

Thomas F. Galvin Nominated NYC/AIA President

The Committee on Nominations has unanimously recommended the following nominations for officers and directorships:

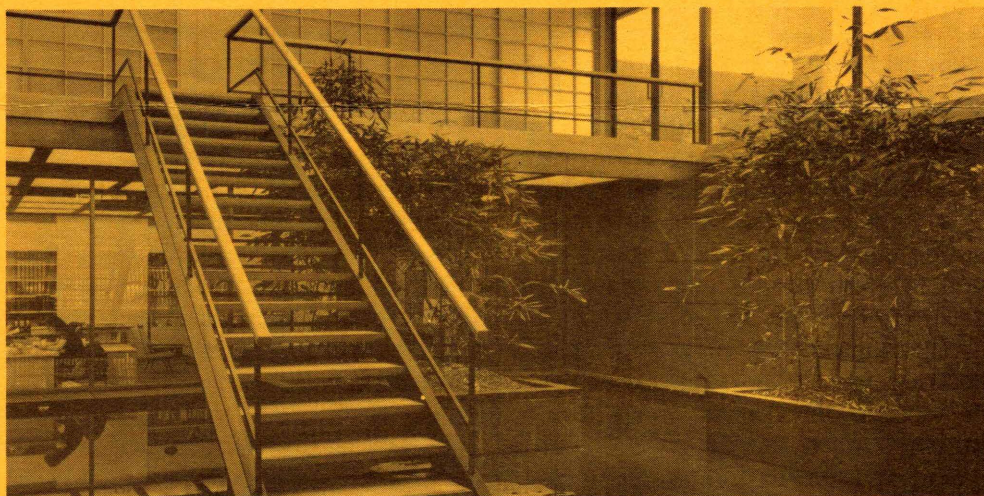
Thomas F. Galvin, President
T. M. Prentice, Jr., 1st Vice-President and President-Elect
Robert F. Gatje, Vice-President
Samuel M. Brody, Vice-President
Kurt Karmin, Secretary
James B. Baker, Treasurer
Louis P. Giacalone, Director
Richard G. Stein, Director
George D. Brown, Jr., Director
Alexander Kouzmanoff, Director
LeRoy E. Tuckett, Director

James Stewart Polshek, presently 1st Vice-President and President-Elect, has declined to assume the office of President due to his new responsibilities as Dean of Columbia's School of Architecture.

Judith Edelman, completing the Directorship of six, will carry-over to 1973.

The new officers and directors will be installed at the Annual Meeting being held Thursday, June 1, 1972, at 11:30 A.M. at the 7th Regiment Armory, 643 Park Avenue at 66th St., New York, New York.

WAA Japan House Gala May 14 Receives NYC/AIA and Architectural League Support



The serene main staircase and reflecting pool with bamboo growing are features of the entrance to Japan House, scene of the May 24 WAA gala.

A gala reception and tour at beautiful Japan House, 333 East 47th St., the glamorous finale of the Women's Architectural Auxiliary's ambitious Spring fund-raising efforts, will take place Wed., May 24, from 5 to 8 P.M.

Mrs. Saul Edelbaum, WAA Scholarship Chairman, describes the evening as "an all-out effort for scholarships", since the gala has been arranged with the full cooperation of both the NYC/AIA and the Architectural League.

The "only authentic Japanese structure in New York", Japan House was designed by Japanese Architect Junzo Yoshimura in conjunction with Gruzen and Partners.

Japanese artists—a dancer, singer,

calligrapher, and koto players—will perform in its elegant auditorium. Wines and hot and cold running hors d'oeuvres will be served off the 2nd floor gardens.

Co-chairmen for the event are Mrs. Morris Ketchum, Jr., and Mrs. Rolland D. Thompson. The four honorary chairmen are Peter J. Blake, FAIA; Frederick G. Frost, Jr., FAIA; George G. Shimamoto; and Max O. Urbahn, FAIA.

Tickets are \$15 each, full tax-exempt. All funds will go directly and in equal amounts to City College, Columbia University, Cooper Union and Pratt Institute for deserving young men and women architectural students, as has been the WAA's custom for the past 14 years.

Chapter Review of Planning & Building Proposals

The April **Oculus** reported on the Executive Committee's decision to formally invite requests that the Chapter review significant planning and building proposals. The text of this important letter to community boards, public & private agencies and others, to be signed by President Frost, is as follows:

"The New York Chapter, AIA, has been increasingly active in reviewing significant planning and building proposals in response to requests from community boards, public and private agencies, and individuals. Our purpose is to influence the planning of an improved urban environment.

"We frequently express opinions at public hearings, but we propose to you that there are situations which develop when we can offer advice concerning projects prior to public hearings. We intend that our effort be focused on projects which have influence on the larger environment, including such matters as neighborhood activity patterns, transportation, visual unity and general urban texture, and which require zoning amendments, variances or approvals by public agencies. Thus, our concern is more with design concept than with the detailed design of any particular building. It suggests that the review with architects of proposed projects take place as early in the design process as practicable.

"We realize the magnitude of such a task and recognize that it cannot be accomplished in a constructive manner without the interest and cooperation of organizations of citizens, developers, owners, users, planners and designers that are concerned with projects primarily in Manhattan, and we invite you to call on us when you feel that our organization and yours have mutual interests.

"It is evident that no matter how constructive our intentions, there will be disagreement at times between our opinions and those of the project participants. We believe, however, that properly handled, such disagreement can lead to better understanding and, thus, to a more positive result. We wish to assure you, however, that where differences of opinion exist our intention would be to participate with the project team, and particularly the architect, in every appropriate manner to resolve the differences.

"We would welcome the opportunity to join with you in reviewing significant planning and building proposals. The Chapter's Executive Director, George Lewis, is ready to establish liaison with you. A letter similar to this is being sent to the agencies and organizations on the attached list."

Steel Institute Makes Annual Awards

At the Pre-Convention Meeting held at Chapter Headquarters on April 20, the American Institute of Steel Construction presented its yearly Architectural Awards of Excellence to the following New York firms:

Harrison, Abramovitz & Abbe, for the U.S. Steel Building, Pittsburgh.

James Stewart Polshek & Associates, for the SUNY Service Group, Old Westbury, N.Y.

Conklin & Rossant, for Superbay Maintenance Facilities, San Francisco International Airport.

National Policy Task Force: Robertson Speaks to Chapter

The Report, was at first received coolly by the Executive Committee. The March **Oculus** also raised questions. However, after further study of its background and the reasons why it may at first appear rather bland, most doubts have been reversed, and a Chapter resolution urging strong support will be presented at Houston.

Jaquelin Robertson, a Task Force member, explained the background of the Report at the Chapter's Pre-Convention meeting April 20. He said it grew out of recent Institute work with Congress which has been far more effective than most AIA members realize. He called the Report an almost impossible document to write because any of several approaches would have been inadequate: polemical magazine article; paper for laymen (professionals would be bored); an attempt to specify legislation (would have been incomplete); a national plan blueprint (immediately out-of-date).

It is none of these, Robertson said, but we can be optimistic: The Report can take the AIA into serious negotiations on every major piece of legislation on the man-made environment for the next 10 years. A reason for this may not readily be apparent: much of the wording is, in effort, coded; it corresponds to legislative language which people in Congress recognize from past negotiations with the AIA. With this document the AIA can push for comprehensive legislation. While its goals have been talked about for years, the AIA has now put forward a basis for action, and the climate for congressional and executive action is now favorable.

The Report will be debated and voted on at Houston. Robertson said the Task Force wants to add an appendix on methods of implementation, and an open forum on the constraints built into the present system will be held this summer.

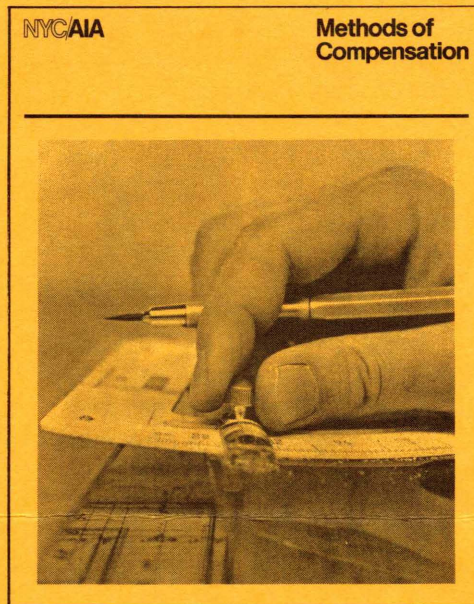
GL

"Methods of Compensation" Available from Chapter

"Methods of Compensation," a booklet prepared by the Fees and Contracts Committee and intended to complement the Institute's Statement of the Architect's Services, may be purchased at the Chapter office. As reported in the January **Oculus**, "Methods of Compensation" is coordinated with the standard documents of the AIA for Owner Architect Agreements and describes the more common and acceptable methods of compensation for architect's services, their application, advantages and disadvantages, and guidelines for use. The six methods selected are: Percentage of Construction Cost, Multiple of Direct Personnel Expense, Professional Fee plus Expenses, Fixed Sum Method, Per Diem or Hourly Method and Composite Method. A Compensation Selector Table indicates recommended methods for a variety of services.

To date, the percentage method in graph form has been issued by the Chapter and adopted with slight variations by other chapters and the NYSAA/AIA. For a number of years, many members have felt that the percentage of construction method has often been inappropriate under an extended and changing practice. In issuing the booklet, it is expected that the time honored preponderance of the percentage will be de-emphasized to the benefit of other methods available.

JDK



Cover, in uniform graphics format, of new Chapter publication.

Employment Survey Results

The Office Practice Committee's Employment Survey Results as of December 31, 1971 was distributed without comment with last month's **Oculus**. Peter Hopf, Chairman of the committee offered the following impression, much of which, he feels, is not immediately apparent from the graph: "With a normal amount of growth in any business (you can use any figure at all—but let's say a growth rate of 8% per year), three years should have shown a growth of about 24%. In fact, employment has gone *down* about 10% these three years. Adding the two, business should be about 34% from where it actually is today. This, I think, is the major significance of the results of this survey."

The survey itself had responses from 123 firms. Replies from the larger firms are less than in previous surveys; those from firms of 0 to 8 technical personnel have substantially increased. According to an interpretation of the survey's results by Eason Leonard of the Office Practice

Committee, "the chart indicates that this past year the total number of technical personnel engaged has decreased by 12½%," as added to and compared with a decrease of 6% in the year 1970. Further, "it is apparent that the business in most offices is still depressed. It is obvious that this situation will have an unfortunate effect on the availability of positions for graduates this spring, young people still in school seeking summer work and opportunities for individuals in the various job training programs....It also has its impact on the architects and draftsmen with many years experience who are also unable to find work."

In the firms projection of the trend of business for 1972, it is encouraging that at least 50% of those offices responding to the survey predicted an improvement over the year and an additional approximately 20% expect business to remain about the same.

As reported in an earlier issue of **Oculus**, the NYC/AIA has undertaken a program of close liaison with the Professional Placement Center of the New York State Department of Labor. Mrs. Lynn Wallach of the Professional Placement Center indicated that there has been an upswing in available positions over the last month and a half. This would tend to confirm the projections of the firms surveyed. However, the positions available have been mostly for draftsmen in production areas. There have been no positions available for designers, nor have there been any positions available for experienced candidates as job captains or project managers. Mrs. Wallach noted that in this generally depressed market, employers have been trying to offer lower salaries. However, this has met with resistance and salaries have remained generally stable.

JDK

Action on Proposed Zoning Changes

Proposed changes to the 1961 Zoning Resolution are receiving close Chapter scrutiny. One is the City Planning Commission's amendment relating to large-scale community developments. The rest relate to a series of residential situations.

Although in principle the Chapter favors flexible zoning, the Executive Committee has adopted a statement prepared by Walter Bogner of John Belle's Urban Planning Committee stating opposition to the amendment on Community Facility Developments.

The NYC/AIA is sympathetic to the goal of permitting expansion of land-locked institutions, but not at the expense of "altering local community housing supply or removing essential community amenities and unique characteristics". The amendment, it feels, returns to "spot" zoning, with no guidelines, no incentives for good planning, and, in particular, no master plan developed with the active participation of the local Community Planning Boards and interest groups.

In a related action, the Chapter has opposed the proposed 41-story Beth Israel Medical Housing Tower. Representatives have met with the architect and found no justification for exceeding by 28 stories any other building fronting on Stuyvesant Park.

The series of amendments relating to residential zoning includes proposals for allowing 3-family housing units in

areas now limited to 2-family houses; permitting In-Fill Housing on existing vacant sites at an increase in allowable density per site; encouraging planned unit development for large-scale residential projects by providing bonuses for such items as enclosed parking and mandating community facility space (such as schools) beyond a certain number of units. The final amendment would authorize the mapping of special mixed-use districts to include manufacturing facilities and residences.

This last group of amendments are being thoroughly studied by Lewis Davis' Housing Committee and Richard Roth, Jr.'s Zoning Committee. Based on their studies, the Chapter will issue a statement on the amendments in the near future.
DPH

Courses in Architectural Technology — Free

All junior, and not-so junior, draftsman take note: Dr. Reno King of Queensborough Community College will explain the courses and programs available for training in architectural technology in the city May 10th at 5:00 P.M. at the Chapter.

The discussion, arranged by Frank Munzer and Maurice Wasserman of the Technical Education Committee, will be a unique opportunity to obtain first-hand information from one expert source. In addition to explaining the available courses in architectural technology, Dr. King will discuss the programs of the City University and other schools. Free tuition and the open-enrollment policy at CUNY make this a rare educational opportunity.

Offices: please make sure all interested personnel are made aware of this opportunity.

Architectural League's Renderings Displayed at Chapter Headquarters

Looking for a talented renderer? This month, at NYC/AIA headquarters, there will be an exhibit of renderings entered in the 1972 Birch Burdette Long Memorial Prize competition. Sponsored by the Architectural League since 1926, this prize for distinguished renderings is given annually. Delineators may use any medium and technique they wish, depicting either a proposed building, and existing building, or a building from their own imagination.

As *Oculus* goes to press, the winner of this year's prize has not been determined, but since this is the only such competition of its kind in the country, it should be interesting to see the submissions.

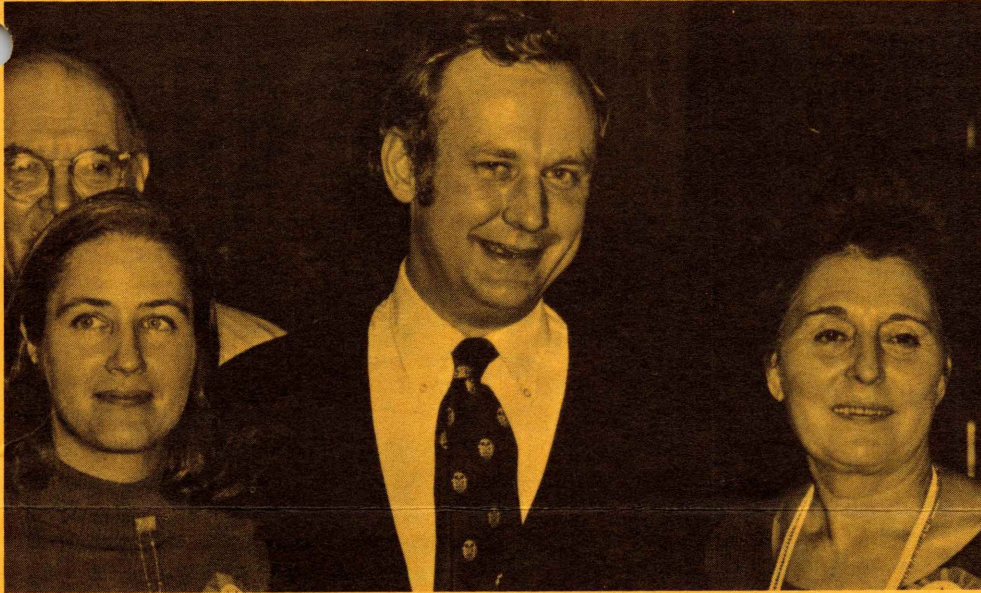
The works will be on display on the third floor until May 26 from 9:30 A.M. to 5 P.M. daily.
LY

Bard Awards to be Presented May 18

Thomas Hoving will speak at a reception for the presentation of the 1972 Bard Awards for Excellence in Architecture and Urban Design on Thursday, May 18 at 5:15 P.M. at the St. Regis Roof. Two privately sponsored projects completed within the City during the last two years will be honored.

Chapter member Leon Brand, Vice President of the City Club, is Chairman of the Program, which he was instrumental in initiating 10 years ago. Publicly and privately sponsored projects are considered in alternate years. James Polshek, Chairman of the 1972 Jury, will present its critique. Phone LT1-2485 for reservations.

Elliott Presents Citation to Architectural Firms for Work in West Side Renewal Area



All smiles on April 15—and for good reason—are Miss Winifred Allwork, Women's Architectural Auxiliary President; Donald H. Elliott, Chairman, NYC Planning Commission, and Mrs. Saul Edelbaum, WAA Scholarship Chairman. At the close of citation ceremonies honoring the Architects, agencies and artists responsible for the nearly completed 20-year West Side Urban Renewal project, it was tallied that 500 people had joined the Auxiliary's Spring West Side Tour and that the WAA Scholarship Fund had gained beyond expectations.

What New York City is doing about center city rejuvenation was the focus of the April 15th tour of the nearly completed West Side Urban Renewal Area (bounded by Central Park West, 87th Street, Amsterdam Avenue, and 97th Street) arranged by the WAA of the NYC/AIA.

Donald H. Elliott, chairman of the New York City Planning Commission, presented special citations to the 28 architects and artists (or firms) and the Housing and Development Administration that have participated in the 15-year effort, at a ceremony held in the Trinity School Auditorium, 91st Street and Columbus Avenue.

The tour featured visits to interiors of remodeled brownstones, duplex model apartments in a new middle-income cooperative, and a school, as well as exterior views of the WSUR's new high-rise buildings, private gardens, and two new public playgrounds in the area.

Receiving citations were:

Albert Anaya
Ballard, Todd & Snibbe
Brown Guenther Battaglia Galvin
de Young and Moscovitz
Edelbaum & Webster
Edelman and Salzman
M. Paul Friedberg
Frost Associates
Horace Ginsbern & Associates
Gruzen and Partners
Holden Yang Raemisch & Corser
H. L. Horowitz & W. F. Chun
Ifill Johnson Hanchard
Seymour R. Joseph
Aleksandra Kasuba
Knappe & Johnson
William Lescaze (deceased)
Liebman Liebman & Associates
Newman & Newman
Constantino Nivola
James Stewart Polshek & Associates
Lee Harris Pomeroy
Prentice and Chan, Ohlhausen
Harry M. Prince
Domenick Salvati and Son
Peter Samton
Richard Snibbe
Richard G. Stein
David Todd & Associates
The Housing & Development Administration

What Not to Build Where Not to Build it

"To save our lives and our posteritywe must go beyond our traditional preoccupation with stone, mortar, steel and glass....." So summarizes Mildred F. Schmertz, as Editor of "Open Space for People", an illustrated anthology of papers presented at the 1970 conference of the Union Internationale Des Architectes.

Tragically, the important concept of "preserving open space" is deceptively obvious. For this and other reasons involving limited imagination, it is conveniently ignored by one of the groups most able to affect its implementation, namely...architects.

Mildred Schmertz's large format book is filled with photographs which depict alternatives to a future made grim by the rapid elimination of open space. The complete title is "Acquisition, Conservation, Creation and Design of Open Space for People". It was published by the American Institute of Architects with a grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development; the papers having been presented at the AIA sponsored meeting in Washington.

The book is FREE! Simply write to the AIA at 1785 Massachusetts Ave., Washington, D.C. 20036.
LY

Executive Committee Actions

April 12, 1972

- Approved text of letter to be sent to community boards, public & private agencies, inviting them to ask the Chapter to take part in reviewing significant planning and building proposals prior to public hearings (see text in this issue).
- Heard officers of The Architects' Technical Assistance Center (TATAC) describe the Center's work; resolved to join with TATAC in an effort to establish a rotating pool of professional volunteers drawn from architectural firms.
- Resolved that the Chapter be a distributor of the Institute's computerized specification system (Masterspec).
- Allocated travel expenses for a student to go to the Houston Convention.
- Noted the Institute's support of legislation to create a National Institute of Building Sciences; resolved that the Chapter should press for passage.
- Approved a statement opposing proposed amendments to the Zoning Resolution concerning large scale community facility developments and the specific proposal of Beth Israel Hospital to build a tower on Stuyvesant Square (see article this issue).

Candidates for Membership

Information received by the Secretary of NYC/AIA regarding the qualifications of candidates for membership will be considered confidential.

Corporate

Richard Robert Ferrara
Everett D. Finney
Robert Alan Friedman
Kenneth Arthur Jacobsen
Saul Kaplan
Vladimir Korec
Eduardo Leoncavallo
Moises Mandelkern
Joseph M. Marrow
James Beattie McLeod
Richard Metzner
Barry Milowitz
Martin G. Santini
Michael Walker

Professional Associate

Margaret B. Gruger

AIA Associate

Felicia Reed Clark
Henry S. Feldman
Franklin Hart

Associate

Zdenek Godfrey Homolac
Wing Kee Kwok
Raquel Ramati

Welcome to New Members

The NYC/AIA welcomes the following members:

Corporate

Robert Cabrera (readmission)
Stephen L. Cohan
Lawrence S. Gordon
Norman F. Jacklin
Jane H. Leoncavallo

Associate

George Buermeyer
Lenore M. Lucey
J. W. Rhodes
A. Zdzienicki

Energy Conservation Exhibit Postponed

The Natural Environment Committee has decided to reschedule the proposed exhibit on methods of energy conservation to the end of this or early next year. The move was prompted by the desire to mount the best show possible.

The Committee chaired by Marvin Mills plans to seek contributions totaling 10 to 15 thousand dollars from foundations and industry to support the project. It is hoped that a salaried director can be engaged to assemble and organize the material. So far \$1000 has been received from an anonymous donor.

Members of the ASHRAE engineering society have expressed interest in contributing material to the exhibit. The exhibit is expected to be designed to travel and to take three months to prepare.

JD

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George S. Lewis, Executive Director

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James S. Polshek, 1st Vice-Pres.
Robert F. Gatje, Vice President
Samuel M. Brody, Vice President
Der Scutt, Secretary
James B. Baker, Treasurer
Lawrence Litchfield, Director
Howard H. Juster, Director
James A. Rossant, Director
T. Merrill Prentice, Jr., Director
Richard Stein, Director
Judith Edelman, Director

Oculus Committee
J. Arvid Klein, Editor and Chairman
John Doran
David P. Helpern
Kurt Karmin
Joel D. Kaufman
Linda Yang
