

THE MICHIGAN STAINED GLASS CENSUS NEWSLETTER NUMBER 8 * NOVEMBER 2004

A bimonthly e-mail report on activities and other stained glass news from the Michigan Stained Glass Census at the Michigan State University Museum, East Lansing, MI 48824 * <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/index.html>

The Michigan Stained Glass Census has been an advocate for the documentation and preservation of architectural stained glass since 1992. Michele Beltran, Barbara Krueger and Betty MacDowell, Co-Directors.

RECENTLY REGISTERED WINDOWS

MSGC 2000.0041. Friendship Christian Reformed Church, Byron Center, MI. Six windows created in 1998 by Cheryl Alles and Kathy Vander Stel of Caledonia, MI, and Maria Orr of Grand Rapids, MI. Registered by Kathy Vander Stel.

MSGC 04.0018. Children's Hospital of Michigan, Detroit, MI. Tree of Life chapel window designed by Jean Booms and created in 1997 by Barbara Hosmer of Dearborn, MI. Registered by Barbara Hosmer, with photography by Donald Hosmer of Dearborn, MI.

MSGC 04.0019. Education Building, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI. Harriet Maria Scott Memorial Window. Designed by Charles Caryl Coleman and fabricated by the Church Glass & Decorating Co. of New York City, ca. 1912. Registered by Dr. William P. Sosnowsky of Grosse Pointe Farms, MI.

RECENT "WINDOWS OF THE MONTH" ON THE MSGC WEB SITE

October 2004. St. Mary's Catholic Church, Grand Rapids. A detail from one of the large lancet windows in the church apse, this 1926 scene by H. Oidtman of Linnich, Germany depicts a fiery miracle drawn from the book of Daniel. <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/oct04.html>

November 2004. "The Light of the World." This article examines the origins of a common depiction of Christ in stained glass. <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/nov04.html>

WINDOW OF THE MONTH "FLASH BACKS"

October 2001, St. Pius X Church, Flint. These 1980 faceted glass windows were created by Marion Owczarski, artist-in-residence at St. Mary College in Orchard Lake, MI. They represent the amusements of children and are based on children's drawings and photographs of children on the church playground. <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/oct01.html>

November 1999. East Congregational Church, Grand Rapids. The "Pilgrim Father and Mother Window" that honors the faith and sacrifice of America's early colonists, was completed in 1955 by the Chartres Glassmakers Guild of Chartres, France. <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/nov99.html>

STAINED GLASS ON THE WEB

First United Methodist Church, Birmingham, MI
<http://www.fumcbirmingham.org/glass/index.htm>

St. John's Episcopal Church, Stamford, CT
http://stjohns-stamford.org/Pages/a-st_glass.html

RECENT MSGC ACTIVITIES

Barbara Krueger attended the National Trust for Historic Preservation annual conference, held in September at Louisville, Kentucky. One field session, entitled "Sacred Sites in Changing Times," was a tour of four downtown churches, including Christ Church Cathedral, built in 1824 and extensively renovated from 1997 to 2002. Its stained glass includes older windows by Heaton, Butler and Bayne of London and the American studios of D'Ascenzo, Donald McDonald, Lamb, Belcher and Tiffany, as well as three windows by the little-known pre-1860 Blum Ornamental Glass of Louisville, described as among the oldest figural stained glass in the U.S. There are also two newer windows by Ken Von Roenn of Louisville. Even with the recent major renovation, there was still unvented exterior glass on all the windows. When asked about this, the principal restoration architect stated that there had been conflicting opinions (vent to the outside vs. vent to the inside), and so nothing was done. A pictorial history of the windows is viewable at <http://www.moreschi.com/ccp/pages/tour.htm>

Another conference session dealt with the closing of many parishes in the Boston Archdiocese and the uncertain fate of those churches and windows. As mentioned in the January newsletter, Partners for Sacred Places in Philadelphia has developed a white paper that focuses on the threats facing

historic houses of worship due to declining memberships and high maintenance costs. Visit <http://www.sacredplaces.org/> for more information about available resources.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation also offers help, including publications, through its web site at <http://www.nationaltrust.org/> In addition, the northeast region of the National Trust has developed a tool kit (\$35) for preserving historical religious properties. They can be contacted by email at nero@nthp.org or by phone at 617-523-0885.

Our stained glass Internet discussion network, which began last October, has been generously hosted by H-Net at Michigan State University for the past year. It has now been renamed H-Stained-Glass and promoted to official status as one of H-Net's many discussion networks devoted to the humanities and social sciences. You can learn more about H-Net by visiting <http://www.h-net.org/>

H-Stained-Glass and its companion web site at <http://www.h-net.org/~stnglass/> provide an international forum where researchers, artists, and other interested subscribers can discuss a wide range of issues related to architectural stained glass. We now have nearly 200 members in many states and more than a dozen countries. If you would like to join this discussion network, you can subscribe through our web site or contact Betty MacDowell at macdowe3@msu.edu.

The J. William Gorski Polish Genealogy and Historical Collection at the Library of Michigan is an extensive collection of historical, genealogical and visual materials that document the Polish communities of our state. It was assembled during many years of travel and research by Bill Gorski, who has donated his collection to the Library of Michigan, where it will now be available for other researchers. After retiring from General Motors as a master model maker in 1987, Bill was able to devote more time to his research project. He has received several awards for his contributions to the history of Poles in Michigan and was honored again on October 16 during Genealogy Appreciation Days at the Library of Michigan.

Much of the J. William Gorski Collection records the history and architecture of Polish churches throughout the state. Several years ago Bill graciously permitted the Michigan Stained Glass Census to duplicate his many slides of stained glass windows in those churches. We are grateful to Bill for helping to build a substantial portion of our slide library and congratulate him on receiving this latest recognition.

TOMMASO JUGLARIS: A CAPITOL ARTIST, an exhibit of the work of Italian artist Tommaso Juglaris (1844-1925), opened at the Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing, Michigan, on October 12. As discussed in the July newsletter, much of this exhibit is on loan from Famija Moncalereisa, a cultural heritage organization in Moncalieri, Italy, the birthplace of Juglaris. It was largely due to the curiosity and efforts of the Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Drutchas, former chaplain of the Goddard Chapel at Tufts University in Boston, that this exhibition came into being. While at Tufts University, Dr. Drutchas researched the chapel windows and found that Juglaris was the designer. He learned too that Juglaris had painted murals for the Michigan Capitol. In 1992 Dr. Drutchas, who is now the pastor of St. Paul United Church of Christ in Taylor, Michigan, visited the Capitol and asked to see the Juglaris paintings. Prior to that time, the murals in the dome had been attributed to another artist. Further research by Dr. Drutchas and Capitol historian Kerry Chartkoff identified the stylized signature used by Juglaris and confirmed that the dome murals were indeed his work.

The exhibit presents 50 paintings and drawings, including preliminary sketches for stained glass windows, a large transparency of one of the windows and photos of stained glass work. Juglaris is known to have done designing for the firm of Donald McDonald. Now that his unique signature is known, windows previously attributed to McDonald should be re-examined. The exhibit catalogue is filled with Juglaris' sketches and paintings, with two pages devoted to his stained glass. It can be purchased for \$32.95 from the Michigan Historical Museum bookstore.

Special events related to the Juglaris exhibit will be held on Saturday, November 6, at the Michigan Historical Museum. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. George Ayars of Delphi Stained Glass will be demonstrating how to work with stained glass. At 11 a.m. Barbara Krueger of the Michigan Stained Glass Census will present a slide talk to discuss some of the specific techniques found in Juglaris' stained glass work. For more about Tommaso Juglaris, see http://mich.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-18835_18896-101833--,00.html

The Michigan Historical Museum is located inside the Michigan Library and Historical Center at 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing. The Juglaris exhibit will run through January 9, 2005.

OTHER MICHIGAN STAINED GLASS NEWS

Four stained glass panels that once were part of the first St. John's Lutheran Church building in Grand Haven are now back home. The original church was built in 1867 and razed in the early 1970s. The windows were stored in a Grand Haven barn, where in 1973 they were discovered by Grand Haven native Jim Bultema and his wife Carole, antique dealers in Thousand

Oaks, CA, during their annual antiques shopping trip to Michigan. The Bultemas purchased the windows and displayed them for several years in their California home. Recently Jim Bultema offered the windows on eBay, where they were seen by Mary Mihovich, a reference librarian at the Loutit District Library in Michigan. Mary alerted the church, pastor Philip Baerwolf contacted the Bultemas, church members David and Diane Zoch of Ferrysburg, MI, offered to buy the windows for the church, and Jim and Carole Bultema drove to Michigan to personally deliver them to the present-day St. John's Lutheran Church. The windows will be restored and then displayed in time for next year's 140th anniversary of the church, which was organized in 1865.

Congratulations to First Presbyterian Church of Howell on the completion of its stained glass window restoration project. The newly restored windows will be rededicated in a special service on Sunday, December 5, 2004 at 5 p.m.

OTHER STAINED GLASS NEWS

The current presidential election reminds us of presidential portraiture in stained glass. Several windows have featured the likenesses of our best-known presidents, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. The George Washington Memorial Window, a portrait of Washington on horseback, was made by Maria Herndl (1860-1912) in 1901. It is located in the Senate dining room at the U. S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. Herndl also created the skylights in the Senate Press Gallery of the Capitol. http://www.senate.gov/artandhistory/art/artifact/Other_42_00001.htm (Click on the window to see a larger image)

A stained glass portrait of Washington at prayer is in the Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. http://www.jim-frizzell.com/valley_forge_chapel.htm
<http://philadelphia.about.com/library/gallery/blvalleyforge27.htm>

In Michigan, Washington and Lincoln are represented in adjacent windows at Little Rock Missionary Baptist Church in Detroit. <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/feb01.html>
Two windows at First Congregational Church in Ann Arbor include portraits of Lincoln and flag maker Betsy Ross. <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/jul03.html>
Washington at prayer is seen also in the Thanksgiving Window at the Brueckner Museum in Albion. <http://museum.msu.edu/museum/msgc/nov98.html>. We would like to hear from you about other presidential portrait windows.

THE STAINED GLASS BOOKSHELF

The British Society of Master Glass Painters has announced that a special issue of its annual Journal will present "the first account of Sir John Soane's collection of stained glass." Soane's life (1753-1837) was devoted to the arts and architecture and his home in London has been preserved as Sir John Soane's Museum. See <http://www.soane.org/index.html>

According to the Museum web site, "Soane's collection of stained glass was bought at auction and includes 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th century glass from The Netherlands, France and Germany. It represents an important group of small-scale roundels and panels of the type found in monasteries and convents - much of which was destroyed in Europe during the 18th century. Soane commented that most had come from monasteries destroyed during the French Revolution." Many of Soane's extensive collections are now being catalogued for the first time. Eventually there will be a catalogue of the entire collection of stained glass.

Contributors to the Special Issue of the BSMGP Journal are Helen Corey, deputy director of Sir John Soane's Museum; Dr. Michael Peover, Librarian for the British Society of Master Glass Painters; and Martin Harrison, author, curator, designer and art historian.

There is a pre-publication price for orders received by November 15. Society members will have received the information, but for non-members in the U.S. the price will be 23L, which includes postage. For payment in currency other than pounds sterling, add another 5L equivalent per order. Send bank drafts made payable to BSMGP to: Chris Wyard, Secretary, British Society of Master Glass Painters, PO Box 15, Minehead, Somerset, UK. TA24, 8ZX

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Please send comments, questions and suggestions to stainedglass@museum.msu.edu.
