

20% Dues Increase Approved by Executive Committee Membership to Vote

At their last meeting the Executive Committee unanimously approved a 20% increase in individual and sustaining firm dues.

Rising costs, a new Headquarters lease and a greatly expanded commitment on the part of the Chapter making unprecedented demands on the staff were among the root causes indicating an increase in dues.

The last time individual dues were raised was in 1966, six years ago, and sustaining firm dues in 1961, eleven years ago.

The matter will be placed before the Chapter at a special meeting to be held June 21, 1972, 5:30 P.M. at Chapter Headquarters.

Landmarks Preservation Commission's Constitutionality Challenged

Three years ago, the Landmarks Preservation Commission denied Certificates of Appropriateness to either of the Marcel Breuer design proposals for the Grand Central Terminal Site Office Building. In a current court action, Union General Properties, the developer, and the Penn Central, owner of the site, have moved to challenge not the denials but rather the larger issue of the Commission's constitutional right to make such denials.

In answer to this challenge, the Municipal Art Society has taken the lead in preparing an *amicus curiae* brief (developed by Paul Byard, attorney for the Urban Development Corporation and Society Vice President) in support of the constitutionality of the Landmarks Law. The NYC/AIA, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Citizens Union have joined as co-filers of the brief.

Frank Gilbert of the Landmarks Preservation Commission recalled for **Oculus** that the first of the highly publicized and controversial Breuer schemes "floated" an office building over the Terminal. It was judged inappropriate because it would have turned the City landmark into a "curiosity". The second proposal enveloped the Great Waiting Room but eliminated the Building's facade and was refused because it would have destroyed a "symbol of the City".

New York City's attorneys are acting in behalf of the Landmarks

Commission. After the original denial, to be fair to the developer, the City passed a zoning resolution allowing the Pennsylvania Railroad to use the air rights from Grand Central for the many sites the carrier owns in the immediate vicinity, but preserving the space above the terminal as an "air park".

DPH

1972 Awards to be Conferred at Annual Meeting

The Seventh Regiment Armory will be the scene of this year's Annual Luncheon at which Donald H. Elliott, Chairman of the City Planning Commission, will become an honorary member. Hedda Edelbaum, Benefit and Scholarship Chairman of the WAA, will be cited, as will Bonnell Irvine for his direction of the Minority Scholarship Program. Ulrich Franzen is this year's recipient of the Medal of Honor and Dr. Anthony Adinolfi will be granted the Award of Merit posthumously for the creation and management of the New York State University Construction Fund. The Award for Service to the Chapter, known in past years as the Harry B. Rutkins Memorial Award, will be given to Jerry Maltz for his leadership of the Student Affairs Committee. Arthur Holden will receive the Pioneer in Housing Award, formerly entitled the Andrew J. Thomas Award for a Pioneer in Architecture.

So. Richmond Bill Defeated. Chapter to Continue Lobbying Efforts

Even though it passed in the State Senate, the bill to create a New South Richmond Corporation was defeated by the Assembly in its last session. The bill would have created a joint City-State corporation to plan a new community for 350,000 to 400,000 people in the last relatively undeveloped land in New York City.

According to Frederick Frost, Senator John Marchi will undoubtedly reintroduce the bill in the January 1973 session and the Chapter is beginning its efforts in its behalf right now. In March after a briefing to the executive Committee by Senator Marchi and representatives of the Rouse Company, Mr. Frost wrote letters of support to the Mayor and other key City and State officials. The Rouse Company, developers of Columbia, Maryland, were commissioned by the City to make a feasibility study and prepare a draft of the corporation.

Mr. Frost has been advised of several possible reasons for its failure. One might be controlling votes on the Corporation (the defeated bill calls for a State majority). The other is the refusal of the City to set a deadline for dumping garbage at Fresh Kills in South Richmond.

KK

Results of Office Practice Survey

The NYC/AIA Office Practice Committee announced that it has completed its tabulation of the survey recently undertaken in connection with employee salaries and benefits. Peter S. Hopf, Chairman of the Committee, stated that over 120 replies were received, representing approximately one-third of the sustaining firms of the New York Chapter, and thus represents an in-depth sampling of the entire Chapter. Only the Chapter's Sustaining Firms were surveyed.

The results of this survey will shortly be mailed to all sustaining firms and additional copies will be available, upon request, at the Chapter office. This tabulation will show, among other things, composition of office sizes, number of firms who are a professional corporation, prevailing salaries paid for various positions, current policies pertaining to benefits such as holidays, sick leave, vacation, etc. Additional data will include such items as hospitalization coverage, insurance, bonuses, profit sharing, (including percentages paid by the firm and transferability of policies upon termination), as well as policies regarding overtime, grievance procedure and others.

It is interesting to note and speculate on the meaning of the fact that preliminary tabulations indicate that of the 120 replies received from sustaining firms, approximately 65% came from offices having 10 or less employees and approximately 45% of all replies came from firms having 6 or less employees.

This survey is the most comprehensive one of its type ever undertaken by the New York Chapter and should prove to be a valuable tool in the field of office practice. It is hoped that the survey's results will be an important guide for determining the need for implementation of future programs.

The Office Practice Committee

extends its special thanks to the sub-committee responsible for organizing this survey composed of Charles Hirzel, Bertram Blumberg and Edward Shiffer.

PSH/JDK

City Architect Proposal

The Executive Committee has authorized Chapter President Frederick Frost, Jr. to prepare a letter to Mayor Lindsay outlining the findings of the NYC/AIA's research on the proposal for a City Architect and its recommendations. According to Leon Brand, the Chairman of the Committee formed to study the proposal, the Committee's report will be available in its complete form at a later date.

While the Committee's findings and recommendations as well as the intent of the letter have not yet been made public, President Frost has indicated to *Oculus* that the Chapter's recommendation will not be in favor of the creation of the Office of a City Architect as it has been specifically proposed.

JDK

Public Works Liaison

The NYC/AIA's Department of Public Works Liaison Committee, which has been meeting with city officials including Director of the Bureau of Architecture Edwin Brunjes, Director of the Bureau of Construction Nat Rutkin and the late Deputy Commissioner Hornsey, has rescheduled their meetings from monthly to quarterly. This change in procedure resulted from the feeling that the monthly meetings were diminishing in their usefulness as a forum for productive discussion. However, it was felt that a quarterly meeting would effectively keep the lines of communication between the NYC/AIA and the DPW open as well as provide the means whereby the profession could offer their suggestions to the City.

Leon Brand, the Committee's Chairman, noted that the Chapter tried very hard to have its suggestions implemented. In response to many of the committee's suggestions, the participating officials indicated either that they are already implementing them, but in their own way; or that the suggestions are impractical or unworkable or just not liked.

Chapter President Frederick Frost, Jr. has sent a letter to Mayor Lindsay requesting that an architect be appointed to the position of Deputy Commission of Public Works under Commissioner Maevis, now vacant as a result of the passing away of Deputy Commissioner Hornsey.
JDK

Two New NYC/AIA Directories Available

NYC/AIA

Directory of
Health Facilities
1972

New York Chapter, The American Institute of Architects / 20 West 40th Street, New York 10018, (212) 565-1866

Two new directories published by the NYC/AIA—one for health facilities, the other for higher education facilities—are now available.

The first, the **Directory of Health Facilities 1972**, was developed by David Ginsberg's Hospitals and Health Committee. Its 50 pages include more than 60 health facilities in the Northeastern United States and Canada selected by the committee.

The **1972 Guide to Significant Schools in the New York City Area: Higher Education** was developed by the School and College Architecture Committee and edited by Rachelle Bennett. Over 20 schools were selected for their success in interpreting the program or unusual architectural features, and not necessarily for the outstanding quality of their architecture.

The Selection Committee for this publication included Robert H. Schofield, School and College Architecture Committee Chairman; Albert Bush-Brown, Long Island University Chancellor; Bernard Spring, CUNY Dean of Architecture; and Alan Green of the Educational Facilities Laboratory.

Both guides are available from the Chapter directly. The **Directory of Health Facilities** is free, with a 50¢ handling and mailing charge. No price has yet been set for the **Guide to Significant Schools**.

DPH

Harbour Village

This project, which won a Chapter Residential Design Award and was approved by the Board of Estimate in March 1971, may—as of this writing—be reconsidered by the Board. President Frost sent the following telegram to each member of the Board on May 24:

"We are dismayed that the 1971 approval of Harbour Village may be reconsidered. Aside from the fact that it is an excellent project, how can any plans move ahead if Board can revoke at will?"

\$8000 Given to Four NYC Architectural Schools by WAA

At the Women's Architectural Auxiliary's Annual Meeting, held in the Board Room of the Whitney Museum on May 31, Mrs. Saul Edelbaum, Scholarship Chairman, presented checks for \$2,000 each to the four architectural schools which the WAA supports and to the NYC/AIA Foundation. Receiving the funds were Judith Edelman, Chairman of the NYC/AIA Education Commission, and Architecture Deans John Hejduk (Cooper Union), R. Dean Meredith (Pratt Institute), James Stewart Polshek (Columbia University) and Bernard Spring (CUNY).

These grants bring the grand total of scholarship funds raised and disbursed by the Auxiliary to well over \$120,000 since 1958.

Eight New York State Architects Elected to AIA College of Fellows

Eight New York State Architects have been elected members of the College of Fellows of The American Institute of Architects. They are Henry N. Cobb, William J. Conklin, David L. Eggers, Abraham W. Geller, Eason H. Leonard, and John L. Wilson, all of New York City; Carl F.W. Kaelber Jr. of Rochester, and Darrel D. Rippeteau of Watertown.

Apart from the Gold Medal, which may be presented each year to one architect from any part of the world, Fellowship is the highest honor the Institute can award to its members.

Investiture of the 79 newly elected fellows took place May 8 in Houston at the Institute's annual convention.

Women's Advocate Group Formed

On May 4th a new group, Alliance of Women in Architecture, held its first open meeting. It was called by Judith Edelman, a NYC/AIA Director, and seven others who had been meeting informally for several months discussing work-related issues facing women in the profession. They felt there was an urgent need for such a group and asked all those interested to join in creating an alliance of not only architects but women in related professions. The response was enthusiastic and represented a wide range of attitudes, interests and work experience. Not surprisingly, the prevailing feeling was that women in architecture continue to be subjected to extremely discriminatory treatment.

At the next meeting, planned for May 24th, workshops will be organized to begin to tackle the problems that generated the most interest at the first meeting.

- The role of women in architecture, including an historical review, the husband-wife and career-family dualisms, sexist advertising in professionals literature.
- Women architects and educational institutions: counselling programs for Jr. High, and University students, and sexist structures in universities.
- The architectural profession: its potential change; serious part-time work, an all-women office, expansion into the construction trades.
- Discrimination in the profession: employment and legal action, client discrimination (governmental and private), salary survey.

They anticipate scheduling:

The consciousness-raising workshops
The newsletter
The job resource center
The technical information pool

Chapter Issues Electric Heat Statement

The NYC/AIA has issued a statement opposing use of electric heat in public housing projects. Citing the problems of pollution, diminishing fossil fuel reserves and recurring power crises the statement urged that systems be selected that use the least energy and add as little as possible to the environmental pollution of the New York area.

Prepared by the Natural Environment Committee, the statement explained the basic inefficiency of electrical heating systems. It warned that the apparent savings in cost can be deceiving even when special initial power rates are offered.

The statement sympathized with agencies that operate with limited funds and are under pressure to provide more housing.

It noted however that the ultimate cost of the impact on the environment would be far greater than any apparent immediate savings.

Milton Musicus, NYC Municipal Services Administrator was commended for his stand taken against use of electrical heat in public housing while the State UDC was urged to change their current decisions on its use.

JD

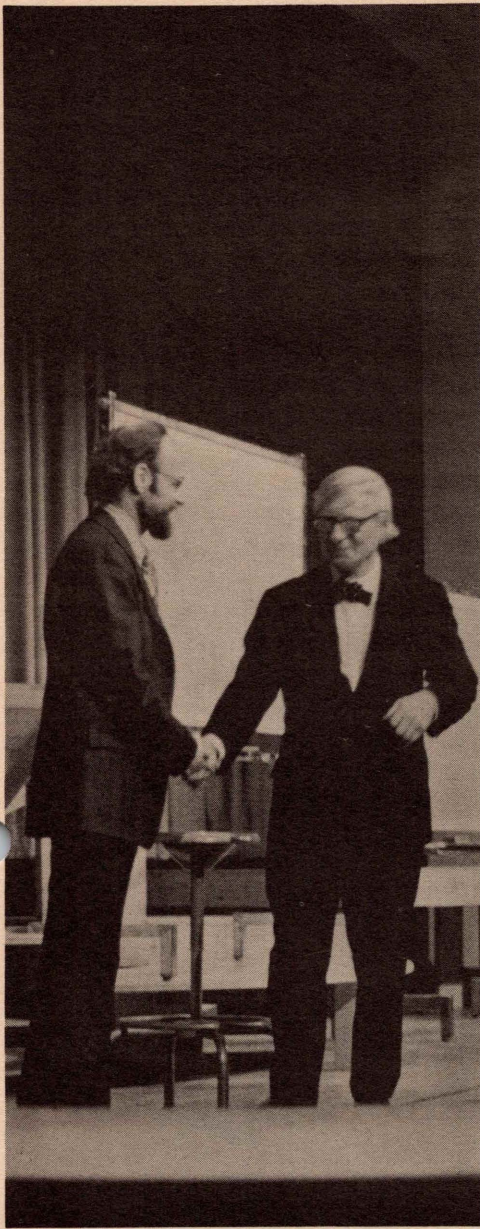
Energy Exhibit Brochure Released

The Natural Environment Committee has completed a brochure describing their planned October exhibit. The twenty page book entitled **Energy Conservation Through Architecture: A Proposal for a Portable Exhibit**, describes in text and drawings, the theme of the show, the methods of presentation and the financing and budget projections. Also included are layouts of the Owens/Corning Fiberglas Center where the exhibits will be mounted first and a statement prepared by Richard Stein based on a paper written for the AAAS Convention in 1971 entitled **Architecture and Energy**.

The booklet will be used as an aid in raising the \$60,000 the Committee estimates will be necessary to design, fabricate, administer and publicize the exhibit. It is hoped that the money can be secured from a few large contributors from building material producers and foundations interested in the natural environment.

The theme of the exhibit will be to indicate the degree to which energy is committed to buildings, to show how it can be reduced and to describe the benefits of a reduced energy expenditure. A big point will be the relationship between energy use and pollution. Examples will be shown of how energy consumption can be reduced by modifying building component performance standards and by changes in the "built-in standards" of treating lighting and air conditioning.

JD



Jerry Maltz, Chairman of the Student Affairs Committee, congratulating Louis Kahn after his talk to more than 400 architectural students May 4th at the Fashion Institute of Technology.

AIA Houston Convention: Competitive Bidding National Policy Report

Houston, scattered amazingly in clumps over 450 square miles, was the scene of high-level debate in the AIA Convention business sessions.

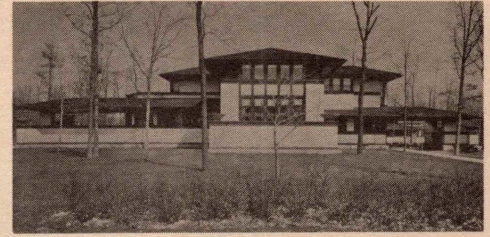
Most controversial was the question prompted by the Justice Department's demand that the Standards of Ethical Practice permit submission of price quotations for architectural services. The AIA Board by 22-4 had tentatively agreed to accept a consent decree which, while acceding to this, would permit the Institute (a) to campaign actively for national legislation—such as the Brooks Bill—prohibiting competitive bidding; (b) to actively seek state registration legislation to the same effect; (c) to advocate that the procurement of architectural services must involve other factors besides fees. Opponents of accepting this consent decree, including President Urbahn and all New York Chapter delegates attending a caucus, argued that the AIA should fight the Justice Department in the courts at whatever cost to establish that the Sherman Anti-Trust Act does not apply to professionals. The floor vote was almost 2-1 in favor of accepting the consent decree. Quickly, however, an assessment of \$10 per member was passed to provide funds for seeking legislation requiring that contracts for design services be awarded solely on the basis of professionals qualifications.

The Report of the National Policy Task Force was overwhelmingly approved after an excellent presentation.

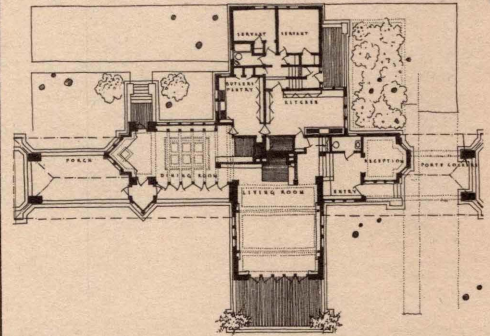
The AIA Board was increased in number to permit proportional representation. The New York Region will have three directors instead of the present one.

The Convention was well run, and the Marketplace of New Ideas was particularly effective. Here 88 different subjects were discussed in small groups. Chapter members on panels included Fritz Frost, Harry Cobb, Michael Maas, I.M. Pei, Jaque Robertson, Der Scutt, Richard Stein and David Todd.
GL

Met to Get Wright



Two Chapter members were instrumental in the Metropolitan Museum of Art's purchase of the Frank Lloyd Wright, Francis W. Little House; the living room of which will be placed in the new American Wing. Edgar Tafel, formerly a Taliesin apprentice, brought to the Museum the possibility and mechanics of the purchase. Arthur Rosenblatt, Vice Director for Architecture & Planning at the Metropolitan carried forth the negotiations with his colleagues. Their combined efforts will enhance the local architectural scene forever.



PSAE Masterspec Available for Inspection

Chapter President Frederick Frost, Jr. reports that the NYC/AIA is a subscriber and will maintain at the Chapter office, for the inspection of its members, a complete and up to date set of PSAE Masterspec documents. PSAE Masterspec is the automated master specifications system developed by Production Systems for Architects and Engineers, Inc., a separate non-profit corporation sponsored and initially funded by the American Institute of Architects in April 1969.

PSAE Masterspec has been endorsed by the American Institute of Architects, the Construction Specifications Institute, the Consulting Engineers Council of the United States, the National Society of Professional Engineers and the New Jersey Housing Finance Agency. It is the only computerized system receiving the support of professional societies.

According to Bill Duffy CSI of Frost Associates, as he reported in the May 1972 issue of **The Perspective**, newsletter of the New Jersey Chapter, CSI, the cost of the system for his firm, in spite of rising costs, has been reduced by \$55. In addition, growth of the system has been steadily upward with 611 subscriptions as of April 28th. The number of sections total 209 with 177 Narrowscope and 32 Broad-scope. "With the help of the many endorsing engineering societies, sections in Divisions 15 and 16, Mechanical and Electrical will soon appear." Yearly subscriptions to Masterspec, whose cost averages about \$350, includes: a complete current copy of the Masterspec Reference Catalogue including specifications sections, table of contents, associated instructions and drawing coordination notes; a copy of the Masterspec user manual; a copy of every additional section issued or updated during the subscription year. For an additional charge an Edit Copy Service and Data Processing Service is available

for use by the subscriber.

As reported in the March 1972 **Oculus**, to date most specifications systems have been oriented to the selling of hardware and software for use with an existing system and not with the development of the specifications system itself. PSAE is concerned with the specification content rather than just automation. Its goals include: the service of all offices, large and small; cost control through the reduction of errors and omissions by means of standardization; avoidance of excessive promotional cost which is reflected in the cost to the user by utilizing the profession itself to do the promotion; the reduction of unit cost to the architect through a high volume of users across the country; entrance of the architect into the realm of automation and the definition of standards of practice in production areas.

In addition, a study of cost savings with Masterspec notes that a 50% reduction of technical labor for specifications and related work, independent of whether automated data processing or manual typing was used, can be expected once familiarity with the system is achieved.

Further, the limits of Masterspec's potential have only begun to be explored. Once a system of integrated operations is possible, a decision in one area will be automatically accounted for in all other related sections. The system could be used as an aid in estimating construction costs, detail implementation procedures and routine schedules (hardware, finish, etc.). All can be developed as Masterspec's use increases. This is dependent upon the acceptance and use of Masterspec by the professions.

Further information about PSAE Masterspec can be obtained from the Chapter office where, in addition to its being available for inspection, it is

possible for Chapter members to purchase a subscription, or from Production Systems for Architects and Engineers, Inc., 1785 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

JDK

Controlled Inspection to be Discussed

The N.Y. Society of Consulting Engineers, the N.Y. Society of Architects and the NYC/AIA will be jointly sponsoring a seminar to discuss controlled inspections which the profession will be asked to perform under the new Building Code of the City of New York, reports Chapter President Frederick Frost, Jr. The seminar is scheduled for June 8th from 3 PM to 5 PM and will be held at the Building Trades Employers Association, 711 Third Avenue. Representing the Department of Buildings to present information to the professions about controlled inspections will be Commissioner Joseph Stein PE, Mr. Irving Minkin PE, Executive Engineer and Mr. Philip Olin PE, Assistant Director of Operations.

Responding to what appears to be a general lack of education of what is required, a review of the code's requirements with respect to controlled inspection will be presented. This will be followed by a question and answer period as well as provide an opportunity to the professions to offer suggestions for improving performance.

Controlled inspection has implications regarding professional responsibility and fees, etc.; it raises questions concerning responsibility for reimbursing the architect for his inspection by the contractor and/or the client. It is hoped that much of this information will be discussed at the seminar.

JDK

Executive Committee Actions

May 3, 1972

- Resolved to recommend to the membership that the Chapter dues be increased.
- Resolved to join the Municipal Arts Society in filing an *Amicus Curiae* brief in support of the City in the suit being brought against it by the Penn Central Railroad over the right to build an office building at the Grand Central site (either over Grand Central or by replacing its exterior but retaining the Concourse. The Chapter opposed both of these proposals at the Landmarks Commission hearing three years ago.) See article this issue.
- Approved recommendations of the Awards Committee.
- Resolved to support the Joint Committee for the Repeal of the Multiple Contract (Wickes) Laws.
- Resolved to oppose the proposed amendment to the Zoning Resolution which would permit increased density on certain East Side of Manhattan lots from R-10 into R-8 districts.
- Planned to investigate the merits of the proposed Manhattan Landing project in Lower Manhattan.
- Supported a statement prepared by Richard Stein which opposed the use of electric heat on Welfare Island and elsewhere.
- Decided not to apply to rejoin the Architects' Council at this time.

Candidates for Membership

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

Corporate

Henry Altcheck
Peter Claman
Nancy Elizabeth Groves
Joseph A. Mandelkern
William R. Maurer
Kenneth Henry Walker
Ferdinand L. Wyckoff

Associate

Oscar R. Pavesi

Welcome To New Members

The NYC/AIA welcomes the following members:

Corporate

Robert A. M. Stern
James P. D'Auria
George Early
Charles T. Egli
Henry Kibel
Eugene Van Sharpe
Frederic J. Tresnak
Barry Benepe
Frances Halsband
Irwin J. Feifer
Paul R. Scheive, Sr.

Professional Associate

Margaret B. Gruger

Associate

Zdenek G. Homolac
Wing K. Kwok
Anna M. W. Swezey

Glasser Appointed Columbia's Associate Dean

James Stewart Polshek, Dean of Columbia's School of Architecture, has announced the appointment of David Evan Glasser as the new Associate Dean.

David Glasser is Chairman of the NYC/AIA Public Service Fund Committee committed to the five year goal of raising \$300,000 from the construction industry to support minority scholarships.

New York Chapter
The American Institute of Architects
20 West 40th Street
New York, New York 10018
212 565-1866
George S. Lewis, Executive Director

Executive Committee
Frederick G. Frost, Jr., FAIA, President
James S. Polshek, 1st Vice-Pres.
Robert F. Gatlje, 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
