

## VENUES (from Scrapbook Database in computer)

"It was therefore decided to arrange to hold the meetings in the Colonial Club, Natural History Building in Boston, and at the various private houses of members."

Minutes of the Executive Committee, October 14, 1904. [Book1 p126]

Letter to W.M. Davis from Edwin Hale Abbot, a member, dated February 5, 1906. Offering his house for a meeting. [Meeting 26 was held there on April 27, 1906.] [Book3 p30]

Letter to W.M. Davis from Edwin H. Abbot, Junior, a member, dated April 3, 1906. "Our current is 110 volts direct, derived from a storage battery. I will give father your ?? safe." {relating to meeting 26 at his father's house.} [Book3 p40]

"In regard to the electric current, I simply wish to know if the house is wired for electricity, and would like to know whether it is the direct or alternating current, and if possible what voltage." Letter to W.M. Davis from Anthony Fiala, dated April 3, 1906, on letterhead of the Ziegler Polar Expedition. Book3 p41.

"For some inexplicable reason only 35 turned up. One or two had gone to the Harvard Club first. People do not read notices. At least two of our "travellers" got "lost" going to the Harvard Club first!" Minutes of 270th meeting, 19 March 1940. (Min1 p83)

"The Secretary reported that dinner and wine at the St. Botolph club last month amounted to \$14.25 per person. He also noted an unfortunate incident involving an inebriated guest of a member, which incident has been resolved to everyone's satisfaction." Minutes of Council meeting, 6 November 1979. [Min4 p30]

## ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS

"There was much discussion of a suitable meeting place for next season and it seemed to be the consensus of opinion that we should continue meetings in the Harvard Club if a reasonable rate can be obtained; but if there is a saving of \$10.00 or more per meeting, we should move either to the St. Botolph or the Tavern Club." Minutes of Council Meeting, 28 June 1937. [Min1 p56]

"We discussed the possibility of having our meetings at the Museum of Science in the new Colby Room, but eating in one of the assembly rooms next door." Minutes of Council meeting, 13 December 1960 [Min1 p253]

"Due to rising costs at the Harvard Club, it was voted to raise the charge for dinners from the present \$5.00 per person to \$6.00 per person.

The Secretary...was asked to investigate possible costs if meetings were held at Browne & Nichols School, in Cambridge, or at the Boston Museum of Science... He had previously investigated prices at Holiday Inn, Cambridge Street, Boston, and at Marriott's Motor Hotel in Newton. Both were more expensive than the Harvard Club." Minutes of Council meeting, 7 October 1969. [Min3 p4]

"After discussing the possibility of using other locations for the meetings of the Harvard Travellers Club, specifically Academy of Sciences, Brookline; Browne & Nichols School, Cambridge; Museum of Science, Boston; Marriott's Hotel, Newton; Holiday Inn, Boston, the majority of the Council were of the opinion that our meetings had best be continued at the Harvard Club, but we are to keep an open mind, in the future, about others locations which might be less expensive." Minutes of Council meeting, 4 November 1969. [Min3 p7]

"Concerning dinner costs, the Secretary reported that a buffet at The Harvard Club would be more expensive than regular dinners, but that costs for the latter could be reduced if the following courses were omitted: appetizer (50-75¢), salad or vegetable (75¢), dessert (90¢). .... Note was taken of Dr. John B. Stanbury's suggestion that the Club look into the possibility of holding meetings at The Country Club in Brookline, the general feeling being that the option was not feasible logistically for many members. Brief consideration was also given to the MIT Faculty Club and St. Botolph's Restaurant as possible sites. Another option given serious consideration was to raise all dues by \$5 and to subsidize dinners by \$1, at

least. ... In the meantime, it was agreed to charge members attending dinner only \$10 (\$6 for students) for the December and January meetings." Minutes of Council meeting, 8 November 1977. [Min3 p232]

"The Council agreed to hold one meeting next year at the St. Botolph Club and decided upon October with the possibility of a second meeting there in the spring if the experiment is popular with the membership. Also mentioned as a viable alternative to the Harvard Club was the MIT Faculty Club." Minutes of Council meeting, 24 April 1979. [Min4 p19]

"The Council authorized the Secretary to look into the MIT Faculty Club as a possible alternative to the Harvard Club." Minutes of Council meeting, 2 October 1979 [Min26 p26]

"Alternate meeting locations were again discussed. The Museum of Science was mentioned..., Braeburn Country Club..., the Cambridge Boat Club..., Buckingham Browne and Nichols..." Minutes of Council meeting, 6 October 1981. [Min4 p91]

"Other meeting locations were discussed. Among those mentioned: The Museum of Science, the Cottage Crest in Waltham, the Faculty Club (MIT & Harvard) and the MFA." Minutes of the Summer Council meeting, 28 July 1982, 2pp. [Min4 p114]

"The location of our next two meetings was discussed, with suggestions for using the Tavern Club or Maison Robert." Minutes of Council meeting, 12 January 1993, [Min5 p84]

"Voted to hold the meetings this year at the Tavern Club." [Minutes of Council meeting, 21 October year? [BookY p46]

Venues

## Computer File: CentenaryMinute3Venues

### Centenary Minute No 3 - March 12, 2002

The Club has met in many locations over the years. The first meeting was held on November 15, 1902, in the assembly room of the Harvard Union at Cambridge where it met another 11 times over the years. Many of the early meetings, 25 in total, were held in the homes of members, particularly at Beacon Street, Commonwealth Avenue, Newbury Street and Brattle Street addresses. Clubs were, and continue to be, the most common venue. Some of these are no more or have moved. Eight meetings were held at the Boston Athletic Association on Exeter Street, one at the Colonial Club in Cambridge, three at the Exchange Club on Milk Street, two at the MIT Faculty Club, one at the St Botolph Club on Commonwealth Avenue, two at the Tavern Club in Boylston Place, one at the Union Club on Park Street and 23 at the University Club then at 270 Beacon Street. A hotel was used only once, the Hotel Brunswick in Boston. Other places that hosted the Club: Three at The Fogg Art Museum, two at Horticultural Hall, and one each at Huntington Hall and the Legion of Honor Hall, 200 Huntington Avenue. From the day of its opening in November 1913, the Harvard Club has by far been the most common meeting place. We met there first on the evening of November 28<sup>th</sup>, 1913, when Professor Roland B. Dixon spoke on "Twelve Hundred Miles through the Northern Himalayas." Counting tonight, we have met here 631 times (which represents 85% of the meetings), in recent years usually in this room, the Massachusetts Room, but in the past most often next door in the Aesculapian Room the walls of which for much of that time were decorated with animal heads, some of which no doubt were

provided by Club members. It is unlikely that any group has convened in this building more often or started doing so earlier than the Harvard Travellers Club.

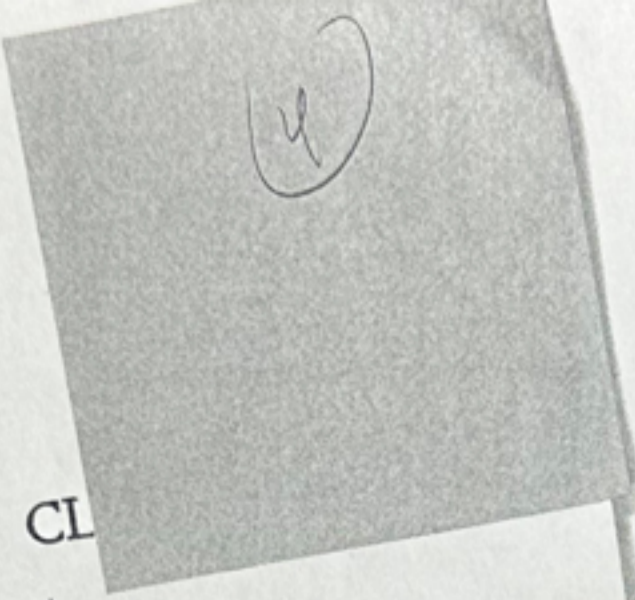
Possibly the most interesting venue—given its close connection to the Club—was the Institute of Geographical Exploration where we met a total of 13 times between 1931 and 1949. The speaker at the first gathering, which celebrated the opening of the building, was Professor A. Hamilton Rice who spoke on “Explorations in South America.” Professor Rice was a past president of the Club and a Club Medalist. He also paid for the building which still stands at 2 Divinity Avenue. Rice offered to foot the bill for the Institute if he was named its Director and appointed a professor. He could afford it: his wife was the former Eleanor Elkins Widener. The architect of the building was Horace Trumbauer who, not coincidentally was the designer of Widener Library. Harvard closed the Institute in 1952 and the building now houses the Harvard-Yenching Library and other non-geographical departments and offices. Earlier, when President Conant declared that ‘geography is not a university subject,’ Rice withdrew his support and went back to his wife’s 65-room Newport cottage in his chauffeured blue Rolls Royce. And to this day the ‘world’s greatest university’ lacks a geography department. Perhaps our most distinguished member today—Bradford Washburn—was a student of Rice’s and was later assistant director of the Institute before going to the Museum of Science.

It’s been said that on Rice’s last expedition to South America in 1924-25, short wave radio was used for the first time on an expedition, so

too aerial photography resulting in the first map of a large area made from the air.

Venus

Mr  
Makers



UNIVERSITY CLUB

270 Beacon Street

Folio

Boston,

Feb 14 1913

To William Cook Smith  
Toward Traveler's Club

9 Wilton St

The following is your account to this date.

11 Dinners @ 1.25	13.75
Room	3.00
Service	6.00
Wine	3.80
Cyprus	2.00
Phone	05
	<u>28.60</u>

RECEIVED PAYMENT,

FEB 11 1913  
ARTHUR B. CHAPIN, TREAS.  
Per

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ORDER OF  
"UNIVERSITY CLUB"

Please return receipt to  
H. Ellendorf  
17 Court St  
Boston



NEG NO: 146

FRAME: 5A

DATE: 9/02

VIEW: Site of the University Club, 270 Beacon Street,  
Boston.

©Robert B. Stephenson, P. O. Box 435, Jaffrey, NH 03452. 603-532-6066

OCT 2002  
SEP 14 1902

MARTIN J. CONWAY

CASHIER  
BOSTON ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Boston, April 8, 1913.

Martin J. Conway, Esq.,  
Boston Athletic Association,  
Boston, Mass.,

Dear Sir:

I find on looking back on the records that the check I think may be lost was for a meeting held on March 29th 1912. The number of the check was #40, dated April 2nd and drawn on the American Trust Co. The amount was \$30.88.

The other meeting I spoke about was held on December 20th, 1912.

Thanking you in advance for any information you may be able to give me, I am,

Yours truly,

17 Court St.,  
Boston.

BOSTON ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION,  
EXETER ST., BOSTON, MASS.



OFFICE OF TREASURER

April 11, 1913.

Mr. Harold E. Orendorff

17 Court St.,

Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your favor of April 8th would say that I cannot find any trace of the cheque mentioned for \$30.88 and assume that Dr. Smith must have paid this with his personal cheque as he did for the meeting of December 20th.

I am very sorry I cannot help you further. However I mentioned this matter to Dr. Smith yesterday and he stated that perhaps the cheque was laying around his apartments somewhere and if he found it he would be glad to let you know.

Yours truly,

*M. J. Conway*  
Cashier.

COPLEY HALL  
GRUNDMANN STUDIOS  
CLARENDON STREET

OFFICE OF THE TRUSTEES  
161 DEVONSHIRE ST.  
BOSTON

May 8, 1914.

H/W

Mr. S. Prescott Fay,  
53 State St.,  
Room 335,  
Boston, Mass.

My Dear Mr. Fay:-

I have delayed answering your letter of April 22nd partly on account of absence from the office, also in order that I might see Mr. Abbott about it.

I am told by the janitor that the show cases, when used by the Travellers Club before, were already in the hall having just been used in a Copley Society exhibition. This year they have been kept in the basement and it was necessary to bring them up and clean them for your exhibition. This actually cost us the amount which the janitor put on his memorandum to you. If you did not understand the situation and this seems to you excessive I would much prefer that you do not pay it.

A small part of the labor was in addition to that spent upon the show cases. It was for removing dirt and generally cleaning the hall made necessary by men getting ready for your exhibition.

Of course we mean to give our tenants the hall clean and in this case it was all ready for use but the janitor tells me that this labor was entirely for work made necessary as above explained.

COPLEY HALL  
GRUNDMANN STUDIOS  
CLARENDON STREET

OFFICE OF THE TRUSTEES  
161 DEVONSHIRE ST.  
BOSTON

May 8, 1914.

Mr. S. P. F. -2-

I have tried to get you on the telephone but without success. If this doesn't explain the situation sufficiently to you I would be very glad if you would step in some time on your way down town or if that is not convenient I will call upon you.

Yours truly,

*Stanley Howe*

COPLEY HALL  
GRUNDMANN STUDIOS  
CLARENDON STREET

OFFICE OF THE TRUSTEES  
161 DEVONSHIRE ST.  
BOSTON

May 12, 1914.

H/W

Mr. S. Prescott Fay,  
53 State Street, Room 335,  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Fay:-

I find that I did not enclose our bill for the use of Copley Hall by the Harvard Travellers Club the other day when I wrote you. I enclose it herewith amounting to \$270.60. The cost (being only the amount paid out for labor) of putting the show cases in condition for the exhibition together with some labor in cleaning the hall made necessary by the men in putting up the various exhibits of the club was \$25.

There were two other charges in the janitor's statement to you with which the Trustees had nothing to do, namely, for Mrs. Joy in the check room of \$10. and night watchman \$10.75 amounting to \$20.75. The check for this last amount should be made to the order of Ellis Joy.

I wish to repeat what I said on the telephone that if you think under the circumstances that you should not pay for the above labor charge I would prefer that you do not pay it.

Yours truly,

*J. Beahm How*

Enclosure

Remues

FOLDER VI (37)

Oct. 28, 1932.

Roger L. Scaife, Esq.,  
Houghton Mifflin Co.  
2 Park Street,  
Boston, Massachusetts.

Dear Scaife:

Thank you very much for your note of recent date and suggestion of the Harvard Lampoon Building for one of our meetings. I do not know just how practical this is but the matter will certainly be given consideration.

I also appreciate your interest in helping out on the speakers and young Beveridge sounds as if he might be a good possibility.

Thanks very much,

Sincerely yours,

GAL-KAC

George A. Lyon,  
Secretary, Harvard  
Travellers Club.

ROBERT B. STEPHENSON  
P. O. Box 413, Astor Station  
Boston, Massachusetts 02123

Secretary-Treasurer



DR. LOT B. PAGE  
Conant Road  
Lincoln, Massachusetts 01773

Vice-President and  
Program Chairman

12 May 1981

100

Ms Ann Hanks  
MIT Faculty Club  
50 Memorial Drive  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Ms Hanks:

Enclosed is an announcement for our meeting at the Club on the 26th of May. It will give you the times that we customarily meet. As I understand it you will need a guarantee on Friday the 22nd.

The menu I have decided upon is as follows:

Fruit cup  
Tossed green salad  
Roast sirloin of beef  
Au Gratin potatoes  
~~Zucchini Milano~~ *drp*  
Peach Melba  
Coffee/Tea

I will talk soon with Dr. Dietz (MIT) who is the speaker to determine his audiovisual needs, but I suspect that all he will need is a screen and a carousel projector (slide). I will confirm this with you later by phone.

The Club council meets prior to the meeting at 5:30; is there a corner for us to huddle in for a while, usually 6 or 7 people?

Also, I will need a small table of some sort and a chair to check people in and sell the tickets. Can this be arranged? Our normal procedure is to sell tickets and then during the meal have a waiter/waitress come around and pick up the tickets.

I think that's it for now. I will give you a ring regarding the guarantee, the audiovisual and perhaps your impression of the menu.

ROBERT B. STEPHENSON  
P. O. Box 413, Astor Station  
Boston, Massachusetts 02123

---

*Secretary-Treasurer*



DR. LOT B. PAGE  
Conant Road  
Lincoln, Massachusetts 01773

---

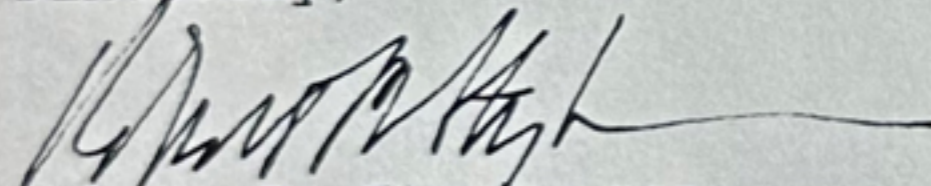
*Vice-President and  
Program Chairman*

-2-

In the meantime if you have any questions please give me  
a ring at 262-0060.

We're all looking forward to a fine evening.

Sincerely,



Robert B. Stephenson

8 ORNE SQUARE  
SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS 01970

March 12, 1983

Mr. Robert B. Stephenson  
P. O. Box 413, Astor Station  
Boston, Mass. 02123

Dear Mr. Stephenson:-

Unfortunately I shall not be able to attend the next meeting of the Travellers Club, but will take this opportunity to comment on the choice of location of the meetings, i.e., Harvard Club vs. M.I.T.

Now that the cost of the Harvard Club "Blue Plate Special" (as it is sometimes designated by members) has gone up to \$15.00, and in view of the fact that our first dinner at M.I.T. cost \$15.00, my suggestion is that we alternate meetings between the two and see what the "customer reaction" is. Personally, I was much pleased at what M.I.T. had to offer, and to one such as myself who is no longer a member of the Harvard Club the parking facilities at Kendall Square have a great deal in their favor.

Sincerely yours,

*Gil*

Gilbert R. Payson

## Fixed Cost - Variable Cost Analysis of Dinners

Results for 1995 - 1996:

Meetings: 8      Paying attendees: 374

Variable Costs:	TOTAL	Meeting Average	Per Person
Dinner Attendees (=meals provided)	386	48.3	1
	\$	\$	
Dinner Cost	10,242	1,280	\$ 26.53
Hors d'oeuvres (i.e. snacks before meal)	199	25	\$ 0.52
Wine	1,620	203	\$ 4.20
Sub-Total	12,061	1,508	\$ 31.25
Clubhouse Function Fee - 18%	2,137	267	\$ 5.54
Sub-Total	14,198	1,775	\$ 36.78
Tax - portion on variable costs 5%	710	89	\$ 1.84
<b>Total Variable Cost</b>	<b>14,908</b>	<b>1,863</b>	<b>\$ 38.62</b>
<b>Fee per meal per person</b>			<b>\$ 30.00</b>
<b>Loss per meal</b>			<b>\$ (8.62)</b>

In other words, if an additional person attended a meal, the Harvard Travelers Club lost an additional \$ 8.62.

Fixed Costs:	TOTAL	Meeting Average	Per Paying Member
Bartender	400	50	\$ 1.07
Room Charge	Free	Free	Free
Rental Equipment	220	28	\$ 0.59
Parking & Speaker Room	170	21	\$ 0.45
Tax - portion on fixed costs	42	5	\$ 0.11
Speaker Expense	159	20	\$ 0.43
Projection (excluding purchase)	120	15	\$ 0.32
Free meals provided (= 12)	463	58	\$ 1.24
<b>Total Fixed Cost</b>	<b>1,575</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>\$ 4.21</b>

**Justification:**

New Projector	981
Fixed Costs	1,575
Variable Costs	14,908
Less 12 free meals already in fixed costs	-463
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,000</b>
Total as per Treasurer	17,000
<b>Variance:</b>	<b><u>0</u></b>

**Implications for coming year:**

Total Variable costs for dinner if 4% increase	\$	40.17
Fee per person per meal	\$	30.00
<b>Loss per person attending:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>10.17</u></b>

Paying Persons (no change from 1995-96)		374
Cost of meals for paying persons	15,022	
<b>1996-7 Fixed Costs (assume 4% +)</b>	<b><u>1,638</u></b>	
<b>Total Cost of Meals</b>	<b>16,660</b>	
Printing (increase 4%)	1,218	
Postage (increase 5%)	778	
Other	50	
<b>Total Costs to Club, next year</b>	<b><u>18,706</u></b>	
<b>Revenue (assume unchanged)</b>	<b><u>19,391</u></b>	
<b>Projected Net Income</b>	<b><u><u>685</u></u></b>	

**Analysis:**

If we have a 20% increase in attendance, or unanticipated expenses, we may incur a loss. We need to look at options for raising revenue or cutting cost; yet, I would argue, we may also need to upgrade meal variety and to continue our efforts to attract high quality speakers.