In Memoriam

Sacvan Bercovitch 1933–2014

The words Sacvan Bercovitch selected to index Nathaniel Hawthorne's literary involvements bear eloquent witness to Bercovitch's own commitments in a scholarly career that reshaped the contours of American Studies:

[It] is not a reflection of his times. It is a sustained intellectual, moral, and emotional engagement with them—engagement as both complicity and dissent, resistance and consent entwined—and in this deep sense of the term his engagement issued in a brilliant appropriation of the main concerns of his times and in an extraordinary expression of the creative possibilities they afforded.

-from "The Scarlet Letter: A Twice-Told Tale"

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