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WORTHY OF RECOGNITION

I hope everyone is doing great! In celebration of our 150th year anniversary, did you know that AIA Chicago was around way before the television? The electric television was only invented in 1927! Amazing. Also, please keep up your contributions on social media showing the great architectural work we do in Chicago by tagging #AIACHICAGO150.

In this issue we celebrate our Small Project Awards and show the fantastic breadth of work that Chicago's Architecture community is undertaking.

This year, the jury selected nine projects for distinction, including one Honor Award that goes to Independent Design Architects for their project, Detroit Shipping Company. The design team created a space for restaurants and art exhibitions by repurposing and configuring several discarded shipping containers. It’s a wonderful project that combines material reuse with neighborhood revitalization, making it an intersection between social practice and design excellence. The courtyard is one of those particular design moments when people and structure come together to make a community more connected and vibrant.

Eight other awards went to a diverse variety of residential and commercial/public spaces, including PORT's below-rail public space, the Lakeview Low-Line; a modern yet site-specific lake house by Robbins Architecture; a staircase by Farr Associates that connects more than a building's floors; and many more.

We're also recognizing Joseph Caprile, FAIA, who was recently elevated to Fellow of the AIA. Joe brings unique architectural influence to the development of the world around us but not in a traditional sense. Through a leadership position at JLL, Joe is helping his clients understand the role that development plays in the broader picture of the urban fabric. He is making better places for all of us. A past AIA Chicago president, he has been a fixture in Chicago’s architectural community for decades. We are very proud of Joe’s work and congratulate him on this prestigious accomplishment.

You’ll also read about the three finalists in the Disruptive Design Competition. Launched in late 2018, Disruptive Design sought solutions to Chicago's affordable housing challenges. Three Chicago-based finalists were selected from more than 130 submissions to continue on to the second phase of the competition; all of them have met with city officials and residents of the neighborhoods in which the winning entry will be built. We’re looking forward to seeing final designs in late May!

Finally, Zurich Esposito, Hon. AIA, interviews Peter Exley, FAIA, to learn more about running a small firm while also running for AIA National president-elect (2021). We’re all very excited for Peter’s candidacy, but we’re also thrilled to learn more about how his work as the co-owner and principal of Architecture is Fun, Inc. has prepared him for this major campaign.

I wish you all the best and hope to see you at the Small Project Awards!

Regards,

Bob
2019 AIA CHICAGO DIRECTORY

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~Jessica Molter, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, Principal, Pfluger Architects
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CELEBRATING AIA CHICAGO AND CHICAGO’S ARCHITECTURAL LEGACY

IN THE COVER

Detroit Shipping Company

Small Project Honor Award

Photo by Jason Keen Photography

OUR PREVIOUS ISSUE

is available to view digitally at www.aiachicago.org
CALL FOR ENTRIES: 2019 DESIGN EXCELLENCE AWARDS

AIA Chicago presents the 2019 Design Excellence Awards, an annual awards program that honors the best work by Chicago architecture firms found worldwide.

Rules have been updated for 2019! Visit aiachicago.org/dea for more information and to begin your submissions.

AIA CHICAGO PRESENTS:
DO NO HARM: THE ROLE OF DESIGN IN COMPICATED TIMES
Liz Ogbu, Founder and Principal, Studio O, New York
Wednesday, June 12 | 11 a.m.
NeoCon Theater, 19th Floor, theMART

AIA Chicago is pleased to sponsor the NeoCon Day Three Keynote speaker, Liz Ogbu. A designer, urbanist and spatial justice advocate, Ogbu is an expert on social and spatial innovation in challenged urban environments globally. From designing shelters for immigrant day laborers in the U.S. to a water and health social enterprise for low-income Kenyans, Ogbu has a long history of working with communities in need to leverage the power of design to catalyze sustained social impact. Her work blends human-centered design research methodologies, architecture and equitable development principles, cross-disciplinary design thinking frameworks and social justice agendas. She is founder and principal of Studio O, a multidisciplinary design and innovation consultancy that works at the intersection of racial and spatial justice.
AIA CHICAGO CELEBRATES THE NEWLY ELEVATED FELLOW

AIA Chicago is proud to congratulate Joseph Caprile, FAIA, as a 2019 inductee into the AIA National College of Fellows.

Caprile has led the transformation of underutilized public and civic spaces into meaningful destinations through his real estate knowledge and architectural advocacy and vision.

An active member of Chicago's design community, Caprile served as president of AIA Chicago in 2003. In his career, his experience in architecture and construction has led to a leadership role at JLL, a global commercial real estate firm, leveraging his influence to keep good design and expert project management at the table throughout all phases of large-scale development projects. The result has led to a body of work and influence that has advanced both the real estate and architecture industries and contributed to the public good, with notable projects including Roosevelt University, Navy Pier, Chicago's Soldier Field, and Centennial Fountain in Cityfront Center.

JOIN THE AIA CHICAGO LGBTQI+ ALLIANCE AT PRIDE 2019

Members of AIA Chicago LGBTQI+ Alliance will march in the Chicago Pride Parade on Sunday, June 30. The size of the group is limited according to parade regulations. AIA Chicago members interested in participating can register at www.aiachicago.org.
DISRUPTIVE DESIGN COMPETITION ANNOUNCES FINALISTS

The Disruptive Design competition — an architecture competition seeking proposals for affordable housing in Chicago — recently announced the three finalists moving on to the competition’s second phase. The three finalists were selected by five jurors from more than 130 international entries in a blind jury process: Georgi Todorov, AIA, and Petya Petrova, IIDA; Joel Huffman; and Greg Tamborino, AIA, will each receive $10,000 to produce final designs and drawings before a winner is selected later this year. All three are Chicago-based architects.

The competition, organized collaboratively by AIA Chicago, Neighborhood Housing Services, LISC Chicago, Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives and Northern Trust, originated to challenge architects to envision forward-thinking, viable solutions of building affordable housing under $200,000 (single family) or $300,000 (two-flat), and asked submitters to create single-family or two-flat homes within this budget. Submitters were also asked to include a wealth-building component to their designs, which could include a home office, flexible work space or a rentable unit.

The finalists’ entries all create “new versions of iconic Chicago-style housing,” one juror said.

With two sites acquired — one double lot in West Humboldt Park and another single lot in Bronzeville — jurors evaluated designs based on budget feasibility as well as designs that would fit into the context of these two diverse neighborhoods. Jurors were also interested in plans for sustainability, possible needs for zoning changes and floorplans that enhanced quality of life. The first phase drawings will be presented to community members and aldermen at each of the neighborhoods’ community meetings in the coming weeks, soliciting feedback from local residents. The City of Chicago’s Department of Buildings will also review the final submissions and provide feedback for revisions.

These finalists will refine their drawings based on juror feedback and present new drawings at the end of May 2019.
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Eastlake Studio has completed interiors for Euromonitor in Chicago. Bright colors consistent with the company's brand and two 40-foot shafts comprise a modern office space.

Goettsch Partners has completed a major renovation campaign for historic Chicago Union Station, with the recent completion of the Great Hall Restoration.

Jeanne Gang, FAIA, has been named one of Time's 100: the most influential people of 2019.
The Diablos Rojos Baseball Stadium opened to the public in Mexico City with a game between Los Diablos Rojos and the Padres de San Diego. Francisco Gonzalez Pulido, AIA, and FGP Atelier designed the building in collaboration with Taller ADG for the team's owner, Don Alfredo Harp Helú.

Carolyn Isaacson, Assoc. AIA, rejoined AltusWorks, Inc. as an architectural designer.

Tom Jacobs, AIA, principal at Krueck + Sexton Architects and co-founder of Architects Advocate, won a seat on the Riverside Brookfield High School Board of Education in the April 2 election. He campaigned as a voice for students and argued for a boost in civic engagement, particularly on the issue of climate change.

Paul Preissner Architects won an honorable mention in the 2019 Progressive Architecture Awards for their project, Ring of Hope, located in Chicago.
Michael Menn, AIA, principal of Michael Menn Ltd., has been selected as an honoree of the 29th Annual Awards for Business Excellence. The suburban Chicago architectural firm is one of 23 Illinois-based companies to be recognized for its business achievement, growth and community involvement.

Cynthia Milota has joined the firm as director, workplace strategy at Ware Malcomb.

SPACE Architects + Planners has recently completed a number of private residences across Chicago. The Prindville Townhomes creates several units in Logan Square; their Monroe Aberdeen apartments add 190,000 square feet of multifamily housing in the West Loop; and, their Perforated Living project (pictured) is a new single-family home in Irving Park.
Jensler has completed the new Chicago Tribune headquarters. After Tribune Media's departure from the historic Tribune Tower, the new design brings all of their media
tion employees into one space.

Gresham Smith's Chicago office, which opened in August 2018, has grown to 16 employees. Hires include: Jenna Ayares,
Keith Besserud, AIA, Kori Chapman, AIA, ACHA,
CLGB, Dolores Classon,
Kate Doyle, LEED AP,
CLGB, Bryan Finnegan,
AIA, LEED AP, CLGB, Adam Grigsby, Youngwook Park,
Yuwen Tan, Gayatri Tawari
and Goran Vukovljak, AIA,
LEED GA, CLGB.
Shive-Hattery has designed the Moody Bible Institute Chapman Center, a new communications center that brings together Moody Radio and Moody Publishers under one roof.

Tristan Butterfield joined Gensler Chicago as a regional brand and retail leader.

Sheryl Schulze, NCIDQ, RID, Lena Kitson, IIDA, NCIDQ, LEED AP; and Wes LeBlanc have been promoted to principals at Gensler Chicago.
Studio ORD, a collaborative effort led by Jeanne Gang, FAIA, will design the new Global Terminal and Global Concourse at O'Hare International Airport. Studio ORD is a partnership between Studio Gang, Solomon Cordwell Buenz (SCB), Corgan, Milhouse Engineering and Construction and STL Architects.

The Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) has begun construction on the first phase of a significant expansion of Terminal 5 at O'Hare International Airport, designed by M2 (Muller & Muller, Ltd) and HOK.

Matthew Gamache AIA, LEED AP, and Dana Stiernberg, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, NCIDQ, have been promoted to the position of senior associate at Valerio Dewalt Train Associates.
COOK ARCHITECTURAL Design has designed the new Burning Bush Brewery in the Irving Park neighborhood.

Ron Richardson and Steve Raskin, AIA, have assumed leadership of FGM Architects’ PK-12 education practice.

Architect Nalina Moses has published a new book, Single-Handedly: Contemporary Architects Draw by Hand (Princeton Architectural Press), a collection of more than 220 drawings — all done by hand — by architects from around the world.
James Goettsch, FAIA, received a lifetime achievement award from the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH).

The chairman and co-CEO of Goettsch Partners, Goettsch has been selected to receive the CTBUH's 2019 Lynn S. Beedle Lifetime Achievement Award, in recognition of his “enormous contributions to the design of high-rise buildings around the world,” which “made him a clear choice for the honor.”

The Beedle Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes an individual who has made extraordinary contributions to the advancement of tall buildings and the urban environment during his or her professional career, according to CTBUH. These contributions and leadership are recognized by the professional community and have significant effects, which extend beyond the professional community, to enhance cities and the lives of their inhabitants. Previous Beedle award winners include Helmut Jahn, Lord Norman Foster, Minoru Mori, Cesar Pelli and William Pedersen. Goettsch is the 17th person to receive the award and the third from Chicago.

The Beedle Lifetime Achievement Award will be officially bestowed during the CTBUH 2019 Tall + Urban Innovation Conference, which takes place April 8-10 in Shenzhen, China.

With more than 40 years of experience, Goettsch has personally directed all phases of design and construction for tall buildings throughout the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Noteworthy projects include the 54-story, core-supported 150 North Riverside tower in Chicago; the 45-story, multi-terraced Park Tower at Transbay in San Francisco; the 33-story original building and 24-story “vertical completion” at 300 East Randolph in Chicago, also known as the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois Headquarters; and the five-building, 3 million-square-foot Abu Dhabi Global Market Square office complex in the UAE, which features the headquarters building of the Abu Dhabi Global Market.
Designed by architect Cyrus Rivetna, AIA, and recognized by the 2018 Parliament of World Religions, the Atash Kadeh (Fire Temple) of Houston will be the first in North America to facilitate the full range of religious practices central to the Zoroastrian faith.
Angtang Tu, AIA; Isaac Persley, AIA; Kasia Jabrowska; Matt Snoap, AIA; Michael Rose, AIA; Paul Schroeckenstein; Phil Stott, AIA; and Ruxandra Stea, AIA, have been promoted to the position of associate director at bKL Architecture. Anna Jia; Annie Farley; Arturo Villalpando; Chris Bonarrigo, Assoc. AIA; Chris Parkes, AIA; Daniela Sesma; Gabriel Alvarez; Jane Kindra; Lauren Peterson, AIA; Loreta Sulvanaite; Nicole Arbuckle; Olivia Kempf, AIA; Philip Shin; Rachel Tobe; Ramona Valeanu; Sheldon Dai; Veronika Bakalova and Will Erickson, Assoc. AIA, have been promoted to the position of associate.

Jon Gately and Srdjan Avram, AIA, have been promoted to the position of director at bKL Architecture.

Danielle Tillman, AIA, has been promoted to the position of managing director at bKL Architecture.
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SolQuest Design Unlimited

Mason Pritchett, AIA
Range Design & Architecture

Claire Conroy, Editor-In-Chief
Residential Design Magazine
Six years following the city's 2013 bankruptcy filing, Detroit appears to be on the rebound. Several large-scale commercial developments downtown are either already completed or on the boards. Smaller-scale renovations and adaptive reuse projects are giving abandoned buildings new beginnings. Somewhat lacking in Detroit are mid-size developments in the interstitial spaces between the city's already established districts — projects that would create more density and, in turn, produce a more interconnected urban fabric.

Located in Detroit's Cass Corridor neighborhood, the Detroit Shipping Company (DSC) is situated between the Midtown cultural center and the sports/entertainment/business district of Downtown. DSC is a destination that reclaims a vacant lot, transforming it into a vibrant dining, entertainment and cultural venue. Utilizing a sustainable and modular design approach, DSC is constructed using 21 high-cube shipping containers offering innovative architectural design and a unique, memorable user experience.

"There are a lot of shipping container projects that are not executed well," a juror commented. "This project goes to another level."

DSC is organized around two primary spaces — an interior food hall and an exterior beer
garden. The double-height food hall is lined with containers housing five independently operated restaurants offering a range of "premium street food" options and is highlighted by a centrally located full-service bar. "The shared courtyard space works on so many levels," a juror elaborated. The beer garden to the east is bounded by a stage, a rotating microbrew taproom, an outdoor bar and support spaces. At the second level, an art gallery featuring local emerging artists is set within the linear containers. To the exterior, an expansive roof deck offers views of the city and access to three pop-up retail vendors: a coffee shop, podcast studio and T-shirt print shop. "Using the container forms to create this type of interior and exterior space raises the bar for shipping container projects," another juror added. Said another: "This project is more than elegant — it’s alive."

**Detroit Shipping Company**

**Independent Design Architects**

**Location:** Detroit, Michigan

**Client:** Detroit Rising Development

**General Contractor:** Integrated Construction Solutions, Inc.

**MEP Engineer:** RSJS Engineering, Danesh Engineering

**Architectural Design Consultant:** Miller Design Consulting

**Civil Engineer:** Mason Brown & Associates

**Structural Consultant:** Steven C. Flum Inc.

**Shipping Container Consultant:** Three Squared Inc.
The conversion of a laundry room into a lounge for a university basketball team was seen as an opportunity to question typical institutional interior design motivations and tactics that link environmental branding to the program — in this case, a place where young men will study for classes or play video games before or after athletic activities.

The lounge is buried deep within a conventional locker room suite: changing room, restrooms, showers, film room. The locker room, like the interiors of the overall athletic facility, is saturated with a wide range of information, deployment methods and architectural elements. Framed team photos, promotional wall decals, logo-embroidered carpet and custom wall panels fill the facility with a discombobulated promotional aesthetic, typical of the contemporary sports world. With no overt communicative devices, the lounge is designed as a respite for this kind of environment. "The playful narrative expressed in the project works with the deep blue hues," commented a juror. Lined in rich textiles, perforated ceiling panels and millwork, the space relies on texture, color and Turrell-like lighting.
The Lakeview Low-Line, Phase One

PORT
Location: Chicago, Illinois
Client: The Lakeview Chamber of Commerce
General Contractor: Chicago Transit Authority and Landscape Forms

While space underneath CTA elevated train tracks is most often used for garbage collection, shortcuts and occasional parking, the Lakeview Low-Line project seeks to transform a continuous corridor of below-track space into a public amenity. The Low-Line transforms an underutilized right-of-way and CTA maintenance vehicle route under the CTA Brown Line into a half-mile long art walk and garden between the Lincoln Avenue and Southport commercial corridors. The first phase of the project was completed in the summer of 2018, which enhanced the east and west anchors of the project beneath the auxiliary entrances to the Southport and Paulina CTA stations. Enhancing space beneath active rail tracks called for a new approach to urban furnishing that synthesizes overhead cover, sound mitigation, lighting, seating and vending. Jurors loved the floating yellow gateway, created with perforated metal scallops enveloped by a bright yellow ribbon.

"I wish they could do this more in the city; it gives an identity to places which mostly have none," commented a juror. "I love this type of urban intervention."
Sukhman Yagoda Law Offices
Vladimir Radutny Architects
Vladimir Radutny, AIA and Ryan Sarros
Location: Chicago, Illinois
Clients: Alex Sukhman and Ryan Yagoda

In overcoming budgetary constraints and a multitude of adverse existing conditions, this new interior office project seeks cohesive design logic, honesty in material use and the "unexpected" solutions for rather ordinary conditions.

In the new plan for this law office, blank white walls weave in and out of the building's columnar forest, like a sculptural installation, reflecting light and absorbing shadows. Offices with greater privacy needs are separated and pulled away from the adjacent exposures, forming a light-filled lounge at a corner pivot space. Extra-large openings are cut out in the new walls, enabling a direct working connection between the partners and their supporting legal team. Underlined in blackened steel, these large apertures act as visual conduits toward the exterior and facilitate direct daylight deep into the inner working zones.

"I like the strategy of organic walls that pulls in light," one juror said. "The whole project is incredibly legible," commented another, "from the plans you can see the pathways they created, accented by tension created by the timber frame. You can almost read the space."
As avid horticulturalists, the clients sought a sunny property on the densely wooded Chicago North Shore.

A 29-foot span of south-facing glass opens onto the back garden. Orienting the house to the rear yard meant positioning the garage at the front of the property, rarely a neighborly gesture. Therefore, the garage volume is obscured by extending the north wall and punching in an opening, which leads into a semi-private entry court. The house materials were kept modest: white stucco, neutral-toned cement board lap siding and black recycled composite panels. "The simple palette looks high-end and refined," a juror said.

In the interior, a solid dark volume — clad in the same panels as the exterior — anchors the living area, complete with fireplace, oxidized steel shelves and a hidden closet. In contrast, the kitchen and dining zones are backed by a light-infused composition of an open tread staircase and shelving. "The architects maintained a well-controlled composition; it doesn't fly off the walls," one juror said.
Inside a century-old structure built for automotive assembly and display; Vladimir Radutny Architects embarked on a renovation of a poorly functioning home. Jurors called the project a "tour de force ... a really cool space."

One project goal was to reduce the overwhelming feeling of being inside a large industrial room, accomplished with a wood-clad transition zone, scaled architectural components, material restraint and theatrical lighting. Living functions such as laundry, mechanicals and storage are integrated within the built-in cabinetry and dispersed strategically throughout the apartment. Clad in black steel, the sleeping "cube" is situated away from the perimeter for greater noise and temperature control. Acting as a visual anchor atop a platform, it is fully programmed, its metal skin transforms as panels open up, revealing one of many uses contained within. "The constrained palette and intentional geometries in relation to the existing space are wonderful," commented a juror.

As one moves between levels, a variety of unexpected vantage points are revealed. These meandering spaces are three-dimensionally distributed and yet assembled as one cohesive home inside a raw, industrial cloak.
The owners of this Lakeview property wanted to create outdoor space for relaxing and entertaining. Having acquired an adjacent lot, they increased the width of their standard city lot by 10 feet and desired a space reminiscent of their California roots.

dSPACE reshaped the yard into four zones at different elevations: kitchen/dining, spa terrace, TV lounge and side yard. This multilevel design defines each zone and eases the 5-foot height differential between first floor and yard. A new glass door system integrates interior and exterior spaces. Despite the elevation changes, the space feels cohesive and connected,” one juror said.

Plantings, louvered sun shades and a pergola were designed to filter sunlight, add interest and maintain privacy. A focal point visible from interior and exterior spaces is a 7-foot-long linear fireplace with black steel surround and an artful array of cascading planter boxes. Lighting is integrated under stairs, handrails and above the outdoor kitchen for safety and aesthetics. Concealed landscape lights highlight the plantings, while overhead string lights evoke a celebratory vibe.
Lake Mendota Retreat
Robbins Architecture
Location: Madison, Wisconsin
General Contractor: Architectural Building Arts, Inc.
Lighting Designer: Anne Kustner Lighting Design, Ltd.
Structural Engineer: Goodfriend Magruder Structure, LLC

Set on a quiet pocket of Madison's famous Lake Mendota, this project balances the clients' needs of a new home that honored both their affinity for contemporary shapes and their new, traditional setting of understated lake homes.

Robbins Architecture created an open floor plan with clean-lined, dramatic spaces to showcase the clients' modern art collection. Jurors loved the interior spaces: the 300-square-foot kitchen is open to the central living space, giving the main areas a casual, vacation home feel, while full-length windows flood the home with sunlight and bring the lake closer. "The windows were handled well," a juror said.

Divided-lite windows throughout the home evoke a traditional style, while their black frames add a modern vibe as they wrap a corner. Cabinets are made of casual, vertical board fronts, yet the crispness of the detailing again gives the room a more distinctive modern aesthetic than that of a simple lake home. The exterior playfully combines a gabled, shake-shingle roof with strong vertical and horizontal lines. "It's simple and sculptural; an intentionally heavy roof reminds me of a traditional thatched form," one juror said. "It's truly a bridge between traditional and modern."
The Keller Center is an adaptive reuse of the 1964 Edward Durrell Stone building on the University of Chicago, which transformed the historic masterpiece into the new home for the Harris School of Public Policy. One challenge was to create a warm, inviting space for social interaction that could connect all floors of the building and introduce natural light into the concrete structure.

The solution was to carve a four-story, day-lit atrium into the center of the building with a prominent feature: a social stair. The stair is wrapped in a custom fabricated blackened steel frame with a reclaimed ash wood ceiling, sourced from downed Chicago Park District trees. The collaboration with local artist Theaster Gates to source the wood resulted in the creation of a new mill that harvests the damaged ash trees and trains local residents in the craft of woodworking, catalyzing positive impact in the adjacent Southside neighborhoods. “The project has a strong narrative and connection to the local area,” one juror commented. The stair is highly visible and the deep landings provide a place for social interaction between faculty, students and staff.

As one ascends the stair, their perspective into the forum continuously changes with views of teaming and seminar spaces, placing policy on display. At the top of the stair, a skylight paints streaking patterns on the white reflective walls, beaming down to the lowest level. “The team created a sculptural element in a very tight footprint; it’s remarkable,” a juror said.
NEW ARRIVALS

Celebrating AIA Chicago and Chicago’s Architectural Legacy

BY LAURIE PETERSEN
The frenzy of rebuilding the city after the devastation of the October 1871 fire lasted less than two years. A nationwide financial panic in 1873 plunged the economy into a depression that lasted until the end of the decade. When building activity picked up by 1880, a new generation of architects was attracted to the growing city, and they were ready to remake it in a fresh new image.

If most of the new arrivals sought out established firms to learn their craft, a lucky few were lured to the city by a prestigious commission. Brooklyn-born Solon S. Beman was just 26 years old in 1879 when railcar magnate George Pullman hired him to design an entirely new factory town on Chicago’s south side. Beman had apprenticed with the renowned New York architect Richard Upjohn, but had few independent projects to his credit. His introduction to Pullman came via the New York landscape architect who was hired to design the town’s layout. Beman settled in Chicago and received many more commissions from Pullman, including his final resting place in Graceland Cemetery.

An even younger architect drawn to Chicago by a commission was Henry Ives Cobb. The Bostonian was just 22 years old and in his first year with the firm of Peabody & Stearns when he won the 1881 competition to design a clubhouse for the Union Club of Chicago. He immediately moved there and persuaded fellow employee Charles S. Frost to join him and set up a new firm. Though the clubhouse is long gone, and Cobb ended up moving to New York in 1903, he created many prominent Chicago landmarks. The Newberry Library continues to serve its original purpose, while the Chicago Athletic Association has found new popularity as a boutique hotel.

By the 1890s, Chicago was old enough to have its own crop of home-grown architects, two of whom reversed the pattern by leaving here to work in an even newer city. When Walter Burley Griffin won the competition to design a new capital city for Australia, it may have been partly in part to the magnificent renderings prepared by his architect wife, Marion Mahony Griffin. The couple relocated in 1914 and spent the bulk of their professional lives in Australia.

The Griffins were ahead of their time — born in the Chicago area (Marion during the year of the Great Fire), they both had university degrees in architecture. Marion Mahony was just the second woman to graduate from the MIT architecture program, and in 1898 she became the first licensed female architect in the country. They both worked at various times for Frank Lloyd Wright and for Dwight Perkins, and were part of the circle of architects that became known as the Prairie School.

Dwight Perkins had created a sort of incubator for the Prairie School by establishing what sounds remarkably like today’s ideal co-working space. A small group of architects including Frank Lloyd Wright carried out their individual practices in a shared drafting room on the loft-like top floor of the Perkins-designed Steinway Hall office building. They split expenses and shared ideas during a time of great creative ferment. Steinway Hall was demolished in 1970, but the ideas discussed in its 11th-floor loft live on as the legacy of the Prairie School.

This is the second in a series of five articles commemorating the 150th anniversary of AIA Chicago. The series looks at waves of architects arriving in the city and asks what drew them to Chicago and where they came from. The first article debunked the notion that the first great migration of architects arrived to rebuild the city after the Great Fire of 1871; in fact, a surprisingly large number of them had already moved to Chicago from Europe or the East Coast in the 1850s and ’60s.
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