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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

6/11/81

Greg -

Just because it is Mr. Dart,  
I wanted to let you know that  
I did call.

Mr. Dart's secretary told me  
that both Mr. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
Heyler and Mr. Dart were in  
a Board meeting at the time,  
but that she would ask Mr.  
Heyler to call me back.

As of this morning, he has  
not done so.

Also, there is reference in  
the call to you that Mr. Dart  
has written the President (there  
is no record of that in Files)  
and you will recall our regret  
on the Bohemian Grove was to  
another man in California.

Mary

*file w/ Bohemian Grove material no action further*

MEMORANDUM  
OF CALL

TO:

*Greg*

YOU WERE CALLED BY—  YOU WERE VISITED BY—

Bill Heyler for Justin Dart

OF (Organization) HEYLER SAID CALL HIM OR DART.

PLEASE CALL → PHONE NO. (213) 658-2102  FTS  
CODE/EXT.

WILL CALL AGAIN  IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL  WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

Re. July schedule at the Bohemian  
Grove. 3 weekends, July 10, 17,  
and 24. Dart wrote Pres. directly.  
They don't know if it's possible  
for Pres. to come, whether security  
will allow it. Is it a possibility  
or no chance at all?

*regretted last week*

RECEIVED BY *Cristy* DATE *6/9* TIME *Noon*

63-109

STANDARD FORM 63 (Rev. 8-76)  
Prescribed by GSA  
FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

U.S. G.P.O. 1980-311-156/16

*\* msk called - ma. H. med not in - left word to call her*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 30, 1981

Dear Dennis:

Martin Anderson has told me of your kind invitation and arrangements for the Bohemian Grove this summer. I am planning to be there ~~if~~ the President's schedule permits. I will keep Marty posted.

Again, thanks for thinking of me.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL K. DEEVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

Mr. Dennis Bark  
~~Hoover Institution~~  
Stanford, CA 94305

27 May 1981

Dear Bill:

Thank you for your letter of 3 April 1981. I apologize for the delay in responding. The PATA materials were much appreciated, and I will retain the NBC White Paper in my file of articles about our first 100 Days.

Regarding the Bohemian Grove, my schedule is still extremely tight and does not appear to be letting up. However, if conditions change, I will be sure to let you know.

With my gratitude for your kind words about the President's recovery and my best wishes,

Sincerely,

EDWIN MEESE III  
Counsellor to the President

Mr. L. W. Lane, Jr.  
Chairman of the Board  
Lane Publishing Company  
Willow & Middlefield Roads  
Menlo Park, CA 94025

EM:ES:rs(III-B-1)  
cc to Meese with enclosures ✓

PACIFIC AREA TRAVEL ASSOCIATION

Enclosures filed in 1339  
Oversize Attachments # 1/20/72 608

6 August 1981

Dear Bo:

The time at the Bohemian Grove was well spent. It was definitely relaxing and a chance to do a little bit of "politicking" for the Administration. The perfect combination, don't you agree?

Your kind words about our efforts are much appreciated, and we certainly will remember the Colorado Republicans are standing in our corner.

With best personal regards,

Sincerely,

EDWIN MEESE III  
Counsellor to the President

The Honorable Howard H. Callaway  
State Chairman  
Colorado Republicans  
1275 Tremont Place  
Denver, CO 80204

EM:ES:rs (Pers-27) ✓  
cc to Meese  
cc w/copy of incoming to Lyn Nofziger

6 August 1981

Dear Admiral Burkhalter:

Thank you for your letter dated 28 August 1981. I appreciate your kind words about my visit to the Bohemian Grove. A trip to the Grove is always enjoyable, and I know the good company and surroundings helped to make my talk the success that I have heard it was.

Please be assured that your kind offer of assistance has been noted, and we will definitely call upon DIA if the need occurs.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

EDWIN MEESE III  
Counsellor to the President

Rear Admiral E. A. Burkhalter, Jr., USN  
Chief of Staff  
Defense Intelligence Agency  
DIA/CS  
Washington, D.C. 20301

EM:ES:rs (Pers-24)  
cc to Meese

*not  
mm*

2 NOV 1981  
Central files

LAW OFFICES OF  
CULLINAN, BROWN & HELMER  
ELEVENTH FLOOR  
100 BUSH STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94104  
(415) 956-5000 CABLE "CULBUR"  
TELEX 34-231

*regretted by  
phone 12/1/81  
Gou*

October 28, 1981

Mr. Edwin Meese III  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ed:

I note that you are going to be a speaker for the Junior Statesmen Foundation dinner on December 11 in San Francisco.

If you have no other arrangements, I would be pleased to arrange a room at the Bohemian Club for that night or the night before, if you wish it.

Please have your secretary let me know whether you would wish this.

Cordially,

*Vin*

Vincent Cullinan

VC:cm

P.S. Thursday the 10<sup>th</sup> is an evening when they put on a show - maybe you could come early enough for that (dinner @ 7<sup>pm</sup>)

*called  
11/20/81 -  
EM*



HILLSDALE COLLEGE

HILLSDALE, MICHIGAN 49242

GEORGE C. ROCHE III

①  
fill  
May 12, 1982

b  
The Honorable Ronald W. Reagan  
President of the United States  
of America  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Reagan:

Just received the good news of my election to membership in the Bohemian Club. Thank you for helping to make that possible.

I hope to see you at the Grove this summer.

All my best,

George

CS

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 2, 1982

Dear Dennis:

Thanks for the invitation to be a guest at the ~~Bohemian Grove~~ in July. I am tentatively scheduling it on my calender and hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL K. DEEVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

Mr. Dennis L. Bark  
Deputy Director  
Hoover Institution  
~~on War, Revolution and Peace~~  
Stanford, CA 94305

June 27, 1983

Dear Mr. Dailey:

On behalf of the President, I wish to thank you for your letter inviting the President's participation at the Bohemian Grove Retreat.

Although the President does appreciate your interest in writing, regrettably, it will not be possible for him to attend.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR.  
Director, Presidential  
Appointments and Scheduling

Mr. Jon P. Dailey

President

Bohemian Grove Relations Committee

824 B Street  
Petaluma, CA 94952

FJR:JL:dp--

June 26, 1981

Dear Bill:

Thank you for your recent letter.

I appreciate your interest in assisting me in my application for membership in ~~The Bohemian Grove~~. You were kind to write a letter on my behalf. I am looking forward to my trip on July 17 and am sorry that you will not be out there at that time.

Once again, my sincere thanks for your much-appreciated interest and support. Hurriedly, but with best regards.

Sincerely,

James A. Baker, III  
Chief of Staff and  
Assistant to the President

X  
Mr. William M. Spencer  
1430 Lake Shore Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60610

SPENCER, W.M.

WILLIAM M. SPENCER  
1430 LAKE SHORE DRIVE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

2-10-85

Jim Baker - Dear Jim,

I am sure you are already  
practically a non-resident member  
of the Bohemian Grove - and Club -  
I have written the Club in your  
behalf, and apparently Bill Drafer  
has been working on it so well.  
His camp is "Hill Billy" - one of the  
best. Mine is "Land of Happiness" -  
you and George got the feel of it  
last year when you practically broke  
into it!

If there is any hitch at all,  
let me know pronto.

Frankly, I am not planning  
to be among those present this  
year, for the first time in 25- or 30  
years. I have 3 grand children  
getting married - and other  
complications.

But keep me posted, Jim. If you run into complications, let me know, and I'll start pulling some wires. If you are not a full fledged member, I'll get you in as a guest or Bill Draper will or Bill Jr.

My son, Bill Jr., is Captain of one of the camps and he will be glad to bed you down. Camp named "Parsonage" (Right next to the Band Camp) and he will help you if you have problems. Box 2999, Ross, Cal. 94957

So please keep me posted.  
I am yours to command at all times.

Sincerely,

Bill Spencer

And don't forget that your father was one of my closest friends — 3 years at Hill School and 4 years at Princeton

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
July 22, 1985

Kathy:

The enclosed correspondence came to our office from the Bohemian Club, and Elaine suggested that I send it to you.

Thank you.

  
Louise Bell

*Central Files*

~~Enclosure filed in  
Executive Attachments # 11109~~

*OA transferred to Backs*



## **BOHEMIANS:**

*"Hearken to the words of wisdom and give heed to the sayings of your venerable Sire.*

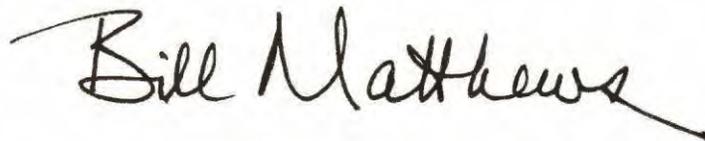
*The calendar of time registers the return of another Bohemian Jubilee, and, in accordance with the revered custom handed down to us through a long line of illustrious ancestors, the event of all events, the crowning glory of Bohemian life, the*

### MIDSUMMER HIGH JINKS

*will be duly and grandly celebrated amid the tall trees during the month of July.*

*We will gather at the River, under the spreading branches of the giants of the forest, as they bow their stately heads, in recognition of the giant intellects assembled at their base."*

*So spoke George T. Bromley, Sire of the Grove Encampment in 1882. Now, 103 years later, it is my privilege and great pleasure to welcome you once again to our beloved Grove for the 1985 Encampment.*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Matthews". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping tail on the letter "s".

WILLIAM C. MATTHEWS  
President

# BOHEMIAN GROVE 1985

## PROGRAM OF SPECIAL EVENTS

<b>CAMP OPENING CEREMONY</b>	Terence Coonan, Sire	Friday July 12 6:30 p.m. Owl Shrine
<b>THE CREMATION OF CARE</b>	The 106th Consecutive Performance Directed by Peter R. Arnott Assistant Director, Paul J. Gebo Conducted by Earl Bernard Murray	Saturday July 13 9:15 p.m. Lakeside
<b>ORCHESTRA CONCERT</b>	Bohemian Club Symphony Orchestra Conducted by Earl Bernard Murray and James K. Guthrie William C. Matthews, Sire	Thursday July 18 9:15 pm. Lakeside
<b>BAND CONCERT</b>	Bohemian Club Band Conducted by Dwight LaRue Hall Walter Cronkite, Sire	Saturday July 20 12:00 p.m. Lakeside
<b>THE LOW JINKS</b>	"I, Gluteus" Book by John D. McEndy Music by Donald L. Haas Directed by Richard A. Sands Conducted by Donald L. Haas	Saturday July 20 9:15 p.m. Field Circle
<b>THE JINKS BAND</b>	"Salute To Swing" Bohemian Club Jinks Band Conducted by John Coppola Kenneth Horrall, Sire	Thursday July 25 9:15 p.m. Field Circle
<b>THE GROVE PLAY</b>	"Solferino" Book by George S. Prugh and Robert B. England Music by Parmer Fuller Directed by Robert B. England Conducted by Parmer Fuller	Friday July 26 9:15 p.m. Grove Stage

A complete calendar of all Summer  
Encampment Events and Activities  
will be mailed to members and  
guests in Mid-June

Announcement Designed by Bruce W. Butte

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Number 47



Summer 1985

# BOHEMIAN CLUB LIBRARY NOTES

PUBLISHED FROM TIME TO TIME TO KEEP MEMBERS INFORMED OF THE ACTIVITIES  
OF THEIR LIBRARY AND TO ENCOURAGE THEIR USE OF ITS FACILITIES

*Solferino & the Origins of the Red Cross*

## THE BACKGROUND OF A GROVE PLAY

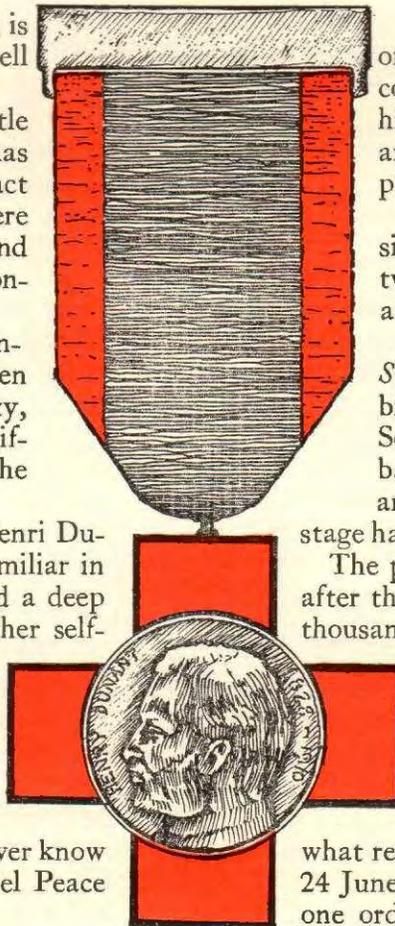
BY GEORGE S. PRUGH

SOLFERINO, the Grove play for 1985, is only a fragment of the story, one not well known to American audiences.

The play takes its name from a little village in northern Italy. The place has none of the characteristics that attract vigorous and venturesome tourists. There are no restful spas, nearby lakes, grand hotels, remarkable chefs, or even concocters of truly dry martinis.

The Solferino of the nineteenth century, which our play recreates, was then and remains today an obscure, dusty, sleepy collection of humble buildings difficult to find on a map and well off the beaten track.

The major character of the play, Henri Dunant (1828-1910), is not generally familiar in the United States. He apparently had a deep passion for anonymity, like many other self-respecting Swiss bankers. Very few associate Dunant's name with the founding of the great humanitarian organization, the International Committee of the Red Cross, or the writing of the Geneva Conventions for the Protection of Victims of War. Even fewer know he was the recipient of the first Nobel Peace Prize.



The significance of our hero's actions on the Grove stage are almost carefully concealed from the audience. Clues and hints which might reveal that significance are not generously distributed during the play.

To all of this must be added the considerable dramatic license which has twisted one or two historical facts for artistic convenience.

As do so many admired Grove plays, *Solferino* has a factual military donnybrook in its background. The battle of Solferino was one of the world's cruelest battles. That alone might in itself justify another Grove fireworks. The great Grove stage has borne a fair share of military carnage.

The peace treaty signed a bare three weeks after the terrible bloodletting made the forty-thousand-man casualty list one of the most appalling wastes in history. Such a callous destruction of human life might also justify application of the musical, acting, and other artistic talents required to produce a Grove performance. Most significant, however, and what really caught the eye about this event of 24 June 1859, was that the mind and spirit of one ordinary man, while surrounded by the

CONTENTS: Page 1: George S. Prugh, *Solferino & the Origins of the Red Cross—The Background of a Grove Play*—Page 5: Jim Stockdale, *Prisoners of War & the Legacy of Henri Dunant of Solferino*—Page 8: Alfred W. Baxter & Ion MacKinley, *Maybeck's Bohemian Clubhouse*—Page 15: Richard P. Buck & Forrest J. Baird, *Domenico Brescia: Bohemian from Bologna*.

overwhelming horror of the battlefield, was sufficiently stirred to arouse him to action, to make a difference in the face of the terrible cataclysm of war, a very real and substantial difference, beneficial to vast numbers of men and women ever since.

#### DUNANT'S DESTINY

Dunant's vision of the impact of combat on the victims of war, seen by him amidst the smoke and stench of the battle of Solferino, was the only positive result of the slaughter of that day.

Dunant's resolve, which we seek to capture on the stage, merely suggests and does not show the events directly flowing from it—the origin of a worldwide movement to ameliorate the suffering of war's victims.

Dunant himself seems a particularly unlikely candidate for the role destiny cast for him. Barely thirty-one at the time of the battle, already a successful businessman, lacking any familiarity with or interest in soldiering, he accidentally found himself an unwitting observer when over 300,000 men faced each other in battle, the massed armies of France and Piedmont-Sardinia colliding with the retreating troops of the Austro-Hungarian empire.

After the battle, Dunant recorded his impressions, observations, and thoughts in a small pamphlet, entitled, *A Memory of Solferino*, published in Geneva in 1862. It was this pamphlet, appearing after our own Civil War had begun, that swept across Europe and the Atlantic, eventually reaching many influential people and touching the hearts of millions. The vivid power of Dunant's words, describing the violence and brutality of combat, shocked his readers. The absence of means, or even of plans, to treat the sick, wounded or captured soldiers cried out for a remedy. If war cannot be prevented, then at least its victims can be assisted. By perceptively noting that one could be both patriotic and humane at the same time, that the concern he was expressing was aimed non-politically for those disabled from further combat, Dunant attracted people across a broad spectrum of political diversity. He accepted the institution of war; it was the aftermath that challenged him.

His timing was propitious. Europe was, if only temporarily, repelled by the hemorrhages resulting from outdated military formations and maneuvers torn apart by modern weaponry. Our own Antietam, occurring at the time of Dunant's publication, would underscore the necessity for change in the face of the new destructive power of artillery and rifles.

Dunant's small pamphlet kindled the spark necessary to ignite men and governments to action.

Solferino is a tiny dot in Lombardy, Italy. If one drew a line connecting the ancient cities of Verona, Mantua, Cremona, and Brescia, a rough rectangle would be formed. If diagonal lines were drawn from the

corners of that rectangle they would meet near the small town of Guidizzolo. Solferino lies about seven kilometers due north of that point, not quite half way to the southern tip of Lake Garda.

No autostrada runs near Solferino. It almost perfectly fits the adage, "You can't get there from here." Almost, but not quite. There is a narrow road that runs on the diagonal from Mantua to Brescia. Driving along this, one is struck by the flat, bare country and the unprosperous-looking farms. Then, off the northeast, a ridgeline gradually comes into view. Thus, in the midst of a great plain there is a hilly area, arising as if pushed up over time by the massive pressures of Lake Garda. Resting on a prominent part of that ridge is Solferino. To its west some nine miles the Chiese river works its way southward to join the Po, while to its east about seven miles the Mincio parallels the Chiese.

The terrain around Solferino immediately suggests its strategic importance. The main avenue from Austria and Germany, going south to Italy over the Brenner Pass in the Alps, leads toward it, protected for a long stretch on one flank by Lake Garda. For the Austro-Hungarian empire in the nineteenth century it was essential that the pivotal area just south of Lake Garda be held at all costs. The hills in which Solferino sits are ideal to defend, affording relatively high ground from which to see hostile forces advancing east from France and Piedmont on to the plains of Lombardy. The two parallel rivers, Chiese and Mincio, add defensive strength to the Solferino ridgeline. Mother Nature dealt the villagers of Solferino, and their neighbors in nearby Castiglione and Guidizzolo, a special place, right in the path of many wars. Four major battles were fought in and around these villages in the brief span of a century and a half. It is to the last, and bloodiest, of these that our 1985 Grove play looks.

#### THE BATTLE

The battle was a consequence of the agreement in late 1858 of France to come to the aid of Piedmont-Sardinia in the event of war with Austria. Emperor Napoleon III of France, never one to miss a trick, saw his opportunity to obtain for France the areas of Nice and Savoy, while simultaneously striking a blow against the young Emperor Franz Joseph and the Austrians controlling northern Italy. The Italians had been struggling since 1848 to obtain independence from the Austrians, but without much success. Italian initiative centered around young Victor Emmanuel, King of Piedmont and Sardinia, and Count Cavour and Garibaldi. War commenced in early 1859, when Napoleon III rather unexpectedly opened hostilities against the Austrians in Piedmont. In late May of that year about 200,000 Austrian soldiers, from substan-

tially every part of that Empire, met about an equal number of French and Italians at Magenta, not far from Milan. The battle of Magenta, fought on 5 June 1859, was a disaster for the Austrians, who thereafter fell back to the east, leaving Milan to French and Italian seizure. The Austrians continued to retreat, uncovering Brescia and crossing both the Chiese and the Mincio. The allies followed leisurely, stopping at the Chiese on 23 June. It was apparently at this moment that Napoleon III decided to retract his promise to free Italy from the Alps to the Adriatic. He told Victor Emmanuel that he intended to halt his troops just short of the Mincio. He was not aware that the Austrians had, that same night, re-crossed the Mincio and taken positions along the Solferino ridge. The

#### AN EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT

This is how Dunant described the battle: "With the wildest enthusiasm, the French troops flung themselves up the mounds and scrambled up the steeper hills and rocky slopes, under Austrian fire, shell-bursts and grape-shot. A few detachments of picked troops had hardly gained the summit of a hillock then, exhausted and pouring with sweat, they fell on the Austrians in an avalanche, smashing them, driving them from another position, hurling them back and pursuing them to the very bottoms of ravines and ditches. The Guards fought with the highest courage, and the light infantry, riflemen, and troops of the line vied with them in valour and daring. The French Zouaves



THE BATTLE OF SOLFERINO (1859)

allies advanced cautiously, crossed the Chiese, and set the stage for the battle the next morning.

Franz Joseph had about 160,000 men available, opposing 106,000 French and 44,000 Italians. The armies each moved forward, not yet expecting a battle to develop, when the collision occurred. Both sides fought with extraordinary bitterness and desperation, each taking enormous losses. By mid-afternoon the French had seized the heights of Solferino and the village.

swooped down with fixed bayonets, leaping like wild beats and shrieking furiously. The French cavalry fell on the Austrian cavalry; Uhlans and Hussars stabbed and tore at one another; even the horses, maddened by the ferocity of the struggle, joined in the fray, hurling themselves on the enemy horses and biting them frenziedly while their riders sabred, slashed and sliced at one another. The fury ran so high that in some places, when the ammunition was exhausted and the musket-

rifles had been broken, the men tore into one another with stones or with their bare hands. The Croats massacred every man they met; they killed off the allied wounded with the butts of their rifles, while the Algerian infantry, ignoring their leaders' efforts to restrain their savagery, finished off the wretched dying Austrians, officers and men alike, then hurled themselves on the enemy ranks with bestial roars and fearful shrieks. The strongest positions were taken, lost, retaken, lost again and again recaptured. Everywhere men fell in thousands, mutilated, disemboweled, riddled with bullets, or mortally wounded by missiles of every description."

Finally, Franz Joseph accepted defeat and withdrew his battered Army back across the Mincio. Each exhausted, neither side sought to renew the fight.

Within a few days a peace was concluded at the Lombard city of Villafranca. The French withdrew from Italy, gaining the provinces of Nice and Savoy, the Austrians withdrew from Lombardy, and the Italians were left with their goal of a united Italy unfulfilled. Thus was squandered the blood of Solferino.

#### THE HERO

Henri Dunant actually arrived at Castiglione on the evening of 24 June, rather than at Solferino the night before the battle as we portray him. With considerable nerve and not much of a sense of appropriateness, he was trying to meet with Napoleon III to induce him to support a commercial venture in Algeria. Dunant failed to see the Emperor but he did, at first hand, see the fresh destruction, human and otherwise, resulting from the battle. It was the greatest shock of his life. He remained in and around the battlefield for several days, trying to persuade various people to join with him in providing some relief to the masses of wounded, largely untended.

Returning home, Dunant was haunted by Solferino. Finally, he determined to write a book, designed to "stir the conscience of the so-called civilized world." In it, Dunant made two key proposals. He called upon nations to establish, in time of peace, permanent societies of volunteer medical workers, and he urged creation of an international convention which would constitute a basis for relief of the wounded.

The book profoundly moved its readers. Within three months a commission of five Swiss, with Dunant as secretary, proposed formation of the volunteer organization and the convening of the international conference. The Commission of Five marks the origin of the International Committee of the Red Cross, which now has over 90 national societies in league with it and national memberships exceeding 230 million people.

Dunant's second goal was similarly an early target for action. In August 1864 a Diplomatic Conference

was called by the Swiss government. Sixteen nations attended and adopted, in ten articles, the first Geneva Convention for the amelioration of the condition of wounded in armies in the field. This convention provided for the "neutrality" of ambulances, hospitals, and medical staff, protection of the wounded and those providing care and shelter without regard to the nationality of the victims, and the adoption of the protective and identifying flag and armband, the red cross on a white field.

#### DUNANT'S DECLINE

Soon after these successes, however, Dunant suffered serious business and financial reverses. When the private bank, Credit Genevois, went into bankruptcy, Dunant was ruined. He was forced to resign from the Geneva committee he had formed, and he left Geneva, never to return. For the next few years, Dunant was a tragic figure, generally ignored and isolated. In the brief period since the battle and until his bankruptcy he had achieved his mark, but he now plunged into despair. He became little more than "a vagabond, sleeping in attics and even in parks, suffering from cold and hunger, and ending up, sick and poverty-stricken, in a small clinic in the village of Heiden," near Lake Constance. He was to live in the Heiden hospital for the remainder of his life. While there, almost totally forgotten, he was "re-discovered" in 1895 by a newspaper reporter who wrote an article directing new attention upon Dunant, then 67 years old. As a result of this publicity, Dunant's good reputation was revived, and in 1901 he was honored by the First Nobel Peace Prize, which he shared with the French writer, Frederic Passy. Dunant died at Heiden on 30 October 1910. His ashes are in an unknown spot in the main cemetery at Zurich.

#### THE RED CROSS TODAY

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is today a neutral mediator, seeking to carry out its work worldwide, mainly in times of armed conflict, internal strife, and other man-made disasters. Its first mission is to protect and help prisoners of war and wounded personnel, civilian internees, persons in occupied territories, and political detainees. Among its activities it operates a medical division of "flying doctors," a relief division, a radiotelecommunications center, and a central tracing agency. Probably most significant is its work as the prime mover in development of the law of war as it relates to the victims. This is now largely found in the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the two up-dating Protocols of 1977.

That the Geneva Conventions have saved thousands of lives is beyond question. That these principled undertakings are sometimes, even often, ignored and violated, as Admiral Jim Stockdale has so vividly de-

scribed, is a sad commentary that underscores the nature of the obstacles that Henri Dunant faced at the time of Solferino. They likewise measure the magnitude of his vision and ultimate accomplishments. Viewed from the perspective of today, Dunant's work seems quite unoriginal, but this is primarily because we take it for granted. Possibly the best gauge of the value of Dunant's work would be to visualize the modern world without the agencies he began with that first step on the bloody hills of Solferino. Dunant was one man who did make a difference.



## PRISONERS OF WAR



### *The Legacy of Henri Dunant of Solferino*

BY JIM STOCKDALE

A KEY EXCHANGE in the 1985 Grove Play, *Solferino*, between its hero, 31-year-old non-combatant Swiss Banker Henri Dunant, and Major Kranatz, combat leader of the Austrian forces, goes like this:

*Dunant:* Is there no room for humanity in war?

*Kranatz:* The only rule of war is to defeat the enemy before he defeats you.

*Dunant:* When I said the killing of the hostages was not my affair, I was wrong. Such killing bloodies the hands of all humanity.

*Kranatz:* (With a short laugh) You're a dreamer, Dunant. Be realistic!

From today's vantage point, 126 years later, I think one could say that they were both right. Man's inhumanity to man is a proper concern for us all; but human nature changes, if at all, with geological leisureliness. The best first guess as to what to expect of nations is that they will act in what they perceive to be their own best interests—Geneva Conventions or no Geneva Conventions.

Although conventional wisdom has it that if men have enough meetings and sign enough conventions, their better natures will cause them to chase ever-more humanitarian goals, the recent history of prisoner-of-war modalities shows the conventions, the commonly accepted practices, chasing the "realistic" side of human nature. A case can be made for the prison camps in the "old fashioned" wars of the late 19th and early 20th centuries being more serene and humanitarian places

of keep than those of more recent times. General Mark Clark, Commander of United Nations Forces in Korea, had this to say after the 1952 Kojé mutiny of North Korean prisoners of war in American custody: "... My experience had been with old-fashioned wars in which prisoners were people to be fed, housed, clothed, and guarded, nothing more. Never had I experienced a situation in which prisoners remained combatants and carried out orders smuggled to them from the enemy high command."<sup>1</sup>

#### CODE OF CONDUCT

Two years later, President Eisenhower signed his Executive Order 10631, *Code of Conduct for Members of the Armed Forces of the United States*, which placed all future American prisoners of war in a continuing combat status behind prison walls: *Article 3:* If I am captured I will continue to resist by all means available. I will make every effort to escape and aid others to escape. I will accept neither parole nor special favors from the enemy. *Article 4:* ... If I am senior, I will take command. If not, I will obey the lawful orders of those appointed over me and will back them up in every way.

A century before, the granting and acceptance of parole was commonplace for POW's. And according to Michael Walzer,<sup>2</sup> Harvard and Institute for Advanced Study political scientist, Henri Dunant's legacy of Geneva Conventions Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, outlaw prisoner of war physical resistance.

Thus on the POW issue at least, it may be said that the pendulum of Henri Dunant's "humanity in war" is swinging backward. But as an eight-year inmate of a modern POW political prison, I say that Eisenhower was dead right in instituting his Code of Conduct when he did. Perhaps ahead of his time, and no doubt ahead of International Law, putting our forces in the posture of "continuing the war behind prison walls" conforms to the requirements of this modern age. If we in that Hanoi Prison had gone in mentally prepared to enjoy the "benevolent quarantine" of the latest Geneva Convention (of 1949), rather than ready to tell our captors to go to hell when parole was offered, maintaining our chain of command, and physically resisting their extortionist thrusts, we would likely have been manipulated into making North Vietnam propaganda broadcasts, intimidated into disloyalty to one another, and have come home stripped of all dignity, pride and self-respect, fit only for a psycho ward. It is well to face the realities of modern POW life, even as an unabashed detractor of our Code of Conduct, Michael Walzer, correctly states them: "The prisoner, so the Code of Conduct tells him, is an 'American fighting man' (Article I). He must refuse any sort of cooperation with his captors and seek continually to escape. By implication, he must also help whenever he can to organize

mass escapes, to maintain a resistance network in the camp, to harass the enemy, spy on him and sabotage his behind-the-lines operations. He must always act so as to require as many guards as possible. [This reflects], as did the actions of the North Koreans and Chinese, an extension of state sovereignty and an attempt at ideological control which amount to a denial that individuals can ever move, even partially, out of the range of political action and supervision. There simply is no space, it suggests, that might be called limbo, where quarantine is possible and a certain human passivity morally justified."<sup>3</sup>

This paper does not argue that current International Law (The Geneva Convention of 1949), is valueless, or that it's not to our advantage to make public demands that its provisions (humane treatment; prisoner's obligation for delivering factual information limited to his name, rank, serial number, and date of birth; illegality of using physical or moral force to extract data or statements; mail privileges; repatriation of sick and wounded; etc.), be met. Rather, it is that it prescribes lifestyles for both Detaining Power personnel (jailers), and prisoners, that generally ignore a prime reality of wars in modern times: that the combination of a worldwide rising of ideological fervor and the explosion and proliferation of worldwide communication capability have moved POWs out of the shadows and onto the front page. They are not passive objects about whom the main issue is their care and feeding; they are prime actors to be *used*—prospective assets for their captors, prospective liabilities (hostages) for their home countries. The prisoner needs protection, not so much from wear and tear on life and limb as in the past, as for wear and tear on his nervous system as he is constantly stalked, hounded down, and psychically violated in the extortionist snakepit in which he is trapped. The prisoners themselves, through their united underground organizations, must be their own primary protectors on this new battlefield; their war must continue day and night behind bars as they resist by guile, force, and collusion, the insidious invasions of their minds and spirits.

#### THE PREVIOUS CODE

Henri Dunant picked up the prisoner of war problem from its primitive past. Although political prisons in which the name of the game was to use or change the minds of inmates rather than to just detain or punish them are as old as the hills (Miguel de Cervantes, 16th-century Spanish novelist describes his seven-year internment in an Algerian political prison in a way that sounds "just like home" to an old Hanoi prisoner), the more common fate of ordinary soldiers was a simple, stark physical ordeal (being taken into slavery, impressed into the ranks of the enemy army, etc.). By the 17th and 18th centuries, however, officers, "gentle-

men" that they were, were commonly offered parole to their homes on the grounds that they not re-enter the war; they usually accepted, and we are told that their home states held them to their parole agreement.

With the coming of Henri's dream of a neutral mediator, the International Committee of the Red Cross, together with its conventions for the amelioration of the inhumanities of war, a series of agreements was struck among nation states that in increasingly detailed fashion prescribed a style of POW life that matched the 19th-century ideal of "benevolent quarantine"—sitting out the war without worries of allegiances. In his *Institutes of the Law of Nations* (London, 1884, page 72), James Lorimer, International Law theorist, described both a legal and moral concept of the status of prisoners of war: "citizens of the world"; "... they belong to humanity and themselves."

Although our current International Law reference (the Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949) comes off this "passive prisoner" concept to some extent (e.g. making escape attempts a quasi-right of prisoners by delineating greatly reduced authorized punishments and excluding the attempt itself from aggravating circumstance status when crimes are committed in the attempt; disavowing the guarantee of parole agreements of prisoners from an ever-growing number of nations who forbid their servicemen to accept them), it still portrays a kind of prisoner/Detaining Power relationship in which the former becomes a kind of restricted-privilege member of the army of the latter. This gives the document a kind of never-never land ring to one who has recently served POW time.

For instance, the 1949 convention presumes the international establishment of a Protecting Power which acts as a mediator nation, so far as prisoners are concerned, between the warring powers. It also presumes the existence of an international administrative clearing house for tons of Pentagon-like paper shufflings: it handles (in conformance with seven full articles of the convention) what amounts to a regular banking service for POW's, who are paid for their work, can make or change powers of attorney and wills, and practically lead an active business life while locked up. It also handles the processing and transmission of such documents as certifications of injuries suffered in prison work that may be used after release as evidence for compensation demands against one's home government. The convention declares that prisoners may not be prevented from presenting themselves to prison medical authorities for examination, and there is provision through this international clearing house for the home country to receive and constantly update the health records of its citizens imprisoned overseas.

On the subject of punishment of prisoners, the convention demands that judicial punishment be restricted to offenses for which the soldiers of the Detaining

Power's army could be punished. Penalties imposed on prisoners for these offenses can be less than the "minimums" prescribed in the punishment tables for locals because of the lack of "allegiance-factor" to which the prisoners are not sworn. In trials, moral and physical coercion is outlawed, and lawyers must be furnished the defendants. For non-judicial offenses ("disciplinary" offenses), only fines, and confinements of less than 30 days (on each of which at least two hours of outdoor exercise must be provided), are authorized.

What I have described in the paragraphs above, typical of much of the 86-page convention, is so intricate in detail, so elaborate a plan for "life as usual behind bars," and so impractical in modern ideological wars, particularly involving primitive countries, as to make it easier for them to disregard it. It is philosophically out of whack for them because treating enemy captives almost like their own soldiers brings their own peasants down on them. Some countries may not go so far as the North Vietnamese to put prisoners in their place (years of solitary confinement, torture by shutting off blood circulation, breaking bones), but the model of a prison in which the "rights" of the inmates rival those of the guards will never sell outside the sophisticated countries of the west.

It is philosophically out of whack for us Americans because of the continuing thread of 19th-century "citizens of the world" idealism. This comes through as a system of elected "prisoner representatives" that our Code of Conduct does not permit. Although officers have been exempted from this every-six-month popular vote for leadership idea, our Code of Conduct's edict: "If I am senior, I will take command," applies whether the senior man is a sergeant or corporal or a captain. He alone is to maintain jurisdiction over all Americans his junior. Our chain of command prevails in spite of Detaining Power ideas to the contrary. We cannot live with elections in prison, under our Code of Conduct. This idea is central to the whole idea of protecting ourselves from debasement and manipulation in an extortion system. The assumption behind President Eisenhower's Code is that Americans will find themselves in a prison regime in which unified resistance is to our advantage. Further, that knowing this, any self-interested enemy would make every attempt to install Americans of *their* choice to best defuse our opposition, to represent "all American prisoners" to the Protecting Power. Elections would be an invitation to carrot and stick, prisoner flim-flam manipulation.

#### ARTICLE 85

Of course North Vietnam disavowed the applicability of the Geneva Convention of 1949 to our situation, but for many more predictable party-line reasons than the single consideration I mentioned above. Their stated reason was that though they ratified the Convention,

they were exercising an exception they had taken to Article 85 which guaranteed protection of the Convention to those who had "committed crimes" prior to capture. They declared all American pilots captured after flying over North Vietnam "not entitled to the protection of the humanitarian provisions of the convention" by virtue of being war criminals "in accordance with the principles laid down by the Nuremberg Court of Justice."<sup>4</sup>

And they got away with it.

Who was right? Henri Dunant or Major Kranatz? Both were right. Realists like Kranatz bear listening to; they sound the warning that our stated standards can get so far ahead of human nature as to be self-defeating. But where would we be if idealists like Henri Dunant didn't keep trying?

*Ah, but a man's reach should exceed his grasp,  
Or what's a heaven for?<sup>5</sup>*

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3. *ibid.*
4. Guenter Lewy, *America in Vietnam*, New York: Oxford University Press, 1978, page 334.
5. *Andrea del Sarto* [1885] by Robert Browning.

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# MAYBECK'S BOHEMIAN CLUBHOUSE

BY ALFRED W. BAXTER & IAN MACKINLAY

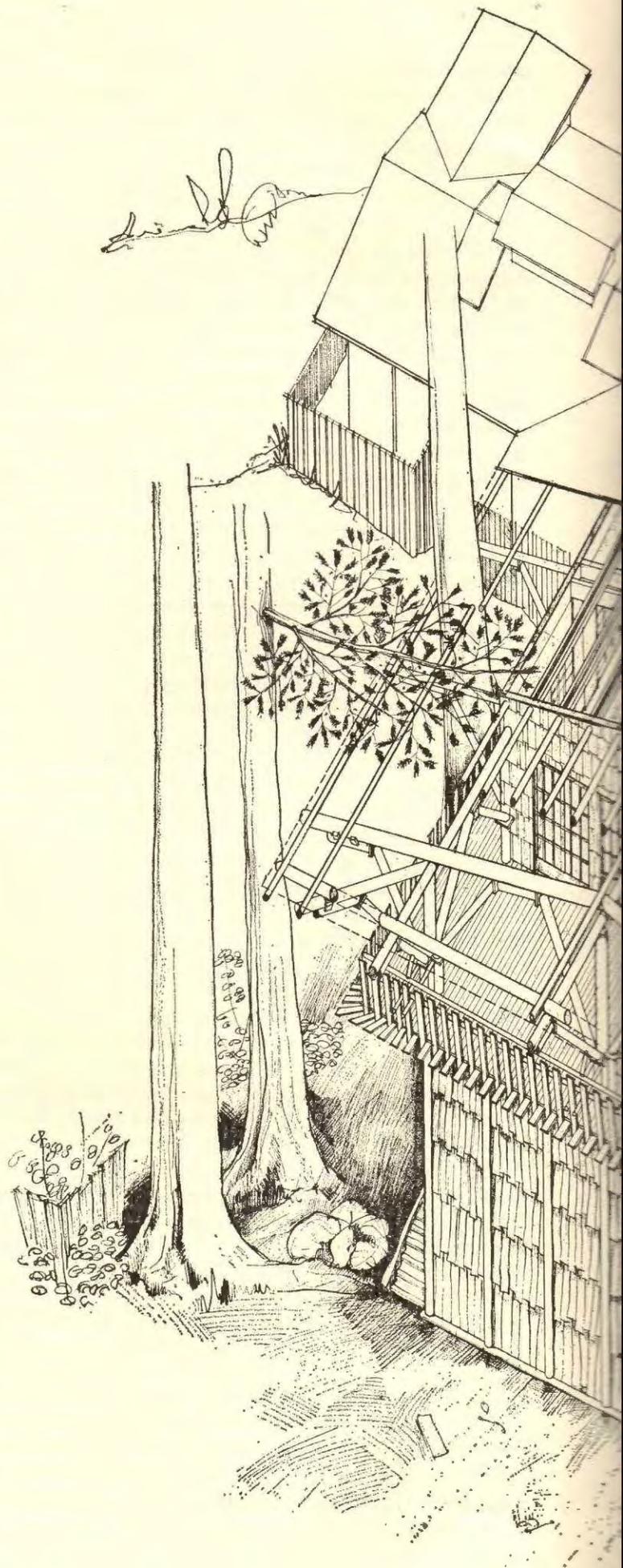
A SMALL GEM OF A CLUBHOUSE, designed by Bernard Maybeck in 1903, sits on a wooded ridge above the Russian River near Monte Rio in western Sonoma County. Maybeck's "Clubhouse" was the first permanent building to be built in what has become known as the Bohemian Grove and has served continuously as a year-round gathering place for Grove visitors. This article presents descriptions of this little-known master work based, in part, upon recently completed architectural drawings which were derived from careful measurements and scaled photographs of the structure. The historical circumstances associated with Maybeck's early career, his membership in the Bohemian Club, and his work on the Clubhouse are also discussed.

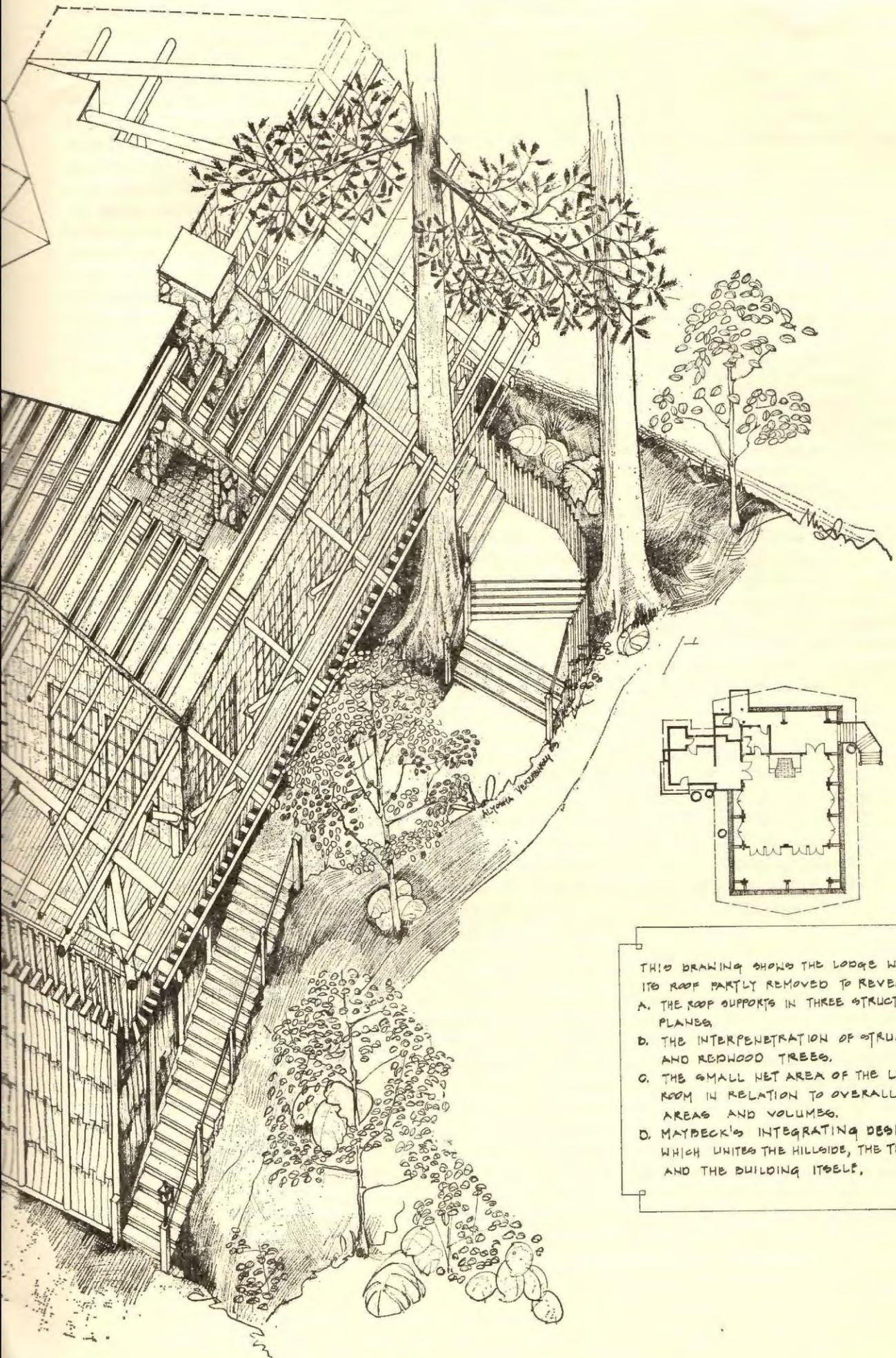
## MAYBECK'S EARLY CAREER<sup>1</sup>

Although he was a native New Yorker born in 1862 of parents who had emigrated from Germany, Bernard Maybeck gained his architectural education in the ateliers of the Beaux Arts in Paris. After five and a half years of training, Maybeck returned to New York and found his first job with the young firm of Carrere and Hastings. With his professional education and a brief apprenticeship behind him, the young architect headed west to Kansas City in 1889. He did not find employment in that depression year or in that city, but he did find Annie White, sister of a young architect named John White. Annie White's father had been to California, and he recommended a move further west to his daughter's serious friend.

Maybeck heeded this advice from his future father-in-law and, at 27, found employment in San Francisco with the firm of Wright and Saunders. His duties included work on a project for this firm in Salt Lake City. There was promise enough in San Francisco to justify Maybeck's return to Kansas City to marry Annie White and to bring her to California in November of 1890. A short-term job as a furniture and interior designer tided Maybeck over until a vacancy opened in the architectural firm of A. Page Brown which was then designing the triangular-in-plan Crocker Building on Market and Post Streets. The young designer worked his bride's initial "A" into the scroll-work and exterior decorative frieze of the Crocker building. This fine building was subsequently torn down in 1968.

In 1894 Maybeck took up a position in the Engineering School at the University of California in Berkeley. He taught perspective drawing and related topics, and served informally as the center for a circle of students





THIS DRAWING SHOWS THE LODGE WITH ITS ROOF PARTLY REMOVED TO REVEAL:

- A. THE ROOF SUPPORTS IN THREE STRUCTURAL PLANES.
- B. THE INTERPENETRATION OF STRUCTURE AND REDWOOD TREES.
- C. THE SMALL NET AREA OF THE LIVING ROOM IN RELATION TO OVERALL AREAS AND VOLUMES.
- D. MAYBECK'S INTEGRATING DESIGN WHICH UNITES THE HILLSIDE, THE TREES, AND THE BUILDING ITSELF.

who were professionally interested in architecture rather than engineering. In these early days Maybeck combined teaching with an occasional design commission executed on a "moonlight" basis. He designed houses for academic colleagues and, more importantly, served as professional advisor to an international competition for a campus master plan sponsored by the University Board of Regents and paid for by Phoebe Apperson Hearst. On this assignment Bernard and Annie Maybeck traveled in Europe to stimulate interest in the competition among European architects.

From the association with Mrs. Hearst came a commission in 1898 to design a reception hall for theatricals and large-scale entertainments. This building was built in 1899 and later moved to a new site where it functioned as a gymnasium until 1922. In 1902, Maybeck designed Wyntoon, a striking country estate for the Hearsts in Siskiyou County. Although both of these early Maybeck projects burned down, photographs of them exist in University collections.

In 1898 Maybeck was advanced to a faculty position as instructor in architecture, and he combined this work with teaching architecture at the Mark Hopkins Institute of Art in San Francisco. Teaching paid the family bills and an occasional private commission provided Maybeck with further professional experience in the real world of architectural practice with its pressures from actual clients, specific sites, and hard-edged construction budgets.

The following year, 1899, Maybeck, then a promising young architect rising in local reputation, was elected as a professional (artistic) member of the Bohemian Club. Maybeck's association with Bohemia led to the commission which is the subject of this article, to a wider acquaintanceship among potential clients, and to friendships which endured over 58 years of membership. After 40 years of active membership in the Bohemian Club and in consideration of his great contributions to architecture and to the Club, Maybeck was elected to honorary membership status with no further obligation to pay dues.

#### EARLY BOHEMIA<sup>2</sup>

The Bohemian Club was founded in San Francisco in 1872 by a group of local journalists and printers. From very modest beginnings the infant Club grew in size to a membership of 700 when Maybeck joined. Bohemia diversified its membership and flourished in the developing economic and artistic life of the City. Club membership included working professionals in the several arts as well as business and professional men with strong amateur interest in music, painting, drama, stage-craft, and oratory. Maybeck was a typical Bohemian and he made his contributions to the life of the Club by designing stage scenery for theatricals and, later, by advising Club officials on matters of planning

and architectural design.

Maybeck's entry into the Club coincided with the Club's decision to purchase 160 acres of Meeker's Grove on the Russian River near Monte Rio in Sonoma County. Club members had gone on overnight camping trips as a group since 1878 and had rented Meeker's Grove on and off since 1882. Although the decision to purchase what was then called the Jinks Grounds ("jinks" derives from a Scottish word for "boisterous entertainment") had been debated within the Club for years, the majority which finally favored action was not large. For almost three generations thereafter, some Bohemians took enthusiastically to camping in the redwoods while half of the membership remained urban in its enthusiasm and resentful of the Club funds spent to maintain and improve the country retreat.

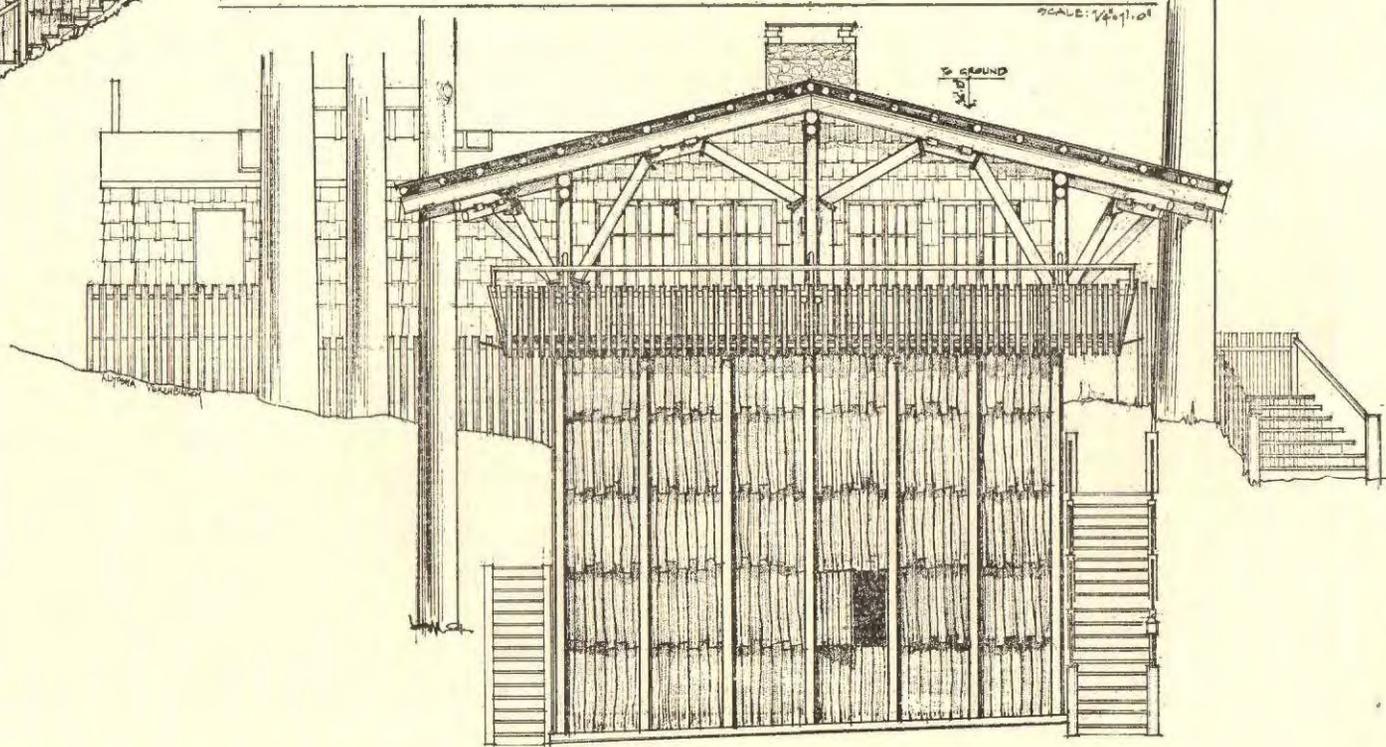
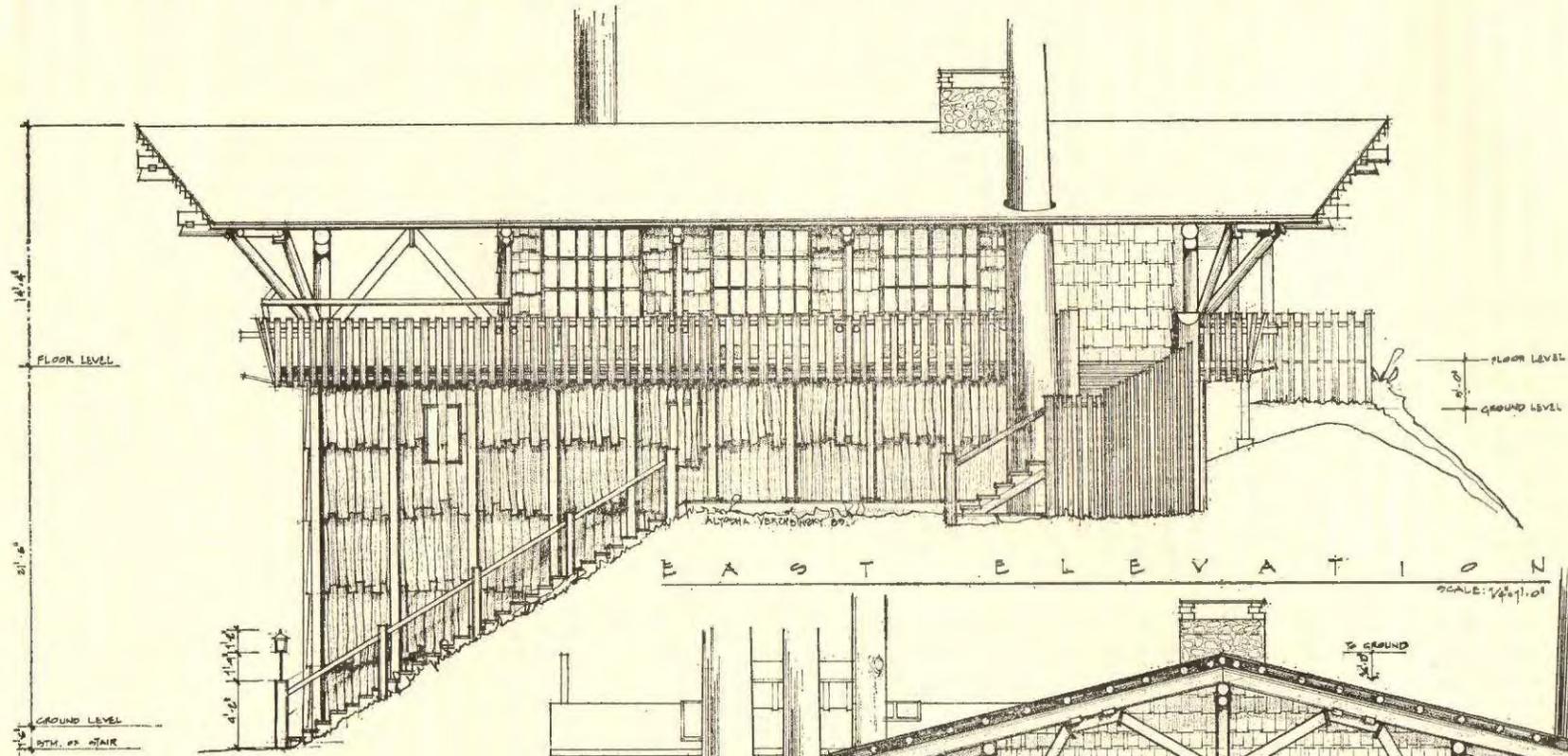
Funds to buy Meeker's land were raised in 1900 from gifts and "sentimental," non-interest bearing bonds. Money passed from the Club to Meeker in 1901, and the Club recorded title to its Grove in January of 1902. Three months later Bohemian architect Bernard Maybeck was commissioned to design the first permanent building within the recently acquired property.

#### ORIGINS OF THE CLUBHOUSE PROJECT

Until the Bohemian Club had bought its campground, there was little incentive for individual campers or for the Club itself to spend money for buildings, tent platforms, or improvements to roads, water supplies, and waste-treatment facilities. The redwood trees, after all, might have been logged any year, and the site made desolate and useless for Club purposes. This exact cycle had devastated others of the Club's various camping grounds. With Club ownership, however, there began a continuing program of capital investment with three distinct components:

1. Purchase of Additional Land: Special funds donated at the option of individual members largely financed the acquisition of 2,552 acres after the original 160-acre purchase and largely before 1944. Grove lands were given to the Bohemian Club by groups of individual members; the Club itself bought only the first 280 and the last 12 acres of its property.<sup>3</sup>
2. Construction of Facilities: Grove facilities including roads, water supplies, service building, theatres, and dressing rooms, were largely paid for with Club funds, although many individual donations were also used. The Maybeck Clubhouse (also called the Chalet and the Lodge) was the first of such Club-sponsored permanent buildings and it benefited from specific gifts made for its construction.
3. Facilities for Individual Camps: Tents, platforms, barbeque pits, simple shelters, and decks were built

GROVE CLUBHOUSE (CHALET)  
 BERNARD MAYBECK 1909. AS BUILT DRAWINGS



THE EAST ELEVATION SHOWS THE LODGE IN RELATION TO THE MODEST INWARD SLOPE TOWARD THE RIVER ROAD AND THE MUCH STEEPER DROP TO THE RIVER ITSELF.

THE SOUTH ELEVATION SHOWS THE ROMANTIC COMPLEXITY OF ROOF SUPPORTS WHICH DISPLAY 13 DIFFERENT ANGLES IN THE PLANE OF THE WALL: 150°, 135°, 130°, 125°, 120°, 105°, 90°, 75°, 60°, 55°, 40°, 45°, 30°.

THE REDWOOD BARK EXTERNAL SHEATHING, WHICH BLURS THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN TREES AND MAN-MADE STRUCTURES, HAS BEEN A LEADING SURFACE ELEMENT IN THE GROVE ARCHITECTURE SINCE THE EARLIEST DAYS.

SOUTH ELEVATION

SCALE: 1/4"=1'-0"

and continue to be built by individual members and by groups of members associated together in camps. Such facilities are paid for by camp members.

The decision to erect a clubhouse was made no later than mid-April 1902 as indicated in a record which survives today from the Maybeck office and which notes, further, that authorization to proceed with drawings was received on 28 August 1903.<sup>4</sup> Fund raising probably occupied the 17-month interval. Total costs were not to exceed \$5,000. Drawings were completed in the spring of 1904, and the building was ready for use during the Summer Encampment of 1904. Maybeck brought the project in under budget, but *just*:

Construction	\$4,588.00
Special Table Top	34.95
Fees and Travel Expenses	369.10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,992.05</b>

Confirmation of the dates noted in Maybeck's office memorandum is available from reports of outgoing Club presidents. In April of 1902, Vanderlyn Stow complemented the Grove Committee on starting so promptly with the authorization for architectural work. President James D. Phelan, reporting on 24 February 1904, told that the work would be completed by the coming summer. It was indeed.

Although the Clubhouse was built in the first days of the Club's ownership of its land, the building was not, paradoxically, intended primarily for use during the regular summer encampments which now last two weeks. Club archives indicate clearly that the building was planned for use by members and their guests during the fifty weeks of the year when the Encampment was *not* in operation. The building was to be a center and base for aseasonal users of the Grove. The project was a clear commitment to and a support and inducement for year-round use of the Jinks Ground. The small size of the Clubhouse, as will be discussed later, never did fit it for substantial service to the large summer gatherings, which ran to 300 members and guests even in 1904.

#### SITE CONSIDERATIONS

The Clubhouse sits on a rounded ridge some 200 feet above the left bank of the Russian River and fifty feet above the alignment of a single-track logging railroad which entered the Grove from the north via an 1893 trestle bridge over the Russian River, 1.4 miles upstream from Monte Rio. Since road systems in the early 1900's were limited, the availability of railroad access into the Grove for travelers and delivery of supplies was among the attractions of the site to those who searched for and evaluated alternative camp grounds.

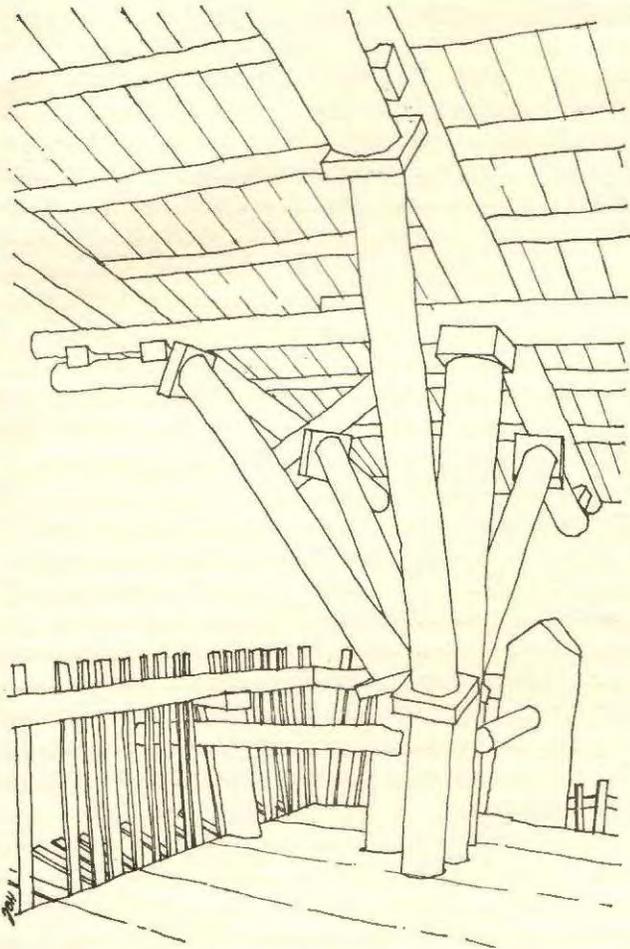
The Maybeck Clubhouse was sited at the entrance to the Grove and in a position which commanded fine views up and down the River and of the rising hills to the northwest.

In 1907 the critical railroad bridge washed out in floods and was never replaced. A new railroad access was established into the opposite, south end of the Grove by the running in of a spur track from a line which crossed the Russian River at a downstream location closer to Monte Rio.<sup>5</sup> This relocation of the camp entrance removed the Clubhouse from a position at the entrance to the Grove to a rearward, cul-de-sac location seven-tenths of a mile from the center of Grove activities, the Grove Stage and Dining Circle. The destruction of the railroad bridge and relocation of the camp entrance factor significantly in the preservation of the Clubhouse, since if it had been part of the entrance, the Clubhouse probably would have been altered to keep up with the growth of the Bohemian Club. From its inception, the Clubhouse was designed for small gatherings, year-round use, and activities quite unconnected with the high-density Summer Encampment. On September 13 and 14 in 1942, the remote, private Clubhouse was touched by the larger affairs of the world when it housed scientists of the Manhattan Project (atom bomb) for a secret meeting to consider alternative methods for separating the isotopes of uranium and to make far-reaching recommendations respecting electromagnetic separation procedures.<sup>6</sup>

#### THE ARCHITECTURE

No documents have survived embodying the client's instructions to Maybeck, and it is not known what the Bohemians asked Maybeck to design. What they got was a wonderfully romantic building containing several innovative design elements, an exuberant building with elaborate rustic carpentry. Maybeck made an effort to blend a structure of man into the visual fabric of a primeval redwood forest. Although the Clubhouse is not equivalent in aesthetic merit to Maybeck's masterpiece for the Christian Science Church of Berkeley designed in 1910, it is a worthy early expression of the Architect's imaginative talents. The Clubhouse is the only non-residential building of Maybeck's early period to survive undamaged and without major remodeling. This is an important building in the history of western American architecture and it is very fortunate that it has come into our time well cared for and intact.

Like a small jewel in the heart of a large lotus, the Maybeck Clubhouse is basically a single, near-square room of 840 square feet. On the northwest wall is a massive stone fireplace which bears evident traces of reconstruction. The original fireplace dimensions drove smoke into the room and not up the flue following



Detail No. 1

attack by the wind from up the river. Accordingly, the fireplace opening was redesigned from a baronial 72 inches wide by 66 inches high to its present dimensions of 48 inches wide by 60 inches high. The fireplace, a major feature in the shrine-like room and the sole means of heating the Clubhouse, has worked perfectly since its early, but undated, reconfiguration.

The single-floor level is 22 feet above the ground on the east side and drives into the hillside at the southwest corner. The extensive deck, which continues outward around three sides of the living room, is pierced to allow pre-existing redwood trees to remain in place. Holes are made in the roof overhang as well as through the deck. By thus placing the building amid pre-existing redwood trees and allowing these trees to penetrate the deck and the roof overhangs, Maybeck achieved a marvel of integration between native and man-made elements.

The dominant visual element of the building is its great gabled roof with huge overhangs. The area of the roof is 3.7 times that of the single living room, and the roof projects not only past the living room, but well out and over the encompassing outside decks. This great sheltering roof is largely responsible for the ex-

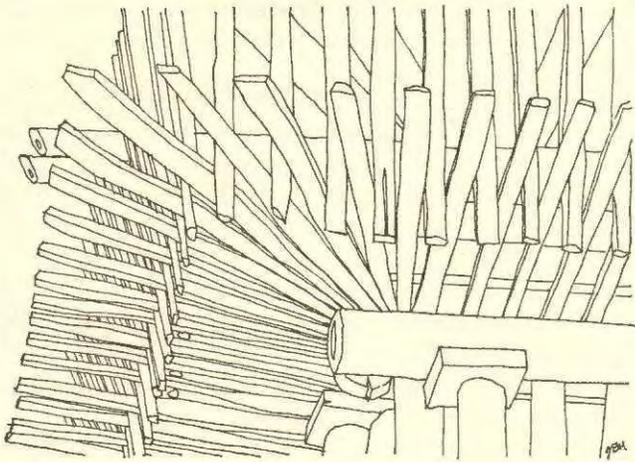
cellent preservation of the Clubhouse as it has kept all elements of the structure dry through the wet coastal winters.

In its materials and their employment, the Clubhouse presents further architectural innovation. The exterior walls are sheathed in slabs of the outer bark of local redwoods. The effect is deliberately to blur the distinction between man-made and natural structures and to subsume the former into the visual qualities of the latter. The interior is finished in untreated milled redwood boards. Poetically, the inside of the building might be regarded as mimicking the inside of a redwood tree as the exterior of the building echos the outside surface of the great sequoias.

Since the forest floor of the Grove is heavily shaded by both its steep side and massive trees, the interior of most Grove buildings tend to be dark. Although Maybeck's design could not alter the shaded environment, it did work in two ways to utilize available light. Three sides of the central room have generous areas of glass—25% of the total surfaces of the 4 walls is glass. Further, Maybeck raised the building high over the floor of the Grove into the "middle air" of the forest. This siting decision makes the tree-shaded exposures less dark and opens the northeast side of the building to unimpaired views out to and over the Russian River. The heavy roof, with its dramatic overhangs, contributes to the shadowed interior effects, but, in recompense, protects the structure from heavy winter rains and contributes a strong, unifying element to the overall design. Because three of the walls are primarily glass, Maybeck had considerable need of diagonal bracing elements within the structure. These diagonals are concealed beneath the redwood bark sheathing of the building's pedestal but are elaborately expressed from the main floor level to the supporting members which hold up the great roof. The elaborate expression of this bracing is one of the major design elements of the building.

These three architectural elements—redwood bark exteriors, redwood plank interiors and shady rooms made less so by generous fenestration—have become dominant and near-universal elements among all other buildings in the Grove. Maybeck wrought *once* at the Clubhouse but his design elements have become the architectural vocabulary for nearly all of the 120 camps and for most of the communal buildings as well.

Although Maybeck stayed under his client's \$5,000 budget, he did not concern himself overmuch with quantitative measures of efficiency. The ratios of net area and volume to the total area and volume of the building are not great. Effects and not efficiencies were what Maybeck delivered. The Clubhouse is normally seen from the floor of the Grove where it seems to hang suspended in the great trees. At evening, with the fire light highlighting the underside of the roof beams, the



Detail No. 2

central room seems to glow like a gem set into the large ring of its decks. The whole composition is covered by a great, overhanging roof reminiscent of those given to temples in Japan.

The exuberance did not end with the proportions, nor with the natural bark surfaces or inter-penetrating redwood trees. Maybeck, craftsman as well as architect, designed a structural system of log sections to support the great roof. These supports and diagonal braces form 17 different angles, when viewed from the south and north elevations. *Each* of the angles in the structural system is an exact multiple of a five-degree angular "quantum." Maybeck employed an exuberance of angular braces but the exuberance was disciplined by a single controlling unit of angular measure.

Maybeck provided a decorative fringe of intersecting redwood stakes which is carried around the outer edge of the decks. In the original building the roof line was analogously treated with intersecting planks continuing the slope of each side of the roof and projecting into the air. These decorations, explicitly reminiscent of older Japanese wood temples, were removed when the roof was repaired to fix leakage. We know of these roof decorations only from early photographs. Maybeck designed not only the building, but the furniture as well. Some of the awkward three-legged stools have remained in the building over its 80-year life.

A further evidence of Maybeck's casual exuberance is found in the dimensions of the narrow decks along the northwest and southeast sides of the building. The decks are 2'-8" wide while each of the french doors has a width of 3'-1". The doors will not swing fully open and to gain access to the side decks it is necessary to open a door, move part way out on the deck, close the door and then resume motion. These side decks are decorative and for ventilation whereas the main deck serves as a functional extension of the living room.

In an age and for a client devoted to sentimental art and to derivative Victorian and classical architecture,

Maybeck designed a highly imaginative and wildly romantic building with relationships to the then emerging Bay Region architectural style.<sup>7</sup> Some friendly critics who admire the Clubhouse have seen resemblances to the styles of Swiss alpine chalets and Japanese temples. These resemblances are appreciable and the stylistic comparisons are quite valid. However the spirit and siting of this building sets it beyond any "copybook" architecture. The Maybeck Clubhouse is an important example of the then-emerging Bay Area style which was to become a dominant force in the architecture of the post-World War II era.

Although the Clubhouse is furnished with a few remaining examples of Maybeck's own furniture designs, it is most significantly furnished with cast offs: the old and shabby broadloom carpeting probably dates from an early renovation at the City Club, mismatched chairs and odd tables speak of similar attic-clearing efforts. Withal, the central room on a winter day is remarkably comfortable with cheer from the fireplace which no longer smokes. If friends in a holiday mood bring conviviality to the Maybeck Clubhouse, then it may be said that the building meets conviviality half-way and serves well the holiday mood. The imaginative design elements, the views up and down river, the clever siting at the edge of a forest, even the worn and shabby furnishings are elements which still work magic within Maybeck's youthful offering to Club gatherings. Such gatherings, which were part of Maybeck's own 58 years of fruitful membership in Bohemia, are still housed in his great contribution to the architecture of the 20th century.

#### REFERENCES

1. Biographical materials on the non-Bohemian portions of Maybeck's career are taken from the excellent, standard work on the architect's life and works: Cardwell, Kenneth H. *Bernard Maybeck, Artisan, Architect, Artist*. Peregrine Smith, Inc., Santa Barbara and Salt Lake City, 1977. The authors are grateful to Professor Cardwell for his valuable research and for the helpful suggestions he offered during the production of new architectural drawings of the Clubhouse and during the assembly of a museum exhibit based, in part, on these new plans.
2. There exists in the public domain a substantial body of works on the history of the Bohemian Club. Representative citations follow:
  - a. Hart, Jerome A. *In Our Second Century*. Pioneer Press, San Francisco, 1913. Chapter 19 in this work contains the classic account of the discovery by Bohemians of the present Grove by one of its discoverers.
  - b. *The Annals of the Bohemian Club*. Vol. IV, 1895-1906. Clay M. Greene, Editor. Privately printed in 800 copies, San Francisco, 1930.
  - c. Lewis, Oscar. "The Campground Nobody Liked," *Bohemian Club Library Notes*, No. 23.
  - d. Mackinlay, Ian. "Architecture Among the Redwoods," *Bohemian Club Library Notes*, No. 43.

- e. Baxter, A. W., and Oliver, W. "The Camps of the Bohemian Grove—A Brief History," *Bohemian Club Library Notes*, No. 44.
3. Lerman, John L. et al. "Report of the Land Acquisition Trustees to the Bohemian Club," Privately printed, San Francisco, 1939.
4. A scattering of private memoranda, Bohemian Club bills and documents from Maybeck's office relating to the period 1902-1906 survived the fire of 1906. These documents are held in the Documents Collection at the Library of the College of Environmental Design on the Berkeley campus. The authors are grateful to Professor Stephen Tobriner, Curator of this collection, for providing access to and copies of these fascinating memorabilia.
5. a. Myrick, David F. *Rails Around the Bohemian Grove*. San Francisco, 1973. This excellent work covers much interesting matter on the development, use and decline of early railroads in Marin and Sonoma counties.
- b. Brink, W. H. "All Aboard!", *Bohemian Club Library Notes*, No. 30.
6. Wilson, Neil C. "The River Clubhouse in the Grove," *Bohemian Club Library Notes*, No. 7. The episode of the secret meeting of Ernest O. Lawrence, Harold C. Urey, James B. Conant, Lyman Briggs, Eger V. Murphree, Arthur H. Compton, Donald Cooksey, Robert L. Thornton, Robert Oppenheimer, Kenneth D. Nichols and Thomas T. Crenshaw is also told in many of the histories of the Manhattan Project and in several biographical and autobiographical works of the men involved.
7. For a studied analysis and documentation of the Bay Area architectural tradition which embodies the contributions of Joseph Worcester, Willis Polk, A. Page Brown, Bernard Maybeck, Charles Keeler and others, see: Freudenheim, Leslie Mendelson, and Sussman, Elisabeth. *Building With Nature: Roots of the San Francisco Bay Region Tradition*. Peregrine Smith, Inc., Santa Barbara and Salt Lake City, 1974.

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## DOMENICO BRESCIA:

### BOHEMIAN FROM BOLOGNA

BY RICHARD P. BUCK & FORREST J. BAIRD

COMPOSER, ORCHESTRATOR, TEACHER, Mills College Trustee and Bohemian Domenico Brescia provided the Grove Stage with two distinguished High Jinx scores in 1919 and 1926. Both the first, *Life*, with text by Harry Leon Wilson, and the second, *Truth*, with text by George Sterling were allegories of substantial complexity, ambiguity and ample room for interpretation. The latter text by the California Poet Laureate was in verse, and had been published earlier in 1923.

The music of Brescia represents the high plateau of classical form, structure, and orchestration applied to the special requirements of the Grove Stage and the Grove Play. Plateau is appropriate because his standards have been subsequently matched in the works of his famous student, Ulderico Marcelli. The other com-

parable master of the Play with orchestra, chorus and soloists was Henry Hadley<sup>1</sup> whose works straddle Brescia's in time. Whereas Hadley belonged to the Boston School with Germanic traditions, Brescia's style compared favorably with Boito and Giordano.

#### THE ITALIAN TRADITION

Brescia belonged to the short-lived Italian symphonic tradition embodied in the work of Giuseppe Martucci, who was his teacher at the Conservatory in Bologna. Contemporary with Brescia and his classmate was Ottorino Respighi, who would soon become the most eminent non-operatic Italian composer and orchestrator of his time. Brescia's students at Mills College, in later years recalled his frequent praise and reverence for Respighi's technique and orchestral invention. Brescia's studies produced a profound respect for classical forms, a gift for melody, and an unusually brilliant orchestral palette. He was in great demand as a teacher of orchestration in California, especially to young composers of screen music in the early years of sound films in Hollywood. San Franciscan, Hugo Friedhofer, noted film composer and the only orchestrator skillful enough to be entrusted to score Erich Korngold's classic film music, paid tribute to his teacher Domenico Brescia in the book, *Music for the Movies*.<sup>2</sup>

Domenico Brescia was born in Pitano, Pola, Italy in 1866 and died in his Oakland home on 25 March, 1939. After completion of training in Bologna, he was hired in 1892 as Director of the Santiago, Chile Conservatory of Music. He later organized the Conservatory in Quito upon request of the Government of Ecuador.<sup>3</sup> At that time his published works appeared under the name Domingo Brescia. Upon coming to Oakland in the early years of this century, Brescia became a distinguished pedagogue and composer. His family included a young son and older daughter who was later married to the American writer Robert Penn Warren.

#### WORKS PERFORMED

Three of Brescia's operas have been performed; his piano quintet was awarded the Clarke Prize in Los Angeles, and his Andean Quartet won the coveted Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Award at the Berkshire Festival. In addition to several other String Quartets, he also composed sacred and secular cantatas performed in Italy, and works for voice, organ and orchestra. It is unfortunate that his career is not well documented. In fact, his name is omitted from all current major encyclopedias and source books on composers in America in this century. However his published works and manuscripts are listed in holdings at libraries including Mills College Library, Stanford University Library, New York Public Library, The

# L I F E

BY  
HARRY LEON WILSON

MUSIC BY  
DOMENICO BRESCIA

THE SEVENTEENTH GROVE PLAY OF THE  
BOHEMIAN CLUB OF SAN FRANCISCO, AS  
PERFORMED BY ITS MEMBERS IN  
THE BOHEMIAN GROVE, SONOMA  
COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, ON THE  
TWENTY-EIGHTH NIGHT  
OF JUNE, NINETEEN  
HUNDRED AND  
NINETEEN



SAN FRANCISCO  
THE BOHEMIAN CLUB  
1919

Edwin Fleisher Collection of the Philadelphia Free Library, Boston Public Library and the Library of Congress. The largest manuscript holding (37 items) is in the Free Library of Philadelphia. We have found one listing, a transcription of an aria from Edipo a Colono of Sacchini, presumably a student work, in the catalog of the Conservatory Library at Bologna.

## TRUTH AND LIFE

In *Life*, we find music that is symphonic, episodic and intended to support the "philosophy" of the text, rather than a step-by-step underscoring of the action. Interludes and dances link the spoken word in ways that allow the audience moments of repose from the mental attention demanded by the literary work. The music is reasonably complicated by the norm of recent Grove Plays. The Preamble is a rich work that especially elaborates the Love Motive four times with increasing intensity, and invokes a grand fugue using motives from the dances. The Dances, despite somewhat trivial titles are beautifully orchestrated and modern in rhythmic content. The principals included some legendary performers that many of us were privileged to know: Samuel J. Hume, Henry A. Melvin, Dion Holm, William S. Rainey, David Eisenbach, Charles Bulotti, Sr., and Easton Kent.

*Truth* presented new production problems that

were solved by numerous blackouts bridged with musical interludes. Brescia wrote essentially three sets of music with widely different orchestrations and colors. One group of themes emanated from the Prologue Chorus and was solemn or mystic in feeling. The second was characterized by dance themes and exotic colors, while the third was rough, war-like and, in part, regal. By use of clear-cut aesthetic elements, Brescia was previewing what would become standard film score techniques about a decade later. Playing through the songs and duets, one cannot help but compare the music to Welsh folksongs in the Bardic style. In fact the score resembles a style of opera known as the Glastonbury School of West Country England. In particular, we are reminded of Rutland Boughton's *Immortal Hour*. This score is also noteworthy for use of a boy soprano in a leading role, and the use of the Grace Cathedral Boy's Choir. The main roles were carried by Austin W. Sperry, Charles Bulotti, Sr., Easton Kent and Dion Holm.

Since the Centenary Celebration of 1972 and the revival of Charles Hart's *Saint Francis*, a number of Club members have taken interest in the history and heritage of the Bohemian Club. There are many examples of writers, artists and musicians whose achievements in and out of the Club have not been sufficiently documented. It behooves us to do more than remember our friends and their contributions by documenting and occasionally reviving their works.

## REFERENCES

1. *Bohemian Club Library Notes*, No. 34, June 1975, pp. 1-2.
2. T. Thomas, *Music for the Movies*, Cranbury, NJ, 1973.
3. *Mills Quarterly*, No. 1, May 1939, 27.



## LIBRARY NOTES, 47



*Library Committee*, 1984-85

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THE COUNSELLOR TO THE PRESIDENT

29 April 1983

Dear Alan:

Thank you for your letter of 6 April 1983 and the reminder of your hospitality offered Ursula and me the first weekend in June in connection with the Bohemian Grove Spring Event. Unfortunately, I have learned that I will be in Germany on that weekend, so will have to regret your kind invitation. I understand that Marilee Melvin has already spoken to Bob Owen about this.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely,

Edwin Meese III

X  
Mr. Alan C. Furth  
President  
Southern Pacific Company  
Southern Pacific Building  
One Market Plaza  
San Francisco, California 94105

EM:fr

12 APR 1983

# Southern Pacific Company

*Southern Pacific Building, One Market Plaza, San Francisco, California 94105*

April 6, 1983

ALAN C. FURTH  
PRESIDENT

1/5/83  
5/11/83  
2/26

no

PERSONAL

Honorable Edwin Meese, III  
Counsellor to the President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Ed:

We talked about the Spring Jinks at the Bohemian Grove which is the weekend of June 3rd, 4th and 5th. You had indicated you would give this some consideration and I am dropping you this note now simply because the official notice of the event has hit my desk and I should turn in some kind of a response shortly.

I am scheduled to be in Washington for a Federal Reserve meeting that will finish by noon on Friday, the 3rd, and if you can make the trip I will endeavor to have transportation available for you to come out on Friday afternoon. I would have to leave your return to your own ingenuity.

Should Ursula want to come West along with you there will be ample space on our plane and she would be more than welcome.

I very much hope this will work out for you and it will help me greatly if you can give me some indication of how it looks so I can turn in the papers to the Club. I fully realize there may be last minute changes in your schedule but that's something we know must be accommodated at all times and that is simply taken as an underlying factor.

Most sincerely,



ACF:rdo

reprinted by  
phone 7/19/83

SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT REQUEST

DATE: 3-5 June 1983  
TIME: t/b/d  
HOST: Alan Furth, Southern Pacific  
TYPE: corporate/personal friend  
LOCATION: Bohemian Grove

OTHER: Letter follow up invitation to attend Spring Jinks at the Grove.  
CONFLICT: You are en route to Europe for "Operation Quick Check"