GRASSROOTS '83: REPORT ON NATIONAL AIA AFFAIRS

The national AIA organization is in good hands. President Bob Broshar and First Vice President George Notter, along with Executive Vice President David Meeker, currently lead a lively board and staff who all seem to be responsive to the needs of the members. They are running a tight ship, managing government affairs effectively, and providing services and programs for members.

This is the conclusion I reached after attending the Grassroots program in San Diego in January. The purpose of this annual meeting is to help component presidents, presidents-elect, and executive directors plan chapter affairs more effectively. It provides an opportunity to discuss AIA concerns and issues, to learn what other chapters are doing, and to meet national directors and officers.

In addition to myself, Chicago was represented by Tom Eyerman (CCAIA President-Elect), Don Hackl (Regional Director), Richard Cook (Illinois Council President-Elect), and Alice Sinkevitch (CCAIA Executive Director). After three days of meetings, hearing all about the problems and programs of other chapters, we felt good about the Chicago Chapter.

We did learn something about other chapters' events which might interest CCAIA members. For example, the Houston Chapter honored older members at an "emeritus party," the Pasadena Chapter found visits to artists' studios were popular, and "Goals for Dallas" was the product of that AIA chapter. (How about a CCAIA task force on an architecture and planning goals statement for Chicago?)

Chapters have sponsored Environmental Improvement Awards, Energy Design Awards, and Good Client Awards, a Lego competition (one team used a computer to design a sophisticated structure), family picnics and formal dinners.

This brings us to the obvious question, "What else should CCAIA be doing for you, and what should you be doing for CCAIA?" Drop me a line.

Meanwhile, back in Washington, the AIA is planning a new AIA Journal which will include a quarterly, "Architecture," aimed at the general public. Also, the Memo will be published 24 times a year, and a Technical Bulletin will be quarterly.

Finally, the national convention will be held in May in New Orleans. Perhaps we should all ride down on the train together. This might be a memorable 1,000 mile long seminar!

C. William Brubaker, FAIA President

COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE

"The future of all associations in this country will be tied directly to our commitment to act in the public's best interests," Robert Lawrence, FAIA, President of the AIA, told the national ASHRAE convention. "One of the gravest threats to the health of any professional association is selfishness...we ought to be asking what we can do to make our profession and our country better." Lawrence stressed that the notion of community service ought to be the "heartbeat" that drives any association.

The Chicago Chapter's display of initiative towards social commitment is illustrated through efforts of the CCAIA committees and of individual members. The following article by Norman DeHaan summarizes an individual AIA member's campaign to retain a part of our city's past.

Preserving the Past

The Chicago Theatre preservation effort on the part of the Chicago Chapter is rather unique. Over the past two years the Chapter Urban Affairs Committee had spent endless hours developing a North Loop recommendation, which dovetailed with the Historic Resources Committee. An essential part of those recommendations was the continued operation of the Chicago Theatre. Positioned as the east anchor of a "theatre row" extending west at mid-block from the Chicago to the Selwyn-Harris-Woods complex, the Chicago is essential to a successful north loop. Thus when the landmark designation hearing...
of the Chicago Landmark Commission came up, together with news of the owners desire to demolish the building, the issue became critical to the success of the city's north loop as well as historic preservation interest.

Jack Hartray was asked to testify as a member of the architectural profession and I was asked, by ASID, to testify as a member of the interior design profession. Much of our testimony was made considerably easy by the excellent Chicago Theatre 60th Anniversary Salute published by The Theatre Historical Society, the Shlaes report on the Chicago Theatre prepared for Chicago Landmarks Inc., and the Chicago Historical Society. My work, in particular, owes much to the information gathered by Joseph Duci Bella, ASID.

Following my testimony on the interior design, crafts, and sources, I dwelt on what these interior fantasies represented in the history of our society's aspirations and development. Jack followed with a very witty account that again underscored the role the movie palace played in the view our society has of itself and in our personal role models and goals. He also, I might add, pointed out the educational value of the Chicago Theatre as an outstanding example of a Beaux Arts solution to very difficult site and program conditions.

Subsequent to designation of the theatre as a landmark by the Commission and prior to City Council testimony the chapter boards of both AIA and ASID approved resolution of support. This joint public policy statement is unique in that it addresses itself not just to preservation, but the nature of subsequent use that would most likely ensure the success of the theatre and the north loop plan.

The position paper which supports the Landmark designation of the Chicago Theatre by the city of Chicago states:

"We believe the Chicago Theatre can be a successful operation by scheduling live entertainment and special performance screenings in short runs that will insure a large, loyal audience. The adjacent Page Building can be incorporated into the operation to provide needed management offices and, possibly, Illinois Film Office facilities. The street level retail space should provide necessary dining and retail facilities on the State Street Mall.

"Should it be necessary to purchase the property in order to preserve the Chicago Theatre, we would further endorse the city's acquiring the property and leasing it back to a non-profit live-theatre oriented management organization at a nominal rental. We urge the Council to take immediate and positive action to preserve this part of our heritage to our city's cultural and financial benefit."

Norman DeHaan, AIA

Checking the New

Concerned action for good of the City is an on-going effort of the Chapter's Urban Affairs Committee. Chaired by Len Kutyla, the committee reviewed the Libra/Americana Proposal for the North Loop Redevelopment. The committee judged the project in relation to the North Loop Guidelines which were issued by the City at the time of request for proposals.

President Brubaker, in a letter to Martin Murphy, Commissioner of City of Chicago Department of Planning, wrote: "Generally, the scheme fulfills the requirements (of the North Loop Guidelines) and follows the recommendations. The density, type or use, general schematic design and interface with the context are consistent with the guidelines. However, it appears that the only entrances to the retail areas are situated directly from the building's lobby. Providing additional entrances directly from surrounding sidewalks will both enhance the retail opportunities and enliven the surrounding streetscape. Careful study of the arcade provided on three sides of the project should be assured in order to optimize these spaces and their relationship to retail areas and other amenities."

Testimony to Robert Lawrence's belief that we "have the power" is Mr. Murphy's reply. "Thank you for your comments regarding the Libra/Americana proposal for Block 16 in the North Loop. We have discussed the issue of retail orientation with the developers and will continue to work with them and their architects to insure that there is access to the retail activity from State, Dearborn and Lake Streets and to avoid internalization of this use. We concur with your emphasis on the need to create a lively streetscape.

"We are grateful to the AIA for their contributions to the North Loop Project and look forward to a continuing relationship with you as we progress through the area." Planning and dedication by CCAIA members impacts on the profession, on industry, and society.
FOCUS FORUM: Design Competitions

Over the last few years, the public, as well as many private sector clients, have requested architects participate in design competitions for building projects. This trend to client-conducted competitions should be a cause of concern to our profession for two important reasons:

First, the purpose of many of these competitions is for the publicity value, either for the public or private client. As we all know, our profession has been hit very severely by the economic conditions in our country. It is estimated that unemployment is nearly 40% within the architectural community. It is deplorable that these public or private clients - many who are experiencing unparalleled earnings growth - seek publicity on the backs of an already beleaguered profession. Most architects have no choice but to enter the competition with some hope of obtaining the commission. There are very few competitions that adequately and properly reward all contestants for the creative work necessary to accomplish the task required by the competition.

Second, the competition process is counterproductive to all participants. This is due to the fact that during the crucial period of conceptual design, the architect has no direct contact with the client. It is nearly impossible for the client to maintain professional relationships simultaneously with several firms and have a meaningful exchange of ideas. The design process should be more than a pretty picture, but a joint development of a program and conceptual design based on realistic timing and funding constraints.

The profession should insist that design competitions be done with the highest level of professionalism, including adequate compensation and competent selection procedures. No less a goal is worthy of our profession.

Thomas J. Eyerman, FAIA

We are interested in printing responses to the issues raised in the Focus Forum. You are, also, invited to submit articles on issues affecting today's design professionals. For consideration, comments and articles must be submitted in typewritten form and received in the Chapter office no later than the 5th of each month.

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

The Chicago Chapter welcomes the following new members into the Institute and the Chapter.

MEMBERS
Tim J. Anderson
John Antanaitis
Frank Hammerstrom
Thomas A. Kamis
Daniel Kohnen
Anthony LaPasso
William Worn

ASSOCIATE
James Koolish
Chung-Wah Yau

Our congratulations to Martin Kleiber who has obtained his license to practice architecture.

CHAPTER PROGRAM

CHICAGO'S
NEW CENTRAL AREA PLAN

Wed., March 30
M & M Club
Second Floor
Merchandise Mart

5:30 - Cocktails (cash bar)
6:15 - Dinner
7:00 - Program

An architects committee has been working for six months with the Chicago Central Area Committee on a new plan for the Central Area to update the Chicago 21 plan, published in 1973.

The new plan, its development, and its expected impact on the City will be discussed by four of the CCAIA members who served on the committee: Roger Seitz, John Holabird, Dirk Lohan and Stanley Tigerman.

Price of the dinner and program is $16 for members and guests, $20 for non-members. You may make reservations by sending a check for the correct amount to the Chapter office by Monday, March 28.
EXHIBIT CELEBRATES CHICAGO’S ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

"Renovating Chicago," a photographic exhibit running until March 31 at the Archi-Center, highlights 20 sensitive renovation projects showing that the City's rich architectural heritage can be adapted and reused to suit modern purposes. Some of the buildings represented in this exhibit are the Delaware Bldg. (Wheelock & Thomas, 1874); the Railway Exchange Bldg. (D. H. Burnham & Co., 1903) and the South Shore Country Club (Marshall & Pay, 1908 & 1916).

In this sesqui-centennial year, "Renovating Chicago" celebrates the diversity of architectural styles and building types which enhance the city, illustrating that the efficient & sensitive reuse of historic architecture can be a sign of a city's economic vitality. The exhibit is on display weekdays (except Monday) from 9:30-5:00 and Saturdays from 9:00-4:30.

GUNNAR BIRKERTS AT IIT
April 5, 1983
5 PM

Herman Hall Auditorium
40 W. 33rd Street
IIT Campus

Mr. Birkerts is an important American architect, having received many awards for his design and for his innovation in natural lighting and passive solar energy systems.

For reserved seating tickets mail check,$3 (students $2), payable to Dept. of Architecture, IIT, Crown Hall, 3360 S. State St., Chicago 60616.

NEW PRACTICE: PLANNING & OPERATIONS

The Office Practice Committee has undertaken a program for 1983 which is specifically oriented toward the small, often newly established professional practice with the goal of offering practical, moral and philosophical advice and encouragement to these firms in their endeavor to establish themselves as viable entities in the business and professional communities. Our initial meeting at noon on March 16 in the CCAIA Board Room will address the challenges of operating a small practice. We have invited Mr. Larry Booth, AIA and Mr. Jack Hartray, AIA to share with us their past experiences.

A series of topical discussions are planned for the balance of the year. Our initial meeting will deal generally with office planning and operations issues, such as the establishment of goals, a business plan, marketing strategies, and administrative policies. Larry and Jack have both gone "through the mill" recently, and we hope their successful transitions will be a source of encouragement to others.

We will invite appropriate guest speakers, or panels of speakers, for each subsequent topic. Additionally, we are planning a special evening event, during which several owners and developers will share their criteria for the selection and evaluation of an architect. It should be interesting to be exposed to their thought process and to better understand how the profession is perceived from their point of view.

Ray Griskelis, AIA
IIT OFFERS FIRE PROTECTION SEMINAR

IIT's Annual Fire Protection Seminar will be presented as a celebration to the awarding of the 1992 World's Fair to the City of Chicago. However, the subject matter of fire protection and life safety for conventions and other gatherings of large numbers of people have applicability to most cities in the U.S. and abroad. The speakers gathered have extensive background in fire protection principles and will discuss techniques of analyzing the fire safety problems associated with this type of occupancy and give practical application and solutions to actual situations. A panel discussion following the formal presentations will allow for audience participation and interaction with seminar leaders.

The seminar will be held on March 12 at IIT's Grover Hermann Hall, 3241 S. Federal St. Registration fee is $75 after March 4. Mail check to Fire Protection & Safety Eng. Dept., IIT, 10 W. 32nd St., Chicago 60616.

CHAPTER EXEC TO SPEAK ON VICTORIAN ARCHITECTURE

Chapter executive director, Alice Sinkевич, will be guest lecturer on March 11 at a meeting of the Architecture and the Law Committee of the Young Lawyers Section of the Chicago Bar Association. Ms. Sinkевич, who is currently serving on the Victorian District Task Force of the Oak Park Landmarks Commission, will speak on "Chicago's Victorian Architecture." The lecture and lunch will be held at 29 S. LaSalle, 12th floor, President's Room. Lunch is at 12:15 and the cost is $7.75. To make a reservation contact Cindy Crouse, 782-7348.

CORRECTION

The architect for the Chicago Board of Trade Addition (FOCUS, Feb. 1983, pg. 5, "Chicago Historical Society Opens Architectural Exhibit") should have been credited as the joint venture of C. F. Murphy/Shaw Swanke Hayden & Connell.
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<tr>
<td>11/11</td>
<td>Lecture: &quot;Furniture of the 1820's to 1890's,&quot; Ross Edman, ArchiCenter, 6:30, 510, 326-1393</td>
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<td>Planning/Urban Af 12 noon, COAIA BoK</td>
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<td>Committee Meeting: Immigration, Harry H. Johnston, IIT, ex-Chairman.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Research Committee Meeting: 12:30 PM, COAIA Board Room. Lecture: Patrick McConnell &amp; Sandy Fandrei of SOM, sponsored by Interior Architecture of School of the Art Institute, performance space 12, 1 PM.</td>
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<td>FOCUS DEADLINE</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Historic Resources Committee Meeting: Burnham Library Tour with John Zukowsky, Noon, contact M. Hjertstedt 726-2350. Lecture: John Tilton &amp; Michael Kelley of Tilton &amp; Lewis, Interior Architecture of School of Art Institute, 1 PM, performance space 12.</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Membership Committee Meeting: 3:30 PM, COAIA Board Room. Lecture: Carl Hunter &amp; Cary Johnson of WOA, 1 PM, performance space 12 School of the Art Institute of Chicago.</td>
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<td>Architectedural committee, Architectural H, O'Hare Field. Geographic Board Hall, 10 a.m.</td>
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<td>Lecture: Bill Ketcham &amp; Eric Chatlain of Booth Hansen, 1 PM, performance space 12 School of the Art Institute of Chicago.</td>
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<td>City House McCormick Place Donnelley Hall.</td>
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ARCHITECTS & ENERGY CONSERVATION = VALUE ADDED

In 1981 Chicago spent roughly $3.76 billion for various forms of energy. This is equal to the combined budgets of the City, the Board of Education, and the CTA. Of that amount about 75% was directly exported from the city. Architects can potentially have a major impact on this figure: some 30% of the energy is used for heating, lighting and powering homes. The amount can only be much higher if other building types are added. True, much of our physical plant is already in place, but more is being built and many square feet of existing space are being renovated. It has been estimated that if 25% of this exported capital could be retained in the Chicago area it could generate 21,000 jobs in the retail sector alone. This drain impacts on architects fairly directly. Our clients pay these bills; more and more of them recognize that control of energy use in their buildings enhances the viability of their project, whether developer or ultimate owner, residential, institutional or commercial.

The Energy Committee will be meeting in March to begin planning a program of activities for the coming year to inform and educate ourselves and the profession about energy use in buildings and the city. Our first event this year will be an INTERPROFESSIONAL ENERGY WORKSHOP on February 23 and 24, which is consponsored by the Chapter and six other professional societies in the building industry.

Our first committee meeting of 1983 will be March 10 at noon in the Board Room. If you have some ideas for programs or would like to participate by meeting others who are interested in building energy use, please join us. Some programs under consideration are: tours of energy conscious buildings, seminars on energy analysis tools and design methods, reports on local energy issues, combined meetings with allied professional groups, and design roundtables in cooperation with the Design Committee. And there is room for more. We'd like you to join us in developing these thoughts by attending the March 10 meeting.

Larry Dieckmann, AIA

HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM CONTINUES

John Zukowsky, Architectural Archivist for the Burnham Library of Architecture at the Art Institute, will conduct a tour of the library facilities at noon on Thursday, March 10. This is part of the Historic Resources Committee's winter program on Researching Historic Architecture. The committee will be touring the Chicago Historical Society in April. Those interested in attending should contact me at 726-2350.

The HRC is establishing a Speakers Bureau with the purpose of promoting the Architect's role in preservation. Those who have prepared talks on subjects pertinent to restoration and rehabilitation should contact me or the Chapter office.

Marshall Hjertstedt, AIA

LARRY BOOTH DISCUSSES "NEW AMERICAN HOUSE"

On Wednesday, March 9 the CCAIA Housing Committee will present a slide lecture on "The New American House" by Lawrence Booth, FAIA. Today's modular, energy-conscious and symbolic house was featured recently in a Chicago Tribune article by Nancy Adams. Copies of the article will be available to all attending the meeting. Bring your lunch and meet at noon in the Chapter Board Room.

The committee's February 9 meeting featured Diane Legge Lohan of SOM, who spoke on "Urbs in Horto." Future activities will include discussion on Soviet housing, 150 years of Chicago housing, Chicago's new comprehensive plan, architect and/or developer projects, 1992 World's Fair Housing and possible competitions to be sponsored by the committee.

Warren E. Spitz, AIA
WORKING GROUP HABITAT IN U. S.

The Union Internationale des Architectes (UIA) Working Group Habitat will hold an international seminar on "Typology and Density" from April 6 to 8 at AIAs headquarters in Washington. This is the first meeting of Working Group Habitat within the U. S., and American architects in the housing field are encouraged to participate.

Internationally recognized architects, engineers, housing specialists and construction professionals will offer strategies for meeting the world's housing challenges. Topical papers will be presented with simultaneous translation in English, French, Russian and Spanish.

If there are any questions please call the AIA's Office of International Relations at 202/626-7549.

VOLUNTEER FOR CITY HOUSE

The CCAIA will be participating in Chicago's City House Fair again this year, with the objective of promoting the public image of architects and architecture. Volunteers will be needed to answer questions and solve housing rehabilitation problems of the Fair patrons. Those architects who involved themselves last year had an interesting weekend and several requests to do further design work.

Assistance at City House is needed as follows: 1) firms or individuals to provide 20" X 40" or 40" X 40" design boards and/or color slides of their new and rehabilitation solutions no later than March 21; 2) architects to man the CCAIA exhibit on March 25, 26, 27; schedules to be arranged; 3) participants for a panel discussion on housing restoration and rehabbing.

If you are interested in sharing in any of these City House efforts please contact the Chapter office ASAP.

Ed Uhler, AIA

URBAN DESIGN PLAN CALL FOR LETTERS OF INTEREST

The Kalamazoo, Michigan Downtown Development Authority (DDA) requests letters of interest from qualified urban design firms (headquartered in Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Minnesota, and Wisconsin) willing to work with the DDA in preparing an urban design and redevelopment plan for a portion of downtown Kalamazoo.

Community leaders feel that a new design and development theme is needed for the 1980's and 1990's to complement the Kalamazoo Mall (the nation's first pedestrian shopping mall in a downtown setting) and Kalamazoo Center (constructed in the early 1970's).

The deadline for submission of letters of interest and statement of credentials is 5 PM, Friday, April 8, 1983. For complete information contact James Visser at 616/344-0795; 100 N. Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 221, Kalamazoo 49007.

A NEW FLOWER IS BLOOMING IN CHICAGO...

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HISTORIC STRUCTURES AND COLOR

The Oak Park Landmarks Commission announces a slide lecture by Dr. Roger W. Moss, Jr., author of *Century of Color, Exterior Decoration for American Buildings 1820/1920*, on Tuesday, March 15 at 8 PM in the Veteran’s Room at the Oak Park Library, 834 Lake St. Dr. Moss is the Executive Director of the Athenaeum of Philadelphia, an independent research library founded in 1814, which specializes in 19th century social and cultural history.

All those planning to attend are invited to bring color slides of their own house for discussion and on-the-spot color consultation. The lecture is free to the public; seating is limited to capacity of the hall.

‘83 PROFILE - AT LAST

The long-awaited PROFILE ‘83 will be sold in the Chapter office beginning in mid-March. This new edition of the standard reference sourcebook of U. S. architectural firms contains listings of 14,000 firms plus the complete national membership roster of over 40,000 AIA members. The firm information includes: organizational structure of the firm, names and responsibilities of firm principals, work distribution by building type, and the geographic scope of practice.

To order the PROFILE ‘83 members may call or write the Chicago Chapter office. The price is $77.50 plus $3 shipping, plus Illinois State sales tax of 7% for Chicago addresses and 6% for those in the suburbs. Members may pay when ordering or request to be billed.

“CONNECTIONS ‘83”


The conference is organized to provide an annual forum to exchange information on studies and reports from public and private planning organizations in the Chicago metro area. Key conference presenters, who will summarize findings and make recommendations are:

- Elizabeth Hollander, Metropolitan Housing and Planning Council; Martin Murphy, City of Chicago Planning Department; Lawrence Christmas, NEI Planning Department; Jack Cornelius, Chicago Central Area Committee; Janet Malone, Trust, Inc., and Donald Petkus, Vice President Chicago World’s Fair 1992 Corp.

Other speakers will look back at the 1982 economic development activity in the Chicago area. Emerging economic development trends in 1983 will also be addressed.

More information about the conference, which is to be held at Printers Square, 700 South Federal, can be obtained by calling the CACI at 786-0111.

CHICAGO AIA FOCUS

The Chicago AIA Focus will have the unilateral right to make any decision as to the acceptability, or lack thereof of advertising which is submitted for publication. Appearance of names and pictures of products and services in either editorial or advertising does not constitute an endorsement of same by the AIA or the Chicago Chapter.
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