, making it easier to check and keep track of records even while they are being

processed. Recently, it was discovered that in the preparation of an inventory, whole series of boxes and folders had been misnumbered. Instead of spending hours retyping, it only took a few minutes to make the corrections on the floppy disk and print a new inventory. Because of the standardization of the automated format for the preparation of finding aids, the margins, headings and page numbers are all uniform.

The word processing program can print subject index cards which in the case of a recent record group amounted to over 600 entries and took a fraction of the time to prepare compared to a manual method. Searches can also be conducted on the machine readable inventories for specific names or subjects or even words or phrases. Not only is this much faster than examining an inventory, it precludes the possibility of missing an entry, which can easily occur when one is looking at large inventories with contained listings of dozens or even hundreds of boxes and folder headings.

Another application of an automated system is management and manipulation of data. There are numerous such applications in an archival or manuscript repository, and we have only begun to make effective use of the functions of the system. Like an inventory, we maintain basic information about our users and the records and collections that are used. Because this is a file that has relatively few variables, it was the first one we put "online." The experience we gained from this was then applied to a state wide assessment project, funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) and managed by the Michigan State NHPRC Advisory Board. The MSU Archives accepted the responsibility of administering a statewide questionnaire for historical records. Once the questionnaire was returned, the data was entered into the database management system. In addition

tion to obtaining a variety of essential statistical data for a meaningful assessment of the status of historical records in Michigan, the state also has the information from which to publish a guide to historical repositories. One thing we learned from this project was the limitations of the software. For some of the statistical results, which involved computations using Boolean logic of more than one response on the questionnaire, it required a dozen or more commands to elicit the desired information. A more sophisticated program could have done the computations much easier and quicker, but a much larger computer would be required to support such a program.

Whether used for word processing or database management, the use of an automated system should result in better

*The uses and examples cited above are just some that any repository can accomplish using a microcomputer system, given sufficient resources and the resourcefulness of the staff utilizing it.*

control, description, and access to the archives and manuscripts in any repository. The uses and examples cited above are just some that any repository can accomplish using a microcomputer system, given sufficient resources and the resourcefulness of the staff utilizing it.

At the present time, the Archives is also working on a unique automated systems project. The Michigan State University Archives and Historical Collections is currently engaged in an NHRPC-funded research project to develop a microcomputer system that will use the U.S. Machine Readable Cataloging, Archival and Manuscript Control (USMARC AMC) Format.

The USMARC AMC Format has tremendous implications for both archival repositories and for researchers. When the Library of Congress first introduced the various MARC Formats for organizing bibliographic data into standardized machine readable formats over a decade ago, the one for manuscripts was poorly received by most repositories. It was narrow in its scope and oriented to describing individual items, which is not

standard archival practice.

Several years ago, the Society of American Archivists created the National Information Systems Task Force to examine the question of the development of an automated system for bibliographic description and control of archival and manuscript materials. Through a long and often complex series of events, the net result has been the development of a completely new USMARC Format for Archival and Manuscript Control, which was officially introduced by the MARC Standards and Network Development Office, Library of Congress, late last year. This means, simply, that there is now a de facto standard for describing archival and manuscript materials in a machine readable format. Therefore, the potential now exists for the exchange of bibliographic information by archival repositories using computers. This is a major step toward developing a national bibliographic database of archival and manuscript holdings.

Currently, there are two major online library bibliographic utilities in the U.S.: Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) and Research Library Information Network (RLIN). Both recently have entered the Archival and Manuscript Control Format into their respective systems. The MSU grant project involves the development of a system which uses the USMARC AMC Format, and which will run on a microcomputer, as opposed to the large mainframes used by OCLC and RLIN. For a variety of reasons, numerous repositories--whether they are located in colleges and universities, local historical societies, state archives, corporate and institutional archives--are unable or unwilling to use OCLC or RLIN. The MSU project will create an alternative, automated system, using the USMARC AMC Format, which will be available to such repositories, as well as RLIN and OCLC users, and any other repository. At this time, we expect it will be available for purchase from MSU in the spring of 1986.

Using a stand-alone system based on a microcomputer presents the user with advantages and disadvantages. One advantage of the system is cost. Another is immediate access to the system, as compared to using the bibliographic utilities where there are other users of the system and one may have to wait for

an available terminal. It is also possible for the micro-system to produce special reports that are not feasible on larger systems. Disadvantages of the micro-system include slower response time for certain applications (for example, complicated Boolean searches) and the fact that there is access only to the institution's own holdings (as opposed to the holdings entered by all repositories using a bibliographic utility). There is the potential that any repository using the micro-system, because it uses the USMARC AMC Format, can enter its database onto another on-line system that also uses the USMARC AMC Format. Then the database will be accessible to all the researchers who have access to that system as well.

There are ramifications of the USMARC AMC Formats and the use of automated systems that will affect not only archival and manuscript repositories, but also historians. Probably the most obvious is the development of large online databases of archival and manuscript materials that can be searched by researchers simply by using a computer terminal. As the databases increase in number of entries, they will become more and more valuable for research. This will mean that more investigation into potential research sources can be conducted by researchers from their institutions, before even contacting repositories that hold appropriate materials. It also means that sophisticated searches using more than one variable on the records in an entire database can be performed at a computer terminal.

At this time, it is still very early in the transition process for repositories to convert from manual to automated systems for the bibliographic description and control of archival and manuscript materials. However, there are already several assumptions that can be made regarding the impact of automation on archival and manuscript repositories and on historians. Records and collections will be described better and come under greater intellectual control. The use of automation will make practical the searching of bibliographic databases in ways that are impossible using the current, non-automated, methods of bibliographic description, for example, the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections, guides

to repository holdings, inventories, and collections descriptions. More information about relevant research materials will be obtainable at the researcher's own institution through the use of online, automated, databases of archival materials, before the researcher will ever have to visit specific repositories. Once at a repository that has an automated system, the researcher will have automated access to the system, either through the staff or an online terminal in the research area. The applications of automation and standardized machine-readable formats for archival and manuscript materials will have a profound impact on the repositories and research, and we only now are beginning to realize what some of them will be for archivists and historians.

Frederick L. Honhart is the Director of the University Archives and Historical Collections, Michigan State University.

## Career Opportunities

### Institute at the

### University of Virginia

The Career Opportunities Institute of the University of Virginia is designed to assist Ph.D.s in the arts and sciences explore and assess possible career transitions into government, the not-for-profit sector, and business. Now in its seventh year, this six-week program combines a thorough career development plan with a rigorous introduction to management principles. Over 200 classroom contact hours include Career Assessment, Resume Development, Job Search Strategies, Interview Preparation, Finance, Marketing, MIS/Computer Applications, Accounting, Organizational Management, and Business Policy. Interviews with major corporations are also arranged. The program is offered jointly by the University of Virginia's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, McIntire School of Commerce, and Office of Career Planning and Placement.

For more information write: Career Opportunities Institute, 444 Cabell Hall, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia 22903, or call (804) 924-3838.

# Capitol Commentary



Page Putnam Miller

Engraving courtesy of The Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

## Appropriations Update

Money bills clearly will dominate the second session of the Ninety-ninth Congress. The amounts of the anticipated cuts in the 1986 budget currently are being discussed as federal agencies brace for the implementation of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings deficit reduction legislation. Many legislative aides are expecting an across-the-board retroactive reduction in FY '86 appropriations of approximately 4.5 percent. Projected figures would reduce the National Archives' FY '86 budget from \$101.4 million to \$96 million. This will mean a \$172,000 reduction in the National Historical Publications and Records Commission's (NHPRC) appropriation of \$4 million for grants. The National Endowment for the Humanities would have approximately \$6 million cut from its 1986 budget.

While the reductions in the 1986 budget are not severe, the prospects of larger cuts in 1987 are a major concern. The preliminary figures on the President's 1987 budget proposal show zero funding for the NHPRC's grants program, zero for the state historic preservation program, and \$126 million for NEH, compared to \$139 million in 1985.

## National Archives Initiates Community College Program

The National Archives is seeking community, technical, and junior college instructors to participate in planning and evaluating materials for a new publications program designed to provide reproductions of primary sources for use in teaching. The Education Branch of the National Archives is in the early study stages of this project and invites instructors to provide information about course content, teaching methods, and use of primary sources. Instructors interested in this project should write: Education Branch, National Archives, Washington, D.C. 20408.

## Statutory Authority Needed for Federal Classification Policy

NCC currently is working with several of its member organizations to gain Congressional support for needed amendments to the Federal Records Act so that historians who write and teach about the modern era will have access to the documents necessary to reach carefully considered conclusions. The enormous financial burden of extensive page-by-page declassification is prohibitive and makes the current system unworkable. Furthermore, the current trend is to

classify more new records and fewer old. Although no legislation addressing this problem is before Congress, there is growing sentiment in the historical community for developing an active strategy to seek Congressional support for amendments to the Federal Records Act that would provide for a comprehensive, systematic declassification program. The two principal objectives of this effort are: 1) to provide for a statutory system of automatic declassification based on the assumption that all government records will be made available through an orderly procedure on a determined timetable and 2) to return to the system of distinguishing foreign government documents from American documents with foreign government information. This would mean honoring foreign government classified documents but recognizing that American documents containing foreign government information are subject only to American classification standards.

## Office of Management and Budget's Circular on Management of Federal Information Resources

The Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Circular A-130, Management of Federal Information Resources, was published in the December 24, 1985 *Federal Register*, pp. 52730-51. Circular A-130, which implements OMB's authority under the Paperwork Reduction Act, is a presidential policy directive to executive agencies on management of federal information resources. Last May, the NCC responded to requests for comments on an earlier version of Circular A-130. Of particular concern is the small role assigned to the National Archives in the management of federal information and the restrictive conditions placed on the dissemination of government information. Although OMB made substantial changes and accepted some of the recommendations of the commentators, historians need to pay careful attention to the implementation of the circular.

## Federal Cultural Resource Management Policy

The NCC task force on cultural resource management and the Preservation Committee of the National Council on Public History will be meeting jointly during the OAH meeting in New York to consider: proposed changes in the reauthorization legislation of the National Historic Preservation Act; National Park Service policies; and guidelines used by federal agencies in implementing the historical component of cultural resource manage-

ment research designs and projects. This session will be Saturday, April 12 at 3:00 in the Cornell Room of the New York Penta hotel.

## NCC National Policy Board

The National Policy Board of the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History met December 28 to consider program and advocacy policies for 1986. The National Policy Board of the NCC is composed of organizations contributing a minimum of \$2,000 annually to the NCC, a representative of the NCC state committee network, and three rotating members selected from those organizations contributing less than \$2,000 annually. Policy Board members for 1986 are: the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, the Society of American Archivists, the Western History Association, Phi Alpha Theta, and the Southern Historical Association, plus the three rotating members for 1986--the American Military Institute, the Berkshire Conference of Women Historians, and the History of Science Society. Stanley Hordes of the New Mexico Committee for the Promotion of History represents the state committee network. The Policy Board reviewed specific advocacy issues and discussed at some length strategies concerning presidential appointments, appropriations legislation, and information policy. Income in 1985 from the thirty-five member organizations, departmental associates, and state archives totaled \$46,206. Member organizations, many of whom have contributed the same amount for the past three years, are being encouraged to increase their pledges in hopes that the NCC can meet a targeted income figure of \$51,000 in 1986.

## NCC to Celebrate 10th Anniversary

Representatives of the thirty-six member organizations (1986 members) of the NCC will be meeting in New York at 8:00 a.m. Saturday, April 12 for a breakfast meeting in Joan Hoff-Wilson's suite at the Penta hotel. In addition to the usual discussion of current issues, this meeting will offer an opportunity to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the NCC.

## Reduced Hours Proposed for the Library of Congress

The combination of a large cut in the '86 budget and the additional cut of Gramm-Rudman is reducing the Library of Congress's FY '86 budget by \$18 million. A large portion of this reduction is to come from research services. The Library of Congress is proposing, effective March 9, to eliminate Sunday hours and eliminate weekday evening hours with the exception of Wednesday evening. The Library of Congress is currently opened weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. If you wish to express concern about the proposed changes write to your Representative in the House and your Senators.

Page Putnam Miller is the Director of the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History.

## OAH News

## Job Registry Reflects Survey Results

Last summer, the Organization of American Historians surveyed participants in the 1985 Job Registry, which is offered as a placement service at the Annual Meeting. There was a 46% response rate to the questionnaire by applicants who used the placement service last year. Seventy-seven percent of employers answered the survey, although the number of employers included in the sample was about one-fifth the number of applicants.

Information gained from respondents was used in planning the 1986 Job Registry, which will be open Thursday through Saturday during the April 10-13 meeting. The placement service will be located in the Washington Room of the New York Penta.

The OAH Job Registry offers applicants a way to list their qualifications on resume forms that are then filed according to academic specialties and subfields within the profession. Employers may look through applicant forms in topical binders cataloged by specialty. Job openings are filed according to the same categories, and binders of these listings also are available in the Job Registry's room at the Annual Meeting.

The placement service includes a message system by which employers and applicants may contact each other. Interviews are set up either through the message system or with open interview sign-up sheets.

Among applicants, 79% reported that they were interviewed or considered for positions through the 1985 OAH Job Registry. Ninety-three percent of employers responded that they had found strong candidates for positions and 62% said that they had filled openings with people registered at the placement service.

The OAH Job Registry is unusual among job services in providing topical binders and a message system rather than simply posting open positions. Eighty-one percent of the applicants preferred the OAH process to a system of posted announcements.

In describing the placement service, 75% of employers surveyed chose the phrase "a good way to find qualified applicants," while 16.7% selected the words "useful in our applicant search." And, applicants answered "yes" almost unanimously (95%) when asked if they thought it worthwhile to continue the service.

Respondents also were asked to comment on ways of improving the Job Registry. Based on user suggestions, topical categories by which jobs and resume forms are filed were combined and deleted, allowing the addition of others. For example, the field of public history now is represented by two rather than five binder designations. Early National and nineteenth century are now listed separately.

Two logistical requests will be accommodated at this year's meeting in New York. The Registry should be easy to find, located across from the escalators to the lobby and close to the convention registration area. And, for the 1986 meeting, there may be additional space for interviews, creating a quieter and more private atmosphere.

Applicants frequently commented that they would appreciate responses (even if rejections) from those employers who use the message system. A policy cannot be enforced on this point, but it is hoped that employers will regard responses as a professional courtesy to job seekers.

For more information about the 1986 Job Registry, contact the Organization of American Historians, at 112 North Bryan Street, Bloomington, Indiana 47401 or (812) 335-7311.



## Executive Board Actions

At its meeting November 14, 1985, the Executive Board of the Organization of American Historians took the following actions:

- Approved the minutes of the April 1985 meeting;
- Approved the budget for the calendar year 1986;
- Indicated its preference that the Journal of American History be printed by a unionized company;
- Directed the OAH staff to re-visit Washington, D.C. for consideration for the 1990 Annual Meeting;
- Voted to disband the current Ad Hoc Committee on the Bicentennial of the Constitution;
- Voted to establish a new Ad Hoc Committee on the Bicentennial of the Constitution, with a life of three years, and a new charge;
- Directed Executive Secretary Joan Hoff-Wilson to write a letter to Wilcomb Washburn outlining the Board's reasons for declining to take action on his proposed resolution that the OAH divest itself of stock in companies that trade with the Soviet Union (see related story, Readers' Responses, p. 21);
- Adopted a resolution to provide free table space at OAH Annual Meetings to certain groups of histori-

ans selling memberships (see text of resolution, this page);

- Directed incoming President Leon Litwack to pursue having a Soviet scholar in U.S. history participate in the 1987 Annual Meeting;
- Established November 15, 1986 as the date of its Fall 1986 Board meeting;
- Established September 1 of odd-numbered years as the deadline for submissions to the Leopold Prize Committee.

The following is the text of a resolution offered by Leon Litwack, Eric Foner, and Lawrence Levine, and adopted by the Executive Board of the OAH:

At conventions of the Organization of American Historians, any small, non-profit organization of historians may establish, without cost, a table at a convenient, public place to be determined by the convention manager, and at such table will be permitted to distribute materials, solicit members and subscriptions, and sell journals and other products of the organization to promote its activities. Such organizations must notify the convention manager two months before the convention of the intention to establish such a table. This resolution will take effect after the approval of legal counsel.

## OAH Call for Papers

The Program Committee for the OAH Annual Meeting to be held in Philadelphia, April 2-5, 1987 invites proposals for entire sessions, individual papers, panels, or teaching workshops, although the Committee strongly encourages submissions of complete sessions. Papers appropriate for the Constitution's bicentennial or the topic of dissent in America are especially welcome. Specialists in American history who participate on the 1987 Program must be members of the Organization.

Proposals should include a two-page synopsis that summarizes the thesis, methodology, and significance of each paper and one vitae for each participant. One

copy of the proposal should be sent to each of the 1987 Program Co-chairs: Drew Gilpin Faust, American Civilization, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19104; and Ronald Walters, Department of History, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, 21218. The deadline for submissions is March 15, 1986.

## Journal Offices Move

The offices of the Journal of American History have moved. All correspondence for the editorial office should now be addressed to: Journal of American History, 1125 East Atwater Street, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana 47405. The phone number remains (812) 335-3034.

# Professional Opportunities

Professional Opportunities listings must be 100 words or less, represent Equal Opportunity Employers, and reach the OAH editorial office two months prior to publication date.

## College Archives and

### Sophia Smith Collection

Archivist for records. College Archives and Sophia Smith Collection. Design and administer programs for the acquisition, maintenance, and use of the archives. Qualifications required: M.A. in History or American Studies or Women's Studies, or M.L.S.; two graduate courses in Archives Administration; three years professional archives experience (including institutional records). Desired: Professional activities; cataloging experience or knowledge of RLIN or OCLC archives and manuscript format. Application deadline: March 1, 1986. Position available: July 1. Direct letter of application and resume to: Director of Personnel Services, Smith College, 30 Belmont Avenue, Northampton, Massachusetts 01063. Equal Opportunity Employer.

### York University

Faculty of Arts. Department of History. Applications are invited for a one-year appointment for 1986-87, at the rank of Assistant Professor. Only applicants with specialty in late 19th and early 20th century U.S. history considered. Required: Ph.D., publication in the area of specialization, and teaching experience. Send applications, with curriculum vitae, to: Paul E. Lovejoy, Chair, Department of History, York University, North York, Ontario, Canada M3J 1P3; Attention: U.S. history appointment. Application deadline: March 14, 1986. In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, priority will be given to Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada.

### Berklee College of Music

The General Education Department is now accepting applications for two part-time positions: instructor of History of Western Civilization and instructor in History of Art. Applicants must have at least a master's degree and the appropriate background; teaching experience is most important. The College is a private four-year institution with an educational mission of career preparation for the professional music world. Send resume and letters of recom-

mendation by March 15, 1986 to: General Education Search Committee Dept., Office of the Dean of Faculty, Berklee College of Music, 1140 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02215. EOE.

### Western Maryland College

History: Independent liberal arts college in the Baltimore-Washington area seeks a Ph.D. historian for tenure-track position beginning September 1, 1986. Rank will be assistant professor. Courses to be taught are the first half of the U.S. survey and specialties in colonial, early national, and Civil War periods. Salary and fringe benefits competitive. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Send credentials, letter of application, and three references before March 15, 1986 to C.P. Darcy, Department of History, Western Maryland College, Westminster, Maryland 21157.

### California State University

#### Los Angeles

Tenure-track Assistant Professor Position in East Asian History. Probationary position beginning September 1986. Qualifications: Ph.D. in history (or closely related field). Teaching experience and publications desirable within field of East Asia (China, Japan, Korea). Expected to teach surveys of World, U.S., or Asian-American history. Communication skills and willingness to work closely with students and community groups. Salary: \$24,168-\$26,496. Send vitae, letters of recommendation (at least three), graduate school file, and other supporting materials to Earl H. Phillips, Chair, Department of History, California State University, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California 90032. Deadline: March 31, 1986 or until position is filled. AA/EOE/H.

### University of Vermont

U.S. Women's History. U.S. History. University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont. One-year appointment beginning September 1986 to teach courses in U.S. survey, women's history, and social history. Salary competitive.

Application deadline: April 1, 1986. Send vitae and supporting letters to James H. Overfield, Dept. of History, University of Vermont, Wheeler House, Burlington, Vermont 05405. AA/EOE.

### University of Texas at Arlington

Assistant Professor position, tenure track. Teaching responsibilities include Afro-American history and United States survey. Ph.D. required; publications and teaching experience preferred. Salary: competitive. Date of appointment: September 1, 1986. Nominations encouraged. Deadline: April 2, 1986; will be interviewing at OAH meeting in New York. Send letter of application, vitae, and references to Kenneth Philp, Chair, Search Committee, Department of History, Box 19529, University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas 76019. Dallas-Fort Worth area. AA/EOE.

### University of California-Irvine

Position in Afro-American culture. Ph.D. and interdisciplinary expertise in sociology, anthropology, or history, with substantive focus on black people in the United States essential. Position requires ability to teach an introductory undergraduate course in Afro-American culture, a graduate seminar on Non-Dominant Classes and Cultures, and undergraduate and graduate courses in one's specialization. Applicants should have a record of successful teaching and innovative research. Tenured position at the Associate Professor level. An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Contact the

Director, Program in Comparative Culture, University of California, Irvine, California 92717. Deadline for application has been extended to April 15, 1986.

### University of Kansas

Assistant Professor. Position in United States military history (preferably with comparative European emphasis) for 1986-87 academic year. Possibility of renewal. Ph.D. in U.S. military history and competence to teach introductory U.S. history courses and advanced level courses in U.S. military history required. Salary range: \$19,000-\$21,000. Send credentials to Theodore A. Wilson, Department of History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas 66045; (913) 864-3569. Application deadline: May 1, 1986 AA/EOE.

### American Jewish

#### Historical Society

Historian-Writer openings and part-time managing editor for projected multi-volume American Jewish history series to cover the following periods: 1820-1881, 1924-1945, and 1946-present. Author should have prior publications in the field of American Jewish history and a Ph.D. in either American or Jewish history. Qualifications flexible. Send C.V. to Henry L. Feingold, History Department, Baruch College of the City of New York, 17 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10010. Call (212) 725-4410 (office) or (212) 242-4494 (home).

## History and Archival Management at the University of Connecticut

The University of Connecticut's History and Archival Management M.A. program announces a new two-course sequence to integrate archival theory and practice. The courses incorporate reading and discussion of major issues in archival theory with practicum projects in arrangement and description, appraisal, exhibits preparation, and related archival

functions. These projects introduce students to work in Congressional collections, institutional archives, organizational records, and personal/family papers. For further information, contact Christopher P. Collier, Chair, History and Archival Management Committee, Department of History, Box U-13, University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut 06268.

# Meetings and Conferences

## - March -

The 12th Annual Southwest Labor Studies Conference will be held March 14-15, 1986 at San Francisco State University. For more information contact Robert W. Cherny, Department of History, San Francisco State University, San Francisco, California 94132.

The United States Capitol Historical Society and the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, in cooperation with the United States Congress, will sponsor a symposium titled "Of Consuming Interests: The Style and Life in the American Revolutionary Era" on March 20, 1986. The meeting will be held in the Senate Caucus Room, SR235, in the Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. The program will consist of four sessions and a concluding lecture, followed by a reception. All proceedings, including the reception, will be open to interested persons free of charge, and no advance registration is required. For additional information contact Ronald Hoffman, Department of History, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742.

"Plains Indian Cultures: Past and Present Meanings" will be the theme of the tenth annual symposium sponsored by the Center for Great Plains Studies of the University of Nebraska. The conference will be held in Lincoln, March 20-22, 1986 at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education at 33rd and Holdrege Streets. The conference will examine how Native American and other indigenous peoples have interacted with both the semi-arid plains environment and the cultures introduced by technologically advanced societies. For more information, programs, and registration materials, write Center for Great Plains Studies, 1213 Oldfather Hall, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska 68588-0314.

"Oral History and the Afro-American Experience" is a conference co-sponsored by the Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region, The Banneker-Douglass Museum, the University of Maryland-Baltimore County's African-American Studies Department, and Morgan State University. The conference will be held March 22,

1986 at Morgan State. Sessions will include an introductory workshop on Oral History and look at current research on family history, Civil Rights, the church, and the Vietnam War. For more information write the Oral History of the Mid-Atlantic Region, P.O. Box 266, College Park Maryland 20740, or call (202) 357-3270.

## - April -

"World War II and the Shaping of Modern America," a public conference, will be held at the Newark campus of Rutgers University, the State University of New Jersey, April 4-6, 1986. Sessions will deal with literature, film, women, race relations, medicine, international relations, intelligence, and warfare. For further information contact Warren F. Kimball, WWII Conference, Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey, 07102.

The New River Gorge National River of the National Park Service and the Wytheville Community College are sponsoring the fifth annual New River Symposium scheduled for April 10-12, 1986. The symposium will be held at the Wytheville Holiday Inn, Wytheville, Virginia. The symposium is open to all those with a professional or avocational interest in the New River, from its North Carolina headwaters down to its mouth in West Virginia. More information is available from William E. Cox, National Park Service, New River Gorge National River, P.O. Box 1189, Oak Hill, West Virginia 25901.

The Fifth Annual Luncheon of the Planning History Group will be held on Saturday, April 12, 1986, at 12:00 p.m. in the Cornell Room at the New York Penta Hotel. The luncheon is being held in conjunction with the meeting of the Organization of American Historians and the National Council on Public History. Joel A. Tarr, Carnegie Mellon University, will present a paper titled, "The City as a Pollution Generator." Raymond A. Mohl, Florida Atlantic University, will chair the session. Tickets will be available as part of the pre-registration package for the OAH meeting or at the OAH registration. As the number of tickets is limited, purchase through pre-registration is encouraged.

For additional information, contact Blaine A. Brownell, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Alabama 35294; or Mark H. Rose, The Program in Science, Technology, and Society, Michigan Technological University, Houghton, Michigan 49931.

"Interpreting Medical History and Understanding its Importance in the Study of Early American Life," an interdisciplinary symposium on current research and trends in the history of medicine in eighteenth-century America, will be held April 18, 1986 at the Fraunces Tavern Museum in New York. Topics include material culture, women's history, native American experiences, pharmacology, and social history as well as an opportunity to view the exhibit "The Healing Arts in Early America." For more information write Symposium, Fraunces Tavern Museum, 54 Pearl Street, New York, New York 10004.

The Spring Meeting of the American Catholic Historical Association will be held at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio, April 18-19, 1986. For further information contact Mary K. Howard, Department of History, John Carroll University, University Heights, Ohio 44118.

The Annual Meeting of the Pacific Northwest Conference of Historians will be held in Corvallis, Oregon, April 24-26, 1986. For additional information contact the Department of History, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon 97331.

A Symposium on Winston Churchill and Anglo-American Relations will be held April 25-27, 1986 at Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri. Speakers include Raymond Callahan, Warren Kimball, Robert Dallek, Theodore Wilson, Christopher Thorne, Robert Rhodes James, and John Lewis Gaddis. For more information write to R. M. Jones, Depart-



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**Upcoming Meetings**

ment of History, Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri 65251.

The New England Archivists will hold its 1986 Annual Meeting and Conference April 26 at the New England Center for Continuing Education, University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire. The meeting's theme is "Archives and Society." The keynote address will be delivered by David B. Gracy, Director, Texas State Archives, past president of the Society of American Archivists, and member of the SAA's Task Force on Archives and History. Sessions, lunch, the annual business meeting, and a reception will complete the day. "Conservation Methods for Archivists," a one-day workshop conducted by staff members from the Northeast Document Conservation Center, will be held on Friday, April 25. For additional information contact Stuart W. Campbell, Clark University Archives, 950 Main Street, Worcester, Massachusetts 01610.

**• May •**

The Mormon History Association's annual meeting, focusing on the lives of ordinary Mormons of the last century, will be held May 1-4, 1986 in the Hotel Utah, Salt Lake City. For registration materials write to Jessie L. Embry, Secretary-Treasurer, Mormon History Association, P.O. Box 7010, Provo, Utah 84602.

The Center for Research on Women at Memphis State University is planning the Second Annual Workshop on Women in the Curriculum, May 28-30, 1986. The workshop is designed for college level faculty who are interested in either developing new courses on women or revising established courses to include more material on women. The registration fee is \$75.00 (\$60.00 for Center Sustainers). The fee includes continental breakfast, lunch, coffee breaks, and snacks for three days. Lodging is available at Memphis State's Richardson Towers for \$14.00 per night for a double room and \$20.00 per night for a single. For information and applications, write Ms. Marie Santucci, Center for Research on Women, Memphis State University, Memphis, Tennessee 38152. The Center is also planning a

Summer Research Institute on Race and Gender, June 23-29, 1986. The institute is designed for researchers, teachers, faculty, and graduate students who are planning to, or are currently conducting, research on race and gender. This would include studies of any single group of women of color (Black, Latina, Asian American) or comparative studies of women in different groups. It may also include people whose research leads them to rethink concepts in women's studies to embrace the experiences of more diverse groups of women. The registration fee for the week-long institute is \$150.00 (\$120.00 for Center Sustainers). The fee also includes reception, lunch every day, dinner on all days but one, and two coffee breaks daily. Again, lodging is available at Memphis State's Richardson Towers. For more information, contact Ms. Jo Ann Ammons, Center for Research on Women, Memphis State University, Memphis, Tennessee, 38152.

**• June •**

The Second Annual Seminar in the History of the Book in American Culture, sponsored by the American Antiquarian Society, will take place June 14-24, 1986 at the Society, 185 Salisbury Street, Worcester, Massachusetts. The theme for the 1986 seminar will be "The American Common Reader: Printing, Entrepreneurship, and Cultural Change, 1759-1840."

Participants in the seminar will make extensive use of the collections of the AAS, which are rich in all aspects of American history and culture through 1876, but especially in materials relevant to the history of the impact of printing on American society through the first three-quarters of the nineteenth century. The deadline for receipt of applications for the seminar is March 21, 1986. For further details on the seminar, including information on fees and housing, and for application forms, write John B. Hench, Associate Director for Research and Publication, American Antiquarian Society, 185 Salisbury Street, Worcester, Massachusetts 01609-1634.

Creighton University will host a conference June 17-19, 1986 for secondary school teachers. The topic will be the teaching

of American constitutional history. Faculty for the conference have been drawn from Creighton's Departments of History, Political Science, Education, and School of Law, as well as Omaha area secondary schools. The program has been developed in cooperation with the Nebraska Department of Education and the College Board. The conference will follow a format established by the American Historical Association and Project '87. It will include six sessions on topics related to the United States Constitution in which both content and instruction will be discussed. The topics will be: The Constitutional Convention: A Simulation; Nationalism and States' Rights; Judicial Review; Civil Rights and the Issue of Equality; The Imperial Presidency and the Power to Make War; and The Bill of Rights, Today. Scholarly presentations will be made at each session followed by the distribution and review of sample lesson plans. The conference will be held on the campus of Creighton University, making use of university research and instructional facilities. Up to three graduate credits will be offered to participants who elect to fulfill additional requirements outlined by the Department of History. For further information contact Bryan Le Beau, Department of History, Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska 68178.

The Conference of Quaker Historians and Archivists will hold its sixth biennial session June 25-27, 1986, at Malone College in Canton, Ohio. Further information is available from Damon D. Hickey, Guilford College Library, 5800 West Friendly Avenue, Greensboro, North Carolina 27410.

The Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) will sponsor a course on Quantitative Historical Analysis June 30-July 25, 1986. The course is designed as an intensive practical introduction to the use of quantitative methods of analysis in historical research and will involve as a central element "hands on" analysis of historical data prepared for the course. Topics of discussion will include the various elements of the research process; in particular, problem definition and conceptualization, research design, data collection and preparation, methods of analysis, and interpretation of results. Attention will be devoted to the various sources of quantitative or quantifiable historical data, including census materials, biographical data, election returns, and legislative roll call records. For further information contact Henry Heitowit, Program Director, ICPSR Summer Program, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106.

## Calls for Papers

**• April •**

The Northern Great Plains History Conference will be held September 25-27, 1986. Papers and sessions in all areas of history are sought. The deadline is April 1, 1986, and proposals should be sent to Jack M. Lauber, Department of History, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701.

The History Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) invites submission of unpublished papers for presentation at its annual meeting in Norman, Oklahoma August 3-6, 1986. For further information write Jean Folkerts, AEJMC Research Committee, Department of Communications, Mount Vernon College, 2100 Foxhall Road, Washington, D.C. 20007. Deadline for submission is April 1, 1986.

The twentieth annual meeting of the Duquesne History Forum will be held October 29-31, 1986 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Papers and session proposals are welcome, and are due by April 1, 1986. Proposals and inquiries can be directed to Bernard J. Weiss, Forum Director, Department of History, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15282.

The thirteenth annual conference of the National Historic Communal Societies Association, hosted by Shaker Village, Inc., of Canterbury, New Hampshire, will be held October 9-11, 1986. The general title of the conference is "The Experience of Community: Gender, Religion, Ideology." NHCSA welcomes cross-national and cross-cultural approaches to studies of the experience of community within and outside of communes. Sessions will be both academic and non-academic. Ab-

stracts and session proposals should be sent to Richard Kathman, Director, Shaker Villages, Inc., Canterbury, New Hampshire 03224 by April 15, 1986.

The American Society for Ethnohistory will hold its annual meeting November 6-9, 1986 at the Francis Marion Hotel in Charleston, South Carolina. Proposals for papers and entire sessions, along with brief abstracts, should be sent to John Finger, Department of History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-0411. The deadline is April 15, 1986.

The Fourth Annual George Rogers Clark Trans-Appalachian Frontier History Conference will be held October 4, 1986 at Vincennes University. The National Park Service and Vincennes University are seeking proposals for papers to be delivered on any aspect of the frontier from the Appalachian Mountains to the Mississippi River, including: exploration, Indians, fur trade, military, settlements, travel, transportation, religion, education, medicine, and architecture. Papers should be approximately twelve to fifteen pages double-spaced. The conference is intended to be informal; there will be no commentaries on papers. A short period for general questions from the audience will follow each presentation. Those interested should submit a 300 word summary of their intended subject, along with a short resume, to: Conference Committee, George Rogers Clark National Historical Park, 401 South Second Street, Vincennes, Indiana 47591. Proposals must be received by April 30, 1986.

Interface '86, the Tenth Annual Humanities and Technology Conference, will be held October 23-24, 1986 at the Northwest Atlanta Hilton Hotel in Marietta, Georgia. Papers and presentations that examine the interaction between humanistic concerns and technological development are invited. One-page, single-spaced abstracts should be sent to Robert Wess or Joan McCoy, Department of English and History, Southern Technical Institute, Marietta, Georgia 30060 by April 30, 1986.

### • May •

The Institute for Massachusetts Studies is planning a series of symposia on "Urban Massachusetts," to be held in the spring of 1987 at a site to be announced. Papers related to the history of any city in Massachusetts, during any time period from the colonial period to the present, will be considered for presentation and for subsequent publication in the proceedings of the series. Complete papers (not abstracts) should be sent to Michael F. Konig, Institute for Massachusetts Studies, Westfield State College, Westfield, Massachusetts 01086. Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope for possible return of your manuscript. The deadline for submission is May 1, 1986.

The 1986 American Journalism Historians Association will hold its fifth annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri October 1-5. Suggestions for both papers and panels are sought. All proposals are due by May 1, 1986. Contact James D. Startt, Department of History, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana 46383.

The 1986 convention of the Popular Culture Association in the South will be held in Chattanooga, Tennessee, October 2-4. Anyone interested in presenting a paper or organizing a session is asked to send an abstract, paper, or idea for a session to James S. Hedges, English Department, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Charlotte, North Carolina 28223. The deadline for submissions is May 1, 1986.

The Dutchess County Historical Society, as part of the celebration of the 300th anniversary of the founding of Poughkeepsie, New York, will sponsor a conference in the fall of 1987 presenting new contributions to the history of the city and of the Poughkeepsie urban region. Proposals should be accompanied by a brief vitae and sent to Clyde Griffen, Department of History, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601 no later than May 1, 1986. Preference will be given to papers that augment or revise Edmund Platt's Eagle's History of Poughkeepsie (1905).

The Eighth Mid-America Conference on History will be held at the Center for Continuing Education, University

of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas, September 11-13, 1986. Proposals for papers or complete sessions in all fields and phases of history are welcome. Special sessions for graduate student papers will be organized. The proposal deadline is May 15, 1986. Send paper proposals and inquiries to Thomas C. Kennedy, Department of History, Suite 12, Ozark Hall, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701.

The Association for Faculty in the Medical Humanities, a section of the Society for Health and Human Values, is planning a conference to be held during the annual meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges, October 24-26, 1986, in New Orleans. Papers with a maximum reading time of twenty minutes on any topic relating to health care and traditional concerns of the Humanities will be considered. The papers will receive blind review, so the author's name should appear only on a cover page. The deadline for receipt of essays is May 31, 1986. Five copies should be sent to

Robert Nelson, M.D., U-587, University of California at San Francisco, San Francisco, California 94143.

### • June •

**SIGNS: A Journal of Women in Culture and Society**, seeks papers for a special issue on "Women and the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, 1787-1987." Papers should explore the relationship between women and the formation, political impact, and subsequent evolution of the Constitution. Topics suggested include: women's lives in the period following the American Revolution and during the writing and ratification process; the impact of the Constitution on women's political, legal, social, and economic rights from 1787-1987; the Equal Rights Amendment and its relationship to definitions of equality, political coalitions, and cultural values; the origins and use of patriotic images in American culture; and comparative perspectives on any of the above in relation to other countries. Papers must be

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received by June 30, 1986, but interested authors are encouraged to send prospectuses as soon as possible to SIGNS Special Issues, 207 East Duke Building, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina 27708.

The *Journal of Aging Studies* is a new international and interdisciplinary journal, publishing broadly in the field of aging. Its mission is to feature scholarly papers that offer new interpretations and challenge existing theory and empirical work. The journal will appear quarterly, beginning in 1987. Critical, theoretical, and empirical papers are welcome, four copies of which should be sent to Jaber F. Gubrium, Editor, Department of Social and Cultural Sciences, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233.

### Directory of Peace Archives' Holdings Now Available

The World Without War Council recently published *Peace Archives: A Guide to American Libraries*. Peace collections scattered in libraries throughout the country have been organized for the first time in this comprehensive *Guide*. The manuscript repositories range from the prestigious Swarthmore Peace Collection to the regional holdings of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and the Southern California Library for Social Studies. There are specialized materials like the Columbia Oral History Collection, the pamphlet collection of the Yale Divinity Library, and the Beloit College Martin Luther King Collection on Non-violence.

The brochure identifies substantial manuscript holdings in some thirty repositories, and locates over seventy individual peace collections. The *Guide* also contains special sections explaining standards of record-keeping and identifying the process of archiving employed by major peace organizations.

The *Guide* can be purchased by sending \$5.00 per copy, or \$40.00 for ten copies, to: World Without War Council, Historians Project, 1730 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, Berkeley, California 94709.

# Grants, Fellowships, & Awards

## • March •

The British Universities summer schools have announced plans for the summer of 1986. This program of summer schools forms part of the official academic provision of the Universities of Birmingham, London, and Oxford, and has been offered annually since 1948. The courses in drama, history, and literature are designed for graduates, including teachers in universities and schools, and for undergraduates who will have completed their junior year of undergraduate degree work by June 1986. Each university program is planned as a continuous course extending over six weeks. Applicants unable to attend the full course may apply to attend either the first three weeks or the second three weeks. Scholarships are available to cover part of the costs of tuition, board, and lodging, but not travel. Aside from academic excellence and the basis of genuine need, preference in awarding scholarships will be given to applicants whose major field of study lies within the scope of the summer program of the university of their choice. The deadline for receipt of all application materials is March 15, 1986. Further information, including brochure and application forms, may be obtained from the U.S. Student Programs Division at the Institute of International Education's New York headquarters, 809 United Nations Plaza, New York, New York 10017.

The Directors of the Early American Industries Association announce annual grants to provide up to \$1,000 to individuals or institutions engaged in research or publication projects relating to the study and better understanding of early American industries in homes, shops, farms, or on the sea. The purpose of the EAIA's Grants-in-Aid program is to assist individuals, graduate students, and scholars with serious research or publication activity. Grants are non-renewable and may be used to supplement existing financial aid, scholarships, fellowships, or other awards. Applications for awards in 1986 will be accepted up to March 15, 1986. For additional information and application forms, contact Charles F. Hummel, Chair,

Grants-in-Aid Committee, Early American Industries Association, c/o Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, Delaware 19735.

The DeGolyer Institute of Southern Methodist University announces its annual prize for the best unpublished essay in American Studies. Essays should be approximately 5,000 to 7,500 words and may be on any subject within the interdisciplinary field of American Studies. The DeGolyer prize consists of a cash award of \$500 and publication in the *Southwest Review*. Entries must arrive no later than March 15, 1986 and should be sent to Ronald L. Davis, DeGolyer Institute for American Studies, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas 75275.

## • April •

The American Philosophical Society Library announces The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship in Bibliography for 1986-1987. The Fellow's primary responsibility will be to conduct a bibliographic study, to be published by the Library, of some part of the Library's manuscript and/or imprint collections. The Library's collections are particularly strong in the history of North American science and technology and their European roots, American culture and society to 1860, travel and exploration, linguistics, the Philadelphia region, and other related subjects. One-third of the Fellow's time will be free for research and study of the Fellow's choice. Candidates must have a Ph.D. or an equivalent record of professional experience and scholarly publications. The Fellowship will be held for eleven months and carries a salary up to \$27,000, commensurate with the Fellow's level of scholarly achievement. Benefits and travel funds are also provided. Candidates must apply by April 1, 1986, and an appointment will be made by June 1. For further information write to Edward C. Carter II, Librarian, American Philosophical Society Library, 105 South Fifth Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106.

The Indiana Historical Society announces that it will offer two \$4,000 graduate fellow-

ships for the 1986-1987 academic year to doctoral candidates whose dissertations are in the fields of the history of Indiana or of Indiana and the regions with which it has been associated (such as the Old Northwest and the Midwest). To be eligible students must have completed at the time of application all requirements for the doctorate except the research and writing of the dissertation. Completed applications, three letters of recommendation (including one from the chair of the applicant's major department and one from the dissertation director, a transcript of graduate credits, and a dissertation prospectus, should be sent by April 15, 1986 to Peter Harstad, Executive Director, Indiana Historical Society, 315 West Ohio Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46202.

The Seventh Annual Bryant Spann Memorial Prize of \$750 will be awarded by the Eugene V. Debs Foundation in 1986 for the best article, published or unpublished, written in the Debsian tradition of social protest and reform. For further details write to the Bryant Spann Memorial Prize Committee, c/o The Department of History, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana 47809. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The deadline is April 30, 1986.

## • June •

The U.S. Army Military History Institute Announces a special \$750.00 Advanced Research Grant in support of specific bibliographic and publication projects at the Institute. Each year USAMHI plans to announce the subject for a special bibliography. This award will be considered separately from the established Advanced Research Grant program which USAMHI also administers. The subject for the 1986 special bibliography is to prepare, for publication, a bibliography of USAMHI's holdings on the U.S. Army's divisions during World War II. USAMHI seeks a candidate skilled in the humanities, preferably with training in military history, with research credentials, and the ability to prepare a bibliography for publication.

## PAPERS OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, 1918-1974

### National Office Subject Files, 1920-1932

Advisory Editor: Dr. Susan Ware, Visiting Scholar, Radcliffe College

Scholars concerned with the history of women in twentieth-century America should rejoice at the availability of the Papers of the League of Women Voters. These records will enrich our understanding of the "woman citizen" and enhance research on a wide range of topics.

—Dr. Pat King, Director  
The Schlesinger Library  
Radcliffe College

University Publications of America is pleased to announce the publication of the latest installment in its ongoing research collection, *Papers of the League of Women Voters, 1918-1974*. This new installment, *National Office Subject Files, 1920-1932*, affords an intimate look at the League's early years through the copious correspondence and other records of its officers, associates, members, and critics. While *Parts I and II* of the series (previously published) document the evolution of the League's identity and goals during its first half-century by featuring the key files relating to the Board of Directors and the National Conventions, this first installment of *National Office Subject Files* captures the important details of day-to-day operations and developments by focusing on the working papers of the League's formative years.

After the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920 extended suffrage to women, members of the League were free to turn their attention to advocating a social agenda that was both ambitious and far-ranging. Convinced that women possessed a uniquely valuable perspective on such issues as child labor, public education, industrial working conditions, consumer protection, and world peace, the early leaders and members of the League set about promoting social reform via local, national, and international measures. Indeed, one of the most fascinating phenomena elucidated by *National Office Subject Files* was the construction of an extensive nonpartisan political network that encompassed a national organization, grassroots chapters, distinguished individuals, and alliances with a diverse array of

women's groups, activist movements, and special interests across the nation.

*National Office Subject Files, 1920-1932* thus illuminates the energetic and far-reaching efforts of the early League to establish a network for voter education and political advocacy. But the value of this collection extends beyond the revealing files and correspondence of which it consists, for the cumulative effect of these documents is the portrayal, in vivid brush strokes, of the social conditions confronted by the newly enfranchised American woman of the 1920s. Because the League's first leaders perceived that large-scale programs required tireless organizational and educational activity at the local level, national officers of the League sought, and received, continuous feedback from grassroots organizers; it is from these written exchanges that the researcher using *National Office Subject Files* will derive the most detailed impressions of the era's social and political milieu.

When the League's second president, Belle Sherwin, aptly characterized the organization as a "university without walls," she had in mind the personal and political growth that nonacademic women experienced through their outreach efforts on the League's behalf. The phrase is descriptive in another sense: as members worked diligently to set up local LWV chapters and "citizenship schools," they were in effect gathering field data on the sociopolitical realities of their time — data that they routinely relayed to League officers. The voluminous Subject Files of the League of Women Voters' national headquarters — comprising office files, program files, permanent department files, correspondence with eminent individuals and allied groups, and records of attacks upon the League and its programs — form the largest component of the League holdings in the Library of Congress.

From this mass of original documents, UPA's new collection has been carefully selected and organized. Much superfluous, mundane office communication has been systematically excluded, while other materials

have been usefully condensed when appropriate. The resulting collection, *National Office Subject Files, 1920-1932*, represents a noteworthy contribution to the study of women in the American political process; moreover, it will doubtless prove to be a fertile resource for scholars of U.S. history, local and national political development, the pre-Depression and Depression periods, social welfare history, biography, cultural history, and sociology.

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This collection is part of *Research Collections in Women's Studies* under the general editorship of Professors Anne Firor Scott and William H. Chafe of Duke University.

Susan Ware is author of *Beyond Suffrage: Women and the New Deal* and *Holding Their Own: American Women in the 1930s*.

## RECORDS OF ANTE-BELLUM SOUTHERN PLANTATIONS FROM THE REVOLUTION THROUGH THE CIVIL WAR

Kenneth M. Stampp, General Editor

The availability of these wonderful records is a dream come true for historians and for everyone who wishes to get an inside view of the Old South. The inspired choice of Kenneth Stampp as General Editor guarantees that the project is proceeding at the highest level.

—Dr. Eugene D. Genovese  
Professor of History  
University of Rochester

Few American institutions have generated more picturesque imagery, or moral outrage, than the ante-bellum plantation. No single perspective, however defensible, is adequate to the complexity of any given plantation, for it was at once a farm, business, residence, prison, political power-base, cultural microcosm, and crucible of Afro-American tradition. Owners of large plantations in the ante-bellum South constituted a virtual landed aristocracy, many of whom distinguished themselves in agricultural, business, political, military, cultural, and scientific undertakings. Smaller planters formed the vanguard in the westward expansion of southern plantations. The commercial and political influence of planters increased steadily on the national as well as regional level during the two centuries prior to the Civil War.

The records of plantations are scattered throughout the South in a dozen or more archives and contain a wide array of materials. Because the plantation was first and foremost a commercial enterprise, recordkeeping was indispensable for most planters, who amassed such volumes as plantation journals, crop books, overseers' journals, account books, and medical records in staggering quantities over time. Of particular historical interest are slave lists, which contain vital and occupational data, including births, deaths, work experience, and market values. Family members often kept personal diaries and corresponded extensively with persons outside the microcosm, thereby revealing contemporary cultural

mores, gender roles, interracial dynamics, and myriad other social attitudes and phenomena.

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Kenneth M. Stampp is Professor Emeritus, University of California at Berkeley, and author of *The Peculiar Institution*.

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The Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) has announced that a number of 1986-87 Fulbright Lecturing Grants remain available to U.S. faculty in the field of American history. There are specific openings in Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Columbia, Costa Rica, Gabon, Iceland, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan,

Peru, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Taiwan, U.S.S.R., and Yugoslavia. Faculty in all academic ranks, including emeritus, and independent scholars are eligible to apply. It is expected that applicants will have a Ph.D., college or university teaching experience, and reasonable evidence of scholarly productivity. U.S. citizenship is required. In a few countries (of Central and South America and Francophone Africa), knowledge of the host country's language is required. For information, call or write CIES, Eleven Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 300, Washington, D.C. 20036; (202) 939-5401. When inquiring, indicate country of interest.

## Fulbright Program Celebrates 40th Anniversary

Plans to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Fulbright program have been announced by the Presidentially-appointed Board of Foreign Scholarships, which supervises the Fulbright Program worldwide, and the United States Information Agency, which administers and funds these educational exchanges.

To celebrate this anniversary, awards of some forty distinguished American lecturer grants will be given to outstanding representatives

of scholarly and cultural achievement in the United States will be given. The duration of the grants will range from one week to six months. Grants will carry stipends of \$5,000 per month plus international travel.

Those interested are urged to contact the Board of Foreign Scholarships and the United States Information Agency at: Fulbright 40th Anniversary Committee, Room 234, U.S. Information Agency, 301 Fourth Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20547.

## Recent Deaths

Professor Emeritus Madison Kuhn, 75, a member of the Michigan State history department for 42 years, died following a long illness at his home in Santa Barbara, California, on December 7, 1985. Born in Madison, South Dakota, he graduated from Park College, Missouri in 1931, and received his Ph.D. in history at the University of Chicago in 1940. He joined the Michigan State faculty in 1937 as an instructor and rose to the rank of professor in 1951.

He enjoyed a campus-wide reputation as a classroom lecturer and director of graduate seminars whose erudition, good humor, and challenging teaching techniques aroused the intellectual curiosity of students and stimulated them to engage in critical thinking. In 1959 he received a distinguished teaching award from Excalibur, a senior men's honorary society, and was the recipient of the University's Distinguished Faculty Award in 1968. His outstanding service to the University was recognized in 1970 when he was given a Michigan State Honorary Alumni Award.

During his long career at MSU he held several administrative positions: he was acting chair of the history department in 1960 and 1970; he served as graduate chair of the College of Arts and Letters, 1970-1979; and he was Secretary of Faculties, 1970-1979. He was a member of several professional organizations, including the American Historical Association, the Mississippi Valley Historical

Association, and the Organization of American Historians. He served as president of the Michigan Historical Society and of the Lansing Historical Society.

A specialist in recent American history and in the history of Michigan, he wrote numerous articles and book reviews. As an author he is best known for his volume, Michigan State: The First Hundred Years (1955), written to commemorate the centennial of the institution.

Since his retirement in 1979, Professor Kuhn and his wife, Ruth, resided in Santa Barbara. Survivors include his wife, daughter Rosemary, grandchildren Brendon and Laurel, son-in-law Bryce, and brother Sherman.

Donations may be sent to the Cancer Foundation of Santa Barbara, 300 West Pueblo, Santa Barbara, California 93105.

Frederick D. Williams  
Michigan State University

Albert U. Romasco, professor of history at New York University, died of cancer on November 1, 1985. He was 55 years old. Despite his illness, he nevertheless continued to research his third book, a study of Presidents Kennedy and Johnson and the politics of poverty in the 1960s. He continued to work on that book because, very

simply, it was what he did. One can almost envision the trilogy he had in mind. His first book, The Poverty of Abundance: Hoover, The Nation, The Depression remains among the best studies of the Hoover administration, twenty years after its publication. His second book, The Politics of Recovery: Roosevelt's New Deal, published in 1983 is just now being reviewed and will take its place as an important study of political culture in the 1930s. The third book would have capped a wonderful career as teacher and scholar, now cut off in its prime.

Those books, and their relentless common theme of poverty amid plenty grew out of Romasco's classic experience. He was the son of immigrant Italian parents who settled in western Massachusetts; his father was a barber in Pittsfield. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and completed his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago under Walter Johnson. He taught at the University of California at Berkeley before coming to New York University in the early 1960s, among the first of a new generation of historians arriving here in the years from 1962 through 1969.

America became for Al Romasco what everyone dreams it will be. But he never forgot where he came from. He understood that not all groups were given equally the opportunity to move upwardly in this society as he had, and the fact that he did never

blinded him to the truth that some people always remain shut out; it is about those that he wrote and taught.

A gifted graduate and undergraduate teacher, he was proud to have been an award-winning instructor in Washington Square College. He taught in great pain until ten days before he died.

Al Romasco was without pretensions. He was unremittently honest. By his own admission, he was incapable of deception. He also believed himself to have been very lucky, and indeed he was. It is important to remember that he recognized he had been blessed with a good life: a close, loving family; wonderful students out of those polyglot backgrounds he admired so much; a career of thirty years doing exactly what he wanted most to do in this world. There are not many people who live far longer who can claim that.

He leaves behind his wife Ann, his teen-age children Calem and Senta, his mother and father, Augusta and Albert, and his brother George. He lives on in the minds of his family, friends, colleagues, and students, and in the important books he wrote.

Carl E. Prince  
New York University

## Readers' Responses

The AHA guidelines on hiring women historians and Sally Gregory Kohlstedt's article concerning the status of women in the historical profession (OAH Newsletter, August 1985) raise interesting questions. The working assumption is that discrimination exists wherever the proportion of women is less than it is for the field as a whole. Is that valid? (Of course, there is no discrimination against men if women are over-represented, such as on the Executive Board or on the Committee on the Status of Women in the Historical Profession.) The next assumption is that discrimination would be eliminated or negated if percentages were "proportionately equalized" throughout the profession--from tenured positions to journal articles. This is even more dubious. The "solution" is that promotions, committee memberships, journal articles, etc., be based on gender rather than scholarship or teaching ability. What matters is not equality of opportunity but equality of result, based on quotas and entitlements rather than excellence or merit. It does not matter that more individuals may be harmed than helped.

Ms. Kohlstedt notes that her committee on the status of women is in the process of preparing a report. She anticipates that the report will indicate that women have not attained equity. I'm sure that the committee will find what it wants to find. But does the OAH really promote equality by promoting classification and privilege by sex, race, or any other category?

Donald M. Nielsen  
Boston, Massachusetts

### "Moral Disequilibrium in the OAH"

Editor:

Eric Foner, Professor of History at Columbia, and I are both members of the Organization of American Historians, and we both submitted resolutions to the OAH Executive Board urging divestiture of all OAH holdings in companies

doing business in a foreign country. Foner's resolution was adopted unanimously by the Executive Board. The Executive Board took no action on my resolution. Wherein lay the difference in the handling of the two petitions?

Foner's resolution applied to South Africa; mine to the Soviet Union. Foner's resolution was based on the belief that "discrimination based upon race is incompatible with the purposes and principles of the OAH." Mine was based on the belief that "discrimination against those seeking to report accurately events in today's world is incompatible with the purposes and principals of the historical profession and of the OAH." The Executive Board, in approving Foner's resolution, "consider this not a political but a moral action," as its business meeting minutes note. In the Executive Secretary's letter informing me of the Board's action on my resolution, Joan Hoff-Wilson stated that "Board members felt that the issue of divestment in companies that trade with the Soviet Union is not of serious international concern, whereas the issue of U.S. investments in South Africa is at the center of continuing discussion."

I find it extraordinary that a historical organization that for years functioned and invested in a country--the United States--in which until recently discrimination based upon race was institutionalized, and that has always been aware of institutionalized discrimination in South Africa, should suddenly discover that its investments in companies doing business in the latter country are immoral. I note that the moral sensitivity of the Executive Board does not extend to the violence directed by some blacks against other blacks working with, or suspected of working with, the South African government, despite the vivid images on American television of "suspects" being kicked to death or incinerated in "necklaces" of rubber tires. I wonder if a World War II or even early 1950s Executive Board would have silently condoned the casual murder of hundreds of American blacks suspected of collaborating with the government

by other blacks who felt that the institutionalized discrimination then existing in the United States was not being dismantled rapidly enough? Nor do I need to point out that the black majority in South Africa is divided on the subject of the wisdom of American firms pulling out of South Africa and that those South African blacks opposed to the policy may constitute a majority. Nor need I remind the profession that institutionalized discrimination based on race, religion, etc., exists in virtually all the nations of Africa and in many nations outside of Africa. Rather I would point out that Foner's South African resolution has nothing to do with historians, except in the sense that a historical body presumably has an obligation to try to be "moral."

The Board is quite frank in stating that the issue of divestment in companies that trade with the Soviet Union "is not of serious international concern" whereas the issue of U.S. investments in South Africa is "at the center of continuing discussion." I am surprised that the dis-

tinguished body of historians who constitute the Executive Committee of the OAH seem swayed by contemporary political and journalistic pressures to condition their morality in accordance with such considerations. I am further surprised that the plight of those in the Soviet Union attempting to monitor Soviet compliance with the Helsinki Agreements, and otherwise report on what is going on in the Soviet Union, is of such little concern to our Executive Board.

I would assert that if an organization such as the OAH has any moral obligation at all, it is to support, at all times and in all places, the right of historians to practice their craft. The selective morality of the OAH in joining a popular political movement directed at one country at one time, while ignoring equivalent faults in other countries and in other times, does violence both to morality and logic.

Wilcomb Washburn  
Director, Office of American Studies  
Smithsonian Institution

## Continuity

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## Activities of Members

Paul Avrich and Robert Zieger have been named co-winners of the Philip Taft Labor History Award for 1984, awarded annually to the outstanding book published in the field of American labor history. Avrich, professor of history at Queens College, won for his book The Haymarket Tragedy. Zieger, professor of history at Wayne State University, was awarded the prize for his work Rebuilding the Pulp and Paper Workers' Union: 1933-1941.

Nicholas C. Burckel, associate director of the University of Wisconsin-Parkside's Library-Learning Center and head of the university's Archives and Area Research Center, has been elected a fellow of the Society of American Archivists (SAA), that organization's highest honor. The SAA is composed of 3,000 archivists in the United States and Canada.

Robert M. Crunden, professor of history and American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin, has been appointed director of that institution's American Studies Program.

Richard O. Curry, professor of history at the University of Connecticut, has been appointed co-chair of the 1986 program committee of the Fulbright

Alumni Association, which will meet in Chicago October 16 and at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, October 17-18, 1986.

C. H. Edson was recently elected President of the American Educational Studies Association, an international learned society for scholars in the Foundations of Education. Dr. Edson is associate professor of Educational Policy at the University of Oregon.

Jay P. Dolan, associate professor of history at the University of Notre Dame and director of the Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism, recently received a Fulbright Award to teach and lecture during the winter and spring terms at University College in Cork, Ireland.

Joan Hoff-Wilson, executive secretary of the Organization of American Historians and professor of history at Indiana University, has been awarded a Fulbright grant to lecture in Australia on the Nixon presidency and women's rights.

Lawrence D. Hogan, associate professor of history at Union County College, Cranford, New Jersey, has been awarded grants from the New Jersey Committee for the Humanities and Department of Higher Education to develop an exhibit and television program on "Black Baseball in New Jersey in the Era of the Color Line, 1885-1950."

Blanche M. G. Linden-Ward has accepted a position as Coordinator of the new Program in American Culture and Communication at Emerson College, Boston. She has also been named a member of the Academic Advisory Committee of the John F. Kennedy Library.

Thomas G. Paterson, professor of history at the University of Connecticut, was elected vice-president of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations. He will succeed to the presidency in 1987. He has also become the coordinator of the University of Connecticut Foreign Policy Seminar. Professor Paterson now serves on the Editorial Board of the Journal of American History.

The following OAH members have been elected to positions in the American Historical Association. Carl M. Degler, Stanford University, President; Patricia A. Graham, Harvard University, Vice-president, Teaching Division; George M. Fredrickson, Stanford University, Professional Division Committee Member; Sharon Harley, University of Maryland, College Park, Teaching Division Committee Member; Anna K. Nelson, American University, Research Division Committee Member; Richard S. Dunn, University of Pennsylvania, Nominating Committee; Suzanne Lebsack, Rutgers University, Nominating Committee.

## Appalachian Archives Directory Published

Archives in Appalachia: A Directory, compiled by the Appalachian Consortium as part of a project funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, consists of main entries describing 181 repositories in south central Appalachia (North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, and West Virginia). These repositories hold historical records documenting the political, social, cultural, and economic history of the region. Each main entry provides information on the name, location, and hours of the repository; the type of material held by the repository; the broad subject areas covered by the records; the geographical area the records cover; and the inclusive dates and size of the holdings.

Copies of the Directory are available for \$2.00 from the Appalachian Consortium, University Hall, Appalachian State University, Boone, North Carolina 28608.

## Women's West Teaching Guide Available

The Coalition for Western Women's History and the Sun Valley Center for the Arts and Humanities announce the publication of the Women's West Teaching Guide: The Multicultural History of Women in the Nineteenth Century American West.

This Teaching Guide is designed to be used with standard U.S. history textbooks in secondary school social studies classes. The Guide contains twenty-one lessons for students, five overview essays about various aspects of western women's history, and activities designed for the classroom. The Guide also includes a complete bibliography of sources, a list of suggested readings for teachers and students, a list of films and videotapes, and a list of contacts for information about current women's history projects in western states.

The Guide was developed by curriculum specialists, western women's historians, and teachers. Funding for this project was provided by the Northwest Area Foundation, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Copies, which cost \$8.00 each, may be ordered from: The Coalition for Western Women's History, c/o Women Studies Program, Washington State University, Pullman, Washington 99164-4032.



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**OAH Annual Meeting  
New York  
April 10 - 13, 1986**

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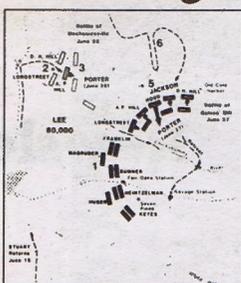
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### Survey Questionnaire for Women Historians and Women Holding History Degrees for an Update of Directory of Women's Historians

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 Work Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Job Title and Rank \_\_\_\_\_  
 Institutional Affiliation, if any \_\_\_\_\_  
 BA (year) \_\_\_\_\_ MA (year) \_\_\_\_\_ Ph.D. (year) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Research, Teaching, or Graduate School Fields \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Have Published: Articles (number) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Books (number) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are you (circle one): academic independent scholar public historian  
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 Are you a member of (circle): AHA OAH CCWHP

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 American Historical Association  
 400 A Street, SE  
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Please Duplicate and Distribute this Questionnaire.

# OAH Publications



## American History Through Film

An anthology of eight essays published in the OAH Newsletter. This guide to using film in teaching American history (26pp.) is available for \$5.75 ppd., \$.75 additional for first-class delivery.

## Computer Supplement

The supplement was published first in the November 1984 OAH Newsletter and includes four major articles on historians and computers as well as the results of a software use survey. The more extensive pamphlet Computer Applications for Historians is not yet available. Supplement \$2 ppd.

## Public History Pamphlets

A series of publications by the OAH Committee on Public History. Each pamphlet describes a different area in which history departments can train students for public history careers.

Currently available: "Historic Preservation: A Guide for Departments of History," "Educating Historians for Business: A Guide for Departments of History," "Historical Editing: A Guide for Departments of History," and "Teaching Public History to Undergraduates: A Guide for Departments of History." Each is available for \$3.

The set of four publications is available for \$10.

## User's Guide to the Freedom of Information Act

A guide to the use and regulations of the FOIA. Includes information on appeals, the Privacy Act, special problems of historians, and addresses of relevant federal agencies. \$2 ppd.

## Sport History in the United States: An Overview

A survey of sport in America from the earliest settlers through contemporary Olympics and sport as big business. This pamphlet facilitates integration of sport history in a survey of American history. It is especially applicable to the high school classroom as it includes sample discussion questions and a bibliography. \$2.50 ppd.

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To start your OAH membership, complete the form below and return it to OAH, 112 North Bryan, Bloomington, Indiana 47401. Please enclose a check or money order payable to the Organization of American Historians.

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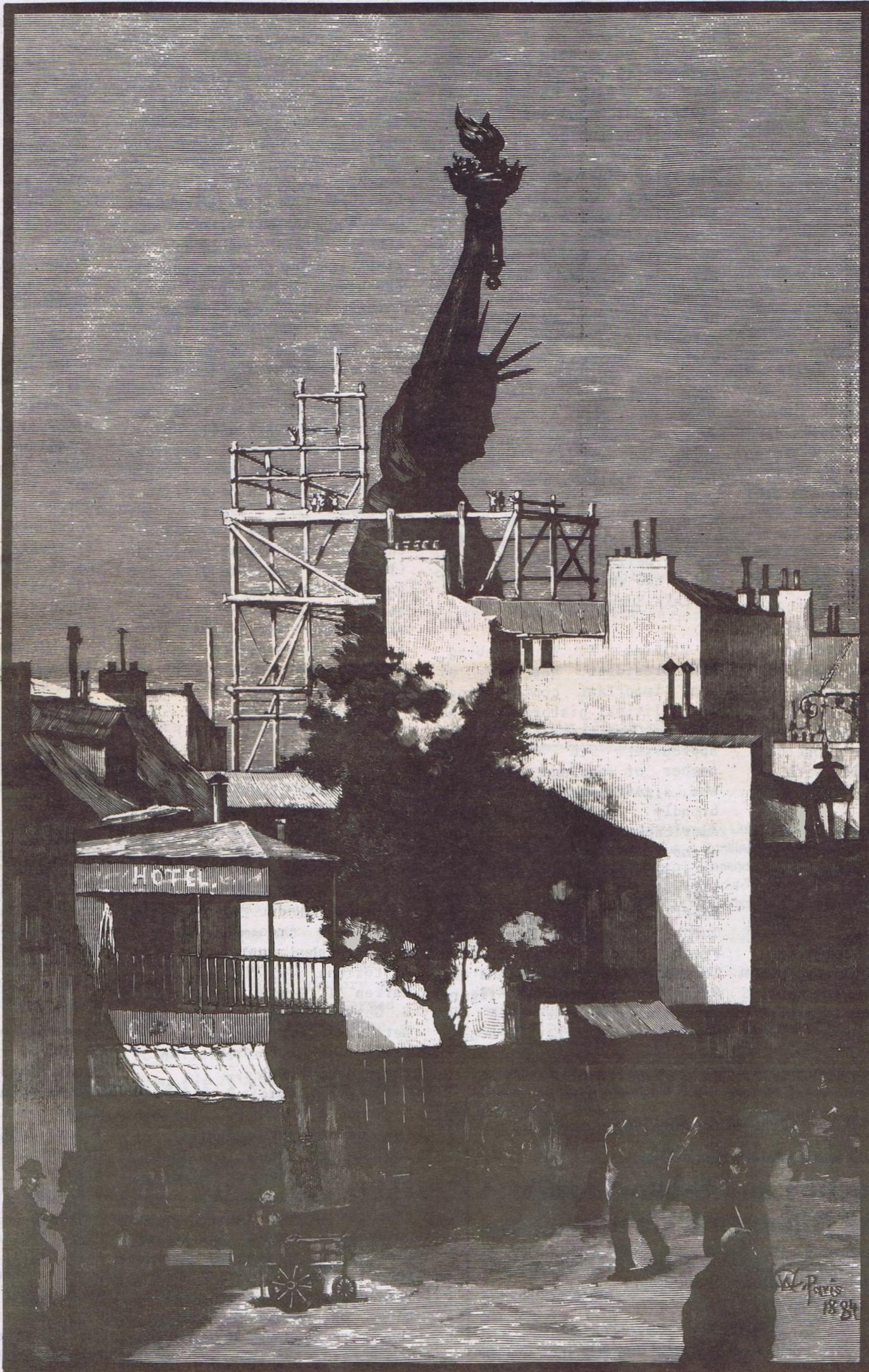
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# OAH Newsletter

# OAH Convention Supplement

Annual Meeting, April 10-13, 1986



Harper's Weekly, Vol. XXVIII, no. 1442.

The Bartholdi Statue of Liberty — "Beginning the Work of Removal" from the sculptor's studio in France. Drawn by B.W. Clinedinst.

Courtesy of the Collection of Virginia Yans-McLaughlin

## Restoring the Statue of Liberty: A Project Update

# Program Reflects Profession's "Healthy Diversity"

Kenneth T. Jackson

New York City is the international capital of dance, music, art, banking, advertising, communications, and fashion, and it has enough attractions to rank ahead of Disney World and Atlantic City as the nation's preeminent tourist destination. But the 1986 Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting will itself be worth a trip to Manhattan. The OAH Program Committee (Suellen Hoy; Michael Kammen; Morton Keller; Rosalind Rosenberg; Melvin I. Urofsky; and Kenneth T. Jackson, chair) received an unusually large number of submissions, and dozens of excellent proposals had to be rejected because of space and time limitations.

The 109 sessions and workshops that survived the winnowing process, however, reflect the healthy diversity of historical study in colleges, schools, government agencies, corporations, and cultural institutions, as well as other scholarly disciplines. And they will bring together thousands of people with a common interest in the American past.

For the second time (Los Angeles in 1984 was the first), the OAH will meet jointly with the National Council on Public History. The two program committees coordinated their efforts from the beginning of their deliberations and jointly developed a number of sessions

on such history and public policy issues as urban renewal, comparable worth, access to federal records, the National Park Service, the Vietnam War, and the role of the historian as an expert witness. The NCPH Program Committee includes: Deborah S. Gardner, co-chair; Daniel J. Walkowitz, co-chair; Carol Groneman; Esther Katz; Mollie Keller; Bara Levin; Marjorie Lightman; Paul Mattingly; Carl Prince; Karen S. Rubinson; and George David Smith. Gardner, especially, worked closely with the OAH Program Committee to ensure the success of the joint venture.

Eight walking tours--all delightful, all free, and each led by a distinguished expert, will introduce residents and newcomers alike to the treasures embedded in New York's neighborhoods. Details about the walking tours appear in this Supplement.

William E. Leuchtenburg, OAH president, has made so many important contributions to political history that the Program Committee thought it appropriate to develop a number of sessions reflecting the significance of politics, broadly defined, in the American past. The opening night session is titled "Contemporary Presidential Biography," and will feature Robert A. Caro, David McCullough, Arthur M. Schlesinger, Frank Freidel, and Barbara Tuchman. The New Deal and the Great Depression will figure prominently at the 1986 OAH meeting while other provoca-

tive political sessions will focus on the liberal tradition in America, Presidents and the media, Black mass action, Congress and the Eisenhower administration, and the election of 1912. Public figures who will speak at meal functions during the convention include Elizabeth Holtzman, former U.S. Representative and currently District Attorney of Kings County (better known as Brooklyn) and General Bruce Palmer, a former chief of staff of the United States Army and author of a recent analysis of the Vietnam War.

Among the important anniversaries that will be observed with special sessions at the OAH convention are the Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom (200 years), the Statue of Liberty (100 years), the settlement house movement (100 years), and the Haymarket Tragedy (100 years), as well as a preview of the Bicentennial of the Constitution. The last features papers by John Patrick Diggins and Richard B. Morris, co-chair of Project '87 (organized for the Constitution's bicentennial).

"A Conversation about History with Senior Historians" will bring together such well-known authors as Merle Curti, John Hope Franklin, Jacques Barzun, A. Elizabeth Taylor, Henry Nash Smith, and Caroline Ware. The OAH also will honor the memory of two distinguished and influential historians who died in 1985--Warren I. Susman and Herbert G. Gutman. Sessions have been set aside for discussion of their work and celebration of their achievements.

Women's history, through the determined efforts of Suellen Hoy, Rosalind Rosenberg, and Deborah Gardner, will be unusually well represented in New York, and we anticipate female participation in the meeting to reach a record level. Among the many sessions in this field will be those on sexual harassment, the Hite Reports, Progressive Women Reformers and the Social Welfare State, Women in the 1950s, and the Social Construction of Domestic Space. Similarly, the committee made a determined effort to include research at the cutting edge of social and labor history, and specialists in those areas will find rich offerings at

the convention.

More than a dozen sessions at the meeting will feature the screening of movies or videotapes, and many more will focus on the influence of cinema, television, radio, photography, and exhibitions on historical events. The Program Committee is particularly pleased that Ken Burns will show and comment on his acclaimed film on the Statue of Liberty.

Continuing a tradition that began in 1984, the OAH will offer a Professional Day for secondary school teachers Saturday, April 12. A special committee, headed by Lynn Gordon and Donald Schwartz, put together a series of chronological and topical workshops to encourage a greater degree of interaction among high school, college, and graduate programs in history. Activities will include a luncheon with guest speaker Gerda Lerner, former OAH president. Middle and high school teachers may be interested in other sessions of the convention, such as Diane Ravitch's interpretation of "The Challenge to History in the Schools." Her assault on the new social studies curriculum will be answered by Donald H. Bragaw, the director of Social Studies in the New York State Department of Education. Further information on Professional Day is listed in this Supplement.

A brief article cannot do justice to the richness and diversity of what we expect to be one of the most stimulating professional conventions in recent years. Hundreds of other participants whose names I have not mentioned will be presenting the exciting insights of their recent work and sharing new approaches to teaching and scholarship. We hope that you will come to New York April 10-13 to meet with people from other regions and disciplines and attend workshops and sessions that reflect current research and interests in the profession.

Kenneth T. Jackson is professor of history at Columbia University and chair of the 1986 OAH Program Committee. His most recent book is the Crabgrass Frontier: The Suburbanization of the United States.



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## N.Y.'s Finest

# A Guide to the City's Sights and Heights

### John Whiteclay Chambers II

It is a new New York City that awaits those who have not visited it since the OAH last met here in 1978. The then dominant fiscal crisis of 1975, when the city teetered on the brink of bankruptcy, is now a memory. While the retrenchment was accompanied by considerable pain, for many the current economic mood is upbeat as the metropolis experiences one of its cyclical building booms. The face of New York continues to change.

While construction of towering new office and luxury apartment buildings alters Manhattan's skyline, down on the city's streets entire neighborhoods are being transformed. New York City remains a multi-ethnic metropolis; a pinnacle for art, music, dance, and theater; and the nation's financial and communications center; even while all of these aspects undergo continual change. The city still prides itself on its fast tempo and vitality and, for the visitor, offers a fascinating kaleidoscope.

### Skyscrapers and Atriums

Of course, it is always the skyline profile that first catches the eye. The twin towers of the World Trade Center, completed at the lower tip of Manhattan in the mid-1970s remain (at 110 stories) the loftiest in the city. They offer fifty-five mile views (on a clear day) from their observation deck and fancy cooking (at fancy prices) in their sky-high restaurants. Church, Vesey, Liberty, and West Streets Observation Deck is open daily 9:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m.

In the past decade, the trend in skyscrapers has been the atrium, a landscaped, interior public space. The builders of the new giants have provided attractive extensions of the sidewalk into the ground floor and sometimes the lower levels of their buildings in return for tax breaks and increased height allowances. Among the most popular and spectacular of these atrium buildings are the following:

**TRUMP TOWER**, modestly named after its builder, big-time real estate entrepreneur Donald J. Trump. Fifty-sixth Street at Fifth Avenue. Ultra luxurious setting of rose-pink marble and gleaming bronze, with music and an eighty-foot waterfall providing theatrical touches to five stories of boutiques, restaurants, and cafes under a glass and brass skylight, all within the bronzed glass tower. Open Mon.-Sat., 8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. Shops open Mon.-Sat., 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

**IBM ATRIUM**. Fifty-seventh Street at Madison Avenue. Tables and chairs among tall bamboo trees in a greenhouse setting and including an outlet for the New

York Botanical Garden (in the Bronx) and the IBM Gallery of Art and Science. Open daily, 8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. IBM Gallery open Tues.-Fri., 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.; Sat., 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

**AT & T BUILDING**. Between Fifty-fifth and Fifty-sixth Streets on Madison Avenue. The newest public arcade in the city designed by Philip Johnson, is reminiscent of ancient Rome. Two loggias house shops and cafes. The cross-vaulted lobby is the new home of Evelyn Longworth's statue, "Golden Boy." Open Mon.-Fri., 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

**CITICORP CENTER**. Fifty-third Street between Third and Lexington (Fourth) Avenues. Because of its distinctive slanting roof, this silver tower (the world's eighth tallest building) is a unique addition to the N.Y.C. skyline. National Citibank wanted the option of solar energy for the building--thus the southern-slanted roof panels--but so far it has been cheaper to buy electricity from Consolidated Edison. "The Market," three levels of shops and eateries with an open space where free entertainment is scheduled daily, has become a popular gathering place. Attached to the Citicorp Center is the new St. Peter's Church with chapel and many sculptures designed by Louise Nevelson. Open seven days a week, 10:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.

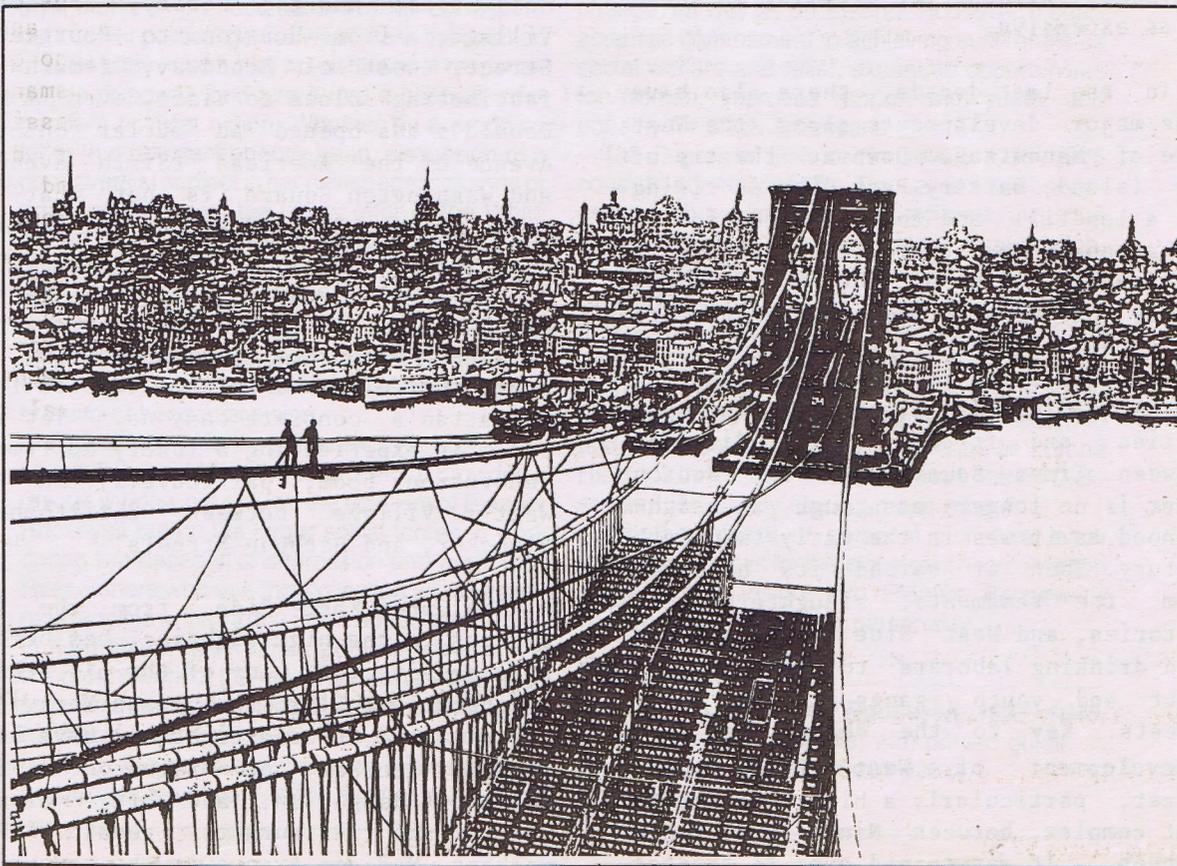
**HELMSLEY PALACE**. Fiftieth Street on Madison Avenue. Named after builder-realtor Harry Helmsley and his wife Leona M. Helmsley, president of the hotel. The landmark, nineteenth-century Villard Houses serve as a public space for the

soaring luxury hotel behind them. Marble halls and staircases, John La Farge murals and stained glass, sculpted fireplaces and wall decorations, and Tiffany glass panels and windows make the one-time home of financier Henry Villard a fine arts museum. In addition, they house the Urban Center of the Municipal Art Society. Open seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day.

**FORD FOUNDATION**. Forty-second Street between First and Second Avenues, a block west of the United Nations. One of the earlier and most stunning atriums. Opened in 1967, the ten-story glass building is dominated by a lush interior jungle of trees, shrubs, plants, pool, and skylight that turn much of the building into a giant greenhouse. Open Mon.-Fri., 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

### New Public Spaces

The newest public space in Manhattan is the **SOUTH STREET SEAPORT**, a major redevelopment and restoration at the site of the old Fulton Fish Market (boyhood haunt of Al Smith, among others) on the Lower East Side along the East River between Fulton and Water Streets, a few blocks south of the Brooklyn Bridge. Renovated by the developer of Boston's Quincy Market district, South Street Seaport is now a restored nineteenth-century landmark area of shops, restaurants, and pubs as well as waterfront piers with historic ships open to the public. Open daily from 11:00 a.m.



Courtesy of the Museum of the City of New York, adapted for Brooklyn Rediscovery by Jay Harris

The Brooklyn Bridge under construction, as seen in 1881.

The JACOB K. JAVITS CONVENTION CENTER (named after the former U.S. senator) is scheduled to open in April 1986 on a five-block area between Eleventh and Twelfth Avenues and Thirty-fourth and Thirty-ninth Streets. Containing the largest single exposition hall in the western hemisphere, the building was designed by I. M. Pei with reflective glass exteriors to mirror the skyline by day and to provide a transparent quality by night. It is variously described by enthusiastic promoters as an "Enchanted Lantern" and a "Crystal Palace." The mammoth, glass-enclosed main entrance lobby will be fifteen stories tall, higher than the Statue of Liberty and wide enough to hold two 747 jumbo jets.

## Neighborhoods: The Pulse of New York

The life of New York has always been in its neighborhoods. There are plenty in the "outer boroughs" (Brooklyn, Queens, the Bronx, and Staten Island), but there are enough to keep the visitor busy in Manhattan ("the city") itself. Among the most vital is SoHo (the acronym for South of Houston, pronounced HOW-ston, Street), bounded also by Broome Street to the south and on either side by Lafayette and West Broadway. Amidst ornate, cast-iron facades from the industrial and commercial establishments of the mid-nineteenth century, artists have converted lofts into studios. Behind them, now that this is one of the most popular tourist attractions in the city, have come entrepreneurs who, within the past ten years, have filled the district with galleries, boutiques, restaurants, and recently, luxury apartments. Resulting high rents are driving many artists into the adjoining TriBeCa (the acronym for triangle below, actually southwest of, Canal Street). In the last ten years, this has begun to grow into a kind of sub-SoHo, without yet becoming as known or as expensive.

In the last decade, there also have been major developments along the West Side of Manhattan. Down at the tip of the island, Battery Park City is rising on a landfill and the construction of Manhattan Community College and nearby apartments north of the World Trade Center has brought some new activity to the streets west of Broad and Wall. More interesting is the transformation of the old Hell's Kitchen in the west forties and fifties. The district between Times Square and the Hudson River is no longer as tough a neighborhood as it was in the early twentieth century. Then it earned its nickname from the tenements, slaughterhouses, factories, and West Side docks, where hard-drinking laborers toiled day and night and youth gangs roamed the streets. Key to the change was the redevelopment of West Forty-second Street, particularly a high-rise apartment complex, between Ninth and Tenth Avenues. It was turned over to theater people and the area was transformed through the proliferation of small

theaters, stores, and restaurants. Further east, even the Times Square area is beginning to change, under pressure from the Downtown Association, Mayor Ed Koch, and the police. On the Hudson River, at the foot of West Forty-sixth Street, the former U.S.S. *Intrepid*, one of the fast Essex-class aircraft carriers of the Pacific campaign in World War II, has been converted into a sea-air-space museum (open Wed.-Sun., 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.). Along with the nearby Circle Line Tour boats (operating late March to mid-November), it draws numbers of tourists to the area.

Gentrification, an increasingly common pattern of neighborhood transformation, has turned Columbus Avenue from a working-class ethnic area to a yuppie paradise, a beachhead of Upper East Side trendiness on the Upper West Side, a section of the city that had long been characterized by a heterogeneous mix of classes, ethnic groups, cultures, and lifestyles. Within a decade, Columbus Avenue (geographically, a northern extension of Ninth Avenue), from West Sixty-fifth Street to West Eighty-sixth Street has been transformed from a street of bars and businesses serving a long-time Irish and more recent Hispanic neighborhood into a glittering promenade of fashionable boutiques, antique shops, expensive ice cream parlors, be-palmed singles bars, crowded restaurants, and elaborate gourmet food shops.

Many old neighborhoods continue to maintain their character and attraction. Some of the flavor of the old Lower East Side can still be found around Delancey and Orchard Streets, where Orthodox Jewish shopkeepers sell their wares from the street as well as the shop. Little Italy, north of Canal Street, clustering around Mulberry Street, is an enclave of old world cafes and restaurants. New York's Chinatown, the largest Chinese community east of San Francisco, is located just south of Little Italy, south of Canal Street, particularly on Mott Street and the Bowery. Greenwich Village, from Houston to Fourteenth Street, west of Broadway, remains a fascinating place to visit, even if McDonald's has opened an outlet on the Avenue of the Americas (Sixth Avenue) and Washington Square is not what it used to be. Located around the square, New York University continues to enhance its national reputation. With its small and historic buildings, "the village" retains a human scale and a sense of the past that offers a welcome respite from Manhattan's concrete canyons. Yet it, too, is experiencing a luxury apartment renovation boom, particularly in the West Village between Christopher, Bleecker, and Bethune Streets.

The Upper East Side, from the low sixties to the high eighties, has become so expensive that many of the old ethnic neighborhoods (like the German Yorkville district in the mid-eighties) have been largely pushed out, although a few German, Hungarian, and other ethnic shops and restaurants remain. For walking, Madison Avenue in the seventies is lined with expensive boutiques, exclusive art and auction galleries, book-

stores, and restaurants. The heaviest concentration of singles bars/night clubs in New York (most with admission fee or minimum) is located along First Avenue in the east sixties. The area includes Maxwell's Plum, Friday's, Adam's Apple, and others. Studio 54 Disco, 254 W. Fifty-fourth Street, opens at 10:00 p.m. Farther uptown, Harlem, America's largest black community, begins above Ninety-sixth Street on the East Side and 110th or 125th Street on the West Side. To see some of the historic sights of Harlem, including the Morris-Jumel Mansion, Sugar Hill, Strivers' Row, the Apollo Theater, Adam Clayton Powell's Abyssinian Baptist Church, and the Schomburg Library, you will do well to take one of the large tour buses operated by Penny Sightseeing Company, 303 W. Forty-second Street at Ninth Avenue (246-4220).

## Classic Sights

Of course, the classic sights still abound in New York. You can see the Statue of Liberty as well as Ellis Island from the Battery or the Staten Island Ferry, but both are being renovated and are not scheduled for reopening until July 1986 and 1987 respectively (see related article in this Supplement). Most attractions are open, however, including the Woolworth Building (recently restored), 233 Broadway at Barclay Street, the first, and, at sixty stories, the highest skyscraper from its completion in 1913 until 1930. It was surpassed with the opening of the seventy-seven story Chrysler Building, Forty-third Street and Lexington Avenue, with its art deco, stainless steel pinnacle, which in turn was exceeded in 1931 by the 102-story Empire State Building, Thirty-fourth Street and Fifth Avenue. Other major sights: The New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street with a visitors' gallery, and nearby Wall Street; Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Broadway and Sixty-fourth Street; Carnegie Hall, Fifty-seventh Street and Seventh Avenue; the United Nations complex on Forty-second Street and the East River; and the controversial Pan Am Building, designed by Walter Gropius, sitting astride Park Avenue at Forty-fifth Street. Directly south and dwarfed by Pan Am, is the Grand Central Terminal on Forty-second Street, one of the finest remaining examples of the grand old railroad terminals, with an enormous Grand Concourse entranceway, one of the largest rooms in the world, and the vaulting spaciousness of a cathedral. One of the last of the grand style art deco movie "palaces" of the 1920s is Radio City Music Hall, Avenue of the Americas (Sixth Avenue) at Fiftieth Street, a part of Rockefeller Center. Notable places of worship include nearby St. Patrick's Cathedral, Fifth Avenue at Fiftieth Street; Temple Emanu-El, Fifth Avenue and Sixty-fifth Street, a reform synagogue in the Byzantine Romanesque style; up on Morningside Heights, Riverside Church, the Rockefeller-built structure with its 400-foot bell tower at 122nd Street and Riverside Drive; and

the Episcopal Cathedral of St. John the Divine, 112th Street and Amsterdam Avenue, the largest Neo-Gothic cathedral in the world, where, after a suspension of more than a quarter of a century, work has resumed to finish the giant edifice.

## Museums

(Hours vary, but most are closed Mon., open Tues.-Sat., approx. 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., those open Sun., generally noon-5:00 p.m. Hours can be determined by calling museums directly or the Cultural Assistance Center at 947-6340.)

The American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at Seventy-ninth Street, has added a number of new permanent exhibitions in the last several years. Among these are the Margaret Mead Hall of Pacific Peoples, the Hall of Asian Peoples, and major exhibits on Minerals and Gems, Meteorites, and Mollusks. Still popular are the Halls of Mammals, Dinosaurs, Reptiles, Primates, and Birds. A relatively new addition to the city is the Museum of Broadcasting, 1 East Fifty-third Street at Fifth Avenue, which contains a collection of radio and television programs that can be monitored on individual consoles. The Museum of the American Indian, Broadway and 155th Street, has the largest collection of Indian materials (from North and South America) in the world. Currently it is engaged in a

controversy, largely financial, over whether to remain in New York City. The Fraunces Tavern Museum, in lower Manhattan at 54 Pearl Street, is a museum of early American history and culture. It is currently running a special exhibition, "The Healing Arts in Early America," which surveys Anglo-European and American Indian traditions, medical training, surgical instruments, home remedies, and the establishment of medical societies and hospitals. Both the New York Public Library, Fifth Avenue and Forty-second Street, and the New-York Historical Society, Central Park West and Seventy-seventh Street, have acquired imaginative, energetic new directors in recent years and have engaged in restoration and new displays. Other major museums: American Craft Museum, 77 West Forty-fifth Street; Museum of American Folk Art, 125 W.

Fifty-fifth Street; and the Cloisters, a medieval gem located far uptown at Fort Tryon Park, which includes the famous Unicorn Tapestries and other Romanesque and Gothic art in a rebuilt Medieval monastery.

Known as "Museum Mile," Fifth Avenue from the nineties to the seventies includes, heading downtown, the Museum of the City of New York, at 103rd Street; the Jewish Museum at Ninety-second Street, which features world-wide Jewish art and culture from ancient to modern times; the Cooper-Hewitt Museum of decorative arts and design located in

Andrew Carnegie's mansion, at Ninety-first Street; the Guggenheim Museum at Eighty-ninth Street, with its unique spiral design by Frank Lloyd Wright often seen as superior to many of its collections of modern painting and sculpture; and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, from Eightieth to Eighty-sixth Streets. New permanent exhibits at the Metropolitan within the past decade or so, include the Egyptian and Chinese sections, the New American Wing, the resetting of the French Impressionist displays, and most spectacular, in an entirely new wing, the Michael Rockefeller Exhibit of African and Pacific Art. The Frick Collection at Seventieth Street, in the mansion of coal and steel baron Henry Clay Frick, houses a fine collection, including works by El Greco, Goya, Holbein, and Rembrandt. Forty blocks (two miles) south on Fifth Avenue at Thirty-sixth Street is J. P. Morgan's enormous mansion, now the Morgan Library, which includes medieval manuscripts and drawings and the financier's study where the U. S. Steel Corporation, among other conglomerations, was put together.

The Museum of Modern Art (MOMA), 11 West Fifty-third Street, half a block east of Fifth Avenue, has completed a major remodeling and expansion in the past five years. Now able to display thirty percent more of its holdings, it has one of the best collections of



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modern art in the world, from Impressionist to contemporary art with paintings, sculptures, photographs, and cinema (the museum sold part of its "air space" to a luxury apartment builder and the proceeds financed the renovation). MOMA is closed Wednesdays, but open Thursday evenings to 9:00 p.m. The Whitney Museum, Madison at Seventy-fifth Street, has a large collection of twentieth-century American art. In Harlem, the Studio Museum, 144 W. 125th Street, has changing contemporary Black art exhibitions of all media in a newly renovated building and the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, 515 Lenox Avenue at 135th Street, contains photographs and African art and artifacts. Yeshiva University Museum, 2520 Amsterdam Avenue, has several rooms of exhibits on Jewish culture (open Tues.-Thurs. and Sun.).

## The Performing Arts

**Music and Dance:** Among the most popular are the Joffrey Ballet, 130 W. Fifty-sixth Street (265-7300); the New York City Ballet, (the late George Balanchine's company), N. Y. State Theater, Lincoln Center (870-5570); the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, which uses jazz, spirituals, and contemporary music (997-1980); and the Martha Graham Dance Company (581-7907); The New York Philharmonic Orchestra, Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center (874-2424); the New York City Opera, now under the direction of Beverly Sills, who has instituted, among other innovations, electronically projected, simultaneous English translations of non-English language operas, N.Y. State Theater, Lincoln Center (870-5570); and the Metropolitan Opera House, Lincoln Center (362-6000), home of both the Metropolitan Opera and the American Ballet Theatre (directed by Mikhail Baryshnikov).

Half-price tickets when available for that day's performance can be obtained at the Music and Dance Tickets Booth in Bryant Park, behind the Public Library, corner of Avenue of the Americas (Sixth Avenue) and Forty-second Street, Tues., Thurs., Fri., Sun., noon-6:00 p.m.; Wed., Sat., (matinee days), 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Tickets for Monday concerts are available the Sunday before the performance. Tickets may be purchased with cash or travelers checks. A line usually forms before the booth opens.

**Theater:** Despite continual reports of its perpetual demise, theater remains a vital attraction in New York. The major theaters in the Broadway Theater District usually charge \$25-45 a seat and often seek, therefore, to have extraordinary sets, costumes, and productions. There are many (less expensive) off-Broadway theaters, particularly in Chelsea (in the west twenties), and the Village, with prices usually no higher than \$20 a seat. One of the most popular is Joseph Papp's Public Theater, 425 Lafayette Street, just off Astor Place (677-6350). **Tickets:** Full price at the box offices or (with a service charge)

through one of the ticket agencies such as Ticketron (977-9020), Tele-charge (239-6200), or Chargit (944-9300). Half-price tickets for Broadway and Off-Broadway shows when available may be purchased at TKTS (Times Square Tickets Center), Forty-seventh Street and Broadway, beginning at 3:00 p.m. for performances that evening; at noon for that day's matinees, (matinees vary, but generally Wed., Sat., and Sun.) A line usually forms before the tickets go on sale. Cash or travelers checks are accepted. Another source of discount seats, called "two-fers" (two tickets for the price of one), is Hit Shows, 221 W. Forty-second Street, Room 700 (581-4211). Two-fers also are available at the Convention and Visitors Bureau and at the Times Square Information Center. The Friday edition of the New York Times generally provides a list of ticket availability for the major shows for that weekend and also is a good index to the popularity of shows.

**Jazz clubs** in the Village (which generally cost about \$20 per person per set, including cover and minimum) are: The Blue Note, in a new location, 131 W. Third Street; Sweet Basil, 88 Seventh Avenue, South at Grove Street; and the Village Vanguard, still going strong at 178 Seventh Avenue, South at Perry Street.

## Bookstores

Within a few blocks along Fifth Avenue in the low fifties are several of the best bookstores in New York. Among them, heading south are: Rizzoli International Bookstore (with books in English, French, and Italian), 712 Fifth Avenue, Doubleday at 673 Fifth Avenue, Barnes & Noble at 600 Fifth Avenue, and Scribner's handsome old bookstore at 597 Fifth Avenue (near Forty-ninth Street). Reduced price hardcover and paperback books (including new and old volumes) are available at the Barnes & Noble Sale Annex, 128 Fifth Avenue at Eighteenth Street across the street from the main Barnes & Noble store. The best collection of second-hand books in American history remains the Strand Bookstore at 828 Broadway (corner of Twelfth Street), not far from Greenwich Village.

### Current Exhibits and Events: How to Find Them

These are listed in the weekly newspaper, the Village Voice, published Thursdays, which gives listings for the entire city; the Friday and Sunday editions of the New York Times; New York magazine; and The New Yorker magazine. In addition, information can be obtained from the New York Convention and Visitors Bureau, 2 Columbus Circle (397-8222) and the Times Square Information Center, 1465 Broadway at Forty-second Street.

John W. Chambers is assistant professor of history at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey and chair of the 1986 OAH Publicity Committee. He lived on the Upper West Side for several years while teaching at Barnard College, Columbia University.

## NCC Presents Workshop

The National Coordinating Committee task force on Cultural Resource Management and the Historic Preservation Committee of the NCPH are sponsoring a workshop, "Strategies for Influencing Federal Cultural Resource Management Policy," during the OAH Annual Meeting. The workshop will address: proposed changes in the reauthorization legislation for the National Historic Preservation Act; a draft of a "briefing sheet" for use in seeking Congressional support for historic preservation; a progress report on the Office of Technology Assessment's historic preservation project; and current efforts to encourage the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to update their manuals used for determining the specifications for the historical component of cultural resource management research designs and techniques. The session will be Saturday, April 12 at 3:00 p.m.

## N.Y. Archives Offer Research Opportunities

The New York City Archivists Round Table (ART) invites OAH members attending the 1986 meeting to take advantage of the numerous archives located in and around the city. Many historians have used the collections of the major N.Y.C. research centers, but there are additional manuscript repositories and institutional archives holding significant materials relating to American life and culture.

A partial listing of such repositories includes: the American Bible Society, Barnard College, Bowery Savings Bank, Brooklyn Historical Society, CBS News, Chase Manhattan Bank, Chemical Bank, Columbia University, Thomas Edison National Historic Site, Jewish Museum, LaGuardia Community College, N.Y. County Clerk, N.Y. Federal Reserve Bank, N.Y. Historical Society, N.Y. Hospital, N.Y.C. Municipal Archives, N.Y. Power Authority, N.Y. Public Library, N.Y. Stock Exchange, New York University, N.Y. Zoological Society, Ninety-second Street YM/WHA, Salvation Army, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Staten Island Historical Society, Teachers College, J. Walter Thompson Co., Trinity Church, United Nations, United Negro College Fund, West Point, and the YMCA.

If you do intend to visit an archive, please write or call ahead of time. Printed materials on N.Y.C. archives will be available at the write-in tables in the OAH registration area at the Annual Meeting. For information on the ART, please write the ART Secretary, c/o Pace University Archives, One Pace Plaza, New York, New York 10038.

# A Bite of the Big Apple: N.Y. Walking Tours



Mollie Keller

Because April in New York is too nice to spend only in windowless conference rooms, the Organization of American Historians and the National Council on Public History are offering meeting participants a chance to be out-of-doors to enjoy one or more of eight walking tours. All are free and each has been designed to show first-time visitors and jaded New Yorkers some of what makes the Big Apple so special.

## Brooklyn Heights

Brooklyn will get its share of attention when Margaret Latimer of the Brooklyn Educational and Cultural Association guides a group through Brooklyn Heights. Although the modern towers of Wall Street are never far from sight, Brooklyn Heights has managed to retain its charm and the flavor and scale of a nineteenth-century suburb. Even the casual visitor can read its history in the brownstone facades of its row houses, the elegance of its numerous churches, the details of its ironwork, and the pattern of tree-shaded streets. You may want to return to Manhattan after the tour by walking across the Brooklyn Bridge. Thursday, April 10, 2:00 p.m.

## City Hall, Tammany Hall

Jeffrey Kroessler of LaGuardia Community College will introduce his group to the seat of city government at Broadway and Park Row, where it has been located since the early nineteenth century. Highlights of this tour will include City Hall and its Park, Newspaper Row, and St. Paul's Chapel, the oldest religious building in Manhattan. You will be dazzled by the intricate sculptural and architectural program of the recently refurbished Woolworth Building--still a landmark on New York's skyline, and you will be stunned by the money spent during the corrupt construction work on the Tweed Courthouse. From Foley Square's courthouses and the Brooklyn Bridge, you will make your way to the notorious Five Points and Mulberry Bend Park

at the boundary of the civic district. Thursday, April 10, 4:30 p.m.

## Wall Street and the Financial District

Anthony W. Robins of the New York Landmark Preservation Commission will guide a group around the very tip of Manhattan to explore Wall Street and the financial district. By looking closely at the buildings, artifacts, and streetscapes from the warehouses and counting houses of Fulton Street to the office towers of the Battery, you will be able to trace the evolution of New York City from a colonial seaport to an international financial center. You also will be able to consider whether the economics of development and the imperatives of city planning regulations are compatible with preserving the city's history and making it accessible to native and visitor alike. Friday, April 11, 9:30 a.m.

## Astoria and Steinway Village

The adventurous historian may cross the East River and explore sections of the borough of Queens. Richard K. Lieberman and Vincent Seyfried of LaGuardia Community College have mapped a route through Steinway Village, a factory town within Astoria, Queens. Now predominantly Greek and Italian, the community was shaped by the forces of ethnicity, urban development, and the dominant local industry--piano-making. You will see the housing William Steinway built for his piano workers in the 1870s, the mansion he bought for himself, and his factory. At a stop there, you will meet with John and Henry Steinway, great-grandsons of the founder. Plan to sample some of the best Greek food in the city in local restaurants after the tour. Friday, April 11, 2:30 p.m.

## Slumming in New York's Chinatown

Jack Tchen of the New York Chinatown Research Center can take you across the years to the Chinatown of the 1890s. He will retrace one of the impromptu tours of Chuck Con-

nors, a Bowery barfly the New York press dubbed the "real mayor of Chinatown." Tchen also will discuss current challenges to the area as an ethnic neighborhood, pursuing its daily activities even as it functions as a booming tourist center. You can end the tour with lunch in one of Chinatown's numerous and inexpensive restaurants before returning to the convention. Saturday, April 12, 9:30 a.m.

## Greenwich Village

### Old and New: An 1890s Tour

No visit to New York would be complete without a walk through Greenwich Village. An early suburb of New York City, by the end of the nineteenth century the Village was famous as a haven for writers, artists, and members of the social and political avant garde. Bayrd Still of New York University will lead a tour through portions of the antebellum Village, which includes Washington Square and lower Fifth Avenue. While preserving the form and architectural scale of old New York, these areas also reveal how much the face of the Village has been altered in recent decades. Saturday, April 12, Noon.

## Secrets of South Street

One tour will focus on one of lower Manhattan's liveliest--and for historians, most problematic spots--the South Street Seaport. Ellen Fletcher of the American History Workshop will guide the group around the Seaport Museum, an eleven-block area organized in 1967 to preserve and interpret the waterfront. Today, nineteenth-century sailing ships and merchant quarters and the city's most important wholesale fishmarket coexist with a "festival marketplace" that daily draws thousands of tourists and New Yorkers. You can decide for yourself how successful this mix really is for history as "restoration" scrubs away clues to the past and expensive boutiques, co-op apartments, and art galleries take over the buildings. Saturday, April 12, 2:30 p.m.

## The Passing of Two Ethnic Ghettos: A Bittersweet Journey Through the Lower East Side and Little Italy

Lower Manhattan has been the home to many immigrant groups over the last century. James Shenton of Columbia University's history department will examine a dynamic, expanding Chinatown's impact on the old Jewish and Italian neighborhoods of the Lower East Side. Visiting such sites as the Eldridge Street Synagogue, this tour will raise questions about the processes of growth and decline in the urban ethnic communities that thrived within the tenements, street markets, and nationality associations of the area. There will be time for browsing and "noshing." Sunday, April 13, Noon.

Note: New York walking tours will take place rain or shine. Because they cover a lot of territory, comfortable shoes are a must. The tours are free but you will need \$2.00 for local transportation to and from the tour. Attendance for each tour is limited to the first thirty people who assemble at the Tour Table in the Registration Area (Cleveland Room) at the New York Penta.

Mollie Keller is an advanced graduate student in history at New York University and served on the Program Committee. In addition to working as a historical curator and writer, she has led numerous walking tours.

**OAH MEMBERS — The 1987 Annual Meeting will be held in Philadelphia, April 2-5. The OAH Publicity Committee for that convention will be responsible for providing articles about the city for the Convention Supplement and working to publicize the meeting to members and media. If you are interested in working on this committee (to be appointed by the OAH president), please write to: Professor Leon Litwack, Department of History, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720.**

## Professional Day Focuses on Secondary School Teachers

OAH Professional Day, which takes place on Saturday, April 12, is a day of professional development for high school history and social studies teachers. The purpose of the workshops is to discuss current research and teaching strategies. Each session will be led by one secondary and one post-secondary teacher.

Morning sessions, which are organized by topic, will present new material on Afro-American history, the history of labor, immigration and ethnicity, women, and the family. Afternoon sessions will deal with periods or eras taught in the secondary classroom including Reconstruction, Progressivism, the New Deal, the Cold War, and Vietnam.

The keynote address will be given at the Professional Day Luncheon by Gerda Lerner, professor of history at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her topic will be "The Importance of History and the Role of the Teacher." Additional Professional Day activities will be a workshop on oral history given by Elly Shodell, oral historian at the Port Washington Public Library in Port Washington, New York, and a discussion of the Advanced Placement history tests sponsored by the Educational Testing Service.

Teachers are invited to drop into the Professional Day Hospitality Suite to meet panelists and members of the committee that planned this year's program and to exchange ideas and comments about the sessions. The suite

will be open on Saturday in the late afternoon and evening. A limited number of complimentary copies of the OAH Magazine of History will be available at the suite.

This year's Professional Day is underwritten by the New York Council for the Humanities and the Organization of American Historians in cooperation with the New York State Council for the Social Studies. The co-chairs of the 1986 planning committee were Lynn Gordon of the University of Rochester and Donald Schwartz of Sheepshead Bay High School in Brooklyn, New York.

To preregister for the 1986 Professional Day, please return the coupon below before **March 21, 1986**. Teachers may register on the day of the meeting, but luncheon tickets must be reserved in advance.

### FIPSE Project Session

Representatives of the OAH/FIPSE Project to Revitalize Graduate Training in American History will be holding an informal session, **Friday, April 11 at 12:00 noon in the Town Room of the Penta Hotel.**

Those interested in learning more about the Project or who would like to participate on a regional visiting faculty team are welcome to attend this session.

#### Professional Day Preregistration Form 1986 OAH Annual Meeting

Please mail your completed form by **March 21, 1986** to **Professional Day, Organization of American Historians, 112 N. Bryan Street, Bloomington, Indiana 47401**. If you wish to attend the Keynote Address and Professional Day Luncheon, include a check or money order for \$25 made out to the Organization of American Historians. (The cost includes an 18% gratuity and 8.25% New York sales tax.) Your preregistration packet, including your name tag and luncheon ticket (if purchased) will be available at the Professional Day counter in the registration area. A schedule of the day's sessions will also be available.

Please print your name and affiliation as you wish them to appear on your name tag.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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I wish to attend the Keynote Address and Professional Day Luncheon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please make out your check or money order for \$25 to the **Organization of American Historians**.

I wish to receive information about the OAH Magazine of History \_\_\_\_\_

## N.Y. Dining Guide

John Whiteclay Chambers II

One of the advantages of New York City is that for the adventurous diner, there is probably no other place in the world with so many different ethnic restaurants packed in such a small geographical area as the middle of Manhattan Island.

There are thousands of restaurants in Manhattan alone and a variety of guide books to find what you want from Seymour Britchky's Restaurants of New York to The Underground Gourmet.

#### Expensive Restaurants

Many of the expensive restaurants are reviewed regularly in the New York Times, according to a rating scale, ranging from fair, average, and good to one to (rarely) four stars. Recent recommendations and ratings have been:

\*\*\*LA RESERVE, 4 W. 49th St. (247-2993), elegant restaurant of cafe-like dining rooms featuring a light touch with classical food such as Dover sole with artichoke mousse or roast duck with gingered kumquat sauce. Prix fixe: \$35.

\*\*\*PARIOLI ROMANISSIMO, 24 E. 81st St. (288-2391), offers a wide range of entrees from duck to seafood. Italian. Main courses: \$19-\$38.

\*\*RIVER CAFE, 1 Water St., Brooklyn, on a converted barge at the base of the Brooklyn Bridge with a spectacular view of Manhattan. Seasonal and American, seafood, and steaks. Prix fixe: \$42.

\*\*\*\*QUILTED GIRAFFE, 955 2nd Ave., near 50th St. (753-5355), elegantly appointed setting and a menu that features a uniquely American amalgam of the textures and flavors from the cuisines of half a dozen different cultures.

#### Moderately Priced Restaurants

CAFE UN DEUX TROIS, 123 W. 44th St. (354-4148), a lively and noisy restaurant in the theater district, is frequented by many theater people, particularly in the hours before it closes at midnight. This is one of the few moderately priced French restaurants in town. Dinner entrees: \$12-\$17.

CAFE LUXEMBOURG, 200 W. 70th St. (873-7411). French and American food. Prix fixe dinner (5:30-6:30 p.m.), \$20; regular entrees, \$14-\$19.

BRASSERIE, 100 E. 53rd St. between Park & Lexington Aves. (751-4840). Open 24 hours, informal, serving French, Alsatian, and American food. Dinner: \$8-\$17. Also, after theater menu and take-out.

INDOCHINE, 430 Lafayette St., across from Joseph Papp's Public Theater on Astor Place (505-5111), is a cheerful place specializing in Vietnamese and Cambodian food. Entree prices: \$9-\$14.

CABANA CARIOCA, 123 W. 45th St., between 6th and 7th Aves. (581-8088). And its new edition CABANA CARIOCA II at 133 W. 45th St. Good family style Brazilian food at a reasonable price. Entrees: \$8-\$14.

RUC, 312 E. 72nd St. (650-1611), Czech food, don't miss the dumplings. Complete dinner: \$11-\$15.

OZEKI, 158 W. 23rd St. (620-9131) in the Chelsea district, Japanese sushi bar and restaurant. Dinner \$7-\$17.

For Italian food in the Village, two of the most popular among devotees are MINETTA TAVERN, 113 MacDougal at 3rd St. (475-3850) and TRATTORIA DA ALFREDO, 90 Bank St. at Hudson St. (929-4400). The latter is a small but engaging restaurant with entrees \$9-\$12 where you bring your own wine and generally have to make reservations at least a week in advance.

RADISHES, 555 7th Ave. at 39th St. (354-0210). Nouvelle cuisine, soups, pasta, salad, grills, and desserts. Dinner: \$9-\$17. Entertainment.

SAY ENG LOOK restaurant, 5 E. Broadway in Chinatown, earned an excellent review for its Shanghai cuisine as well as Szechuan and Cantonese (732-0796). Other good restaurants in Chinatown: HEE SEUNG FUNG Teahouse, 46 Bowery (374-1319) is widely acclaimed as the

best dim sum (a variety of tidbits served from lunchtime until about 4:00 p.m.) and PHOENIX GARDEN, No. 15 in the arcade between Bowery and Elizabeth Sts., Chinatown (233-6017).

#### Inexpensive Eateries (for New York)

Most of these are not too far from the N.Y. Penta at 7th Ave. and W. 33rd St.

THE TUNNEL, 231 E. 34th St., between 2nd and 3rd Aves. (696-1293), burgers (\$3-\$4) and fries luncheonette.

LA BONNE SOUP, 48 W. 55th St., between 5th and 6th Aves. (586-7650), aromatic soups, with bread, wine, salad, and desserts--a small meal for \$5. Entrees: \$5-\$13.

FOOD, 127 Prince St., corner of Wooster St., SoHo (no phone), healthfood salads and sandwiches, homemade soups and bread, served cafeteria style.

MOLFETAS, 307 W. 47th (840-9537), is also in the theater district and has low prices. Spinach pies and lamb dishes start at \$3.50.

In Little Italy: PUGLIA RESTAURANT, 184-189 Hester St. (966-6006). Spaghetti dishes, \$2-\$4; veal, \$6. The nearby LUNA RESTAURANT, 122 Mulberry St. (226-8657), is an unpretentious place, but has good food. Entrees start at \$5.

SECOND AVENUE DELICATESSEN, 156 2nd Ave. (677-0606). Pastrami on rye \$4, also complete dinners.

RAY'S PIZZA, 11th St. and 6th Ave. Greenwich Village (243-2253), has some of the best pizza in the city.

UKRAINIAN RESTAURANT, 140 2nd Ave. at 9th St. (533-6765), is one of the best eateries in the heart of the Ukrainian district of the East Village along 2nd Ave. Borscht, pirogi, and others. A big meal for \$12.

Inexpensive Indian restaurants abound on East 6th St. between 1st and 2nd Aves. in the East Village. MITALI'S, 334 E. 6th St. (533-2508), is the best. ASIA NUMERO UNO, 920 8th Ave., between 55th and 56th Sts. (246-9151), is Chinese and Cuban cuisine (by Chinese who immigrated to Cuba and then to the U.S.).

NOTE: Prices sometimes change rapidly, so the prices listed here should be considered as approximations. For additional restaurants, consult the guide books or The Manhattan Consumer Yellow Pages (a separate volume of the New York telephone book) that lists eateries by cuisine in the section under "restaurants."

John W. Chambers is a professor of history at Rutgers University and chair of the 1986 OAH Publicity Committee.

## RESEARCH COLLECTIONS IN WOMEN'S STUDIES

General Editors

Dr. Anne Firor Scott, W.K. Boyd Professor of History, Duke University  
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# THE PAPERS OF ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, 1933-1945

Advisory Editors: Dr. William H. Chafe, Duke University and Dr. Susan Ware, Radcliffe College

*Eleanor Roosevelt's correspondence is vital both for the study of her own remarkable career and of the political and social history of the United States from World War I into the Kennedy administration. This collection opens many avenues of significant research.*

—Dr. Frank Freidel

Bullitt Professor of American History  
University of Washington

Eleanor Roosevelt remains one of the twentieth century's most influential public figures, and certainly stands as the most widely respected woman in public life in American history. Both in partnership with her husband, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and in her own right, she served as the conscience of the New Deal—a tireless crusader for forgotten groups and controversial causes. Through such advocacy, she came to represent a vision of how the federal government could work as a positive force for human betterment and social change. UPA's new microfilm collection, drawn from the extensive correspondence in the Eleanor Roosevelt papers at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, and published in cooperation with the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library and the National Archives and Records Administration, documents her interaction with the leading political and governmental figures of the 1930s and 1940s, as well as her involvement in some of the country's most far-

reaching reform movements for social change long before they won popular acceptance.

Eleanor Roosevelt developed a unique political style that is amply documented by her correspondence. Her political genius was to take the position of First Lady, which had no institutional responsibilities or power, and turn it into a base of independent political action. Whether by a prodding letter to a reluctant agency head, discussion of a controversial subject in her newspaper columns or press conferences, the timely offer of the White House for a conference or meeting, or even frequent personal intervention with President Roosevelt himself, her involvement gave legitimacy and credibility to whatever causes she touched. The long list of persons and organizations that depended on her support is dramatic testimony to the breadth of her social vision.

The correspondence presented in this collection covers the period from 1933 to 1945. It provides a unique window not only on the activism of Eleanor Roosevelt but on the larger social forces at work during two decades of depression and world war. Researchers who use this collection will see ordinary families writing to the First Lady as a last resort in hard times; government administrators laying the groundwork of the modern welfare state; such organizations as the NAACP agitating for change for black Americans; Japanese-Americans victimized by the wartime controversy over relocation; and Jewish refugees trying to escape from Hitler's

Germany. The Eleanor Roosevelt papers thus provide a social and political commentary on American society during a period of rapid and momentous change, as well as on Eleanor Roosevelt's characteristic commitment to achieving such goals as social welfare and relief, expanded opportunities for women, improved rapport with youth, and equality for black Americans.

*The Papers of Eleanor Roosevelt, 1933-1945* consists primarily of Mrs. Roosevelt's correspondence with public figures and officials, including (among others) reformers Mary Simkhovitch, Lillian Wald, Paul Kellogg, and Mary Dreier; New Deal administrators Ellen Woodward, Harry Hopkins, Aubrey Williams, Frances Perkins, and Ellen Woodward; and black leaders Mary McLeod Bethune, Walter White, Roy Wilkins, and A. Philip Randolph. The collection also includes letters to and from such close personal friends as Lorena Hickok, Esther Lape, Elizabeth Read, Marion Dickerman, and Nancy Cook, among others.

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The OAH has appointed ROSALYN MOSS TRAVEL CONSULTANTS (RMTc) as travel coordinator for the 1986 OAH Annual Meeting, April 10-13 in New York. RMTc has negotiated a special discount for participants traveling round trip from their home city to New York on regularly scheduled flights. In the current, competitive "airfare wars," there may be some sporadic lower fares from specific cities. These fares may have restrictions and limited seating. RMTc's convention specialists will assist you in securing the lowest rate available.

You can help the OAH save money. By booking your flight through RMTc, the OAH will earn credits that can reduce part of the cost of the Annual Meeting. You may use a credit card to guarantee against possible fare increases or pay by invoice. RMTc will mail your tickets to you. If fares are reduced later, RMTc will reissue tickets at the lower rates.

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## Public History Workshop

Mollie Keller

What is public history, anyway?

The National Council on Public History and the Organization of American Historians may have the answer. They are co-sponsoring a pre-convention workshop called "An Introduction to Public History" on April 9 and 10.

The one and a half day workshop will introduce participants to four key areas of current public historical practice: media, public policy, business, and cultural resource management. Sessions will be devoted to the extra-academic projects public historians tackle and the conceptual problems and processes they face. Drawing on professional experience in archival programs, policy studies, media presentations, contract work, exhibitions, community

and local history, and oral history, session leaders will discuss the ways in which public historians differ from their more traditional colleagues. Who are their audiences and clients? How are their needs being met? What skills must a public historian cultivate? And, what special ethical issues might he or she confront?

Ronald Grele, director of Columbia University's Oral History Research Office, and NCPH Executive Director Barbara Howe will open the workshop with an overview of the field. They will discuss how public history evolved, the kinds of institutions with which it became identified, and the general professional changes that have led to the wider practice and training of public historians. Grele and Howe will address the shared concerns and distinct needs of historians employed outside academe, paying particular at-

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tention to administration, peer review of research, funding, job definition, and professional goals and values.

Two sessions will be devoted to media and history, moderated by Daniel J. Walkowitz, co-director of the Public History Program at New York University, and Gerald Herman, Provost's Office and Department of History, Northeastern University. Participants will view a number of film, video, and radio productions and discuss the complex intellectual and technical processes that transform traditional historical research into presentations for nontraditional audiences.

Martin V. Melosi, director of the Institute for Public History, University of Houston, will explore the ways history may be used as a public policy tool. He will focus on what historians can contribute to policy analysis and how they may serve as policy makers with reference to case studies.

The role of history in business will be addressed by Deborah S. Gardner, director of the Archives and Corporate Research Center, New York Stock Exchange and a member of the Board of Directors, Institute for Research in History. She will consider the range of history's applications to business (including its relevance to marketing, management, planning, public affairs, and research) and review some of the

practical and ethical issues faced by employees and consultants in the corporate world.

## Board Establishes Non-profit Table Policy

The OAH Executive Board has established a new policy regarding free table space at the Organization's Annual Meeting. Any small non-profit organization of historians may establish, without cost, a table at a convenient, public place to be determined by the Convention Manager. Table requests will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, depending on space available in any given year. At this table, the organization will be permitted to distribute materials, solicit members and subscriptions, and sell journals and other products of the organization to promote its activities.

The workshop's fourth topic of cultural resource management centers on the purpose and responsibilities of those private and public organizations charged with protecting and interpreting the nation's historical, cultural, and natural heritage. Michael Scardaville, director of the Applied History Program, University of South Carolina at Columbia, will examine how these agencies set the standards of preservation, development, and use of the resources in their care and then design their public educational programs.

Bara Levin, director of the Chemical Bank Archives and Gallery, will conclude the program with a summary and comment.

The workshop is open to individuals in public and private agencies, as well as to faculty who wish to develop new programs. Resource materials designed to help participants apply the information presented at these sessions will be provided.

The cost of the workshop is \$75.00. Additional registration and program information may be found in the OAH/NCPH Annual Meeting Program. Non-members may request workshop registration information from the OAH Business Office, 112 N. Bryan Street, Bloomington, Indiana 47401. Questions may be directed to Daniel Walkowitz, at New York University, (212) 598-3322, or Deborah Gardner at the New York Stock Exchange, (212) 623-2252.

Mollie Keller is an advanced graduate student in history at New York University and served on the NCPH Program Committee.

Such organizations must notify the OAH Convention Manager of their desire to establish a table two months prior to the Annual Meeting. (Table space will not be allocated at the time of the Annual Meeting.) The deadline for the 1986 Annual Meeting is February 10. Written requests should include the organization's tax exempt number (or other proof of non-profit status) and a statement of the organization's size. Correspondence should be directed to the OAH Convention Manager, Organization of American Historians, 112 North Bryan Street, Bloomington, Indiana 47401.

## Historic Penta Hotel Hosts OAH Meeting

The 1986 OAH Annual Meeting will be held in the New York Penta—a hotel rich in history itself. Opened in 1919, the then Hotel Pennsylvania was the largest hotel in the world for almost a decade. During the late 1930s and 1940s, the hotel's Cafe Rouge hosted famous entertainers of the Big Band era. Glenn Miller and his orchestra borrowed the hotel's phone number for their hit song "Pennsylvania 6-5000."

The OAH met at the same hotel for the last New York meeting in 1978. At that time, the property was named the Statler Hilton. Returning OAH members will find the hotel recently refurbished under a \$20 million renovation program. One major change was the addition of an electronic, card/key security system.

The Penta's facilities in-

clude convenient shops on the lobby level, a theater ticket and sightseeing concession, and two restaurants. In addition, the wood-paneled Penn Bar offers an attractive atmosphere for cocktails. The Lobby Lounge provides a range of food and beverages from a continental breakfast to light snacks and drinks.

Outgoing limousine service is available from the hotel to New York's airports. Transportation to LaGuardia (\$6.75) and Kennedy (\$9.75) airports is offered on the hour, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Service to Newark Airport (\$13) runs fifteen minutes before the hour, 7:45 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Tickets for the airport service should be reserved a few hours in advance at the transportation desk in the lobby.

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# Restoring the Statue of Liberty: A Project Update

F. Ross Holland

Work on the Statue of Liberty is coming to an end, and it is expected that the Statue, the pedestal, and the base (old Fort Wood) will be completely refurbished before the July 4th celebration.

In the course of the project, workers have replaced all the iron armature (which supports the plates of copper composing the skin) with pieces made of stainless steel. The steel is compatible with the copper; hence, the bars will last longer.

The paint on the interior skin of the Statue has been removed (using baking soda in a blasting technique), exposing the hammered copper. Workers made repairs to the exterior skin and replaced the popped rivets with new ones. The central spiral stairs in the interior of the Statue have been refurbished as has the crown or viewing area.

The central pylon and the surrounding framework have been sandblasted and repainted with a type of paint used on the space shuttle.

The new torch, which is like the one installed in 1886, is now back on the upraised hand of the Statue. And, the new gilded flame appears to be burning in the sunlight.

The pedestal was gutted at the beginning of the restoration. Architects designed a new contemporary stairway made of stainless steel, which workers are now finishing. A new glass, double-decker elevator will carry visitors up the pedestal to the floor

below the foot of the Statue. Sightseers will then have a short climb to the spiral stairway.

In the base, the lobby has been redesigned and the old torch will remain there on display. On the floor above

(the 1P level), a new exhibit on the Statue of Liberty will be installed, and on the 2P level the old American Museum of Immigration will be refurbished.

The grounds of Liberty Island are being relandscaped. The two walkways to the Statue, now separated by a grassy mall, are being narrowed to a single, wide walkway. The visitor dock has been refurbished and a new shelter erected over it. The interior of the Concession Building has been redesigned and expanded slightly. New maintenance sheds are being built and a new incinerator installed.

Ellis Island is undergoing work also. Unfortunately, the effort has gone slowly, and the 1987 completion date will probably be changed to 1988. The domes on the Main Building have been scaffolded, and workers are nearing completion

of the model dome that will be used as a pattern for the four domes.

David Wolper is directing the plans for the Statue's celebration this July. Festivities will include relighting the torch and Statue, a parade of tall ships, concerts and other entertainment events in New York and New Jersey, and gigantic fireworks displays. Liberty Island will be reopened to visitors July 5. In October, another ceremony, more serious in tone, will celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the dedication of the Statue.

F. Ross Holland, Jr. is Director of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation. He will participate in a session on the Statue of Liberty as a case study in historical preservation at the 1986 OAH Annual Meeting this spring.

...

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE CONSTITUTION: A CELEBRATION

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The Conference Committee welcomes papers on the historical, philosophical, and political origins of the Constitution; the framers' intent; and the enduring constitutional issues, then and now, i.e. federalism, separation of powers, the role of the judiciary, equality as a constitutional value and constitutional change.

**CONFERENCE DIRECTOR:**

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December 1, 1986. Papers are not to exceed 20 minutes presentation time. Papers must be submitted in duplicate, with a one-page abstract. A representative selection of papers will be published.

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