

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WHITMAN AT AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION MEETING

This year's meeting of the American Studies Association took place at the Boston Park Plaza in Boston, Massachusetts, from November 4 through November 7, 1993. One of the sessions, chaired by Joan Shelley Rubin (State University of New York, Brockport) focused on Whitman and the visual arts; presenters included John F. Roche (Michigan State) speaking on Whitman and the Boston Society of Arts and Crafts, Ruth L. Bohan (University of Missouri, St. Louis) on Whitman and Marsden Hartley, and Lauren S. Weingarden (Florida State University) on Whitman, Sullivan, and American architecture. Rebecca Zurier (University of Michigan) responded to the papers.

### WHITMAN AT MLA

At this year's annual meeting of the Modern Language Association, held in Toronto December 27-30, there will be a session on "Whitman and Gay America," organized by Jay Grossman (Stanford University). Papers include Betsy Erkkila (University of Pennsylvania) on "Democracy and Homosexuality"; Robert K. Martin (University of Montreal) on "Happy Days? Whitman in the 1950s"; Jorge Salessi (University of Pennsylvania) and Jose Quiroga (George Washington University) on "Machotranslating the Loves of Whitman"; and Jay Grossman on "Whitman's Centennial and the State of Whitman Studies."

### AMERICAN LITERATURE ASSOCIATION

The 1994 meeting of the American Literature Association will be held at the Bahia Hotel in San Diego, California, on June 2-5, 1994. There will be two sessions on Whitman. The conference director is Susan Belasco Smith (Department of English, California State University, Los Angeles, CA 90032). Those wishing to subscribe to the ALA Newsletter should send a check for \$5.00 (payable to American Literature Association) to Alfred Bendixen, Department of English, California State University, Los Angeles, CA 90032.

### WALT WHITMAN MUSIC LIBRARY

The Walt Whitman Music Library is located at 345 Arguello Blvd., No. 307, San Francisco, CA 94118. Operated by Fredrick Berndt, the Library contains Whitman-related music scores and sound recordings, which may be perused or audited without charge. The Library is open from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. every Friday except December 30. Recently the Library began issuing a monthly *Bulletin of The Walt Whitman Music Library*.

## WHITMAN'S CAMDEN

After many delays, plans are moving ahead for the development of a park in an empty, littered lot adjacent to Whitman's Camden, New Jersey, home on Mickle Street. The small park, to be known as Commonplace Park, will honor Whitman; his initials will be set in the ground in red brick, and a bronze statue of Whitman holding a butterfly (sculpted by John Giannotti) will be the centerpiece of the park. A circular arrangement of benches will facilitate poetry readings. Camden's Planning Board has also approved plans to restore Whitman's brother George's Italianate style rowhouse on Stevens Street, around the corner from Whitman's Mickle Street house. Currently in near ruins, George's house—where Whitman lived for over a decade—was the site of many of the poet's famous meetings (Oscar Wilde visited him there). The full restoration will cost over \$200,000; currently the walls are being stabilized.