JOHN CARSWELL'S destinations included Syria, where he worked to complete his catalogue of all tiled buildings there from the last six hundred years; the purpose of the survey is to define the Syrian style within the general development of tile work in the Islamic world. In London he lectured on his 1976 survey of medieval ports in India and Ceylon mentioned in Arabic and Islamic sources; he had discovered a hoard of more than five hundred Chinese pottery vessels in northeastern Ceylon. Several of Mr. Carswell's articles this year dealt with those two fields.