
Chronicles

October 1993–March 1994

- First of five seasons of public admission to Buckingham Palace closes, registering a profit which is to help fund the repairs of Windsor Castle: *The Guardian*, 1 October 1993, *International Herald Tribune*, 2–3 October 1993. 1 October 1993
- Speculation that shopping precinct in Leicester covers the grave of Richard III: *The Guardian*, 1 October 1993.
- Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, given £4.5 million by anonymous donor for restoration and new building: *The Times*, 2 October 1993. 2 October 1993
- Baroque Protestant church in Dresden, destroyed in the British and American bombing raids 48 years ago, to be rebuilt: *The Times*, 2 October 1993.
- Antiquarian treasures of enormous value said to have been amassed illicitly by Director of the Italian state pharmacy, Duilio Poggiolini, and found in a bank vault by police in a health corruption inquiry: *The Guardian*, 2 October 1993.
- Fire at Düsseldorf Art Museum in early September found to have been caused by faulty electrical wiring for a video installation by Nam June Paik. The museum is closed until 1994 for repair: *International Herald Tribune*, 2–3 October 1993. 2–3 October 1993
- Scientists report that the oldest human footprints (at a remote archaeological site at Laetoli, northern Tanzania) are being destroyed through neglect. The footprints are the only proof that early man walked upright on two legs 3.6 million years ago: *The Independent on Sunday*, 3 October 1993. 3 October 1993
- Remains of Iron Age settlement from the first century BC discovered on the site of new reservoir at East Lavant, West Sussex: *The Times*, 8 October 1993. 8 October 1993
- Sir Oliver Millar, former keeper of the Queen's pictures, and others call on the government to intervene over the choice of new Director for the National Portrait Gallery. The decision to overlook Dr Malcolm Rogers, Deputy Director of the NPG, has angered members of the art world. The appointment went to Dr Charles Saumarez Smith, head of research at the Victoria and Albert Museum: *The Sunday Times*, 10 October 1993. 10 October 1993
- Magritte's painting *Decalcomanie*, stolen in 1979, seized by Scotland Yard at Sotheby's in London. The German firm TT Consult

helped locate it for its owner, Mrs Mattis-Perelman, who requested the painting be sold in London. TT Consult are now to sue both the owner and Scotland Yard for £100,000 in finder's fees allegedly owed to them: *The Observer*, 10 October 1993.

Treasure trove inquest to be held after coin hoard dating from the Civil War, and believed to have formed part of Queen Henrietta Maria's fortune, is found in North Yorkshire with the aid of a metal detector. : *The Observer*, 10 October 1993.

11 October 1993 Newly recreated medieval apartments in the Tower of London reported to be historically inaccurate and illegal. English Heritage has prepared a report for the Department of National Heritage alleging they have been built without permission from English Heritage: *The Times*, 11 October 1993.

Excavations in Akhet-Aten, Egypt, reveal concrete was familiar to the pharaohs. Researchers discover that under Akhenaten, who reigned from 1353 to 1335 BC, concrete was invented to speed construction of a new capital: *The Times*, 11 October 1993.

Chartwell Trust on verge of completing financial arrangements designed to ensure that Winston Churchill's personal archives remain in Britain. Under the deal, private sponsors buy the papers and give them to the country, to prevent their being sold to a wealthy American museum or university: *The Times*, 11 October 1993, 12 October 1993.

Mauritshuis, at The Hague, pays 3.5 million Guilders for previously unknown still life by Jan Davidsz de Heem (1606–1684). The painting is of a glass vase with flowers with fruit and insects in the foreground: *NRC Handelsblad*, 11 October 1993.

12 October 1993 Rijksmuseum voor Oudheidkunde, Leiden, opens new department after 4 years' renovation: 'Archaeology in the Netherlands'. The department represents the history of the Netherlands as revealed by archeological discoveries: *NRC Handelsblad*, 12 October 1993.

Export of Michelangelo's drawing 'The Holy Family with the Infant St John the Baptist', sold to the Getty Museum, delayed to allow time for a United Kingdom purchaser to emerge: *The Guardian*, 12 October 1993.

Restoration of Victoria Tower at the Palace of Westminster now complete: *The Guardian*, 12 October 1993.

Five Dutch paintings, stolen in Delft in 1988, recovered in Australia: *The Guardian*, 12 October 1993.

13 October 1993 Broadcaster John Tusa appointed chairman of the Advisory Committee on the Government Art Collection: *The Times*, 13 October 1993.

Former gas hall converted into art gallery in Birmingham. The new gallery is large enough to house major loan exhibitions: *The Times*, 13 October 1993.

Restoration of the mausoleum of Julius Beer, modelled on the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus and built in 1880, now complete. Re-

opening by the Secretary of State for National Heritage marks the achievement of the Friends of Highgate Cemetery in preserving and restoring the cemetery: *The Guardian*, 13 October 1993.

Three years' excavation of prehistoric copper mines at Great Ormes Head, North Wales, leads archaeologists to previously undiscovered parts of the mines which have not been penetrated since prehistoric times: *The Independent*, 14 October 1993.

14 October 1993

Elgin marbles back in the political arena with return of Melina Mercouri as Greek Culture Minister, renewing her promises to fight for their return: *The Times*, 14 October 1993.

International conference on the Angkor Wat temple complex in Cambodia issues an appeal to save it: *The Guardian*, 14 October 1993.

New state of Biëlarus searches for a priceless cross made for St Eufrosinia in 1162. The cross, Biëlarus's national symbol, was stolen from Mahilow in 1941 during the German invasion and is believed to form part of an American collection: *The Guardian*, 14 October 1993.

Sir Hugh Leggatt, honorary adviser and benefactor to the National Portrait Gallery, enters the dispute over the choice of new director of the gallery. Senior figures in the art world wanted the deputy director, Dr Malcolm Rogers to get the position. Sir Hugh, expressed astonishment, saying "Malcolm Rogers is an exceptional man and I am very surprised that he was not chosen. Malcolm is a brilliant scholar with a visual sense that is vital in a director, particularly of the National Portrait Gallery": *The Times*, 16 October 1993.

16 October 1993

Brazilian, American and British archaeologists hope that excavations in north-east Brazil will shed light on the history, economy and religion of a black state established c. 1590 by runaway African slaves: *The Independent*, 19 October 1993.

19 October 1993

Only Mediaeval text in the world to include complete collection of silver pilgrim badges acquired by Koninklijke Bibliotheek at The Hague. There are 4 or 5 such Mediaeval texts in existence, but whereas none contains more than one pilgrim badge, this text contains 23 of which 21 are original: *NRC Handelsblad*, 19 October 1993.

Archaeologists begin excavating Danish field outside Dystrup after children uncover seven 3,600 year old bronze swords: *The Times*, 20 October 1993.

20 October 1993

Daughter of Henry Moore in legal dispute to wrest ownership and control of some of her father's finest work from the Henry Moore Foundation: *The Times*, 20 October 1993.

Treasure hunter fined £300 for stealing bronze plaque of the Roman Emperor Claudius found on farmland near York: *The Independent*, 21 October 1993.

21 October 1993

- 22 October 1993 Initiative to protect statues in Trafalgar Square by using special gel to discourage birds announced by Peter Brooke, National Heritage Secretary: *The Times*, 22 October 1993.
Brothers fined for selling furniture bearing counterfeit carved mice. The mouse is the trade mark of Mouseman furniture, handmade by craftsmen in Yorkshire: *The Independent*, 23 October 1993.
- 23 October 1993 Planned privatisation of 22 Dutch museums on 1st January 1994 estimated to cost the government at least 34 million Guilders, a sum necessary to secure the pension rights of museum employees (who will cease to be public sector employees) at current levels: *Volkskrant*, 23 October 1993.
- 24 October 1993 Stone Age temple of La Hougue Bie on Jersey becomes focus of new archaeological study and of controversial interpretation of Stone Age political structures: *The Observer*, 24 October 1993.
- 25 October 1993 *Spirit of the City*, marble figure atop Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, to be permanently removed and housed indoors and replaced by replica. The statue is reported to be suffering from severe erosion: *The Independent*, 25 October 1993.
- 26 October 1993 Royal Holloway College and Bedford New College sells its Gainsborough painting, 'Peasants Going to Market; Early Morning', to an anonymous British collector six weeks before it is due to be auctioned at Christie's, London, ensuring the painting stays in Britain: *The Times*, 26 October 1993.
Plans, awaiting final government approval, to build houses in the centre of an ancient battlefield of Tewkesbury, Gloucester could mean that the town loses an important part of its historical landscape: *The Independent*, 26 October 1993.
Archaeologists unearth first 9th century BC inscription referring to King David, apart from those in the Bible, in northern Israel. The discovery gives new material to the debate between traditional Biblical scholars, who view much of the Old Testament as a historical document, and Biblical revisionists who regard the first 10 books of the Bible as a virtual work of fiction: *The Independent*, 26 October 1993.
- 27 October 1993 Archaeologists unearth 3,000 year old bronze and gold jewellery at site of reservoir being dug at East Lavant, West Sussex: *The Times*, 27 October 1993.
Two watercolour paintings by 19th century artist Andrew Nicholl, bought for £1 in car-boot sale, fetch £8,500 at Sotheby's: *The Times*, 27 October 1993.
Annual Report of The Export Reviewing Committee, published by the Department of National Heritage, criticises as "pathetic" Britain's record in keeping works of art: *The Independent*, 27 October 1993
- 28 October 1993 Palaeontologists unearth 2.5 million-year-old jawbone near Lake Malawi, East Africa, belonging to a little known member of the

human genus *Homo rudolfiensis*, which scientists believe to be our direct ancestors, replacing the more famous “handy man”, the tool-making *Homo habilis*: *The Independent*, 28 October 1993.

Manet’s ‘Sketch at the Bar aux Folies-Bergère’, which has hung for 55 years in the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, removed by the owner, F.F.R Königs who plans to sell it. The museum has no right to compensation for maintenance and restoration costs incurred during the 55 year loan period: *NRC Handelsblad*, 29 October 1993

Rijksdienst Beeldende Kunst acquires early Dutch collections of photographs, amassed by lawyer Eduard Isaac Asser (1809–1894), inventor of the Asser procedure for developing prints. The collection was given to the State by Asser’s descendants: *NRC Handelsblad*, 29 October 1993.

Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, announces that the ‘Dageraad der Gouden Eeuw’ exhibition (costing more than 2 million Guilders) will be its last large exhibition in the near future. The museum intends to concentrate its funds on conservating and displaying its own collection: *NRC Handelsblad*, 29 October 1993.

306 Dutch Old Master drawings, looted by Nazis in 1945 and later by Red Army, discovered in cellars at the Pushkin Museum, Moscow, and identified as the bulk of the Koenigs Collection. A joint Dutch-Russian group will meet in The Netherlands to discuss whether the drawings are to be returned to Dutch control: *The Times*, 29 October 1993.

Thieves steal Saxon gems worth £10,000 from Winchester City Museum: *The Times*, 30 October 1993

Royal Apartments of Pitti Palace, Florence, open to public after seven years of restoration: *The Times*, 30 October 1993.

Severn Valley Railway and English Heritage to share cost of repairing the Victoria Bridge, built of cast iron in 1861: *The Guardian*, 30 October 1993.

Governmental report (WVC Ministry) reveals that cost of Dutch government’s ‘Delta-plan’ to up-date conservation facilities in State museums and three supporting services is estimated at 86 million Guilders: *NRC Handelsblad*, 1 November 1993, p. 1 and 6.

Two unknown paintings by John Constable discovered after woman takes them for valuation to Sotheby’s, London: *The Times*, 2 November 1993.

Three sites are being considered for the new Tate Gallery of Modern Art: the Jubilee Gardens and Effra site, which would both require new building, and the listed Bankside Power Station, which would require renovation: *The Independent*, 2 November 1993, *The Guardian*, 2 November 1993.

Excavation of vaults beneath Hawksmoor’s Christ Church at Spitalfields reveal details about 18th and 19th century Londoners. The Spitalfields Project is partly financed by English Heritage and pub-

lished by the Council of British Archaeology: *The Guardian*, 2 November 1993.

- 3 November 1993 West Norwood Cemetery, South London, historic municipal burial ground and resting place of scores of eminent Victorian inventors, engineers and entrepreneurs, ravaged by Lambeth Council employees without permission from the Church of England. Council workers have demolished or removed several thousand stone monuments. Prompted by conservationists, the Church is taking legal action to force the council to restore the site as far as possible to its former state: *The Independent*, 3 November 1993.
National Film and Television Archive launches worldwide search for copies of 150 historic films, which have gone missing from cinemas and libraries throughout Europe: *The Times*, 3 November 1993.
- 4 November 1993 Paintings and manuscripts moved into the basement of the Getty Museum as fire spreads towards the gallery in Malibu. The basement has heat resistant walls and a sprinkler system designed to protect valuable works: *The Times*, 4 November 1993.
Legal dispute between Groningen artist Siep van den Berg and members of the Fine Art Department against the Administration of University of Groningen. The Administration's plans to extend the Department include the destruction of a wall mural painted in 1975 by Van den Berg. The action is rejected by the court but objections continue: *NRC Handelsblad*, 4 November 1993.
Dutch *Algemene Rekenkamer* (Public Accounts Office)'s report (*Cultuurbehoud*) claims, on basis of research into 16 state museums and 3 supporting museum services, that Ministry for Culture (WVC) has insufficient insight into the extent of the backlog in registration, conservation and restoration of national cultural property: *NRC Handelsblad*, 4 November 1993.
- 5 November 1993 Rijksmuseum voor Volkenkunde (State Folk Museum), Leiden, to receive 15,5 million Guilders from Ministry for Culture (WVC) towards renovation. Estimated total cost of renovation is 53 million Guilders. The museum holds one of the world's most important collections concerning non-Western cultures: *NRC Handelsblad* 6 November 1993.
- 6 November 1993 Marquess of Northampton wins legal dispute over ownership of the Sevso silver hoard after six week trial in New York Supreme Court. Croatia and Hungary failed to prove their claims, but both intend to appeal the decision: *The Times*, 6 November 1993, *The Independent*, 5 November 1993, *The Guardian*, 5 and 6 November 1993.
Two carved granite columns from medieval Hindu temple in Southern India discovered in garden of Earl of Lichfield's residence, Shugborough Hall, Staffordshire. The columns will feature in an exhibition on Hindu art at the British Museum: *The Independent*, 6 November 1993.

Pot bought for £3.50 in car boot sale discovered to date from about 3000 BC: *The Times*, 6 November 1993.

Insurers Nationale Nederland announce that, in the case of theft from private collections, they will no longer rely only on expert reports by dealers of good repute; photographs of the works alleged to be stolen and independent advice would be required before payments are made: *NRC Handelsblad*, 8 November 1993.

Widow of French artist Louis Favre (1812–1956) donates 90 lithographs, drawings, gouaches, wax paintings and illustrated books by her husband to the Groningen Museum, Netherlands. It was her husband's wish that the works be donated to a museum: *NRC Handelsblad*, 8 November 1993.

Statue of *Aurora* by John Gibson (a pupil of Canova) bought by National Museum of Wales: *The Independent*, 9 November 1993.

Burglars saw metre-wide hole in ceiling of Museum of Modern Art in Stockholm and steal paintings by Picasso and Braque worth £43m: *The Independent*, 9 November 1993, *The Times*, 1993.

English Heritage and the Buildings at Risk Trust report that nearly a quarter of listed buildings are under threat because of lack of finance, lack of commitment by government and councils, and lack of imagination needed to find new uses for buildings that have outlived their original purpose: *The Times*, 10 November 1993.

£12 million appeal launched for urgent repairs to St Paul's Cathedral, London: *The Times*, 10 November 1993.

16th-century Stari Most bridge destroyed by Croat shelling in Mostar in Bosnia. Loss of the bridge renews attention on battle damage caused to architectural and cultural treasures: *The Independent*, 10 November 1993, *The Times*, 11 November 1993.

Croatian government announces intention to appeal against New York Supreme Court decision awarding Sevso Roman silver collection to Marquess of Northampton: *The Independent*, 11 November 1993.

Government advisers on museum policy report that many museums and galleries face a fight for survival. Proposals to cut up to 55 posts at the Science Museum in Kensington and at the related National Museum of Photography, Film and Television in Bradford have enraged staff, who claim the loss of curators and librarians will turn the museums into little more than theme parks: *The Times*, 11 November 1993.

Medina Council, Isle of Wight, England, asks local authority at Caen, France, for the Pegasus D-Day landing bridge, which was to be scrapped: *The Times*, 11 November 1993.

Natural History Museum's specimen of 38 million year old fly preserved in amber exposed as fake by doctoral student examining the Museum's amber collection. The fly is discovered to be the work of

a 19th century faker. The discovery means that the history of the fly will have to be rewritten: *The Times*, 12 November 1993.

- 13 November 1993 National Portrait Gallery's £12 million Twentieth Century Galleries open next week. The galleries, result of a public appeal launched in 1989, were converted from offices and store rooms and will provide the museum with one third more space in which to house the collection of post-war portraits: *The Times*, 13 November 1993.
San Antonio de la Florida, 18th century church in Madrid, reopens after five year closure to restore its Goya frescoes: *The Independent*, 13 November 1993.
Following Turkey's success in retrieving the "Lydian hoard" from New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Turkish Government intend to recover a frieze from the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus and a Nereid monument from Xanthus from the British Museum in London: *The Times*, 13 November 1993
- 14 November 1993 Israeli archaeologists begin massive search of occupied West Bank in a final effort to uncover valuable antiquities before the area is transferred to Palestinian rule under the peace accord. Palestinians claim they will demand the return of any archaeological artifacts uncovered in the West Bank, declaring the excavation to be a plunder of their heritage: *The Times*, 15 November 1993.
In the wake of the recent theft of paintings in Stockholm, thefts and 'kidnaps' of art in the last few years and the organisations which aid their recovery are reviewed: *The Observer*, 14 November 1993.
Eight copies of Picasso and Braque paintings stolen from the Museum of Modern Art in Stockholm found on pavement outside the museum. Swedish Government is offering a reward of 36,000 dollars for tips leading to recovery of the stolen works: *NRC Handelsblad*, 15 November 1993.
- 15 November 1993 India's Supreme Court decides to close more than 200 factories in Agra and 100 in Ferozabad to end pollution which is destroying the nearby Taj Mahal. Environmentalists and tourism officials are delighted but industrialists and over 200,000 unemployed workers protest: *The Guardian*, 15 November 1993.
Prague rapidly beoming the centre of the illicit art trade in central and eastern Europe. The trade includes icons and religious aretfacts stolen from churches in the former Soviet bloc; between 15,000 and 20,000 objects are stolen each year in the Czech Republic alone. Recovery is doubtful as the objects are unregistered. An international conference in Prague discusses the problem and solutions: *The Guardian*, 15 November 1993.
- 16 November 1993 Prince of Wales makes impassioned plea at annual meeting of the Historic Houses Association in London for preservation of Britain's architectural heritage, claiming that the public regard "saving our historic buildings" as heading the National Heritage agenda. The Prince told the audience that historic properties were "the equivalent

of the Mediterranean's sun, a lasting economic resource which will be with us for ever, provided we look after it": *The Times*, 17 November 1993.

Cromer Pier, Norfolk, broken in two by drifting barge during recent gales, to be fully restored for Spring 1994: *The Times*, 16 November 1993.

Wounded Knee Survivors' Association claims ownership of a Ghost Dance shirt, worn by a Sioux killed at the Battle of Wounded Knee in 1890 and displayed at the Kelvingrove Museum in Glasgow: *The Guardian*, 16 November 1993.

Music manuscripts by Henry Purcell, English baroque composer, discovered by Devon music dealer at London sale: *The Times*, *NRC Handelsblad*, 17 November 1993.

17 November 1993

Moscow authorities move to close Lenin's museum, the first Moscow site linked to the founder of Bolshevism, as Russia struggles free of its communist past. The building is to house the city council: *The Times*, 17 November 1993, *International Herald Tribune*, 17 November 1993.

Doubts as to authenticity of three paintings ascribed to Rembrandt and owned by National Gallery of Art, Washington, voiced by Dutch art historians H. Gerson and Ernst van der Wetering 25 years ago, now shared by the owner. 'Joseph accused by Potifar's wife', 'Woman with carnation', and 'Old woman with book' are thought to be painted by students of Rembrandt. Van der Wetering considers that further paintings ascribed to Rembrandt at the NGA may also be the work of Rembrandt's students: *NRC Handelsblad*, 17 November 1993.

Authenticity of Caravaggio's 'The betrayal of Christ', which has hung for 60 years in an Irish monastery, confirmed by Sir Denis Mahon, one of the most authoritative experts on 17th Century Italian art. The work now hangs in the National Gallery, Dublin: *NRC Handelsblad*, 17 November 1993.

Art historian Pim Brinkman, defending his doctoral thesis 'Het Geheim van Van Eyck' (Van Eycks' secret) at the University of Leiden, identifies Van Eyck not (as widely believed) as the inventor of oil paint, but as developer of a faster-drying version. There has long been uncertainty about how the paintings of Van Eyck and contemporaries have survived with less cracking and discolourment than many later works, eg. of the 17th Century. Brinkman ascribes this to Van Eyck's technique, by which the paint is applied in layers, rather than to the constituency of the paint. *NRC Handelsblad*, 18 November 1993.

18 November 1993

Queen Beatrice opens exhibition in the Scheepvaartmuseum, Amsterdam, of the wreck of the Swedish ship Kronan, which sank in 1676 in a battle against a Danish and Dutch fleet. The wreck was discovered by Germans in 1980, and the objects retrieved are dis-

- played in the Kalmar läns museum: *NRC Handelsblad*, 18 November 1993.
- President Mitterrand opens new Richelieu wing of the Louvre, Paris: *The Times*, 18 November 1993.
- 18 November 1993 Admission to be charged for access to precincts of Windsor Castle. The £8 fee will also permit access to St George's Chapel, the State Apartment and the Gallery, and will contribute £1.25 million a year towards restoring the castle's fire damage: *The Times*, 18 November 1993, *The Guardian*, 18 November 1993.
- Fierce local opposition to Wakefield Council's support of the Henry Moore Foundation's proposal to create a sculpture park: *The Guardian*, 18 November 1993.
- 19 November 1993 Legislation planned to abolish the ancient law of market overt. Following campaign by the Council for the Prevention of Art Theft, Lord Renton agrees to sponsor a private bill: *The Times*, 19 November 1993.
- 20 November 1993 Insurers fail to gain entirety of fortune in gold and treasure from the SS *Central America*, which sank off North Carolina in 1857. A federal judge rules that they should receive a tenth, the remainder being awarded to the treasure-hunters who found the wreck: *The Times*, 20 November 1993.
- Two hammerhead cranes, listed for preservation, to be repaired and repainted at cost of £275,000: *The Independent*, 20 November 1993.
- Vienna opens new Jewish museum. The first such museum in Vienna opened in 1897 and was closed by the Nazis in 1938: *NRC Handelsblad*, 20 November 1993.
- 20–21 November 1993 Israeli archaeologists claim to have discovered 2nd century manuscripts hidden in cliffs overlooking Jericho. The Israeli Antiquities Authority has increased its activity in the West Bank searching for artefacts of Jewish heritage to be kept by Israel; the Palestinians accuse them of last minute plundering: *International Herald Tribune*, 20–21 November 1993.
- 21 November 1993 Public inquiry to decide the future of planned 60-ft monument to human rights near Tower Bridge, London. Southwark Council approved a temporary licence for the sculpture, which is supported by the Royal Fine Art Commission, the City Corporation, the Diocese of Southward and English Heritage. The Docklands Corporation and the Kuwaiti-backed London Bridge City office development oppose the sculpture on account of its size and proximity to buildings and not on account of Kuwaiti human rights embarrassment, as alleged: *The Observer*, 21 November 1993.
- Destroyed Old Bridge at Mostar and its symbolism discussed: *The Observer*, 21 November 1993.
- 22 November 1993 Remains of 11th century timber bridge discovered buried 12ft deep in gravel pit in Leicestershire: *The Independent*, 22 November 1993.

Archivists in Blackpool search for the original architect's plans of Blackpool Tower, hoping to find them in time for its centenary next year: *The Guardian*, 21 November 1993.

Archaeologists discover important "missing link" between ancient civilisation of southern Mesopotamia and eastern Mediterranean. Discovery in north-east Syria of a 4,400 year old walled city contains an archive of administrative documents which shed light on the ancient links between the Leventine civilisation of the eastern Mediterranean coast and the Sumerians of Southern Mesopotamia. The excavations so far have revealed a temple, royal palace, large city wall and the archive: *The Independent*, 23 November 1993.

23 November 1993

Rembrandt project, which researches the authenticity of Rembrandt's work, to continue despite resignation in April 1993 of five members of the team, under leadership of Ernst van der Wetering: *NRC Handelsblad*, 23 November 1993.

Sculpture, by Käthe Kollwitz in 1937, of grieving mother and her dead son, installed in the Neue Wache (built by the architect Schinkel), Unter den Linden, Berlin, to commemorate the victims of 'war and dictatorship'. The choice of sculpture, considered inappropriate to commemorate the murder of the Jews, is controversial: *NRC Handelsblad*, 23 November 1993.

Drawing discovered of the earliest statue of Erasmus. The statue was destroyed by the Spanish in 1572. The drawing was found in the *album amicorum* of the 16th Century student Johann Jakob van Staal, a perambulating student of the University of Wittemberg: *NRC Handelsblad*, 24 November 1993.

24 November 1993

Boris Yeltsin orders the Tretjakov Gallery, Moscow, to lend two of Russia's most important ikons to the Russian Orthodox Church. The 15th Century 'Holy Trinity' by Andrej Roebliov and 'Vladimir's Virgin' painted in the 12th Century in Constantinople is part of a larger dispute about the ownership of religious objects. In 1917 the church was forced to give most of its treasures to the state, whereby the Tretjakov gallery acquired more than 5,000 ikons: *NRC Handelsblad*, 24 November 1993.

Rachel Whiteread wins 1993 Turner Prize for best artist, for her cast of an east London terraced house 'House': *The Independent*, 24 November 1993.

Le Grand Palais in Paris closes for at least two years so that £30 million repairs can be undertaken on its leaking glass roof and rusting metal frame: *The Guardian*, 24 November 1993.

G.J. Verwers, general director of the Rijksmuseum voor Oudheden, Leiden, and Chairman of the Dutch Museum Society, claims that minimum requirements should be satisfied before an institution can call itself a 'museum'. The Mata Hari Museum, which opens in Leeuwarden in 1995 was cited as an example of a dubious museum. The Mata Hari Trust reacted furiously: *NRC Handelsblad*, 26 November 1993.

26 November 1993

New cultural-historical museum in Vianen has special facilities for the blind: *NRC Handelsblad*, 26 November 1993.

1000 year old love letter written on birch bark uncovered in excavations near St Petersburg: *International Herald Tribune*: 26 November 1993.

27 November 1993 Israeli archeologists discover 5,000 year-old skeleton in cave close to Jericho in the occupied Jordanian West Bank. The skeleton is thought to be of a 40 year-old Caanite soldier: *NRC Handelsblad*, 27 November 1993.

Iron Age settlement discovered by archaeologists on tidal mud flats east of Newport, Gwent, Wales: *The Independent*, 27 November 1993.

Wordsworth Trust raise enough money to secure return from United States of George Beaumont's painting 'Peele Castle in a Storm': *The Times*, 27 November 1993.

Marriot's Shaft tin mine in Cornwall to be preserved as part of a 30 mile walk of old works: *The Guardian*, 27 November 1993.

28 November 1993 Tutankhamun's tomb reported to be in danger of collapse. The tomb is crumbling under combined pressures of excavation and tourism: *The Sunday Times*, 28 November 1993.

29 November 1993 Painting 'Bloemstillevan in kuip' by Jan Breugel the Older (1568-1625) becomes the subject of continuing controversy as to the application of the *wet tot behoud van cultuurbezit* (Retention of Cultural Property Act). The painting was put on the blockade list in 1985; for the second time D. Doll, who has an option on the painting, has initiated proceedings to have the painting removed from the list in order to be allowed to remove it from the Netherlands to Germany. On 2nd June 1993 the *Raad van State* rejected Doll's arguments that the painting was less important than claimed by the Ministry. In a new challenge, Doll will claim that the Ministry has repeatedly re-interpreted the provisions in the Act in order to justify keeping the painting on the blockade list: *NRC Handelsblad*, 29 November 1993. Walter Maas Huis, Bilthoven, Netherlands, to open as centre for art and culture. The house, in the form of a grand-piano, was commissioned by the composer Julius Röntgen in 1925: *NRC Handelsblad*, 29 November 1993.

30 November 1993 Kyle and Carrick District Council's plans to develop Robertson's Field, 100 yards from Robert Burns's birthplace in Alloway, Ayrshire, Scotland, opposed by the Alloway Village Preservation Society: *The Guardian*, 30 November 1993.

1 December 1993 Glasgow wins two year battle against Edinburgh to house the new National Gallery of Scottish Art: *The Times*, *The Independent*, 1 December 1993.

Lottery, held to raise money for south wing of the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, raises 280,000 Guilders: *NRC Handelsblad*, 1 December 1993.

Municipal authority in The Hague intends to make five museums and art institutes independent. The Koninklijke Schouwberg and Museum will become independent in 1995. The Hague Gemeentemuseum is problematic because of cuts necessary to offset overspending by the previous director, Rudi Fuchs: *NRC Handelsblad*, 1 December 1993.

Objections committee in Netherlands Ministry of Culture subjects painting 'Stilleven in kuip' to 'dendrochronological' investigation to establish whether it was painted by Jan Breugel the Older or a copier: *NRC Handelsblad*, 1 December 1993.

Metropolitan Police launch stolen goods roadshow called 'Operation Bumblebee' where stolen items go on display in hope of finding their rightful owners. The roadshows will tour eight venues in Britain as part of a campaign against burglaries: *The Independent*, 2 December 1993.

2 December 1993

Lithographs, prints and etchings, including some by Picasso, Chagall and Dali, stolen from a hotel garage in Handstedt, Germany while their owner, a dealer, was staying at the hotel: *The Guardian*, 2 December 1993.

17th century granite head, stolen from archaeological site at Kilcavan near Gorey, Co Wexford, Ireland, recovered by police: *The Times*, 2 December 1993.

Car which featured in the film *Genevieve* bought at auction by Dutch National Motor Museum: *The Independent*, 3 December 1993.

Painting by Petrus Christus, 'The Man of Sorrow', is stolen during opening hours from Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery: *The Independent*, 3 December 1993

Report by the Minister d'Ancona *Monumenten nader bekeken* (Monuments in close-up) states more funds are needed for restoration and too many young buildings are being put on the monument list: *NRC Handelsblad*, 3 December 1993.

Remains of oldest sea-going boat in northern Europe, discovered in Dover, to go on public display there before undergoing two years of preservation work: *The Independent*, 4 December 1993.

4 December 1993

Future of the *Bibliotheca Hermetica*, a unique library collected by Joost Ritman, under threat owing to Mr Ritman's financial difficulties: *NRC Handelsblad* 4 December 1993.

Relics removed from the Great Pyramid more than a century ago were brought to England and may lie buried under Cleopatra's Needle in London, according to a leading Egyptologist, after objects were discovered by an explorer inside a tunnel deep within the pyramid 121 years ago: *The Independent*, 6 December 1993.

6 December 1993

Unknown donor offers the Hannema-de Stuers Foundation chance to acquire several hundred works by mainly Dutch artists from 1970. The museum will take the works initially on loan; if the extension of the Castle *Het Nijenhuis* goes ahead, the loan will become a gift.

- The Provincial state of Overijssel still has to decide whether to spend 3,75 million Guilders on the extension: *NRC Handelsblad*, 6 December 1993.
- 7 December 1993 Thieves steal 15 paintings worth more than £1 million from a vault at the Noortman Gallery, Old Bond Street, London: *The Times*, 7 December 1993.
- 7 December 1993 New York court holds that Daniel Goldreyer may proceed in New York against at least some of the Dutch and American individuals in respect of alleged libel concerning his restoration of Barnett Newman's 'Who's Afraid of Red, Yellow and Blue III': *NRC Handelsblad*, 7 December 1993.
Council for Management of Cultural Property advises Dutch Ministry of Culture that Ritman's *Bibliotheca Philosophica Hermetica* should be retained intact in the Netherlands. The Council is continuing to investigate before ruling whether the library is placed on the blockade list, as an 'indispensable and irreplaceable object of art', under the Retention of Cultural Property Act, which would prevent the library from being sold abroad: *NRC Handelsblad*, 8 December 1993.
- 8 December 1993 Albert Memorial in London to be restored at cost of £11m: *The Independent*, 8 December 1993.
Rijksmuseum van het boek (State book museum) launches campaign to raise 750,000 Guilders to buy large collection of ex libris and other graphic work of Eugène Strens (1899–1980). Strens was an important international collector in this field, which includes correspondence and an extensive library: *NRC Handelsblad*, 8 December 1993.
Curator and staff at a dinosaur museum at Esperanza, France, near a rich source of fossils, engaged in long-standing dispute with their local authority. To resolve the dispute the civil governor meets with the curators, who have dispersed the museum's fossils to private collectors for safekeeping: *The Guardian*, 8 December 1993.
- 9 December 1993 Musica Neerlandica Trust, which manages part of the collection of Dutch music belonging to the Hague violinist Willem Noske, is accommodated in the Hague Gemeentemuseum. The trust has raised only three-quarters of the sum it needs to rescue another part of the collection: *NRC Handelsblad*, 9 December 1993.
Site of the 'Battle of the Teutonburgerwald', in which Germanic forces defeated the Romans in the year 9 AD, discovered near Kalkriese, Germany. Amateur archeologist Captain J A S Clunn, discovered a hoard of 100 silver coins, of the type paid to soldiers. Further excavation revealed more than 650 'soldiers' coins' and 700 military objects: *NRC Handelsblad*, 9 December 1993, *Wetenschap en onderwijs*, p. 1.
- 10 December 1993 Railway warehouse, built in 1830 for the Liverpool and Manchester Railway and unused until 1975, opens to public as part of the Mu-

seum of Science and Industry in Manchester: *The Guardian*, 10 December 1993.

Announcement of Government plans to replace the Serpentine Gallery in Hyde Park with Viennese-style riding school causes outrage in the arts world: *The Times*, 11 December 1993.

11 December 1993

Lewes District Council, Sussex, England, decides to demolish Virginia Woolf's listed home, which now stands in a landfill refuse site, in view of the compensation offered and the condition of the building. The Department of Environment must still approve the decision: *The Guardian*, 11 December 1993.

Following claims by Romanian government that Francisco de Zurbarán's *The Immaculate Conception* is part of a collection taken from the country by former King Michael, the painting is withdrawn from auction: *The Guardian*, 11 December 1993.

Pop star gives thousands of pounds to the Horsell Common Preservation Society to repair the buildings (including a listed copper-domed entrance arch) and the landscape of a cemetery in Woking, Surrey, England, for Muslim soldiers killed in the First World War: *The Observer*, 12 December 1993.

12 December 1993

Medieval wall paintings at Windsor Castle badly damaged by workmen during modernisation work: *The Times*, 13 December 1993.

13 December 1993

Moat surrounding Tower of London may be refilled with water 150 years after it was emptied as a health hazard. If plans proceed it is hoped the exercise will be completed in time for the millennium: *The Times*, 13 December 1993.

Following success of its claim to the "Lydian Hoard", Turkish Government grants Engin Ozgen, the country's director of antiquities, a legal fund of £30 million to recover lost Turkish treasures: *The Guardian*, 13 December 1993.

Agreement reached between Solomon Guggenheim Foundation and Basque regional authorities to make Bilbao the European site for the Foundation's modern art collection. The museum will be completed in 1997: *The Independent*, 14 December 1993.

14 December 1993

Six lost piano sonatas by Haydn discovered belonging to a woman in Westphalia, Germany. The existence of the copies was discovered by H C Robbins Landon, Haydn's biographer: *The Times*, 14 December 1993, *NRC Handelsblad*, 14 December 1993.

Rock art in Mexico, a Roman city in Spain, and a Maya village buried under volcanic ash in El Salvador, are latest sites to join Unesco's World Heritage List: *The Times*, 14 December 1993.

Thieves steal two paintings from churches in Rome and Venice: from Rome a Perugino (1448–1523) and in Venice an 18th century painting by Giambattista Tiepolo. Police do not believe the thefts are connected: *The Independent*, *NRC Handelsblad*, 15 December 1993, *International Herald Tribune*, 16 December 1993.

Example of the rare Gutenberg Bible (published 1450) discovered in the Russian State Library in Moscow. The bible formed part of a collection of rare and old books removed by the Russian army from a library in Leipzig at the end of the Second World War. The Leipzig Museum is trying to get the collection returned: *NRC Handelsblad*, 15 December 1993.

15 December 1993 New museum planned in Leeds to house royal armoury exhibits from the Tower of London: *The Independent*, 15 December 1993. After local opposition, Rachel Whiteread's sculpture, which won the Turner Prize and was variously described as a post-war masterpiece and a lumpish eyesore, secures a stay of execution till mid-January. Bow Neighbourhood Committee previously set a demolition date in November: *The Times*, 15 December 1993.

Largest hoard of English Civil War coins, unearthed by metal detectorist William Caygill in North Yorkshire, declared treasure trove: *The Times*, 15 December 1993.

17 December 1993 Final timber replaced in hull of the *Mary Rose*, Tudor warship raised from bed of the Solent in 1982. Final stage of conservation begins April 1994 when the timbers will be treated with a water-soluble wax, a process expected to take at least 25 years: *The Times*, 17 December 1993.

Save Britain's Heritage (SAVE) publishes list of castles, country houses, churches and chapels, shops and cottages, farms and barns, railway stations, schools, inns, warehouses and abandoned mine buildings in the latest chronicle of neglect of Britain's architectural heritage. More than 150 deserted and decaying buildings are described and pictured in the booklet which is intended mainly to find rescuers for buildings whose owners are unable or unwilling to look after them: *The Times*, 17 December 1993.

Government in legal dispute for discount on £10 million cost of saving Churchill archive, following the trustees' decision to sell on behalf of the family and negotiations with the National Heritage Memorial Fund. The government, which intervened after fears that the papers might be sold abroad, has been trying through the NHMF to agree a price. Proceedings instituted in the High Court are directed to establishing the Government's title to part of the archive: *The Times*, *The Daily Telegraph*, 17 December 1993.

Historians believe they have found original tomb of Santa Claus on island off Turkish coast. Academics searching Mediterranean island of Gemile near Fethiye for traces of ancient environmental damage discovered the ruins of an early Christian pilgrimage centre. Their research into the 1,600 year old site strongly suggests that the attraction for early pilgrims was the original tomb of Saint Nicholas: *The Times*, *The Independent*, 17 December 1993.

Vandal who damaged Michelangelo's David in 1991 and a fresco by Filippo Lippi in 1993 damages a painting by Michele di Rfaello

dale Colombe in Prato, Italy: *International Herald Tribune*, 17 December 1993.

Three paintings by Picasso, stolen from the Modern Museet in Stockholm on November 8th 1993, recovered virtually undamaged: *International Herald Tribune*, 17 December 1993.

Connoisseurs in France convinced that President Mitterand has struck secret deal with the government of South Korea whereby Korean manuscripts in the Bibliotheque National (BN) are to be handed back in return for a £1.5bn contract to build a high-speed rail link between Seoul and the southern port city of Pusan. The Keeper of oriental manuscripts at the BN, Monique Cohen, is to fight the transfer: *The Independent on Sunday*, 19 December 1993.

19 December 1993

Mummy of Tutankhamun's queen may be lying unrecognised in the Egyptian Valley of the Kings. The "Elder Lady", found nearly a century ago in the tomb of another pharaoh, Amenhotep II, has hair identical to a lock found in the tomb of Tutankhamun in 1922: *The Times*, 20 December 1993.

20 December 1993

Old Master drawing by Carlo Maratta, 17th century Italian baroque artist, discovered pinned to back of kitchen door in Birmingham, England, council house. The elderly owner had no idea of the origin or value of the study, which was bought by his father over 50 years ago: *The Times*, 20 December 1993.

New radiocarbon dating techniques allied to recent tree-ring studies show that Star Carr, Mesolithic camp site in North Yorkshire, is 10,700 years old— a thousand years more than previously believed: *The Times*, 21 December 1993.

21 December 1993

J L Locher appointed new director of the Hague Gemeentemuseum from 1 January 1994. Museum's plans for 1991–1996 include halving the present collection of 150,000 works, re-structuring the museum display, and selling three works by Picasso and Monet to release funds for new acquisitions. Locher intends to develop the educative function of the museum: *NRC Handelsblad*, 21 December 1993, *NRC Handelsblad* 12 January 1994.

Campaigners mount last effort to rescue disused power station at Kingston, Surrey, England, and have it preserved as a museum of power: *The Times*, 22 December 1993.

22 December 1993

Henry Moore's daughter loses suit to claim £200m. of her father's sculptures and drawings from the trust he set up in the final years of his life: *The Independent*, 22 December 1993.

Australian Parliament, after 18 months' national debate, passes historic law giving Aborigines the right to claim title to their traditional land for the first time in 200 years. The legislation follows the epoch-making *Mabo* decision: *The Independent*, 23 December 1993. Archeologists discover sunken city off Dalmatian Coast, by Split, at depth of 2–6 metres. The ruin is thought to be the Hellenic city Sicula, once one of the most important trading ports in the area,

sought for over 100 years. The buildings are in good condition, and coins and pottery have been found: *NRC Handelsblad* 22 December 1993.

- 23 December 1993 Excavations in Sint Annenstraat 12, Amsterdam, only surviving Renaissance dwelling in the city centre, reveal rare 16th century sculptures; a cupid and a carved head, ceiling paintings, tiles and gable decorations: *NRC Handelsblad*, 23 December 1993.
Roman panpipes discovered on site near Southwark Bridge, London: *The Times*, 23 December 1993.
Largest collection of unhatched dinosaur eggs discovered in China. The eggs are believed to contain pterosaur and diplodocus embryos: *The Independent*, *The Times*, 23 December 1993.
David Tunick, New York art dealer, and Swiss auctioneer Eberhard in legal dispute over authenticity of pencil signature on an impression of Picasso's 'La Minotaure': *The Independent*, 23 December 1993.
United Kingdom Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd unveils newly refurbished 'Boy' statue in St James's Park. The marble figure was erected in 1863: *The Times* 23 December 1993.
- 24 December 1993 Gherardo delle Notti's 'Adoration of Child', first painting to be restored after being damaged in the May bomb explosion, returns to Uffizi gallery in time for Christmas: *The Times*, 24 December 1993.
- 27 December 1993 Aboriginal rock art in northern Australia dated to 25,000 years ago, making it almost as old as any art known from Ice Age Europe, and ten thousand years older than the famous cave of Lascaux in France. The date was obtained using a technique that analyses minuscule traces of carbon incorporated into minerals in the rock: *The Times* 27 December 1993.
Decorator who helped restore 700 year old basilica of San Domenico Maggiore arrested after being accused of leading gang that removed its treasures: *The Independent*, 27 December 1993.
- 28 December 1993 Speculation that Antonio Canova's 'The Three Graces' may be saved from export by newly-introduced National Lottery. United Kingdom Department of National Heritage announces that it may defer export of the sculpture for unprecedented period of 18 months. The J Paul Getty Museum in Malibu, California, bought the sculpture in September but have been refused an export licence: *The Times*, 28 December 1993.
- 29 December 1993 Archaeologists in Northern Ireland discover two timber houses and objects dating back to the Stone Age: *The Times* 29 December 1993.
Attention again focussed on Marc Chagall watercolour of 1912, with appeal proceedings between the Guggenheim Foundation in New York (which asserts a surviving title over the 25 years following the theft of the picture from it 25 years ago) and Rachel Lubell, who bought it from a reputable dealer: *The Times*, 29 December 1993.

German experts declare that Haydn sonatas discovered two weeks ago are not authentic: *NRC Handelsblad* 29 December 1993.

Important personal documents concerning life of Nicholaas Beets, (1814–1903), priest and writer of the ‘Camera Obscura’, donated to the State by his descendants. The documents shed new light on the life of Beets and his family: *NRC Handelsblad*, 29 December 1993.

Lost painting of ruins of House of Commons in aftermath of 1834 fire which destroyed old Palace of Westminster discovered in South African antiques shop. The picture is to be acquired and restored by the House: *The Independent*, *The Times*, 30 December 1993.

30 December 1993

Supreme Court of Chile orders military authorities to return to Allende family works of art and antiquities taken from the home of Salvador Allende after the coup in 1973: *The Guardian*, 30 December 1993.

Two year dispute between United Kingdom Treasury and art experts about value of Gainsborough family portrait now resolved, leaving National Gallery free to acquire it from private owner: *The Times*, 31 December 1993.

31 December 1993

Turkey celebrates return of “Lydian treasure” with exhibition in the Museum for Anatolian Culture in Ankara: *NRC Handelsblad* 31 December 1993.

Monkton Deverill gold torc, Bronze Age bracelet or necklace, the subject of a three year legal battle over ownership, expected to go on show this year at the Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum. The bracelet is in the care of the British Museum: *The Times*, 3 January 1994.

3 January 1994

Crown Jewels to be rehoused in bigger Jewel House within the Tower of London from 24 March 1994: *The Times*, *The Independent*, 3 January 1994.

Irish government to begin underwater search for the Spanish Armada: *The Times*, 3 January 1994.

Previously unknown Roman town discovered in Kent by archaeology postgraduate student, Paul Wilkinson. Preliminary archaeological examination of site near the banks of the river Swale, north of Faversham, suggest that it consisted of at least 40 stone buildings, of which 18 have so far been identified from aerial photographs or excavation: *The Independent*, 4 January 1994.

4 January 1994

Michael Ward Gallery, New York, agrees to return to Greece 50 Mycenaean era objects stolen in the 1930s: *The Times*, 4 January 1994.

Science historian, Ida H. Stamhuis, discovers 400 letters in Groningen of the Amsterdam botanist Hugo de Vries (1848–1935). The letters reveal that de Vries originally attached no importance to his own re-discovery of Mendel’s inheritance laws. Mendel’s laws form

the basis of modern genetic science: *NRC Handelsblad*, 4 January 1994.

- 5 January 1994 Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, acquires by gift from Professor Formijne largest private Dutch collection of Indian miniatures, comprising 270 sheets from 15th to 19th century: *NRC Handelsblad*, 5 January 1994. American archaeologist William Murray claims he has discovered off coast by Actium, North West Greece, remains of ancient warships, believed to be relics of the battle on 2 September 31 BC at which Antonio and Cleopatra lost command of the Roman Empire to Octavius. Further research will establish whether Murray's claims, based on sonar detection, are correct: *NRC Handelsblad*, 5 January 1994, *NRC Handelsblad* 20 January 1994, wetenschap & onderwijs, p. 1, 2.
- 6 January 1994 Museum visits in the Netherlands in 1993 decline in comparison to previous year: *NRC Handelsblad*, 6 January 1994. Amsterdam History Museum, for the second time, decide not to buy 'Gezicht op Amsterdam', painted in 1657 by Antwerp painter Jan Baptist Bonnacroy, the only 17th century townscape of its kind. The painting is bought instead by Antwerp shipping company CMB, which is prepared to lend it to the museum: *NRC Handelsblad*, 6 January 1994, *NRC Handelsblad*, 14 January 1994, *NRC Handelsblad*, 15 January 1994, *NRC Handelsblad*, 18 January 1994. Remains of Henry VIII's *Mary Rose*, which has been sprayed with water since it was raised, to be impregnated with a chemical, polyethylene glyco, for at least 15 years and then bombarded with dry air for a further 6 years. The chemical will replace the water within the cells of the timber: *The Independent*, 5 January 1994.
- 7 January 1994 Greece to use its presidency of European Union to gather fresh support from other member States to persuade United Kingdom to return the Elgin Marbles: *The Times*, 7 January 1994.
- 11 January 1994 Suriname Museum, Amsterdam, closes because of 45,000 Guilders arrears for rent, gas and electricity. The museum opened in 1990 with a subsidy of only Fl. 750,000: *NRC Handelsblad*, 11 January 1994.
- 12 January 1994 Chinese police apprehend man attempting to steal the head of one of the terracotta warriors in Xian: *International Herald Tribune*, 12 January 1994.
- 13 January 1994 Conservationists protest at proposal by Scotia Environmental Services to place toxic waste dumps close to Roman camps near the Antonine Wall near Grangemouth, Scotland: *The Guardian*, 13 January 1994.
- 14 January 1994 Two men arrested in Newcastle after loading a ten feet high pile of rusting metal on to lorry, assuming it was scrap. The metal was in fact a modern sculpture entitled 'The Cone' by Andy Goldsworthy: *The Times*, 14 January 1994.

Dutch *Raad van State* orders the sculpture 'Oude grond' by Herman Makkink, commissioned by the Amsterdam municipality five years ago, to be demolished after complaints by local inhabitants, and because it was erected in breach of planning and building laws: *NRC Handelsblad*, 14 January 1994.

Czech government resolves to return all property stolen from Jews by Nazis in 1939–1945. Bill to this effect receives parliamentary approval. Under the proposal all 170 functioning synagogues and Jewish graveyards will be restored to the Jewish community. 30 other pieces of private property, mainly land, will also be returned: *NRC Handelsblad*, 14 January 1994.

Residents of Bath's architecturally famous Royal Crescent campaign for its closure from tourist buses, claiming that the original roadway, built between 1765–75, is being destroyed: *The Independent*, 17 January 1994.

Consistory court to be asked to allow a parish church to sell remains of Norman crucifix discovered in the tower of All Hallows Church, South Cerney, Gloucester, in 1915. Money from the relics, in the care of the British Museum, will be used for repair and improvement of the church and its ministry: *The Independent*, *The Guardian*, 17 January 1994.

In a letter to *The Times*, Jo Darke, Chairholder of the Public Monuments and Sculpture Association, writes that the Association is embarking upon a national recording project to catalogue all public monuments and sculptures in the British Isles. The project committee includes representatives of the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England and of other national and regional institutions. Ms Darke reports that the project will reveal a great need for an effective conservation policy: *The Times*, 18 January 1994.

Fire damages roof of Victorian Corn Exchange in Doncaster: *The Guardian*, 18 January 1994.

Original football World Cup stolen from glass case at club in West Auckland, County Durham, England: *The Times*, 19 January 1994. Archaeologists discover body of a man preserved in salt quarry for 2,600 years in western Iranian city of Zanjan: *The Independent*, 19 January 1994.

Greek Culture Minister Melina Mercouri begins investigation of provenances of artefacts in former prime minister Constantine Mitsotakis's collection: *Financial Times*, 19 January 1994.

Further detail and reconstruction drawing published of Saxon church discovered last year under nave of Canterbury Cathedral: *The Times*, 21 January 1994.

Gallery Prins Willem V, oldest public museum in the Netherlands, reopens after renovation: *NRC Handelsblad*, 21 January 1994.

- 22 January 1994 Dispute continues over sale of Rudolf Nureyev's collection of art, which is still barred from being auctioned because of disagreements over interpretation of his will: *The Independent*, 22 January 1994. Italian Ministry of Culture launches search for several hundred paintings which in the course of the century have been lent out by museums to embassies, ministries, high dignitaries and state businesses. Many of the works by 16th and 17th century Italian artists were passed on to third parties or found their way into private houses: *NRC Handelsblad*, 22 January 1994. Public prosecutor in Rome investigating the Guggenheim Institute and Italian authorities over alleged irregularities in grant of land for the building of new museum in Venice. The Guggenheim secured by private transaction the right to use old customs buildings at the end of the Canal Grande: *NRC Handelsblad*, 22 January 1994.
- 25 January 1994 Many Anglican churches in City of London could face redundancy or a change of use under recommendations by the Templeman Commission, set up by the Bishop of London: *The Times*, 25 January 1994. Site of the first scientific laboratory set up in Colonial America discovered in North Carolina. Crucible and furnace fragments, chemical and brass weights discovered on Roanoke Island, site of the "lost colony" founded by Sir Walter Raleigh in 1585: *The Times*, 25 January 1994. Piano of Sir Edward Elgar, newly restored, goes on public display at British Library, London: *The Times*, 24 January 1994. Amsterdammer, convicted of drug dealing, offers Dutch Home Office two stolen Van Gogh paintings ('Seated farmer woman' (1885) and 'Wheels of the Gennep watermill' (1884)) on condition they drop their appeal against the (short) length of the convict's sentence. The official prosecutor states he is not interested in the deal: *NRC Handelsblad*, 25 January 1994.
- 26 January 1994 Tower of Pisa straightened by one centimetre with help of counterweights (600 tons). Structural work will continue later this year to straighten it by a further 20 centimetres using one or more of three methods; regulating ground-water, excavating under the tower, or anchoring with underground cables: *NRC Handelsblad*, 26 January 1994. Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Hague, will help Sarajevo Library, which has lost more than 90% of its collection. The four Dutch libraries with Slavonic departments will inventorise their materials about Bosnia, with a view to making copies on microfiche to go to Sarajevo. The remaining 10% of the Bosnian collection may, for safety, be stored in the Netherlands. *NRC Handelsblad*, 26 January 1994.
- 27 January 1994 Four lost statues, including a Florentine bust of Christ dating from 1525, found in cellar of the Museum Boymans-van Beuningen, The Netherlands. Two mediaeval and two 18th century statues, disco-

vered behind a false wall, were probably hidden there during bombardment of Rotterdam on 10 May 1940: *NRC Handelsblad*, 27 January 1994.

Whilst museums are becoming increasingly dependent upon gifts from private collectors, under Dutch law there is no fiscal advantage in making gifts by will; full tax liability is attracted to legacies. Further, with inter vivos gifts the tax benefits are unimpressive. Elaborate credit-sale constructions are necessary for the donor to enjoy tax benefits. The possibilities are discussed in a Ministry of Culture brochure: *Cultuur en fiscus* WVC, (1993); and *Musea en fiscus*, tax adviser Loyens & Volkmars (1992); J.M. Boll, Rijksmuseum-bulletin (nr. 3, 1992). *NRC Handelsblad*, 28 January 1994, cultureel supplement, p. 5.

28 January 1994

Mrs. E. Frederiks donates 350 cultural objects to the Rotterdam Museum Boymans-van Beuningen from her father's collection. The collection includes mediaeval copper, tin and bronze implements, Italian ivory reliefs, rare furniture and paintings from 1400-1700. The objects are already in possession of the museum, on loan: *NRC Handelsblad*, 28 January 1994.

Two sketches from the Königs collection, (Albrecht Altdorfer's 'Judgment of Paris' (1509) and 16th century portrait by Hans Brosamer), formerly recorded as missing, are offered for sale by a private individual at Sotheby's, London: *NRC Handelsblad*, 28 January 1994.

Ministry of Culture to contest ruling by Cairo Administrative Court that loan to Japan of collection of antiquities, including the head of Cleopatra, is illegal and that the collection should be repatriated immediately, casting doubt on the future of all travelling exhibitions like that of the Tutankhamun treasures seen in Britain in 1972: *The Times*, 29 January 1994.

29 January 1994

Clergy in the Church of England considering joining a trade union to protect employment rights. The report of the Templeman Commission, published yesterday, recommending the closure of two thirds of the churches in the City of London, follows a pattern seen throughout the Church, which is struggling with financial difficulties and poor attendance: *The Times*, 29 January 1994.

Egyptian archeologists discover 8 rare graves from the Hyksos period in the desert near Tell al-Kebir, 80 kilometres north-east of Cairo. The Hyksos people introduced the horse and fighting chariot into Egypt: *NRC Handelsblad*, 2 February 1994.

2 February 1994

Gran Teatr de Liceu in Barcelona, built in 1847, destroyed by fire: *The Independent*, 3 February 1994, *The Guardian*, 3 February 1994. 15th century statue 'Bambinello', which many believe has miraculous powers, stolen from church of Santa Maria in Araceili, Rome: *The Independent*, 3 February 1994.

3 February 1994

- 4 February 1994 American archaeologists locate site of large ancient port at El Pital, Mexico: *The Guardian*, 4 February 1994.
- 5 February 1994 Archaeologists in Newport, Gwent, South Wales, unearth most complete Roman boat discovered hitherto. Study will shed new light on ancient Celtic shipbuilding technology: *The Independent*, 5 February 1994.
- 6 February 1994 Brittany's historic 17th century parliament building in Rennes severely damaged by fire during demonstrations by fishermen. Local prosecutor's office opens investigation to determine whether fire started deliberately: *The Independent on Sunday*, 6 February 1994, *NRC Handelsblad*, 7 February 1994.
- 7 February 1994 English Heritage announces grants worth more than £4 million to be given to 43 English cathedrals for urgent repairs and conservation work. The two largest grants, £500,000 each, go to Salisbury cathedral and Liverpool's Roman Catholic cathedral of Christ the King: *The Times*, 8 December 1993.
- 10 February 1994 RAF museum in Hendon fights to save derelict aircraft hangar in north London. The museum wants to acquire the buildings, listed Grade 2, to provide extra display space but the defence ministry, determined to maximise profits from disposal of surplus military property, is seeking a commercial developer: *The Times*, 10 February 1994.
Search begins to find submerged hulk of King Charles I's treasure barge in Firth of Forth, Scotland: *The Times*, 10 February 1994.
- 11 February 1994 Lost masterpiece by Raphael, the 'Madonna and Child with Lamb', missing for more than a century, recovered by police in Milan: *The Independent*, 11 February 1994.
- 14 February 1994 Edvard Munch's 'The Scream' stolen from Oslo's National Gallery: *The Times*, 14 February 1994, *NRC Handelsblad*, 14 February 1994. Elvis Presley's monogrammed gold Cadillac bought by Cars of the Stars museum in Keswick, Cumbria: *The Times*, 14 February 1994. Rare books worth hundreds of thousands of pounds reported to have been stolen from the London Library. Books up to 400 years old have disappeared from restricted areas, probably over several months: *The Times*, 14 February 1994.
Policy on listing post-war architecture in England, discussed at a seminar in London, is reviewed: *Financial Times*, 14 February 1994.
- 15 February 1994 Goya and Poussin exhibitions, to be mounted at Royal Academy, London, over the coming year, fail to find commercial sponsor. The unwillingness of businesses to put money into the exhibitions emphasise the decline of business sponsorship in the arts: *The Independent*, 15 February 1994.
- 16 February 1994 Norway offers reward of £18,000 for return of Edvard Munch's 'The Scream': *The Times*, 16 February 1994.

Decision over export licence for Canova's 'The Three Graces' delayed till 5 August: *The Independent*, 17 February 1994.

United Kingdom Government expected to decide in March whether to issue stricter rules to preserve character of houses in historic areas and stem what conservationists view as tide of bad taste engulfing historic fabric of towns and homes: *The Times*, 16 February 1994.

Dutch setting up 'Vereniging Open Monumenten', to be modelled on the nature conservation trust 'Natuurmonumenten'. There are 700 different trusts and societies in the Netherlands concerned with monument protection with a total membership of 90,000. The aim is to bring protection of nature and culture under one head: *NRC Handelsblad*, 19 February, *NRC Handelsblad*, 16 February 1994.

Dr Bedaux, African conservator in the State Folk Museum, Leiden advocates the mass copying (forgery) of ancient African objects, claiming this is the most effective way of preventing plundering and dealing in such objects. The present illegal trade, which stimulates amateur excavation, is destroying the chance of researching Africa's history: *NRC Handelsblad*, 17 February 1994.

17 February 1994

Remains of Roman bridge discovered between Cuijk and Middelaar on the Maas River in The Netherlands. Results of the investigation published in Carin Bartoen and Joost Mijoulet: 'De Romeinse brug tussen Cuijk en Middelaar', Utrecht, 1993: *NRC Handelsblad*, 17 February 1994, wetenschap & onderwijs, p. 1.

Potter charged with obtaining property by deception, for selling modern pottery to American collectors who thought it was made in the 18th century: *The Guardian*, 17 February 1994.

Report by consultants Berenschot claims the four museums in Rotterdam are to be fused (Glasgow model), and a new organisation established to arrange and co-ordinate exhibitions based on market research. The proposals were rejected by all four museums: *NRC Handelsblad*, 18 February 1994.

18 February 1994

Anti-abortion group claims to have stolen 'The Scream' by Edvard Munch. Police still investigating: *NRC Handelsblad*, 18 February 1994, *The Guardian*, 18 February 1994, *International Herald Tribune*, 18 February 1994.

National Museum of Ireland to expand into the Collins Barracks: *Financial Times*, 18 February 1994.

Van Hagerbeer Organ (1643) in the Pieterskerk, Leiden, to be restored, at cost of 2.5 million Guilders raised from private sources. *NRC Handelsblad*, 19 February 1994.

Secretary-General of the Arts Council, Anthony Everitt, resigns after a year of heavy criticism: *The Times*, 8 February 1994.

Skeletons of 20 decapitated horses found buried in medieval pits at barracks in Westminster: *The Times*, 18 February 1994.

British insurance companies hold security seminars for clergy in bid to stem rising church thefts: *The Times*, 22 February 1994.

22 February 1994

British archaeologists in Gao on River Niger near southern fringes of Sahara unearth hoard of hippopotamus teeth made of ivory, suggesting that some of the medieval world's ivory trade was based not on elephant tusks but on hippopotamus teeth: *The Independent*, 22 February 1994.

Agreement reached between Dutch Ministry of Culture and institutions affected, over independence of 15 state museums. 4 museums will go independent in July. The aim of the reforms is to give museums a freer hand with spending: *NRC Handelsblad*, 22 February 1994.

23 February 1994 High-speed train linking The Netherlands to France and Belgium will destroy important archaeological prehistoric, Roman and mediæval site at Hoeksche Waard. One plan will cut through a Roman dam discovered last year: *NRC Handelsblad*, 23 February 1994.
Re-opening of Michelangelo room at Uffizi art gallery, Florence, damaged last May by car bomb: *The Times*, 23 February 1994.

24 February 1994 Third century Roman building unearthed by gas workers in Exeter: *The Times*, 24 February 1994.

Remains of 5,000 Saxon inhabitants of Hereford found in charnel pit excavated near Cathedral: *The Times*, 24 February 1994.

Roman fort, dated to the late first or early second century AD, discovered at Middlewich, Cheshire, on land scheduled for development: *The Times*, 24 February 1994.

Capitoline Triad, a marble statue group symbolising the Roman Empire, stolen from Roman archaeological site two years ago, recovered by police: *The Times*, *The Independent*, 24 February 1994.

25 February 1994 German Parliament to debate plan of artist Christo to pack the restored Reichstag (parliament building), West Berlin, in metallic silver wadding for two weeks. If approved, British architect Sir Norman Foster will commence restoration of the Reichstag, designed by Paul Wallot in 1894 at a cost of 7 million dollars: *NRC Handelsblad*, 16 February 1994.

New York Museum of Modern Art negotiating with descendants of Malevitz, who are claiming ownership of paintings lent to the museum in 1935. The descendants are also claiming the return of a number of paintings 'sold' to the Amsterdam Stedelijk Museum in 1958. In 1927 Malevitz took a collection of his work from his home in Leningrad to an exhibition in Berlin. He left the works with his friend Hugo Häring until his return to the West but he was never permitted to return to the West before he died in 1935. Hugo Häring made the impugned transactions in 1935 and 1958, out of financial necessity. The descendants of Malevitz are being assisted by the professional 'art work tracer' Clemens Toussaint: *NRC Handelsblad*, 25 February 1994, cultureel supplement.

26 February 1994 National Trust plans to evict Lord Bristol from Ickworth House for breaching conditions of his lease: *The Guardian*, 26 February 1994.

Rare Chinese wallpaper from Saltram, 18th century country house in Devon, being restored by the National Trust with a grant from English Heritage. The paper is a painting on silk and paper depicting the story of tea: *The Independent*, 28 February 1994.

28 February 1994

Raad voor het Cultuurbeheer (Council for management of cultural property) proposes the Wadden Sea— rich in wrecks— be placed on the UNESCO list of World Cultural Property: *NRC Handelsblad*, 28 February 1994.

French Cour de Cassation reverses verdict of the Cour d'Appel de Paris which imposed fine of 5 million francs on Ph Bertin-Mouroit for having illegally exported Nicolas Poussin's 'Madonna à l'escalier', a work previously designated by the Louvre as a vulgar copy of minor importance: *Il giornale dell'arte*, April 1994.

Thieves steal jewellery and antique furniture worth £15,000 from 13th century church of St Michael and All Angels in Kingsland, Hertfordshire, England: *The Times*, 1 March 1994.

1 March 1994

Descendants of Captain Bligh (of *Bounty* mutiny fame) sue in the High Court, London, for return of historic family paintings which they allege were obtained by a collector who took advantage of a sick man: *The Times*, 1 March 1994.

Scenes from the siege of Troy and the life of Achilles, the Greek hero of the Trojan War, identified in a Romano-British mosaic pavement discovered in Humberside, the first of its kind to come to light in Britain, revealing new details about pagan religious thought in the late Roman period: *The Independent*, 1 March 1994.

Only known self-portrait of Gainsborough, his wife and elder daughter accepted by the British government in lieu of inheritance tax from the Cholmondeley family of Houghton Hall, Norfolk. The painting, 'Portrait of the Artist, with his Wife and Child seated in a Landscape', is acquired by the National Gallery, London: *The Times*, *The Independent*, 1 March 1994, *The Guardian*, 1 March 1994.

Municipal authority in The Hague considers selling, as office space, 17th Century Sint Sebastiansdoelen on the Korte Vijverberg, a monumental building which in 1986, at cost of 6 million Guilders, was renovated to accommodate the Hague Historical Museum. The money released by this sale would be used to pay for the cost of refurbishing the new town hall, designed by the American Richard Meier. The Historic Museum will then be housed in the old town hall, minus the wedding chamber. The Historic Museum, and other Hague museums, oppose this plan: *NRC Handelsblad*, 1 March 1994.

Greek Minister of Culture, as a rare exception, permits the Akropolis Museum in Athens to loan 2,500 year old statue of a girl (insured for 20 million Guilders) to the University of Amsterdam's archaeological museum (Allard Pierson Museum) for its exhibition 'Marble portrayed; Greece from 600–100 BC', celebrating the museum's 60th anniversary: *NRC Handelsblad*, 1 March 1994.

Experts believe, following restoration work, that the Arch of Constantine, Rome, was built in the second century in the reign of Hadrian rather than 200 years later under Emperor Constantine: *The Times*, 2 March 1994.

A new Treasure Bill, designed to reform the ancient law of treasure trove, and sponsored by the Surrey Archaeological Society and the British Museum, is introduced in the House of Lords by the Earl of Perth: *The Times*, *The Independent*, 2 March 1994.

- 3 March 1994 18-carat gold watch worth £10,000, belonging to a stockbroker who died on the *Titanic*, stolen from the Maritime Museum in Southampton: *The Independent*, 3 March 1994.
- 4 March 1994 Norway's Culture Minister announces that a man has offered to arrange return of Edvard Munch's 'The Scream' for a reward of over £720,000: *The Independent*, 4 March 1994.
Archaeological societies and local research teams to compete for ten national awards in the spring, including prizes for excavations, a book and film on British archaeology, and the title "Young Archaeologist of the Year": *The Independent*, 4 March 1994.
- 5 March 1994 The *Mabo* ruling by the High Court of Australia, on aboriginal territorial claims, is to be tested by a case involving land in Aurukun, territory claimed by aboriginals and the mining company Comalco: *The Guardian*, 5 March 1994.
Standing stone circle on Island of Lewis focus of dispute between Stonewatch, who wish to preserve the stones as they are, and the Western Isles Island Council and other bodies, who wish to build an interpretive center at the site: *The Guardian*, 5 March 1994.
- 6 March 1994 Melina Mercouri, Greek Minister of Culture, dies in New York. Miss Mercouri was famous for her long running campaign for the return of the Elgin Marbles from the British Museum: *The Times*, 7 March 1994.
Van Gogh painting, 'The White House at Night', looted from the Krebs Collection in Weimar in the Second World War and taken to the Hermitage in St Petersburg, may be a fake. If so, other paintings taken with it may also be copies of paintings once in the Krebs Collection: *The Observer*, 6 March 1994.
- 7 March 1994 Investigations into the age of the disputed 'Bloemstillevin in kuip' allegedly by Jan Breugel the Older reveal the work could have been painted after 1604; Jan de Breugel the older died in 1625. Research fails to resolve the dispute between the would-be-buyer and the Ministry. The committee adjudicating the dispute is likely to propose arbitration by experts: *NRC Handelsblad*, 7 March 1994.
Family of the author of 'Anne of Green Gables' and the province of Prince Edward Island, Canada, each claim to own intellectual property rights to 'Anne': *The Guardian*, 7 March 1994.
- 8 March 1994 Fire destroys oldest surviving Bentley in the West Midlands: *The Independent*, *The Times*, 8 March 1994.

- Lambeth Borough Council ordered by Church of England court to stop destroying Victorian graves and replace others it has removed at West Norwood Cemetery, South London: *The Times*, *The Independent*, 9 March 1994.
- Unknown painting by Jan Steen discovered during valuation in coachhouse of the Castle Groenehuis in Baarn, The Netherlands. The work is signed and dated 1652 or 1659 and represents a school class. The owner had kept the work in a biscuit-tin since 1913: *NRC Handelsblad*, 9 February 1994.
- Man jailed for four years for burning down historic water mill in Essex, England, which his mother had wanted to restore and leave to the nation: *The Times*, 10 March 1994.
- Police in Venice recover Tiepolo's 'Education of a Virgin', stolen from a city church in December: *The Guardian*, 10 March 1994, *International Herald Tribune*, 10 March 1994.
- Archaeologists across the world unite to study remains of Roman outpost, Zeugma, once a city of over 80,00 people on the River Euphrates, now threatened by a dam under construction less than half a mile away. Scottish archaeologist Dr David Kennedy reports that "This will be the third major ancient city to disappear on the Euphrates as the result of dam construction": *The Times*, 11 March 1994.
- Local controversy after Consistory Court orders removal of statue of Virgin Mary from church of St Mary's, Cottingham, near Hull, England, because it is too ugly: *The Times*, 11 March 1994.
- Sotheby's celebrates its 250th anniversary: *NRC Handelsblad*, 10 March 1994.
- Rembrandt's 'Dr. Deijman's anatomy lesson' (1656), burnt in 1753, reconstructed by art historian Norbert Middelkoop using computer and sketch by Rembrandt: *NRC Handelsblad*, 12 March 1994.
- Visiting The Netherlands, Mikhail Pjotrovski, Director of the Hermitage Museum at St. Petersburg, reports on inadequate state of the Hermitage: leaking since the Second World War, foundations seeping in groundwater, gables decaying from air pollution, a total lack of modern climate control or security system. Funds are quite inadequate and under Stalin many important works were sold off: *NRC Handelsblad*, 15 March 1994.
- Original copy of the Dred Scott decision of 1857 and a first edition of the (US) Judiciary Act of 1789 surface in an American manuscripts collection: *International Herald Tribune*, 15 March 1994.
- French Minister for Culture Jacques Toubon announces plans for new Jewish museum in Paris, to open 1997 in renovated 17th Century building in Marais district: *NRC Handelsblad*, 17 March 1994.
- Revised plan for co-operation between the four Rotterdam museums (the Vaessen plan) receives divided reaction from the museums. Rot-

terdam Maritime Museum has, without ministerial intervention, reaches a co-operation agreement with the Amsterdam Shipping Museum. Under the agreement the Amsterdam museum will cover the period until 1900 and the Rotterdam museum the period thereafter. As a united museum they would be second only in the world to the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich. The Ministry of Culture reacts positively: *NRC Handelsblad*, 17 March 1994, *NRC Handelsblad*, 25 March 1994.

IBM commences project to make the Vatican library accessible to the world. In co-operation with the Vatican library and Papal Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, they will develop hard and software which will photocopy, store, catalogue and make accessible large areas of the library. In addition to other advantages, the project is conducive to conservation of books: *NRC Handelsblad*, 17 March 1994, *wetenschap & onderwijs*, p. 3.

Thanos Mikroutsikos, Greece's new Culture Minister, announces that the campaign to repatriate the Parthenon marbles initiated by Melina Mercouri will continue: *The Guardian*, 17 March 1994.

- 19 March 1994 Rembrandt's 'Danaë', slashed and sprayed with hydrochloric acid by a vandal in the Hermitage in St. Petersburg in 1985, is partly unrestorable: *NRC Handelsblad*, 19 March 1994.
- 19–20 March 1994 Review of the new Treasure Bill discusses its possible benefits, chiefly that of returning the control of antiquities to archaeologists and antiquarians: *The Financial Times* 19–20 March 1994.
- 20 March 1994, 21 March 1994 Thirty-eight lithographs and prints by a number of 20th century artists, including Picasso and Chagall, are stolen from an unguarded private arts foundation in Athens where they were on loan from the Teriad Museum of Modern Art: *The Observer*, 20 March 1994, *The Guardian*, 21 March 1994.
- 21 March 1994 Uncovering of thirteenth Century foundations of Amsterdam's oldest building: *NRC Handelsblad*, 21 March 1994.
Opening of new Jewel House at Tower of London, where the Crown Jewels are displayed: *The Guardian*, 24 March 1994.
- 22 March 1994 Tribunal for the First Arrondissement, Paris, renders judgment against France in favour of Swiss collector Jacques Walter, who is awarded 422 million francs in compensation for the State's having listed his painting of van Gogh 'Jardin à Auvers' in the register of cultural treasures and refused him permission to sell it abroad. The judgment is not yet final: *Le journal des arts*, April 1994, *Il giornale dell'arte*, April 1994.
- 23 March 1994 Court imposes three years' custody on man after theft of 22 paintings last summer from private house in Wassenaar (Netherlands) shown to be a fraud on insurers. The paintings were insured for 1.3 million Guilders: *NRC Handelsblad*, 23 March 1994.

French authorities restore to Cambodia two Khmer statues stolen from the temple Kohker in northern Cambodia: *Il giornale dell'arte*, April 1994.

German Minister of Foreign Affairs Klaus Kinkel attends first session of the joint Russian-German Commission on mutual return of cultural property at Moscow. Return of missing or illegally removed cultural objects has been stipulated in Art. 15 of the German-Russian Treaty of 16 December 1992 on Cultural Cooperation: *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, 26/27 March 1994.

23–24 March 1994

University of Groningen confirms that wall painting by Siep van den Berg will not be demolished: *NRC Handelsblad*, 25 March 1994. Two stolen Van Gogh paintings recovered in damaged state. They are returned to an advocate acting for a drug dealer. The advocate denies any connection between the return and his client's release: *NRC Handelsblad*, 25 March 1994.

25 March 1994

English Heritage transfers control of 17 important properties, including the stone circle at Avebury and the Uffington White Horse, to the National Trust: *The Guardian*, 25 March 1994.

Italian workers repairing lower floors of house in Via Latina, Rome, discover Roman catacomb full of skeletons thought to be Christian burial chamber from 2nd or 3rd Century. The chamber lies 10–12 metres underground and is approached by a number of passages: *NRC Handelsblad*, 26 March 1994.

26 March 1994

Norwegian newspaper 'Dagbladet' reports that Norwegian investors are secretly negotiating over ransom of 13 million Guilders demanded for the return of the stolen Edvard Munch painting 'The Scream': *NRC Handelsblad*, 29 March 1994, *International Herald Tribune*, 30 March 1994.

29 March 1994

Study-group of Dutch conservators calls for research and training into restoration techniques to apply to modern art works (post 1950). According to the group, new principles must be developed for the restoration of art works made of such materials as foam rubber, chocolate, plastic, silk, wax. Usual practice is to return the object to the artist for repair: *NRC Handelsblad*, 30 March 1994.

30 March 1994

