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On behalf of the Organizing Committee, we are pleased to present these proceedings of the Wallace Clement Sabine Centennial Symposium. The idea that the Acoustical Society of America – more particularly its Technical Committee on Architectural Acoustics – should so honor the undisputed “Father of the Science of Architectural Acoustics” arose from a last-minute analysis of the Fogg lecture room before its demise in 1973. The opportunity to make some limited acoustical measurements prompted an increasingly closer study of Sabine’s initial exploration, as seen through his writing, and a very gradual realization of the sheer enormity of one person’s undertaking.

The theme of this symposium is to reflect not only upon the seminal and innovative pioneering work of Sabine but all that has transpired since his historic achievement, as well as to speculate on future developments in architectural acoustics. From the time of our initial proposal for celebrating the century since Sabine first refined and generalized his findings at Fogg, the technical committee considered many proposals for the symposium. These have matured and culminated in this historic gathering at MIT on this week in June 1994 of scientists, architects, consultants, musicians, music educators and others concerned with architectural acoustics. More importantly, by direction of the technical committee, there were to be written proceedings which would touch on practically all aspects of architectural acoustics, its research and its applications in listening spaces and in buildings of all types.

We hope that these efforts have contributed to an interesting and enjoyable Symposium, and a proceedings document that will become increasingly valuable with time.

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