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Works In Progress

President's Message
An introduction to the issues of the coming year.

Selecting and Compensating Architects
The fundamentals of securing architectural services.

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A growing body of disparate roles has compromised architects' visionary contributions.

Guide to Architectural Firms in Iowa 1980

Membership Directory
Iowa Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

News

AIA National Committees
Grassroots participation sets national organization focus.
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Major Expansion of University Library

The Iowa State University Library at Ames will soon add approximately 95,000 square feet of space on five levels to serve rapidly expanding student needs. Designed by Charles Herbert and Associates, Inc. in collaboration with Brooks, Borg and Skiles, the proposed addition is to be located on the south side of the existing library. It will extend all floors to include areas for a Circulation Department, Media Center, Administrative Offices, Technical Services, student seating, and the rare book collection. The new entrance, which faces south to a new landscaped mall, will have a two level atrium connection to the original 1925 Proudfoot, Bird and Rawson structure. The south facade of the original building will remain intact and form the north wall of the atrium. The southeast wall of the atrium is to be glazed with a curtainwall system combining clear and reflective glass while the remaining walls of the addition will be limestone masonry. Construction is expected to start in the summer of 1980.

Passive Solar Residence

Payne, Champion, Bernabe Inc. have begun work on a passive solar residence in a new, heavily wooded development near St. Louis, Missouri. The house will be constructed primarily of massive concrete and masonry materials and will be sheltered by earth berms on the north, east and west elevations. A large masonry fireplace, placed at the center of the circular plan will facilitate heat storage in winter months. During summer months the house will be totally shaded by deciduous trees to substantially reduce heat gain. Construction is scheduled for the spring of this year.

Fast Track Development for Insurance Company

Construction progresses in Des Moines' downtown business district on a 172,000 square foot project for the Bankers Life Company. The four story building utilizes a half block to provide office space, cafeteria facilities, a penthouse, basement storage, and first floor enclosed parking. Designed by Brooks, Borg and Skiles Architects and Engineers, the project will provide general office space for immediate expansion, as well as future needs. A contracted time frame for the development dictated the use of a precast concrete system. The availability of masons and cost considerations led to a modular brick and Minnesota limestone exterior solution. Open office space is achieved by longspan precast "T's," which permit an unobstructed 50' x 300' area on either side of the building core. First floor exterior walls are set back to provide a sheltered walkway the entire length of the adjacent street. Construction began in June of 1979, with completion scheduled for June, 1980.

Convention Center Strengthens Urban Core

The Marriott Convention Center Complex will soon provide facilities aimed at satisfying the area's growing business and recreational lodging demands. Designed by Kendall, Griffith, Russell, Artaiga Architects, the 395,000 square foot project continues the rapid redevelopment of Des Moines' urban core. It will include two levels of parking below grade, 425 guest rooms, meeting rooms, exhibit hall, Great Hall/Ballroom, two restaurants, discotheque, two lounges, and a skylighted swimming pool area. The 32-story guest tower rises above a four level, skylighted atrium/lobby space. The reinforced concrete frame structure supports an exterior skin composed of precast panels with sandblasted finish. Developed by City Center Corporation, the project is expected to be completed by early 1981.

The Iowa Architect encourages submissions of projects in the planning, design, or construction stage. Photographs, sketches or model reproductions will be published to accompany written data.
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National AIA President Charles Schwing has emphasized the following four areas of interest for the coming year: Our Relationship to the Public, Government Affairs, Professional Development and Institute Effectiveness.

**Relationship to the Public:** Past National President Mitchell had declared 1979 to be a “Celebration of Architecture,” and our Chapter President worked hard for us to have an “Iowa Celebration.” I believe both were highly successful in making the general public more aware of architecture. Now we must continue the celebration in our individual day-to-day lives. Let the public know we practice architecture every day, but also let them know that architects are valuable citizens, planning commission members, service club members, and good neighbors. We are very fortunate to be able to earn our livelihood in such an enjoyable profession.

**Government Affairs:** We have been made aware of our failure to have even the barest protection afforded us by a “Statute of Limitations” law — a law which applies to the architectural profession in most other states. But our efforts toward a statute only emphasize our need to be aware of, and involved in, the governmental process. There are hundreds of “programs” submitted to our Iowa Legislature each year that potentially equal the statute’s impact on our practice. We have made real progress this past year toward understanding the process and our involvement. This should be continued. The process is you. You need to know your government and your government has to know you. Then you have a voice.

**Professional Development:** Iowa has adopted a continuing education program. Its true value has yet to be determined, but I think the idea is right. Of prime importance is the fact that we can further improve our professional knowledge whether time is spent in the office, classroom, or field, whether it be designated continuing education, continuing development, competency or proficiency. The intention is to give us options in our method to stay current in a very complex and changing profession. We owe it to our clients. Let’s critique the programs we have and develop new and better ones.

**Institute Effectiveness:** The Iowa Chapter has elected officers and an Executive Committee composed of nine members from different areas of the state. The committee meets at least monthly to review membership, budgets, bills, programs, and any other business pertinent to the Iowa Chapter. There are also active “sections” for general membership in Des Moines, Sioux City, Cedar Rapids/Iowa City and the Quad Cities area. This would seem to provide interested members the opportunity to be active. Not quite true. Many of us are still rather remote from these centers. We have had a committee system to give each of us an opportunity to provide input into our particular area of interest. This is also difficult to manage when the committee can consist of members 300 miles apart. I am seeking help to ensure that the membership derives full advantage from the Institute’s programs. I believe personal involvement is important. I would also like to discuss membership with architects in the state that are not now members of the Iowa Chapter. We have a large, active membership, but there are some who would benefit that have not taken the opportunity.

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Not long ago, a leading young architect was asked, after completing a lecture on his work, how he had found clients who would commission the daring new houses he designed for them. The architect confessed. It was not, he said, their love of his particular brand of architecture that had brought the clients to him. Instead, they had come to him through "the old boy network." One was a college classmate. Another, a former high school sweetheart. In fact, though the critics had applauded his work, the clients, while pleased in the long run, initially were quite surprised at the houses they got from their old friend.

It's true that much of the world's business — from buying insurance to engaging a stockbroker or lawyer or architect — is done this way, through "the old boy network." Personal contacts and recommendations of friends and associates still are perhaps the most common ways to find professional services. To get what you want, however, you may need to do a little more work than simply seeking out recommendations. For it's also true that the more thorough a job you do of selecting someone to provide a service, the more likely you are to find the right person. And when the job at hand is designing a building, that person is crucial to the entire project. In fact, it often in stated that the selection of the architect is the single most important decision the prospective owner makes as he plans his building.

Before You Begin

Even before the owner begins talking with architects, there are things to do to prepare for construction of a new building. Some owners by themselves acquire a site, obtain financing and determine the building's program — the traffic flow, arrangement of work areas and other details of how the building will "work." But even if you proceed this way, you don't want to get too far ahead of yourself. Your architect and other members of your design team may have ideas that will make you want to modify your plans. You may, in fact, want to put off most of these decisions until you have hired your architect. An architect can advise on sites and give you a better idea of a building's cost than you may be able to determine by yourself. He can help you determine the feasibility of your project — whether or not you should build at all. And, of course, "programming" is a valuable service of the architect. The size, form, even the location of a building often come from the building's function — so the architect's involvement at this point can be crucial.

But there are other early steps that you, the owner, will have to take, too. You will want to think about a time schedule for the project, procedures for approving each phase of the plans and the architect's work (this is particularly important when a committee or a board is involved), whether or not it will be necessary to call in special consultants to help with zoning changes, traffic control and other related details of the project and how much you want the architect involved in administering the construction itself.

Examining these expectations and desires and defining as much as possible the scope of the architect's work are important steps to take. If you spell out these items now, you can help avoid misunderstandings later. But taking this step also is of immediate use in selecting the architect for your job. When you begin interviewing firms, this knowledge of your own desires can help you determine the capability of various firms to carry out the work; and your description of your desires can help each firm decide whether or not it wants to undertake the job.
Looking Around

People occasionally complain that they can't tell one firm from another when they look up "Architects" in the Yellow Pages and call a few firms to inquire about designing a building. But that shouldn't be such a surprise. Not only is architecture a visual medium, but an architect-designed building is a custom solution to an owner's needs. So there is little that either architect or owner can find out on the telephone. One thing that you, the owner, can accomplish, however, is to ask for a brochure that gives information about the firm's staff and illustrates some of its previous work. Most architects have such publications available and are happy to send them out without charge. And getting the brochure is a beginning. After all, the best way to evaluate architects is to evaluate their architecture.

Evaluating architecture, of course, means deciding whether the architect's buildings please you aesthetically. Many owners, in fact, are attracted to a particular architectural firm in the first place because they like the way the firm's buildings look.

But evaluating architects also means asking whether or not a building fulfills its functional requirements, whether its overall design is appropriate to its use, whether the construction cost was within the budget and what kind of working relationship the owner and the architect had. Talk to owners. You can learn a lot from other people's experiences. But no matter what you hear, make your own judgments as well. You're the one who's going to work with the architect. And you're the one who's going to be living with the finished building.

Selection

You may find it possible to decide from looking at previous work and through references from third parties which architectural firm you want to design your building. But if you cannot decide that easily, you can invite firms for interviews to talk about their previous work and what they can do for you. (And if you are putting up a public building, you may be required by law to hold such interviews.)

First narrow the field down as much as possible. Invite only those firms you are seriously considering. Then, provide each firm in advance with a brief statement about your proposed project — your time schedule, your budget, your site if you have it selected, the specific use of your building.

Do not expect the architects to have solutions for your project at the interview, however. Coming up with design solutions takes careful analysis, time and close work with the owner. The only way to get specific designs at this stage is to hold a competition, a method of selecting an architect that is not customarily used except for significant, very large or monumental projects. (Results of past competitions have been erratic as well. Some are very good and some are disappointing.) But if you think a competition might be appropriate in your case, contact the American Institute of Architects for suggestions and for a set of professionally recommended guidelines.

In a normal interview, however, you can expect the architect to present previous work and to discuss the staff he has available or the consultants he can obtain. He may want to present his philosophies of design and the methods by which he would tackle your job.

During the interview, you will want to determine the architect's experience on similar projects, size of staff and facilities, availability of consultants, information on the individual or individuals who will be supervising the project, workload and commitment to other projects, preferred method of compensation and interest in the project.

Aside from the interview, you will want to determine the architect's professional reputation, quality of work and reputation as a businessman. Articles by or about the architect in professional journals, membership in professional societies such as the American Institute of Architects and honors accorded by professional societies can serve as indications of the architect's professional stature. Quality of work and reputation as a businessman can be learned through references, by contacting previous clients, contractors and others who have worked with the architect.
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After the interview, you may want to visit the offices of architects under consideration, and you may want to visit either completed projects or buildings under construction.

Examine all facts carefully. Selecting the architect is an important step in a big undertaking. But remember, the architects have an interest in your plans, too. So when you make a decision, notify all architects under consideration — including those not chosen for the job — immediately as a matter of courtesy.

### The Design Team

A newspaper once wanted a picture of an architect standing in front of his newly completed building. But when the news photographer arrived at the site, he was surprised to find dozens of persons waiting for him. Not only was there more than one architect in the group, but there were engineers, interior designers, landscape architects, graphic designers and more. There were food service consultants, acoustics and lighting specialists, budget analysts and secretaries. All these, and not one person, it turned out, were "The Architect."

That's the way the story goes, at least. But it is true that with today's complex building problems, most buildings are designed by teams and not by individuals. One architectural firm is hired for the job. And one architect within that firm is assigned the position of "Project Architect" to oversee the work. The architect leads the team. But now, more than ever before, many other people are involved in designing a building, too.

Hiring this "Architect" — putting together this design team — therefore becomes an important step in the design of any building.

So it is important to be aware of the differences and similarities between firms. A firm may be an individual with a very small staff or a large office employing several hundred people with many specialties. One feature common to all firms is that there is a principal (or principals) who is the managing architect responsible for the firm's policy decisions, who has legal liabilities and who determines the architectural emphasis of the firm. It is a combination of firm size and the nature of these individuals — their talents, philosophies and emphases — that makes differences in firms.

As you examine the scope of your own project, you will have a better idea of the type of firm you need for your job — whether you want a large office with specialists on its staff or a small office which will assemble specialists from elsewhere as consultants. Large and small firms each have their distinct advantages, so you will want to investigate each type. But once you understand your own project and expectations, you will be in a better position to ask the right questions when you are interviewing architectural firms.

### Compensation

Just as there is a variety of building types and construction problems, so is there a variety of methods for compensating architects. And now that you have selected your architect, you must determine how he will be paid. This range of methods enables the architect and owner to settle on a method which is most appropriate to the project at hand. Flexibility is the keynote.

If the project is relatively simple, you may want to pay the architect a lump sum. This method covers only specific, agreed-upon services and must be renegotiated if the scope of the project changes. Or, if the project is very limited, if you seek advice from the architect as a consultant or if, as in much restoration work, the amount of work is unknown, you may want to pay on a per diem basis.

To compensate the architect for salaries, overhead and profit for services actually rendered, you may want to take the firm's direct cost and apply a pre-determined multiplier to arrive at the final compensation. This method is commonly used in designing commercial facilities. The American Institute of Architects has developed an extensive method of determining payment using this system called "Compensation Management Guidelines for Architectural Services." A related method is to pay a cost plus a fixed fee. The fixed fee usually is employed to retain a particular architect, and covers the firm's expense. But this method requires that services be spelled out relatively specifically in advance.

The traditional way of compensating architects has been to base payment on a percentage of construction costs. This allows flexibility to vary with building type and size of the project. More complex buildings carry higher percentages while larger buildings carry lower percentages. This is the method that government agencies most commonly use. It is a system, however, that has some rather serious defects. Owners sometimes suspect architects of running up costs to earn a higher payment. Architects feel they are penalized for working hard to hold down costs, because lower costs mean lower pay. As a result, many owners and architects alike are abandoning this system and adopting methods based on cost plus fixed fee, cost times multiplier, lump sum —

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| 16 |
whichever method is most appropriate for the building under design.

Though competitive bidding is a method often used to obtain work and products in other phases of the construction business, it is not an appropriate way to obtain architectural services — because bidding holds inherent disadvantages for both architect and owner. If the services are governed by a specified bid price, the architect may have to cut back on the time spent on design in order to fulfill other duties; if an unforeseen problem arises, he may have difficulty solving it within the prearranged price. And if the architect has been forced to do a rush job to keep his costs down, the result may well be an inferior building. But, basically, architectural services cannot be bid because of the nature of what architects do. Each firm provides different services and each approaches a job differently. So it is difficult to compare firms by cost. And each building is a unique project. Contractors are able to bid a project because an architect’s drawings and specifications define the scope of the work for them. But an architect at the beginning of a project is dealing with an unknown amount of work.

Another caution: No matter which method of compensation you use, do not be overly influenced by cost cutting tactics. A half a percentage point on construction costs may seem like a lot at the beginning of a project, but there are other factors to consider as well. Be sure to compare the services that will be provided for the various fees. And, of course, be sure to compare the quality of the architects’ work.

With completion of negotiations, you will be ready to sign contracts with your architect and together begin designing your building. If everything has gone well, you already have laid the groundwork for a successful architect-owner relationship, in which the architect truly can be your agent, the person who looks out for your best interests all through the project. You’ve probably already told your architect a lot about what you expect in your new building, and the architect probably already has some ideas on how he will meet your specific needs.

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Working For An Energy Future We Can All Live With
What’s a Vision Worth These Days?

by Lawrence L. Ericsson, AIA

I suspect that many experiences directly related to the fact that I am an architect are not at all unique and that one question in particular, posed on several different occasions, can be related to by most architects. “What exactly does an architect really do anyway — besides make a lot of money, I mean?” For my own part I have found that architects do not do what I thought they did before becoming one. I have always been troubled by questions such as these, perhaps because of some uncertainty as to just what other architects do. In other words, can I assume that what I do as an architect is typical of what other architects do, or are my experiences, expectations and interpretations unique?

Most likely, the initial response of each one of us will be different due to obvious differences in training, localities and practice. Some architects are young, some old. Some architects have a small practice, others large. Some are principals, some are not. Some work in private practice, some for big business. Some work in India, some in the United States. Some are famous, others are not. The point is obvious. All of which makes me inclined to favor a response directed not at what an architect does, but instead at what an architect should do.

Even here, though, is agreement possible? Probably not. Debate will ensue, differing viewpoints made known, and general disagreement among us regarding the means to ends, etc., will certainly result.

It’s a neat experience to relax, close your eyes and bring to mind the final days of college shortly prior to graduation, or perhaps that day when the commitment was made to become an architect, and recall the anticipation of your future as an architect. The expectations, the emotions, and the goals were peaked! There seemed to be a hope to “set the world on fire” and astound the architectural community with your exuberant insights, creative discoveries and visionary proposals.

It is during this brief period of time, more than any other, we come closest to sharing a single, uncomplicated unity of purpose and aspiration as architects. Admittedly, some architects may never have experienced this feeling before, due to improper or inadequate motivation, and they are critically impaired. Unfortunately, this period of commonality does not happen at the same decade in time, let alone the same moment. And, so, the magnitude is diminished, the impact distilled, and most of us become absorbed, obscured and rarely heard from again.

What happened? Where do all the great visions go? If most young architectural students graduate with similar aspirations of grand achievement and are filled with visionary concepts (which I prefer to believe is the case), why do all but a very small handful fail to make any profound, really remarkable and lasting impact upon society? Does anyone care? If most of us began with similar objectives of “saving the world,” it would seem logical to expect we could and should collectively do just that.

However, more often than not, the young architect-to-be must assume a less than fulfilling role within the “pecking order” of the firm he or she has chosen — alongside all other still expectant young movers and shakers-to-be. During the subsequent years of advancement among the ranks, increased responsibilities, and indoctrination into the so-called real world, a gradual but unfortunate disappearance occurs. The loss we experience is that of our child-like enthusiasm, vision and hope, which apparently adds credence to Pablo Picasso’s statement that, “Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up.”

Day-to-day routines appear to have a somewhat numbing effect on our minds as we frequently get caught in the flurry of the moment and the solving of immediate problems at hand; a deadline for Mr. and Mrs. John Doe’s residence, a cash-flow difficulty in the office, a seminar to maintain continuing education requirements, a job interview at 2:00 p.m., and on and on. We are simply too busy earning a living and being model citizens to devote any precious time to visionary aspirations which might spark the imagination of the world or to conceive an architectural statement of major magnitude. We have become engulfed by “the system,” and what the system has rendered is a wave of professional architects in fashionable neckties and vested pin-striped suits who dress, talk and act like any other conservative businessman. One is startled to find we are becoming business administrators, environmentalists, preservationists, planners, or engineers rather than architects.

Let me hasten to say that these activities can be worthy pursuits and that I, too, am quite actively involved in each. But not at the expense of my visionary aspirations, nor at the expense of a loss of identity with the less confining purpose of architecture. All of these tertiary pursuits are nothing more than preparatory training resources.

Never mind what the dictionary says architecture is or
what architects are. The definers of words are not architects. Obviously, without a commonly accepted standard of meaning, words, and therefore language, have absolutely no value. However, definitions may legitimately be modified, expanded and even changed altogether from that proposed by Webster, as long as there is understanding and agreement upon the new definition by the communicators. After all, culture, time and usage have affected the definitions and meanings of words throughout history — definitions are not absolute.

The point? Webster’s definition of architecture is no longer valid, if indeed it ever was. Architecture is not so bland and limited that it can be adequately summarized by the glib “Art or science of building, esp. houses, churches, bridges, etc.” Nor is an architect merely someone who “designs and oversees the construction of same.” We become too comfortable with these traditional, familiar roles, which may feel good, but usually are very inhibiting. The fact that we can win design awards from other architects may give us a feeling of accomplishment that can easily instill a false sense of security. They do not indicate that we have fulfilled our obligation. Awards are good motivators, but must be kept in perspective; they are not an end in themselves.

That we have chosen to have abundant awards recognition programs for buildings and their interiors, but not for visionary concepts, belies something of our values as a professional body. It indicates that our scale of thought is too small and too near-sighted. We do not think seriously about the future. What do we think mankind and his built environment will be like 100 years from today? More importantly, what do we think mankind and his built environment should be like 100 years from today?

Should architects be content to nonchalantly pursue the day-to-day course of world events with relative complacency and acceptance? Or should we try to be the visionaries we are frequently thought to be, and make the world sit up and take notice of the fact that we just may have something more to offer than a “pretty building drafting service?” Obviously, the latter gets my vote.

Knowing that the total built environment profoundly but subtly contributes to or detracts from our mental and physical well being, I see a tremendous opportunity for architects of vision to significantly contribute to positive attitudes within people. It certainly is no small task, and it is not clear that any of us are adequately trained to be a properly skilled influence — yet. However, virtually everything we need to know is available to us if we avail ourselves of the resources. One of the primary resources continues to be authoritative research studies of individual and social behavior as related to the built environment, i.e., color psychology, spatial psychology, urban vs. rural social behavior impact, psychology of vision, impact of built environment upon wildlife habitats and social awareness of the impact of the built environment. Other useful resources might be found in the sciences of geology, physics, geophysics, zoology, etc., and from the studies of history and philosophy. The wealth of information that creative architects could utilize literally boggles the mind.

And so, then, the ultimate resource is our mind. It is an incredible tool that we barely begin to utilize to maximum potential. To fill it with all available knowledge, to explore its very depths, and to extract every ounce of creativity from it would make it the resource par excellence. Despite the tremendous potential of the brain to absorb and recall knowledge, it is neither humanly possible nor feasible for a single individual to attempt to consume all relevant knowledge. However, we can and should do the next best thing: absorb an appreciative awareness and at least a simplistic understanding of as many disciplines and research studies, etc., as is possible. Then, perhaps we will be prepared to conceive relevant major architectural visions.

Architects, then, must continue to be visionary in their propositions. They must perform day to day capitalist functions within the context of professional preparation and self training. They should view the practice of architecture as one of vital service. If our motives are ones of service to mankind, we will also certainly be serving ourselves. Most importantly, architects must remain ever curious and be conscious of one another’s potential and creative gifts.

Virtually every profession in every age contains within its ranks many real geniuses. Where are they today in architecture? Does our vanity permit us to recognize them? Do we stifle them? Is pragmatic rationalism the only logical pursuit? Is it rational to propose that grandiose architectural idealizations can have any real value for the world? We can only speculate.

Whether or not one seriously arrives at a concept worthy of immediate unveiling, it is certainly not irrational to continued on page 42
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What’s A Vision Worth These Days?

continued from page 21

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NCARB To Query 12,000 Practitioners

In an effort to identify the essential things which comprise the practice of architecture, NCARB will enlist the help of 12,000 randomly selected architects. These architects, all registered practitioners, will receive by mail in early March a comprehensive questionnaire which has been developed as a major element of an in-depth study to determine "the knowledge, skills, abilities and functions necessary for minimum competence for the practice of architecture in the United States." This so-called "practice analysis" survey is being conducted in response to a directive by the delegates to the 1979 NCARB Annual Meeting.

No such comparable survey of this scope has ever before been undertaken to find out precisely "what architects do." Once the survey results, along with supporting research findings, are evaluated, they will be applied by the NCARB Resolution Five Steering Committee in a "validation" study of the NCARB examinations all candidates for registration are required to pass. Assisting the Committee is the consulting firm of McManis Associates of Washington, D.C.

Chairman Patrick Meconi of the Resolution Five Steering Committee appeals to the architectural press for its cooperation in alerting the as-yet-unidentifiable 12,000 architects who will be receiving the questionnaire to expect its arrival in early March. Says Meconi, "We hope they will complete it conscientiously and return it promptly." He estimates it will take about one hour to complete.

The 1980 Census Focuses On Housing

More than half the questions that will be asked in the 1980 census, which begins April 1, will focus on the Nation's 86 million housing units - their condition, their value, home energy usage, and other subjects of statistical importance for the planning and management decisions that confront government and the private enterprise system.

Compiling housing data has been a census assignment since 1850, but the modern-day census concern about the quality and characteristics of our housing dates back to the 1930s, a time of national awakening to the poor state in which many Americans lived. Resulting legislation increased the number and scope of housing-related questions from the 1940 census onward.

Census housing data is crucial to decisions about urban renewal, water and sewerage availability, new school openings or shutdowns, mortgage assistance programs, mass transportation, and the control of local residential growth, to cite but a few applications that affect everyday life.

The census questions about people will be answered for each individual, but the housing questions will need to be answered just once per household. The census is expected to count 86 million housing units, 17 million more than 10 years ago, ranging from thatched huts in the Trust Territories of the Pacific to condominiums along the East Coast, including more than six million vacant units. It is projected that there will be 79 million households in 1980, 15 million more than in 1970.

Data from the 1980 census will identify the latest trends in home energy use and commuter transportation.

Between 1950 and 1975, the number of U.S. households using coal and wood diminished to less than one percent for each fuel, but natural gas usage increased from 23 percent to 57 percent of all households. The home energy picture in 1980 may show wood and coal surging in popularity. Residential solar energy use is still too limited to affect nationwide statistics in 1980.

Transportation planners will also learn from the census whether Americans are choosing to live and work in places with ready access to public transportation. Commuters will be asked their work location, time spent getting to work, means of transportation to work, and, for auto riders and drivers, how many people share the ride.

Public transportation use by commuting heads of household actually declined between 1960 and 1975, from more than 12 percent to less than six percent. Recent upswings in the use of public transportation are reported, however, which the census will document.

Close attention will be paid by energy planners to ownership and use of private passenger vehicles, including trucks and vans of less than one-ton capacity. The number of U.S. households with two or more automobiles more than doubled between 1960 and 1975, and current estimates place the number of non-commercial trucks and vans at about 16 million.

Surveys conducted by the Census Bureau since 1970 indicate that the cost of of keeping a roof over one's head will be higher than ever in 1980. From mid-1977 to mid-1978, the average sale price of a new home jumped from $54,200 to $62,500, more than 15 percent. In 1976, the average owner of a mortgaged home spent about 18 percent of his or her income for the mortgage, real estate taxes, property insurance, utilities, fuel, and trash collection; renters spent an average of 24 percent for housing. Both figures are likely to be much higher in 1980.

Safdie For Aspen

International architect and planner Moshe Safdie is the program chairman for the 30th International Design Conference at Aspen, Colorado. "Form and Purpose" is the theme of the June 15-20 Conference. The IDCA is the
world's major forum for ideas about the designed environment. Registration information may be obtained by writing the IDCA, P.O. Box 664, Aspen, Colorado 81611.

Intense Effort Urged On Statute of Limitations

Twenty years of effort to get passed a Statute of Limitations bill in the Iowa Legislature could culminate in the 1980 session if strong enough logic is presented to enough legislators during the session. The Statute is on the books in the vast majority of the fifty states, has good precedent in both case and statute law, and would provide that "an action arising out of the unsafe or defective condition of an improvement to real property... and founded on injury to property... or to a person or wrongful death, shall not be brought more than 15 years after the date on which occurred the act or omission of the defendant alleged to have been the cause of the injury or death". To architects and engineers, and to the courts, such legislation is logical, sensible and in the best interests of all citizens. Reproduced below is strategy position paper, authored by the legislative advocate of the engineers and architects for implementation by both organizations.

The Statute of Limitations bill, HF315, which we have supported which would have provided a ten year statute of limitations protecting, among others, design professionals from claims arising out of long past work passed the House in 1979 is now in the Senate Judiciary Committee. Unfortunately it was amended in the House to a period of 15 years. It appears that there is little chance to go back to 10 years. The House vote was pretty substanrial and the Senate Judiciary Committee in voting on the Companion Bill, SF188, had set 20 years. Although 15 years is acceptable, albeit reluctantly, 20 years is not.

Language was also added in the House excluding the owner of the property. That was the practical effect of the way the bill was drafted anyway, so that language makes no significant change. However, language was added which excluded suits arising out of "fixtures". Generally a "fixture" is an article of personal property which has been affixed to realty so as to become a part of it, such as a furnace, lighting fixture, built-ins, elevators, etc. This language would severely limit the scope of the bill and should be amended out. Hopefully, the Senate Judiciary Committee will recommend removal of the "fixture" language.

In summary, it is our position that the bill, HF315, should be amended to strike the language in lines 15 and 16 "or to limit actions relating to fixtures to real property" and passed into law without further change.

Technical Fact Sheets On Solar Energy Available

As part of its function as a one-stop resource on solar energy, the National Solar Information Center develops technical fact sheets on various specific topics, many of which are abstracted from longer technical reports. These fact sheets address topical areas of concern for the educated consumer or building professional who plans to be involved in solar construction.

The newest of these fact sheets concerns collector efficiency ratings:

- Solar Collector Efficiency Ratings and What They Mean (FS 117)

Builders and consumers are confronted with a variety of manufacturers' claims about collector performance and efficiency. Sometimes they are shown numbers which are hard to interpret or which tell only part of the story. In fact, builders and consumers need to know at least two things about the collectors they choose for their applications: How well they will gather heat and how well they will keep it. Current collector efficiency tests are designed to provide both of these numbers and interested individuals should be sure to ask for both of them when dealing with manufacturers. To help builders and consumers become more knowledgeable about interpreting collector performance test results, this fact sheet discusses how solar collector efficiencies are determined and what these ratings mean. The impact of efficiency for different solar applications is discussed. Typical efficiency curves are presented as well as average test results for different types of collectors used in the HUD Residential Solar Demonstration Program.

Fact sheets are also available on the following topics:

- Flat-Plate Solar Collector Orientation and Tilt (FS 101)
- Heat Transfer Fluids for Solar Heating and Cooling (FS 108)
- Insulation (FS 103)
- Avoiding Shade on Solar Collectors (FS 111)
- Solar Collector Efficiency Ratings and What They Mean (FS 117)
Solar Collector Types and Components (FS 112)
An introduction to various collectors and their component parts is presented in text and cross-sectional diagrams. Types covered include flat-plate, evacuated tube, and concentrating collectors. The advantages of each type for various solar applications are also presented.

Thermal Energy Storage (FS 115)
The three most common solar thermal storage materials—water, rock, and phase-change compounds—are discussed in terms of their relative advantages and disadvantages. Rules of thumb for tank construction, insulation, and sizing are also presented.

For Information fact sheets, write to:

NATIONAL SOLAR HEATING AND COOLING INFORMATION CENTER
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AIA National Committees

By Gary S. Moriarty

Through involvement in the national committee system individual members can play a role in developing and guiding AIA programs from concept to implementation. The January 15, 1980 AIA MEMO, the newsletter of the American Institute of Architects, referred to the committees as "the pulse of all AIA activities." According to first Vice President R. Randell Vosbeck, FAIA, "Committees are the heart of all AIA activities. They help keep members up to date on current developments and sharpen their professional skills, while also allowing participants to provide input for shaping AIA policy."

The members of the institute's 53 national committees have been chosen because of their interest, expertise, and commitment to serve. These committees embrace nearly every field related to architecture. Of these committees, 31 are classified as "limited membership" committees and 22 are classified as "open committees".

Limited membership committees concentrate on business, administration, or special projects of the institute, such as finance, long-range planning, and awarduries. Due to the specialized subject matters involved, these committees embrace nearly every field related to architecture. Of these committees, 31 are classified as "limited membership" committees and 22 are classified as "open committees".

Limited membership committees concentrate on business, administration, or special projects of the institute, such as finance, long-range planning, and awarduries. Due to the specialized subject matters involved, these committees have limited memberships appointed by the AIA Board of Directors.

In 1976 the Board of Directors approved the organization of special interest committees. At that time the planning committee identified nine such committees, now known as the AIA Professional Interest Committees. These committees are: Architects in Industry, Architects for Commerce and Industry, Architecture for Education, Architecture for Health, Architecture for Justice, Architecture for the Arts and Recreation, Historic Resources and Interior Architecture.

Upon inception the committees were given a six point charter: (1) Provide the means to improve the competency of members and serve the profession and society, and develop information resources and professional development activities with special interest area; (2) Define issues for the AIA and generate policy recommendations for the Board; (3) Stimulate communication and information exchange; (4) Allow all concerned and interested members of the profession to participate to the degree they wish and are able; (5) Provide meaningful interface with the general public and special interest segments; (6) Encourage research and generate new knowledge.

The Board of Directors realized there are many AIA members with special interests but who do not receive committee appointments nor can they commit the time or money necessary for effective committee participation. In 1978, the Board decided to open up membership of these committees on an experimental basis.

There are six levels of participation possible in the professional interest committees. The committee steering group and various task groups have their expenses reimbursed by the Institute. The regional representatives, liaison, and subcommittee members are not funded but are required to attend a minimum of two meetings per year to maintain active membership. The newest level of participation is "corresponding committee membership".

Corresponding memberships were initiated in response to the Board's desire to disseminate the information produced. This new category does not carry the obligatory commitment of time and energy necessary for regular membership, but allows corresponding members to receive all notices, meeting minutes, and committee reports, participate in committee meetings and activities to the degree desired, and contribute to committee tasks and deliberations as they wish.

Because of the enthusiastic response to the nine original "open" committees, the AIA expanded the concept to include 13 more committees: Architects in Education, Architects in Government, Codes and Standards, Community Assistance, Continuing Education, Design, Energy, Environmental Education, Federal Agencies, Minority Resources, Practice Management, Regional Development and Natural Resources, and Urban Planning and Design.

These committees do not currently offer corresponding memberships. They are lead by an appointed five-to-seven person "steering committee". Interested members may qualify by attending a minimum of one open meeting in each of two successive years.

Presently, 17 Iowa Chapter members are participating in the national committee system. In an attempt to familiarize other Iowa Chapter members with this system, the Iowa representatives on these committees have submitted a brief description of the purpose and duties of their committees, type of information produced and availability, and the name of a resource person for future reference.

ARCHITECTURE FOR HEALTH COMMITTEE
Raymond L. Hueholt, AIA

AIA Architecture for Health has membership of approximately 75. Sixty of the membership are practicing architects and other members are from agencies such as American Hospital Association, Association of Veterans Hospitals, Association for Handicapped, and various governmental agencies.

Members strive to improve mutual understanding of health care needs and planning and design responses through liaison with health care associations, governmental and regulatory bodies. The committee prepares reports on the architectural implications of various proposed na-
tional health programs and recommends appropriate AIA activities.

Active members are responsible for attending three 3-day sessions, two of which are held in locations in the United States and the other in appropriate countries. Last year one was held in Ottawa, Canada. This year one is scheduled for Mexico City. The first meeting each year is held in Washington, D.C. at the National AIA Headquarters.

Hueholt is a member of two working committees, one for Research and Development. The present committee is working with the Architectural Research Center. The purpose of it is to record and circulate various abridged reports of research articles. The other committee has to do with interesting non-member firms to become corresponding members. He is responsible for the states of Iowa, Nebraska, and Missouri and has been a member of this committee for the past three years.

COMMITTEE ON ARCHITECTURE FOR JUSTICE
NORMAN E. WIRKLER, CHAIRMAN 1979

The AIA Committee on Architecture for Justice is involved in study and research to provide information to AIA members working in the criminal justice field, namely courts, corrections and law enforcement. Many committee activities should be of interest to Iowa AIA members.

The Design Resource File is a publication that contains information helpful in learning more about justice facilities. It is available from AIA.

The AIA-ACA exhibit of justice projects is developed for the American Correctional Association national convention held each August. Selected projects under design or construction will be exhibited in the 1980 ACA convention in San Diego. The 1979 exhibits were published in a booklet and are being sold through AIA. 1980 exhibits will also be published.

The CAJ committee presents a seminar each year. The 1979 seminar was held in Chicago and the subject was court facilities. The 1980 seminar topic is juvenile detention facilities and will be held in Gainesville, Florida October 31 and November 1, 1980.

The Committee for Architecture on Justice maintains liaison with most criminal justice organizations. Particular emphasis in 1979 and 1980 is given to the liaison with the American Correctional Association’s Correctional Standards Program. Correctional standards have been written and accreditation proceedings begun which will provide a system for accreditation of correctional facilities. Accreditation has already been given to a number of facilities. The accreditation process is similar to the accreditation process for hospitals.

COMMITTEE ON HISTORIC RESOURCES
William M. Dikis, AIA

The CHR meets three times per year, once in Washington, D.C., and twice in other historic locations around the nation. The Washington meeting is especially important due to the information exchange available at the national AIA headquarters, as well as the attendance of many “liaison” members from Federal agencies and the proximity to the Federal legislative process. There are considerable numbers of Federal programs involving architectural preservation and a surprising amount of new legislation pending. The other meetings are located with an effort to be geographically distributed. There are about 50 active members with a five-member steering committee; in addition, there are about 20 liaison members.

The Committee’s primary activities are represented by its subcommittees: Legislation and Policy, Publications, Codes and Standards, Preservation of Architectural Records, Education, State Preservation coordinators, Brush Fires, P/RUDAT, and Awards.

In addition, various Task Groups may be formed, authorized by the AIA Board, to undertake specific projects.

At the January 13-16, 1980, meeting in Savannah, Georgia, the primary issue was Federal legislation with numerous bills pending dealing with such issues as preservation agencies, funding, tax benefits and reform and a national Museum for the Building Arts.

Dikis has participated on the CHR for the past five years, the last two as a funded steering committee member. It has been an interesting and beneficial experience for him, meeting experts and resource people in the field, understanding the Federal preservation structure, visiting cities with significant architectural preservation programs, and especially the pleasure of serving on the first P/RUDAT team, which visited Springfield, Illinois, in April of 1979.

HOUSING COMMITTEE
John D. Bloodgood, AIA

The Housing Committee, a member of the AIA’s Commission on Education and Professional Development has almost 100 active members plus a growing number of corresponding members. It has traditionally met three times a year, one meeting of which was in Washington at the Institute headquarters; but according to the new AIA policy, will now be meeting twice a year.

The Committee is organized with a Chairman (who was Bloodgood filled in 1979), a Vice-Chairman-Chairman-elect, and three steering committee members who each head one segment of committee activities. This leader...
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AIA National Committees

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ship group meets prior to each committee meeting, and in ad hoc sessions between times as required for certain tasks, to organize and assign the on-going and individual activities of the Committee. At each major committee meeting, there is also a Seminar Session which is designed to provide local area architects as well as national committee members with continuing education credit units and a broader base of understanding the overall housing picture. Since the committee is divided about 50/50 with practitioners whose main area of interest is government subsidized housing and with practitioners in the private housing sector, seminars alternate between these two specialties.

For example, at a meeting during the National Association of Home Builders convention, the committee scheduled a seminar on the private sector; at a Washington meeting, a seminar on currently funded government assistance programs and the secondary money market.

The three main areas of committee activity are: Marketing Services, Technology and Design, and Policy and Liaison.

One of the Marketing Services' activities is an annual presentation of the Architect's increasingly necessary role in land planning and housing design to the National Association of Home Builders annual convention. A flyer of this presentation attended by over 1,000 builders each year, indicates the professional quality and thoroughness of the presentations which stresses the design qualities that help bring design value and profit to the home building business.

One of the Technology and Design considerations is the many existing and new code problems in housing, from access to the handicapped to rehab codes.

One of the main activities of the Policy and Liaison group has been the major achievement of the HUD/AIA liaison task force which co-sponsored and developed the new AIA B181 Agreement, "Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Architect for Housing Services". This significant document approved by all national and regional offices of HUD brings proper architect's activities and liabilities into the focus as argued for years by the AIA. The working relationship established for the first time ever with HUD and the AIA is a milestone in itself, and was so successful that AIA staff took the liaison away from the committee and works with it directly now that the basic guidelines have been accomplished.

Additional liaison activities keep the housing committee membership aware of other group interests and associated goals; the Council of State Housing Agencies, the Urban Land Institute, the National Housing Conference, the Mortgage Bankers Institute and the League of Savings and Loan Institutions, etc., to name a few.

CODES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

John R. Ratcliffe, AIA

The National AIA Commission/Department on Practice and Design is subdivided into five Divisions. The Code and Standards Division, as one of the five, is further subdivided into three sections; the seven member CO/ST Steering Committee, the main CO/ST Committee (of which Ratcliffe is a member) and the Joint Architects and Engineers CO/ST Committee. The CO/ST Division has recently undergone reorganization to arrive at its present structure. Its activities were "put on hold" and funding was withdrawn during 1978 as a result of then President Botsai's reservations about proposed "Policies". The CO/ST Committee did not meet during 1979.

The charge of the CO/ST Steering Committee is to develop position papers on a few major code issues (e.g. B.E.P.S. vs. ASHRAE 90-75). The function of the CO/ST Committee is more information and education oriented. It receives an array of data and information during our meeting in Washington D.C. which committee members attempt to summarize and pass on to the Chapter Office.

The full time staff person at AIA in Washington is Mr. James R. Dowling.

NATIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

R. H. Brom, AIA

The purpose of this committee is to advise the AIA Board members and staff on the identification, development, delivery and evaluation of the continuing education services for all members. The committee conducts in depth evaluation of existing programming, both available through the AIA and through collegiate and private producers, and investigates new program needs that will be responsive to the changing demands of our individual architectural practices and professional growth. In addition, this committee includes the continuing education activities and support for the IDP program. In the past, it has been responsible for AIA guidance for the Sup-Ed-Guides. This committee has also tackled the task of evaluation of the proposed mandatory continuing education requirements for AIA membership. One of the more interesting activities, due to its national impact is the development of all continuing education programs for each National Annual AIA Convention.

The committee is unique in that its membership is made up of an equal number of representatives from ar-
Chapter Executives, particularly those concerned with architectural practice, schools of architecture, and Chapter Executives, particularly those concerned with developing and producing continuing education activities in the components. Thus, this committee offers an excellent opportunity to exchange ideas with fellow professionals from the many different areas of architectural endeavor.

Meetings are held two or three times a year in various parts of the country, usually in the first week of February, last week of June, and last week of October. Each meeting is structured for 2-1/2 days. The committee meetings consist of some sessions of the committee as a whole and then sub-committee meetings where more intensive discussions are held on related topics. These sub-committees consist of future planning, IDP work, convention programming, delivery and production tasks, etc. The information developed by these sub-committees is accepted or rejected by the committee as a whole and then passed on to the AIA Board for implementation. At this time Eino Kainlauri and Hovey Brom are Iowa Chapter representatives.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Willis E. Schellberg, AIA

You are standing in the middle of a sea of upturned faces. not knowing how you got there except your son met you at the door one evening with a "Hi Dad, the teacher wants a real live architect to visit the school, and I volunteered your services". The adrenalin starts to flow and you start spitting out words like 'interspatial penetration', and those little faces keep smiling even though you are going way over their heads. You are about to explain "post modernism" when all of a sudden it hits you-"What can I do? What can I draw? What can I show to help them understand the environment around them, and what I do to help make it an exciting place in which to live". At this point you are waiting for the man from Glad or the Orkin man to help you out! Whether you are there for a one day stand to explain what you do from 8 to 5, or you have an opportunity to have an extended series of contacts to work with them in designing their dream town, or you have signed on to an architect in schools, there are people who have been there before who can help.

The environmental Education Center, 2118 Spruce St., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103 publishes a quarterly called "Build Environmental Education". It is full of ideas about what is happening in schools around the country. The AIA has published a pamphlet on "Environmental Education Tools" which briefs members on materials that are available on this subject. The AIA also has a "Teachers Introduction to Environmental Education" and a guidebook on how to conduct Environmental Education workshops. The "Architects in the Schools" is a great slide show which can be obtained on loan for $5.00 to cover postage and handling. Requests should be addressed to the National Coordinator of the 'Architects in the Schools' Program, 2118 Spruce St, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103. Behind the scenes the Environmental Education committee is working on a comprehensive Build-in Environmental program for the nation's school systems that, with the help of grants from foundations and the federal government, and the architect, will someday make Built Environment a part of every school's curriculum.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Robert F. Mattox, AIA

The Financial Management Committee is a "Limited Membership Committee". The committee currently has charges to develop aids on financial management, to effect liaison with Production Systems for Architects and Engineers (PSAE) and to continue liaison with the administrators of the Computer-based Financial Management Service (CFMS).

The major effort of the committee during the past two years has been to prepare a book, Financial Management for Architects, which the AIA will publish in early summer, 1980. This volume is a companion piece to Standardized Accounting for Architects (1978). The committee will update these books during 1980 for the next printing. Additionally committee members participated in the 1979 AIA Convention seminars and will do so again in 1980.

PSAE, the wholly-owned subsidiary of AIA, has recently taken on the role of monitoring the computer-based financial management services; the basic system of the service was in part sponsored by AIA several years ago. PSAE has also created a joint committee of AIA, ACE and NSPE representatives to suggest ways in which the financial systems could be employed by engineering firms as well. PSAE, this joint committee, and the Financial Management Committee all have distinct concerns for developing and providing materials—and service where possible—for the smaller firms. A significant portion of 1980 committee time will be devoted to seeking ways to assist firms of 10 or fewer.

CFMS liaison service, basically a computer-based accounting and reporting system specifically designed for design firms, are administered by Harper & Shuman, Inc. (HAS) of Cambridge, MA. CFMS is presently being used by firms of all sizes and geographically distributed across the country. This committee's role is to advise continued on page 52
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AIA National Committees

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PSAE and HAS of modifications or additions to the system that would be useful to present or potential users, to maintain consistency in terminology and financial principles throughout all AIA materials, and to assist when possible in developing AIA educational materials on the services.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Robert Broshar, FAIA
1979 AIA Vice-President

As a Vice President of AIA last year, Broshar served as a member of the Executive Committee. In essence, that group is responsible for the operations of the Institute between meetings of the Board of Directors. Any information produced or decisions reached by the Executive Committee are transmitted to the membership through the MEMO, the AIA Journal or direct mailing. Certain information is transmitted to component officers either through direct mailings or the Component President's Newsletter. In terms of membership involvement, it doesn't fit the pattern of the National AIA Committee.

The 1979 annual committee report published by the Institute, gives a good cross-section of the committee activities. Many of these committees publish newsletters which are available to the membership.

FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE "OPEN" COMMITTEES

A schedule of the 1980 meetings and conferences of the open AIA committees is available from the low Chapter office. Those members interested in attending any of these meetings or in obtaining additional information concerning the committees may contact the resource persons named above or Maurice Payne, AI Director of Professional Interest Programs. (202) 785-7364.

Through involvement in the committee system, the AIA membership can play a more active role in the Institute and learn how to become more effective in the architectural profession. Members can reap the reward of involvement in two ways; by both furthering the Institute's goals and benefiting more directly from the AIA smorgasbord of membership services and programs.

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Each year the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) appoints a chairman and a committee for each of the examinations given to candidates for registration by all 50 states as well as Guam, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. Each committee (from its inception) has a lead time in excess of 18 months during which they prepare, with the help of professional counsel and advice, the examinations which are distributed on a national basis and which, by NCARB’s rules, must be given on the same day in each jurisdiction. Some equator questions are carried over from a large pool of questions from year to year providing a statistical opportunity to measure the collective knowledge of the candidates as well as the relative “toughness” of the examinations. This system is meant to assure that each examination will be fair to each group of candidates each year. Because of the scope of the examination, each committee is split into subcommittees who have direct input in only a portion of the examination. When the exam is in its final draft, the entire committee takes the entire exam so that they have an opportunity to experience it and to be critical of its content. Our consultants also have one more opportunity to spot inconsistencies or misleading questions.

The cost of preparing one year’s examinations is in excess of $60,000 which helps to explain why the exams are given only one time each year.

Each summer candidates who do not have a professional degree in architecture are given the privilege of taking a qualifying examination in an effort to determine that they have met minimum educational requirements to sit for the professional exam given in December. The qualifying exam is given in four parts over a period of two days.

Last year some 39 people took the four parts in Iowa of which more than 80% passed the exam. The 20% who failed will have an opportunity to try again in subsequent years. In the past six years, Iowa’s average in this particular exam has been much higher than the national average, not unlike the results of the exam given in June 1979.

The professional exam is given in two parts. A site and design problem (Part A) which lasts 12 hours (from 6:00 continued on page 57

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NCARB Exams
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a.m. to 6:00 p.m.) also given in June. This portion of the exam may be taken by intern architects any time after they have completed their educational requirements by either passing the qualifying exam or by having received a professional degree from an accredited architectural school. This year was the first time that many less experienced candidates took the exam. Sixty-one candidates were examined with 38% passing. This is approximately the same as the national average from approximately 9,000 people who took this exam.
Candidates who have finished all of their intern requirements may sit for the professional exam (Part B), which is given in December over a two day period. Last year 6,531 candidates were tested nationally of which 3,515 passed, or slightly more than 50%. 39 candidates sat for the exam in Iowa of which 34 passed, or 87%. Only Guam, with one candidate, and Nevada, with 16 candidates, exceeded our average.
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