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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As of January 1, 1974, Sid Snyder assumes the presidency of the Hawaii Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

Opening with a New Year greeting from the AIA. We begin this year with many solid programs continued from 1973, thanks to the direction of the past officers, executive committee members and committee members who form the backbone of the AIA. Twenty committees and a number of special task forces exist so far this year, and involve more than 100 members in addition to the nine-member executive committee.

It is this continued activity that provides the conduit for the community to see our concern as architects in dealing with social, economic and quality of life questions as well as planning, community design and architecture. The thrust of these activities in the coming year should be to further involve the community in our programs as well as involve ourselves in the community.

One example of community exposure is our award program, one for practicing architects and one for students, which allow the public to understand what we as architects consider to be good architecture and show our support for architectural education.

Committee review and recommendations of codes, legislation, and many other programs is an area of less visual exposure but certainly as important as those programs which receive more publicity.

This year we have an obligation to develop, along with others in the design profession, processes to improve the selection and administration of architectural and engineering contract awarding systems which will better serve the community. The separation of A&E selection from the political arena and to insure that the public is getting the best qualified professional for each project must be our goal.

A word about a new project: The new AIA office on Fort Street will be open for community functions as well as our own programs, which will emphasize our role in the community through education of future architects, professional responsibility and concern, and our genuine commitment to participate in the quest for a quality of life standard which should be enjoyed by every citizen.

I'm looking forward to an active year with many accomplishments, please join me.
AN ARCHITECT'S AVOCATION

by Jerry Allison

Along with photography and graphic work, associate member, Lorrin Lee, enjoys the art of Chinese calligraphy and brush painting. Mr. Lee is with the office of Johnson & Reese, AIA.

Enjoyment of ink brush painting is experienced in actual creation of spatial relationships interwoven in a fabric of perceived shades and tones of black and white alone.

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Lorrin Lee
AN EDITORIAL

CAMPAIGN FINANCING

I think everyone has the message by now – Tom Coffman started it in the Star Bulletin. Dave Pellegrin carried it further in the Advertiser. Lew Ingleson wants out. Spiro Agnew got thrown out. Fasi says never again. Kimura says rotate. Hawaii Architect says we’re all guilty. It’s been all over the newspapers for nine months now.

But this time many things are “perfectly clear.”

1 – It’s illegal.
2 – It’s unethical.
3 – It’s unhealthy.
4 – It can get you thrown in jail – both on the giving and the receiving ends. (See last month’s Hawaii Architect.)
5 – No one likes it. Not the architects who feel compelled to give. Not the candidates who need the money. Not the public who watches.

Granted, the architects are not the only ones involved – there are others. But we can only deal with our part of the problem, and by example put pressure on others to deal with the other parts.

The problem is really two problems: 1 – Campaign Financing; 2 – Architect and Engineer Selection. Campaign financing is outside of our kuleana. Architect and engineer selection is our kuleana.

Don Goo has put before the executive committee and before the general membership a resolution which recognizes and effectively deals with the distinction between contributions to support a candidate of one’s belief, and contributions to buy favors. The details of the proposal may be open to discussion but the point is, or by now should be, beyond discussion. Let’s put an end to the pattern of political contributions to buy work. No more committees to examine the matter in depth. No more hemming and hawing.

The legislature is in session now. Now is the time to act. The AIA must join with CILO, ICED, CEC, ASLA and AIP to present a straightforward, no nonsense bill – effective and with teeth – to separate campaign financing from AIE contract awarding. There must be a unified approach. It must be straight. It must be strong. If this is so, the bill will pass.

For two years now, Hawaii Architect has been advocating strong participation in the political arena for architects. We still feel strongly about this. Land use, development controls, general planning, building codes and the environment – all of these are subjects which concern architects vitally and with which we have significant expertise. We cannot pull out of this commitment now just as we are starting to make ourselves heard and people are beginning to find substance in our opinions. In fact, we must work harder, think harder, talk more in these areas.

Campaign financing is not the part of the political arena where we should be making our presence felt. Let’s get our priorities straight. There never was a better time than now.

J. R.

...More...from Architectural Guidelines

The November issue of Architectural Guidelines says:

“Publicity runs hot and cold for the profession as a whole. AIA’s response to problem of political payoffs is welcomed in face of deteriorating reputation of architectural and engineering professions. Response, for those who haven’t got the word, includes proposal to establish professional review boards to pass on professionals’ qualifications to do state government projects. Idea is to establish a graft buffer between those who award the contracts and the architects who are asked to pay for the favors.

But these are times of public cynicism – questions arise about sincerity of reform proposals. Will AIA ask for reforms or will it use muscle? Problem of graft on city and county government levels remains wide open. Problem of corruption among building inspectors goes on forever. Some clients wonder out loud how much of their fees are split between architects and others in kickbacks and payoffs.

Proposals for competitive job bidding come on stronger than ever. Professional society’s arguments against bidding seem self-serving to many. Rumblings of antitrust action continue in Justice Department. Influential Nader group has been asked to look into situation. Many ideas, much controversy boiling on this whole matter. We’ll keep you posted.”
December marked the end of Peggyjo Gum's first year with the AIA. It's hard to remind oneself that it's only been one year, for in that time Peg has become so much a part of the AIA as to be almost synonymous with it. The job description "Executive Secretary" does not include attending countless meetings, keeping tabs of innumerable projects and committee tasks, or acting as the action catalyst for a very loosely organized organization — but she does them all, in addition to the more routine duties of her job. After one year — a special mahalo, and a wish for many more to come.

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AIA COMMITTEE REPORTS

DESIGN COMMITTEE

General discussion was held on the purpose of the committee and what could be achieved the ensuing year. It was generally agreed upon that the committee's interest lies in Community Design Awareness.

1. Definition of Design
2. Problems of Design
3. Solutions
4. Execution
5. Allied Professions
6. Achievements and Awards

Since ultimate design quality comes from a series of disciplines, many of which are not in the field of architecture, the committee felt that rather than trying to pursue the broad and academic aspects of design, they should arrive at one or two specific tasks and pursue these with diligence.

After much discussion the committee decided to pursue State Act 119, relating to the development of regional and urban design plans for each county. As the workshop sessions developed, announcements were made to invite new members who were particularly interested in the activities of this committee. Active members, all of whom should receive credit for their continuous participation, are as follows:

- Donald Bernhouse
- Jim Charlton
- Roger Lee
- Alfred Preis
- Rolf Preuss
- Terry Tusher
- Don Dumlao
- Frank Haines

In conjunction with the many workshop sessions, special meetings, and conferences, all relating to environmental and urban design or design quality of public buildings, were attended by committee members.

Office of the Oahu Development Conference.
Office of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.
AIA office with Bill Lacey, National Endowment for the Arts.
State Capitol Auditorium, Architecture and Environmental Arts.
Governor's Conference on Culture and the Arts.
The committee ended its year initiating two significant objectives.
1. Establishment of a formal application for a Project Grant to the National Endowment for the Arts, Washington D.C.
2. Establishment of an Environmental Task Force related to the 1973 State Conference on Culture and the Arts in Hawaii.

It is the committee's assumption that if these two objectives are pursued in detail in 1974, the results will be a significant influence on the part of the AIA toward the formulation and subsequent design quality of the county urban plans.

CODES COMMITTEE

Duane Cobeen, Art Hansen, Alan Holl, Don Meyers, Greg Tong, Bob Tsushima (through November), Fred White, Herb Muraoka (ex-officio).

1973 Accomplishments:
1. Continuous liaison with C&C Honolulu Building Dept.
2. Intermittent liaison with office of State Fire Marshal.
5. Continued review of CZC format.

Continuing Activities:
1. Cobeen representative to C&C Honolulu Building Dept. for noise abatement.
2. Hansen and Holl — White, alternate — to C&C Honolulu Building Dept. for adoption of '73 UBC.
4. Tong representative to Health Dept. re: swimming pool regulations.
5. Committee as a whole is continuing its efforts to improve CZC format.

Recommendations for 1974:
1. That I. Don Meyers be appointed chairman.
2. That Leon Noe be appointed secretary.
3. That ExCom go on record with the City Council:
   (a) Favoring affirmative Council action on Building Department's proposed Building Code Amendment for fire safety in high-rise buildings permitting either sprinkler protection or compartmentation (Bldg. Dept. 's letter B73-1401 dated November 18, 1973 and encl.)
   (b) Favoring affirmative Council action on Building Department's proposed Building Code Amendment for physically handicapped (Building Department's letter dated July 30, 1973).

GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

The Governmental Relations Committee worked diligently before, during and after legislative session. In that period, we reviewed over 4000 House and Senate bills and resolutions. Also, the committee reviewed draft bills of other community and professional organizations.

(Continued on Page 10)
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when some members had to drop out for assorted reasons. As a result, exhibits were carted about and set up hurriedly with little time for the sort of detail that distinguishes between a bunch of photo panels and an exhibit.

There was no outreach into the community except for some showings in hotels, mostly with architects in attendance. One notable exception: the High-Rise Conference. Thanks to Steve Mori for his help on that one.

A rather simple system was devised for displays in the Chapter office, using the built-in channels in the walls. When time allows, the Douglas fir one by two’s should be carefully sanded and given a coat of sealer. A number of blank 40 x 40 panels were bought and prepared so that nonstandard boards may be used with the regular Chapter exhibit supports.

I discussed the possibility of a joint exhibit with Jim Foster, director of the Honolulu Academy of Arts. He is willing to discuss the matter further, but a couple of potential problems exist: First, the Academy schedules its showings two years in advance. Second, the Chapter might not be able to carry its share of the cost of the type exhibit that would warrant Academy participation. At Ty Sutton’s suggestion, inquiries were made about the Louis Kahn and Moshie Safdie displays. Kahn’s was busy for the predictable future (no mention of price) and Safdie wanted $7,000 for his.

Recommendations: Exhibits Committee should be large and should include some young Associates with strong backs. It would be nice to involve the Student Chapter, if they can spare the time.

Some thought should be given to a better system for transporting exhibit materials, both for ease of handling and for better protection. The Chapter standards are very heavy to carry around. Since we need more, perhaps

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

The Community Relations Committee (formerly the Public Relations Committee) started the 1973 year enthusiastically with the following members:

Gordon Tyau, Group ’70 Lab, Chairman; Sid Snyder, AIA President-Elect, Advisor; and members: Byron Tsuruda, Au, Cutting, Smith & Haworth; Lorrin Lee, Leo S. Wou & Associates; Carol Sakata, Hogan, Chapman, Cobeen & Associates; Francis Oda, University of Hawaii Architect; Tom Onishi, Jack McGarrity & Associates; Greg Michaud, Student Chapter AIA.

Status Summary:

Two initial meetings were held in January and February in which the year’s program was outlined. The committee decided to take a new tack and

Continued on page 14
KAKAAKO PUMPING STATION
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The structure was constructed in 1900 and is an important element in our architectural heritage. Currently there is a development plan being considered for the Kakaako district. Hopefully any such plan would include the preservation of this building and insure its permanent place in our community.
Committee Reports

From page 11

attack the community information problem rather than our "image" problem, so a "Community Oriented Information System" was devised. The minutes of the first and second meeting (on file) elaborate on this system.

Before the Information System could be implemented, the chairman became involved in the selection and location of the new AIA office, the writing of the competition statement, and the construction supervision of the office itself. This commitment lasted until October, when the office was occupied, and due primarily to this, the Community Relations Committee did not accomplish its second goal—implementation of the concepts and ideas decided upon.

The materials in the committee file for future reference include:

1—Lists of community organizations and person to be contacted.
2—Minutes of the committee meetings.
3—Draft of the announcement letter to the membership.
4—Committee member suggestions for implementation of the program.
5—Outline of the program.

It is hoped that the 1974 committee consider this information useful for its purposes.

Recommendation:

1—That the goals and systems suggested by the 1973 committee be reviewed, considered, and implemented by the 1974 committee as a program for the AIA.
2—That former 1973 committee members be invited to participate in the 1974 committee structure.

Our thanks to the members of these committees for their efforts.
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PART II  INCOME TAX

§ 401. Deductions—Tie-in with Federal Law

In general, the deductions allowable for the Hawaii income tax purposes are the same as under federal law. However, there are some differences explained in subsequent paragraphs, of two types: (1) a few that were specified when the basic Hawaii law was adopted in 1957; and (2) differences that have developed since 1957 as a result of federal changes not adopted by Hawaii.

§ 402. Business Expenses

Hawaii Law: Sec. 233 (2)
Federal Law: Sec. 162 (1)

The deductions for business expenses are the same for Hawaii as for federal, with the minor exceptions explained below.

The federal law was amended in 1960 to permit initial purchasers of Federal National Mortgage Association stock to deduct, as a business expense, the excess of the issue price over the fair market value of the stock at the issue date. Hawaii has not adopted this provision.

As explained more fully at § 423, the federal law on business expenses was amended in 1969 to (1) permit the deduction of certain illegal payments, etc., and (2) allow the deduction of certain expenses, damages received, etc. Hawaii has not adopted these federal provisions.

§ 403. Depreciation

Hawaii Law: Sec. 355 (2)
Federal Law: Sec. 280 (2), 167, 184, 185, 186

In general, the deduction for depreciation for Hawaii tax purposes is the same as federal. However, there are a few exceptions to this, as explained below.

As a result of the Tax Reform Act of 1969, federal law accelerated depreciation methods on real property and fixtures. Generally, use of the 200% declining balance and accelerated straight-line methods may no longer be used except on new residential property. On the other hand, an accelerated 5-year write-off is provided for rehabilitation of old properties not rented to produce income. These provisions apply generally, to property acquired after July 24, 1969. The Tax Reform Act of 1969 also changed the rules for "recapture" of the excess of post-1969 straight-line depreciation (see § 516). Hawaii has not adopted these federal provisions.

1974

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BACKGROUND
The State of Hawaii has adopted more laws governing the environment than most states in the Union, yet very little has actually been accomplished in terms of environmental control.

We were the first state to enact a land use law, and on July 1, 1973, with the adoption of Act 119, we became the first state to require each county to prepare an urban design plan. Act 119 coupled with the development plans called for by the newly adopted Honolulu City and County Charter, and the proposals set forth by the Temporary Commission for Environmental Planning could have a far reaching physical impact on our daily lives. But, goals, policies, laws and legislation do not guarantee action.

“Good” Urban Design is attainable only through responsible government leadership. Virtually every action performed by government has environmental implications. Government establishes our roads and utility networks, land use patterns, zoning regulations, building codes and taxation policies. All of these powers put government in the role of chief urban designer. Until more policy makers take urban design seriously we will continue to despoil our environment. We must therefore find ways to encourage these governmental leaders to actively strive for means to implement improvements in our urban environments. Before we can successfully direct government leaders to implement more stringent environmental controls we must precisely define what we want them to do.

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY URBAN DESIGN?

There are those who think of Urban Design in terms of aesthetics, that is to say, concerned only with how things look. This is a limited view of Urban Design. In reality, Urban Design is concerned with how things function and relate to each other; i.e. how the elements are arranged spatially to satisfy basic human requirements.

WHAT KIND OF ENVIRONMENT ARE WE SEEKING?

Most people would prefer an environment which is arranged to give them the option to enjoy the wonders of nature as well as the wonders of man. An environment which is diversified and complex, but not to the point of frustration and confusion. An environment which gives its citizens a sense of belonging, an identity, a sense of community where people can meet and children can play. And, finally, an environment which doesn’t place extreme burdens on man’s travel time between home and work. In short an environment for people.

HOW DO WE ACHIEVE THESE ASPIRATIONS?

Once the appropriate implementation laws have been adopted, government will be in a better position to assume its proper role of Chief Urban Designer. Urban Design is primarily a function of the spatial relationships of structures and open spaces. The location and type of buildings in turn are a result of such legal controls as the definition of property rights, the zoning ordinance and the tax laws. Changes in some of these areas will profoundly affect the Urban Design of the city. These changes are discussed below.

1. Restructure Our System of Property Rights.

Urban Design is not possible until our present system of property rights have been re-evaluated. For example, a man who is fortunate enough to own a piece of real estate zoned for a profitable use can place extreme burdens on his neighbor who was not so fortunate. A person who paid an extra sum of money for a view from his apartment can easily lose that view a year later.

Why should one man be able to deprive another of part of his property for which he has paid?

What we may need is a system of “just compensation.” But what is just compensation? To date, the person who owns the property is the only one compensated, while his neighbor and the general public’s rights are too frequently ignored. A system of compensation which would be equitable to all is therefore recommended. For instance, a land developer wishing to go high-rise might be better advised to have to buy the air rights or development rights of adjacent low rise land owners. This system would benefit not only the developer who will have preserved a certain amount of open space for his tenants but also the adjacent land owners who will have gained monetarily by selling their development rights. The overall benefactor is of course the general public.

2. Revise Our Tax Structure.

There are numerous examples where the present system of property taxation forces undesirable land development. Property is traditionally assessed on the basis of highest and best use. This concept results in raising the assessed value of land which is in close proximity to urbanizing areas. As a result of the potential use for revenue generating uses (high density development) taxes are raised on all properties regardless of the owner’s intentions. This is especially burdensome to owners wishing to remain low-rise or who do not wish to develop their property. For example, the land of the single family residence next to a high-rise in Makiki is assessed at the same rate as the high-rise - even if the owner has no intention to develop.

Facilitate government acquisition of amortized structures blocking view corridors or infringing on parks.

Continued on Page 18
Culture and Arts from 17

Because of the extensive amount of high-rise development which has already taken place on Oahu many of our significant views, e.g. of Diamond Head, are already blocked or impaired. In order to remedy this situation, view preservation districts must be established as part of the zoning code. These structures obstructing the view would be designated non-conforming. Presently a state law prohibits removal of structures which do not conform to the zoning ordinance. This law should be changed to permit removal of the structures once it had been amortized—assuming a 20 to 30 year amortization period.

An amortization program for the acquisition of future parks or view corridors should therefore be instituted. For example, when a building which is obstructing a designated view corridor has reached its profitable life it could be torn down. The option of the development rights (or zoning rights) refer back to government. Rezoning or downzoning could then not be considered an insupportable hardship to the landowners, and a deprivation of property since they presumably would have made their money several times over.


As mentioned earlier, Urban Design is “implicit” in virtually every government action. The challenge is to make Urban Design “explicit” i.e. a conscious part of the planning process.

For instance each new road designed by the transportation planner or traffic engineer has three-dimensional implications. In addition to carrying a certain volume of automobiles from point A to B, the road’s capacity, location, and design will encourage a certain density of development as well as certain special relationships between man and his environment. Increasing the capacity of existing roads constitutes a creation of communication barriers between the two sides of the street and essentially will divide and disrupt a series of neighborhoods in order to link different parts of the city. The problem is that our traffic engineers have yet to learn to evaluate the Urban Form implications of their actions. This is particularly crucial with regard to our proposed Mass Rapid Transit Networks and freeway systems.

Similar criticism can be leveled to our land use planners. It should be obvious judging from our surroundings that rarely are major land use policies evaluated in terms of their three-dimensional impact on this environment. There are countless examples in our City and State General Plans where existing policies have an adverse affect on the environment.

The location of a “new campus,” a hospital complex or a specified land use density on the city’s map are all major Urban Form determinants. It is recommended therefore that each land use policy be evaluated in light of it’s three-dimensional costs and benefits. This is particularly timely because of present City and State effort in revising Urban Design as an integral part of this process.

5. Revise Our Zoning Codes

The zoning code more than any other implementation device is a major design tool. It, in combination with our building codes and numerous State and Federal regulations, literally designs the city. Zoning regulations are however applied negatively by dictating what must not be done, rather than what should be done. Height, bulk and setback requirements in most cases are arbitrary and have little relationship to the actual needs of the user or to the public environment. There is no reason, for example, why all high-rise structures should be of uniform height or located in one land use district. There are obvious places where high-rise buildings are appropriate where they do not block views, for example with Makaha high rise against the mountains versus the Contessa which blocks the view of the Koolau mountains. Urban Design requires very detailed and specific analysis of the functional aspects of the urban environment. We should therefore have detailed development plans or district plans before applying zoning regulations to a given area. This is not to imply that every detail of a city must be designed prior to implementation, but rather that through a thorough and detailed analysis of the city’s functional parts can a realistic framework be established in which orderly growth can take place.

CONCLUSION

Although we are the first state to require each county to prepare Urban Design plans, there is no requirement that they must be adopted. If this law is to be effective it must be tied to the availability of funds for the counties. For example, state aid to counties would not be released to areas without an adopted Urban Design Plan.
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January, 1974
LETTERS

(The following letter was addressed to Sid Snyder, president, Hawaii Chapter.)

I had a feeling things would liven up over there when you became President. My predictions have been fulfilled in the November issue of Hawaii Architect. I have very much enjoyed your monthly periodical since becoming active in the Washington State Council, and I am still receiving it as Immediate Past President twice removed. Please don’t pull my name from your addressograph plates, for goodness sakes! I can see that you guys are going to give Hugh Hefner a run for his money and why not?

Best regards and best wishes to you in the new year – please give my best to Val.

William H. Trogdon

Speaking simply as one member of the Geritol set, I found nothing offensive in the photo of the naked lady in the November Hawaii Architect.

Thanks for your efforts to bring us a magazine that is interesting and lively. If it brings us a little controversy now and then, that’s probably good, too!

Tom Culbertson

Finally got my hands on a copy of the November 1973 “Hawaii Architect” just to see what all the fuss was about.

Good Gawd, what with the state of the world at present, hasn’t anybody a sense of humor? Besides what appears on page 5 is far more attractive than what appears on page 4!

Jim Dennis

P.S. What in heck is the guy who wrote the letter on page 22 saying?

ED. – Mr. Yanoviak was contemplating the morphological evolution of archetypal symbolism as encountered in urbo-surburban transitional relationships.

Bravo for page 5 . . .

Jim Pearson

. . . That was the girl in the November HA. . . remember?

Francis Oda Joins Group ’70 Lab

Francis S. Oda, AIA, has recently joined the architectural firm, Group ’70 Lab, after two years as the Architect of the University of Hawaii. Born and raised in Hawaii, Mr. Oda obtained his professional degree from Cornell University and subsequently won the 1971 National Honor Award of the American Institute of Architects, the 1971 Bartlett Award, and recently, the competition for the office design of the Hawaii Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. His projects have been published in Belgium, England and the United States. He is married to Caroline Ward Oda, also of Hawaii.

Ekbo Reorganizes

Ekbo, Dean, Austin & Williams, Inc., environmental planners, urban designers, announce the reorganization of their offices concurrent with the withdrawal from the firm of Garrett Eckbo, effective December 1, 1973.

The firm will henceforth be known as EDAW, Inc., maintaining four major offices in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Honolulu and Minneapolis under the expanded leadership of Edward A. Williams, one of the firm’s founding partners, as chairman; Richard A. Moore, president, and officers Howard B. Altman, Don B. Austin, Francis Dean, Chris Degenhardt, Timothy Downey, Howard E. Elliott, James Mildes, Herbert R. Schaaf, and Donald Tompkins.

Championship Driveway Of The Year

Parade of Homes Winners:

Winners of the 1973 Parade of Homes contest for Best Concrete Driveway and Best Use of Concrete Products were announced by George S. Ishida, executive director of the Cement and Concrete Products Industry of Hawaii at the recent awards dinner.

Tapped as best concrete driveway was the Phillip Minn home at 5171 Likini St. in the Salt Lake area.

The award for the Best Use of Concrete Products went to Space Investments for its custom-built home at 1726 Laukahiki St. in Waialae-iki. In addition to its attractive concrete driveway, the home contained many outstanding uses of concrete products.

Bev Brooks contemplates the design of her new tree house . . . architectural suggestions anyone?

— Photo by Joel Kendler

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