

The Urban History Newsletter

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The Syllabus Exchange: A Review

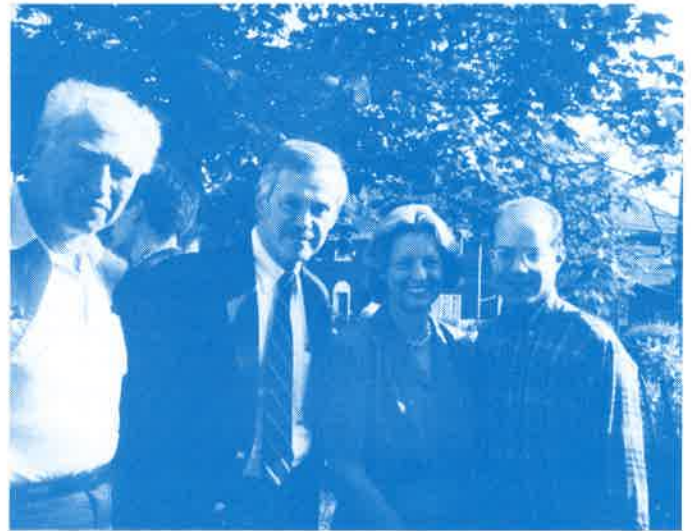
The Urban History Association Syllabus Exchange. Edited by Judy M. Harris. (Richmond: The Valentine Museum for the Urban History Association, 1990, \$20.00.)

In 1989 the Urban History Association (UHA) let out a call for a syllabus exchange, with the idea that by sharing approaches to the teaching of urban history such a collection might help take stock of the discipline generally and encourage new and better ways of teaching. Over fifty teachers responded by submitting their course syllabi, which were reproduced in camera-ready form to produce the *Syllabus Exchange*. The *Syllabus Exchange*, published in June 1990, almost sold out immediately, and its success generated discussion about an expanded, updated exchange.

The *Syllabus Exchange* is a thick compilation of course syllabi, with the added bonus of the staff reading list in urban history offered at the Valentine Museum. The syllabi are arranged in three categories: a catchall one for general or introductory courses, another for topical approaches, and a third for "city-specific approaches" (Chicago, New York, and Washington, D.C.). Save for a cursory foreword by Sam Bass Warner, Jr., on the origins of the project, the *Syllabus Exchange* remains silent on editorial decisions regarding inclusion (were all syllabi submitted included, for example?), arrangement (alphabetization by course title seems to have been the organizing principle), or, indeed, the significance of the material assembled.

Teachers will find many uses for the *Syllabus Exchange*, for it includes a considerable variety of methodologies, a diverse sampling of readings, and some very original assignments. Anyone wanting full-immersion baptism in the literature on American urban history, broadly defined, need only plunge into Kathleen Neils Conzen's superb 50-page (gasp!) bibliographies from her two 1987 courses on U.S. urban history from the colonial era to 1965, or for the less ambitious, the Valentine Museum's 18-page reading list. Methodologies vary from simple chronological surveys tracking the development of American cities over time to perspectives that view the city as an artifact, a metaphor, or just a venue for modernizing forces. Assignments range from the traditional book review essays and research papers, to field trips to map urban culture and experience, even to kinds of voyeuristic exercises, such as reading newspapers to count homicides over a three-month period.

The *Syllabus Exchange* does not represent a cross-section of urban historians in America (the collection reads more like a "Who's Who" of the discipline and a listing of major universities rather than a sampling of teachers generally), but it collectively no doubt reflects the kinds of issues and concerns dominating discussion and teaching (continued on page 4)



New York City in Oxford: Peter Marcuse, Peter Salins, Eugenie Ladner Birch, and Leonard Wallock on campus of Oxford Polytechnic Institute (7-10-91). CREDIT: Michael H. Ebner

The Challenge of City Planning History: "Planning Trans-Atlantic," Oxford, England, July 1991

The history of city planning is often viewed as a sub-area within the field of urban history. Presentations at a July conference in Oxford, England, however, illustrate that planning history is equally an aspect of the histories of architecture, technology, and law, among others. They also present both an opportunity and a challenge.

The last decade has seen increasing interest in the field. Indeed, the formation of the Urban History Association (UHA) was in part an outgrowth of the Planning History Luncheons organized by Blaine Brownell and Mark Rose for several years at the OAH. Meanwhile, impetus from the planning side of planning history led to the 1986 creation of the Society for American City and Regional Planning History (SACRPH). And the Planning History Group (PHG), an international organization dating from 1974 and based in Great Britain, has increased in membership as well.

Members of all three organizations participated in July in "Planning Transatlantic: Global Changes and Local Problems." A meeting of more than 600 planning educators rather than solely of planning historians, this was a joint conference of the U.S.-based Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) and its European counterpart (Association of European Schools of Planning, or AESOP). Though sessions addressed the whole range of planning topics, history was well represented. Program chairs organized the conference into 16 "tracks" by topic area, one of which they designated Planning History. The Planning History track contained 9 of 125 scheduled conference sessions (with (continued on page 2)

TRANS-ATLANTIC *(from p.1)*

2 to 4 papers per sessions). In addition, because of the large number of proposals, some originally submitted to the Planning History track were siphoned off to others, such as Economic and Social Justice or Land Development, if they dealt with an historical aspect of those topic areas. Within the Planning History track, 17 persons based in the U.S. presented papers, as did 11 from other countries, including Great Britain, Germany, and Italy. Session chairs and commentators came from both the U.S. and elsewhere.

I was unable to attend all planning history sessions but did get to most, and was able to acquire copies of papers from some of the ones I missed. When I consider the entire body of work presented, perhaps my strongest impression is of its enormous variety. There were papers dealing with architectural and design concerns of both Clarence Stein and Catherine Bauer; with technological changes in urban infrastructure; with the impact of economic development and the public-private nexus surrounding it; with land development and regulation; with ecology, black history, and the thought of Lewis Mumford, to name only some of the topics covered. Two principal factors account for this variety. One is the nature of the field. The history of city planning must be as broad as is city planning itself. All of the above are legitimate elements or aspects of the planning of cities, and some reflect the origins of the present profession. Moreover, as recent work has shown, despite the growth of the planning profession since the early twentieth century, much of the planning carried out in our cities was not done by professional city planners whether as public employees or as private consultants. The other factor relates to the researchers, rather than the research. Though some planning historians are historians by training and/or academic affiliation, many are not. And those housed in departments of city planning or urban affairs may have their formal training not only in those areas but in such diverse fields as architecture, economics, engineering, or law, rather than in history. I lost count of the number of times I heard someone begin his or her presentation with, "I'm not really a historian, but" Thus there are almost two groups of planning historians: planners with a "bent" for history and historians who have discovered the urban planning in urban history. And then there are a few trained as both historian and planner. The many perspectives make for a broad and diverse field of study.



Seymour J. Mandelbaum on the campus of Oxford Polytechnic Institute, 7-10-91). CREDIT: Michael H. Ebner

What made the second strongest impression, after the diversity of subjects, was the uneven quality of the papers themselves. Many were primarily narrative, rather than analytical or interpretive, in nature. A few bordered on antiquarianism or irrelevancy. Some were carefully reasoned and well-supported, some were not; and referencing was slim to non-existent in a couple. The time limitations of an oral presentation account for some of the problems, but by no means all. Speaking from a narrow disciplinary perspective, it would be tempting to say the historians do "good" planning history while the planners' work is slipshod. However, it is not that simple or clear cut. Nor does experience explain the difference, though presenters ranged from those just finishing doctorates to senior academics. One partial explanation, however, may lie in the newness of the field. Although there is a growing body of literature relevant to the history of city planning, much of it has not been explicitly identified or designated as such. Consequently, the standards that historical research in city planning should strive to meet are not clearly defined nor understood by all who engage in it.

The implications of the Oxford conference are double-edged, and confer a mixed blessing on urban historians. For the most part we can be glad that people not in history departments or the formally defined profession are pursuing planning history. Students who might never find their way into a history classroom--except under the duress of a required survey--will be exposed to knowledge and understanding of their past. Providing students in city planning, architecture, or landscape architecture departments an historical perspective can only benefit those professions. This is so whether that perspective comes from formal courses in urban history or the history of their professions, from an historical focus in courses dealing with such topics as housing policy, or from contact with faculty engaged in historical research.

Moreover, city planning is by nature a multi-disciplinary process. Those trained in disciplines other than history and steeped in the literature of those other disciplines can provide a broadening vision and perspective to inform the historians' research. The opportunities for meaningful dialogue are boundless. At the same time we must be aware of the danger of planning history being so broad or diffuse as to lack focus or identity.

Finally, as historians we must also be aware of our responsibility to our own discipline. We do a disservice not only to planning history but to all history if we encourage or allow the spread of "poor" history. Such a practice runs the risk of perpetuating mis-information. It can also hinder the development of respect among the larger scholarly community. Even individuals not trained in a discipline can often recognize careless or inadequate scholarship. They will know if historians confer legitimacy on poor quality planning history; and they may discount not only the research in question but the history profession as a whole for a perceived lack of standards.

The Oxford conference illustrates that the opportunity exists for enlightening dialogue and multi-faceted research in city planning history, as well as for the development of an appreciation for and understanding of history as a whole outside the history profession. The Fourth National Conference on American City Planning History to be held in Richmond in November, which the Urban History Association and the Planning History Group join SACRPH in sponsoring, presents the next open window on that opportunity.

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER

The Association is pleased to co-sponsor the international planning history conference scheduled for Richmond, VA (November 7-10). Representing our organization in formulating the ambitious and wide-ranging program has been Mary Corbin Sies, who deserves a hearty expression of thanks. Two other UHA members, Larry Gerckens and Chris Silver, also have taken significant roles in the essential work of arranging this large-scale enterprise.

Again I am able to report good news about our growing numbers. As of December 31, 1990 our membership totalled 335; by early September of 1991 our ranks exceeded 400. Dues renewal statements for 1992 will be in your mail next week; by replying promptly, you save the Association the time and expense entailed in sending out reminder notices.

The committee on nominations appointed by President Miller is fast completing its assignment. It is chaired by Gail Radford. Serving with her are Josef W. Konvitz and Roger Lotchin. Ballots will be distributed next month and the results will be announced at our third annual meeting on December 28th.

Our third annual dinner, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Historical Association, is scheduled for the Chicago Historical Society at 6:30 PM on December 29th. It will be preceded, at 5:15 PM, by a free guided tour of the museum conducted by President Ellsworth Brown and Chief Curator Susan P. Tillett; the society's excellent book store also will be open for extended hours for browsing. Reservation forms will be distributed to our membership during the first week in November. I am grateful to Russell Lewis, director of publications at CHS, for overseeing the arrangements for the evening.

Warm thanks to the officers and directors whose terms will expire on December 31. They are: Carl Abbott, Blaine A. Brownell, Deborah S. Gardner, Ira Lapidus, Timothy Mahoney, Zane L. Miller, Bradley R. Rice, and Christopher Silver.

Michael H. Ebner
Lake Forest College

SEMINARS

Columbia University

The Seminar on the City at Columbia University holds ten monthly meetings during the academic year. The speakers for the fall of 1991 include Jameson W. Doig (September), Gordon E. Cherry (October), Deborah Gardner (November), and Kerry Michaels, Stuart Math, Clifton Hood, and Peter Derrick (December). The speakers for January through June, 1992 will be announced in the next newsletter. The seminar invites visiting scholars and professionals interested in urban history to attend its meetings. For additional information contact the co-chairs: Marc A. Weiss, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, Columbia University, 400 Avery Hall, New York, NY 10027 (212-854-3524) and Leonard Wallock, Department of History, Hunter College, CUNY, 695 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021 (212-772-5540).

Chicago Historical Society

The Urban History Seminar of The Chicago Historical Society meets monthly (September-May). Speakers for 1991-92 are: Craig Colten, Kathleen Neils Conzen, John D. Fairfield, Theodore J. Karamanski, Michael B. Katz, Andrew Leo & Scott LaFrance, Donald L. Miller, Harold L. Platt, and

Thomas J. Sugrue. Scholars visiting Chicago who wish to attend occasional sessions of the seminar are always warmly welcomed. For further information: Russell Lewis, Director of Publications, The Chicago Historical Society, Clark Street at North Avenue, Chicago, IL 60614 (312-642-5035 Ext. 280).

Centre for Metropolitan History

Busy autumn and winter terms lie ahead for the Centre for Metropolitan History at the University of London. Work on the existing research projects will continue as always, and on October 16th our programme of fortnightly seminars starts again. This year's themes are "Food" and "Transport" in the metropolis, and the speakers will be Prof. R.W. Unger on "Beer, Dutch towns and the grain trade, 1400-1600" (Oct. 16); Prof. Henry Roseveare on "Wiggin's Quay revisited: London's legal quays in the reign of Charles II" (Oct. 30); Mr. Dorian Gerhold on "The London carrying trade in the 17th-19th centuries" (Nov. 13); and Dr. Vanessa Harding on "Markets and market places in 17th century London" (Nov. 27). After Christmas Dr. David Richardson will give a paper on "J. Lyons and Co. Ltd.: the history of a family business" (Jan. 22); Mr. John King speaks on "The evolution of London's airports, 1919-1939" (Feb. 5); Mr. Alan Jacobs on "Sainsburys" (Feb. 19) and Dr. Jim Galloway and Dr. Margaret Murphy, of the CMH staff, will complete the series with a paper on "Provisioning a medieval metropolis: London and its grain supply, c. 1300" (Mar. 4). The seminar meets at the Institute of Historical Research, Senate House, Malet Street, London W.C.1 at 5:30 p.m., and we are always pleased to see visitors.

A full conference programme is also scheduled. In October we are joining forces with YAKAR to run the first ever conference on "The Future of Jewish Monuments in the British Isles," and in November we plan to run a conference on "Pop Art: a metropolitan phenomenon?" to coincide with the Royal Academy's current Pop Art exhibition. Plans for next year include a conference on "Anglo-American Publishing in the late Twentieth Century," another on "Metropolises and European Culture," and still another on "The Aristocratic Town House in London, 1400-1930."

The Centre is starting work on a new three year project this winter, financed by the Renaissance Trust. It is "The growth of the skilled workforce in London, 1500-1750" an investigation of the development of craft skills in London, focussing on gold and silversmithing, clock and watchmaking, scientific and musical instrument making, glass, china, and the book trade. London was transformed over this period from a city where the highest quality products and most up to date skills tended to be imported from abroad, to a metropolis whose inhabitant could make technical and luxury commodities to a standard which enabled them to dominate the world market.

Staff at the Centre are always interested to hear of work in progress on the history of London, or any other metropolis. If you would like to be put on our mailing list for further news and plans, please write to Heather Creaton, CMH, 34 Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9EZ UK. We make a small charge (5 pounds a year) for this service (Contributed by Heather Creaton).

The third annual business meeting of The Urban History Association will be held at 4:45 PM, Saturday, December 28, 1991 in conference 4C, Chicago Hilton. Members wishing to place items on the agenda should send submissions in writing to the executive secretary-treasurer on or before November 22. Agendas will be mailed to the membership during the second week of December.

SYLLABUS REVIEW (continued from p. 1)

everywhere. As such, it provides a crude measure of how we as teachers and scholars have come to define the field. If they agree on anything, the contributors have abandoned the "old urban history" of city biographies and assumptions of a neat, almost linear progression from colonial commercial urban models to industrial and then post-industrial ones, and have embraced the "new urban history" that views cities less as places and more as processes.

Such a perspective has problems of its own. As Kathleen Nells Conzen pointed out in her seminal 1983 essay, "The New Urban History: Defining the Field" (in James Gardner & George R. Adams, eds., *Ordinary People and Everyday Life*) and others have argued thereafter, one of the most persistent problems is a blurring of the discipline itself. Much of the new urban history is really the "new social history" in city dress. The preoccupations of the new social historians have become those of the new urban historians. Thus, for example, the industrializing city occupies center stage of discussion for many new social and urban historians. In the syllabi, as in the literature, the preindustrial city (especially the colonial city) and the post-World War II city exist as preludes and postscripts rather than essential parts of a larger story about urbanization and the effects that different kinds of urban settings and experiences have on people, institutions, interests, identities. Urban history courses now venture out to the suburbs, but principally via Kenneth Jackson's widely adopted *The Crabgrass Frontier*, which itself emphasizes the 19th- through mid-20th-century experience. The sunbelt is yet only a glimmer in urban history courses (and that light comes almost entirely through the Richard Bernard & Bradley Rice anthology, *Sunbelt Cities*). More troubling, especially in those courses purporting to explore the process of urbanization, comparative perspectives are few. The *Syllabus Exchange* includes several syllabi treating urban history from a global perspective and one on the medieval city, but invariably in courses on the American experience American industrial cities fill the lens.

At the same time, urban history courses have moved from an earlier generation's emphasis on public institutions and politics to an interest in city people themselves. Gunter Barth's book on the making of a modern city culture has many takers, but more influential are the studies of workers', immigrants', blacks', and, increasingly, women's lives and culture(s). Numerous monographs on different cities and Raymond Mohl's popular new anthology, *The Making of Urban America*, invite students into those subjects. It is not clear from the syllabi the extent to which teachers are attentive to the peculiarity of place--how particular urban places shaped particular urban experiences and cultures--but the variety of readings and writing assignments (such as the history of particular neighborhoods over time) points to an appreciation of place as well as time. And amid all the flux and interest in the new urban history stand several constants. To cite one example: Sam Bass Warner's *The Private City* still provides the scaffolding for much urban history. Finally, old policy-oriented questions have persisted, albeit informed by the new (or even the "post-new") urban history. Concerns about city-building and service provision remain important. So, too, the city political machines continue to command attention. The old Progressive historians' machine-reformer dichotomy that once cast the history of American cities as a morality play has not been revived in courses today, but historians still look to the competing perceptions of who should control the urbanizing process as a way to understand how urban institutions developed and were used

and how urban identities evolved. In doing so, today's historians (to judge by the readings assigned) seem sympathetic to machines as instruments imposing order on decentralized cities and providing services to poor, immigrant, and working-class constituents otherwise neglected or abandoned by the middle class. In many courses, machines have their defenders--witness the popularity of *Plunkitt of Tammany Hall* on reading lists.

More than anything else, perhaps, reading the *Syllabus Exchange* should dispel any notion that urban history is dead. The syllabi bristle with fresh ideas on what is urban about America and, indeed, what urban history means. That no consensus on defining the field emerges from the syllabi attests to the vitality of the discipline as a whole and suggests that urban history has room for any and many new approaches and practitioners (*Syllabus Exchange* contributors included several teachers of literature, political science, sociology, and geography). If one of the underlying motivations in gathering syllabi was to stimulate discussion about the character and direction of the discipline, the *Syllabus Exchange* has succeeded. Now the UHA should establish the exchange on a regular basis so urbanists might take periodic soundings of the field and continue to find innovative and useful ways to teach and understand urban history.

Randall M. Miller
Saint Joseph's University

Please note that the *Syllabus Exchange* is now completely sold out and unavailable from The Valentine Museum.

ASEH MEETS IN HOUSTON

On February 28 through March 3, 1991, the American Society for Environmental History held its biannual meeting in Houston, Texas. Organized in 1976, the society includes approximately 500 members from many disciplinary backgrounds throughout the United States and abroad. ASEH focuses on understanding the mutual interactions between human culture and the natural environment. The society publishes a quarterly journal, *Environmental History Review*. The 1991 conference drew more than 200 people to the University of Houston campus for the four-day event. The Institute for Public History, directed by Martin Melosi, was the local host organization.

The theme of the conference was "The Environment and the Mechanized World." Participants examined a wide range of issues relevant to the modification of the natural world by agriculture, commerce, industrialization, and urbanization. More than forty sessions were scheduled, covering a wide variety of themes including: "African Americans and the Environment in the Twentieth Century," "Parks, Greenspace and Urban Land-Use," "Environmental Politics and Political Theory," "The Houston Environment," "Progressive Environmentalism: The Case of Chicago," "Industrial Wastes and the Environment," "Water Resource Management," "Sewering American Cities," and "Corporate Responses to Air Pollution." Urban historians who participated in the conference included Bill Cronon, Maureen Flanagan, Stuart Galishoff, Sam Hays, Suellen Hoy, Andrew Hurlley, Clayton Koppes, David McComb, Harold Platt, Christine Rosen, Pat Burgess, Ted Steinberg, and Joel Tarr. Several of the papers presented at the conference will be published in special issues of the *Environmental History Review*. The review is published at the New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, New Jersey, 07012.

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Anyone interested in contributing to the bibliography is encouraged to contact the editor. Contributors to this issue include: Mark Cortiula, University of Guelph (Canada); Michael Ebner, Lake Forest College (U.S. books); Ronald Dale Karr, University of Massachusetts-Lowell (U.S. articles); Daniel Mattern, University of North Carolina (Europe); and Alan Mayne (Australia).

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The Spring newsletter (#7) will feature a bibliography of Chinese urban history.

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Inquiries about the activities of the Association should be sent to: Michael H. Ebner, Executive Secretary & Treasurer, c/o Lake Forest College, 555 N. Sheridan Road, Lake Forest, IL 60045-2399 USA.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

MAUREEN A. FLANAGAN reports "I am currently working on a book titled '*A Spectacle for the Nation: Chicago Politics and Political Culture, 1871-1922*' for which I have received an NEH Fellowship for University Professors for 1991-92. In this book I explore the shaping of Chicago's political system by examining its political culture beginning with the rebuilding of the city after the disastrous fire of 1871 until the rejection of the new state constitution in 1922 locked the city into its governing system for decades to follow. The purpose of this study is to present Chicago's political development as a dynamic process in which Chicago's political system was reshaped across these crucial decades through a series of conflicts among its residents about the nature and purposes of urban government, what its powers should be, and who should control it. By exploring the interaction of groups of Chicagoans over issues and events with the common theme of trying to determine how much power the public institutions of government should have, rather than looking at only elections or politicians, I hope to present Chicago's political development as a dynamic process, one in which the memory of historical events helped shape the political arguments of the present. Such an approach also enables me to include those Chicagoans, such as women and African-Americans, into the study of politics before they could or did vote. Among the issues that I will be examining in this book are those of fire relief, public works projects, public schools, charter reform, municipal ownership of public utilities, and lakefront development. In their conflicts over these issues Chicagoans put forth differing arguments and justifications for how much power should be vested in their municipal government."

JONATHAN COOPERSMITH, Texas A & M University, explains: "My manuscript on the history of Russian electrification from 1880 to 1926 will be published by Cornell University Press next year. My current research is the history of the fax machine from its conception in the 1840s through the present. I am most interested in hearing from people about how the fax machine has changed how they communicate and think."

JANET HUTCHINSON, Appalachian State University, writes: "My current research envelops and expands my dissertation, '*American Housing, Gender and the Better Homes Movement, 1922-1935*.' Work on the Better Homes movement offers a bridge between the federal housing programs of World War I and those of the Roosevelt Administration. This research speaks to scholarship in urban history, material culture, consumerism, public policy, and women's history. Organized by Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover, Magazine Editor Marie Meloney, and Harvard Professor James Ford, the Better Homes movement sought to educate Americans in 'proper' home architecture and interiors through the exhibition of nationwide demonstration houses. Local committees comprised primarily of volunteer women located and furnished these dwellings which they opened to the public on a nationally designated week. This non-profit housing organization, part of Hoover's "associative state," operated in conjunction with the Department of Commerce and other federal programs.

My research moves in two directions. Following the first, I argue that the 'non-profit' Better Homes movement laid the standards for "American living" that later government housing programs would incorporate in their attempts to define poverty and need. Thus, I follow links from Better Homes to Roosevelt housing programs. My other major research question wrestles with the dialogue between

prescription and reception. While Hoover, Meloney and Ford established standards at the national level, the Better Homes committees interpreted these at the local level. Often, the local implementation dismayed the national leaders. My work with these case studies considers the relationship of regionalism, economics, and tradition to the establishment of national standards and a nationwide housing agenda."

LOUIS M. KYRIADOUCES, Vanderbilt University, notes: "Cities of the American South, unlike their northern counterparts, typically attracted few immigrants. Instead, southern cities grew by drawing their population from the farms and hamlets of the southern countryside. As important as this internal migration of population has been to southern urbanization, we know very little about it. My dissertation in progress, '*Country Comes to Town: Rural Migration to Nashville, Tennessee, 1880-1930*,' seeks to shed some light on this matter by examining rural-urban migration during a critical period of urban growth in the South and using Nashville, Tennessee as a case study. My goal is to understand how rural migrants adapted to urban life and, in turn, how the southern city adapted to the influx of country people. I explore first the economic and social dynamics of migration to understand the context in which rural southerners, both black and white, decided to migrate. I then explore how these migrants adapted to city life by focusing on employment, the family, and religion. How Nashville responded to this rural migration is illustrated in chapters on race relations and progressive reform. I conclude by describing how Nashville developed an urban popular culture that, while in its essentials was urban, strongly reflected the rural roots of the vast portion of the city's population."

GEORGE CHAUNCEY, JR., University of Chicago, explains: "I am currently at work on a book to be titled '*Gay New York: Urban Culture and the Making of a Gay Male World, 1890-1970*,' which will be the first full-length social history of a gay male community. The book analyzes the urban conditions that made it possible for men to build an extensive but carefully hidden gay subculture in New York, and the development of the distinctive argot, social norms, and cultural traditions that fostered their sense of collective identity. Situating gay men's efforts in the context of the general development of urban commercial culture, it details the development of the commercial institutions--from saloons, speakeasies, and bars, to bathhouses, cheap cafeterias and elegant restaurants--that sustained their world and the stratagems gay men developed to protect them. It also analyzes the social geography of the gay world and the emergence in the early decades of the century of gay enclaves, each with a different class character, public reputation, and gay cultural style, in the Bowery, Greenwich Village, Harlem, Times Square, and other neighborhoods.

Finally, the book analyzes the changing conceptualization of homosexual behavior and shifting boundaries drawn between so-called "queers" and other men over the course of the century, both in the dominant culture and within the gay world itself. It argues that homosexual behavior *per se* became the primary basis for the labelling and self-identification of men as deviant only around mid-century. Before then most men were so labelled only if they displayed a much broader inversion of their ascribed gender role, typically through the adoption of "effeminate" dress and demeanor; other men, particularly in highly sex-segregated immigrant neighborhoods, were able to engage in certain forms of homosexual behavior without risking stigmatization. Moreover, the study argues, although a broad shift in conceptualization occurred, multiple systems of sexual classification co-existed throughout the period.

LAGUARDIA & WAGNER ARCHIVES

The LaGuardia and Wagner Archives is a rich source of primary materials for the study of urban history. Located at LaGuardia Community College of the City University of New York, the Archives was established in 1982 to collect, preserve, and make available records about the history of twentieth-century New York City.

The LaGuardia and Wagner Archives has five major research collections:

1. *Fiorello H. LaGuardia Collection*. In 1982, Marie LaGuardia, the widow of Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia (who was chief executive of New York City from 1934 to 1945), donated her late husband's private papers to LaGuardia Community College. Mrs. LaGuardia's generous gift formed the basis of the Archives. The LaGuardia collection includes transcripts of the Mayor's speeches, personal correspondence, records of his tenure as Director General of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration in 1946, newspaper scrapbooks, artifacts, and 3,000 photographs. The collection (together with the LaGuardia papers at the Municipal Archives of the New York City Department of Records and Information Services) has been computer-indexed by place, subject, date, and person; the two sets of papers are now being microfilmed. In addition, the Archives also has more than 200 hours of audio and video tapes, including Mayor LaGuardia's radio broadcasts during World War II, newsreel footage of him from the 1930s and 1940s, and oral history interviews with the his family members and associates.

2. *Robert F. Wagner Papers*. The Archives' latest acquisition is the memorabilia of three generations of a distinguished New York City political family, the Robert F. Wagners: U.S. Senator Robert F. Wagner, the famous New Dealer, his son, Robert F. Wagner, who was Mayor of New York from 1954 to 1965, and his grandson, Robert F. Wagner, Jr., a former City Councilman, a Deputy Mayor during the administration of Edward I. Koch, and a former President of the city's Board of Education. The Wagner papers are centered on the life and career of Mayor Wagner, who built thousands of units of public housing, strengthened the municipal unions, and helped transfer political power from Tammany Hall to liberal reformers. The records consist of photographs of Wagner's family and colleagues, transcripts of speeches, scrapbooks, artifacts, and audio and visual tapes. This material (along with another collection of Wagner papers, which is held by the Department of Records and Information Services' Municipal Archives) is now being processed, microfilmed, and computer-indexed.

3. *The New York City Housing Authority Collection*. The LaGuardia and Wagner Archives holds the materials of the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) for the years from 1934 to 1977. The first housing authority in the United States, NYCHA built and manages projects that house over 700,000 people, more than the population of Boston, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, or New Orleans. The 12,100 folders in the collection cover official correspondence, reports, and surveys of neighborhoods and of tenant populations. There are also 25,000 photographs of project sites before and after construction, including many rare interior shots. The NYCHA collection is computer-indexed by date, subject, and name. An inventory of the collection is available at the address below.

4. *Steinway Collection*. The Archives is the repository of the papers of the Steinway & Sons Piano Company. Donated in 1984, the Steinway papers cover the period from 1853 to 1973. These records consist of Steinway family letters and a diary; company sales and production; technical materials



ROBERT F. WAGNER, Jr.

(1910-1991)

relating to piano innovations; correspondence with local dealers and with pianists; advertising materials; employee personnel records; and more than 1,400 photographs.

5. *Queens History Collection*. In 1983, the Archives acquired a large body of materials about the social history of New York City's Queens borough. These materials were collected directly from the general public by LaGuardia Community College's Community History Program (1978-1983) in an effort to shed light on the daily lives of ordinary city residents. The Queens History Collection comprises personal photographs, oral histories, and family documents.

For more information about these collections, please contact Dr. Richard K. Lieberman, Director, LaGuardia and Wagner Archives, LaGuardia Community College (CUNY), 31-10 Thomson Avenue, Long Island City, NY 11101 (718) 482-5065 (Contributed by Clifton Hood).

1991 U.H.A. Prize Committees

BEST DISSERTATION COMPLETED IN 1990 (\$300 award): Jeffrey S. Adler, Univ. of Florida; Charles W. Brockwell, Jr. (chair), Univ. of Louisville; Russell Lewis, Chicago Historical Society

BEST SCHOLARLY JOURNAL ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN 1990 (\$250 award): John Bauman (chair), California State Univ. of PA; Lorraine C. Attreed, Holy Cross College; Paul A. Groves, Univ. of Maryland at College Park

BEST BOOK/NON-NORTH AMERICAN TOPIC PUBLISHED IN 1989 OR 1990 (\$500 award): Donna R. Gabaccia (chair), Univ. of No. Carolina at Charlotte; Jonathan Coopersmith, Texas A&M Univ.; S. Ilan Troen, Ben-Gurion Univ. of the Negev (Israel)

BEST BOOK/NORTH AMERICAN TOPIC PUBLISHED IN 1990 (\$500 award): Larry D. McCann, Mount Allison Univ. (Canada); Bradley R. Rice (chair), Clayton State College; Bruce Tucker, Univ. of Windsor (Canada)

Winners will be announced at the Association's third annual dinner, December 29, 1991, at the Chicago Historical Society.

Richard Forstall of the Census Bureau's Population Division has agreed to provide answers for the newsletter to questions about the census raised by UHA members. This is the first installment of these answers.

Q. How will 1990 population and housing data for census tracts be made available? Will census tract maps be available in printed form? What costs and from whom?

A. Census tracts were included in the geography of the files supplied to each State for legislative redistricting early in 1991 (known as the P.L. 94-171 files). These files supplied the total population with a race (5-category) and Hispanic breakdown, and total housing units, by block and many higher-level geographic categories. Census tracts also are included in the first series of summary tapes (STF-1A) which have already been released with a range of 100-percent population and housing data. Those interested primarily in data for a single area or State should contact their State Data Bureau regarding availability; in cooperation with the Census Bureau, the State Data Centers receive copies of most Bureau output in order to facilitate filling information requests from within their State. For addresses and phone numbers of State Data Centers, call (301) 763-1580. For information on ordering summary tape files, call (301) 763-4100 or FAX 763-4794.

Additional 100-percent data for census tracts (including cross-classifications by race) will be released in STF-2 beginning in the Fall of 1991. Sample data for census tracts (including information on income, industry, occupation, and commuting) will be released in STF-3 and STF-4 beginning in 1992.

The first publication of census tract data will be in a series of reports (CPH-3) for each metropolitan statistical area or primary metropolitan statistical area, similar to the census tract reports issued for 1980 and earlier censuses. This series will begin to appear in 1992. As for 1980, maps showing census tract boundaries will be published and sold separately.

The metropolitan areas for which separate tract reports will appear will be those existing at the time of the census (Office of the Management and Budget definitions of June 30, 1990). Changes to the metropolitan boundaries made by OMB's customary post-census review will be completed by June 30, 1992, too late to be reflected in most 1990 census publications. This corresponds to the situation that obtained after the 1960, 1970, and 1980, except that the metropolitan redefinition following those censuses was not completed until the third post-census year.

An important innovation in 1990 is the coverage of the entire country in tracts or tract-like areas. In 1980, some non-metropolitan counties had census tracts, and data for these were published in a series of reports covering the nonmetropolitan tracted counties of each State. In 1990, these reports will cover nonmetropolitan tracted counties, but also all non-tracted counties in terms of block numbering areas (BNAs). The published maps will show the boundaries of these areas as well as of the tracts. The chief difference between tracts and BNAs is that there is extensive local participation in establishing the boundaries of census tracts, while the BNAs are delineated almost entirely by Census Bureau staff.

Final prices for the census tract publications and maps have not yet been determined. Individual reports are modest to moderate in cost, but an entire set is quite expensive. For more specific information, contact (301) 763-4100 early in 1992.

Q: How many urban regions are there as of 1990? Which are new since 1980?

A: The Census Bureau uses two distinct sets of definitions of what may be regarded as urban regions, although it does not use that term for either. The **urbanized areas (UAs)** are defined by the Bureau's Geography division following each decennial census. UAs were first defined by the Census Bureau for the 1950 census to better separate urban and rural territory, population, and housing in the vicinity of large cities. A UA comprises one or more central cities/places plus the adjacent densely settled surrounding territory (the "urban fringe"). A UA must have a total population of at least 50,000. The urban fringe generally consists of contiguous territory having a population density of at least 1,000 persons per square mile, but some territory with lower density may be included if it is of urban character, for example shopping centers, industrial parks, or railroad yards. Although UAs only rarely divide incorporated cities and towns, in unincorporated territory their boundaries reflect the extent of urban development and do not necessarily follow the boundaries of townships or other administrative subdivisions. One result of this detailed delimitation is that there are few data for UAs except from the decennial census, because of the difficulty of tabulating other data series in terms of the UA boundaries.

The Census Bureau released a list of the 396 UAs defined for 1990 on August 16. They have a total population of 158.3 million, or 63.6 percent of the national total; their total area is only about 61,000 square miles, less than 2 percent of the national total. The 1980 census showed 366 UAs with 129.2 million population (61.4 percent of the U.S. total) and an area of 52,017 square miles. All these data exclude UAs defined in Puerto Rico.

The net increase of 30 UAs since 1980 includes two UAs established during the 1980s on the basis of special censuses and 33 UAs newly defined for 1990 (St. Petersburg with Tampa, FL; Newport News-Hampton with Norfolk, VA; and Meriden with New Haven, CT), and the disqualification of two 1980 UAs that fell below 50,000 (Danville, IL and Enid, OK). The largest new UA is the Hesperia-Apple Valley-Victorville area in San Bernardino County, CA, on the far northeastern edge of Greater Los Angeles (population 153,176), followed by Stuart, FL (north of West Palm Beach; 80,069); Lewisville, TX (just north of Dallas-Ft. Worth; 79,433); Crystal Lake, IL (northwest of Chicago; 72,498); and Vacaville, CA (between San Francisco and Sacramento; 71,535). Some of the new areas have developed primarily as suburban territory but are still not quite contiguous with any larger nearby urbanized areas.

Copies of the press release listing all 1990 UAs (CB91-259) can be obtained from the Statistical Information Office, Population Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233 (301-763-5002). There will be considerable data for the UAs in the 1990 census publications and tapes, as in past censuses.

The Census Bureau also publishes data for **metropolitan areas (MAs)**. These areas are defined by the Office of Management and Budget as a standard geography for use by all Federal agencies that issue statistics related to metropolitan areas. In their present form, the MAs date from 1950. The Census Bureau always has provided technical support to produce the specific MA definitions, following detailed standards established by the OMB with the advice of the interagency Federal Executive Committee on MAs. Except in the New England States, the MAs are defined in terms of whole counties, with the result that several hundred statistical data sets are available for them. Most individual areas are designated as "metropolitan statistical areas" (MSAs), but MAs

over 1 million may under specified circumstances be subdivided into component "primary metropolitan statistical areas" (PMSAs), in which case the area as a whole is designated a "consolidated metropolitan statistical area" (CMSA). For example, the Dallas-Fort Worth area is a CMSA comprising two PMSAs, one centered on Dallas and the other on Fort Worth.

Under the current (1990) OMB standards, a UA generally forms the core of an MA. However, unlike the UAs, which reflect a physical or morphological conception of the extent of the urban area, the MAs are conceived in functional terms, and include territory (counties, or minor civil divisions in New England) beyond the continuously urbanized area if they have a specified level of commuting ties to the area. As a result, and as a byproduct of the use of entire counties as building blocks, the MAs are much more geographically extensive than the UAs. The current (6/30-1990) MA definitions embrace about 580,000 square miles (16 percent of the national area) and had a 1990 census population of 192.7 million, or 77.5 percent of the U.S. total. These are the definitions that will be reflected in most 1990 census publications, including the census tract series (CPH-3). A press release (CB92-66) listing all 284 MSAs and CMSAs and the 71 PMSAs was issued in February 1991 and can be obtained as noted above.

The MA definitions have not yet been updated to reflect commuting information from the census or the recognition of new UAs. This updating will begin as soon as the processing of sample census data is completed this fall, and is due to be completed in time for OMB to issue a complete revised list of all MAs by June 30, 1992.

MILESTONES

Choice, the librarians' selection journal, has issued its 1990-91 list of outstanding academic books; it numbers 540, selected from the more than 5,500 titles reviewed annually. Three books by members of the Association are included: **David R. Goldfield**, *Black, White, and Southern: Race Relations and Southern Culture, 1940 to the Present* (L.S.U. Press, 1990); **Allen Steinberg**, *The Transformation of Criminal Justice, Philadelphia, 1800-1880* (Univ. of North Carolina Press, 1989); and **Richard B. Stott**, *Workers in the Metropolis: Class, Ethnicity, and Youth in Antebellum New York City* (Cornell University Press, 1990).

The American Council of Learned Societies has made awards to the following members: **George A. Chauncey, Jr.** (University of Chicago), fellowship for recent Ph.D. recipients for project entitled "Gay New York--Urban Culture and the Making of a Gay World, 1890-1970; and **Brian K. Ladd** (Ogelthorpe University), postdoctoral research grant-in-aid for "Berlin Divided and Undivided, 1961-91."

The National Endowment for the Humanities awarded fellowships for 1991-92 to the following projects: **John Archer** (Univ. of Minnesota: 18th-century English villa); **Lawrence B. Breitborde** (Beloit College: the 20th-century urban Kru--sociocultural diversity and institutional organization in a West African City); **Maureen A. Flanagan** (Michigan State Univ: politics and political culture in Chicago, 1871-1922); **Cathy D. Matson** (Univ. of Delaware: economic freedom and political liberty in 18th-century NYC); **Donald L. Miller** (Lafayette College: City of the Century, Chicago in 1893); **Ross L. Miller** (Univ. of Connecticut: tall buildings and the making of modern America); and **Joe W. Trotter** (Carnegie Mellon Univ.: Black life, work, and culture in the urban deep South).

George A. Chauncey, Jr., has been appointed assistant professor of history at the University of Chicago. He previously taught at New York University.



Lizabeth Cohen CREDIT: Carnegie-Mellon University

Lizabeth Cohen, Carnegie Mellon University, received Columbia University's Bancroft Prize for *Making a New Deal: Industrial Workers in Chicago, 1919-1939* (Cambridge Univ. Press, 1990) and the Illinois State Historical Society's annual award for Best Book in Illinois History. **William J. Cronon**, Yale University, is the recipient of the *Chicago Tribune's* Heartland Prize for *Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West* (W. W. Norton, 1991).

Donna R. Gabaccia has been appointed Charles A. Stone Professor of American History at University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Formerly she taught at Mercy College, NY. **Dolores Hayden** has been appointed professor of architecture and American Studies at Yale University. Previously she has taught at UCLA. **Ann Durkin Keating** has been appointed assistant professor of history at North Central College in Naperville, IL. Previously she taught at Williams College and more recently was a research associate with the Public Works Historical Society. **Timothy R. Mahoney**, University of Nebraska--Lincoln, has been awarded an fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities by The Newberry Library for 1991-92. **Dennis Monti, Jr.**, has been appointed professor of sociology at Boston University. He previously taught at University of Missouri at St. Louis. **Gail Radford** has been appointed assistant professor of history at Carroll College, after a year as the Charles Phelps Taft Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Cincinnati.

Bruce M. Stave, University of Connecticut, will be visiting professor of history at Yale University during the spring term of 1992. **Alan Steinberg** has been appointed assistant professor of history at the University of Iowa; he previously taught at Bowdoin College and Harvard University. **Thomas J. Sugrue** has been appointed assistant professor of history at the University of Pennsylvania. During 1990-91 he was a pre-doctoral fellow in the government studies program at The Brookings Institution while working on his dissertation for Harvard University.

Sam Bass Warner, Jr. has been appointed Meyerhoff Professor of Environmental Studies in the department of American Studies at Brandeis University. Most recently, since 1972, he was Huntington Professor of History and the Social Sciences at Boston University.

URBAN HISTORY--THE U.S. SURVEY

During the "Modes of Inquiry" conference last fall a major question concerning the audience for urban historians emerged. How can we identify our audience? How do we approach that audience? Ideas concerning graduate programs, public policy makers, museums, and public history programs emerged. What seemed to be missing was perhaps the obvious, the undergraduate history survey. Here is an audience even if perhaps a captive one. Urban history can and should make up a major component of the American history survey. I would argue that it could and should also make up a major component of the European History or Western Civilization survey. Urbanization is after all a major influence on world history. It is also in the undergraduate survey where recruits for graduate programs can be found, and where many of us teach. The audience for urban history sits right before us.

The work of urban historians over the last thirty years has proven the centrality of the city for the American experience. The city is important for understanding the emergence of a distinctly American culture before the American Revolution. Sam Bass Warner, Jr.'s work on Philadelphia describes the emergence of American capitalism. Bridenbaugh's argument that cities played a vital role in the making of the revolution is also relevant here. The city, of course, played a central role in the creation of an Atlantic economy as described by Bernard Bailyn and others.

The city can be used in the survey to discuss trends in the early years of the republic. The city as a symbol as well as a reality is important for the intellectual and cultural history of the early republic. Jefferson's fear of the city and idealization of agrarian life can be juxtaposed against Hamilton's encouragement of commercial development and the rise of New York City. This has much to do with the question of identity in the early national period. Would an ideal agrarian society prevail or would industrialization and urbanization make their mark? Richard Wade's work on the city and frontier is complimented by the more recent work of William Cronon on Chicago as an ecological as well as social, economic and industrial frontier. Though these works are familiar to urban historians, it seems useful to point out that they can also illuminate topics in the general survey course. The first part of the survey often becomes a discussion of nation building, the Federalist papers and the problem of slavery without a look at the urban dimensions of all of these issues. Among the myriad of differences which separated North and South urbanization emerges as a fundamental one.

The most obvious use of the city in the American History survey, of course, appears with industrialization, immigration, and the emergence of the labor movement in the mid-nineteenth century and beyond. Here the city looms large as a problem and a topic for teachers of the survey. Certainly a discussion of the agricultural revolution that resulted in massive mechanization and market driven farms should be placed in its relationship to the emergence of the city. Once again the recent work of William Cronon points to ways in which this can be accomplished. Discussion of republicanism, radicalism, immigration, cultural conflict, labor agitation, feminism, violence, architecture, recreation, and art can all be rooted in the urban experience. The social reform movements of the turn of the century can only be understood in the context of urbanization: settlement houses and juvenile court systems reflect the urban orientation of Progressive Era reformism. Changes in patterns of women's work are also closely linked to urban change and development.

The city as teaching tool and as historical artifact can

also be important for teaching the U.S. history survey. Certain historical concepts are often more recognizable when portrayed in a local setting. This is especially advantageous for those of us who teach in an urban area. For the student in the classroom, the use of neighborhood life to illustrate historical trends opens up a familiar world to a new perspective. National movements such as labor organizing during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries can be explored in detail on the local level. David Goldberg's work on textile strikes in New Jersey and Massachusetts is a good example of the types of historical studies available to expand the reach of the traditional survey. The emergence of an organized woman's movement can also be explored through a focus on local women's clubs which dotted the urban landscape from the second half of the nineteenth century onwards. Even the impact of war is often more real when looked at from the local community standpoint. Historical exhibits recounting the urban experience during World War Two in Cincinnati and Chicago give students a visual as well as traditional account. The use of the city in the survey allows the instructor to explore women's history, family history, church history, immigration and ethnic history, race relations, and the history of technology in a meaningful way.

The American history survey cannot, of course, be totally taught from the viewpoint of the city. Urban history, however, can and should be used to bring out more clearly the contours of life in the United States. Neighborhood history is a tool that urban historians can use to bring to life on a local scale many of the larger trends evident in American history. A major part of the audience for urban history sits before us in the classroom. As professors it is up to us to reach them with the same fascination that brought us to our topics when we sat in those very desks.

Dominic A. Pacyga
Columbia College-Chicago

UHA EVENTS AT THE AHA

During the annual convention of the American Historical Association in Chicago (December 27-30, 1991), the following events will be sponsored by the Urban History Association:

3rd Annual Business Meeting: Hilton Conference Room 4C, December 28th, 4:45 PM

3rd Annual Dinner, December 29th, 6:30 PM (cocktails/cash bar); 7:15 PM (dinner) at the Chicago Historical Society, Clark Street at North Avenue Chicago, IL 60614. Dinner reservation information will be distributed to UHA members the week of November 4th.

Presidential Address: "Pluralism, Chicago 'School' Style: Louis Wirth, The Ghetto, The City, and 'Integration,'" Zane L. Miller, University of Cincinnati.

Special free guided tours of the Chicago Historical Society will be conducted by President Ellsworth Brown and Chief Curator Susan P. Tillett. Assemble in main lobby of CHS at 5:15 PM, December 29th (doors at Clark Street entrance will open at 5:00 PM) **NO RESERVATION REQUIRED FOR TOURS.** The CHS bookstore, featuring books and ephemera on the history of Chicago, Illinois, the Midwest, and the Civil War, also will remain open until 6:30 PM.

Non-member readers wishing to obtain a dinner reservation form may write (prior to December 1) to: Russell Lewis, Chicago Historical Society, Clark Street at North Avenue, Chicago, IL 60014 (FAX 312-266-2077). Dinner reservations **must** be prepaid; absolutely no tickets will be available at the door. **TELEPHONE RESERVATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCOMMODATED.**

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Applications are invited for the Charles Phelps Taft Postdoctoral Fellowships at the University of Cincinnati Department of History. The award carries an annual stipend of \$25,000, plus moving expenses up to \$500, and a research allowance of \$1,000. Health insurance, single coverage, is included. Deadline in February 1. Additional information may be requested from Taft Postdoctoral Fellowships, University of Cincinnati, ML 627, Cincinnati, OH 45221.

The American Political Science Association has issued a second edition of Anne G. Mantegna (Ed.), *Guide to Federal Funding for Social Scientists* (1990). It is filled with helpful information, including a section on the National Endowment for the Humanities as well as information on various divisions of the National Science Foundation. Selected chapter titles include: Academics and Contract Research, Research Funding Agencies: Some Inside Views, and Federal Sources of Research Support. If you identify yourself as a member of the American Historical Association, the cost of this volume is \$32.50 (otherwise it is \$52.50). Prepaid orders only. Send check, payable to ASPA, to: Publications/ASPA, 1527 New Hampshire Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036.

The Social Science Research Council administers a program of undergraduate, dissertation, and postdoctoral awards for research on the urban underclass. Funding is provided by the Rockefeller Foundation and the Foundation for Child Development. Application deadline for the next round of awards December 10, 1991. For further information: SSRC, Research on the Urban Underclass, 605 Third Avenue, NY, NY 10158.

JOURNAL FOR URBAN HISTORIANS

This is the third installment in an ongoing series about periodicals of interest to urban historians. Send further suggestions to: Professor Michael H. Ebner, Dept. of History, Lake Forest College, 555 N. Sheridan Road, Lake Forest, IL 60045-2399 USA (FAX 708-234-6487).

Chengshishi yanjiu [Urban History Studies] is the first Chinese scholarly journal dedicated to urban history. Begun in 1988 by the Tianjin Academy of Social Sciences, it has a national editorial board of Chinese historians. The journal is issued twice yearly. Coverage includes articles, translations, and bibliographies on urban history in general and Chinese cities in particular. Subscriptions and inquiries should be sent to: Hu Guangming, History Institute, Tianjin Academy of Social Sciences, Tianjin, Peoples' Republic of China.

Journal of Policy History has been published quarterly since 1989 to provide an interdisciplinary forum for scholars and policy makers interested in the origins and development of public policies in the United States and other countries. It publishes historical studies which trace the evolution of policies over time, including articles, review essays, and special issues (e.g., drug control, urban affairs, and affirmative action). The editorial board reflects its interdisciplinary approach, and includes: Andrew Achenbaum (gerontology), David Garrow (political science), Ellis Hawley (history), and Theda Skocpol (sociology). Recent articles of interest to urban historians include: Ronald H. Bayor, "Urban Renewal, Public Housing, and the Racial Shaping of Atlanta" and Mark H. Rose & Bruce E. Seely, "Getting the Interstate System Built: Road Engineers and Implementation of Public Policy, 1955-1985." For editorial information: *Journal of Policy History*, 256 DuBourg Hall, St. Louis University, St. Louis, MO 63103; for subscription information: The Pennsylvania State University Press, Suite C, Barbara Building, 820 North University Drive, University Park, PA 16802.

SPECIAL JUH ISSUE

A special issue of the *Journal of Urban History* is being prepared on the theme of megalopolis. Articles which illuminate urban phenomena from the perspective of this theme, whether of an earlier period or the 20th century, will be considered. Scholars who are interested in contributing to this issue should contact Professor Josef W. Konvitz, Department of History, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824-1036.

URBAN HISTORY YEARBOOK BECOMES URBAN HISTORY

In a confident mood the editorial board of the *Urban History Yearbook* recently took the decision to move to a twice a year publication as *Urban History*. The decision is accompanied by a change of publisher, to Cambridge University Press, and the move reflects the burgeoning interest in urban history, and associated with it, rising numbers of subscribers in the 1990s. The move to two issues, April and October, from volume 19, 1992, has excited a number of urban historians in the UK and Europe who see this as an opportunity to consolidate the field of urban history through a specialist publication.

Urban History began life in 1963 as the Urban History Newsletter, becoming the *Urban History Yearbook* from 1974 in response to the popularity of urban history and the perceived need to disseminate ideas and approaches. New doctoral students and old hands alike found the *Yearbook* an indispensable research tool, and these features will remain a central component of *Urban History*.

Cambridge University Press has exhibited great enthusiasm for *Urban History* and will market the journal through their own North American outlets at \$39 for individuals and \$65 for institutions. For subscription details: Cambridge University Press, 40 West 20th St., New York, New York, 10011-4211. Contributors should address correspondence to the Editor, Richard Rodger, Department of Economic and Social History, University of Leicester, Leicester LE1 7RH, UK (Contributed by Richard Rodger).

NEWSPAPER ARCHIVES

A task force on newspaper history of the American Society of Newspaper Editors has issued a 101-page report of research and research sources on American newspapers entitled *Untapped Sources: America's Newspaper Archives and Histories*. The report consists of a long review of research on newspapers and individual journalists, suggestions for future research, and a select list of newspaper collections at universities, research centers, and historical libraries throughout the United States. For a free copy write to: Gannett Foundation Media Center, Columbia University, 2950 Broadway, NY, NY 10027-7004.

NEH SUMMER SEMINAR

Scheduled for next summer is a NEH Summer Seminar for College Teachers on Urban History, June 15-August 9, 1992 at the University of Virginia. The seminar, "American Urban History: Places and Process," will explore the ways "local" histories should influence larger historical issues and current concerns. Not limited to persons teaching in colleges and universities, the seminar is open to independent scholars and to employees of humanities institutions such as museums, historical societies and libraries. Deadline for applications is March 2, 1992. For detailed information write to Olivier Zunz, Seminar Director, Department of History, Randall Hall, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22903.

CONFERENCES

The 35th Annual **Missouri Valley History Conference** will be held in Omaha, Nebraska, March 12-14, 1992. Proposals for papers and sessions in all areas of history are welcome. Such proposals, accompanied with one-page abstracts and vitae, should be sent by Nov. 1 to William C. Pratt, MVHC Coordinator, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NE 68182.

The **Urban History Group** is holding a convention on *The 20th Century City: Private Place and Public Space*. Suburbanisation in the 20th century; Council Housing; and Conservation, The Environment and Public Policy, are among the main topics to be considered. The location will be in a very fine institutional space -- Beaumont Hall, which includes the botanical gardens of the University of Leicester -- April 9-10, 1992. The Economic History Society Meeting will follow on April 10-12, and a panel on Early Modern Towns is scheduled. Further details can be obtained from either David Reeder or Richard Rodger, Department of Economic and Social History, University of Leicester, LE1 7RH, or 0533-522588.

"Multiculturalism and the Americas" will be the theme of the 1992 meeting of the **New England American Studies Association** at the University of Massachusetts/Boston on April 23-24, 1992. Proposals may be sent to Professor Lois Rudnick, University of Massachusetts/Boston, American Studies Program, Boston, MA 02125-3393 by December 31, 1991.

The **New England Historical Association** Spring Conference will meet on 25 April 1992 at Assumption College in Worcester, MA. Papers or panels may be proposed on any topic in history. NEHA is a comprehensive organization for historians of all disciplines and fields. It is a regional affiliate of the American Historical Association. Membership is open to all persons or organizations interested in the study, teaching, preservation or writing of history. It is not restricted to New England or American Studies. Annual dues are \$10 (\$5 for graduate students and retirees). Conference fees are waived for all graduate students, who are especially invited to attend. To propose a paper or panel, or for further information, contact: Peter C. Holloran, NEHA Executive Secretary, Pine Manor College, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167; 617-731-7066.

The **Social Science History Association** will hold its 17th annual conference in Chicago, November 5-8, 1992. The SSHA is the leading interdisciplinary association in the social sciences and its annual conference attracts historians, economists, sociologists, anthropologists, political scientists, and geographers. Graduate students are encouraged to attend and to appear as panelists. Anyone interested in organizing a session should send a proposal to the appropriate member of the Program Committee. The proposal should outline the subject of the session, briefly describe format (including tentative paper titles), and provide names, departments and institutional affiliations, and addresses (including fax and bitnet numbers if available). The 1992 program committee is especially interested in proposals relating to the Columbian Quincentennial. The deadline for receiving proposals is February 15, 1992. Program committee co-chairs are: Margo Anderson, Department of History, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI 53201; 414-229-4361; and Andrew Abbott, Department of Sociology, University of Chicago, 1126 E. 59th St, Chicago, IL 60637; 312-702-4545. The Urban History Network Chair is: James Grossman, Family and Community History Center, Newberry Library, 60 W. Walton St., Chicago, IL 60610; 312-943-9090.



(Credit: Chicago Historical Society)

SALUTE TO SAMUEL P. HAYS

On the occasion of his retirement Samuel P. Hays, professor of history at the University of Pittsburgh since 1960, was honored by colleagues, former students, and friends. Following are excerpts from a letter read at a dinner in Pittsburgh on May 2, 1991 from Zane Miller, UHA president.

"On behalf of the 376 members of the Urban History Association, I write with pleasure to participate in this celebration, not only in recognition of the accomplishments of Samuel P. Hays in the past but also as encouragement for more in the future.

Sam, of course, has forged a distinguished career as a civic and professional activist, including most recently his election as the next president of the Urban History Association, a position to which he has already made important contributions. But most of us probably know him best as a scholar and teacher who made a long trek from a small town in Indiana to Swarthmore, Harvard, the University of Iowa, and finally in 1960 to the University of Pittsburgh.

In the 1960s those of us in graduate school read with fascination his path breaking works on the response to industrialism and on conservation and the gospel of efficiency. Why, we asked ourselves, didn't we think of that! At the same time we watched with interest as he put together an exciting department which produced undergraduates with fresh eyes through which to look at their society and a steady stream of young and productive historians. The seminars at Pittsburgh also yielded rich and novel work on that city which has now appeared in an important anthology.

By the 1970s Sam had built not only a distinctive and distinguished department but also created an enviable reputation for himself. I came to think of him as an advocate of social history not only with a human face but also an urban emphasis and a sensitive and sensible respect for ideas and fresh methodologies. His publications included seminal work on the politics of municipal reform and the community/society continuum. But he did not forget conservation and the environment, as demonstrated by the publication a few years ago of a history of the environmental movement of our own times built around the themes of of beauty, health, and permanence."

"Samuel P. Hays and the Social Analysis of the City" is the topic of a panel discussion scheduled for the annual convention of The Organization of American Historians (April 2-5, 1992/Chicago).