

NEW YORK CHAPTER



115 EAST 40TH STREET
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

L. BANCEL LAFARGE • *President*
ROBERT CARSON • *Vice President*
GILLET LEFFERTS, JR. • *Secretary*
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COMING EVENTS

June 1, 1960, Wednesday

Annual Luncheon

Election of Officers &

Elective Committees

Gallery A—12:30 P.M.

The event listed above takes place at 115 East 40th St., N. Y. C., unless otherwise noted.

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PETER S. VAN BLOEM, *Editor*

MEETINGS, PRESENTATIONS, ELECTIONS

The Annual Meeting of the N. Y. Chapter will be one of the most interesting in many years. On Wednesday, June 1st in the Dining Room at Chapter Headquarters the agenda will be as follows:

1. President L. Bancel LaFarge will give his report.
2. Presentations will be made of Certificates of Merit to *Time* Magazine and *The Nation* Magazine for journalism.
3. A special citation will be given posthumously to Basset Jones.
4. The Plastering Institute of Greater New York will award its Scholarship to Donald Ira Liss with mention to the alternates, David Rib and Frederick Zeiger.
5. An Award of Merit is to be presented to James Felt.
6. Honorary Associate Membership Citation will be presented to Lewis Mumford for his contributions to the Profession and
7. The Election of Officers for the year 1960-61.

Available at the luncheon table will be reports of the Committees in the form of the June Issue of the OCULUS.

Be sure to reserve your place as soon as possible. The Luncheon starts promptly at 12:30 P.M.

GRANT FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

The U. S. Public Health Service has awarded the first grant ever given to a chapter of the American Institute of Architects, it was announced by James Souder, AIA, Chairman of the Hospital and Health Committee. The grant is made for hospital design research.

The research project, which will cover a three-year study of the planning of hospital operating suites, will be directed by Robert Hyde Jacobs, Jr., AIA, who plans to set up an office for the project in New York City early this summer.

The project was formulated by the Hospital and Health Committee, through its sub-committee on research headed by Harold Olson, AIA. The project's work will include an intensive investigation of routines carried on in operating suites, a survey of work being done in combatting hospital-acquired infections, insofar as this applies to the layout and equipment of operating suites, and an analysis of existing and projected operating suite plans, with the purpose of developing information to help hospital architects.

CONVENTION IN SAN FRANCISCO

Community design, the entire community design during rapid population increases, was the major subject discussed during the 92nd annual convention of the American Institute of Architects held April 18 through 22 in San Francisco.

Philip Will, Jr., Chicago was elected the new Institute head by the total 2,474 registered delegates. The Convention was one of the most successful in recent years with more people attending since the Centennial Celebration in Washington, D.C. in 1957.

Henry L. Wright, FAIA, Los Angeles, California, was elected 1st V. P., James M. Hunter, FAIA, Boulder, Colorado, 2nd V. P., Raymond S. Kastendieck, FAIA, Gary, Indiana, Treasurer and J. Roy Carroll, Jr., FAIA, Philadelphia, was elected Secretary.

Sites of future conventions were selected as follows: 1961—Philadelphia, April 23-28; 1962—Dallas, May 7-11; 1963—Miami, May 6-10; 1964—St. Louis, June 15-19; 1965—Denver; 1966—Detroit; 1967—New York City; 1968—Portland, Oregon.

ARCHITECTURE AND CONSTRUCTION

Apropos of competitions, recently at lunch one of our members was reminded that in his student days a first medal in a Beaux-Arts project for a warehouse, was awarded largely because (said he) the rendering showed such an arresting pattern of scaffolding, all the other entries looked pretty bleak. The conversation got around to the current pipe-and-stantion scaffolding used all over the city, for the vertical hoist and bar platforms at each floor. What a beautiful, spidery pattern it creates, particularly where setbacks occur. Recently it was possible to look north along Lexington from the Forties, and see a sequence of scaffolding "lace" against a promising sky. The Guggenheim Museum in late afternoon was richly ornamented by all manner of etched shadows projected around the curved surfaces.

The vertical hoist just outside our door (a few steps to the east of our No. 115 East 40th Street) had tension members running the height of the vertical hoist, much like the strings of a violin bow passing over the bridge. Too bad that one of the most decorative features of our modern cages can't be made a permanent part of the buildings. If hoist tower and horizontal platforms are safe enough for workmen, and sufficiently substantial to support the heavy molecules which comprise the building, they might be equally safe and strong as an auxiliary firetower, emergency escape.

Maybe somewhere in the city money will become scarce or a lawsuit will be lodged before the building is complete, and the contractor for one reason or another, will just drift off without taking his scaffolding with him. Then, like the Grant Monument which somehow looked more intriguing with its scaffolding than it had appeared for many years, the genesis of a new form will have been suggested. Who knows—it might even result in multiplying the current number of cliches, so that instead of having two or three as at present, there might be as many as five or six.

G.K.G.

COMMITTEES—WHICH ONE?

Each year you are asked to signify your preference to serve on a particular committee of the Chapter. Once again we list for you the committees to which you, as a Corporate or Associate member, are eligible to be named.

If you are really interested, please call or write to Mrs. Margot Henkel, Executive Secretary, New York Chapter A. I. A., 115 East 40th Street, New York (MU 9-7969).

The Chapter depends heavily on the voluntary efforts of those members serving on these committees:

ADMISSIONS
AWARDS
BRUNNER SCHOLARSHIP
CIVIC DESIGN
EDUCATION AND
SCHOLARSHIP
FEES AND CONTRACTS
FINANCE
HEADQUARTERS
HISTORICAL BUILDINGS
HOSPITAL AND HEALTH
HOUSE CONSULTING
LE BRUN SCHOLARSHIP
LEGISLATIVE

MEETINGS
MEMBERSHIP
SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON NEIGHBORHOOD
CONSERVATION
PROGRAM FOR
NEW YORK CITY
OFFICE PRACTICE
PUBLICATIONS
PUBLIC RELATIONS
SCHOOL
SPEAKERS BUREAU
TECHNICAL
VISITORS

LARGE SPANS

On April 27th, under the auspices of the Technical Committee, Fred N. Severud spoke on analysis and design of large spans using a suspension system.

With illustration by sketches of current projects, Mr. Severud demonstrated the engineering principles affected by the problem and showed several contemplated solutions.

With interesting digressions into aerodynamic oscillations and building resonance Mr. Severud with lucid exposition, generous wit and candor made a substantial contribution to the increase of the architect's professional vocabulary of form.

STUDENT - EMPLOYERS

For the convenience of the members we are listing the names of the students who attended the Student-Employer Party on May 4 at Chapter Headquarters.

Those from Cooper Union were: Ronald Spivak, Henry Korman, Sam Rutenberg, William I. Clark, Josari F. Russo, Frank Battipede, Louis Mullen, and Ernest Bitzer. Columbia was represented by John Deans. Those from Pratt were: James Toya, Gordon Bloedel, Paul Silver, George Rehl, James P. Groank, Robert Bruckner, Peter B. Halfon, and Louis Babrowsky.

We hope that the results of this activity will lead to more parties and exhibitions in the future.

1960 WORLD PLANNING AND HOUSING

CONGRESS

San Juan, capital of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, is the site of the 1960 World Planning and Housing Congress to be held from May 28 through June 3, 1960. Professionals in the planning and housing fields are invited to combine the technical discussions of the Congress with a tropical vacation.

The 1960 Congress is devoted to two important themes: "The Contribution of Physical Planning to Economic and Social Development" and "The Place of Self-Help and Mutual Aid in the Total Housing Program."

Professionals from 60 countries will submit factual case reports of planning and housing programs in their own areas. A general report on each of the two themes, summarizing and comparing the findings from various countries, will be translated into the four official languages of the Congress: Spanish, English, French and German. Simultaneous translation into these languages will be furnished during all technical discussions.

Two special features will supplement the themes and work of the Congress: an international exhibit of planning and housing programs, and an international film contest giving planners a chance to view quality films in their professional fields.

Incidentally, participants in the Congress may avail themselves of the opportunity to attend the Casals Music Festival which opens June 3.

Further information about the Congress and accommodations may be had from the 1960 World Planning & Housing Congress, P. O. Box 1729, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

RECEIVES MEDAL OF HONOR

Lawrence M. Orton, a charter member of the City Planning Commission, has been awarded the Medal of Honor for City Planning. This award is given jointly by the Metropolitan Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the New York Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, the Brooklyn and the New York Chapters, AIA.

The award established in 1939 has only been given three times before. Previous recipients were George McAneny, John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and Edward Murray Bassett. James Gambaro, FAIA, chairman of the Joint Award committee said today that the award is given "to those planners with vision, a capacity for service, men with broad horizons of interest and a proven ability to solve problems endless in their complexity."

Mr. Orton has been a charter member of the City Planning Commission since January of 1938. Prior to that time he was a consultant to the National Resources Planning Board and chairman of its Committee on Urbanism. He was also General Director of the Regional Plan Association, the organization established to promote and carry out the Regional Plan.

During his tenure on the City Planning Commission he has lent his efforts to other organizations. In 1943 he served as Consultant to the Government of Puerto Rico, first in connection with the work of its newly established Planning Board and secondly as Consultant to the Board of Design, charged with carrying out major features of the insular development program. In 1947 he became Executive Director of Morningside Heights, Inc.—an organization composed of fourteen eleemosynary institutions dedicated to the improvement of the Heights community. During his ten years of service with Morningside Heights such important improvements as the thousand-unit middle income cooperative known as Morningside Gardens and the adjoining Federal Project known as General Grant Houses were achieved. More recently his activities include the presidency of the American Society of Planning Officials (1953), and the office of Vice-President of the American Institute of Planners (1956-57).

A graduate of Newtown High School and Cornell University, Mr. Orton lives in Riverdale, the Bronx.

FELLOWSHIPS

Geoffrey Platt, who is the Chairman of the Committee on Fellows, would be glad to hear from any of the members, suggestions on the basis of design or service, the names of members who should be advanced to Fellowship.

When your time comes to be so proposed, think how honored and rewarded you will feel. At this time there are members who deserve this honor. Will you call the chairman now?

A PRIVILEGE AND A DUTY

To anyone who has been active in the affairs of the Chapter, attending meetings and working on committees, it has been evident that funds are an important part.

Each year we must point out that you have forgotten something . . . your dues. Please don't let your dues remain "outstanding" any longer.

Dues account for most of our income so the 10% which is in arrears hurt us greatly. Please send in your dues now.

HERE AND THERE

In the November Architectural & Engineering News was a fine biography of Chapter member David Todd, AIA, CSI . . . The British Architects' Conference this year will be held June 15th to 18th in Manchester. Mr. G. R. Ricketts, Secretary of the RIBA has assured us that AIA members would be most welcome . . . ARCHITECTURE: MAN'S SPACE, a travelling exhibit will conclude its current tour around the U. S. by June 15. Inquiries regarding the availability of the show may be directed to the Wisconsin Chapter AIA . . . G. E. Kidder Smith was recently elected a Life Fellow of the Swiss International Institute of Arts and Letters (world membership: 750) . . . Howard H. Juster, a former chairman of the Technical Committee, has been named an associate in the White Plains firm of Perkins and Will . . . We quote from the *New York Construction News*: "Frederick G. Frost, Jr. & Associates, New York City architectural firm, has just been awarded the design contract for the new Junior High School No. 8 in Queens, New York. Frost's office says plans for the structure will entail the reuse of those originally used in building J. H. S. No. 294 in Brooklyn . . . The World's Fair is beginning to look more like a reality. Governor Rockefeller signed a bill that allows Robert Moses to retain his position as N. Y. C. parks commissioner while holding his new found spot as Fair boss . . . Robert W. Cutler was elected president of The Architectural League of New York, succeeding Morris Ketchum, Jr., the League also elected Giorgio Cavaglieri, vice president, architecture. Nembhard N. Culin, Michael Radoslovich, and Mr. Ketchum were named to the Executive Committee for two-year terms . . . The National Sculpture Society presented its first Henry Hering Memorial Medal Awards for outstanding collaboration between architect, sculptor and owner in the distinguished use of sculpture. The Awards given in three categories—Ecclesiastical, Monumental and Commercial, were made by Paul Manship, Honorary President. Recipients of the awards were: Ecclesiastical category, Voorhees Walker Smith Smith & Haines for Loyola Seminary, House of Studies, Shrub Oak, New York. Sculptors were Donald De Lue, Gleb Derujinsky, Henry Kreis, Joseph Kieselewski, Oronzio Maldarelli and Carl L. Schmitz. Monumental category, Harbeson Hough Livingston & Larson (architects) for Normandy American Memorial, St. Laurent-sur-Mer, France. Sculptor, Donald De Lue. Commercial building category, architects, Emery Roth & Sons for 100 Church Street, N. Y. C. and 529 Fifth Avenue, N. Y. C. Sculptor, Frank Eliscu.

ARNOLD W. BRUNNER SCHOLARSHIP

The New York Chapter, American Institute of Architects, is accepting applications for the 1961 Arnold W. Brunner Scholarship at this time. The grant is for an amount up to \$3,000 for advanced study in a specialized field of architectural investigation and is awarded annually by the Chapter.

Candidates are required to be American Citizens with advanced professional backgrounds and currently active in architecture or related fields and should file applications now. Closing date for all applications is November 15th, 1960. Full information may be procured from the Chapter Office at 115 East 40th Street, New York 16, N. Y. (Murray Hill 9-7969). Stanhope Ficke is Chairman of the Arnold W. Brunner Scholarship Committee.

BOOKS

ROOTS OF CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN ARCHITECTURE, by Lewis Mumford (\$6.00 cloth, \$2.95 paper, Grove Press Inc.).

This is a new edition of the book that appeared in 1952, and begins with a preface by Lewis Mumford, which is as most of his work, interesting and important.

The bulk of the book is an assemblage of writings by some thirty authors ranging from Thoreau to Novicki, all of whose thinking or activities have contributed in some way to the shaping of our Architecture. Abstract design is completely meaningless, unless it is backed up by sound reasoning and a basically sound philosophy that integrates it into our way of existence. Any such sound philosophy on the other hand cannot spring out of a vacuum, but must be influenced by, or be a reaction of, or perhaps a development of the work of many generations of thinkers. This is why it is of great importance for every student of Architecture to read this volume, and if possible for every course of architectural history, to make this type of reading a requirement.

LOUIS SULLIVAN, AS HE LIVED: The Shaping of American Architecture, a biography by Willard Connely (32 pages of illustrations, Price \$6.50, Horizon Press).

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT: Writings and Buildings, selected by Edgar Kaufman and Ben Raeburn (over 150 illustrations, Price \$3.95, Horizon Press).

DRAWINGS FOR A LIVING ARCHITECTURE, by Frank Lloyd Wright (200 illustrations, 75 in color 12" x 14", Price \$35.00, Horizon Press).

MODERN EUROPEAN ARCHITECTURE, by A. Dorgelo (10 x 14, 252 pages, 390 photos, 310 drawings, Price \$27.50, D. Van Nostrand Company Inc.).

NEW MEMBERS

The New York Chapter extends its warmest welcome to the following new members:

Corporate

OVIDIO ACOSTA
ALBERT ANAYA
BERNARD BECK
HERBERT BIENSTOCK
JACK A. COHEN
JOHN A. HAGMAN
ROBERT L. DOUTNEY
WALTER EDGAR LEVI
JOSEPH R. PNIEWSKI
ARNOLD W. THOMPSON

(Transferred from Chicago Chapter, A. I. A.)

VICENTE VAZQUEZ
VICTOR VILLEMAIN
ARTHUR WITTHOEFFT

Associate

JAMES MONROE BAKER
ANDREW SAUL BLACKMAN
WALTER JAMES DUGAN
ERWIN J. KEHRLE
ALFONSO W. LIMONGELLI

CANDIDATES

Information regarding the qualifications of the following candidates for membership will be considered confidential by the Admissions Committee.

Corporate

WILLIAM MILO BARNUM	EVERETT RADER
EDWARD N. BLOOMSTEIN	STEPHEN SHILOWITZ
ARTHUR C. GIORCHINO	GEORGE W. THOMPSON
GUNTHER HEINZEL	RICHARD E. ZEGLER
ROBERT W. JONES	

Associate

JOAN DERIS ALLEN
PETER WALTER AMATO
HAROLD R. FOSTER
G. DARCY GIBSON
JEH VINCENT JOHNSON
MICHA KOEPPPEL
WILLARD ARMINGTON LENZ
JANE FREDRIKA PATTON
WILLIAM ROBERT SACKS
WRIGHT W. SALISBURY
JAMES HOPKINS STEARNS
JAN VIKTOR WHITE

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{ Frederick J. Woodbridge
{ John C. Merrill
{ Theodore K. Rohdenburg
{ Isadore Rosenfield
{ Lewis Davis
{ Lathrop Douglass
{ Peter S. Van Bloem
{ Lewis G. Adams
{ Frederick J. Woodbridge
{ Giorgio Cavaglieri
{ H. Seymour Howard, Jr.
{ Elmar O. Schniewind
{ Alonzo W. Clark
{ Lewis G. Adams
{ Frederick J. Woodbridge
{ John W. Franklin
{ George Beiers
{ Michael M. Harris
{ Charles H. Abbe
{ Lloyd Morgan
{ Paul L. Wood
{ Paula Treder
{ Walter McQuade



WOMEN'S ARCHITECTURAL AUXILIARY NEWS

WHY WE ARE To function as an auxiliary to the AIA; to promote unification and advancement of the profession, friendship and unity within the group and to stimulate greater public interest in and understanding of the architectural profession and its capacity to be of service to the community.

WHO WE ARE Those eligible to become members of the WAA are: Wives, widows, sisters, mothers, or daughters (18 or over) of members of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and women members of the Chapter.

WHAT WE DO The purpose of the WAA is to raise architectural scholarship funds by a series of sponsored events such as museum and festival tours, card parties, fashion shows, teas and an annual debutante cotillion.

DUES \$5.00 per annum, payable July 1st. Kindly make checks to: Women's Architectural Auxiliary.

Our name and address are: Women's Architectural Auxiliary of the New York Chapter, American Institute of Architects, 24 West 55th Street, New York 19, N. Y., Circle 7-4436 and Circle 6-1288.