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34th Year—No. 275 FINAL HOME E

Inspect Museum Progress



—*World Staff Photo.*

Snapped in front of the new Philbrook museum, at the tea Wednesday afternoon are, left to right, Waite Phillips, donor of the museum; R. O. Dietler, chairman of the committee to select the museum director; Mrs. Eugene Kingman, wife of the new director, and Kingman. **(Story on page three.)**

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Preview of Philbrook Museum Given Tulsans

By MALVINA STEPHENSON
Of The World Staff.

Tulsa's new Philbrook museum, the "Italian palace" given by Mr. and Mrs. Waite Phillips, was previewed Wednesday afternoon by the city's social and cultural leaders.

In this impressive setting with Mr. and Mrs. Phillips as hosts, there was something of the "first night" atmosphere. Reporters jotted notes and cameras flashed to catch the Tulsa "big name" folks.

Guests were obviously impressed with the remodeling project which has transformed a palatial home into a suitable museum. Everybody agreed, "You'd never know the building was not originally planned as a museum."

Eugene Kingman, new museum director, and his bride, who is an authority on southwest archaeology, were thrilled with the prospects and are looking forward to their return in August when they will plunge into the opening plans.

"We feel that there is a wonderful opportunity here to build an important museum that will have wide appeal," Kingman declared enthusiastically. "Here is a beautiful building—and so many friendly and interested people anxious to help us."

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It's "we" with the Kingmans because Mrs. Kingman is equally interested in the project. While Kingman is essentially an artist, his bride is interested primarily in archaeology. She has served as curator at the Mesa Verde Indian museum and recently received her master's degree from the University of Denver.

"We want to specialize on the art and history of the immediate area, the southwest plains, but will bring in specimens and examples from other periods and sections to show the general relationship," Mrs. Kingman explained.

"Of course, we can also correlate the study of the art and archaeology by bringing out the prehistoric designs," she continued. "The different designs are basic and often indicate the period and tribe."

Kingman stressed his own interest in geology and his efforts to depict the different geological stages in paintings that have wide appeal.

This is expected to fit right into the program to develop the story of petroleum for the museum in this "Oil Capital of the World."

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The Kingmans were chatting with various Tulsans personally interested in the museum. There was Clark Field, who has the valuable collection of Indian pottery and basketry which he has offered to the museum.

"It's amazing to find so many people interested in archaeology with these wonderful collections," Mrs. Kingman observed with delight. "That means everything in launching a museum."

As the Kingmans chatted with the Tulsa guests, others moved throughout the museum to view the spacious galleries and classrooms. At the entrance they were met by Phillips and A. B. Butler, jr., president of the Southwest Art association.

Facing the central room in which Lydia White played the pipe organ, the visitors could turn at the ornate columns and view the expansive wings on both sides. Two graceful bronze figures, done by Harriet Frishmurth, beckoned at each end of the long hallway.

The left hall leads to the hanging gallery which was formerly the dining room. The breakfast room is open and suitable for exhibiting jewelry and small pieces. An auditorium with a capacity of 180 at the extreme end of the wing will be used for lectures and general class discussions. From the hallway, adjacent to the hanging gallery, is the Phillips library, heavily paneled and with an Indian painting above the mantel.

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Down the hall, to the right of the main entrance, is the Phillips former music room which is richly carpeted and decorated with murals by George Gibbs, loaned to the museum. Across the hall from the music room is another period room, the Italian living room, a luxurious center with gold brocade walls and heavy drapes.

Like a rainbow with changing lights is the glass floor in the adjoining sunporch which is well lighted by open sides and suitable for exhibiting bronzes and other statues.

Upstairs is a series of smaller rooms for exhibit purposes and an office for the director. At one end, are four classrooms. Museum officials are particularly proud of the small room arranged for exhibiting one impressive painting. In some of the museums, this is called the "Masterpiece of the Month" room.

Guests milled through all these rooms and gathered in little groups around the terraces. They sipped tea and munched sandwiches and cookies on the large terrace facing the beautiful gardens and fountain.

Many found time to view the basement quarters. The former boiler room has been completely redecorated and the boiler moved to another corner of the basement. There is also ample space for storage and rooms for preparing the exhibits.

At the east side of the basement is the Indian quarters which is planned as exhibit space for the Indian and archaeological displays. One Indian room has an elaborate buckskin chandelier while across the hall is another room, essentially done in the Hopi Indian design.

Of course, Clark Field was the authority at this spot and everyone was busy asking him to identify the designs and decorations. "This decoration is not confined to any one tribe but brings in several in a very interesting way," he observed.

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Frank von der Lancken, prominent Tulsa artist, declared: "It has the same atmosphere as some of the old museums. There is something just like the old castles but yet it means more to us because it was the home of one of our most prominent citizens and he has given it to us because of his interest and generosity. That gives added significance."

Dr. C. I. Pontius, president of the University of Tulsa, and Eli C. Foster, assistant superintendent in charge of Tulsa public school secondary education, both pointed out that the added museum facilities

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Dr. C. I. Pontius, president of the University of Tulsa, and Eli C. Foster, assistant superintendent in charge of Tulsa public school secondary education, both pointed out that the added museum facilities would mean much to education in their institutions. They called the museum a "great cultural outlet" and an institution which will long prove a cultural inspiration to the students.

Dr. Adah Robinson, University of Tulsa art director, was equally enthusiastic over the museum and declared there are infinite possibilities to develop art education among the masses.

The Kingmans, who have been guests in the A. B. Butler, jr., home, will leave early Thursday morning and return to Tulsa for a few days in July after their trip to the southwest. They will then go east, wind up their business there and return to Tulsa to begin opening plans in August.

Guests at the tea Wednesday were directors of the Southwestern Art association, the American Indian foundation, the Tulsa Art association and the University of Tulsa.