Editor’s Desk

Should you be wondering if your copy of the fall Bulletin was lost in the mail . . . despair no longer. The September publication never made it to the press. Indeed the dearth of submissions made it advisable to wait until December. Happily we are able to present a double issue which appropriately rounds off a very successful year by recalling the St. John’s Conference while casting an interested eye towards the promising forum to be held in Quelph, June 6–9, 1984. Enclosed with this issue you will find a Call for Papers Notice as well as a Quelph ‘84 poster.

This issue focuses on a theme of particular importance to those concerned with the cultural heritage of the Canadian built environment. The attempts to revitalize downtown cores have been underway for a sufficient period that evaluation of these programmes is now possible. John Stewart, Director of the Heritage Canada Foundation, Main Street Programme, provides a look at how their system has developed over the past three years. A provincial perspective is offered by John Thorpe, Co-ordinator of the Nova Scotia Main Street Program. Significant questions are raised by these papers. How much control should local business persons have in the alteration of older downtown facades? Should by-laws preceed or follow redevelopment? Is renovation and restoration a fad? Readers’ comments are invited.

While headway is being made in conserving our city cores another form of conservation has taken pre-eminence in the building industry, that of energy conservation. The inaugural efforts at energy efficient houses have resulted in problems of air pollution and structural condensation. John Wells, a biologist at Memorial University, together with Philip Pratt, a St. John’s architect, have designed a “Greenhome” which may offer building solutions for Canada’s north.

The Bulletin will soon enter its ninth year. Your participation as contributors and critics is encouraged. It is especially important that regional board members forward news from their respective provinces which would be of interest to SSAC members. With your help we can continue to develop, expand and be a more positive tool for the study of Canadian architecture.

Don Lovell

Annual Meeting 1983

The St. John’s Conference was a first class affair with an exciting combination of formal presentations and a two-day tour to various towns and outports north of St. John’s. The noteworthy events at the four-day rendezvous in Newfoundland are enumerable, however several highlights should be recorded. The intrepid tour guides of Shane O’Dea and Gerald Pocius rose to the occasion with incisive comments and wit, meals at Harbour Grace United Church Hall and Trinity Parish Hall were gastronomic delights (unless one was allergic to cod) and a stop at the Bonavista lighthouse brought new meaning to the song “This Land is Your Land”. The inception of a keynote address by Christina Cameron, who presented a stirring insight into the work of Charles Baille, was a precedent for future meetings. Of course, the visit to Leonard Snow’s estate to view his unique presentation of YARD ART won the bizarre humour award.

A hearty vote of thanks is extended to Shane and Gerald for their outstanding planning, preparation and execution of the 9th Annual Meeting.
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
July 30, 1983, Hotel Newfoundland, St. John’s, Newfoundland

Present: John Lehr, President
Gerry Pocius, Vice-President
Dorothy Franklin, Treasurer
Dan Schneider, Secretary
Joan Simon, Ontario
Don Lovell, Bulletin

The meeting was chaired by the President.

1. Minutes of November 20, 1982, Board Meeting
It was moved by Dorothy Franklin, seconded by Joan Simon and carried that the minutes of the November 20, 1982 Board meeting be adopted.

2. 1984 Annual Meeting — Guelph, Ontario
Joan Simon, local chairman for the 1984 Annual Meeting in Guelph, reported on early planning for the meeting. To be held in late May — early June, on the University of Guelph campus, the annual meeting and conference will take place in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Learned Societies.

Discussion of the meeting focused on the following matters:

- funding sources — general (e.g., SSHRCC, Ontario Heritage Foundation) and specific (e.g. Ontario Housing Design Council as possible source of funding for paper or session on Ontario vernacular architecture) — Board members were asked to suggest other possible funding sources at the mid-term Board meeting in November.
- registration — in order to boost registration, and therefore funding contingent on numbers, a daily registration fee should be established to encourage local participants
- poster — the Society normally pays for printing of the annual meeting poster — Joan Simon will ask for a specific allocation to cover printing costs at the Board’s November meeting — it was also noted that the Board had decided at its last meeting that the 1982 (Ottawa) poster should be adapted for use as a general purpose SSAC poster.

3. 1985 Annual Meeting
After some discussion it was moved by Gerry Pocius, seconded by Dan Schneider and carried that the 1985 Annual Meeting be held in Winnipeg. John Lehr offered to act as local chairman on an interim basis, but will not be principal organizer for the meeting.

The idea of holding annual meetings in smaller, more exotic locales, e.g., Dawson, Yukon Territory, will be placed on the agenda of the November Board meeting. John Lehr will report to the meeting on potential costs and feasibility of such meeting locations.

4. SSAC Proceedings
The Board expressed pleasure at the prompt appearance of the 1982 proceedings and voted thanks to their editor, Greg Utas.

Gerry Pocius and Shane O’Dea have agreed to edit the 1983 proceedings.

The Board felt that the editor for next year’s proceedings should be someone involved early on in the organization of the meeting. On the question of funding of proceedings publication, it was noted that selected papers on a certain theme might be funded by an institution or body interested in that theme. Papers not published in such a way could be printed in the Bulletin. It was suggested that a longer term (e.g., 3 year) plan for paper topics might entitle the Society to grants from bodies like the Bronfman Foundation.

5. 1984 Nominating Committee
The President offered to ask Robert Hunter if he would chair the four-member nominating committee for next year. Margaret Archibald and Norman Allan were also suggested as possible members of the committee.

6. Annalise Walker
Annalise Walker’s letter of resignation from the Board was briefly discussed. It was felt that the Treasurer’s letter thanking Annalise for her contribution to the Society as a Board member was sufficient formal response from the Board.

7. Bulletin
At the Annual Business Meeting the previous Wednesday, Don Lovell raised a number of questions concerning the Bulletin, including the introduction of advertising, the cost and size of issues, and the sale of back issues. These matters were referred for decision to the Board and will be discussed at the November meeting.

Don proposes to put out the next issue of the Bulletin in September.

The Secretary should routinely provide a distillation of the minutes of Board meetings for the Bulletin.

8. Next Board Meeting
The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held in Winnipeg in November. Dorothy will canvass Board members as to the most suitable dates.

9. Adjournment
It was moved by Dorothy Franklin, seconded by Don Lovell and carried that the meeting be adjourned.

(Editor’s Note: The November Board meeting was cancelled owing to financial factors.)

The Yard Art of C. Leonard Snow.