Set aside

Friday evening, November 5, 1993 for that annual gala affair, the Design Excellence Awards reception and presentation.

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The Reality of It All

The excitement of the convention is over. It's like planning a vacation for months and then having the two weeks slip by in what seems like minutes. But we had been planning the 1993 convention for years, and the actual event was only four days long. Judos to all who were involved, especially to Steve Weiss, Linda Searl, and Bob Clough. Under their leadership, not only did we show the world that Chicago is one of the most spectacular cities in which we all practice, but we did so with a profit. All of those involved and the entire chapter can be proud of our great success!

My own recollections of the business meetings and program sessions are lured by having been caught up in the intensified activity at the Host Chapter tooth and the execution of a sudden shift in location of the Host Chapter party. Even though this contingency had been planned (just in case), it absorbed a great deal of time originally intended for increasing my awareness of the issues surrounding responsibility for sustainable future.

The Sunday panel discussion on the architect's role in affecting environmentally responsible change, which I had attend, was resolved through debate between William McDonough, AIA, and Helmut Jahn, FAIA. My heart was with McDonough, but Jahn's pragmatic response centered on the role of the architect in the overall process, which is a much smaller role than we would ideally wish it to be. I left perplexed at the dichotomy between our idealistic aspirations and our pragmatic problem-solving skills and relationships with our clients, which I suspect many of us feel to be lost of the time. The fusion of these and other realities with which the practice of architecture is constantly contorted, creates the sometimes confusing situation in which we all practice. The convention sessions were enlightening, but the issues of our role were not fully resolved, nor may they ever be.

Addressing the issues of our role and the value of our services will be the goal of AIA Chicago over the next year. Our chapter is going through a restructuring mandated by our strategic plan and bylaws amendments. The objectives of the Board will be focused on issues that affect our professional relevance. Within the ability of our resources we hope to become involved with the issues that will produce a positive net effect for the profession.

Our new agenda format permits most board meetings to be issues oriented. We began with presentations on the WBE and MBE system and the Central Area Circulator project. The latter resulted in the creation of a peer review task force, which is meeting periodically with the project design team to critique the preliminary designs. The August Board meeting, which follows this writing, will have two presentations. The first is by the Lake Front Coalition, which includes many professional and special interest groups such as Friends of the Parks and the Metropolitan Planning Council. One of their objectives is to insure that the massive rebuilding of the lake shore, which has become necessary from years of erosion, will be done in a fashion that provides maximum aesthetic and recreational benefits to the parks. This will be followed by a discussion with Harold Olin, AIA, of the Building Department. We will be looking for ways that the Chapter might assist in streamlining or otherwise improving the permitting process.

The September Board meeting will focus on education issues. Both local universities have had a change in administration this past year. Jack Hartray, FAIA, of IIT, and Ken Schroeder, FAIA, of UIC, both acting department heads, will, along with others, discuss the current state of architectural education. Whether we train problem solvers, creative abstract thinkers, or those with the technical skills required to start in the average office has long been an issue of debate. With fewer graduates finding positions in traditional practice and more graduates and young professionals finding themselves working for developers, corporations and government agencies, should our students be prepared for additional responsibilities or disciplines?

We have several long-term programs on the agenda. In late winter or early spring of 1994 we plan to sponsor an event where members will learn more about government agencies and their policies for awarding architectural contracts. Representatives from these agencies will be invited to brief us on the types of projects they disperse and the process they use in selecting professional services. This is probably the largest current client group, and we feel that it will be a service to all our members to facilitate an introduction to these potential clients. This concept was originally put forward by Chicago Chapter Vice President Tom Samuels, AIA. I have asked the Government Affairs Committee to develop the format for the event.

Next year will be the 125th anniversary for AIA Chicago, and we are planning a special series of lectures to celebrate the event.

Now for my refrain. In order to improve our ability to empower our profession both politically and creatively, the AIA needs your support. Maintaining and increasing membership is crucial. Participation by those who are able benefits both the organization and the individual. We have several urban issues for which the Chapter has been asked to provide volunteers. One involves open space within the city, and the other is a long-range interdisciplinary neighborhood redevelopment plan. If you are interested, I would like to hear from you. Also, our Housing Committee has become inactive. I am surprised at the lack of committee activity in this important area of practice. I find it hard to believe that among our 1,500 members, there are not five or ten who would be interested in rekindling our efforts on this front. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

JOHN H. NELSON, AIA
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facilities Management: Changing perspectives

Sponsor: Corporate Architects Committee

his is an opportunity to meet with several local decision makers who will share their views on the changing role required of corporate architects and facilities professionals.

With dynamic changes occurring in corporations nationwide, how do the mission, culture and needs of these different enterprises affect the operating philosophies that are being used by their real estate/facilities organizations as they face restructuring and repositioning business needs. Some current approaches include "profit centers," outsourcing, and contracting temporary utilities professionals. Are these approaches working, and if so, how successfully?

Join us and our speakers Aure Giller, facilities manager, Material Service Corporation, and Linda LaBarge, fire president, occupancy manager, First National Bank of Chicago.

Hank Pohl, AIA

Sustainable Neighborhoods

Sponsor: Committee on the Environment

Ard Bigelow, a nationally recognized expert on energy efficient housing and a Chicagoland homebuilder for 5 years, will discuss the planning process for his development of a sustainable community at Round Lake as well as his other extensive work in building energy-efficient homes.

Mr. Bigelow, active in many associations and councils, has been named Energy Builder of the Year for the last eight consecutive years by the Chicago Sun-Times, and in 1990 he was named the Builder of the Year. He is perhaps best known for guaranteeing heating bills on his homes throughout Chicagooland at $200 per year. Mr. Bigelow is deeply involved in housing and economic development initiatives in inner city communities and has formed a joint venture with 20 churches on Chicago's West Side to design and build an Affordable Housing Demonstration Program for the City of Chicago to demonstrate the ar- chaic building code requirements on housing costs.

Senior Roundtable Series

Sears Tower Interiors Tour

Sponsor: Interior Architecture Committee

This tour features recently completed projects at Sears Tower. Although specific projects have not been confirmed as of press time, the tour will be similar to the recent tour on 77 West Wacker.

Space is limited, so be sure to make your reservation now to the Chapter office (fax 312/670-2422) or to Peter Erdelyi (phone 312/263-2995 or fax 312/263-1236).

Peter Erdelyi, AIA

Kevin Sherman, AIA

Sears Tower Interiors Tour

Thurs., Sept. 23, 5:30 p.m. Meet in the Wacker Dr. Lobby

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ADA Case Studies Under Consideration by City

Thurs., Oct. 14 (rescheduled from original Sept. 9 date)
4-6 p.m., Harold Washington Library

Sponsors: Government Affairs Committee with BOMA, and the Chicago Development Council

This program is third in a group developed with the City of Chicago Department of Buildings. There is no cost to attend, but there may be a small charge for printed materials distributed by the City.

Your reservation should be made one week in advance to the Chapter office (fax 312/670-2422) or to Peter Erdelyi (phone 312/263-2995 or fax 312/263-1236).

Peter Erdelyi, AIA

Kevin Sherman, AIA

used in architectural practice and their corrosive effect on one another in a galvanic environment.

Dec. 16 - Understanding Building Tolerances. Robert Kuddor, S.E./PhD, principal with Rath, Rath, and Johnson, will address building material tolerances in construction with particular emphasis on their integration within exterior facade systems.

For more information, or if you would like your name placed on the committee mailing list, please contact Richard Fencel at Lohan Associates, 312/938-4455.

Richard Fencel, AIA
How Are You Producing Project Manuals?

LICENSED PRINTERS CAN COPY AIA DOCUMENTS

Architects may now find it a lot more convenient - and legal - to use a reprographic firm that is participating in the AIA Documents Licensed Printer Program to produce their project manuals. The program allows licensed printers to reproduce 30 copyrighted AIA documents for inclusion in project manuals only. There are now three licensed printer locations in the Chicago area:


In the coming months, additional companies are expected to be licensed to serve Chicago and the surrounding area. Copying AIA documents without a license is a violation of the Federal copyright laws. Under no circumstances are printers allowed to print and sell AIA documents.

Architects find that some of the Documents Licensed Printer program benefits include:

- Convenience - Only one original of each page in the project manual has to be supplied to the printer; licensed printers are required to stock two current copies of each of the 30 documents and supply them for project manuals if needed by a customer;
- Speed - Documents can be mechanically inserted in the project manual, saving time and resulting in a faster turnaround time;
- Cost - The royalty fee is less than the retail cost of an original document;
- Choice - The expanded network of licensed printers allows an architect to select the most convenient firm;
- Legality - The program allows the legal reproduction of documents for project manuals. It’s a solid safeguard for the architect, client, the printer, the AIA, and the profession.

For additional details, contact the documents licensed printers listed above or the Institute’s Documents Licensed Printer Program Manager, Tim Gorman, The Gorman Group, Inc., 202/737-3356.

Zing Put in Chapter Board Meetings

WBE/MBE SYSTEM AND CENTRAL AREA CIRCULATOR FIRST UP IN ISSUES-ORIENTED MEETINGS

The May Chapter Board meeting was the first to convene with the mission of discussing current issues of importance to architects and the profession of architecture. Vice President Tom Samuels, AIA, explained this important goal of the Board of Directors and introduced Carol Ross Barney, FAIA; Wendell Campbell, FAIA; Christopher Lee, AIA; Gigi McCabe-Miele, AIA; and Mary Beth Carroll (representing Diane Legge Kemp, FAIA), who were present to discuss the WBE and MBE system.

Lee stated firmly that the system as it now is is demeaning and does nothing to develop a firm. WBE and MBE firms are “fighting over crumbs,” receiving only a percentage of a contract. Campbell affirmed this view: “We get the job based on a quota, not on our ability.” McCabe remarked that the process is “a mystery.” Barney agreed saying, “I’ve been in business 13 years, and I have no idea of how the selection process works.” “In the RFP, there should be a requirement that the team be identified before the contract is awarded,” Campbell commented. “We need to take architecture out of politics.” “We need to challenge the system,” was the consensus. General concern over the process was expressed, and it is hoped this discussion will be the impetus for an exchange with Fay Manker, deputy commissioner of the General Services Administration.

At the June meeting, Stephen E. Schlickman, executive director of the Central Area Circulator Project, along with six others, presented a wealth of information on the circulator project. Joining Schlickman were Martha Lampkin, project urban designer; Cher Rapowitcz of Sasaki Associates; Tom Warneke, circulator project, Russ Salzman, executive director of the Greater North Michigan Avenue Association, and Harold Hirsch, CTA transportation planner, formed the impressive group.

The Board was presented with the project goals: to meet Chicago area transportation needs by providing a better link with neighborhoods and regional transportation lines; protect and enhance physical and social environment; support and stimulate economic development in the central area. The complete package of considerations in planning the project were explained in depth, and Martha Lampkin offered urban design proposals through a slide presentation. The project’s overall costs and funding arrangements and schedule were also explained.

New Members

AIA

IN MEMORIAM

WILLIAM R. SURMAN, AIA

William Surman, chairman and past president of Graham, Anderson, Probst & White, died late last spring. He was 67. After a period in private practice, he joined Graham, Anderson, Probst & White as Chief Architect in 1965. He was named president and chairman of the Board in 1970, retiring from the firm earlier this year.

Notable projects of Mr. Surman’s are the CNA Financial Building, Motorola World Headquarters, Loyola University Law School, Loyola University’s Administrative Office Building, and most recently, the Illinois State Library in Springfield.

Mr. Surman, a graduate of both Rice Institute and Northwestern University, was recently appointed to the Illinois Architecture Licensing Board and the National Council of Architectural Licensing Boards. He was past chairman of Glencoe’s Plan Commission and the Sacred Heart Church Renovation Committee. He was also very active with Loyola University Chicago, serving on the Board of Trustees from 1981-90. In 1992, Mr. Surman and his wife, Joan, received an Honorary Alumni Award in recognition and appreciation of their community service and outstanding achievements and activities on behalf of Loyola.

Those closest to him know his most cherished fortune was his family. He is survived by his wife, Joan; his children William Jr., Robert, Julie, Mary, and Thomas; his granddaughter, Hanna; his sisters Evelyn and Marion; his brother, Charles.
Vision and Hope for the Future

By HELEN J. KESSLER, AIA

The 1993 World Congress of Architects was an AIA convention unlike any other! Sustainability—meeting the needs of the current generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs—was its powerful theme. Each day after the plenary sessions, convention participants took part in breakout and policy sessions. This portion of the convention was called Architecture 2020: Strategies for Sustainable Design. These sessions on energy and resources, healthy buildings and materials, and sustainable communities encouraged the participatory process and provided a rewarding challenge.

Do you have a sense of what the future might be? Can you describe it as if the year 2020 were right this moment? Looking back to the past, at 1993, how did we get to the year 2020? What is your world like, in the year 2020? What is the role of architects? Does this "preferred future" make you happy? Peter Ellyard, U.N. special advisor for the Rio Earth Summit and Architecture 2020 facilitator, led us into a new way of thinking: the "preferred future," as differentiated from the "probable future." The probable future is what we all think will probably happen. But that is certainly not what we necessarily want to have happen. To get what we really want, we need to first imagine it and then figure out how to get there. If we do not imagine a preferred future, the likelihood of us getting there is slim indeed.

For most of us, the task was unlike anything we tried before, but with the help of group conveners and facilitators, many of whom were members of the Chicago Chapter Committee on the Environment, we were able to develop concepts illustrating preferred and sustainable futures on a global, regional, and individual building scale. We were encouraged to follow a holistic, vision-making process and not let reality get in the way. I personally felt that it was a powerful tool, not only a tool to envision an architectural future, but a tool to envision my own future.

Some of the Architecture 2020 concepts that came out of the breakout sessions included the following:

- Centralized, depersonalized systems were replaced by decentralized, humanized processes;
- Instead of working against nature, people came to recognize the interdependence of all forms of life;
- A respect for spiritual connections filled the void once created by materialism;
- All people now take full responsibility for the consequences of their actions;
- The concept of waste was completely eliminated from our vocabulary. Objects and systems now develop according to the philosophy of long-term values rather than short-term consumerism;
- Quality of life has replaced standard of living as a means of assessing our worth;
- Architects, as both visionaries and masters of technology, have led the sustainable development of our planet.

In addition to the theme breakout sessions, there were many professional development seminars, on both traditional AIA topics, such as design and project management, and on environmental issues. The AIA's environmental professional development seminars were all introduced by members of the Chicago Chapter Committee on the Environment.

One of the most unusual and enjoyable aspects of the convention were our guests from 50 countries. The international participants were particularly in-

THE 1993 WORLD CONGRESS OF ARCHITECTS IN CHICAGO OFFERED UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITIE FOR EXCHANGING IDEAS AND EXAMINING ALTERNATIVES FOR CREATING A VISION FOR THE FUTURE. 5 COUNTRIES WERE REPRESENTED. PHOTO: OSCAR & ASSOCIATES, INC.
volved with the sustainability theme, and many of them provided inspiration-
al discussions during the breakout ses-
sions. As architects from developing
countries interacted with architects
from the developed countries, it became
obvious that many viewpoints were to-
tally different. This provided an in-
credible richness to the dialogue and
new perspectives on architecture and
problem solving.

After the final plenary session, AIA
President Susan Maxman and UIA Presi-
dent Olefumi Majekodunmi, Hon.
FAIA, signed the Declaration of Inter-
dependence for a Sustainable Future. A
symbolic banner was in the lobby of the
Auditorium Theatre that last morning
for all delegates to sign.

In addition, for me it was a

- Helen Kessler is co-chair of the
Chicago Chapter Committee on the
Environment and a member of the Energy
Task Group of the National COTE. She is
an architect and executive vice president of
Sieben Energy Associates, Ltd.

Diary of a Tour Booth Operator
Thurs., June 17: It was steamy, there
was no a/c, exhibit booth construction
noise echoed throughout the McCormick
Place convention floor, and by 9 a.m. a
sea of early-arriving conventioners inched
their way to sign up for viewing Chicago's
special architecture. Many volunteers to
the rescue including President Linda Searl
and President-elect John Nelson. Ticket
crew customer service was exemplary.

Fri., June 18 - A/C on, carpet down,
Expo93 in full swing, and ticket sales for
events still hot item. Under Crossroads
banner, WAL oasis offers pleasant respite
between seminars and exhibit viewing.
AIA Guide to Chicago Architecture
refuses to stay behind counter. Word leaks
out that book's editor, Alice Sinkovitch, is
working the booth. There is a rush by
autograph seekers and photo opportunists.

Sat., June 19: Walk from parking lot
to Conrad Hilton finds city alive with in-
ternational visitors, many former tour
booth patrons - old friends now - who offer
wave and hello. Shuttle bus ride from Hil-
ton to McCormick Place provides great
opportunity to eavesdrop on riders engaged
in discussing the content and success of
seminars, recappping and reminiscing ar-
chitectural tours, and displaying excited an-
picipation of Host Chapter Party. All tick-
ets sold! Evening skies opened up with
downpour as Fellows Investiture comes to
close, but clearing occurs just in time for
big party (moved to Mart lobby this a.m.,
for the storm had been predicted). About
1,500 people are party guests - they really
do love the food and know how to dance
to the music. Fantastic display of fire
works choreographed to music elicits oooos
and aahhs. Specially written architectural
flourishes, dedicated to former Chapter
President Norman DeHaan, FAIA,
resound off lobby walls.

Sun., June 20: Break from tour desk
offers chance to peruse magnificent display
of Institute's offerings to members and par-
ticipate in electronic questionnaire on AIA
public relations. Carolyn Garrett,
Chicago Chapter office convention coo-
dinator, is still standing up - and smiling.
Lights turned out about 4:30.

Mon., June 21: A moving, closing ses-
nion at Auditorium Theatre this a.m.
when many join President Maxman in
promising to make changes for our earth.
The culmination of the morning, indeed
the convention, was the signing of the Dec-
laration of Interdependence. I was in-
spired! Others too; it was in their eyes and
their thunderous applause. -A.K.
A Social Consciousness

The June 20, 1993 "Arts" section of the Chicago Tribune carried extensive coverage on the results of the newspaper's architecture competition for public housing, which drew 301 entries. Only one of the three winners in this "ideas competition" was a Chicago area firm - O'Donnell Wicklund, Pigozzi and Peterson in Deerfield. The jury did select 27 other designs for honorable mentions and among those are Chicago Chapter members Charles Bassett, AIA, Emilee Eide, Eastlake Studio, Florian-Mierzewski, Thomas Hickey, AIA, and Hanno Webber & Associates.

Blair Kamin called the OWP&P solution, which envisioned what Cabrini-Green would look like in the year 2003, the "most practical approach" to rehabilitating Cabrini-Green.

The stories on the winning teams themselves were brief, and so the FOCUS seemed the perfect place to delve a little into the brewing of the OWP&P scheme and some of the specifics of their winning proposal. Thus, we invited OWP&P Director of Planning Joel Stauber, AIA, AICP to an interview, representing the firm's team - Keith Brown; Ed Dean; Robert Hunter, AIA; David Kuffner, AIA; Len Peterson, AIA; Ron Reed, AIA; Dave Rodemann and Stauber. It was an enriching one and one-quarter hours.

AIA Chicago Executive Director Alice Sinkevitch was competition advisor to the Tribune, and two Chapter members were on the competition jury: Christopher Lee, AIA, partner, Johnson & Lee, and Cynthia Weese, FAIA, partner, Weese Langley Weese, jury chair.

An Interview with Joel Stauber, AIA, AICP

FOCUS: Why do you think there were 300 entries to the Chicago Tribune Cabrini-Green competition? No monetary awards would be given nor would the winning entry be built.

STAUBER: There are probably several reasons: one is the amount of potential publicity - the original Tribune Competition of 1922 had extensive publicity and long range impact on architecture. I also believe that as Corbusier essentially provided the model that would be used for the 1960s prototypes for public housing, today's architects might have hoped to be providing ideas for a new grand prototype design.

FOCUS: About design...the competition called for "redesign of the Cabrini-Green public housing development," and "design" or "redesign" appeared approximately eight times in the February 21 announcement. But it appears the majority of entrants addressed the social issues first rather than design concerns in improving the projects. Is that true, and why do you think that is?

STAUBER: Low income housing is a very complicated problem for us today. Through many different methods - design of the original projects, our entitlement programs at the federal level, and various forms of indirect discrimination - we have created low-income housing enclaves. To undo that requires addressing not just the buildings but all those physical and non-physical barriers that prevent those people from mainstreaming into the rest of society. People recognize the extent of the problem is much more than face dressing.

FOCUS: O.K. But why now?

STAUBER: I think we have come full cycle. In the 1960s there was a tremendous amount of money available for addressing problems like low-income housing, but for the last 20-30 years we have sort of ignored it. Now much of that housing is in very poor...
condition, and we're trying to assess what do we do from here.

FOCUS: So, where did that consciousness come from?

STAUBER: I think consciousness is partly driven by what happens at the federal level; now there is more of a chance for significant funding. The CHA hopes to acquire some $300 million in funding this year, $500 million next year and so on over a number of years to rebuild their projects, and when that money becomes available, architects are interested.

FOCUS: Makes sense. What about architects responding to what one of the entries called the Human Aesthetic? Is there more of that these days?

STAUBER: I think architects realize that a more Humanist approach to design is going to produce some better results for the neighborhood and for the people who live there. I think that there's always been interest in humanist concerns by architects.

FOCUS: Why then is it "news?"

STAUBER: Architecture is subject to the whimsy of style, and style changes. There are many different human needs. If you define humanism in terms of direct environmental comfort that is one kind of humanism, but there are other concerns: concerns of the spirit and those address a broader need, a sense of making places, a sense of how things appear. Buildings are in many ways like a set of clothes...

FOCUS: Architecture creates a mood.

STAUBER: Absolutely! So when you talk about humanist design, humanist architecture I think you have to be aware that concerns of people change - or go in cycles. That's a human need as well.

FOCUS: Let's get specific about the OWP&P team's solution. Your process chart showed first the social, economic and political issues that needed to be addressed and then the proposed "physical action." Obviously the OWP&P team did not approach the competition as a design problem in itself. As you explained to me, the process diagram "combines empowering individuals and improving the environment." Tell us about the team's vision.

STAUBER: We began by addressing what we thought would be the issues. We had to get our hands around the problem in order to find the solutions. At one point, after recognizing so many social problems and postulating so many potential solutions to those problems, we even played around with the idea of submitting nothing but a process chart. In fact the idea of the social, economic and political versus the physical improvements and trying to interlace those together was our first idea. It really was the basis for what got us going. Then we recognized that there had to be design solutions. While the social, economic, and political are very important, design is what we are specialists at, and we needed to go further. We came up with a number of what we think are good urban design solutions. The architectural solutions we didn't, quite frankly, put as much stress on. When we provided our emblematic image, which was required in the competition, you will note that it is at street level rather than a birds-eye view. We felt that one of the original problems in the design for this community was that there were so many birdseye views done that people didn't understand what was really happening at street level - what is happening at the human scale.

Once we had the framework, the social framework, we placed safety right at the top of the list. People need a place where they can feel safe, not only inside their buildings but in the neighborhood. Some of the solutions we suggested were management solutions: a security force developed, perhaps, with people who live in these buildings; perhaps, too, they could manage their own buildings. Urban design solutions include having buildings face onto the streets and to make the open spaces where they occur have some sense of enclosure so that there can be a feeling of privateness or security within each of those spaces. Now [Cabrini-Green] resembles in many ways a desert. It needs to be lush again, where people want to be. Security comes with physical comfort.

Another issue we thought very important was clean and decent housing. The maintenance on these buildings has been atrocious. The initial funding dried up in the 60's, and there is little money for maintaining the buildings. If the maintenance programs are there, providing clean and decent housing, not only will low income residents live there but middle-income residents who are looking for inexpensive housing are potential candidates for moving into this neighborhood. The next step in my opinion would be to start a process incorporating the residents into further planning efforts, not only in Cabrini-Green, but in surrounding neighborhoods as well.

The next fundamental issue to consider was jobs. In order for these people to get out of where they are they must have some employment opportunities. We provided improved access; for instance, additional stops for the el train, even the Metra train that goes to Lake Forest, so that these people might have access to jobs in other places. We also strongly encouraged entitlement programs and other programs that help provide jobs in local daycare centers, health centers, and industry. Along with that is education. Training for jobs is fundamental, as well as better education facilities, better programs for kids who live in the neighborhood. We looked at economic incentives, how to make this not just a public effort for making changes but a public-private effort as well. There are many adjacent parcels in the adjoining neighborhood that are ready for development, and we need to capture some of that pressure for development, encourage up to 25% low-income housing.

FOCUS: How did you arrive at 25%?

STAUBER: We thought that the major problem with Cabrini-Green's enclave is not the density of the people or the height of the buildings or the buildings themselves; it is the concentration of low-income people who, frankly, have no dignity and no hope.

FOCUS: Nor inspiration.

STAUBER: Exactly! The successful people in this neighborhood move away. Therein lies a fundamental problem. If this neighborhood is ever going to be successful the residents have to be able to see better role models within the neighborhood, stay in the neighborhood, as well as keep the existing social framework.

FOCUS: Models for achievement, and some continuity.

STAUBER: Right. One of the greatest values this neighborhood has is its existing social network. There is a whole series of connections, of people within this place that are far more important than the buildings. These people know what they want. You have to ask them and then give them choices about where they live. Instead of building housing with public money for poor people, we should be providing vouchers for poor people, so that they have more choice to live wherever they want. The vouchers can help them pay the rent, so that we aren't building housing that is purposely, "low-income housing." We need to make this neighborhood the same as other neighborhoods.

To that end I think it is important to consider increasing the density of this neighborhood. One purpose of this
is that at the current 50 units per acre in Cabrini-Green, which compares to around 250 units an acre at Sandburg Village, you really don’t have enough density to provide restaurants, barber shops, delicatessens, the kinds of services a higher density would help to support. Another purpose is that if you’re trying to encourage moderate-income people to move in, you can begin to decrease the percentage of low-income people in one place by providing them with additional opportunities for other places to live. Then adding housing makes sense. You can also use the opportunity to take each of the larger block areas and to front buildings on to streets, to take up some of the desert open spaces and create a little oasis for each individual block, for tot lots, playgrounds, victory gardens, block parties, all those kinds of social functions.

FOCUS: Before the Cabrini-Green buildings, there was a neighborhood there that became known as “Little Hell.” How will the new neighborhood stand the test of time? Will it survive differently?

STAUBER: I think that if Little Hell had survived, today it probably would be an upscale neighborhood. Neighborhoods go through cycles of decline and rebuilding - but it was never given the opportunity to do that. The continuity with the original neighborhood is lost, all the social framework taken away. A whole new group of people were put into new buildings, which were allowed to precipitously decline. Building stock should not be trashed out, allowed to deteriorate to the point it has in a 30-year period. Now we’re at a point that is as bad or worse than “Little Hell” 30 years ago.

FOCUS: In other words we shouldn’t be so quick to demolish, but find new solutions within the existing problems?

STAUBER: It is my belief that this neighborhood can also can be returned to, if not an upscale neighborhood, a respectable neighborhood. Along with the demolition of Little Hell went a whole historical memory, a sense of place. It’s important to keep a residual of the existing neighborhood. The highrise structures there can still be successful.

Back for just a moment to entitlement programs. The current programs are such that it encourages the male head of household to leave a family. There is a very small percentage of males actually registered to live in these projects, and that’s a direct result of federal entitlement programs. They need to change.

We put a lot of emphasis on recreation. One of the tremendous potential outlets for the energies of residents, particularly the children, is recreation, and judging just from the desert appearance of the open spaces and underutilized equipment, a tremendous possibility exists for getting the Chicago Park District or other groups involved. Kids can, through organized recreation, learn a great deal about themselves, about teamwork, and all the kinds of things that will help them become successful.

We need to have a lot more services. That begins with issues such as having money available from the bank for low-interest loans to rebuild portions of the housing, to care for the elderly, to have a community newspaper, so residents can talk to each other in a community sense, develop a whole sense of community. Retail services, too, are fundamental to neighborhood success. And libraries - a basic service.

Finally, one of the key issues was access. As part of the original planning there was almost a conscious effort to take streets out, to provide blockages so that access to the adjacent neighborhoods was minimized. We thought it was very important to open up that access again.

FOCUS: So the people there are not set apart.

STAUBER: Right! Without some measure that we thought would really help would be to create an attraction within this part of the Northtown neighborhood. For instance, by demolishing three or four of the high-rises one could create a wonderfully
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large open park area, which could be used for both active and passive recreation. This would serve the whole neighborhood, not just within the existing Cabrini-Green fabric. I think that pretty well summarizes at least the basic issues and how we addressed some of them.

FOCUS: Blair Kamin said in the June 20 Tribune summation of the competition results: "It's not who won, but what won or what ideas won." The OWP&P team impressed the jury with its ideas, ideas which you say are not necessarily new but need to be addressed again. How were the OWP&P ideas generated?

STAUBER: We kicked around a lot of different potential solutions. Many of the ideas are in some ways standard approaches to urban design problems; there's much theory about the ideas of street grid network and open space network. We put in some economic development elements: increasing density but decreasing the concentration of low-income residents.

FOCUS: How was this process different from the usual process you use in tackling design problems?

STAUBER: In a sense it was a bit more verbal. We weren't really addressing design and appearance issues: we were addressing issues of access and the other social problems we discussed, and those required the kinds of solutions that were on a macro scale of opening up the streets or creating this park network, or creating a town center image. We also spent some time trying to actually do some layout and designing of some key places as well, but the fundamental thing was addressing the issues.

FOCUS: What can you bring from this experience to your future design solution think tanks? What suggestions have you for other architects?

STAUBER: Architects need to step back in the beginning of projects and really ask themselves what the problems are; sometimes that goes beyond what a client thinks he or she wants. You really have to look at the bigger issues, not just the smaller, architectural aesthetic kinds of questions. The best architecture comes out of addressing the bigger issues. Place making is fundamental, and this is not just a matter of objects or landscape but places people remember.

FOCUS: The OWP&P team statement said that architects need to "resist the temptation to simply fix the place, the object, the physical environment." Is there anything you would like to share about resisting those temptation in not only approaching a project such as Cabrini-Green, but other architectural projects as well?

STAUBER: Rarely do architects get the opportunity to develop their own program. This competition is a rare instance where architects were asked, without a lot of you have to do this or do that, What would you do? This goes beyond simply addressing architectural commissions. There's a need for architects in the public realm where they have to be proponents for doing the right things. They have to understand the problems and be willing to publically what are the problems and what are the potential solutions. This is one of the important reasons why we entered the competition. We feel that responsibility and wanted to make our views known.

FOCUS: It did not matter then that the Tribune competition did not award prize money?

STAUBER: That's right! We felt it was a golden opportunity for architects to come forward and suggest solutions for what were obviously significant problems. Perhaps this competition will go on to influence the people who do write the RFP's for public housing, and they will take the ideas that came out of this competition into consideration.

FOCUS: Do you believe the ideas generated by this competition will trigger an impetus for change, stimulating preventive rather than reactive measures to low-income housing planning for other existing or new public housing in the U.S?

STAUBER: Yes, but I'm not sure to what degree.

FOCUS: CHA Chairman Vincent Lane has said he would like to see proposed redevelopment occur by the end of this decade or soon after the year 2000. In your opinion, can we afford to wait six to seven years to begin making changes at Cabrini-Green?

STAUBER: It's not a question of when the buildings will be built. As funding becomes available, I think it is important to begin, as our written position said, grain by grain; that we begin little at a time changing building by building. For each building, we're going to have to have a whole plan for how the residents can continue to live there or be relocated and still keep the whole social fabric together. One of the failures of the original project was that a whole new city sprung up overnight. It's important to take it piecemeal, build and rebuild, and reintegrate...
th the rest of the neighborhood.

FOCUS: What do you think it is about the OWP&P team plan and the other two winning projects that ayed the jury?

STAUBER: I think what really ayed the jury and what was common among the three winning plans was they addressed the social and economic issues. When we put right on of the list access to jobs and dispersal of low-income residential, those are pretty fundamental concerns and ahls. Our team also included removal of the CHA over time, so that the CHA would no longer become the managing agency. In an ideal world these buildings would be managed like any other neighborhood. They would have owners, and people who hire maintenance and do all the things to make these buildings successful - the way other buildings are successful. I think the jury looked at that and said that was a basic requirement. Beyond that, there were other design things: the first site team had connections to the Chicago River. We actually considered a similar solution, but there were Commonwealth Edison transformer yards, a major power station, as well as a Montgomery Ward's factory building, the river's edge, and we chose to do those because we felt some of the industrial areas could be incubator sites for new jobs. It's not that river frontage wouldn't be a nice thing to have, but rather, it's a trade-off. One of other schemes had an irregular layout with a roadway that went through the development, connecting it together. It was attractive in that sense. I think that was one of the things the jury liked, too. There were solutions that were perhaps more economically challenging or aesthetically appealing. Our solution was very conservative, we kept a lot of the existing buildings. We had a relatively low profile, no dramatic gestures, but the jury was looking for things that were doable.

FOCUS: What one last thing would you like to say about this experience?

STAUBER: Changing times require new approaches to old problems. We must all take an active role in under- standing today's issues and in advocating appropriate solutions.

FOCUS: Thank you for taking the time to talk to us today. Congratulations to the OWP&P team and to those seeking to make changes in our city by having entered this competition. It's exciting to see people helping to live better lives.
BRITAIN ON THE BOOKSHELF

Land of Hope and Glory


Reviewed by PETER EXLEY, AIA.

British architecture has spent much of the past decade reeling from the comments of a man whom the general public takes far more seriously as an architectural critic than as their future monarch. This has spurred not only a nostalgia for all things historic, which runs the risk of blurring the boundaries between the real "old" and the "old-look," but more positively, has spread architectural debate to a wider audience. While architects in Britain might have been reluctant to hear many of Prince Charles' criticisms, there is no denying the catalytic effect of his discourse in extending the debate about what architecture was, what architecture means in the present, and what it should become - beyond the halls of architectural schools and offices.

Though it is unlikely that Peter Cook: Six Conversations or Terry Farrell: Urban Design will have much impact on this public debate, both are timely reflections of the current blitz of publications by Academy Editions of London, seemingly in the midst of an admirable attempt to document the major players on the architectural scene today. It would be unrealistic to suppose that Cook and Farrell are wholly representative of British practice. Both are, however, at the forefront of their respective specialties of theory and urban design. As such, together the two books make for an interesting balance of ideas and practice at the forefront of British architecture.

Peter Cook's conversations (a curious misnomer, as he appears to be the only one doing the talking) are anecdotal thoughts interspersed with many reminiscences of Archigram (the visionary 1960s architectural group and magazine, responsible for the Plug-In and Walking City projects). The book's format is similar to that of a slide presentation: relatively brief text overlaid on full bleed graphics. On the one hand this is very successful; ideas are succinct and imagery prolific. Rather like a slide show, poor reproduction and cropping of images frequently left me feeling that something had been missed by moving to the next image too quickly. In the quest for graphic consistency, the eloquence of Cook's written theory is jeopardized by this layout, which was not a fault of earlier Archigram publications, in spite of their more "amateur" feel. The frequent Archigram references alongside more current work illustrates Cook's career-long ideas and theoretical pursuits. The idea of transformation and metamorphosis is traced from the 1964 "Plug-in City" project right through to "Way Out West" in Berlin (1988), an intricate pun of the American West "layered" (a favorite Cook phrase) into the fabric of a bourgeois suburb of (then) West Berlin.

It is no revelation that this visionary sequence of projects begins with fantasies of themes evolved from the ideas of Buckminster Fuller and Louis Kahn (in his Richards Medical Center and planning projects in Philadelphia). The weakest aspect of Cook's entertaining dialogue is his defense of his built work (only three such projects are illustrated). For a public housing project, Cook concentrates on the efficiencies of British local authority housing and intrinsic of the plan, criticizing architects who are "facade-driven." Again the illustrations let the argument down by omitting the plan and dwarving the thumbnail interior photographs with full-page shots of the completed building's elevations. Ironically, the real value of this volume is to be found without illustrations, in the collection of essays relegated to the rear of the book. Here the strength and conviction of Cook's theory and influences through teaching is not distracted by fantastic imagery.

The Archigram Effect is not quite what His Royal Highness has in mind for the future of British architecture; Charles is obviously immune to Cool self-proclaimed influence on such icons as Piano and Rogers' Beaubourg. More in line with the Royal sensibilities is the work of Terry Farrell. Not that this is a deliberate ploy, rather a reflection of Farrell's expertise and the resultant quantity of work, particularly in the field of urban design. Judging from the voluminous number of projects illustrated in this book, which were executed in the past ten years, particular in London, it is clear that he has mastered (or at least in tune with) the myriad of political processes essential for the execution of projects in London.

By coincidence, in parallel with Cook, Farrell's beginnings are under the Kahn umbrella at Penn in the early 1960s. The too brief but thoughtful introduction by Ken Powell to Urban Projects traces Farrell's career from his beginnings and influences to the present. Powell makes flattering comparisons with the work of John Nash and praises Farrell's "strong belief in..." Continued on page...
Insider or Outsider?


Reviewed by MARK HINCHMAN.

This is an attractive book, to date the most comprehensive on Leon Krier’s projects and principles. It spews forth a cornucopia of postmodern design elements - potted palms, gondoliers, niches, arcades, and olive groves. But while perusing Leon Krier: Architecture & Urban Design, 1967-1992, one asks, Isn’t this an odd time for a book on one of the founders of postmodernism? Aren’t these the trapings of an out-dated fashion? Or is postmodernism? Aren’t these the traps of an out-dated fashion? Or is there something universal in the work of Leon Krier? The answer is not just a critique of Krier but of postmodernism in general, for in Leon Krier one finds the essence of postmodernism.

Postmodernism developed largely because modernism at the urban scale disenchanted the public. If Mrs. Farnsworth wanted to live in a glass box that was her business, but when Krier confronted those who one expects to be his comrades; he thought he’d enjoy the company of archaeologists, but sadly found little in common with them. A notable friend is the Prince of Wales, who like Krier, is an insider and outsider at the same time. Together they just may build a town in Cornwall.

The beauty of Krier’s oeuvre is that his writings and drawings dovetail. He can write the complicated building codes necessary to realize an entire town, like Poundbury in Cornwall, yet his philosophy, as any one of his drawings can prove, can be reduced to a simple idea: follow European precedents, and keep everything as small as possible. A possibly arcane subject, no less than a recipe for the reconstruction of our cities, in the hands of Krier speaks simply and eloquently to a wide audience. One’s grandmother can pick up Krier’s book, understand the pictures, and find solace. She knows this world. It’s her family’s village in Tuscany, the small town she grew up in, or a boulevard she remembers from a high school trip to Paris. Krier may be familiar, even sentimental, but he is not superficial. He articulately addresses urbanism, society, and civility in his writings and in his architecture. There is much to learn from Krier, and it would

Continued on page 19
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Insider/Outsider

Continued from page 17
be a mistake to dismiss him. This book, with its exacting look at the problems and solutions of the world's cities never loses sight of the big picture. Throughout it demonstrates a seriousness postmodern books often lack. Krier's desire to return architecture to the human scale, and not his slavish attitude to classicism is what is good about him. Leon Krier has infinite respect for the public realm, which is what architecture is supposed to be all about.
-Mark Hinchman is an architect with The Environments Group.

Hope and Glory

Continued from page 16
the ad hoc and pragmatic to achieve a particular kind of harmony." It is the depth of his work and this realization that set Farrell's work apart from the more narrowly focused work of the vogue traditionalists such as Leon Krier or of Quinlan Terry. In this sense Farrell and Cook are quite alike despite their contrasting aesthetics. The mass of work presented in this volume prohibits an in-depth analysis here. Particularly useful in understanding the essence and intelligence of Farrell's work are the numerous master plan drawings presented, which are meticulously rendered and eloquently noted to explain the intricacies of the urban spaces they depict. If the book has a major flaw it is that it is not in Farrell's hand. Though allegedly based on personal anecdotes and passion required to convey the theory within. No doubt this is a reflection of a busy practitioner whose objective is not to preach but to improve our experience of the city. This is a goal at which Farrell seems to be succeeding.

These two gloriously illustrated books may not be set texts at the Prince of Wales' School of Architecture. For the broad-minded, however, as in progress retrospectives of the current state of British architecture, they are a welcome addition to works on Foster, Rogers, and Stirling, which have monopolized our shelves in recent years.
-Peter Edey is an architect with Meisel Associates, Ltd.

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PEOPLE

The U.S. General Services Administration, Region 5, has presented Dubin, Dubin and Moutoussamy with the Partnership in Administration Award for Outstanding Service to the Government. John Moutoussamy, FAIA, and Peter Dubin, AIA, accepted the award for the firm at the May Awards Banquet in Milwaukee. The award recognized the firm’s achievements in renovating the U.S. Custom House on Canal St., which will include administrative facilities for the U.S. Customs Service and the Department of Defense.

Chapter firms that participated in the Newhouse Architecture Foundation summer internship program this year are Lohan Associates and Ware Associates. These firms, along with other construction industry firms, provided support and encouragement to our intercity youth by offering paid summer internships to high school juniors and seniors who have won top awards in the 1993 Newhouse Architecture Competition.

Sherwin Braun, AIA, and James E. Freiberg have announced the formation of Prairie Shore Partners, Ltd., offering construction management, general contracting, and design/build services. They are located at 540 Frontage Rd., Suite 3235, Northfield, IL 60093; phone, 708/501-5700; fax, 708/501-5724.

Linda Searl, AIA, was featured in the Today's Chicago Woman July, 1993, story “Building a Place for Women Architects.”

Hedrich-Blessing has announced that AIA Chicago professional affiliate Michael Houlahan has become president of the firm.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Douglas Madel + Associates is expanding its architectural practice in Russia. The firm is currently involved with a Russian construction company in a joint venture project that will create new upper-end low-rise housing in Moscow. A portion of the profits generated by the housing development will be used to renovate an 18th century villa used by Russian academics.

Nearing completion in Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin is the corporate facility of MG Scientific Inc. Architect for the design/build project is Jeffrey R. Brown Associates, with Krusinski Construction Company.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Makoto Watabe, senior managing director for Shimizu Corporation, Tokyo, will be the guest speaker at the SEAOI September 7 dinner meeting. He will discuss the Shimizu Super High-rise structural system. Dinner is at the Como Inn, 846 N. Milwaukee Ave. at 6 p.m. with the presentation beginning about 7 p.m. The cost: $25. Contact Barb Pries, 312/372-4198.

The Women in Architecture Committee, the Minority Resources Committee, and the Expert Panel on Diversity are organizing a major national conference, Breaking the ICE: Building New Leadership, to be held August 26-28, 1994, in Washington, D.C. Proposals for presentations - seminars, workshops, exhibits - are being accepted until October 15, 1993. Presentations will be organized around the ICE theme: Inviting Diverse Talents into Design; Cultivating Diverse Leadership; Empowering the Diversity Agenda. Ideas on unique, interactive activities and events, as well as suggestions for social events, networking opportunities, children's activities, media events, audio/visual effects, and exhibits are welcome. For the submission form, contact Jean Barber, 202/626-7453, or fax 202/626-7518.

EXHIBITIONS

Site & Vision: Rethinking Public Housing, an inspiring exhibit of mixed-media artwork in the Kraft General Foods Education Center at the Art Institute, is the culmination of a special project of DuSable H.S. students. Fourteen local architects worked with the group of students to gather ideas for improving buildings, spaces, and landscapes in the neighborhood of the Robert Taylor Homes. Through their mixed-media artwork, it is made clear that safety, space, grass and flowers are high on the wish list of the kids who live there. Chapter member Kevin Pierce was one of the architects participating in the project. The exhibition runs through September 15.

VARIOUS MATTERS

The Eleventh Annual Career Day in Architecture and Interior Design will be held Saturday, September 18 in the Stock Exchange Trading Room of the Art Institute. The Chicago Chapter, along with the Chicago Consortium of Architecture and Interior Design Schools, is sponsoring the program, which begins at 8:30 a.m. Representatives of schools of architecture and interior design from all over the U.S. will be available to discuss their school programs. At 9:30 professionals will talk to the students about the broad range of careers available within the construction industry. Gigi McCabe-Miele, AIA, and Walter Lewis, FAIA, will speak about curriculum options and licensing requirements. High school and college students, parents, teachers, and counselors are invited. The program is free to all. For reservations or further information, please call the Chapter office, 312/670-7770, or Jane Lucas, Oakton Community College, 708/635-1898.

The AIA has updated and enhanced SPECSystem, its electronic specification writing system. The SPECSystem 3.1 version includes a totally new installation program, which can be adapted to stand-alone computers and Local Area Network (LAN) systems. Non-net work users will be able to install SPECSystem to a hard drive for faster access. Special security features were added to prepare the system for inclusion with McGraw-Hill's new Sweet Source CD-ROM. There are many more features, so for information, call Cindy Flynn, 202/626-7446.

The author of Viking Studio Books' The Complete Home Office: Planning Your Workspace for Maximum Efficiency, Alvin Rosenbaum, would like to consider home office projects by designers from around the country. New homes, additions, and renovations will be featured. A broad range of issues relating to working at home will be addressed, including privacy, entry/approach, parking, lighting and infrastructure, furniture and decorating, equipment, storage, and expansion strategies. Professional quality color slides or transparencies of the projects are requested by early Fall. The author will be interviewing the designer. Contact Harriet Baker, 619/793-1515, or fax 619/793-2587.
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September

6 Monday
Labor Day Holiday. Chapter office closed.

7 Tuesday
- SEAOI Dinner/Program. Speaker: Dr. Makoto Watabe, Shimizu Corp. The Shimizu Super High-rise. $25. 6 p.m. Como Inn, 546 N. Milwaukee. 312/372-4198.

8 Wednesday
Graham Foundation Lecture/Exhibition Opening. Adding to Mies. Speaker: Peter Gluck. 8 p.m. 4 W. Burton.

9 Thursday
SMPS Luncheon Meeting. 1994-95 Economic Forecast. Speaker: Mark Hornung, Chicago Sun-Times editor. $30, members/$50, non-members. 11:30-1:30 p.m. Palmer House, 72 E. Monroe. Fax RSVP to 312/266-8059 by noon 9/7.

10 Friday
Exhibit Opening Reception. Work of UIUC Dept. of Landscape Architecture alumni & Art & Design faculty. 5-7 p.m. I Space, 250 W. Superior. 312/587-9976.

14 Tuesday
- Chapter Executive Committee Meeting. 8 a.m. Board Room.

15 Wednesday
- Design Committee Meeting. 5:30 p.m. Board Room.

16 Thursday
Northern Illinois Chapter, CSI Programs. Testing of Doors, Frames & Hardware. 2-5 p.m. $15, members/$20, non-members. Wood Doors, Pre-machining & Pre-finishing. (Dinner program) 6:30-9 p.m. $20 members/$25 non-members. Both are at Holiday Inn, 860 Irving Park Rd., Itasca.

17 Friday
Chicago Chapter, International Facility Management Association Meeting. Communications Technology 11:30 a.m. AT&T Bldg. 312/236-0900.

18 Saturday
Career Day in Architecture. 8:30 a.m. Stock Exchange Room, Art Institute. 312/670-7770 or Jane Lucas, 708/635-1898.

19 Sunday

October

21 Tuesday
- Committee on Environment Program. A Sustainable Neighborly Neighborhood. 5:30 p.m. Board Room.

22 Wednesday
- Real Estate Steering Committee Meeting. 5:30 p.m. Draper and Kramer, 33 W. Monroe, 19th fl. 312/346-8600, X335.

23 Thursday
- Interior Architecture Committee Program. Sears Tower Tour. Meet in Wacker Drive Lobby. 5:30 p.m.

28 Tuesday
- Chapter Board Meeting. Noon. Board Room.

30 Thursday

November

2 Saturday
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