Ian McHarg Stirs January Meeting Attendants

Have you ever been to an AIA meeting attended by 300 people who were inspired, insulted, informed and entranced by a speaker whose mind functioned at an incomprehensible speed? This is the history of the January 7th meeting and if you missed it, then you were the loser. After speaking for over an hour (saying what would take an average speaker three hours) Mr. Ian McHarg was called back for an encore of another one-half hour. This, despite the fact that he scored the architects and related professions for their inaction in the field of ecology.

Mr. McHarg feels that there is no profession in more disarray than architecture at this time and in the area of architectural education, nothing is being taught that relates our profession to human physiology, ecology, sociology and the other disciplines required to assure us a livable environment. As a professional, we are too preoccupied with "form" with little of our attention or guidance being put into the area of total ecological planning.

Historically, the world has been "a creative process—a process involving all matter and all light and all time. This creativity has nothing to do with man at all." As such, man is presently a destroyer of the process and if he does not face this reality, he shall become extinct similar to others who were unable to adjust to the processes of nature such as exemplified by the dinosaur. The present danger does not lie in the area of natural disaster as much as the imposition of man upon the natural process. Harmony with nature can only be achieved by understanding ecology which means simply "knowing the way the world works." Without knowing and exercising this knowledge, all other efforts shall be for naught.

Mr. McHarg strongly admonished the architects for not being the leading force in the battle for a balanced ecology and charged us to learn our lessons and apply them to our professional activities in a roll of leadership.

Using Waikiki as an illustration he stated "one cannot take a beautiful area such as Waikiki, destroy it and still call it beautiful. It has all the seeds of Atlantic City. It is our choice to either fertilize the cancerous seeds we have sown, or to abort the uncontrolled growth of the plant."


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What's Happening

By Gerald L. Allison

Suddenly, there are people, today, who are concerned and speaking out on ecological management that couldn’t even spell the word until recently. Hopefully, this sudden public awareness regarding our environment will not be shortlived. We, as architects, have been trying for years to direct their attention on the need for long range planning to assure a future life with an essence of quality. I am not too sure that even we have been totally aware of the determining factors that can assure a habitable environment. Our prime expressed concern has been aesthetics, but it has become obvious that a city of beautiful structures, boulevards, and parks can still be smog shrouded, noisy and set within a polluted sea.

The door has been opened for us to contribute, with others, our thoughts in determining the growth of a society that will maintain an ecological balance. I hope we are prepared to speak our piece. The job ahead is too great for any one group, or even for groups acting separately. This is one reason I have been encouraging closer ties with professionals in related fields. The January joint meeting with the American Institute of Planners, the American Society of Landscape Architects and the Conservation Council for Hawaii with Professor Ian McHarg as speaker was just the beginning of a big job without end.

Following in the footsteps of the Institute, I have started a weekly series of photo articles to be published in the Sunday Star-Bulletin Advertiser dealing with certain facets of our environment. Two examples are included in this publication as well as the purpose of this series. So far, I have prepared enough to cover the first three months. Any personal contributions of photos or ideas would be welcomed.

Each of the active committees have now received a specific set of short term goals for 1970 and long term goals for beyond that period. Flexibility is built in and each committee is free to add or to change them with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Fred White has been working closely with Ed Stasack of the University of Hawaii Art Department on a proposal for a series of semester-long evening art courses structured for architects, their wives and guests, only. It is expected that this course will start with a summer session and the first class offered will be in ceramics. I welcome this opportunity for closer ties with the University and this chance to increase our knowledge of the related arts. If you are interested in an art participation course, please let me know so that I can offer encouragement to both the University and Fred to set this up.

Another hardworking committee chairman is Ben Wilson. In December, he was setting up doll houses and toy trains for the Family Night meeting at Liberty House. This month, he set up an AIA display at the Ecological Circus

Allison's Wonderland

Item 1. Congratulations to Ernest Hara, AIA for his appointment by President Nixon to a second term as Chairman on Planning and Community Beautification.

Item 2. Investigations into the possibility of an AIA Group Plan on the required Temporary Disability Insurance indicated that such a plan is only available if the AIA office handles all billings, claims and other paper work. The job is too great for our staff at this time.

Item 3. Want to drive a friend up the wall? Call him on the phone and when he answers say, "This is a recording. Mr. Smith is out right now, but you may leave a message after the tone...Beep!"

Item 4. It was refreshing to note in a recent newspaper article that the architectural firm of Johnson & Reese was formed at the request of a group of clients. Usually, the opposite happens.

Item 5. While going through the AIA office files last week, I came across a mis-directed letter to Santa Claus. For a dollar I'll tell you what architect signed it.

Item 6. We still have the 250 sq. ft. sign amendment protect sign in storage. Let's hope it never has to be used again.

Item 7. Please keep the AIA Events Calendar found in the middle of this bulletin for future reference. It held at the HIC.

If you haven't joined in on the fun of being active in the AIA, we can still find room for you.

JERRY ALLISON

KE KAHA KI'I
Exhibit Committee Plans

PURPOSE:
To organize interesting exhibition programs to further the image of the AIA to the general public.

GOALS:
Long Range
1. Improve quality of graphics
2. Show exhibits to a wider segment of the community.
Short Range
1. Establish calendar of exhibits.

SUGGESTED EXHIBIT LOCATIONS
Special AIA Areas
Ala Moana
Airport
Kahala Mall
University of Hawaii
Leeward Community College
Schools
Banks

This Year's Direction—Two main long-range projects for the year will be—
1. The design and fabrication of a new, three-dimensional plus display system truly suited for awards boards, models and large live landscaping. We expect to reuse the system many times in the next three to four years.
2. A really first-class display of Hawaii Architects' years of work at the 1970 Regional Convention.

These two long-range projects will be supplemented with the Hawaiian Shi-Vai, AIA Awards Program, etc., with more display exposure toward our high schools and colleges, Right Now—January 1, 1970

The Exhibit Committee has a full schedule for 1970 and we will need all the support and help we can get.

I am looking forward to working with all of you.

Ben Lee Wilson

Reading time: 1:50
by E. S. (Molly) Mollenhoff

With the new year in full swing, we can look forward to many new and improved products for the building trade. Pace International Nylon Formulated Coatings for instance made big news in Hawaii during 1969. I didn't have a chance however, to mention Pace Zycron water soluble coatings and its benefits, I would like to do that now.

Pace International's exclusive formulation provides the advantages long recognized for Nylon. Such as toughness and strength, even in thin sections; resistance to chemicals, solvents and salt air; surface wetting power; resilience, etc. And Pace Zycron gives you a low square foot cost per year...year after year. Zycron Nylon Formulated Coatings remain flexible, chalk free and corrosion resistant years after other coatings fail.

Zycron is easily applied and needs minimal maintenance. Only a gentle stir is required to condition the Zycron Coating system for application by brush, roller or spray. Time saving application and fast drying enable immediate occupancy of needed areas. Zycron can be overcoated without removing previous coatings as the fresh coats actually become part of the old film. But a word of caution. Be sure the area is clean. Like anything else, stick to the directions and you can't go wrong. If you do, this product will bring excellent results.

Zycron is a versatile product that has a wide variety of applications. It's use is not limited to indoor or outdoor work. It is available in a variety of colors and is adaptable for any type of job. Zycron is available in stock, with 1560 decorative colors and custom tint bases for easy on-the-job tinting.

This product will adhere to practically any surface and is the answer to areas exposed to the elements when a water soluble coating is called for, Whatever you have to paint use Zycron instead and you'll be money ahead.

Please call Jack White, Ken Kmett, or Joby North at Hawaii Pacific Sales for complete details. Now back to the drawing board.
THE AIA ASKS...

WHY?

WHY pollute our visual environment with a proliferation of poor signs and bad merchandising?

WHY NOT?

WHY NOT attract customers through tasteful design and apparent concern for public welfare?

Photos and text by Gerald Allison

It is appropriate that the public, in greater numbers, is expressing concern for the quality of its environmental development. The present state of our environment is the sum total of the many and varied individual elements that comprise it. The quality of this environment is determined by the good or bad quality of each of these many and varied parts. If we are surrounded by discordant and undesirable elements, then, obviously, our total environment suffers. However, if we become aware of the individual decisions that can result in a pleasant environment, we can take corrective or planning measures to achieve this desirable goal. It is the intention of the Hawaii Chapter of The American Institute of Architects to make the public aware of those elements that make up the living environment of Hawaii in hopes that the people of Hawaii will demand of the governmental agencies, the developers, the commercial segment and themselves the proper decisions that will assure us our achieving the desired high quality of surroundings.

Each week, the AIA will focus its camera and thoughts on just one segment of the total picture and ask two simple questions, "WHY do we allow detrimental elements to develop or exist in our Islands?" "WHY NOT, through good design, planning or public concern, assure that we will leave a heritage of desirable living and working conditions for generations to follow?"

This month's "Why" "Why not?" focuses on the question of signs controls. The pictures and captions convey the feeling of the Hawaii Chapter of The American Institute of Architects.

Use AIA Office For Meetings

The AIA office space is for committee meetings, however, please check with Nannette before scheduling meetings. Preferable times for scheduling meetings is either at lunch time or after 5 p.m, as the space also serves as office space for the executive secretary.

Thank you

Gerald L. Allison

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Ethical Standards Discussed

The special General Membership meeting held January 5, 1970 at the Kapahulu Library to discuss the new Proposed Ethical Standards was attended by 35 chapter members. Some very lively discussions took place and some very pertinent thoughts were brought forth for consideration.

In general, those in attendance felt that the Proposed Standards might be a document of good business practices but not an inspired set of ethical standards that would tend to strengthen our profession, both in its relationships with the public as well as a unifying force within the profession itself. Although the profession of architecture is in a period of change and our standards should, perhaps, reflect this change, it is not necessary to disregard the disciplines that have guided our past performances and helped to contribute to the high professional esteem that the architects presently hold.

Specifically, it was expressed that the first three provisions of the standards aligned us too closely with the construction industry in general and tended to divorce us from the time honored profession of architecture and its prime responsibilities. Although we realize we are a part of the construction industry and should recognize the importance of advancing that industry, this should be a part of our AIA programming and committee and personal responsibilities; but not a statement of professional ethics.

Sections 4 and 5, by their lack of restrictions, shall allow architects to enter into general contracting as well as competing with fellow architects through fee bidding and fee shopping.

The majority of those present felt that architects should be able to enter some form of general contracting, but it was expressed that the prime interest and responsibility of the architect, to be a corporate AIA member, should remain in the area of architecture and his involvement in actual contracting should be secondary. There was quite a diversity of opinion on this, however, as some felt a wide latitude of involvement would be necessary or we will find ourselves pushed out of the (Continued on page 9)
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SPEAKING OUT

Speaking Out is available each month for expressions by members on subjects relating to architecture. If you have something you would like to say to the membership, submit it to the AIA office for publication.

It is very much in the fashion today for all sorts of people to express concern regarding the quality of the environment which our modern technology is producing. This is certainly a healthy thing and will undoubtedly benefit our society. Unfortunately, however, some of the people who have become conscious of the problem, while well intentioned, are rather naive about the manner in which the problem should be solved. This is not surprising, since they are relatively inexperienced in the practical problems of aesthetic controls. The architectural profession has been involved in planning and environmental control for a long time and has learned to recognize some of the pitfalls which await the well intentioned but misguided.

During the recent Governor's Travel Industry Congress a number of recommendations were put forward which involved the use of zoning as a tool to regulate the growth of the State of Hawaii and, in particular, the tourism industry. The architectural profession has a long history of support of proper zoning regulations. We are afraid, however, that some of the newcomers jumping on the bandwagon of environmental planning are seizing upon zoning control as a tool for obtaining objectives for which it is ill fitted. The proper use of zoning is to provide a long range program of environmental control. The zoning laws are not and should not be changed to perform short-range objectives. Specifically, some delegates at the Governor's Travel Industry Congress favored utilizing zoning to limit the amount of construction which would be permitted in various categories to what they consider a proper economic pace on a year-to-year basis. This is a misuse of a valuable planning tool and will inevitably lead to the counter-productive result of bad planning.

Economic fluctuations, such as the temporary surplus of hotel rooms in Hawaii, tend to be short-range occurrences which adjust themselves through economic forces of the marketplace. Utilizing zoning to manipulate these economic trends will be extremely difficult because the process involved will inevitably produce a time lag which will throw the control out of phase with the problem which it is attempting to solve. In addition, it will lead to short-range planning and expediency.

Further, it will involve political manipulation and favoritism regardless of whether it is done at a County or State level.

It would be most unfortunate to see a valuable long-range planning tool such as zoning discredited through its misuse in an attempt to control economics. The economic analyst and the politician should attempt to solve their problems through devices which properly belong in their respective disciplines and not through the misapplication of a planning tool.

George V. Whisenand
KE KAHA KI'I
picture by package builders and other similar forms of competition. This is one area for further intensive study.

Although competition on the basis of fees may now exist, it was felt that the present restrictions should remain and be strengthened for greater enforcability. The existing fee schedules and methods of compensation have built-in flexibility to allow for negotiations with a potential client, but presently the ground rules are pretty much the same for all of us. It was felt that relaxation in this area could be disastrous to the nature of our business.

One other area that generated discussion was the standard regarding advertising. There was agreement that the architect should not advertise his personal services, but should encourage the Institute to further the total image of the architect and his relationship to society. A potential conflict would be an architect who practices general contracting and advertises under that corporate setup, thereby perhaps, divorcing himself from this restriction. Presently, it is not clearly distinguished in the Proposed Standards.

Although there were other comments made on portions of the Proposed Standards, the major discussion centered around the above mentioned sections. It was also urged that if and when new standards are established that a specific set of guidelines and interpretations be supplied to aid in the enforcement and application of these standards. I will report next month on the feeling of the Region and any further information I can obtain from the National regarding the reaction of others to these proposed ethical standards.

JANUARY 1970

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**CALENDAR**

January 29, 1970 — "Environmental Pollution"
Richards Street YWCA
9:00 a.m. Free

January 27-29 — Pollution and Health: Air and Water Pollution
Richards St. YWCA Kokoahi St. YWCA
Evenings Free

**Ke Kaha Ki'i**

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Comments and contributions always welcome from Chapter members. However, if possible, please limit your remarks to 200 words.
PR Committee Reports

The Public Relations Committee covered the following activities during the year: Pan Pacific Citations, Election of Officers, Chapter and Student Awards, Election of New Members and the Annual Banquet.

The most significant activity of the year was the introduction of the Chapter Monthly Bulletin called the “Ke Kaha Ki’i.” This program began under the initiative and coordination of Nannette DeRossette. Efforts to revive the Chapter’s slide show into an active program were terminated. The Writer’s Series have been concluded.

A new project for distributing the available information about architecture has been outlined and it is suggested that the Education Committee take over this project.

A survey was implemented to find out the activities of architects in the community. Greg Tong reported this in the “Ke Kaha Ki’i.” Information articles were written describing the origin and background concerning the Thrum’s article on Architecture in Hawaii. An introductory article on the origin and background on the Ke Kaha Ki’i was also written for the Octagon.

The Committee edited the suggested purpose of each of the Chapter committees. The continuation of this project to define the long range and short range goals will be continued.

Nannette DeRossette, secretary, spearheaded the drive to assemble and produce the exhibit titled, “Decade of Design.” The Committee proposed that the Vice President be designated Vice President-Elect and this matter was approved by the general membership.

JANUARY 1970

At the Barclay, they don’t pay for their neighbor’s hot water while they’re on vacation.

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Design Contes
Reprinted from January 8, 1976
HONOLULU ADVERTISER

Honolulu’s new $8 million municipal office building will begin taking form on the drawing boards soon.

Competition for the $33,000 in prizes to be awarded for the best designs of the building opens on Jan. 14. The closing date is March 12.

Bruce Etherington, chairman of the University of Hawaii’s architecture department, said application forms will be available from the City’s Finance Department.

Etherington emphasized that the competition is open only to architects who were registered in Hawaii before July 16, 1969. That is the cut-off date set by the City Council, which rejected an advisory committee’s recommendation that the contest be open to architects throughout the nation.

The first prize is $20,000 and the second prize is $10,000. There also will be three honorable mentions of $1,000 each.

The office building will have about 200,000 square feet of space. As now planned, it would be built on a 2.2 acre site bounded by Kapiolani Boulevard Extension, and Hotel, Alapai and King Streets.

Etherington, who drew up the proposed contest requirements which were okayed by the Council last October, said it was expected that the first prize winner would be awarded the architectural commission for the new building. This will be subject to negotiations, but normally runs about 6 per cent of the cost.

The American Institute of Architects has approved the competition for the new building.