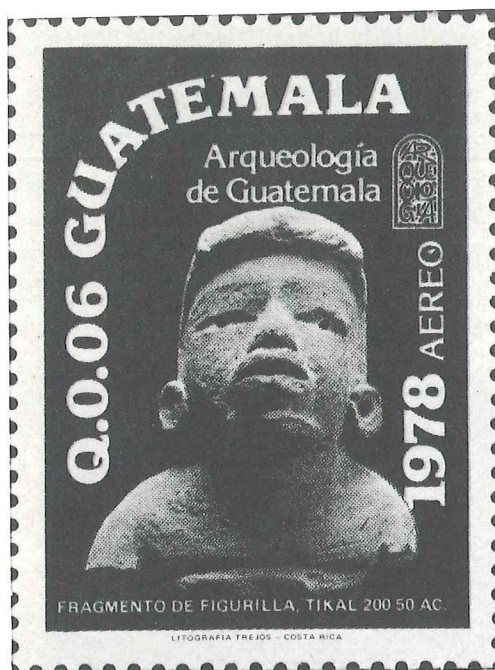


# CONTEXT



"Archaeology and Philately,"  
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## The A.I.A. Moves to Boston University

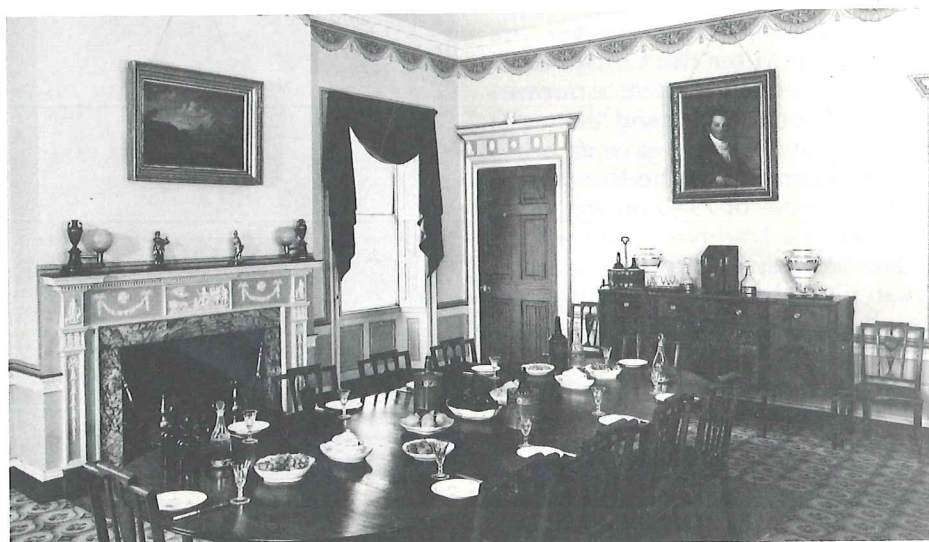
The Archaeological Institute of America (A.I.A.) will move its national headquarters to Boston University during the coming year. Final action on the invitation by President John Silber and Dean Geoffrey Bannister of Boston University was taken by the Trustees and the Executive Committee of the A.I.A. on December 27 and was announced at the annual meeting of the Council in Philadelphia the next day.

The decision to move to Boston University climaxes a year-long search for new quarters by the A.I.A., whose lease on its present offices in New York City expires in June, 1983. The A.I.A. considered space in Providence, Philadelphia, New York, and several other cities before deciding on the move to Boston. The move might be viewed more as a return to Boston than a departure from New York, for, as Dr. Machteld

Mellink, President of the A.I.A., noted in her address to the Council, Boston was the birth city of the A.I.A. in 1879 and the main headquarters were located in Cambridge as recently as the 1940s.

It is expected that the A.I.A. will eventually be housed in the Stone Science Building, 635 Commonwealth Avenue, once space in that building has been made available as a result of the move of the science departments into the new Science Center, now under construction. The Center for Archaeological Studies and the Department of Archaeology, are also slated for a move into the Stone Science Building.

The A.I.A., with a professional and lay membership of over 10,500, is the first-founded and the largest archaeological organization in the United States. Boston University is pleased to be the future home of such a prestigious organization, and the staff of the Center look forward to welcoming their new neighbors.



The dining room of the Harrison Gray Otis House, recently restored to reflect its condition ca. 1800. Photograph by J. David Bohl, from SPNEA archives. See page 8.

## Editorial National Legislation and the Antiquities Market

by James Wiseman

In November, 1970, UNESCO passed the "Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property" in a bold attempt to integrate international efforts in putting a stop to the plundering of ancient sites, the theft of antiquities and art, the smuggling of stolen and plundered artifacts across international boundaries, and some of the other illegal activities that are reflected in the illicit traffic in antiquities. Few if any of the signatories of the Convention, including the United States, were so naive as to suppose that such a Convention, even with supporting legislation in each of the countries party to the Convention, would actually put a stop to the activities just cited. Mere legislation has never ensured compliance. What is more, different nations hold different views on what is appropriate for governmental authority, or what should be legal or illegal. Nonetheless, the Convention seemed to many to be dealing chiefly with activities that are fundamentally anti-social and deserving of joint, international efforts at control; theft, for example, is more or less universally condemned. Initial support for the Convention was widespread, despite a number of imperfections, and the United States Senate gave its advice and consent to the Convention by a vote of 79-0 on August 11, 1972.

The Senate vote, however, was taken with the understanding that no part of the Convention was legally binding on the United States until legislation implementing specific clauses should be submitted to, and passed by, Congress. Accordingly, a bill was drafted (H.R. 11754) and submitted to Congress in June, 1973. That bill died in committee. It was only the first of several bills that would be debated for nearly a decade.

The Department of State revised the proposed bill after extensive consultations with the most interested parties—archaeologists, art dealers, and museum curators—and H.R. 14171, the resulting compromise, was sent to Congress in 1975. That bill, too, died without advancing to the floor of the House. Representative Abner Mikva (D., Illinois) introduced yet another revised version (H.R. 5643) in 1977 and that bill, following hearings, oral and written testimony, and mark-up sessions by the House Subcommittee on Trade of the Committee on Ways and Means, was amended and then brought to the House, where it passed by unanimous vote in October, 1977. The same bill (now S 2261) was taken up by the Sub-

committee on International Trade of the Senate Finance Committee in 1978, which, after more hearings, failed to report the bill to the Senate. The same bill, H.R. 3403, was further modified in 1979, but still never advanced beyond the House Committee. That bill, representing a compromise between archaeologists (supporters of the bill) and art dealers (opponents), eventually came back as S 1723 to the Senate Subcommittee on International Trade, where it had died before, and this time, after further hearings and changes, was reported out of the committee in September, 1982.

At last, at 1:00 a.m. on December 22, 1982, this implementing legislation was approved by the Senate in its action on the joint



*Stela from Jimbal, Peten, Guatemala. Late in the 1960s thieves sawed off the top of this large stela to remove the salable flying figures at the top, incidentally mutilating the head of the Maya ruler portrayed and damaging the inscription. Photo by Joya Hairs and reproduced here through the courtesy of Dr. Clemency Coggins.*

conference report on H.R. 4566, the "Miscellaneous Tariff Bill," which contained the final form of the legislation. The President, January 10, 1983, signed the bill into law.

Why the long debate and delay in action? The bill, after all, has as its principal provisions only extremely limited action. It gives the President the authority to forbid the importation into the U.S.A. of certain classes of artifacts, if he agrees, after consulting an advisory committee, with a request for such action by a nation signatory to the Convention, on the grounds that the particular class of artifacts is endangered. The bill also sets up procedures whereby importers must document the source of such "endangered" artifacts, and show that they were acquired before the enactment of the emergency powers. The final bill as passed even includes provisions that the bill becomes effective only with the agreement of certain other so-called art-buying countries.

The *New York Times*, in an editorial, "On the Trail of Hot Pots," published on January 2, 1983, praised the lame-duck Congress for passing the bill, saying that it had "performed an important service for history." The *Times*, unfortunately, went on to refer to the provision regarding other art-buying countries as "an equitable compromise," and even praised Senator Daniel Moynihan for agreeing to it and thereby withdrawing his previous opposition. The compromise was far from "equitable," and was a proposition that the dealers and Senator Moynihan had supported for some time in the face of nearly unanimous opposition from archaeologists. That provision can only delay still further effective action in the United States, which is the world's leading market for antiquities. The bill that was passed is thus far weaker than previous versions of the bill, and weaker than the times call for. It is still, however, a step in the right direction. Senators Matsunaga (D., Hawaii) and Baucus (D., Montana), the sponsors of the bill, deserve thanks from the public for having revived the bill and sponsoring it in the Senate.

It is, I think, not too cynical to suggest that the debilitating additional provision was not the only reason for the dealers and Senator Moynihan to withdraw their opposition to the bill. The battleground has shifted somewhat, and U.S. Customs has begun to use other means to combat the traffic in antiquities that were illegally removed from their countries of origin. Customs has in recent years been applying provisions of the Stolen National Property Act and two important, new bilateral treaties (with Mexico and Peru) to recover such antiquities, and their successes prompted the Senator and the dealers even to use the hearings on S 1723 to express their displeasure at those actions. They seem not, in other words, to have ceased their opposition to the concepts of the UNESCO Convention; they seem simply to have diverted their opposition towards other currently more effective legislation and treaties, and away from the implementing legislation that they have already successfully weakened.

Perhaps the public can change their minds. After all, heightened public consciousness of some of the basic problems with the international market in antiquities, I think, has been the most effective spur to action by U.S. government agencies and the Congress in trying to curb the illegal traffic. That consciousness, to be sure, was in itself partly prompted by the excesses of some of the participants in the market; for example, the Metropolitan Museum of New York in its acquisition of the Euphronios crater.

Such actions and the attendant widespread publicity resulted in equally widespread, often thoughtful debate, and not merely on the question of whether the Euphronios crater came from an old collection in Beirut, as the Metropolitan claimed, or from a looted tomb in Italy, as the Italians claimed. There were, and are, more fundamental issues. For example: since it has been illegal for years to export antiquities from Greece or Turkey, how do such antiquities find their way to so many galleries for sale in the United States (and other countries)? We may assume that they

are not all from old collections in Beirut. The answer is that illegal exportation from one country does not always mean that it is illegal to import the objects into another. But what if it involves national cultural property? Even there the answer is not easy: not every country recognizes as legitimate other countries' claims of national property. That latter has been operative in the present issue, because many countries claim national ownership of all items representing their cultural heritage found within their territory. Those claims have not always been recognized in the United States, but now are receiving growing favor, as the new bilateral treaties with Mexico and Peru attest.

There may be problems involved with the concept, but there is also a fair degree of justice and fairness involved. Consider the following. A group of (unidentified) antiquities smugglers one dark night dismantle Concord Bridge, load it onto a ship, and escape American waters without detection. Sometime later the bridge appears, reassembled, in a special room of a European (or Asian, or African) museum. In response to the indignant demands of the United States that the bridge be returned, the museum, backed by its government, points out that it purchased the bridge from a dealer in yet another country, and that that dealer had a valid receipt of sale from yet another party; all legal transactions. No one knows any smugglers. Besides, they say, it is hardly their fault if the U.S. cannot protect its own antiquities. (That last plea, by the way, was often used by dealers in antiquities over the past 10 years of debate.)

The issues involved are not easy to resolve, and they deserve the continued attention not only of the professionals, but of the public at large. The issues involve, after all, not merely ethical and legal issues for a few circumscribed professions; they involve the world's cultural heritage, and that is a social concern of extraordinary magnitude. In the next issue of *Context* we shall take up some of those issues.

# Searching for the Lost Arch of Nero in Rome

by Fred S. Kleiner

Every student of classical archaeology quickly learns how fragmentary is our knowledge of the past. We have today but a very small proportion of the countless works of sculpture, painting, and architecture that were produced by the Greeks and Romans. In some cases, e.g. Greek monumental panel painting, we have no surviving examples at all. Modern histories of the art and architecture of classical antiquity rest on shaky foundations and are always subject to revision when a new archaeological discovery necessitates a rethinking and rewriting of a portion of the previously accepted account.

One important lost monument that probably can never be recovered by excavation, because it was very likely destroyed shortly after it was erected, is the Arch of Nero in Rome. The arch was vowed in A.D. 58 and erected, according to Tacitus (*Annales* 13.41; 15.18), on the Capitoline Hill in Rome in 62 to commemorate the successful military campaigns of the Romans against the Parthians in Armenia. This arch—long neglected by art historians and archaeologists alike—is, I believe, one of those lost monuments that would, if suddenly recovered today, necessitate a rewriting of part of the history of Roman architecture and architectural sculpture.

Our knowledge of the appearance of Nero's lost Parthian Arch comes solely from a series of large bronze coins (*sestertii*) issued under Nero between 64 and 67. Although the representation of the arch on these coins is unprecedented for the detailed treatment and three-quarter view of the lost monument, the evidence of the coins is itself contradictory. Since ancient coins were produced by hand from individually engraved dies, the numismatic representations of the lost arch differ considerably. Depending upon the specimen examined, Nero's arch may be tall and narrow or short



Two sestertii representing the lost Arch of Nero: mint of Rome, A.D. 64, and mint of Lugdunum, A.D. 66. (Photos: American Numismatic Society, New York)

and wide, it may have elaborate relief sculpture on the attic and around the bay or almost none at all, and it may have freestanding columns on projecting bases or only engaged columns at the corners of the monument. (An extreme case of contrast is illustrated here.) The few scholars who have attempted to reconstruct Nero's arch based on the coins have come up with very different results because their conclusions were drawn from only a small and indiscriminate sample of the surviving coinage.

A more reliable reconstruction may, however, be achieved if all—or at least as many as possible—of the extant Neronian arch *sestertii* are collected and studied systematically. Over the past three years, through the courtesy of curators, collectors, and dealers all over the world, I have been able to record over 400 examples of this series, and the study of the assembled corpus of material has been illuminating. Roughly half of the surviving specimens were struck at the mint of Rome in 64; the others were produced at Lugdunum (modern Lyons, France) in 65, 66, and 67. The later Lugdunum coins were modeled on those of Rome, but not on the arch itself, and are

The Arch of Constantine in Rome, with statues of captured barbarians atop freestanding columns on projecting sculptured pedestals. (Photo: Deutsches Archaeologisches Institut, Rome)





An early representation of the Arch of Nero on a sestertius reverse of A.D. 64 struck at the mint of Rome. (Photo: Hirmer Verlag, Munich)



The Arch of Trajan at Benevento, with six panel reliefs on each façade and River Gods in the spandrels. (Photo: Fratelli Alinari, Florence)

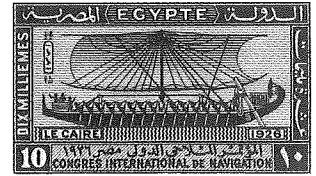
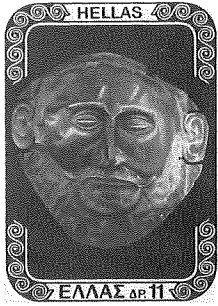
in most cases simplified and generally unreliable representations of the lost monument. This is confirmed, e.g., by the fact that nearly all the Lyons *sestertii* show only traditional engaged columns on Nero's arch, while almost every piece issued at Rome records the revolutionary projecting-column scheme. (The mint of Rome may, in fact, have been situated on the Capitoline Hill not far from the Neronian arch.) Nevertheless, many of the dies produced in Rome omit other important details and are also misleading copies of earlier dies. Only the first few dies from the Rome series may be regarded as having been based upon the arch itself. These may be identified by means of a numismatic "die study." Since ancient dies broke in time and were discarded, it is not uncommon to find two coins struck from the same obverse die with Nero's head and titles, but from two different reverse dies showing the arch. This establishes contiguity or "die linkage," and with enough evidence the entire sequence can be determined.

If Nero's lost arch is reconstructed based solely on the evidence of the earliest dies in the Rome series—as I believe it should be—a picture emerges of an extraordinarily precocious monument that incorporated features not seen again on preserved arches until 50–150 or more years later. Nero's Parthian Arch had a large statuary group at its top composed of the emperor in a four-horse chariot flanked by Peace and Victory personified, a grand inscription and reliefs of Victories on its attic, River Gods in the spandrels, panel reliefs on the façade piers, freestanding columns on projecting sculptured pedestals, statues atop the columns at the four corners of the monument, and colossal statues in niches on the short ends. Some, although not all, of these features appear on later Roman arches, such as the Arch of Trajan at Benevento (ca. 114–118) and the Arches of Septimius Severus (ca. 203) and Constantine (ca. 312–315) in Rome, but the projecting columns of Nero's arch as well as the tiered relief panels and colossal

statues in niches are as yet unattested on earlier or contemporaneous arches.

The revolutionary design of the lost Arch of Nero is of the highest importance for our understanding of the history of Roman art and architecture and part of that history must now be revised to take into account the new reconstruction of the monument. Further revisions of our histories of ancient art and architecture will undoubtedly be necessary as the search for other lost monuments continues and our knowledge of classical antiquity is enriched by the work of both field archaeologists and art historians.

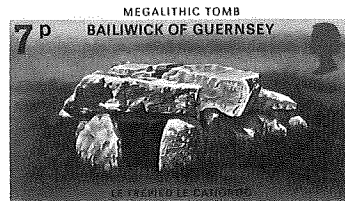
*Fred S. Kleiner is Associate Professor of Art History and Archaeology and Chairman of the Art History Department at Boston University. His research on the Arch of Nero has been supported in part by grants from the American Philosophical Society, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the Graduate School of Boston University. Professor Kleiner's book on the lost arch will be published by Dr. Giorgio Bretschneider Editore in Rome.*



## Archaeology and

The availability and affordability of postage stamps have contributed to making stamp collecting the most popular hobby in the world, one which can be satisfying on even the most casual level of participation. The philatelist who sets himself the task of doing something more imaginative than merely pasting randomly-collected stamps into illustrated albums, however, sooner or later must decide to circumscribe his interests in some manner. Given the fact that thousands of new stamps are issued worldwide yearly (in addition to the hundreds of thousands produced since the first "Penny Black" was printed in England in 1840), it is hopeless to attempt to acquire a specimen of each issue. Traditionally, stamp collectors have tended to focus on a particular country or countries. It has become increasingly popular among philatelists in recent years, however, to collect a specific topic or theme depicted on stamps (for example, birds, architecture, space, costumes, heads of state, music, sports, ships, etc.), regardless of country of issue. Non-collectors are often astounded to learn that topical collecting can be a virtually infinite pursuit, even in subjects that might seem at first glance to be quite arcane.

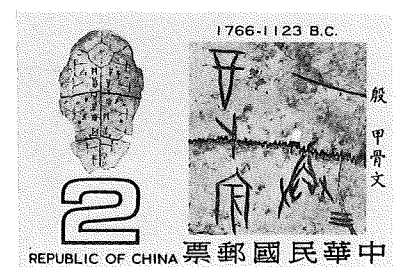
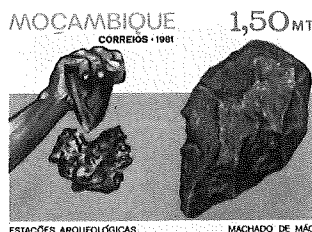
I stumbled into the joys of stamp collecting about a year ago. I chose to pursue the theme of archaeology as depicted on stamps, on the

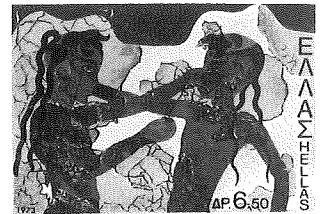


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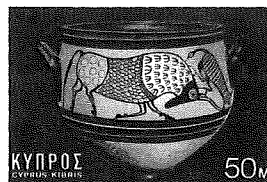
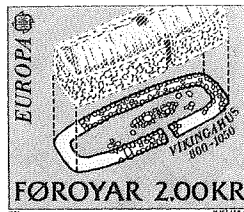
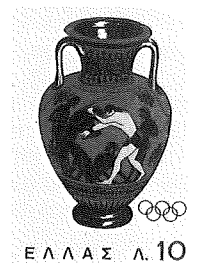
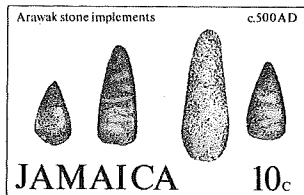
## Philately

assumption that such a collection would be educational, visually pleasing, and (above all) manageable. I quickly was forced to the conclusion that manageability would not be among the most prominent features of my topic. Soon after acquiring my first specimens, I was faced with making a number of fundamental organizational decisions. Should the arrangement of artifacts and sites depicted be strictly chronological? Culture by culture? According to the modern countries in which they were excavated?

There is, I found, something quintessentially archaeological in the very activity of stamp collecting. In order to assemble a coherent topical collection, the philatelist must construct a meaningful typology, and he must present the data in comprehensible fashion. These are, of course, important basic procedures in archaeological fieldwork and reportage.

On these two pages are reproduced specimens that represent the tremendous variety of archaeological subjects to be found on postage stamps. All are from my collection. Most can be bought for less than a dollar (some for pennies apiece). Thus even the most impecunious and stalwartly professional guardian of mankind's cultural heritage is enabled to indulge himself in the role of dilettante.

—Karl M. Petruso—



# SPNEA

by Frederick Hemans

*In recent issues of Context we have highlighted the work of two very important institutions: the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the National Park Service. These are the primary governmental agencies at the state and federal levels, respectively, that oversee and, in some cases, conduct archaeological and historical preservation activities in New England. The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, a privately founded and endowed institution, is the subject of this article. The Society fills an important niche in New England, preserving historic properties and providing professional and technical expertise for the conservation and restoration of period architecture and furnishings throughout the region. Special thanks are due to Abbott L. Cummings, Executive Director, and Ann M. LeRoy, Public Affairs Officer, of the Society for their time and assistance in the preparation of this article.*

In 1863 a stately stone mansion was removed from Beacon Hill. This structure, situated to the left of the State House, had been built of hand-hewn stone and was so carefully joined that it was necessary to pry apart each of the stones individually to dismantle the walls. Now, its memory is

preserved only in a few fortunate photographs and in the minds of people like Jane Holtz Kay, the author of *Lost Boston*. This house was the residence of John Hancock, built by his uncle in 1737, and destroyed, as so many others like it, through the disinterest of later generations.

New England's history is filled with such instances of lost monuments. Since 1910, however, there has been an institution that has fought for the safekeeping of these important homes and the historic furnishings and other examples of fine craftsmanship contained within them. William Sumner Appleton founded the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities (SPNEA) in that year and this Society has since grown to become the largest independent organization in the country devoted to historic preservation.

The Society currently owns 41 historic properties, 23 of which are open to the public as historic house museums. These house museums are located throughout the region, from the Nickels-Sortwell House (1807) in Wiscasset, Maine, to the Harrison House (1724) in Branford, Connecticut. Each is an

outstanding example of period architecture and interior design that reflects the tastes and craftsmanship of early New England.

The headquarters of SPNEA is located in the Harrison Gray Otis House at 141 Cambridge Street, Boston. Otis was a prominent lawyer and served as mayor of Boston and member of the United States Congress. This Federal style mansion, erected in 1796, was one of three houses designed for Otis by Charles Bulfinch. Its history is reflected in the photographs and drawings on these pages. After the time that it served as a residence and until its acquisition by SPNEA in 1916 the structure suffered many alterations. Today it is again recognizable in the form that Bulfinch intended it. Recently the first two floors have been painstakingly refurbished to reflect its condition ca. 1800 A.D.

Not all of the houses cared for by SPNEA, however, are restored to their original condition. SPNEA believes that a house museum should reflect the building's long history, and many of these museums are important documents on the evolution of New England life over many generations. An example of this is reflected in the



The original design for the Harrison Gray Otis House by Charles Bulfinch, 1796. Photograph courtesy of the Massachusetts Historical Society.



Mrs. Mott's Establishment for Invalid Ladies, 1834. Photograph from SPNEA archives.



Marrett House (1789) in Standish, Maine. The house, originally built in the Georgian style, underwent remodelling in the Greek Revival style in the mid-19th century, and still later there were additions that reflect Victorian tastes. Thus, the house preserves 150 years of changing tastes and life styles and is more than a frozen moment in time.

Although the house museums

themselves are the most visible aspect of the Society, behind the scenes are many professionals involved in conservation and preservation research. In the annex behind the Otis House about 30 permanent staff members maintain collections of historical artifacts and a library of more than 500,000 photographs and drawings. This is one of the most important resources available in the

U.S. for scholarly research on architectural history, furniture, ceramics, wallpapers, and textiles.

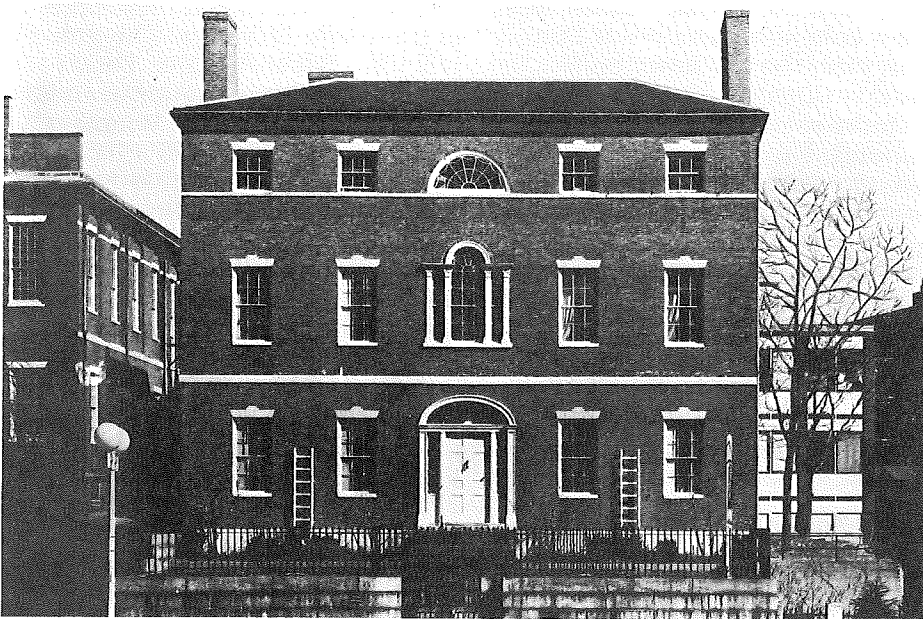
Two recent exhibitions have highlighted materials from the collections: *A Choice Sortiment: Ceramics from New England Homes*, in the SPNEA gallery at the Otis House, and *Elegant Embellishments: Furnishings from New England Homes, 1660-1860*, at the Museum of Our National Heritage in Lexington. These exhibits have just ended, but the Architectural Museum in Appleton Hall at SPNEA headquarters is currently open. The evolution of style and craftsmanship from the 17th through the 19th centuries is traced in the architectural elements from the Society's collections. Of special interest are the fine examples of carpentry as seen in a display of stairway elements from over 25 houses dating from 1715 to 1849. Also on display are the stenciling tools of Moses Eaton Jr. (1796-1886), an itinerant craftsman noted for his painted decoration of plaster.

Three members of the Society's professional staff are adjunct faculty members of Boston University's American and New England Studies Program: Abbott L. Cummings, Executive Director; Sara B. Chase, Director of Consulting Services; and Morgan W. Phillips, Architectural Conservator. Each offers courses to students working toward the M.A. in Preservation Studies and the Ph.D. in American Studies. The study collections and other facilities at SPNEA are an integral part of the program. Students undertaking an internship as part of their curriculum at Boston University may do so with SPNEA, as David Bittermann is currently doing. Mr. Bitterman is participating in a project that is identifying and sorting a large collection of architectural fragments. When completed a permanent study collection will be formed.

The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities is an institution that helps make our region the unique place that it is. Through its efforts much of our historical resources are preserved and much of what has been lost is being rediscovered.



The Otis House in 1922 soon after the Federal style façade was restored by SPNEA. Photograph from SPNEA archives.



The Harrison Gray Otis House today, headquarters of SPNEA. Photograph from SPNEA archives.

## The Context Bookshelf

Book Review by  
John J. Shea

Sally Green, *Prehistorian: A Biography of V. Gordon Childe*, Moonraker Press, Wiltshire, UK, 1981, 200p.

Archaeology of late has been treated to something of a revival of interest in the works of V. Gordon Childe, the former dean of European prehistory. Ms. Green's book is but one of several recent treatments of Childe (see also Bruce Trigger, *Gordon Childe: Revolutions in Archaeology*, Columbia University Press, 1980, and Barbara MacNairn, *The Method and Theory of V. Gordon Childe*, Edinburgh University Press, 1980). This plethora of things Childean may be a consequence of recent efforts (Colin Renfrew, *Problems in European Prehistory*, Cambridge University Press, 1979, and Robin Dennell *European Economic Prehistory*, Academic Press, 1983) to supplant Childe's diffusionist interpretation of European prehistory with a more autochthonous version supported by a radio-carbon-based chronology. Ironically, in a similar conflict between oriental diffusionists, such as Sir Grafton Elliot Smith and Abner Perry, and occidental nationalists, such as Gustav Kossinna, Childe was considered a voice of moderation.

*Prehistorian* is a straightforward biography of V. Gordon Childe. As such, it is a fairly simple linear narrative of Childe's life and work. Green traces Childe's career from his early education in Australia through his academic positions in Britain in the first half of the twentieth century: librarian at the Royal Anthropological Institute, Abercromby Professor of Archaeology at Edinburgh, and Director of the Institute of Archaeology at the University of London. Throughout the book, synoptic treatments are provided of some of Childe's major works: *The Dawn of European Civilization* (1925), his oft-revised synthesis of European prehistory, and *Man Makes Himself* (1936), a more popular, Marxist account of the origin of Western Civilization. Green is also rather facile at providing the reader with

humorous anecdotes of Childe's somewhat eccentric personal behavior, e.g., carrying a copy of the communist *Daily Worker* with him all over conservative Edinburgh and terrorizing students and colleagues with hair-raising car rides. Much is made of Childe's affection for Marxist philosophy and his optimism for the future of the Soviet Union under Stalin. Finally, Green presents convincing, but not new, evidence suggesting Childe's seemingly accidental death may indeed have been suicide. Childe died as the result of a fall while hiking in the Blue Mountains of his native Australia.

Perhaps the most salient criticism that one can raise against Ms. Green's book is that she has trivialized the life of one of the most important figures of twentieth century archaeology. If one were writing a biography of some famous statesman, one would be expected to present the context of his victories and defeats as well as to evaluate the historical significance of his life's work, especially in terms of its relevance to the present generation of readers. *Prehistorian* fails in each of these tasks. The text lingers overmuch on Childe's communist and anti-war activities and merely glosses over his archaeological achievements. Aside from awed accolades to Childe's memory for minute details, the materialist basis for his remarkable skill in synthesizing vast sources of archaeological data into a coherent narrative of European prehistory is never sufficiently evaluated. That Childe's attempts to understand the socio-economic basis for cultural evolution antedates an identical program in the "New Archaeology" by at least twenty years is never highlighted. These criticisms aside, *Prehistorian* fails in the most important objective of any biography; the motor cause for his life's work, presented by Green as his Marxist epistemology, is never completely connected with the fruits of his labors, an astounding amount of archaeological literature. The failure of *Prehistorian* lies in the emphasis of Childe the Marxist at the expense of Childe the prehistorian.

It should be expected that treatments of V. Gordon Childe

will continue in archaeological publications. Trigger's book is one of the best of the most recent spate of studies. While Childe's influence during his life was greatest upon European archaeologists and anthropologists, Americanists would do well to observe that economic-materialist perspectives on prehistory are not as new as they may imagine. More important, however, we as the practitioners of an historical/behavioral science can learn much from Childe's use of a narrative model for archaeological explanation, especially in its ability to delimit general historical trends in regional archaeological sequences.

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*John J. Shea is a recent graduate of the Department of Archaeology and a staff member of the Belize Archaic Archaeological Reconnaissance Project.*

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## Summer Study Tour of Egypt

Egypt will be the focus of a study tour offered by the Center this summer. From July 8th to the 24th Dr. Creighton Gabel of the Center and Lynn Holden (Egyptologist with the Boston Museum of Fine Arts) will lead a trip up the Nile, visiting and lecturing on the spectacular remains of the long history of the region.

Nine days will be spent in Middle Egypt, with accommodations in Cairo and El Minya. The group will visit Tell el Amarna, Beni Hasan, and the pyramids at Giza. A flight to the rock-cut temple of Ramses II and Nefertari at Abu Simbel will precede a five-day cruise down the Nile River.

The cost of the entire trip, including round-trip airfare from Boston to Cairo, is \$2725 per person, double occupancy. This price includes transportation, accommodations, meals, and service charges.

Reservations may be arranged through Ms. Anita Thompson, Flying Carpet Tours, 1445 Hancock Street, Quincy, MA, (617) 471-2777. A deposit of \$150 is due with registration, and the balance by May 2.

We hope you will be able to join us in Egypt this summer!

## Archaeological Field School in Boston

The Center for Archaeological Studies at Boston University announces a summer field school in urban archaeology. Excavations will be conducted on Boston's historic Blackstone Block, near Faneuil Hall. The field school will instruct students in techniques of archaeological survey, mapping, excavation, photography, and laboratory procedures. Lectures on the cultural geography and history of Boston will be combined with walking tours and field trips to provide the student with a thorough background on Boston's growth and development. Guest speakers will introduce the student to other Boston area excavations and to urban archaeology in general.

The course will last for four weeks, from May 23 to June 24, 1983, and is open to college students as well as high school seniors and interested adults. Students will receive a Certificate of Training and CEU credit upon completion of the course, or may arrange with their home institution for four academic credits, graduate or undergraduate. The fee for the course is \$520; students will be responsible for arranging accommodations and transportation on their own, either through the Boston University Housing Office or another means of accommodation. Since instruction will take place primarily during the normal working day, it will be possible for students to commute to the site via public transportation.

Instructors for the course are Prof. Mary C. Beaudry of the Department of Archaeology at Boston University and Prof. Ricardo Elia, Director of the Office of Public Archaeology at Boston University. Teaching Assistants Tamara Blosser Wamsley and William K. Barnett will assist in both field and laboratory instruction.

For further information, contact Dr. Mary Beaudry, Field School Director, Center for Archaeological Studies, Boston University, 232 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215. (617) 353-3417.

## Society for Historical Archaeology Meeting

Four graduate students in the Department of Archaeology attended the Society for Historical Archaeology meetings in Denver, Colorado, January 5-9. They all gave papers in a symposium organized and chaired by Prof. Mary Beaudry; the session was titled "Historical Archaeology NOT as Prehistory" and concerned the use of models in historical archaeology drawn from an interdisciplinary rather than strictly prehistoric framework. Conrad Goodwin's paper, "Plantation Archaeology: A Comprehensive Approach," utilized the Galways Project in Montserrat, West Indies, as a case study for plantation archaeology in general, while Nancy S. Seasoles re-examined the pioneering work of James Deetz and Edwin Dethlefsen on New England gravestones in her paper "Gravestones Revisited—Again." In his paper "The Boston Main Drainage: Even Sewers Have Their Place," Cooper Wamsley discussed sewers as both a feature of the urban environment and as industrial artifacts. Tamara Blosser Wamsley considered the accuracy of ghost tales and folk history in the interpretation of archaeological sites in her paper "The Tyng Mansion Project: Archaeological Fact and Fiction." Joanne Bowen, a Ph.D. student at Brown University, rounded out the session with her presentation of "An Historical Ethnoarchaeological Study of Seasonality," which combined documentary and zooarchaeological analysis to shed new light on seasonal factors affecting domestic archaeological deposits.

Prof. Beaudry also served as a discussant for a symposium titled "The Archaeology of the New England Seaport" during the conference. At the Society's annual business meeting she also extended an invitation to all members to attend the 1985 Society for Historical Archaeology/Conference on Underwater Archaeology meetings in Boston. The Boston meetings will be sponsored by the Center for Archaeological Studies.

## Volunteer Opportunities at Galways

The staff of the Galways Plantation Project, in conjunction with the Center for Archaeological Studies, announce that they have space for a limited number of volunteers from the Center who might wish to participate in the project. Three two-week sessions are available: June 20-July 3; July 4-July 17; or July 18-July 31. Cost per session is \$540.00 plus airfare, per person. If you are interested write or call: Dr. Lydia Pulsipher, Department of Geography, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TE 37916, (615) 974-2418 or Conrad M. Goodwin, at the Center.

## Center Workshops

This spring the Center will offer two workshops, one entitled "The Illustration of Archaeological Artifacts," and the other "Discovering Boston." The first course, taught by Caroline Hemans, will train students in the basic drawing techniques used to illustrate archaeological materials. The class will follow the development of illustrations from initial field sketches to final inked drawings suitable for formal publication. Meetings will be on March 19, 26, and April 2, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Center's laboratory at 236 Bay State Road. Fees for the course are \$95 for Center members and \$115 for non-members.

"Discovering Boston," taught by Nancy Seasoles, will explore Boston's past from a number of approaches. Classroom discussions, a film, and field trips will examine Boston of both prehistoric and historical times. The course will meet on May 7, 14, 21, 28, June 4 and 11, from 10 a.m. to noon, at 232 Bay State Road. Fees are \$100 for Center members and \$120 for non-members.

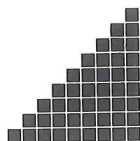
Each course carries CEU credit, and a "Certificate of Training" will be awarded by the Center at completion. To register contact Deborah Durham at the Center for Archaeological Studies, 232 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215, (617) 353-3416.

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# CALENDAR

## February 17

*Departmental Colloquium:* Dr. Richard H. Meadow, Director of the Zooarchaeology Laboratory, Peabody Museum, Harvard University, "From Hunting to Herding in Prehistoric Baluchistan, Pakistan."

## March 19 through April 2

*Center Workshop:* Caroline J. Hemans, "The Illustration of Archaeological Artifacts," see page 11.

## March 28

*Center Lecture* (co-sponsored by the Department of Art History): Dr. Homer A. Thompson, Professor Emeritus at the Institute of Advanced Study at Princeton, "Athenian Contributions to the Iconography of Mithras the Sun God."

## April 6

*Center Lecture* (co-sponsored by the American and New England Studies Program): Dr. James J.F. Deetz, Director, Lowie Museum of Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley, "Historical Archaeology and the Course of American Culture."

## April 2, 16, and 30

*Walking Tours of Early Boston*

## April 21

*Departmental Colloquium:* Dr. Peter Wells, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Harvard University, "Models for

Economic and Social Change in Late European Prehistory (Bronze and Iron Ages)."

## May 7 through June 11

*Center Workshop:* Nancy Seasholes, "Discovering Boston," see page 11.

## May 23 through June 24

*Archaeological Field School:* Dr. Mary Beaudry and Dr. Ricardo J. Elia, see page 11.

## July 8 through 24

*Study Tour of Egypt:* Dr. Creighton Gabel and Lynn Holden, see page 10.

*Walking Tours* are taken from 10 to noon on Saturday mornings. Each tour begins at Faneuil Hall from the statue of Samuel Adams. A charge of \$5 (\$4 for students and members) is payable on the day of the tour but reservations must be received by noon of the previous Friday. In the event of rain the tour will take place the following Sunday; please call to verify this between 9 and 9:30 a.m., Saturday morning.

*Departmental Colloquia* take place at 5:30 p.m. in the African Studies Center at 125 Bay State Road.

*Center Lectures* are held at 7:30 p.m., room 522, at 725 Commonwealth Avenue.

The Center for Archaeological Studies, which was founded at Boston University in 1980, has as its chief aim the development and coordination of interdisciplinary archaeological programs in education and research on local, national, and international levels. The Center also seeks to increase national and international awareness of the importance of understanding other cultures, and of preserving the world's cultural heritage, by involving professional archaeologists, scholars in other fields, and the general public in the activities of the Center.

*Context* is the newsletter of the Center for Archaeological Studies and is published quarterly. Institutions and individuals may subscribe separately to *Context* at a cost of \$10 per year. Membership to the Center is open to the public; annual dues are \$20 (\$10 for students); benefits include a subscription to *Context*, invitations to attend our fall and spring lecture series and other events, and the use of our library facilities. The Center also offers special seminars for the public during the academic year and

summer field schools here in the Boston area and abroad. Other categories of membership are: Contributing Member, \$50; Institutional, \$50; Patron, \$100; Benefactor, \$500; Corporate, \$1000; and Life Member, \$400. These categories include a subscription to the *Journal of Field Archaeology*. Please make checks payable to the Center for Archaeological Studies and send to the Center office at Boston University, 232 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215. Gifts to the Center are tax-deductible.

**Editorial Board:** James R. Wiseman, Editor; Frederick P. Hemans, Managing Editor.

**Faculty of the Department of Archaeology:** Mary C. Beaudry, Ricardo J. Elia (adjunct), Creighton Gabel, Alice Hausman, Howard Kee (adjunct), Gerald K. Kelso, Fred S. Kleiner, Richard S. MacNeish, Keith Morgan (adjunct), Karl M. Petruso, James Purvis (adjunct), Edward V. Sayre, Edwin Wilmsen, James R. Wiseman.

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