A Note from the Honorary Editor

This volume of the Journal of the Siam Society is the last publication of the Prachandra Printing Press. The Prachandra Printing Press will cease its activities on 16 February 1985. Due to time constraint and the need for the Press to complete its accounts in time for the 1984–1985 tax-year, it was not possible to include the 1983–1984 Annual Reports in this volume. The said Reports will be published in a subsequent volume of the JSS.

On behalf of the Siam Society, I wish to extend our warmest thanks to all the members of the Bunyasiribhandhu family who, for two generations since the Second World War, have seen the JSS as well as many other publications of the Siam Society through the press. Their wonderful cooperation and meticulous care for our publications will always rest in our memory. We hope that we have not been too demanding and that they had found their work with us stimulating and worth their while. We wish Khun Sanitwan and Khun Suwalak continued good health and happiness in their retirement and hope that the younger generation of the Bunyasiribhandhu family as well as all their assistants at every level will be associated with the Siam Society again in the future.
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ITS HISTORY AND COLLECTIONS

A Classic Example of Northern Thai Residential Architecture of the Nineteenth Century

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Drawings by ................. Euayporn Kerdchouay
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The Siam Society
Under Royal Patronage

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The Siam Society
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The Siam Society was founded in 1904, under the patronage of His Majesty the King, as an organization for those interested in the artistic, scientific and other cultural affairs of Thailand and neighbouring countries. The Society maintains an excellent Library, which is at the disposal of Members and visitors. The Society publishes the *Journal of the Siam Society*, in addition to occasional works of topical interest and scholarly merit. The Society sponsors a programme of lectures and artistic performances, and regularly conducts excursions to places of archaeological and cultural interest in Thailand and abroad. The *Kamthieng House* on the grounds of the Society's home provides an example of a traditional northern Thai house, with artefacts of rural life and superb collections of woven materials and wood carvings.

The Natural History Section of the Siam Society, which was organized in 1913, sponsors its own programme of lectures and excursions to places of natural interest, and concerns itself with the conservation of Thai wildlife and flora. The Natural History Section publishes the annual *Natural History Bulletin of the Siam Society*, as well as occasional works of scientific interest.

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