

PLANNING HISTORY NEWS

Society for American City and Regional Planning History

Spring 2007

The 12th National Conference on Planning History

PORTLAND, MAINE

October 25-28, 2007

Hosted by two distinguished planning organizations, the fall 2007 conference in Portland, Maine, will bring together a wide variety of historians, urban decision makers, architects, landscape designers, planners, public policy experts, environmentalists, builders, developers, real estate professionals, students and scholars. The Portland conference will focus on the historical development of cities and the importance of urban and regional planning. It highlights espe-

cially the “Evolving Shape and Function of Waterfront Cities,” in particular places such as Portland, Maine. Since World War II places like Portland have been transformed from bustling hubs of shipping and industry into sprightly centers of finance, management, and educational services, as well as Meccas for tourism.

The Portland 2007 conference offers a host of exciting events. Thursday’s symposium on “Portland as a Planning Laboratory: Working Waterfronts in a Postindustrial Economy” features guided bus and boat tours of Portland’s Casco Bay where commercial and research functions share space with a still vital fishing industry. Following these tours a panel of planners, historians and city and civic leaders will explore Portland’s waterfront history and waterfront development issues. Friday’s plenary session will assemble a group of distinguished speakers who will examine these same issues in national and global perspective. Other topics to be discussed during Friday and Saturday sessions are the tensions over contested waterfront space, historic preservation in waterfront planning, tourism as an economic driver, and housing affordability and clean, efficient transportation as factors shaping post-industrial urban futures. Internationally renowned architect Denise Scott-Brown will deliver the conference’s keynote address. Sunday’s tours will spotlight Portland’s Olmsted legacy, Maine’s war housing, and the “Old Port” as a historic preservation treasure.



The McClellan House (1800)



View of Harbor from Portland Observatory

Welcome to Portland

For practitioners and historians of planning the host city for this year's biennial SACRPH conference, Portland, Maine, provides a unique venue for exploring the past, present, and future of urbanism. Maine's premier city, and the economic if not the political capital of the state, Portland contains barely 64,000 people. A port city, which still boasts an active fishing fleet and fish exchange, historically the city powered its economy by shipping grain not fish. As early as the 1870s city boosters capitalized on the city's excellent rail and steamship connections, its Winslow Homer-enshrined rockbound coastline, and its proximity to the Maine Woods to herald itself: "Gateway to Vacationland."



Old Port, Fore and Exchange Streets



Eastern Promenade (Olmsted Designed)

Portland's deep, well-protected harbor potentially rivaled Boston. In 1775 the British Navy under Henry Mowat, eyeing the strategic significance of the town then called Falmouth and to punish its patriot community, demolished the Massachusetts outpost during a four-hour naval bombardment. But, Portland rose from the ashes and in the antebellum era, after Maine became a state following the 1820 Missouri Compromise, the city built a flourishing economy around shipbuilding, fishing, timber, molasses, and granite. That maritime leadership was enhanced in 1807, when Captain Lemuel Moody gathered subscriptions to build a maritime signal tower on the top of Munjoy Hill, which announced the arrival of ships by a unique system of colorful signal flags. Now celebrating its 200th year, flags still fly daily from the top of the Portland Observatory, including the insignia of cruise ships in port.

Portland's economy shifted in the 1850s to railroading and grain storage when city businessmen bested Boston's in the contest for the right to receive, store, and transship seasonally ice-locked Canadian wheat. Even the disastrous July 4th fire of 1866, which consumed most of the pre-Civil War cityscape, failed to slow progress. Portland rebuilt in the red brick now emblematic of the city's historic Old Port. The Canadian Grand Trunk Railroad made post-Civil War Portland a railroad hub as well as a port. Its old oceanfront and 18th century piers were filled creating a wide, multi-tracked Commercial street lined with warehouses, train sheds, and long wharves, many still operating. Today Portland's impressive, National Register quality architecture reveals that prosperity. At the edge of the Old Port, in the early 19th century, two Portland merchant princes, the brothers Hugh and Stephen



The Clapp House (1832)

McClellan, built a magnificent Federal-style mansion. One now forms part of the Portland Museum of Art close to the Eastland Hotel. Nearby is the celebrated 1832 Charles Q. Clapp House, one of America's finest examples of Greek Revival architecture. This effulgence of urbanity culminated in 1859 when Maine native, New Orleans enriched, Ruggles Sylvester Morse built his Italian-Villa style summer home at Spring and Danforth Streets. It is now the exquisite Victoria Mansion.

Unlike New Bedford or Providence, Portland never became a New England mill city, although railroading, shipbuilding, stoveworks, even a chewing gum manufactory, provided industrial jobs. Its location convenient to the great Maine Woods (memorialized by Thoreau), its rugged, rocky, pine-tree studded coast and crashing waves hallowed in Longfellow's poems and Winslow Homer's art, enthroned Portland and the Maine coast as an escape from the ravages of industrialism. After the Civil War wealthy "rusticators," the Rockefellers and Cyrus Curtis to mention two, discovered places like Bar Harbor and Camden and commenced the reshaping of Maine as "Vacationland." Portland became a destination not only for Canadian wheat, but also for tourists traveling from New York, Philadelphia, and Boston to Camden, Bar Harbor and

elsewhere in Maine. Great hotels and seaside inns sprang up and by the 1880s tourism had become big business in Portland. To further enhance the aesthetic lure of Portland local leaders, including architect John Calvin Stevens, mayor James Phinney Baxter, and city engineer William Goodwin with inspiration from the Olmsted Brothers landscape designers planned summer colonies on places such as Cushing Island, and in Portland laid out promenades overlooking the ocean and the mountains on the city's eastern and western edges. In 1895, again aided by the Olmsted firm, the city designed a boulevard circling the Back Cove, which linked with a park whose name memorialized the land's donor, Deering Oaks. Some of the wistful character of this romantic era can still be visualized in Portland's Cape Elizabeth suburb, a summer-like community situated in the shadow of the famous Portland Head Light. Lining the shore there are some of the finest examples of architect John Calvin Stevens shingle and stick style "cottage" residences, including the well-known C.A. Brown House, 1885-1886. All of these Cape Elizabeth gems, together with the Victoria Mansion and the city's vast Greek Revival architectural heritage attest to Portland's historical richness. That, of course, includes the Old Port where today a stone's throw in any direction will hit a superb restaurant, more testimony that Portland is an urban treasure, despite its diminutive size.

Pictures and text by:

John F. Bauman

International Planning History Society Biennial Conference, 2008

Mark your Calendar!!

Chicago will be the site of the 2008 International Planning History Society (IPHS) conference, co-sponsored by the University of Illinois, Chicago (UIC) and the University of Florida (UF). Co-convenors Bob Brueggemann (UIC) and Christopher Silver (UF) are in the process of developing the call for papers and finalizing plans for keynote speakers, planning history related tours and other conference events. The conference will be held July 10-13, 2008 at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile, 540 North Michigan Avenue. A unique feature of the 2008 conference is that it is being co-located with the 2008 Joint Conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning and European Association of

Schools of Planning, which runs from July 6-10, 2008 also in the Chicago Marriott Downtown. There will be special registration rates for those interested in attending both conferences, and the mobile tours from the ACSP/AESOP conference will be available to IPHS conference goers on a space available basis.

The conference website, with details about the hotel and registration, and the official call for papers, will be available by June 2007. Abstracts will be due by early February 2008, with notification of acceptance by March 2008. As is the tradition, the IPHS conference will be co-sponsored by the Society for American City and Regional Planning History.

Christopher Silver

SACRPH encourages you to consider membership in the International Planning History Society (IPHS). Membership in IPHS is \$70 annually. This increased rate reflects an exciting new development, negotiated by the President of IPHS with the publishers Taylor and Francis, to bring you copies of *Planning Perspectives*: an international journal of history, planning and the environment as part of your subscription. This is a heavily discounted rate available only to IPHS members. This new arrangement brings you not only membership in IPHS and discounts in registration for conferences (the next IPHS conference is to be in Chicago July 2008) but also a well-established international journal. We definitely encourage you to consider becoming a member of, or renewing with, this organization.

Treasurer's Report

As in the past, SACRPH's financial health continues to depend on the generosity of our members. It is anticipated that during 2007, about 165 members will pay about \$12,000 in dues, and contribute about \$500 to the "Voluntary Contributions" fund, approximately \$700 to the fund named in honor of our founder, Lawrence Gerkens, and an estimated \$1000 to the student travel fund.

The Board of Directors anticipates that in the future, more of our income will hopefully be derived from grants. We are also planning for the day when funds come to SACRPH from royalties from publications and other projects and interest on endowment funds. Until greater financial independence is achieved, the Board of

Directors try to keep expenses to a bare minimum. By far the greatest expenditures involve the production and editing of the *Journal of Planning History*. The more library subscriptions we get, the lower the price we pay Sage Publications, Inc.

Liability insurance on the organization and its board members and our annual by-law mandated financial review cost just over \$5000 in 2006. Any member who is interested in obtaining more detailed financial information or wishes to offer suggestions is encouraged to contact treasurer Kristin M. Szylvian at kristin.szylvian@wmich.edu or call 269-387-4639.

Thank you,
Kristin M. Szylvian, Treasurer

Member News

Christopher Silver became Dean of the College of Design, Construction and Planning at the University of Florida effective October 1, 2006 after nearly nine years at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He published a chapter, "New Urbanism and Planning History: Back to the Future" in Monclus and Guardia, eds. *Culture, Urbanism and Planning* (Ashgate 2006) and his book, *Planning the Megacity: Jakarta, Indonesia in the Twentieth Century* (Routledge 2007) is in production. In collaboration with Bob Bruegmann, University of Illinois, Chicago, he is co-organizing the 2008 conference of the International Planning History Society in Chicago (see note in this newsletter).

Robin F. Bachin, Charlton W. Tebeau Associate Professor of History at the University of Miami and President-Elect of SACRPH,

served as guest curator of an exhibition at the Wolfsonian Museum on Miami Beach entitled "In Pursuit of Pleasure: Schultze and Weaver and the American Hotel," which ran from November 2005 through May 2006. The show addressed the variety of functions hotels have served historically, including their roles as social centers, sites of exotic escape, sources of healthful retreat, purveyors of modern amenities and services, and places for temporary residence. Princeton Architectural Press published the exhibition catalogue, *Grand Hotels of the Jazz Age*. In addition, Bachin launched a digital archive, "Travel, Tourism, and Urban Growth in Greater Miami"

(<http://scholar.library.miami.edu/miamidigital>).

The archive traces changes in the built, natural, and cultural landscapes of South Florida through primary source documents from the University of Miami Richter Library's De-

partment of Archives and Special Collections. The site provides a comprehensive overview of environmental history, land use patterns, transportation systems, migration and immigration, architecture and design, and advertising and the promotion of tourist sites related to Miami's development. Finally, Bachin was appointed Director of the Program in American Studies at the University of Miami.

Carolyn Loeb is moving to a new position in the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities at Michigan State University, East Lansing, in August. This will be the inaugural year of the College, a program that emphasizes, in addition to the arts, transcultural studies, civic engagement, foreign language immersion and study abroad, and ethical issues.

Kathleen Pagan, AICP, was elected Secretary of the Planning and Women Division of the American Planning Association in Spring 2007

Michael Bednar, published *L'Enfant's Legacy: Public Spaces in Washington, D. C.*

Announcements

The SACRPH website has relocated from <http://www.urban.uiuc.edu/sacrph/> to <http://www.dcp.ufl.edu/sacrph/>.

"Celebrating a Century of Wardman Row-House Neighborhoods" is currently on exhibit at the Kiplinger Library, 801 K Street, NW, Mount Vernon Square, Washington, DC; 202-383-1850. Curated by Sally Lichtenstein Berk and Caroline Mesrobian Hickman, the exhibit features three row-house neighborhoods that were built along major streetcar lines in the early years of the 20th century -- Bloomingdale,

(Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006)

John Archer received the 2007 Alice Davis Hitchcock Award from the Society of Architectural Historians, for his book, *Architecture and Suburbia: From English Villa to American Dream House, 1690-2000* (University of Minnesota Press, 2005). He also Received the Scholar of the College award for 2007-2010, acknowledging "outstanding achievement by faculty in the college." At the Third Biennial Conference of the Urban History Association in Tempe, Arizona, he presented a paper titled "Suburbia's Aesthetic: from Picturesque to Pragmatic," which lays the groundwork for a fundamental revision of the aesthetic and critical lenses through which suburbia is currently critiqued and understood. Finally, Archer will resume an appointment as Chair of the Department of Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature.

Timothy Mennel was featured in the Chronicle of Higher Education March 30 2007 for his urban geography dissertation *Everything Must Go: A Novel of Robert Moses's New York*.

Columbia Heights and Brightwood. These neighborhoods have undergone several demographic changes in the approximately 100 years since their construction and are now experiencing revitalization as the move to the city continues apace and urban housing is at a premium. The exhibit recounts the story of real-estate mogul Harry Wardman who claimed in 1925 that he housed 10% of Washington's population. The critical role he played, not only in the development of the three neighborhoods but in the constituent city as a whole, is told with historic photographs, maps, and advertise-

ments; architectural floor plans and elevations; and the faces and voices of current residents. - Sally Lichtenstein Berk

March 4, 2008 will mark the 75th anniversary of the New Deal and efforts are underway for public awareness - Kathleen Pagan, Senior Planner Alachua County Dept. of Growth Management

The Center for Suburban Criminal Justice, a planning initiative to foster civic engagement by uniting the efforts of colleges, professionals and the community, signed a memorandum last month of understanding with a Canadian college. - Phil Dolce

Queries

Ann Satterthwaite is working on a book on opera houses and their role in community life from the late 19th century through today. She would like to know if any SACRPH members have information on the following: (1) The history of the opera house in their town, diaries of people either involved with it or diaries of people who attended activities there. (2) And, if the opera house in their town is being restored? By whom? Why? As part of a downtown renewal program? With what types of programs?

Please send information to:
Ann Satterthwaite
(email) asatt@aol.com (fax) 202-337-8607

Thank you everyone for your contributions to the spring edition of *Planning History News*. This newsletter will be produced quarterly, with summer, fall, winter and spring editions. If there is anything you think would be valuable to include in the newsletter, please direct this information to Erin Cunningham at ekc@ufl.edu.

Preview of Contents for the Journal of Planning History

Volume 6, No. 2 May 2007

Articles:

The Evolution of Early Phoenix: Valley Business Elite, Land Speculation, and the Emergence of Planning, Larissa Larsen and David Alameddin

The International Diffusion of Planning Ideas: The Case of Istanbul, Turkey, Hatice Ayatac

The Compact City versus the Dispersed City: History of Planning Ideas on Sofia's Urban Form, Sonia Hirt

Review Essay:

Three Men in Search of a Modern Acadia: Landscape Architecture, Planning, and Conservation between Tradition and Conservation, Sonja Dumpelmann

Forthcoming Articles:

Historical Amnesia: New Urbanism and the City of Tomorrow, A. Joan Saab

Taming the Neighborhood Revolution: Planners, Power Brokers, and the Birth of Neotraditionalism in Portland, Oregon, Gregory L. Thompson

More than Sector Theory: Homer Hoyt's Contributions to Planning Knowledge, Robert Beauregard

Review Essays:

Worlds We Have Lost, Elizabeth Blackmar

The Moral Economy of Shopping, Stephanie Dyer

**The Society for American City and Regional Planning History (SACRPH)
2007 Biennial Awards Competition**

SACRPH, an interdisciplinary society of scholars and planning practitioners, announces its biennial awards competition. The awards will be presented at SACRPH's National Conference on Planning History, to be held in Portland, Maine October 25-28, 2007.

For more information on the conference and the organization, visit our website:

<http://www.dcp.ufl.edu/sacrph/index.html>.

Service Awards

The Laurence Gerckens Prize (\$250)

Awarded to a scholar-teacher who has demonstrated sustained excellence in the teaching of planning history. Send nominations with name, institutional affiliation of the person nominated and a brief statement outlining their contributions to the field of planning history as a teacher to: David Schuyler (chair), Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, PA 17604-30003 (David.Schuyler@fandm.edu). Nominations must be received prior to July 15, 2005.

Publication Prizes

(For work published between August 2005 and July 2007).

Submissions due to prize committee members between now and July 15, 2007:

The Lewis Mumford Prize (\$250)

Best book on American city and regional planning history.

Send submissions to: David Sloane (chair), 313 Lewis Hall, School of Policy, Planning & Development, USC, Los Angeles, CA. 90089-0626; Jon C. Teaford, Dept. of History, UNIV Rm 125, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2087; Robert Wojtowicz, College of Art, Old Dominion University, Diehn 119, Norfolk, VA 23529.

The Catherine Bauer Wurster Prize (\$250)

Best scholarly article on American planning history.

Send copies to: Joseph Heathcott (chair), American Studies, Humanities Building 113, St. Louis University, 3800 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108; Eric Avila, Dept. of Chicana & Chicano Studies, 7349 Bunche Hall, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1559; Robert Beauregard, GSAPP, Avery Hall, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027-0358

The John Reps Prize (\$250)

Best master's thesis and best doctoral dissertation in American city and regional planning history.

Send bound copies with a cover page including the name of the author, advisor, and degree-granting institution to:

Amy Howard, Bonner Center for Civic Engagement, Tyler Haynes Commons 201, University of Richmond, Richmond, VA 23173; D. Bradford Hunt, Roosevelt University - ETSUC, 430 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60605-1394; Angel David Nieves, School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, 1205 Architecture Building, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742

Paper Prizes

(For papers accepted for presentation at the 12th National Conference on Planning History, Portland, Maine, October 25-28, 2007):

The Francois Auguste de Montequin Prize (\$1000)

For the best conference paper on the topic of North American colonial planning history. Send an abstract and one-page c.v. by May 15, 2007 to: Robin Bachin, University of Miami, PO Box 248107, Coral Gables, FL 33124 (rbachin@miami.edu). Eligible papers, once accepted, will be solicited directly by the Montequin Prize committee.

The Student Research Prize (\$100)

For the best conference paper submitted by a full-time student.

Send an abstract and one-page c.v., as well as evidence of student status by May 15, 2007 to: Robin Bachin, University of Miami, PO Box 248107, Coral Gables, FL 33124 (rbachin@miami.edu). Eligible papers, once accepted, will be solicited directly by the Student Prize committee.

**THE SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN CITY AND REGIONAL PLANNING HISTORY
2007 SOCIETY DUES BILLING**

Please complete your mailing information (for verification of what is listed for each member), adding news about yourself, and return it with your dues **payment to "SACRPH" c/o the University of Florida address below.**

All of this information will be used to produce the 2007 Roster of Members.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip Code, Country _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email Address _____

Your membership dues are due. Be sure to review and fill out accordingly both sides of this form.

Membership Categories	Amount
_____ Regular Member Dues: \$70.00	_____
_____ Two-year Member Dues: \$135.00	_____
_____ Non-U.S. Member Journal mailing and surcharge \$13.00	_____
_____ Student Member Dues: \$35.00	_____
<small>(Letter verifying student status must be included in order to qualify.)</small>	
_____ Retired Member Dues: \$55.00	_____
_____ Disabled Member Dues: \$55.00	_____
_____ Institutional Sponsor Dues: \$150.00	_____
_____ Corporate Sponsor Dues: \$250.00	_____
_____ 2007 Membership Roster \$15.00	_____
<small>(with cross-indexed research interests and publication-level directory, available Fall 2007)</small>	
_____ Foreign mailing surcharge \$3.00	_____

_____ **International Planning History Society (IPHS) Membership:**
SACRPH annually announces and collects IPHS dues. Membership in IPHS includes receipt of *Planning Perspectives* \$70.00

_____ **Student Scholarship Contribution**.....
Subsidize student conference presenters: help build a stronger foundation for the Society's future!

_____ **Voluntary Contribution to the Gerckens Fund to support the JPH**

_____ **Voluntary Contribution to the Society**.....
The Society is a charitable trust. Dues and donations to the Society are tax deductible as charitable contributions to the limits established by law (EIN # 31-1191786). This extra support of Society programs will be most sincerely appreciated.

TOTAL

Please make checks payable to "SACRPH". Checks must be in U.S. funds and drawn on a U.S. bank.
 University of Florida - Department of Urban and Regional Planning
 P.O. Box 115706 Gainesville, Florida 32611-5706
 352-392-0997, ext. 433 – Phone; 352-392-3308 – Fax; klarsen@ufl.edu - email

THE SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN CITY AND REGIONAL PLANNING HISTORY

Please list up to 3 areas of special interest that you would like to have included beside your name in the Membership Roster:

Please make checks payable to "SACRPH". Checks must be in U.S. funds and drawn on a U.S. bank.

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