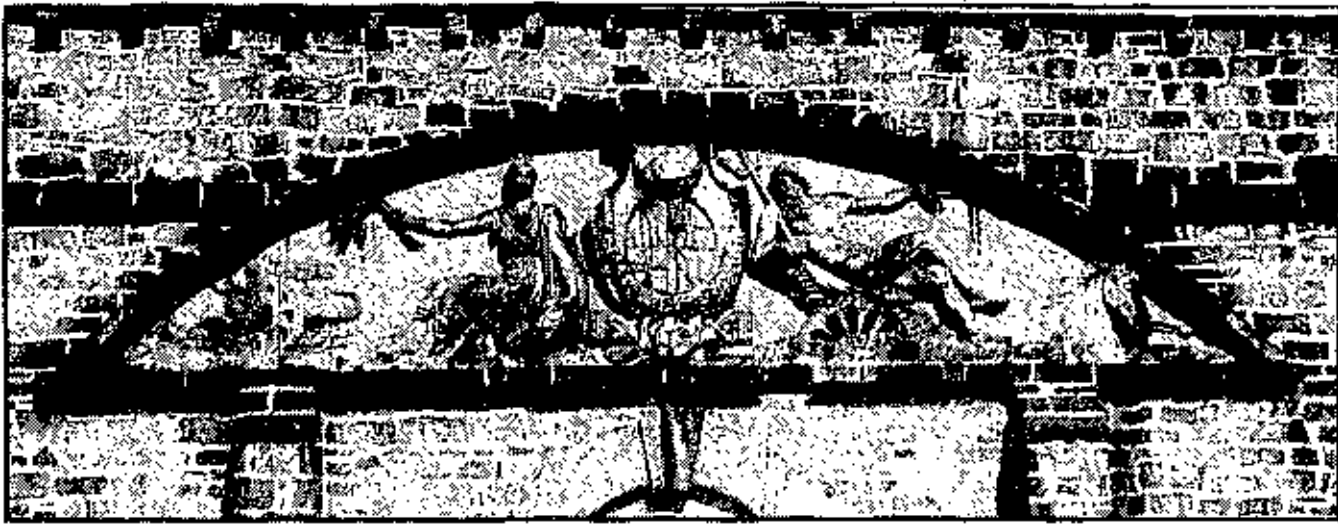


Old Bank Pediment To Adorn Restored Peale Museum



Gas Company Presents Stone Pediment To Peale Museum

Carved Piece Is Considered Particularly Appropriate
Because Its Designer Was Robert Carey Long,
Architect Of Original Institution

A contribution of the Gas and Electric Company toward restoration of the building where gaslight first was used in this country, a sculptured stone pediment, thirty feet long, has been presented to the committee in charge of rebuilding the old Peale Museum, Holliday street near Lexington.

In making public his acceptance of the gift yesterday, Chester W. Snyder, chairman of the committee, said that the pediment in addition to being an excellent example of early Baltimore architecture was particularly appropriate because its designer was Robert Carey Long, architect of the original Peale Museum.

Carved Of Sandstone

Carved of sandstone, it originally adorned the facade of the old National Union Bank of Maryland, Fayette and Charles streets, built in 1807 and razed sixty years later.

Since 1867 it has been a part of the Gas Company's old Spring Gardens Building, at the foot of Leadenhall street, a tribute to the keen artistic appreciation of Gen. Columbus O'Donnell, who, rather than see the ornament demolished, had it removed intact and built into the west wall of the other building. General O'Donnell was a director of the National Union Bank and president of the Baltimore Gaslight Company.

Mr. Snyder said it has been decided

to place the pediment because of its length in the garden, which will be built in the rear of the museum, rather than in the building itself. The Gas Company has offered to remove the pediment and transfer it to the museum at its own expense, he added.

Expressing his appreciation of the gift, Mr. Snyder said:

"The city is indebted to the Gas Company not alone for the gift of this excellent architectural example but for its care and thoughtfulness in preserving it as well. But for General O'Donnell the ornament would in all probability have been destroyed when the National Union Bank was razed; it certainly has no relation to the architectural design of the old gas building and I can't help but think that General O'Donnell's only thought was to save this one part of a building that was recognized as one of the finest examples of architecture in the East."

The mythical figures of Neptune and the Goddess Ceres form the foreground of the pediment, flanking a replica of the seal of Maryland. It will be built into the north wall of the museum garden.

Mr. Snyder estimated the museum would not be opened formally until late summer.