



The Urban History Newsletter

The Urban History Association
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THE NEW BERLIN AND THE OLD BERLIN(S)

Compared to the attention or praise historians have lavished on its European rivals, the history of Berlin is a neglected field. No one has described Berlin as a "work of art" (to borrow from the title of Donald J. Olsen's book on London, Paris, and Vienna). Its very untidiness, however, has made Berlin an object of some interest. Despite its great age (by American standards), it is a young city, rising to the first rank of European capitals only late in the nineteenth century. It is a city defined by the rush to the twentieth century and the catastrophes of that century. In both a relative and an absolute sense, its size peaked in the interwar years, when London and Paris were its only European rivals. Its political importance has been undeniable during most of the years since it became the capital of Bismarck's newly unified Germany in 1871. It returned to center stage as the capital of Hitler's Third Reich and then as the flash point of major Cold War confrontations, notably the Berlin Airlift in 1948 and the construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961. Culturally as well, Berlin has claimed international importance as a center of scholarship and the arts.

Now, of course, Berlin is the newly reunified capital of a new unified German state. The focus of historians' attention to Berlin will inevitably be directed in part by a wider public interest in and debate about the city's future. An immediate question--why was it chosen over Bonn as the capital?--opens the way to wider questions about the meaning and symbolic resonance of Berlin. Historians will not be alone in drawing on Berlin's past to illuminate both its present and its future.

But the city's past has many faces, and so, too, does its legacy for the new Germany. Let me suggest some of the themes associated with the name of Berlin. Each of these can at the same time be seen as a substantial agenda for historical research.

(1) **Prussia.** For centuries, the history of Berlin was inextricably intertwined with the state of Prussia. For many people, the name of Prussia conjures up images of militarism, and indeed Berlin's status as a garrison town was a crucial formative experience. Prussia is also, however, associated with a tradition of enlightened classicism--the early nineteenth-century architectural classicism of Karl Friedrich Schinkel, and the humanistic education and scholarship of the University of Berlin, founded by Wilhelm von Humboldt in 1809 and brought to prominence by Hegel, Ranke, and other early faculty members.

(2) **The boom town.** I have already mentioned Berlin's rapid growth during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (though one might profitably look as well to a very different *(continued on page 2)*

THE LA RIOTS

At the request of the editor, several UHA members offer their responses to the following question: HOW CAN HISTORICAL RESEARCH INFORM POLICY DEBATES ABOUT URBAN PROBLEMS?

Arnold R. Hirsch, University of New Orleans:

Rioting during a presidential season poses particular problems. The political needs of the moment dictated the administration's attempt to combine a jaundiced and inaccurate view of the 1960s with the test marketing of new campaign themes in a self-serving stab at damage control. Historians have an immediate obligation to offer the context that can provide a framework for reasonable discussion. The urbanization of African Americans has been punctuated by a recurrent cycle of mass violence (1919, 1943, and the 1960s) that has marked the emergence and evolution of America's minority communities. It has gone hand-in-hand with the nation's struggle to make a multi-racial democracy work--no small undertaking as a raft of fledgling democracies can now testify. This would seem a more promising start than the partisan hijacking of the 1960s or the moralistic finger-wagging currently in vogue.

Over the long haul, however, historians must do more than simply make their work accessible or bring such social questions to the forefront for another short season. Concern and accessibility must be enduring qualities buttressed by the activism of citizen-scholars. But those who write of "walking cities" must try to construct similar interactive intellectual communities that would end their isolation and invisibility--a more daunting, but potentially more fruitful task, than devising any specific set of policy recommendations.

John F. Bauman, California University of Pennsylvania:

Urban historians bring to the policy debate on urban problems a critical--but all too often missing--temporal and structural analytical framework. At the recent Modes of Inquiry conference in Chicago Charles Tilly urged that urban historians explore what he branded "enduring structures of inequality." Tilly's charge is both timely and policy-latent. Rather than endeavoring to explain the disorder that racked Los Angeles in the wake of the Rodney King verdict by reference to the "excesses" of Lyndon Johnson's Great Society, or the "Benign Neglect" of the 1970s and 1980s, urban historians can direct urban policy makers to fundamental social and economic fissures, those systematic defects that have made poverty, rioting, and disorder hallmarks of urban American life since the 1830s. For example, urban historians might research more thoroughly the patterned inequality that has historically excluded African-Americans from large parts of the American housing marketplace, or from unfettered access in the past to manufacturing jobs, and since 1950 to the emerging *(continued on page 9)*

BERLIN *(from p. 1)*

era of explosive growth under the Prussian kings in the decades around 1700). Growth, of course, meant change: fortunes were made (and lost) in real estate, banking, and industry; migrants were introduced to urban ways, for better and for worse; public works, social services, and administrative reforms (such as annexation) were proposed and sometimes tried in response to a plethora of real and perceived problems. Conflicting diagnoses of the past's mistakes threaten to paralyze plans to cope with what many believe to be a new boom in the 1990s. Was the city built up too densely, or was there too much slum clearance later on? Is there too much congestion or too many autobahns? Is the city becoming too staid, or too anarchic?

(3) **The labor movement.** Berlin, far more than most European capitals, became a major industrial center. That is a worthy topic in itself; but the industry brought with it a growing proletariat and, by the turn of the century, the leadership of Europe's largest socialist party. Berlin's socialists and, later, communists played decisive roles above all in the political turmoil of the years 1918 to 1933.

(4) **Berlin modernism.** The years of the late empire and the Weimar Republic also marked Berlin's greatest prominence in the arts. Berlin's claim to be a cultural center accompanied its growth as Germany's capital and can be seen as an assertion of national worth. Particular attention came to the city in the 1920s, however, as a center of cultural developments that did not always present themselves as peculiarly German. Indeed, much of the experimentation in painting, poetry, music, and theater (the most famous name perhaps being Brecht) was linked to a radical left-wing political agenda (and thence to the labor movement mentioned above). Similarly, much of the modernist architecture produced in Berlin was intended as a contribution to the reform of working-class housing. Other aspects of Berlin cultural radicalism in the 1920s were less political but no less controversial: the notoriety of Berlin cabaret life arose from a deliberate flouting of established norms of social propriety, particularly with respect to sexuality. The Berlin counterculture of the 1970s and 1980s revived the city's old reputation in some of these matters.

(5) **The capital of the Third Reich.** For many still today, Berlin is above all the place from which the Second World War and mass extermination were directed. Hitler, indeed, made grandiose plans (which were not realized) to rebuild Berlin as "Germania," a capital worthy of his world empire. However, the city was not a hotbed of Nazi support as Hitler rose to power; and many Nazis despised Berlin as a den of both Marxism and modernist cultural degeneracy.

(6) **The divided city.** The symbolism of the Berlin Wall acquired both national and international dimensions, connoting the division of Germany, Europe and the world. The division of Berlin created two peculiar entities: West Berlin, linked to the Federal Republic of Germany but semi-autonomous even while officially under military occupation; and East Berlin, the capital of the German Democratic Republic, a state that felt compelled to issue maps showing a blank space labeled "Westberlin" in the middle of its sovereign territory.

The links among these traditions are, of course, innumerable. The Nazis, for example, have often been seen as the embodiment of Prussian militarism; the East German

state claimed allegiance to the traditions of the Berlin working class; and both these states drew directly on the architectural tradition of Schinkel. At the same time, however, many admirers of Prussian traditions, the Berlin socialist movement, and Schinkel, respectively, were indignant at the perceived misappropriation of these legacies.

How do the events of the past three years draw on these traditions? The project of integrating the two German states and societies raises questions about the nature and extent of a common German identity that predates their division. Within the new Germany, Berlin stands out, not only because of its controversial selection as the seat of government, but also because the city itself must be re-integrated, from its sewer system to its opera companies. In what ways do East and West Berlin share a common identity, that is, common traditions? To what extent have they diverged in their social, cultural, and physical development (certain strands of political and economic divergence being fairly clear)? To what extent have two different states molded Berlin's various societies and cultures--for example, working-class culture--in their own divergent images? The search for common traditions will of course lead historians and others back to the last regime under which the city was whole. Those in pursuit of a positive cultural identity will quickly move their attention back to earlier periods. But other historians may ask: how decisive was the Third Reich for Berlin's--and Germany's--identity?

Berlin in the coming years should offer urban historians ample opportunity to demonstrate the historicity of urban ways and urban identities. Although Berlin's nominal status as the German capital is an established fact, the Berlin question remains open. In 1991 the Bundestag only narrowly approved Berlin over Bonn as the seat of government; the debate preceding the vote revealed deep divisions about the past, present, and future significance of Berlin. Germans are far from making final decisions about the extent to which the exercise of power will be centralized in Berlin, or about the planning of the new capital and the relocation of production and employment. These policy debates, like others in Germany--about the rooting out of the state security system in the east and the German role in central Europe and the world--will draw implicitly and explicitly on historically grounded assumptions about tradition and identity. Other countries' policies toward Germany will draw on different assumptions about the same matters. Berlin--as a physical entity, a society, and a symbol--will be central to this debate. *Brian Ladd, Ogelthorpe University, is currently writing a book on Berlin, divided and reunited.*

The Urban History Newsletter (ISSN 1049-2887) is published twice yearly by The Urban History Association for its members. **Copy deadlines are January 15 and September 15.** Address editorial matters to: Ann Durkin Keating, Editor, c/o Department of History, North Central College, P.O. Box 3063, Naperville, IL 60566-7063 USA (FAX 708-420-4234).

Inquiries about membership, subscriptions, or changes of address should be sent to: Judith Spraul-Schmidt, Membership Secretary, 2830 Urwiler Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45211 USA.

Inquiries about the activities of the Association or about purchasing back issues of the newsletter (where available) 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 (FAX 708-735-6291).



Henry Binford (I) and Richard C. Wade at UHA annual luncheon at the OAH.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER

The Association has renewed its fruitful collaboration with The Valentine Museum by way of preparing a sequel to our successful *Syllabus Exchange* (sold out). Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find further information about how to submit materials for inclusion in *A Sampler of Useful Classroom Ideas for Student Research Assignments in Urban History*, scheduled for availability early next year. Thank you to Judy A. Lankford, deputy director of the museum, for her initiative in renewing our collaboration.

Thanks as well to three of our members, Clifton Hood, David P. Schuyler, and Leonard Wallock, for their combined and coordinated efforts to incorporate graduate students as active members of our Association. Cliff and Leonard concentrated on publicizing and administering our highly successful free membership offer, the subject of a special report elsewhere in the newsletter; David has compiled a roster of dissertations in progress, the first installment of which appears in this issue.

Welcome to The Cincinnati Seminar on the City, a cooperative venture of the Cincinnati Historical Society and the University of Cincinnati. By my count it is the fifth such urban history seminar now in operation; others meet in Chicago, London (U.K.), New York City, and St. Louis. More details about seminars are found elsewhere in these pages.

The Association has been granted, at last, its tax-exempt status by the Internal Revenue Service.

The committee on nominations appointed by President Hays is fast completing its deliberations. It is chaired by Carol O'Connor. Other committee members are Roger Lotchin and Louise C. Wade. Ballots will be distributed early in November and the results will be announced at our fourth annual meeting on December 28th.

Early in the year the Association received a welcomed invitation from the Commission for the History of Towns, based in Europe and affiliated with the International Committee for Historical Science, to appoint one of our members as our official observer. President Hays designated Lynn Hollen Lees to assume this seat.

Michael H. Ebner

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The roster of members currently stands at 644, a substantial advance over our 1991 figure of 403. Dues statements for 1993 will be distributed imminently; your prompt response will save the Association the effort, money and time involved in mailing reminder notices.

Judith Spraul-Schmidt, Membership Secretary

ASSIGNMENTS SAMPLER

In cooperation with The Valentine Museum, the Association will issue a sequel to its best-selling *Syllabus Exchange* (out of print) early in 1993. For information about inclusion of materials for this compilation, please contact: Judy A. Lankford, Deputy Director, The Valentine Museum, 1015 East Clay Street, Richmond, VA 23219 (FAX 804-643-3510). No phone inquiries please! Deadline for submission is **November 15, 1992**. The March '93 issue of the newsletter will include information about how to purchase the *Sampler*.

SPECIAL URBAN ISSUES

Daniel Schaffer has guest edited a double issue of *Built Environment*, Vol. 17, Nos. 3&4 (1991). Among the contributors are: Arnold Silverman and Linda S. Schneider ("Suburban Localism and Long Island's Regional Crisis"), June Manning Thomas ("The Cities Left Behind"), Robert Fishman ("The Garden City Tradition in the Post-Suburban Age"), Daniel Schaffer ("After the Suburbs"), and **David A. Johnson** ("Fin de Siecle Metropolitan New York: Two Worlds"). *Built Environment*, a quarterly, focuses on urban and regional planning and related disciplines; its editors are Peter Hall (University of California, Berkeley) and Michael Breheny (University of Reading). To purchase the special double issue send £21.50 to: Alexandrine Press, P.O. Box 15, 51 Cornmarket Street, Oxford OX 1EB, U.K.

The January 1992 number of *Pennsylvania History* features a symposium on American urban history. Included are essays by Margaret Marsh ("Old Forms, New Visions: New Directions in United States Urban History"), Philip Scranton ("Many Cities, Many Hills: Production, Space, and Diversity in Pennsylvania's Urban History"), and Elizabeth Cohen ("A Prospectus for Urban History"). To purchase a single issue, send \$8.00 to: *Pennsylvania History*, 704 Liberal Arts Tower, University Park, PA 16802.

Neil Harris and Barry D. Karl have served as guest editors for a double theme issue of *Chicago History* (Spring and Summer, 1992) devoted to the history of the University of Chicago. Articles focus on student life among women, left-wing activities and their suppression during the late 1930s, a photo essay on the university and the city, and the role of university officers in devising restrictive covenants in Hyde Park during the 1930s and 1940s. To purchase this issue send \$3.50, payable to the Chicago Historical Society, to: Russell Lewis, Editor, *Chicago History*, c/o Chicago Historical Society, Clark Street at North Avenue, Chicago, IL 60614.

The fourth annual business meeting of The Urban History Association will be at 4:45 PM, Mon. Dec. 28th in the Cabinet Room of the Shoreham Hotel, Washington D.C. Members wishing to place items on the agenda should send written submissions to the secretary-treasurer before November 23. Agendas will be mailed to the membership during the second week of December.

NEW STUDENT MEMBERS

Between January and September, 1992, the Urban History Association granted free, one-year memberships to 220 graduate students involved in a wide range of urban related disciplines, including sociology, geography, history, art history, architecture, urban planning, historic preservation, American Studies, material culture, and public history. At the same time, the UHA extended through 1993 the memberships of more than 30 graduate students who had already joined the organization. Approximately one-third of the new graduate students were recruited by UHA members and two-thirds responded to announcements placed in twenty scholarly journals. While a minority of the new graduate students are affiliated with such large institutions as Columbia University, Carnegie-Mellon University, Case Western Reserve University, UCLA, University of Cincinnati, University of Maryland, MIT, and University of Pennsylvania, the majority of them are pursuing their degrees in smaller schools around the country. For additional information about the graduate student membership program contact Professor Leonard Wallock, Department of History, Hunter College, CUNY, 695 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10021, Tel: (212) 772-5540, Fax: (212) 772-5455.

1992 PRIZE COMMITTEES

BEST DISSERTATION COMPLETED IN 1991 (\$300 award): Stephen B. Blake (St. Olaf's College), Howard Gillette, Jr., chair (George Washington University), and Mary Lindemann (Carnegie Mellon University).

BEST SCHOLARLY JOURNAL ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN 1991 (\$250 award): Clifton Hood, chair (Hobart & William Smith Colleges), Roderick N. Ryon (Towson State University), and Stanley B. Winters (New Jersey Institute of Technology).

BEST BOOK/NORTH AMERICAN TOPIC PUBLISHED IN 1991 (\$500 award): Peter G. Goheen (Queen's University/Ontario), Margaret Marsh, chair (Temple University), and Neil Larry Shumsky (Virginia Tech).

Winners will be announced at the Association's fourth annual dinner, December 29, 1992, at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C. Announcements detailing the 1993 round of prize competitions will be distributed to members on or about February 1. Once again the deadline for submissions will be June 15.

HAYDEN AT O.A.H.

Dolores Hayden, Yale University, will be the association's luncheon speaker during the annual convention of the Organization of American Historians on April 16th. Her slide-illustrated address is entitled "The Power of Place: Urban Landscapes as Public History." Luncheon reservations must be made through the O.A.H., which will be distributing its registration materials in January.

PLANNING HISTORY

Gordon E. Cherry, University of Birmingham (U.K.), longtime chair of the Planning History Group, has set about to reconstitute the organization as the International Planning History Society. It will function as an international umbrella organization for kindred organizations and activities, including the U.H.A. While deliberations remain at a formative stage, the officers and directors of the U.H.A. have voted by mail ballot to accept the invitation of the I.P.H.S. to establish an affiliation (subject to our membership's ratification at the next annual meeting); President Samuel P. Hays has designated

Michael Ebner to serve on the new group's interim board of managers. A resolution will be introduced at the 1992 business meeting of the U.H.A. requesting formal ratification of this affiliation.

KONVITZ TO O.E.C.D.

Josef W. Konvitz has taken leave from Michigan State University to assume the position of Principal Administrator, Urban Affairs Division, at the Paris headquarters of the European Common Market. His new address is: 2, rue Andre Pascal 75775 Paris Cedex 16 France. The newsletter will report on Konvitz's activities in a forthcoming issue.

JUH SESSIONS AT AHA

David R. Goldfield, editor of the *Journal of Urban History*, has arranged two sessions at the upcoming convention of the American Historical Association in Washington, DC (December 27-30).

Kenneth T. Jackson (Columbia University) will preside over a panel entitled *The Promised Land: The Great Black Migration and How it Changed America*. It will feature a critical look at the recent book by Nicholas Lemann on this topic. Participating will be Mary Frances Berry (University of Pennsylvania), James R. Grossman (The Newberry Library), Nicholas Lemann (*The Atlantic*), and Joe William Trotter (Carnegie Mellon University).

Josef W. Konvitz (O.E.C.D./Paris) will preside over a session entitled *World Cities and Economic Development*. David Ringrose (University of California at San Diego) will present a paper entitled "Capital Cities and Capitalism: Political Centralization and Economic Networks in Early Modern Europe." Carl Abbott (Portland State University) will present a paper entitled "Transactional Cities as World Cities: Washington, DC since 1945." Commentators will be Penelope J. Corfield, University of London, and Josef Konvitz.

GUIDE TO ILLINOIS RECORDS

The Illinois State Archives has released a new guide to its holdings of local governmental records housed in its regional depositories. This compilation is especially valuable because for the first time records of Chicago and Cook County are included. To order *A Summary Guide to Local Governmental Records in the Illinois Regional Archives* (1992), send \$6.00 US to Publication Unit, Illinois State Archives, Archives Building, Springfield, IL 62756. Make check payable to **Secretary of State**.

NEW URBAN SERIES

Unrestricted by either temporal or geographic bounds, a series entitled *Classics in Urban History* has been initiated by the University of California Press. It consists of moderately-priced and well-produced paperbound volumes of enduring influence. Collectively they will make significant additions to the standard list of titles available for classroom assignment. Each book features a newly-prepared introduction that affords contemporary audiences of readers with an updated assessment. The series editor is Michael H. Ebner.

Titles to date include (available early in 1993): Asa Briggs' *Victorian Cities* (with an introduction by Lynn Hollen Lees and Andrew Lees), William H. Whyte's *The Exploding Metropolis* (Sam Bass Warner, Jr.), and Robert Fogelson's *The Fragmented Metropolis* (Robert Fishman). For further information: Charlene Woodcock, University of California Press, 2120 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94720.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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); and Daniel Mattern, German Historical Institute (European).

BOOKS

Canada

- Anderson, Kay. *Vancouver's Chinatown: Racial Discourse in Canada 1875-1980* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 1991).
- Artibise, Alan et al, eds. *The Borderlands Anthology* (ECW Press, 1991).
- Bray, Matt., and Ashley Thomson, eds. *At the End of the Tunnel: Mines and Single Industry Towns in Northern Ontario* (Dundurn Press, 1991).
- Dunk, Thomas W. *It's a Working Man's Town: Male Working-Class Culture in Northwestern Ontario* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 1991).
- Iocovetta, Franca. *Such Hardworking People: Italian Immigrants in Postwar Toronto* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 1992).
- Lemon, James. *The Toronto Harbour Plan of 1912: Manufacturing Goals and Economic Realities* (Working Papers of the Canadian Waterfront Resource Centre No.4, 1990).
- Merritt, R. et al., eds. *The Capital Years: Niagara on the Lake 1792-1796* (Dundurn Press, 1991).
- Pocius, Gerald. *A Place to Belong: Community Order and Everyday Space in Calvert, Newfoundland* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 1991).
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Europe

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- Abulafia, David, et al, eds. *Church and City, 1000-1500: Essays in Honour of Christopher Brooke* (Cambridge University Press, 1992).
- Arthur, Paul. *Romans in Northern Campania: Settlement and Land-Use around the Massico and the Garigliano Basin* (British School of Rome, 1991).
- Berkey, Jonathan. *The Transmission of Knowledge in Medieval Cairo. A Social History of Islamic Education* (Princeton University Press, 1992).
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- Cartledge, Paul, and Spawforth, Antony. *Hellenistic and Roman Sparta. A Tale of Two Cities*. pbk. (Routledge, 1992).
- Chazan, Robert. *Barcelona and Beyond: The Disputation of 1263* (University of California Press, 1992).
- Coffin, David R. *Gardens and Gardening in Papal Rome* (Princeton University Press, 1992).
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- Pollak, Martha D. *Turin 1564-1680. Urban Design, Millitary Culture, and the Creation of the Absolutist Capital* (University of Chicago Press, 1992).
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- Zaidman, Louise Bruit. *Religion in the Ancient Greek City* (Cambridge University Press, 1992).
- POST-1800
- Clarke, Linda. *Building Capitalism: Historical Change and the Labor Process in the Production of the Built Environment* (Routledge, 1992).
- Creese, Walter L. *Search for Environment: Garden City Before and After*. 2nd rev. ed. (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1992).
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United States

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Wilson, George. "Gangland Crime Arrives in Lincoln: The Lincoln National Bank and Trust Company Robbery of 1930." *Nebraska History* 73 (Spring

1992): 25-31.

Winger, Stewart. "Unwelcome Neighbors [University of Chicago's support of racially restrictive covenants, 1930s-1940s]." *Chicago History* 21 (Spring-Summer 1992): 56-72.

DISSERTATIONS

With this issue the newsletter institutes a new feature on dissertations in progress. Send further titles to Professor David P. Schuyler, Program in American Studies, Franklin & Marshall College, P. O. Box 3003, Lancaster, PA 17604. Deadline for listing in next issue is December 30th.

Aaslestad, Katherine B.: "A Question of Allegiance: German Nationalism and Hanseatic Particularism in Hamburg, 1790 to 1815" Univ. of Illinois at Urbana/Paul W. Schroeder

Bentel, Paul: "Idealism and Enterprise: Modernism and Professionalism in American Architecture 1913-1933" Massachusetts Institute of Technology/Stanford Anderson.

Bianco, Martha J.: "From Private to Public Ownership: A History of Transit in Portland, Oregon, 1891-1969" Portland State University/Seymour Adler

Bryan, Terri: "In Search of an Urban Oasis: Southeast Asian Refugee Adaption in the American West" University of New Mexico/Howard Rabinowitz

Corrigan, Mary Beth: "The Transformation of the African-American Family in the District of Columbia, 1850-1870" University of Maryland/Ira Berlin

Davis, Timothy M.: "The Road Nobody Knows: Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway as a Case Study in Urban Landscape Design" University of Texas/William Stott

Doherty, Maura S.: "The City of Spindles in the Post-War Era: The Impact of the Maturing Industrial Economy on the Community of Lowell, MA, 1945-80" New York Univ./David Reimers

Drehr, Nan: "Public Parks and Public Culture in Urban Britain, 1870-1920" University of Pennsylvania/Lynn Lees

Helligel, Mary Ann: "The Quest to be Modern: The Adoption of Electric Light and Power Technology in Small-Town America, 1880-1920" Case Western Reserve University/Carroll Pursell

Herman, Ellen: "Psychology as Politics: How Psychological Experts Transformed Public Life in America, 1940-70" Brandeis University/James Kloppenberg

Hoffman, Steven J.: "The Role of Race and Class in the City Building Process, Richmond, Virginia, 1870-1920" Carnegie Mellon Univ./Joel A. Tarr and Joe Trotter

Knapp, Gretchen E.: "Community Responses to Social Problems on the Home Front During World War II" [Buffalo-Niagara Falls & Rochester] SUNY Buffalo/David Gerber

Lederman, Sarah Henry: "Mary E. Richmond and the Rise of Professional Social Work" Columbia Univ./Kenneth

Jackson

Rusche, Carol A.: "The Evolution of the Casa Del Fascio, 1922-1945" MIT/Francesco Passantl

Salerno, Aldo E.: "Redeeming the Promised Land: The Children of Immigrants As Social Reformers, 1900-1930" Univ. of Connecticut/A. William Hoglund

Scopino, A.J., Jr.: "The Social Gospel in Connecticut: Hartford and New Haven, 1893-1929" Univ. of CT/Bruce M. Stave

Stavish, Mary B.: "The Regionalization of Cleveland's Municipal Services: The Process and Politics" Case Western Reserve University/David Hammack

Stein, Marc: "The City of Sisterly and Brotherly Loves: The Making of Lesbian and Gay Communities in Greater Philadelphia, 1945-75" Univ. of Pennsylvania/Carroll Smith-Rosenberg

Sykes, Bonnie Marie: "Of Faith and Mind: Catholic Education in Albuquerque, NM, 1870-1970" Univ. of NM/Howard Rabinowitz

THE URBAN HISTORY ASSOCIATION

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University of Pittsburgh

President-elect: Lynn Hollen Lees (1993)

University of Pennsylvania

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for a term expiring on December 31, 1992

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Bruce M. Stave/Univ. of Connecticut

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Louise C. Wade/Univ. of Oregon

for a term expiring on December 31, 1993

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Dottie Lewis/Queen City Heritage

Larry D. McCann/Mt. Allison Univ.

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Anthony R. Sutcliffe/Univ. of Leicester

Past Presidents:

Richard C. Wade

CUNY Graduate & Research Center (1989)

Sam Bass Warner, Jr.

Brandeis University (1990)

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Anthony M. Orum, University of Illinois at Chicago explains: "With the aid of a fellowship from the Newberry Library, I am engaged this year in writing a social history of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. I am particularly concerned with characterizing the broad economic and political forces that contribute to the growth and decline of a city, and with showing how the configuration of those forces changes from one stage of city development, for example, the early industrial city, to another, for instance, the late industrial city. Once completed, which should be by the end of this year, I plan to compare (briefly but systematically) the story of Milwaukee's rise and fall with a handful of other cities, among them, Cleveland and Minneapolis, to draw out the important parallels and differences from other historical cases. My ultimate goal is to arrive at some general understanding of the forces that have fostered the growth and decline of American cities."

Brain Ladd, Ogelthorpe University writes: "My work on the history of urban form is currently taking me in two directions. (1) Monuments and symbols in postwar Berlin: Architecture, city plans, and commemorative structures all contributed to both East and West Berlin's attempts to define their relationship to each other and to Germany; the newly united Berlin is grappling with similar questions of building, planning, and preservation. Specific topics I have addressed include: The Berlin Wall, and its ruins; remnants of the Nazi past; planning in divided Berlin; and the fate of East German monuments and buildings. (2) Architecture and the residential housing market on 19th-century Berlin. What was the nature of the interaction among historic architectural styles, a speculative housing market, and the tastes of renters? I am examining the styles of typical apartment buildings as a product of professional and economic struggles among architects, artisans, and developers, all seeking to position themselves as arbiters of taste." [See page one for more thoughts from Professor Ladd.]

Deborah Dash Moore, Vassar College explains: "I am currently researching a comparative history of Jews in Miami and Los Angeles in the years after World War II. This era saw an enormous increase in the Jewish population of each city and the corresponding establishment of a communal infrastructure. I'm interested on the question of the impact of internal migration upon the development of urban community. Specifically, I've taken a number of concepts used in analyzing immigration to American cities and applied them to these Jewish migrants. In the case of Miami, I have also had the opportunity to examine the effect of substantial return migration (a feature notably absent from immigrant Jewish life). Despite an initial impression of difference between the two cities, significant similarities have appeared, most notably in the arena of urban, ethnic politics."

John Archer, University of Minnesota notes: "Those urban historians who associate me with an interest in Anglo-American suburbs may suspect that my current projects have taken me a bit far afield. But they actually stem from an interest in broad cultural considerations surrounding the origins and success of early suburbs--to which I expect eventually to return. At present I am finishing a book-length study of the history of Calcutta from its foundation in 1690 until 1850, focusing on its architecture and urban spaces a media that were essential to the constitution of both European and Indian society. Calcutta in fact had discrete residential

enclaves ("suburbs") that antedated anything of the sort in England, but my interest extends to analysis of several different kinds of architectural and spatial formations throughout the city fabric. In a similar vein, I am finishing up a shorter study of the founding of Adelaide, South Australia, exploring the siting and design of the town plan in the context of the political and economic circumstances of the colony's foundation. Finally, I have another book-length study under way, focusing on the rise of the "compact" type of English villa in the 18th century, which I am examining in the context of changing relations in 18th century society. Such changes included new concepts of self, individuality, leisure, property, and nature, as well as new modes of landscape design and agricultural production. The results will have considerable import for understanding the genesis of early suburbs as well as more recent attempts (e.g., Kentlands, Seaside) to emulate 19th century suburban ideals."

Daniel S. Mattern, German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C., reports "I am currently revising my dissertation, entitled 'Creating the Modern Metropolis: the Debate over Greater Berlin, 1890 to 1920.' In this project I explore the political, social, and cultural forces at work in the creation of one of the twentieth century's great industrial metropolises. Much of the growth and economic development of Berlin during the nineteenth century resulted in chronic social and infrastructural problems in search of solutions. While many of these issues were being addressed by the time Berlin became the capital of the newly united Germany in 1871, with suburbanization, administering the fragmented metropolitan area became increasingly difficult. At the core of the struggle to reform Greater Berlin lay local and national political contests, issues of social equity, and the cultural representation of Germany's capital city. Questions of urban development quickly became invested with a broader significance often extending far beyond metropolitan boundaries. In this project I trace the gestation, the discussion, and the resolution of the 'Greater Berlin Question,' down to 1920 when Berlin and its suburbs were consolidated into a city of four million inhabitants. This study looks at the question from a variety of perspectives: center city, affluent suburbs, working-class suburbs, surrounding counties, the state government, social reformers, interest groups, and private citizens. Mayors, town councils, property owners, and urban planners all joined the great debate which lasted over three decades. Issues of housing, the environment, and mass transit also come into play. Ideologies such as nationalism, localism, and civic boosterism contribute to this history as well. All of these aspects were colored by the struggle to come to terms with the meaning of Berlin as a product and progenitor of urban modernity."

MEGALOPOLIS IN PRINCETON

The Historical Society of Princeton is sponsoring a fall lecture series entitled "Emerging Megalopolis: The Impact of the Automobile on Princeton." Speakers include Richard Hunter, an independent archeologist, "Girdling the Waist of New Jersey: Roads, Canals and Rail Routes in the Trenton-New Brunswick Corridor" (Oct. 14); Michael H. Ebner, Lake Forest College, "Twentieth-Century Princeton: New Jersey's Classic Town or New Downtown?" (Oct. 28); and Kenneth T. Jackson, Columbia University, "The Road and the Car in New Jersey: Past and Future in Princeton" (Nov. 18). Sessions are scheduled for 8:00 PM in McCormick Hall at Princeton University. For information: Philip A. Hayden (609-921-6748).

INQUIRIES FROM ABROAD

Gunther Barth received the following inquiry and has requested that readers with useful information respond: "We are members of a young research group in the field of history. Our special research work concerns the urban history in Saxony from 1830 to 1850 and from 1920-1930 (parliamentarism, liberalism). . . . The special fields are the municipal laws of local governments. We are looking for scholarly publications where we can find models and examples for analyzing any laws and arguments for the issues of 'communal policy' and 'municipal policy.'" Contact: Inez Werner, Paedagogische Hochschule Dresden, Institute uer Geschichte, Wigardstrasse 17, 0 -8060 Dresden, Germany.

"I am researching the history of time capsules in foundation deposit traditions and other ways of preserving materials for the future." Contact: Brian Durrans, Deputy Keeper, Department of Ethnography, The British Museum, 6 Burlington Gardens, London W1X 2EX, UK.

LINCOLN INSTITUTE

The Lincoln Institute for Land Policy has issued an extensive catalog of publications for 1992-93. Founded in 1974 and inspired by the writings of Henry George, its purpose is to study and teach about land policy. For a copy of the catalog: Publications Department, Lincoln Institute for Land Policy, 113 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA 02138-3400 (fax 617-661-7235).

RUTGERS URBAN CENTER

The Center for Urban Policy research has issued a lengthy list of its current publications plus discounted titles from its backlist. To obtain a copy, contact: CUPR, Rutgers University, P. O. Box 489, Piscataway, NJ 08855-0489 (908-932-3101).

FELLOWSHIP

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 is February 1, 1993. Additional information may be obtained from: Taft Postdoctoral Fellowships, University of Cincinnati, ML 627, Cincinnati, OH 45221-0627.

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Permission fees for using photographic illustrations in articles or books have become increasingly expensive. Experienced hands know that federal and state agencies are the sources of excellent collections, very often available at minimal or even no charge. For an excellent introduction to one massive collection consult: Barbara Lewis Burger, compiler, *Guide to the Holdings of the Still Picture Branch of the National Archives* (National Archives and Records Administration, 1990). **Sample entry:** Records Group 196.2 includes photographic prints, including some by photographer Peter Sekaer, documenting housing projects built by the Public Works Administration and the United States Housing Authority, 1936-52.

The LA RIOTS *(continued from page one)*

postindustrial economy. Conversely, historians might also research repressive ideological and institutional structures that over time have disproportionately included African-Americans in the criminal justice system, and isolated a significant minority of blacks in the urban underclass. Such a historico-structural perspective can truly inform policy makers about the root system of the Los Angeles rioting of May 1992.

Peter Marcuse, Columbia University:

"Policy debates?" If urban history teaches us anything, it is that the concept of "policy debates" about urban problems is at best a logical fallacy, assuming that something exists simply because it has a name. Indeed, daily television reveals how little policy is actually debated, with how little information.

Excellent historical analysis exists about the causes of urban problems. We know much about the unequal distribution of income, about racism, about the internationalization of labor and capital, about the armaments industry, about prejudice in the administration of justice, about the relationships among the real estate industry, private profit, housing shortage, and segregation. But we press too little to link that knowledge directly to current policy issues.

Historians are often inhibited in participating in the political arena by the cautions of scholarship or the demands of presumed objectivity. But we have to overcome those inhibitions, to address public issues directly without losing our professional identity or integrity. That is not easy, and may often involve us in controversies on unaccustomed and perhaps undesired terrain. But it could really help to inform public discussion; put at the service of those most in need of real societal change, it might contribute something substantial to that change.

Roger Lane, Haverford College:

Historians of course can illumine debates about such urban issues as the L.A. "riots" which sparked this question. But we don't much.

Sometimes we can show longterm similarities. The Kerner Commission, reinventing the wheel in the 1960s, found urban riots and rioting much like those of the 18th and 19th centuries, as shown first by George Rude: that is, while local authorities worried about mindless anarchy and "outside agitators," the typical rioters were relatively longsettled young men, a little better educated and better off than most peers, careful to distinguish between legitimate (property) and illegitimate (personal) targets.

We can also show differences: The unhelpful term "riot" and especially "race riot," has been used to describe continually changing phenomena, from the anti-black pogroms of the mid-nineteenth century to the consumerist looting rituals which nowadays follow on anything from police misconduct to local athletic victories. The multi-ethnic L.A. riots in particular, in which black and Latino storekeepers were no more spared than white truckdrivers, reveal an abyss of atomistic disorganization largely without precedent.

But while we would all like to be "heard" politically, there are several problems at both ends. Policy gets sparked by firebells in the night; historical research, quickly "dated" in proportion to its relevance, takes years to do -- and 2-4 years more to get published peer review. "They" preach democracy while answering a diverse set of special interests; "we" preach inclusive free inquiry and write for a narrow audience of the

politically correct.

What Is To Be Done? Read Eric Monkkonen's thoughts -- that friend speaks my mind. That is, while struggling to stay in touch with the "real world," we can live up to the equally real, but rare, ideals of committed scholarship, sometimes, but always careful, balanced, and skeptical.

Eric Monkkonen, University of California, Los Angeles:

Simple. Make policy makers stay home and read.

Of course, since they also don't write, it is their staffers and journalists we should worry about. But they don't read either. I'm often called by journalists doing "in-depth research." This means that they have access to free long distance phones and they network out, asking for names of who's doing what. Try telling one to go to the library and look something up Long silence at the other end of the phone line. But journalists at least ask who's who; policy makers and staffers either don't ask or at least never ask me, with one exception. I did explain patiently to a staffer of the Christopher Commission (investigating the LAPD after Rodney King and before the riots) how federalism worked and whose police departments were a part of local government--it stunned the lawyer who never called back.

My conclusion after years of begging to be consulted is that the people with access to the media or with decision-making capabilities are very smart and quit reading after college. They never use libraries, certainly would never try to master the most recent research on any topic, and never ask the relevant scholar. The one line scholars seem to be allowed to take in the popular media is self abuse. It is okay to write about how we should change, should address the big questions with simple words and thought, and that we are responsible for our isolation. This is cuckoo. Do we tell medical researchers to forget the complicated stuff? Try to write an op/ed piece and get it published -- I have had excellent pieces rejected, including a nifty one on the LA riots. Yet if I had written something saying how awful academics were for not addressing urban problems, I am sure it could have been published. My advice for making our scholarship have the impact it should, give this reality: make sure that we teach and research well so that those students of ours who do become part of the policy process will have their knowledge only as out of date as their BA degree.

Henry Louis Taylor, Jr., SUNY, Buffalo:

Finding solutions to urban problems [i.e. poverty, growth of an underclass, and neighborhood decline] has been dominated by sociologists, economists, political scientists, and planners. Although conspicuously absent, historians can add much to this discussion. That is, if they move beyond the social science "poverty studies" model to develop a conceptual scheme for studying the black urban experience within the context of the city building process.

Poverty studies treat people in isolation from physical space and imply that urban problems can be solved without rebuilding distressed neighborhoods. Studies focusing on black community development, for example, are often chided as attempts to build a "gilded ghetto." Such thinking ignores the theoretical underpinnings of the "built environment" idea and thwarts efforts to formulate viable solutions to urban problems. To inform urban policy, historical research must place greater emphasis on developing theories and concepts that explain the process of change in black urban life and that provide insight into the powerful economic, political, and structural forces shaping the post-industrial city and black and

Latino communities. Besides constructing a knowledge base upon which to form policy, such studies can also analyze the impact of previous policy decisions on these communities, shed light on existing policy options, and deepen insight into the barriers holding back the economic and community development of distressed neighborhoods.

THE PAST AND THE RIOT

[A commentary written by Eric Monkkonen during the Riots and rejected by the NY TIMES and the LA TIMES.]

I am a historian of US cities, with a special interest in crime, poverty and police. I have many different things to say about the police, the riot, and the city. But, because I am an historian, I have learned perhaps the major lesson which history teaches: we are all slow learners and will continue to get F's in our urban history.

What lesson do we get the biggest F on this term? It is hard to choose, but I'll go for the lesson taught by the worst riot in our long history of riots, the New York City Draft Riot of 1863. It still holds the record as the worst because of its high fatality rate, over 100 in a city of about a million people. The scenario can be generalized to 1992 very easily. A desperately poor, disorganized, and sometimes criminal underclass, a class defined in racial terms by the dominant groups, predictably turned to looting, burning and homicide when it was threatened by a governmental decision. This time the "race" was white immigrants and its victims were African-American working people. But their action was expected and the police response was vastly more direct than the leisurely response of LAPD.

The first lesson of the Draft Riot was that mass actions can be anticipated: it doesn't take a genius. The second lesson is equally important and also has still not quite been learned: the police can only deal with small events, they are not an army, and can't act like one. When things get very big, the police are like the store and apartment dwellers trying to fight conflagrations with garden hoses-- ineffectual. Only a military presence will work. So after a valliant and failed effort by the NY police (the chief died from injuries he received), the Draft Riots ended when a detachment of the US Army arrived. This pattern sounds familiar-- police intervene, can't control things, and the troops finally show up--because it has happened so often since 1863.

The real thing that I have learned from last week's tragic unfolding of events is that no one in civil government who has power, absolutely no one, actually learns or cares about the past. Based on previous riots, I can with some security make predictions about the next two years. Historians will become pundits for a while. There will be some appointed commissions to investigate things, there will be many editorials and books and articles, and very little will change.

Perhaps it is just as well; the NYC Draft Riot was grisly, horrible. Those in the intervening 130 years have not been as bad. But given the complacency and incompetence of our governments, we wouldn't want our leaders to know things may have gotten a bit better over time, or they might do even less attending to deep urban problems.

MILESTONES

Jeffrey S. Adler, University of Florida, has been awarded a research grant from the Littleton-Griswold Fund of the American Historical Association for a project entitled "Violence and the Industrial City."

John Alviti has been named director of the Historical Society of Washington, D.C. He previously served as director of the Atwater Kent Museum in Philadelphia.

Rick Beard has been appointed as the director of the Atlanta Historical Society. Formerly he was associate director of The Museum of the City of New York.

Lisabeth Cohen has been appointed associate professor of history at New York University. Previously she taught at Carnegie-Mellon University.

William Cronon has been appointed Frederick Jackson Turner Professor of History at University of Wisconsin-Madison. Previously he taught at Yale University. His most recent book, *Nature's Metropolis, Chicago and the Great West* (W. W. Norton, 1991), received the Society of American Historian's annual Bancroft Prize in April.

Robin L. Einhorn, University of California, Berkeley, is the recipient of the Illinois State Historical Society's annual Award for Superior Achievement for *Property Rules: Political Economy in Chicago, 1833-1872* (University of Chicago Press, 1991), bestowed annually on the best books written on topics pertaining to the history of the state.

Howard Gillette, George Washington University, has assumed the duties of editor of *Washington History* magazine. **Jane Levey** is the new managing editor of the magazine, and **Kathy Smith**, the outgoing editor will now devote fulltime to being president of the Historical Society of Washington D.C.

Clifton Hood has been appointed assistant professor of history at Hobart & Williams Smith Colleges. He previously served as assistant director of the LaGuardia and Wagner Archives, LaGuardia Community College, C.U.N.Y.

Lawrence W. Kennedy has been appointed to the department of history and political science at University of Scranton. Previously he taught at Boston College.

Russell Lewis, Chicago Historical Society, and **Gale Peterson**, Cincinnati Historical Society, participated this summer in the Museum Management Institute sponsored by the J. Paul Getty Trust at the Univ. of California at Berkeley.

Michael McCarthy has been appointed director of the new Gordon College Baltimore History Project. The project, under the auspices of the Department of History and Philosophy is developing plans which include working with city schools to create a curriculum relative to the city's history.

Harold L. Platt, Loyola University of Chicago, is the recipient of two awards for *The Electric City, Energy and Growth in the Chicago Area, 1880-1930* (University of Chicago Press, 1991). From the Public Works Historical Society he was honored with its annual Abel Wolman Award for Best Best in Public Works History; from the Illinois State Historical Society he received an Award for Superior Achievement.

Barbara Posadas, Northern Illinois University, was elected to the board of the Illinois State Historical Society.

Mark H. Rose, Florida Atlantic University, has received a research grant from the Rockefeller Archive Center for his project entitled "Political Economy of Urban Renewal, 1945-90."

Eric Sandweiss has been appointed Director of the Research Center at the Missouri Historical Society in St.

Louis. He encourages other UHA members to contact him about his work.

Philip Scranton, Rutgers University-Camden, has been appointed as head of the Center for the History of Business, Technology, and Society at the Hagley Museum & Library. He will continue his affiliation with Rutgers.

Mingzheng Shi has been appointed assistant professor of history at University of Houston. Previously he was a graduate student at Columbia University.

Mary Corbin Sies, Univ. of Maryland at College Park, is an N.E.H. Fellow during 1992-93 at the Winterthur Museum.

Joel A. Tarr, Carnegie-Mellon University, is recipient of his university's Robert Doherty Prize for substantial and sustained contributions to excellence in education.

Blanche Linden-Ward has been appointed Daniel Lyons Visiting Professor of History at Brooklyn College, C.U.N.Y. Previously she taught at Emerson College.

Stanley B. Winters, New Jersey Institute of Technology, was awarded the Joseph Hlavka Medal for service to the historiography of Czechoslovakia by the Czechoslovakia Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Sally Yerkevich was appointed associate director of the Museum of the City of New York. Previously she was programs director at the South Street Seaport Museum.



William Cronon, Bancroft Prize Recipient

CHICAGO GOES TO WAR

Perry R. Duis, University of Illinois at Chicago, discusses his involvement as co-curator of a new exhibit at the Chicago Historical Society:

"Chicago Goes to War, 1941-45" began in 1986 with the discovery of patriotic artifacts while cleaning out an attic. Six years later the idea became an elaborate \$850,000 exhibit and a related book, *We've Got a Job to Do: Chicagoans in World War II*. In between lay 16,000 hours of work by over twenty people and an experience that every urban historian should enjoy.

It was not hard to convince the Chicago Historical Society that the topic deserved an exhibit. The city was

simultaneously the quintessential "average" wartime town and a unique contributor to the war effort. The value of its defense contracts was second only to Detroit, and included over half of all American military electronics used during the war. Few places could boast of a civilian defense organization that functioned as effectively, thanks in part to the Democratic political machine. The city's central rail location meant that its streets were crowded with those on their way to assignments, as well as trainees.

That was the start, but then came the reality that museum exhibitions, unlike books, must begin with a two-part premise: That artifacts should not only shape basic interpretations, but also become the basic means of communicating those ideas. Labels are the secondary explanation, not the message. At the same time, the difference between modern museum-based scholarship and the old-fashioned antiquarianism associated with museums is the ability to place artifacts into a strong interpretive framework that is neither overly simplistic for academic tastes, nor incomprehensible for the general public.

In *Chicago Goes to War* the interpretive framework rested on the subdivision of the story into four basic interacting parts that expand from private and personal to public and citywide. After a brief introduction to the isolationism debate and Pearl Harbor, the visitor moves through gallery sections that begin with the home and family experience of childhood, rationing, victory gardens, and the sense of loneliness. The next section on "the neighborhood war" progresses gradually to the larger, but still localized worlds of the recycling and civilian defense. Then comes the industrial production front, with its emphasis on work in the large anonymous defense plants, as well as a large sampling of what Chicago's 1,400+ military contractors produced. Finally, "Liberty Town" explains the city's substantial role as a crossroads for military personnel. An exit section not only celebrates the victory, but also ties such wartime issues as recycling and civil rights to today's experience. This framework proved sophisticated enough to be the basis for the book as well as the exhibit, yet at the same time it is well within the understanding of the average visitor.

In the end, the creation of any exhibit depends on language. The first basic problem in communications was ably handled by our assistants, Joanne Grossman, Anna Holian, and by Mike Sarns of the registrar's staff. They eased the Historical Society into the unfamiliar role of borrowing from the general public, as well as from other institutions, to supplement its thin World War II collections. They not only kept track of the deluge of over 2,500 objects (roughly 1,700 were used) that poured in after an extensive media campaign, but sought out others and recored valuable background information and oral history for much of it.

Secondly, the blending of ideas and artifacts into an exhibit is a team effort, and success depends upon the ability of academic and museum people to communicate and understand the limitations of each other's approaches. This historian supplied ideas, facts, and suggestions about artifacts and design. The staff, especially co-curator Scott LaFrance and exhibit designer/builders Andy Leo and Mike Biddle, demonstrated what could be done given the limitations of materials, carpentry, lighting, and artifact conservation, while at the same time demonstrating how to anticipate the mental processes of visitors. This necessitates the reduction of complex ideas to their simplest and clearest explanations,

because effective communication with a museum visitor often begins with a glance. Russell Lewis, project director, kept us aware of the limitations of time and budget. Staff members Rosemary Adams (editor), Bonnie Garmisa (public programs) and Lynn McRaine (education) clarified and simplified our message for dissemination to public audiences.

Chicago Goes to War was the fourteenth exhibit in which this historian has played some role; it was by far the most instructive.

CONFERENCES

"Graduate Environmental Studies" Conference will bring together graduate students from a wide array of disciplines interested in the environment at the University of Chicago, November 6-8, 1992. This conference is designed for graduate students pursuing their environmental interests, often alone in their departments, to meet their peers from other disciplines and schools. For more information, contact Betsy Braun, 5131 S. Blackstone, #3, Chicago, IL 60615-4103; Tel: (312)493-5245; etb2@midway.uchicago.edu.

The American Society for Environmental History will sponsor a conference "City and Country: Contrasting and Interacting Environments," March 4-7, 1993 in Pittsburgh. The theme of this conference is the contrasts and interactions between urban, suburban, rural and natural environments. For more information contact: Joel A. Tarr, Program Co-Chair, ASEH Conference, Department of History, Carnegie-Mellon, Pittsburgh, PA 15213; Tel: (412)268-2830; Fax: (412)268-5288.

Hofstra University will sponsor a conference on "Contested Terrain: Power, Politics and Participation in Suburbia," March 19-20, 1993. This cross-disciplinary conference will examine the political sphere in suburbia, with special consideration of the mature suburbs of the industrialized northeastern regions such as Long Island. For information contact: Mary Frances Klerk, Conference Coordinator, Hofstra Cultural Center, Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY 11550-1090; Tel: (516)463-5041.

The New England American Studies Association Annual Conference, "The Cultures of Technology: Science, Media and the Arts," will be held at Brandeis University, April 30-May 2, 1993. NEASA invites proposals with a broadly interdisciplinary focus. Send abstract of 300-500 words to Lois Rudnick, Director, American Studies Program, University of Massachusetts/Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston, MA 02125 by January 25, 1993.

The Social Science History Association will hold its 18th annual conference in Baltimore, November 4-7, 1993. Proposal are welcomed. The proposal should outline the topic, briefly describe the format (including tentative paper titles), and provide names, departments and institutional affiliations, addresses, and phone numbers of all participants. Proposals must be received no later than February 15, 1993 to: Philip J. Ethington, Department of History, Boston University, 226 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215.

"Cultural Transformations/Countering Traditions is the theme of the American Studies Association convention to be held November 4-7, 1993 in Boston. Proposals for sessions should include a cover sheet, a 250-word abstract of individual papers, plus a 200-word description of the session as a whole, and the full name and affiliation of all participants (with address and telephone numbers). Send proposals by January 15, 1993 to: 1993 ASA Program Committee, c/o American Studies Association, 2101 South Campus Surge Building, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742.

SEMINARS

The Cincinnati Seminar on the City has been organized by the Cincinnati Historical Society and the University of Cincinnati's Department of History as well as its Center for Neighborhoods and Community Studies. It will meet monthly at the new home of the Cincinnati Historical Society, situated in the Museum Center of the Union Terminal. Speakers will include: Richard C. Wade, Henry D. Shapiro, Andrea T. Kornbluh, Lynn Hollen Lees, and Kenneth T. Jackson. Co-chairs of the seminar are Zane L. Miller and Roger Daniels, both of the University of Cincinnati. For further information: Geoff Giglierano, Cincinnati Historical Society, Education Department, 1301 Western Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45203 (513-287-7093).

The Seminar on the City at Columbia University holds ten monthly meetings during the academic year. The programs of the fall of 1992 will include Timothy Gilfoyle (September), a panel discussion of "Urban Policy and the Presidential Election" (October), and Alice O'Connor (November). The programs for December, 1992 through June, 1993 will be announced in the next newsletter. The seminar invites visiting graduate students, professors, independent 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, New York 10027 (212-854-3524) and Leonard Wallock, Department of History, Hunter College, CUNY, 695 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10021 (212-772-5540).

The St. Louis Urban Studies Seminar announces its 1992-1993 season. Speakers are: Brian Jones (Sept. 17), George Wendel (Oct. 22), Susan Fainstein (Nov. 19), Priscilla Dowden (Dec. 3), Eric Sandweiss (Jan. 21), Gordon Hilton (Feb. 18), Zane Miller (March 25), Sam Bass Warner (April 22), and Kathy Corbett (May 13). The seminar is sponsored by: Harris Stowe State College, Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis University: Public Policy Studies and Urban Research Center, University of Missouri-St. Louis: Department of Political Science and Center for Metro Studies, and the American Planning Association. Fall sessions will be held at Harris-Stowe State College, 3026 Laclede, Room 311 at 7:00 p.m.

The Urban History Seminar of The Chicago Historical Society meets monthly (September-May). Speakers for 1992-93 are: Margo A. Anderson, Jeffrey Charles, George Chauncey, Jr., John T. Cumbler, Maureen A. Flanagan, Loomis Mayfield, Joseph A. Rodriguez, and Christopher Thale. A special feature is a roundtable assaying William Cronon's *Nature's Metropolis, Chicago and the Great West* (1991) on November 5th (co-sponsored by the Urban History Network of the Social Science History Association); panelists will include Ann Durkin Keating, Michael Conzen, William Cronon, Robin Einhorn, and Eric H. Monkkonen. 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).

PLANNING HISTORY CONFERENCE

The fifth national conference on American planning history will be held at the Chicago Historical Society, November 18-21, 1993. The Society of American City and Regional Planning History solicits papers on all aspects of the history of urban, regional, or community planning. Co-sponsors of the conference include: Urban History Association, Public Works Historical Society and the Chicago Historical Society. Proposals may be submitted for either individual papers or for thematic sessions with two or three presenters. In recognition of the Centennial Celebration, sessions focusing on the turn-of-the-century origins of planning or on planning in Chicago are especially welcome (Sessions will be 1 1/2 or 2 hours in length).

Those submitting proposals should send five (5) copies of a one-page abstract with title and one-page author vita for each participant by March 1, 1993 to: Professor Patricia Burgess, Program Chair, Planning History Conference, Department of Community and Regional Planning, 126 Design, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011. Tel: (515)294-7759; Fax: (515) 294-9755.

Activities of the

The Urban History Association

during the annual meeting of the

American Historical Association (December 27-30)

Monday, December 28

4:45 PM

Annual Business Meeting
Shoreham Hotel/Cabinet Room

PRESIDING: Samuel P. Hays

Tuesday, December 29

5:15 PM

National Building Museum
401 F Street, NW

Washington, DC 20001

private free guided tour of exhibition entitled

"Washington: Symbol and City"

Please assemble at main entrance to museum.

Take Red Line of Metro to Judiciary Square (F Street Station)

(Those planning to participate in tour may wish to consult in

advance the exhibition review by Howard Gillette, Jr. in:

Journal of American History [June 1992], pp. 208-212.)

6:30 PM

Fourth Annual Dinner
National Building Museum
401 F Street, NW

Washington, DC 20001

Cocktails (cash bar), 6:30 PM/Dinner, 7:15 PM

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS:

"From the History of the City
to the History of Urbanized Society"

Samuel P. Hays

PRESIDING: Lynn Hollen Lees

Reservation information will be mailed to members during first week of November. Dinner by prepaid reservation only; no tickets will be sold at the door.

Nonmembers may request a reservation form by contacting (before December 4th): Professor Howard Gillette, Jr., Program in American Studies, The George Washington University, Washington, DC 20052.
