In Memoriam
Lynn Townsend White, jr.
by Charles Stegeman, President, AVISTA

AVISTA MOURNS THE LOSS of a devoted friend. When the idea for AVISTA was formulated in January 1984, I phoned Lynn White for advice. We spoke for a long time. His advice came from a vast store of experience. I have spoken with him often since. Every time he followed up our call by a long letter of six pages or more, written on both sides. These letters contained more useful information than one would expect to find in an average book. While his style was lucid, his thought clear, and the message important, the most enduring quality of those pages remains their warmth.

Lynn White was a kind man. His enthusiasm for the idea of AVISTA made him join and pay his dues well before anyone else, before dues were formulated. He wanted to join right from the start, others would well follow. He was right.

Lynn White was a wise man. He helped mold AVISTA into the simple, open format of association which has made it so attractive to a rapidly growing community of medievalists. Many of the features which made our fledgling newsletter a success came from him. His wisdom showed most tangibly in the way he managed to integrate knowledge with feeling, whether the subject was practical, scholarly, or organizational in character.

In mid-January of this year before leaving for a term abroad I called Lynn White, for the last time. He was already ill. He was glad that things had gone so well, because now he would not have the energy to help us further. I asked him to please get better, because we needed him to turn to for more wisdom. Together we shall have to do our best to further and foster Lynn White's legacy.

Other, more established fora have lauded Lynn White’s scholarly contributions to a field which he almost singlehandedly created. I wanted to add AVISTA’s voice in expressing our indebtedness and the sense of loss we experience at the parting of our inspiring friend.

Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lynn White, jr. ...........................................................................</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominations for Officers and Board Members ..................................</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVISTA Sessions at Kalamazoo ..................................................</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call for Topics ...........................................................................</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes and Queries ........................................................................</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reviews of Articles ......................................................................</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work in Progress ..........................................................................</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Mark: A Review of John Fitchen’s Building Construction before Mechanization</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News and Notes of AVISTA Members .............................................</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affiliated Societies ....................................................................</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recent and Forthcoming Papers ..................................................</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities—Past, Present, Future ...............................................</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bibliography of AVISTA Library ...............................................</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directory of AVISTA Members ....................................................</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minutes of the Annual Meeting ...................................................</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes from the Editor ....................................................................</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVISTA Membership Application ..................................................</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Nominations for Officers and to Board of Directors

The terms of the current President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer will expire in May 1988. The term for two of the eighteen AVISTA board positions will also expire in May 1988. All members are encouraged to mail nominations for officers and new board members to the head of the AVISTA Nominations Committee: Dr. Charles Radding, Dept. of History, Water Tower Campus, Loyola University of Chicago, 6525 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60626.

AVISTA Sessions at Kalamazoo, May 1988

“From the Ground Up: Building Technology in the Middle Ages”

These interdisciplinary sessions may include papers on any aspect of medieval construction from planning, organization and financing through the archaeological examination and identification of building campaigns. In the case of archaeological studies, efforts will be made to focus on the technological aspects. Theoretical questions, such as what constitutes a building campaign, and the analysis of historical documentation relating to construction processes and procedures will be treated. Abstracts of the papers will appear in the Spring 1988 issue of AVISTA Forum.

Call for Topics

Suggestions for topics are needed for the May 1989 AVISTA sessions of the Kalamazoo Conference. Please send your suggestions to Charles Stegeman, President, AVISTA, Fine Arts, Haverford College, Haverford, PA 19041-1392.
Notes and Queries

This section is designed to encourage the exchange of information and ideas and to facilitate the solution of technical problems. Each query is assigned a number keyed to the issue number of AVISTA Forum. The notes are replies to specific queries and are numbered accordingly. Many queries lend themselves to more than one answer. Responses to queries in any issue are most welcome as are additional queries. "Notes and Queries" is one reason you should keep back issues of AVISTA Forum. Send your note or query to the Editor.

QUERIES

Q-1 (2.1): Mary Carruthers, Dept. of English, University of Illinois, Chicago: I would very much like to know of any occurrences of the Latin noun torus (m.), especially in medieval sources. I have found the word used in a memory treatise of about 1335 attributed to Thomas Bradwardine, where, from the context, it should mean what the modern word "torso" means, the trunk of the body without its limbs. According to the dictionaries, in ancient usage the word could mean "muscle, brawn" (especially used in the plural) or "swelling" or "pillow." From the Renaissance on, its meanings were restricted to particular forms in architecture (where it refers to the thickest "ring" at the bottom of a column" and in geometry (referring to the "doughnut" figure).

Q-2 (2.1): Carolyn Cooper, History of Science Dept. Yale University: Where and how may I obtain a good-quality photograph or preferably a slide for classroom use of the replica hydraulic saw which has been built "on the main square of Honnecourt." Is it a working replica?

Q-3 (2.1): Dr. Ervin Bonkalo, Sudbury, Ontario, Canada has the following query: Upon the suggestion of the editor of a university press, which already accepted my manuscript for publication, I have to write an additional chapter dealing with symbolic transfer of goods in late medieval and early renaissance commerce. Symbolic acquiring of property occurs already in the Old Testament and in Justinian’s Corpus Juris Civilis. The Digestae mentions a second century AD legal practice accredited to Gaius, according to which the transfer of property on storaged goods is executed, if the keys of the storage facility are handed over to the buyer. I would like to know if somebody could refer me to a primary or secondary source where symbolic transfer is mentioned to have been executed in late (9th to 15th century) medieval times or during the Renaissance. It is interesting to mention that symbolic transfer did not exist in England until the late 18th century.

Q-4 (2.1): P.O. Long needs to see a copy of the following: Alphonse Dain, Les manuscrits d’Énée le Tacticien, d’Asclépiodote le Philosophe, des Traité tactique d’Arrien (Paris, 1934). This work is not in the Library of Congress, is not listed in the Union Catalog, nor is it in the OCLC data base. She assumes it is in Paris but needs to see it in the next few months and will not be able to get to Paris during that time. Does anyone know of a library that has it where it can be obtained through interlibrary loan, or does anyone have a copy that can be briefly borrowed?

Q-5 (2.1): Robert E. Jamison, Dept. of Mathematical Science, Clemson University, would like to know the best sources on the life and personality of Gerbert (Pope Sylvester II, 999-1003) and his translation of Euclid. What impact did the translation have on art and architecture? Did it have any known impact on practical technology, e.g., architectural practices?

Q-6 (2.1): Professor Jamison also sent a note on Richard Ivo Schneider’s abstract concerning the wheel and circle (vol. 1.2, p. 9) and a query. He notes that in the Basler Münster there is a “rose” window over the north portal, the Gallus Pforte. Originally this was made of wood (parts still remain in the Stadt-und Münster Museum) and may have represented a movable (!) wheel of fortune. Are there other examples know of movable wooden wheels of fortune? Is anything known about the mechanism of movement and the occasions on which they might be moved?
NOTES

Note to Q-1 (1.2): Ellen Wells, Dibner Library, National Museum of American History, suggests that Professor Boyer’s statements about medieval vehicles are inaccurate and too generalized. She does not think there was “a startling change in the style of travel” actually. She does not think that “no man with any pretensions to gentility...could afford to be seen riding in a cart.” Cart and carriage are not interchangeable words among other things. She suspects that, as many have pointed out, conditions of roads, as they deteriorated from Roman times, did not permit use of wheeled vehicles comfortably, and that those “with any pretensions of gentility” would have used easy gaited horses or mules. She suggests that Professor Boyer reread or look into the following and research the references given to get into the literature:


Note to Q-1 (1.2): Richard Ahlborn, Museum of American History, would date the stirrups’ arrival in Europe no later than the 8th century A.D.

Note to Q-1 (1.2): Glenn Bugh, History Department, Virginia Polytechnical Institute, notes the depiction of what look like stirrups on Scythian silver cups of 400 B.C., but suggests that few think that these are actual stirrups. He points to the detailed discussion of the issue in J. K. Anderson, Ancient Greek Horsemanship.

Note to Q-1 (1.2): Ervin Bonkalo, Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, notes the following concerning stirrups: a) In the British Museum is a plaster horse, painted black with white spots with a saddle, but no bridle or stirrups, made in Turkistan between AD 640 and 750. b) In the Szecheny Library of Budapest Hungary (Cod. Medii Aevi 403) is a 24 sheet parchment codex of Master P, usually called Anonymous, the scribe of Adalbert IV, King of Hungary (1235-1270). In his Gesta Hungarorum there is an account of Almos (b. 819) from Scytia and his wars. In 884 after a large battle in the part of Russia called Susdal, the Russians made peace with Almos and paid with 1000 horses with Russian type saddles and bridles. After the siege of Kiev, Almos and his army marched to Halicia and Lodomeria and was paid 300 horses with saddles (no mention of stirrups). c) Dante looked upon the chariot as a symbol of victory and triumph. d) Burckhardt in his Civilization of the Renaissance in Italy refers to victory chariots in connection to Francesco Sforza’s refusal to use one, and in connection with Savonarola’s Triumph of the Cross in which Christ is represented on a Chariot of Victory.

Note to Q-2 (1.2): Meredith Lillich, Dept. of Fine Arts, Syracuse University, writes that there is no Corpus Vitrearum volume as yet for Königsfelden. It has been published in various works by Emil Maurer, most recently in Königsfelden: Geschichte, Bauten, Glasgemälde, Kunstschätze, by Marcel Beck et al. (Freiburg-im-Breisgau, 1970), pp. 239-41 and bibliography.

Note to Q-3 (1.2): Professor Lillich also writes that there is no Corpus Vitrearum volume as yet for Thann in Alsace. Several churches in Thann are mentioned in Victor Beyer, Jacques Choux and Lucien Ledeur, Vitraux de France du moyen âge à la Renaissance: Alsace, Lorraine, Franche-Comté (Colmar, 1970). On p. 43, the Collégiale St-Thiebaut in Thann is dated 1442 and late 15th c.; no mention of any glass in any Thann church dating anywhere near the date of Königsfelden (early 14th c.).

Note to Q-7 (1.2): Concerning Aelian the tactician, Glenn Bugh, Virginia Polytechnical Institute, notes the study by Alfonse Dain, Histoire du texte D’Elien le Tacticien des origines à la fin du Moyen Age (Paris, 1946).
Reviews of Articles

The purpose of this column is to encourage comment and create active dialogue on essays and articles. Hundreds of scholarly journals review books. Few, if any, review articles. These reviews will bring significant shorter studies from various disciplines to the attention of AVISTA Forum readers. The Editor urges readers to contribute reviews of articles published in periodic literature and in collective works.

Hughes on Image and Reality in the Early Modern Family
by Pamela O. Long, Washington, D.C.

Diane Owen Hughes, "Representing the Family: Portraits and Purposes in Early Modern Italy," Journal of Interdisciplinary History 17 (Summer 1986): 7-38.

This article forms part of a special issue: "The Evidence of Art: Images and Meaning in History," devoted to addressing interdisciplinary problems between history and art history. Diane Hughes has written a fine article exploring the complex relationships between the images presented by family portraits and the social and legal status of women within their families in early modern Italy. She first points to the use of paintings by historians as illustrative of legal and social changes within the family. For example, she notes Phillipe Ariès' use of the changing image of Joseph to illustrate the increased domesticity and authority of husbands during the sixteenth century; and Lawrence Stone's reference to seventeenth century family portraits as mirroring the rise of "affective individualism."

Hughes elaborates the problems in positing "isomorphic reflection—a direct mirroring in domestic scenes and family affairs." She discusses the complex relationship between the early modern demands of lineage, on the one hand, and the conflicting demands of the conjugal family on the other, and suggests the ambiguous and disadvantaged position of women between these social and legal poles.

More than arguing for one social trend or another, she effectively depicts some of the complexity of social and legal family relationships in this period. Similarly, rather than seeing painted images as "reflections of social and personal reality," she emphasizes the ways in which they are both created and viewed as idealized or admonitory representations of what is desired or what is feared.

Her article should serve as a model for both historians and art historians interested in interdisciplinary work. It is unusually successful in depicting the complexity of early modern family life in its social and legal reality and in its ideals. It is equally successful in discussing the complicated function of painted images within that social world.

Eastwood on Plinian Astronomy in the Middle Ages and Renaissance
by Pamela O. Long, Washington, D.C.


This is a detailed, careful study which will be of great interest to those concerned with medieval manuscript traditions and the function of illustrations within them, as well as to students of Pliny and of medieval and renaissance astronomy.

Pliny discussed astronomy in Book II of his encyclopedia. Eastwood finds that its most influential aspects concern the effects of solar rays on planetary stations and retrogradations, planetary apsides (the point at which the distances from the center is either greatest or least), and planetary latitudes.

Elaborating the uses made of Plinian astronomy by Martianus Capella, Isidore of Seville, and Bede, Eastwood provides a cogent discussion of the problem of the manuscript sources from which these authors derived their accounts.
He also carefully analyses the diagrams in medieval astronomical excerpts of Pliny. They are of great interest because not one of them appears in any of the larger or complete manuscripts of Pliny from any period. Eastwood concludes that the diagrams were pedagogical rather than scientific in intent. They show no new breakthrough in conceptualization of astronomical data. Rather they demonstrate a simplification of presentation as they are copied from the ninth through the eleventh centuries. Gradually ancillary information disappears, whereas the relationship of the figure to the complex reality of planetary motion is ignored. However, in the eleventh century, the diagrams take on the attributes of decorative devices. By the twelfth, the decorative function is paramount and the diagrams are rarely instructive.

The emergence of the decorative function in the eleventh century, Eastwood suggests, indicates not only the absorption of the materials, but their obsolescence as well. He elaborates that the revival of Platonic and Galenic element theory spelled the doom of Plinian astronomy even before Ptolemaic mathematical theory and Aristotelian dynamics rose to primacy in the later twelfth century.

In his discussion of the great renaissance interest in Pliny, Eastwood modifies Charles Nauert’s view of the different medieval and renaissance approaches to Pliny. He notes that the specific background of the renaissance commentators (especially their training in astronomy) was crucial to their ability to critically evaluate Plinian astronomy.

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**Work in Progress**

This column contains reports by scholars in various fields on their work in progress. Reports can focus upon an entire research project, or treat one particular aspect of the work. Discussions of particular problems confronted in the research and their solution or lack thereof are most welcome. A report of work in progress can properly open a window into the process of the research as well as provide a summary of its goals and achievements. Reports concern a wide range of disciplines within AVISTA's broad interdisciplinary scope from Late Antiquity to about 1600.

**A New History of Anatomy**

Ynez Violé O'Neill
Dept. of Anatomy, School of Medicine, UCLA

For almost thirty years, my research in the history of medicine has focused mainly on a consideration of the causes and effects of what I term the medieval metamorphosis. By this I mean the changes in viewpoint about the human condition which characterizes medical theory and practice of the later Middle Ages. These changes, I believe, formed the intellectual matrix from which modern medicine originates.

Inquiry into their causes demands study of the consolidation of classical medicine in late antiquity, and its transfer, in transmuted form, to the Latin Middle Ages. Investigation into the immediate results of these changes requires examining the way medieval minds transformed classical concepts into a body of knowledge which provided the foundation for both the Vesalian and Harveian revolutions.

In 1968, a suggestion from my mentor in the field, Professor C. D. O’Malley, prompted me to undertake a long-term project, a detailed examination of the most significant feature of this medical metamorphosis—the increasing importance of the science of anatomy. I began to gather materials for a book on the early history of this discipline, and for the past several years have been composing a work in which I propound the thesis that the study of anatomy, the foundation of modern medicine, is a distinctively Western science which broke out of the cocoon in which classical dicta had wrapped it only when medieval European investigators began to undertake human dissection.

Six chapters of the work are completed. While writing them, I published four articles on the transfer of anatomical knowledge through the medieval Is-
I am currently preparing the last two chapters, which will be the most original and significant in the book, as they deal with the twelfth, thirteenth and early fourteenth centuries, when I believe the distinctive Western attitude toward human dissection began. While working on them, I published an article (1984a) linking the earliest illustrated anatomical manual to the concept of the microcosm, a dominant philosophical concept of the twelfth century. This association, together with my studies of twelfth century anatomical writings, will form an important part of the seventh chapter of the anatomy book. Its eighth chapter will deal with the development of a school of surgery in thirteenth and early fourteenth-century Bologna where I believe the systematic practice of human dissection was first accepted. I collaborated on one article on this subject (Infusino and O'Neill, 1984b), and finished another, presently in press, describing the "unfinished scientific revolution" that sprang from the interplay between classical notions and practical therapeutic techniques as recorded in the writings of medieval physicians and surgeons. My work in the history of anatomy as a discipline is intended to guide students and scholars toward an understanding of these important medieval developments, so that we may better appreciate the origins and foundations of the modern art and science of medicine.

Articles Cited


The Technology and the Colors of Romanesque Stained Glass
Donald Royce-Roll
Director, Fosdick-Nelson Gallery, New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University
Cornell University, Ph.D. pending January 1988

Art historians have often misunderstood how medieval stained glass was colored; and as a result, the literature has been deprived of potential benefits to be gained from a correct understanding of the technology. Directions given in two twelfth-century artist technical texts show how twelfth-century stained glass was colored. This thesis verifies these texts through published chemical analyses of medieval stained glass and by the author's laboratory firings of simulated medieval glass and by the author's actual field experiments using a medieval glass recipe and directions for constructing and firing a wood-fueled glass furnace based upon medieval design and practice. In addition, modern scholarship from the scientific literature on glass studies was specifically applied to these medieval texts and these simulated medieval firing experiments.
This thesis demonstrates that the medieval authors gave coloring directions that contain three coloring agents that determined (according to the oxygen supply during the melt) the color of twelfth-century stained glass. Two of the agents, manganese and iron, are contained in the raw materials beechwood ash and sand that made the glass. The third colorant, copper, was purposefully added to manufacture some of the greens, blues, and all the reds. The medieval glassmaker could rely on the results of colored glass made with copper as it is a dependable and predictable colorant. However, because of the beechwood ash's unpredictably variable chemical make-up, glass that depended on the manganese and iron were less reliable. Grisailles and yellows were the most difficult colors to achieve, and their restricted use in twelfth-century windows reflects this difficulty; whereas, the predominance of blues and reds reflects the ease in production of these colors. During the later Gothic period, new technology made the manufacture of grisaille and yellow relatively easy, and the saturated reds and blues which produced the mystery that prevails in twelfth-century cathedral interiors gave way to the translucent whites and yellows which produced the spacious, airy setting in the Gothic cathedral.

The findings have also addressed a variety of other concerns: clarifying color theories about Chartres Cathedral's west windows, Cistercian aesthetics concerning the use of colorless glass, the division of labor in sheet glass production, and how medieval glass furnaces could be controlled for oxidation/reduction firings.

English Architecture and the Gothic Style
Yoshio Kusaba
California State University, Chico

Yoshio Kusaba has begun collaboration on the architectural history of Christchurch Priory in Hampshire with Mr. Benjamin Polk, FRIBA, who resides in Salisbury, Wilts. A number of fascinating problems need to be studied at Christchurch; some of them are: (1) the exact form of the late 11th century eastern parts; (2) the use of the early rib vaults in the extant crypts which could be contemporary with, if not slightly earlier than, that at Durham Cathedral, begun in 1093; (3) the question of the vaults over the extant transept arms and the altered nave and its aisles; and (4) the form of the western termination for the 12th century nave.

Professor Kusaba also has been working on a series of articles that will contribute to his long-term research/publication project on the problems of the beginning of the Gothic in southern English architecture. Some of the articles currently in progress relate to the following topics: (1) the St. Cross Hospital church in Winchester; (2) Henry of Blois, abbot of Glastonbury (1127-1171) and bishop of Winchester (1129-1171), as a patron of art and architecture; (3) the choir of the church of St. Mary of the Harbor at New Shoreham; (4) the churches of St. Mary at Easton and Sts. Mary and Michael at Stoke Charity; and (5) the beginning date of the church of St. Mary at Iffley. Jointly with Dr. Malcolm Thurlby of York University are two articles: (1) on the nave of the church of St. Andrew at Steyning; and (2) on the architecture of the church of the church of All Saints at Icklesham. In March, 1987 at the 7th Annual Canadian Conference of Medieval Art Historians held at York University, he presented some of the important ideas involving his current research in a paper titled: "Unexplored Early Gothic Style in Southern England."

Openness versus Secrecy, Authorship, and Intellectual Property: Aspects of a Discourse in Pre-Modern Technical Literature
Pamela O. Long
Washington D.C.

Many of the new scientific societies established in Europe in the seventeenth century declared their goal to be the open communication of scientific discoveries and experiments. This was a value or attitude that was essential to the methodology of the new experimental science. A thorough-going empiricism demands that the process and results of research be openly disclosed and that past authorship (defined in the broadest sense as writings and inventions) be properly credited and
critically evaluated. In spite of both the contemporary and historical significance of these views, there has been little systematic study of their history.

After a number of years of studying early modern architectural and technical treatises, I came to believe that the most striking elaboration of attitudes towards these issues could be found in technical literature. After repeatedly stumbling across discussions by technical authors about why they were writing, why knowledge should be written down and openly transmitted rather than kept secret, and what they thought about the writings of previous authors, I decided to write a book on the subject. Unlike the rhetorical disciplines and unlike the subjects taught in universities which are necessarily open, technology has often been either secret or transmitted through guild apprenticeship and other oral traditions. As a result, when technical authorship does appear, it tends to be self-conscious. Technical writers seem to be much more likely to discuss their authorship than writers in other traditions. Many (certainly not all) technical authors also have artisan backgrounds, making their authorship all the more interesting and self-consciously elaborated.

Because I was familiar with Vitruvius' discussions about plagiarism and authorship, I decided to begin the book with a chapter on antiquity. I found an unselfconsciously open tradition in Hellenistic technical writings. In Roman treatises, openness became a highly explicit value. Authors such as Vitruvius, Columella, and Pliny elaborate beliefs about authorship in some detail. It was these ancient technical authors who inspired the extensive tradition of technical authorship in the sixteenth century and its ideal of open written transmission as the basis for scientific and technical progress.

There were also secret traditions in antiquity through the seventeenth century. An aspect of the work which is still in the formative stage is the elaboration of beliefs about secrecy in ancient and medieval technical traditions. Alchemical and magico-technical literature will be the basis for this section.

In the medieval chapter I will use as sources some of the encyclopedias, as well as more strictly defined technical writings which are sparse in this period. In this chapter, I will also attempt some evaluation of the role of the guilds in technical secrecy.

Technical literature has been used extensively by historians of architecture, agriculture, metallurgy etc. to discover specific information about these areas. However, beyond being a source for a history of techniques and design, technical books are often discursive and have not been fully exploited for the history of thought. With respect to the relationship between technology and science, I will argue that some of the most fundamental values of the new scientific method came from technical literature.

John Fitchen, *Building Construction before Mechanization*  
by Robert Mark, Princeton University

Understanding the methods used by pre-scientific builders to create great architectural monuments, especially those of Late Antiquity and the Gothic eras, has been a chronic problem of architectural history. There are but few early writings on architecture that have come down to us, and even fewer of these treat the process of building in any detail. Yet a good beginning in dealing with the questions of construction emerged mainly from studies accompanying restoration of early buildings in the 19th century. Not surprisingly, such studies have illustrated the interdependence of architectural form and the erection process. The design of many building components— for example, the vaulting covering an interior space—is often related to the character of the temporary falsework on which the individual elements of the component are assembled.
Knowledge of construction has become largely obscured in the architectural-historical literature of the 20th century, a literature dominated by stylistic rather than technological concerns. Nevertheless, by the 1960s there was a reawakening of interest in the technology of historic architecture. New analytic approaches were brought to bear, and in the last two decades these have afforded fresh insights into the early builder's art. The publication in 1960 of John Fitchen's *The Construction of Gothic Cathedrals* undoubtedly helped to set the stage for this development. Fitchen summarized the earlier material on construction (as well as making much of it available for the first time in English) and added new perceptions along with descriptive drawings based on his own experience as a professional architect. Although portions of this work, particularly those concerning structural design and performance, have been superceded by more recent studies, *The Construction of Gothic Cathedrals* has become a "classic" in the architectural literature. In this light, Fitchen's new text is all the more disappointing.

One of the problems with *Building Construction Before Mechanization* is that it attempts to cover an extremely wide range of topics dealing with worldwide construction over a time-span of about three millennia. Individual chapters treat such subjects as native house building, the building of the Cheops' Pyramid, problems of ventilation, transportation, falsework and lifting devices, stonework, timber, ropes and ladders, "stresses" in buildings, planning, physical and cultural forces affecting construction and the role of the builder. Fitchen does make some interesting observations, such as suggesting that the Romans might have used a stone "leveling course" in concrete wall construction to keep the newly-laid concrete from drying out too rapidly; but there is also much accompanying misinformation. Roman concrete was hardly "poured" into forms as is modern concrete (p. 106); it was in fact hand-layered together with the placement of the aggregate. Some incorrect attributions, such as that of the design of Westminster Abbey to William of Sens (who worked at Canterbury in the previous century), are jarring, and much of the writing is simply banal: "The floating structures examined here were neither commercial nor military in nature, but domestic. On rivers subject to recurring floods...floating habitations have been used for a long, long time" (p. 222).

The major problem of the text is that it virtually ignores all recent research on early design and construction. *Building Construction Before Mechanization* reads almost as if the clock stopped in 1960, with its primary sources of reference being the earlier Fitchen text. The bibliography is extensive and does cite some more recent work, but these hardly seem to have informed the text. Fitchen rightly observes that a wealth of information on primitive building can be found in illustrated articles from early publications including magazines such as *National Geographic* (and the poor quality of several of his illustrations is due to their being taken from this source), but even this extensively-quoted material requires modern interpretation. For that matter, there is an almost complete lack of any quantitative detail. For example, Fitchen describes (human-powered) great wheel hoisting devices; but he gives no hint of their lift-capacity, although such information is now available. Structural issues, and even technical terms to describe structural behavior, are particularly muddled. According to Fitchen, the survival of Gothic cathedrals is owed to "the consummate expertise of the master builders in recognizing the precise location and degree of stresses acting upon and within the structure and to the accuracy with which these builders assigned a factor of safety in forestalling the critical effects of all but the most extraordinary forces" (p. 77). Were there any truth in this, Galileo could have been spared considerable effort.
News and Notes from AVISTA Members

AVISTA members, please send items for this column to the Editor.

AVISTA BOARD MEMBER François Bucher is working on plans for a museum/library/archive. He is using the Villard linear design technique with thicker lines representing carrying walls and thinner lines representing low “fence walls.” He finds that the single line technique is rapid, clear, and sufficient for preliminary designs.

Three years ago, Professor Bucher’s students built the Villard catapult, scale 1:8. The catapult works excellently and will throw cinderblocks, bottles, etc. for a distance of 65 feet, a constant distance. However, the missiles will stray right or left over a distance of about 12 feet. Conclusion: The azimuth could be controlled with some precision, but not the lateral straying due to a lack of control over the long “verge.”

Professor Bucher’s graduate seminar and John James laying out the choir and ambulatory.

In May, 1987 AVISTA member Judith S. Neaman lectured for the Medieval Club of New York on Two Visions: St. Augustine’s Optical Legacy which is part of a work in progress. A synopsis of the talk is as follows: Embedded in Augustine’s confessional account of his conversion is a history of “the nature of the gods” of his day. As Augustine considers, adopts and finally rejects each of these religious philosophies, he
meditates on their theories of light, knowledge and vision, thereby chronicling the ancient legacy of optics. His conversion is complete when he arrives at his own synthesis of these light theories. The result is his own “theological optics” which shaped Christian thought for centuries to come. The paper explores Augustine’s optical legacy.

Rutgers University Press had announced that it will be publishing AVISTA member George Ovitt Jr.’s book, The Restoration of Perfection: Labor and Technology in Medieval Culture this Fall. You can order the book in advance at a special 30% discount by writing to Dr. Karen Reeds, Science Editor, Rutgers University Press, 109 Church Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 USA.

Carl F. Barnes, Jr., Vice-President of AVISTA, is teaching a graduate seminar on Villard de Honneecourt at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor during the Fall 1987 term. The seminar is focusing on the codicology of the Villard portfolio.

AVISTA board member Pamela O. Long organized a panel for the American Historical Association annual meeting in December 1987 to be held in Washington, D.C. The topic is Early Modern Technical Literature: A Source for Cultural History. The Chair is Elizabeth Eisenstein (University of Michigan) and the Commentator is Owen Hannaway (Johns Hopkins University). The papers are George O. Ovitt, Jr. (Drexel University), Critical Assessments of Technology in the Utopian Tradition: Campanella to the Harringtonians; Pamela O. Long, Openness and Intellectual Property: Two Related Concepts in Early Modern Technical Literature; and John F. D’Amico (George Mason University), Technological Antiquity: The Use of Ancient Technological Writings in Renaissance Encyclopedias.

AVISTA member Barbara Bowers, a student in the History Department of Ohio State University, is working on the medieval ship rig and is using wax document seals as sources.

Roland Bechmann, member of AVISTA and of the French Association Villard, has published an article deciphering the first drawing of the manuscript of Villard de Honneecourt (folio 20v) which contains the phrase “metes le bas en haut”, as well as on Villard’s bow (“l’arc qui ne faut”). [Refer to Bibliography in this issue.]

Bechmann notes he was sorry to have missed the 1987 AVISTA session in Kalamazoo on the wheel and the circle (see AVISTA Forum Vol.1, No.2 (Spring 1987) for abstracts), and he has sent a copy of his chapter on Villard’s wheel [see Bibliography], from his manuscript La pensée technique et sa communication, au Moyen Age, à travers les dessins de Villard de Honneecourt. This work, now in search of a publisher, deciphers most of Villard’s technical drawings, and Bechmann has also “discovered an unknown erased drawing on the Manuscript itself.”

Bechmann built a model of Villard’s trébuchet at the scale of 1/50 which “works quite well.” On the basis of the model, Bechmann calculated that Villard’s machine could propel “very big darts, flying battering rams, or penetrating missiles”, “which must have been 20 feet long or more”, of 100-200 KGs, attaining a range of 150 to 400 meters. “With such a machine one could, from a distance of 150 meters or more, break through the massive door of a castle, the table of a drawbridge, or throw down a heavy palisade... Actually, Leonardo da Vinci, nearly three hundred years later, proposed in a letter to Ludovico Sforza, Duke of Milan, to build not only cannons, but also ‘when these could not be used, mangonels, catapults and trébuchets lancant des traits.’ The first mention of a trébuchet (casting heavy stones) appears in 1147, at the siege of Lisbon. Villard might have seen (or perhaps invented) a new and performing sort of trébuchet, flying darts, like those da Vinci proposed to build three centuries
later. So, here again, Villard seems in advance of his time.”

AVISTA members Marion Leathers Kuntz and Paul Grimley Kuntz are the authors of a recently published book, Jacob's Ladder and the Tree of Life: Concepts of Hierarchy and the Great Chain of Being (Peter Lang Publishing). A synopsis follows: The Great Chain of Being has been recognized for fifty years as the masterpiece of the History of Ideas movement in America. Lovejoy’s work stimulated deeper research into our heritage, which has demonstrated that the idea of the chain of being has not lost its vitality. However, Lovejoy would probably be surprised that the hierarchy is now defended in philosophy of science, in ontology and metaphysics, in ethics and aesthetics, and in philosophical anthropology. This volume presents concepts of hierarchy and the great chain of being from Plato, Aristotle, Plotinus, medieval and Renaissance thinkers, Hindu philosophy, and authors of the twentieth century. The volume represents the ideas of twenty scholars, among whom are Dominic O’Meara, Ronald Hathaway, Ewert Cousins, John Sommerfeldt, Lewis Ford, David Blumenthal, Marion Kuntz and Paul Kuntz.

Marion Leather Kuntz’s next book on her specialty, Guillaume Postel, will be published soon by Olschki of Florence.

AVISTA member Ronald E. Zupko is at work on two books: Medieval Horology: The Scientific and Technological Development of Time Concepts and American Horology Before the Civil War: Technological and Industrial Revolutionary Trends. In press is an article, “Types of Unit Variations in Medieval metrology,” Publications of the XVIII International Congress of the History of Science, University of California, Berkeley. A completed book manuscript, Revolution in Measurement: Western European Weights and Measures from the Age of Science to the Modern World, has been submitted to a press.

AVISTA member Ubiratan D’Ambrosio, Secretary of the Sociedade Brasileira de Historia da Ciencia, participated in the symposium Science and the Boundaries of Knowledge: the Prologue of our Cultural Past organized by Unesco in collaboration with the Giorgio Cini Foundation (Venice 3-7 March 1986). The final communication of the symposium, which is available in the AVISTA Library, urged interdisciplinary approaches to science and the uses of its results, a dialogue between scientific knowledge and other forms of knowledge, transdisciplinary research through dynamic exchange between natural sciences, social sciences, art and tradition, teaching science not by linear presentation, but by more in-depth methods that take into account the relationship of scientific progress and the great cultural traditions and more responsible use of the results of scientific investigations. Professor D’Ambrosio was also a participant in the 35th Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs, in Campinas in July 1985.

Affiliated Societies

The following report of the Society for the History of Medieval Technology and Science was submitted by Geoffrey Hindley, the secretary: Prompted, like AVISTA, by the inspiration of Jean Gimpel, the SHMTS since its inaugural meeting in February has held three meetings at which papers were given as follows: Medieval Technology and the Third World by Jean Gimpel; Islamic and Medieval European Astrolabes by Francis Maddison (Curator, History of Science Museum, Oxford); Medieval Medicine, Renaissance Art and Modern Scientific Anatomy by Samuel Y. Edgerton (Williams College, MA).

Papers scheduled for 1987-1988 include Music and Technology in Western Culture by Geoffrey Hindley (author of Musical Instruments and editor of The Larousse Encyclopedia of Music)—October 14; Forests of Medieval Europe: People and Technology by Roland Bechmann (author of Le Foret au Moyen Age)—October 30; Animal Powered Machinery in the Medieval Period by Kenneth Major, (RIBA, FSA, author of Animal Powered Machines)—November 27; Magnetism: Pierre de Maricourt to Gilbert by
Willem Hackmann (author of *Electricity from Glass*)—January 29; and *The First Builders at 11th Century Ely* by Sarah Ferguson (Wake University, NC)—March.

Forthcoming publishing events of interest to members are a new edition of Jean Gimpel's *The Industrial Revolution of the Middle Ages* and late in 1988, our President Alistair Crombie’s major work *Styles of Scientific Thinking in the European Tradition*.

The Society’s membership now extends north to York, west to Dublin and south to Madrid. Proceedings of all meetings are circulated to members and news of further events, still planning for 1988, will be announced.

AVISTA is also affiliated with the Institut für mittelalterliche Realinkunde Österreichs, a section of the Austrian Academy of Sciences that focuses on the history of daily life and material culture in the Middle Ages. The Institute sponsored three international conferences on these topics in 1976, 1978, and 1980. It publishes a newsletter, *Medium Aevum Quotidianum*, the full collection of which has been contributed to the AVISTA Library. The intent of the newsletter is not to create another journal containing articles on more or less detailed subjects, but rather to offer the possibility of presenting new methods, of giving notice of new projects, of announcing conferences and other activities and of discussing problems as they occur. One of the principles is the rapid exchange of information. The Institute invites all organizers of conferences on similar subjects to contribute announcements, calls for papers or the publication of summaries to the newsletter. The editor of the newsletter is Prof. Dr. Gerhard Jaritz, who will speak at the AVISTA 1988 session on building technology. He is working on questions of building and building technology in pictorial sources in which he is using the Institute’s photo archive of 20,000 pictures on material culture. To send material to the newsletter directly, contact Prof. Dr. Gerhard Jaritz, Editor, *Medium Aevum Quotidianum*, Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Institut für mittelalterliche Realinkunde Österreichs, A-3500 Krems, Kornemarkt 13, Austria. Tel. (02732) 47 93.

The following is a synopsis of some activities of AVISTA’s French affiliate, Association Villard de Honnecourt in Honnecourt-sur-Escaut. Quelques membres de l’association Villard de Honnecourt M. Paul Van Haetsdaele, maire de Honnecourt-sur-Escaut, et le chanoine Devos de Cambrai se sont rendus récemment en Hongrie. Trois objectifs guidaient leur voyage. Le premier était la découverte du pays hongrois, la retrouvaille des paysages, des lieux où Villard a travaillé ainsi que le pays natal de sainte Elisabeth. La découverte aussi des témoins artistiques et techniques de ce qui a constitué les relations privilégiées entre la France et la Hongrie au XIIIe s. La deuxième était la rencontre du professeur médiéviste Laszlo Gerevich qui, par ses travaux, a apporté la preuve formelle de l’autenticité de l’œuvre de Villard de Honnecourt. Le troisième objectif était de vivre une semaine avec les habitants du village de Pilisborosjenő afin de créer des liens d’amitié et de promouvoir des échanges culturels et commerciaux entre Honnecourt, le Cambrésis et la région de Pilis. Pilis est située à 25 Km au nord de Budapest. C’est dans la seconde moitié du XIIe s que le roi de Hongrie Bela III, époux de Marguerite de France, soeur de Philippe-Auguste et les religieux du monastère d’Acey en Hongrie décidèrent la fondation de l’abbaye de Pilis (1184). Ils firent appel au prestigieux architecte* Villard de Honnecourt qui introduisit alors l’art occidental gothique ainsi que de nouvelles techniques.

*Editorial note: Many American members of AVISTA do not believe that Villard was an architect. ♦

Recent and Forthcoming Papers

This column will list papers read or to be read at professional meetings (whether or not meant for publication), papers completed but not yet published, and papers recently published. Its purpose is to inform readers of work being done in a variety of disciplines. The Editor has selected papers of interest to AVISTA members and welcomes additions.
1. The first annual lecture of the newly formed Leonardo da Vinci Society was given at the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine (London) in May 1987. The lecture was delivered by R. A. Weale (University of London), on *Leonardo on the Eye*.


3. At the first Pennsylvania Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Sept. 18-19, 1987, Kim Veltman (University of Toronto), gave the keynote address on *Perspective and Print Culture: 1400-1650*.


6. The History of Science Society Annual Meeting held in Raleigh, North Carolina, 29 Oct. -1 November 1987, included a panel on Problems Regarding the Nature of Science in Late Medieval Philosophy. Cosponsored by the Society of Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy, it included papers by Steven J. Livesey (University of Oklahoma), *The Unity of Science in John of Reading*; and by E. J. Ashworth (University of Waterloo), *De obligationibus of Ralph Strode: An Aspect of Late Medieval Logic at Oxford*.

7. The panel of the History of Science Society meeting on Robert Boyle and his Legacy included a paper by Margaret J. Osler (University of Calgary), on *The intellectual Sources of Robert Boyle’s Philosophy of Nature*.

8. Another panel of the History of Science Society Meeting is entitled *The Idea of Progress in Different Cultures*. Organized by Ralph W. Brauer (University of North Carolina, Wilmington), the papers are as follows: Edward Grant (Indiana University), *Was there an Idea of Progress in the European Middle Ages?*; A. I. Sabra (Harvard University), *Ideas of Scientific Advancement in Medieval Islam*; and Joseph B. Henderson (Louisiana State University), *The Emergence of the Idea of Progress in Late Traditional Chinese Thought*.


11. Another HSS panel is entitled “Discours de la méthode” and its Reception. It included papers by Emily Grosholz (Pennsylvania State University),
Some Background to the Géométrie: What Descartes Left Out; Daniel Garber (University of Chicago), Descartes, the Aristotelians, and the Revolution that Didn’t Happen in 1637; and David Lux (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University), Anti-Cartesians in the Day-to-Day Practices of the Academies: The Example of Caen.

12. A Works in Progress panel of the HSS included Lesley Cormack (University of Toronto), The Patronage of Patriotism: Geography at Prince Henry’s Court; Charles D. Kay (Wofford College), Navigation, Mining, and the Development of Gilbert’s Theory of Magnetism; and Howard Margolis (University of Chicago), A New Account of the Trial of Galileo.

13. An HSS panel on Astronomy Before and After Copernicus included James Evans (University of Puget Sound), On the Origin of the Ptolemaic Star Catalogue; Judith Wilcox (Monsey, NY), The Twelfth-Century Latin Versions of Pseudo-Ptolemy’s Centiloquium and Their Interest for Historians of Medieval Science; and Irving A. Kelter (Graduate Center, CCNY), Diego de Zuñiga: A Sixteenth-Century Theologian and the Reception of Copernicus.

14. The HSS panel on Historical, Technical, and Empirical Aspects of Galileo’s Early Physics, included Winifred Lovell Wisan (Hartwick College), Galileo’s Sources; Thomas B. Settle (Polytechnic University), Italian Technical Know-How of the Renaissance and the Emergence of the New Science; and David K. Hill, Galileo’s Work on Trajectories: An Analysis and Demonstration of Quantitative Precision in Early Physics.

15. The History of Science Society Lecture by David C. Lindberg (University of Wisconsin), is entitled What Shall We Do with the Middle Ages.

16. The Society for the History of Technology held its annual meeting concurrently with the History of Science Society in Raleigh, NC. Its program includes a panel on Explorations in the History and Impact of Communication Technology. Papers included Edward Wachtel (Fordham University), The Impact of Chinese Script on Painting and Poetry; and Susan J. Douglas (Hampshire College), Jürgen Habermas Meets Mel Kranzberg: What Media Theory Has to Offer the History of Technology and Vice Versa.

17. Another panel sponsored by the Society for the History of Technology concerns Technology in Traditional Europe. Papers include George F. W. Hauck (University of Missouri, Kansas City), A Modern Assessment of the Nimes Aqueduct; and E. Malcolm Parkinson (Worcester Polytechnic Institute), Mounted Combat in Tournaments in Fifteenth-Century Burgundy.

18. Talks presented to the New York Metropolitan Seminar in the History of Technology in the Spring of 1987 included Thomas Mathews (Institute of Fine Arts, NYU) and Mary Virginia Orna (College of New Rochelle), The Analysis of Medieval Pigments in Armenian, Byzantine and Islamic Manuscripts; Anthony Randall, The Technology of John Harrison: the Man who “Found” Longitude; and Robert Mark (Princeton University) discussing the film about his work made by NOVA. In September, 1987 Alexander Keller (Leicester University), spoke on Mathematics, Machines, and the Sixteenth-Century Origins of the Mechanical Philosophy.


20. In October, 1987 at the Catholic University of America Annabel Wharton (Duke University), gave a lecture, Art, Audience and Power in Late Antiquity and Byzantium.

1576; W. David Kingery, Microstructure Analysis as Part of a Holistic Interpretation of Ceramic Art and Chemical Processing of Royal Purple Dye: Ancient Descriptions as Elucidated by Modern Science; and Cyril Stanley Smith, Retrospective Notes on a Changing Profession.

22. The UCLA Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies will host an international conference: In Pursuit of the Ordinary: Popular Culture and Commonplace Beliefs in Northern European Art of the Late Middle Ages and Renaissance on Dec. 11 and 12, 1987. Papers to be presented include the following: Colin Eisler (Institute of Fine Arts, NYU), The Doctors’ Dispute: Delaisse, Meiss, and the Late Medieval Portrayal of Poverty; Jeffrey Hamburger (Oberlin College), The Visual and the Visionary: Changing Attitudes toward the Image in Late Medieval Monastic Devotions; V. A. Kolwe (UCLA), Christ as Gardener and Pilgrim: The Apotheosis of the Ordinary in Medieval Art and Drama; David M. Kunzle (UCLA), Soldiers and Beggars in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries; James Marrow (UC, Berkeley), Sacred Meets Profane: The Iconography of the Annunciation to the Shepherds; Ruth Mellinkoff (Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, UCLA), Particolored and Dagged Clothing: Worn by Aristocrats and Pipers, Hangmen and Lawyers, Soldiers and Buffoons; Keith Moxey (University of Virginia), Hieronymus Bosch’s Garden of Earthly Delights and the World Upside Down; Bezalel Narkiss (Hebrew University), The Devil of the Jews; Burr Wallen (UC, Santa Barbara), Patterns of Urban Life in Early Netherlandish Painting: Celebrating the City of Man.

23. The Conference at Emory University, December 4-6, 1987, Medieval Mania: Perceptions of the Middle Ages In and Out of Context includes the following sessions and papers: I: Medieval History In and Out of Context, including Elizabeth Brown (Brooklyn College), Medieval Misrepresentations; and George Cuttino (Emory University), Misunderstandings of the 14th Century; II: Stained Glass: Reflections and Recreations, including Madeline H. Caviness (Tufts University), Collecting Medieval Glass; and Virginia Raguin (College of Holy Cross, Worcester), Revivals of Medieval Glass; IV: Panel Discussion: The Myth of Medieval Architecture, including Malcolm Thurlby (York University), Deconstructing Gothic Architecture.

Activities ... Past, Present, Future

This column reports activities relevant to the interdisciplinary interests of AVISTA members. The list is selective, rather than comprehensive, and will not replace reports of activities published by the professional societies of the various disciplines represented by AVISTA members. Neither will it always constitute due notice of an activity, because of AVISTA Forum’s bi-annual publication schedule. On the other hand, scholars may be informed of activities that their own professional groups do not report. The purpose of the column is to facilitate the exchange of information and ideas across the boundaries of various disciplines. Please send reports of activities to the Editor.

Rutgers University Press is actively seeking book manuscripts and proposals in the history of science, technology, and medicine. Suggestions for books that deserve reprinting in paperback for classroom use are also welcome. Please write Dr. Karen Reeds, Science Editor, Rutgers University Press, 109 Church Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 USA (201/932-8174).

The executors of the estate of the late Harriet Pratt Lattin are seeking an appropriate repository for about 10 cartons of her notes and typescript for a life of Gerbert (Pope Sylvester). They also hope that someone will complete her work on Gerbert. Any scholar or archival collection interested in these papers should contact her son, Philip Lattin, 13046 Woodbridge, Studio City, CA 91604. (818/986-1183).
On October 9-11, 1987 a research conference, *The Rise Of Merchant Empires: Changing Patterns of Long-Distance Trade, 1350-1750* was held at the University of Minnesota.

On October 23, 1987, the Second Biennial Conference on the *Medieval City and Its Image* was held at the Graduate School of the City University of New York.

On 21-22 November, The New England Medieval Conference will hold its fourteenth annual meeting at Harvard University on the theme *Animals in the Middle Ages*. For further information write Medieval Studies, Conference, 61 Kirkland St., Cambridge, MA 02138.

**Call for Papers:** The American Ceramic Society Committee on History and Archaeology will sponsor a symposium at the American Ceramic Society Annual Meeting, May 3, 1988, Cincinnati, Ohio. The subject of the symposium will be *The Changing Roles and Functions of Ceramics in Society*. Proceedings will be published as Volume 5 in the Series Ceramics and Civilization. Camera-ready abstracts on American Ceramic Society forms will be due by December 1, 1987. Contact W. D. Kingery, 13-4090, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 02139, (617) 253-3319.

A new journal *POLYGONON: A JOURNAL FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY ISSUES AND METHODS* began publication during the summer of 1987 under the auspices of the Faculty of Law of Tel Aviv University. In its first issues, *POLYGONON* will be concerned primarily with the following subjects: the problem of interdisciplinary thought; hermeneutics; epistemology as a natural science; paradigms and research traditions in science; structuralism; psychoanalysis; growth or decline; and the impact of the computer on science, philosophy, and the arts. Authors should submit articles in triplicate, typed double-spaced. Editorial inquiries, articles, suggestions for book reviews, and news about academic events should be sent to Asher Idan, Polygonon, Faculty of Law, Tel Aviv University, Ramat-Aviv, 69978, Israel.

A new journal *ARCHEOMATERIALS* has recently begun publication. Appearing twice yearly, it is dedicated to publishing studies on a broad range of pre-industrial materials and processes. Topics include all materials altered by man in the past—minerals, metals, plant and animal products, clays, vitreous materials—and the ways in which they were manipulated. Contributions place the technology within cultural perspective, rather than being purely descriptive. Manuscripts are invited from both the United States and abroad. *American Antiquity* style should be followed. Send manuscripts to Tamara Stech, Editor, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104.

*Mediävistik* is a new interdisciplinary, international journal devoted to the study of the Latin Christian occident between the fifth and the sixteenth centuries. Prospective authors should submit articles in either English, French, Italian, or German to Dr. Peter Dinzelbaucher, Editor, Abteilung Historische Verhaltensforschung, Universität Stuttgart, Friedrichstrasse 10, D-7000 Stuttgart 1, West Germany.

The *Leonardo da Vinci Society* is a new society the goal of which is to promote study of the life, work, and influence of Leonardo in all their aspects, as well as of the times in which he lived. The Society hopes to be able to cooperate both with other bodies and with individuals whose interests coincide or overlap with its own. The Society was founded by the late Dr. Kenneth D. Keele who was its first president and delivered an inaugural lecture on *Leonardo's Reflexions on Food and Drink*. After the death of Dr. Keele on May 3rd, 1987, Professor Martin Kemp of the University of St. Andrews was elected President. An annual lecture is planned for May of each year. The first, *Leonardo and the Eye* was delivered at the Wellcome Institute by Robert A. Weale, Professor of Visual Science in the University of London. Membership (L5 per year; L2.50 for students; L25 for institutions, due annually on January 1) is open to any person or body in sympathy with these aims. For further details, contact the Hon. Secretary at the Warburg Institute, Woburn Square, London WC1H OAB.
The Ninth Annual Barnard Medieval and Renaissance Conference was held on Saturday, November 14, 1987. The subject was Images of Sainthood in Medieval and Renaissance Europe. For further information, contact Prof. Timea Szell, Department of English, Barnard College, New York, NY 10027-6598.

On December 11 and 13, 1987 the UCLA Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies will host an international conference In Pursuit of the Ordinary: Popular Culture and Commonplace Beliefs in Northern European Art of the Late Middle Ages and Renaissance. For a partial list of papers to be presented, see the Recent and Forthcoming Papers column. For further information, contact Susanne Kahle, c/o Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, University of California, 11365 Bunche Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90024-1485, (213) 825-1880.

Professors Wayne M. Bledsoe (History) and Harry J. Eisenman (History of Technology), of the University of Missouri-Rolla, are offering a short course in London from December 27, 1987 to January 10, 1988: The Medieval Window: The Gothic Cathedral. For more information write or call Dr. Wayne C. Cogell, Director, Missouri London Program, G-4 H-SS, University of Missouri-Rolla, Rolla, MO 65401-0249.

The Medieval Studies Program of the College of Arts and Sciences of Marquette University will sponsor a two-day symposium on The Cathedral and the Medieval Community on February 20-21, 1988. The program includes films, concerts, and lectures including Malcolm Miller (Chartres, France) on The Medieval Stained-Glass and Sculpture of Chartres Cathedral. For further information contact Steven M. Taylor, Coordinator, Medieval Studies Program, Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI 53233.

On February 27-28, 1988, a conference sponsored by The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at the Ohio State University is entitled: 1453: The Fall of Constantinople and the Rise of Istanbul. For further information contact, Ken Schurb, Conference Coordinator, CMRS, 322 Dulles Hall, 230 West 17th Ave., Columbus, OH 43210.

Call for Papers: By December 1, 1987 submit one-page abstracts on any aspect of Europe or the Mediterranean before 1600 A.D., especially papers on Italian studies, humanism, courtly culture, ritual and drama, and the 12th century Renaissance for the Sixth Biennial New College Conference on Medieval-Renaissance Studies as the New College of USF in Sarasota, Florida to be held March 10-13, 1988. Send inquiries and abstracts to Professor Lee D. Snyder, Director of Medieval-Renaissance Studies, New College of USF, 5700 North Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, Florida 34243-2197.

On March 25-26, 1988 the UCLA Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies and UC Irvine School of Humanities will sponsor Cultural Encounters: The Impact of the Inquisition in Spain and the New World, an international and interdisciplinary conference focusing on the Spanish Inquisition and its impact on Spanish and Latin American cultures during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. For further information contact the Center (Los Angeles, CA 90024).

Call for Papers: Proposals sought for papers, workshops, panels or complete sessions on any aspect of the Middle Ages, for the Ninth Medieval Forum to be held in Plymouth, NH, April 15-16, 1988. This year special themes include The Presence of the Middle Ages in the Modern Experience (19th-20th c.); and three topics in Art history: Typological Programs and Signs in the Middle Ages; Medievalism: The Pre-Raphaelites; and New Approaches to Medieval Art History. Deadline for submission December 11, 1987. For more information, contact, Manual Marquez-Sterling, Director, Medieval Studies Council, Plymouth State College, Plymouth, NH 03264.
On June 18-19, 1988 the UCLA Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies will sponsor The Nature of Revolution: An Introduction to the UCLA Commemoration of the 1789 Bicentennial. The conference can be described as a comparative study of European revolutions through three centuries: within a city-state (Florence, 1469-1512), within a union of provinces (Netherlands, 1567-1648), within a kingdom in search of its constitution (England, 1640-1688) and finally in France. Contact the Center for further information.


Lehigh University Press has announced a manuscript competition. It will award $1,500 and a publication contract to the author of the best manuscript in the field of Science, Technology, and Society Studies as judged by the editorial board of the Press. The deadline is April 1, 1988. For further information, write Director, Lehigh University Press, Chandler-Ullman Hall, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA 18015.

The Humanities, Science and Technology program at the National Endowment for the Humanities has announced support for the preparation of Guided Studies of Great Texts in Science. The intention of the Endowment is to make available to a wider audience a series of historically significant scientific texts from antiquity to the twentieth century. Each guided study will be a clear and explicit exposition of all or part of one text or a small number of related texts. The two volumes now in preparation with Endowment support are selections from the mathematical writings of Apollonius and Descartes, and the mathematical astronomy of Ptolemy and Copernicus. The Endowment welcomes proposals to prepare additional volumes in the series. Send inquiries to Daniel P. Jones, Program Officer, Humanities Science and Technology, Division of Research Programs, NEH, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Room 318, Washington DC 20506; (202) 786-0210.


The XVIIIth International Congress of the History of Science is scheduled for 1-9 August 1989, starting in Hamburg and then moving to Munich. The general theme of the Congress will be Science and the Political Order [Wissenschaft und Staat]. This theme is to comprise all facets of the relations between science (including technology and medicine) and the numerous forms of political order, from the various philosophies about society and state to the actual realizations they have found in past and present in all parts of the world. The theme should also direct attention to the response of science to the political order. For more information contact Professor Christoph J. Scriba, Institut für Geschichte der Naturwissenschaften, Bundesstrasse 55, D-2000 Hamburg 13 FRG.

Codices Illuminati Medii Aevi is a new publication series which draws on modern microfilming techniques to reproduce unique illuminated manuscripts. The series is based on the idea that “families” or groups of illuminated manuscripts related by provenance, text and iconography may be reassembled for presentation in complete, full color microfiche sets. Each edition will be accompanied by a short scholarly introduction, a summarizing commentary, and codicological description. For further information, write Edition Helga Lengenfelder, Schönstrasse 51, D-8000 München 90.

A conference, Wayfarers and Wanderers: Travel, Trade, and Pilgrimage in the Middle Ages will be held on 26-27 February 1988 at the Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto. For information
Bibliography of the AVISTA Library

The AVISTA LIBRARY is a growing collection of books, articles, and unpublished materials contributed by AVISTA members and others. Housed in Magill Library, Haverford College, Haverford, PA, all published items and some unpublished material can be ordered through inter-library loan. The remaining unpublished items can be read at Magill Library. For a full listing of the collection, see also the previous two issues of AVISTA Forum (vol. I, nos. 1 and 2). Members are urged to use the collection and to add their own offprints and books to it. Send contributions to Charles Stegeman, President of AVISTA.

Complete Periodical Issues

AVISTA Forum 1,2 (Spring 1987).


Articles


**Unpublished Papers**

Some of the unpublished papers in the Avista collection are not available for circulation, but can be read in Magill Library. Before ordering unpublished papers, check with C. Stegeman, President of AVISTA.


Bechmann, Roland. Entry on the ‘wheel’ of Villard de Honnecourt. From press-ready manuscript entitled *La pensée technique et sa communication, au Moyen-âge, à travers les dessins techniques de Villard de Honnecourt.*

**AVISTA Directory of Members**

**ASSOCIATED SOCIETIES**

Association Villard de Honnecourt 59266 Honnecourt-sur-Ecaud FRANCE


Soc. Study of Med.Tecn.& Science 32 Sile Road Headington Oxford, OX3 8AQ ENGLAND

**INSTITUTIONS**

Center for Med.& Ren.Studies Ohio State Univ. 322 Dulles Hall 230 West 17th Ave. Columbus, OH 43210

Cleveland Museum of Art - Library 11150 East Blvd. Cleveland, OH 44106

Coming Museum of Glass Rakow Library One Museum Way Coming, NY 14830

Harvard Univ. Fine Arts Library 32 Quincy Street Cambridge, MA 02138

Hill Monastic Manuscript Library Bush Center St. John’s Univ. Collegeville, MN 56321

Medical/Science Books in Medieval Libraries 127 South gate Road New Providence, NJ 07974

Pomona College Art Department, Lebus Court 333 College Way Claremont, CA 91711

Princeton Univ. Library Serials Division P.O.Box 190 Princeton, NJ 08544
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* We have just been informed and regret to announce Professor Ascherl’s death January 13, 1987, followed shortly by that of her husband Carl on June 6, 1987. Dr. Ascherl’s most recent research centered on technology and literature.

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Summary of Minutes

Meeting of Board of Directors and Second Annual General Assembly of AVISTA, Inc.

9 May 1987, Kalamazoo, Michigan

As the President, C. Stegeman, was on a sabbatical leave abroad, the Vice-President, C. Barnes, chaired the meetings. The first order of business was the election of Directors. In the absence of Dale Kinney, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, C. Barnes proposed for renewal of a three year term (ending 1990) the following candidates: François Bucher (Florida State), David Landes (Harvard), Vivian Paul (Texas A&M), George Saliba (Columbia); and a new candidate was proposed, also for a three year term (ending in 1990): Barbara Kreutz (Bryn Mawr). By those present and by proxy these candidates were unanimously elected.

C. Barnes called for volunteers to serve on the 1988 Nominating Committee for Directors (six positions expire in 1988) and for officers (all of whose terms expire in 1988). Charles Radding (Loyola U. of Chicago) accepted nomination to serve as chairman for the 1988 Nominating Committees. The Secretary, M. Stegeman, suggested that an advertisement asking for nominations to the Board would be sent to the AVISTA membership. [N.B. This advertisement can be found in this issue of AVISTA FORUM].

By general consensus it was agreed that V. Paul would organize two AVISTA sessions in 1988 at Kalamazoo on the theme: “From the Ground up: Building Technology in the Middle Ages.” It was hoped that no other architecturally-oriented sessions would be scheduled in conflict with AVISTA, and the Secretary agreed to add this to the official request for sessions submitted to the Medieval Institute at Kalamazoo. It was further agreed that the Secretary would send a notice to members asking for topics for AVISTA sessions at Kalamazoo in 1989.

C. Barnes then turned the meeting over to P. Long, Editor of AVISTA FORUM, who strongly urged that members, especially Board members, contribute to the bi-annual newsletter, specifically under the sections “reviews of recent articles” and “Notes & Queries.” She also noted that the Fall 1987 issue would have summaries of members’ “works in progress.” It was further noted that the Fall 1987 issue would be mailed to members only.

The Secretary, M. Stegeman, noted the interest of an Austrian newsletter, Medium Aevum Quotidianum, in forming an exchange with AVISTA FORUM. [see in this issue a description of affiliated societies.] It was agreed that the session held earlier in the day on “The Use and Iconography of Wheels and Circles in the Middle Ages,” organized by Y. Kusaba, was a success, with upward of 75 in attendance. [Refer to AVISTA FORUM Vol.1, No.2 (Spring 1987) for abstracts of the presentations by Marjorie Boyer, Charles Radding, and Richard Schneider.]

The meeting, with 18 in attendance and 4 proxies, was brought to a close, and those present submitted dues to the Treasurer, W. Clark.
Notes From the Editor

AVISTA FORUM is created by scholars working in a variety of disciplines within medieval studies broadly defined from 300 to 1600. Its goal is to create dialogue and to exchange information across the boundaries of disciplines. Art history, architectural history, the history of technology and of science, music, theology, and history are some of the many fields represented by AVISTA members.

The success of the Forum depends on the willingness of members and other readers to make regular contributions to its pages. Contributions to Notes and Queries, News and Notes of Members, and to Works in Progress are needed and welcome. I would like to urge readers particularly to submit reviews of articles. Keep in mind that these reviews can be cross-disciplinary as well as intra-disciplinary. In addition to the comments of specialists on articles within their specialty, I encourage reviews of articles in one discipline by scholars in another.

In a sense, the Forum is an experiment. It aims to facilitate the exchange of information across disciplines and in addition is an attempt to create dialogue on the printed page. The notes speak to the queries, the works in progress column concerns process as well as final product. The Forum is produced by and for scholars interested in interdisciplinary studies. It is created without a professional staff and on a shoe-string budget. I like to think of it developing not as a newsletter, but as a small magazine that remains informal and based on the exchange of ideas, opinions and information of the scholars that form its readership.

In an attempt to inform people of AVISTA, the first two issues of AVISTA Forum were sent to a large number of non-members. However, AVISTA’s small budget can no longer manage such a large issue. On the other hand, AVISTA’s effectiveness depends on a growing number of members and contributors. AVISTA must rely on members and readers to inform others about it. This can be most effectively done, if members send to potentially interested scholars a copy of the Forum. We have printed several hundred extra copies for this purpose. If you know of interested people, please request a specified number of additional copies from Professor Charles Stegeman, President, AVISTA, 2 College Circle, Haverford, PA 19041. Please also send contributions to the AVISTA Library to Professor Stegeman.

I would like to thank the many people who have contributed to this and past issues. The deadline for the Spring 1988 issue is March 1, 1988. Please send contributions to my new address:

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