

## Major Chapter Exhibit Opens April 3



"The Architect and the Energy Crisis: Architecture as an Energy User" is the title of a public-oriented exhibit which can be seen at the Owens-Corning Fiberglas Exhibition Center, 56th St. and Fifth Avenue, April 3 through 27. It was organized by the Natural Environment Committee and designed by Arnold Saks, the Chapter's graphics consultant, who designed "the Rise of an American Architecture" at the Metropolitan Museum Centennial.

Recognizing the probability that the energy crisis will continue and deepen over the next 2 to 3 decades, the exhibit shows how the demand for energy can be significantly reduced by alternative architectural

decisions. Among the possibilities that exist for significant reductions in energy requirements, it points to lighting, ventilation, solar control that keeps heat out when cooling is required and takes advantage of heat gain for water and space heating, selection of materials according to energy intensiveness, efficiency in heating and cooling equipment, use of natural ventilation and light, building orientation and other possibilities.

Related to the exhibit will be several meetings and symposia to look into different aspects of the energy problem. The Chapter will hold an open symposium on Architecture and Energy on April 25. Prior to this, a

joint invitation meeting with Scenic Hudson Preservation Committee as co-sponsor, will be held on April 10 and another symposium for invited participants will be held jointly with Con Edison on the 13th.

The exhibit was made possible by support of Carrier Air Conditioning Company, Con Edison, The General Services Administration, the J.M. Kaplan Fund, Mobil Oil Corp., the AIA Research Corp., and an anonymous contributor. It consists of 77 interlocked 4x8 panels showing large photographs, diagrams and text.

The exhibit is demountable and is expected to travel nationally.



## News From The State

- Tom Galvin as President of the NYSAA/AIA has appointed a lawyer Martin Schaum to be its legislative consultant. When Schaum was presented to the Board of Directors at their March 6th Meeting in Albany he told them quietly but bluntly that architects are known in Albany as the "statute of limitations" group. He said that unless the profession gets involved with all environmental issues and wins friends and respect by supporting other organization's bills it will never pass bills of purely self-interest. Chapter member Michael Maas is chairman of the Association's Political Affairs Committee and will work closely with Schaum.

- The Board of Regents is expected to approve a modified NCARB examination procedure to begin in June. A State Board of Examiners of Architects proposal will allow candidates two choices: take the regular 7 part exam (for the last time) or take the two day qualifying exam in June and the professional exam in January. Unlike the NCARB proposal, the New York plan would not exempt candidates from waiving the qualifying exam on the basis of education.

- Chapter member Laurie Maurer is the first woman to have been appointed to the State Board of Examiners of Architects.

- Two Chapter members were among six winners in the unique NYSAA sponsored Utica housing for the elderly competition. Henry Korman and Cluade Sampton won second prize and Henry Liu won an honorable mention.

- The City was considering competitive bidding among architects for the design of stations for the new Second Avenue subway, but Tom Galvin enlisted the aid of George Dudley, Chairman of the N.Y. State Council on Architecture, who did not slay the dragon we all love but at least used a little Mace and got the idea stopped.

KK

### Charter Revision: Chapter Involvement

The State Charter Revision Commission, Senator Roy Goodman, Chairman, has been developing its report under pressure, and the Chapter has been submitting ideas and recommendations developed by two committees.

A paper entitled "Architects' Difficulties as Consultants to the City," prepared by a committee of which Robert Gatje was chairman, was delivered to the Commission on January 26. It expressed an opinion that "architects and engineers have experienced great difficulty over an extended period of time in achieving a professional climate whereby their firms can undertake commissions for the City without the burden of onerous contractual provisions and fear of financial loss," and that apparently remedies do not exist except through Charter Revision.

The paper dealt with (1) contractual payments and the role of the comptroller; (2) the absence of a provision for arbitration in City contracts; (3) the use of in-house staffs by constructing agencies plus the Bureau of the Budget and the Office of the Comptroller; and (4) the multitude of construction agencies.

A second committee has been formed with Jordan Gruzen as chairman to review the planning process in the City. Members have met with Planning Commission staff, with Chairman Zuccotti, and with consultants to the State Charter Commission. No Chapter statement has been developed, but an informal paper was sent to the Commission on March 9; this dealt with problems more than answers. In this paper, and in the various meetings, the discussion ranged over the central role of the Planning Commission (which has been under attack by certain borough presidents and others), the role of the Art Commission, the Board of Estimate as having the final power of approval, and particularly the community planning boards—whether they are sufficiently representative and well informed, and whether they should be given more power.

At this writing discussion with Charter Revision Commission staff and consultants are continuing. They appear to value the Chapter's interest.

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## **Darrel Rippeteau Nominated For Institute Vice President**



Darrel Rippeteau

Darrel Rippeteau of Watertown, N.Y., who is in his final year as a director of the Institute, the sole member of the Institute Board from the New York Region until the recent increase in representation to three, appeared before the Executive Committee on February 7 to discuss his candidacy for one of the three AIA vice presidencies. All members present signed a petition in his behalf. Tom Galvin and George Lewis, both of whom have been in frequent communication with Rippeteau on Chapter-Institute matters, spoke favorably of his understanding of Chapter activities and his thoroughness as a director.

## **Madison Mall**

A letter from Tom Galvin describing the proposed Mall as "a bold idea, worthy of New York," appeared in the Times on March 17. The 3-month trial scheduled to begin July 1 is currently threatened by a court decision.

"Those who advocate a continued total surrender to the automobile should not be allowed to push this experiment off Madison Avenue," the letter said, pointing out that there is no real way of knowing ahead of time what the effect will be on traffic without trying it. "When a section of avenue is closed—as happened when traffic was excluded from Washington Square—traffic will go elsewhere or people will travel by other means," it noted.

The letter affirmed that the trial would be no mere street closing, that the elements which will temporarily be in place—benches, bus stop platforms, kiosks, trees—have been expertly designed. It said that if the trial is a success and a permanent mall built, "the city will have a new attraction comparable to Rockefeller Center."

## **Chapter's Lobby Complete**

The renovation of the Chapter's Third Floor Lobby is almost complete.

This minimal project (in terms of budget) will provide the Chapter with a properly functioning office layout. The key element is a new reception desk to the left as you step off the elevators. This will guarantee that visitors will be greeted and directed correctly, and will serve as the sales desk for AIA forms and literature.

The new arrangement is absolutely necessary both for efficiency and also for Security with a capital "S".

Julian Neski is the architect for the refurbishing, which also includes necessary new carpeting, painting and electrical circuiting.

*DPH*

## **Pratt Seeking New Director For School Of Architecture**

Pratt Institute is seeking a new director for the School of Architecture. Any interested applicants should apply to the Search Committee, School of Architecture, Pratt Institute, 215 Ryerson Street, Brooklyn, New York.



## **That Wrecking Ball Is Nigh A Continuing Saga**

To help concerned citizens do some vital homework, Commissioner Harmon Goldstone will discuss the fragile dreams and realities, past, present and future, of his Landmarks Preservation Commission. The Historic Buildings Committee has invited him to appear at headquarters on April 25 at 5:30.

This should give all Chapter members sufficient time to rally forces in preparation for the June Landmarks Commission hearings.

These hearings will not occur again until 1977!

In a related area, the ever-watchful members of the Historic Buildings Committee have joined with 8 other organizations to form the "Ad Hoc Committee for the Designation of The SoHo Area as an Historic District."

Laboring admirably in spite of the lengthy title, this group is sponsoring a multi-media presentation by the SoHo Artist Association to help focus attention on the goal to save this unique area.

Meanwhile, the Historic Buildings Committee has continued its close association with the Municipal Art Society in an attempt to change the City Charter. Some of the frustrating red tape can be untangled if their proposals are incorporated into the NYC Building Code.

Somewhere in between these activities, Chairman Dennis Kuhn has also found time to represent the Chapter at the Board of Estimate. One such appearance contributed to the Board's decision to appropriate capital funds to purchase the 4 block historic South Street Seaport area, including the Schermerhorn Row Structures.

Another recent appearance was in support of the Landmarks Preservation Commission's request for an increase in operating expenses.

The Historic Buildings Committee is hopeful that this request will also be granted, noting once again the ultimate enrichment of every city resident and visitor.

LY

### *Editor's Note:*

*As Oculus was going to press, Commissioner Goldstone announced that this summer the SoHo District will be designated as an Historic Site. But complete victory is still not at hand since the actual boundrys have yet to be determined.*

## **Special Park Improvement District**

At the Board of Estimate hearing which considered York Avenue (see article this issue), the Chapter also supported a proposed change in zoning which would, in effect, do away with redundant plazas facing Central Park on upper 5th Avenue, and on Park Avenue. The Planning Commission's report to the Board included most of the detailed recommendations which had been submitted by the Chapter's Zoning Committee.

## **JUMP Progress Report**

The NYC Joint Urban Manpower Program (JUMP) will graduate its sixth class of on-the-job trainees at appropriate exercises on Thursday, April 19th.

Since last November, 21 young people have been employed under this program by local engineering and architectural firms, spending ½ day in OJT and the other in drafting classes at Delehanty Institute.

Now in its sixth year, the training program is a joint venture sponsored by 8 engineering and architectural societies of NYC funded by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, and coordinated by Vocational Foundation, Inc., a private non-profit agency serving disadvantaged youth.

The architectural firms currently participating in the program are: Curtis & Davis; Johnson-Hanchard, P.C.; Paul Rudolph; Beyer, Blinder, Belle; The Eggers Partnership; Gruz & Partners; Holden, Yang, Raemsch, Terjesen.

Graduation ceremonies will be at Downbeat Restaurant, beginning at 6 P.M. with cocktails and dinner. Ewell W. Finely, partner in the NYC consulting firm of Finley, and Madison Associates, will speak on "providing Support for Minority Contractors."

Guests are welcome. Call Jim Follansbee, PL 5-2000 or Veronica Anthony, 889-1550 to make reservations.

A new JUMP class is now in formation for the Spring. Employers interested in enrolling a trainee may request further information from Veronica Anthony.

AMT



## York Avenue Institutions: Access to the Waterfront

The Board of Estimate held a long and tumultuous hearing March 22 on the plan of the York Avenue Institutions—New York Hospital, Rockefeller University and others—to expand into air space over Franklin D. Roosevelt Drive. In the middle of it they went into a surprise, 90-minute executive session, and what emerged included an important modification which had been strongly urged by the Chapter.

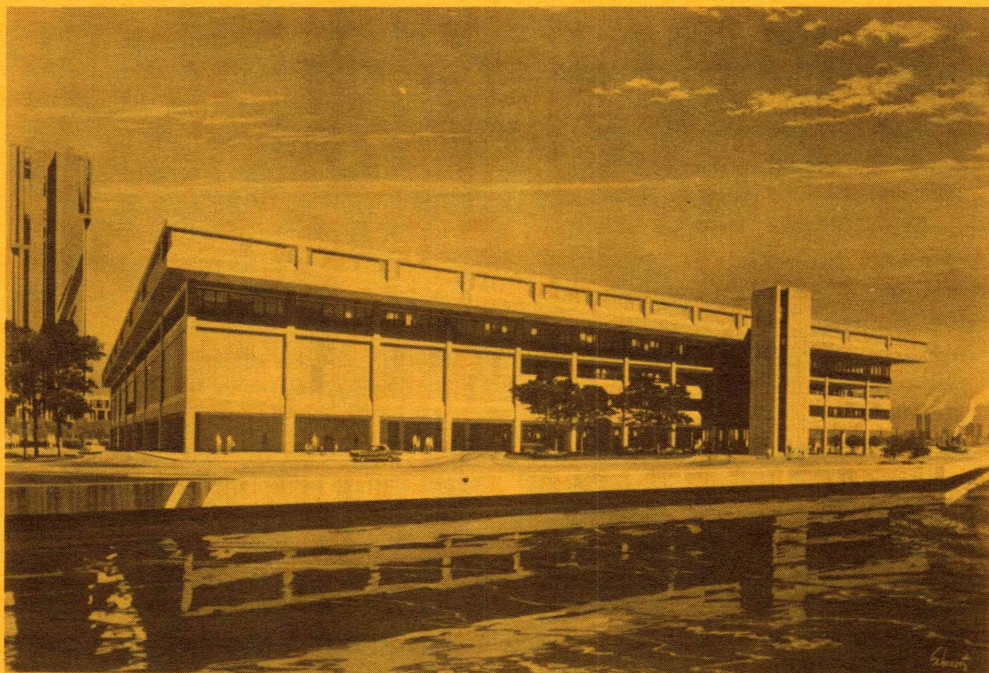
The institutions' plan includes a raised pedestrian walkway along the river. At the Planning Commission hearing in September the Chapter had expressed opposition to the over-all plan because this walkway could not be reached for a nearly half mile stretch between 63rd and 71st Streets. It recommended that the Commission require an additional access from York Avenue at 68th Street. The Commission's report to the Board did include such a recommendation, but it fell short of writing it into the draft agreement between institutions and the City.

The Chapter sent a statement to each member of the Board of Estimate reiterating its position prior to the hearing. Noting that the Planning Commission report said that a 68th Street access was possible, it urged the Board to recognize "that it should not be City policy to seal off long stretches of the waterfront."

Following the unexpected executive session during the hearing, it was announced that the institutions had agreed to include this additional, intermediate access. The Chapter then went on record in support of the institutions' expansion plans.

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## UN International School WAA Benefit Site May 23



The United Nations International School Designed by Harrison and Abramovitz. Site of the WAA's annual benefit May 23. Proceeds from the event will be used for architectural scholarships.

A tour and reception at the recently completed United Nations International School to benefit the WAA Scholarship Fund will be held on Wednesday, May 23 from 5 to 8 P.M. Located on 23rd Street and the East River Drive, adjacent to the Waterside complex, this occasion will be the public's first opportunity to tour the interiors of this unique institution.

Architects of the Building, Harrison & Abramovitz will be Honored Guests.

Proceeds from the event will be used for architectural scholarships for deserving young men and women who attend CCNY, Columbia University, Pratt Institute, and Cooper Union. This year a scholarship grant will also be given to the UNIS.

Invitations are being designed by Dean Marilyn Mikulsky of CUNY Graduate Center and mailed in April.

Tickets will be \$10 each. Donor tickets are \$25, Sponsors \$50, Patrons \$100 and Benefactors \$200 and up. All contributions are tax exempt. Mrs. Saul Edelbaum is Honorary Scholarship Chairman. Benefit Chairman is Mrs. Rolland D. Thompson, with Mrs. Alan Schwartzman and Mrs. Jan H. Pokorny as Co-Chairmen.

The gala reception will include wine, Hors D'Oeuvres and favors for all, courtesy Estee Lauder, Inc. A magnificent color film of "Leonardo: To Know How To See", narrated by Sir John Gielgud will also be shown.

The United Nations International School is built on a filled pier. Because of the unusual site, the design of the school makes full use of the river view.

Weather permitting, it is planned to serve refreshments during the benefit on the terrace overlooking the river. Please circle the date on your calendar now.



## Financing Of Construction Seminar

At the seminar of the Committee on the Financing of Construction on February 28th, Arthur C. Holden, FAIA, exhorted his brother architects to study the possibilities of long-term credit and low interest rates for socially essential forms of construction. Mr. Holden put forward the thesis that the capital-goods-producing building industry should not be solely dependent upon the savings pool to finance construction.

To maintain economic balance, the existing stock of money must be increased each year by an amount of credit which equitably measures the current increase in human production.

Since the true purpose of credit is to bridge the time gap between the cycles of production and consumption, the productive capacities of agriculture and the construction industry are the best possible indices for credit expansion. Yet because both agriculture and construction must by their nature contend with differing time cycles of production and consumption, too little attention has been paid to their potentiality as an index of credit expansion and contraction.

In this day of great technical competence, it is only the backwardness of economic thought that has forced both agriculture and construction to continue to bid in the money market at the so-called "going rates of interest" in order to be financed.

When amortization is used to create

a continuously revolving fund, long-term credit becomes as real a factor as short-term credit for the measurement of creative values.

In attempts to check speculation and other inflationary influences, the Federal Reserve Board raises the discount rate uniformly "all along the line". Though the purpose is to reduce the quantity of the circulating medium, the effect is to produce a more immediate check upon such industries as agriculture and construction than upon the speculation which the raising of the interest rate was intended to discourage.

Mr. Holden urged his fellow architects to study the theory of long-term credit and develop suggestions for the Congress that might require the Federal Reserve Board to place less reliance upon controls by mere arithmetical formula, as is the case with open market operations. Greater consideration should be given to the use of *qualitative* judgments respecting the maintenance of low-interest revolving credits in the fields where known social need exists.

For example, ways should be worked out for designation of preferential discount rates when need is evident for production of school, low-rent housing, etc. As a condition for the acceptance for discounting of loans at high rates of interest for general purposes, member banks might be required to hold in their portfolios a certain proportion of credit instruments for the financing of socially essential production, at merely nominal rates of interest.

Selective credits should have a balancing effect upon production, and in time obviate the clumsiness of resort to subsidies. The granting or withdrawal of tax supported subsidies seems to be our present means for dealing with inflation and other forms of economic maladjustment.

ACH/WBN

## Small Offices Get Voice In Chapter

A "Small Office Committee" has emerged, after the Residential Design Committee spent two years shifting its emphasis and broadening its scope of activity.

This shift reflects a concern with helping colleagues in small offices, according to James D. Morgan, Chairman of the "new" committee. A "small" office nominally includes a staff of ten.

The committee is setting up seminars concerned with accounting and legal aspects of small office practice and will repeat the highly successful seminar in public relations held last year.

It is also developing a short-form contract between Architect and Owner.

Mr. Morgan points out that the committee will continue its traditional service to the public—answering all questions received by the Chapter about small-scale residential work and supplying names of architects interested in small residential projects.

The annual Residential Design Awards will be continued.  
DPH



## Urban Planning Committee Optimism For Its Revitalization

There is one committee which appears simultaneously to be all things to all people, surely it is the Chapter's Urban Planning Committee. Its potential for importance is evidenced by the fact that at any time, it can count among its interested members over 40 names, some of whom wield considerable influence within the city's power pyramid.

Considering its long period of inactivity, punctuated only by a "merger" with the Regional Planning Committee, one might assume it had expired completely.

But it hasn't, and so one remains guardedly hopeful about its future.

Recently appointed Chairman Danforth W. Toan, was first confronted with the sorting of a multitude of disparate interests on the part of the members.

For while this multi-headed Hydra can conceivably go in every direction at once, it may just as easily go in none at all.

After narrowing the potential areas of membership interest to 5 or 6 issues, Toan affected the division of his huge committee into sub-groups, each with its own coordinators. These small groups are to fully explore their chosen areas and present pertinent aspects to the entire committee.

The sub-group concerned with long range major projects chose to begin with a study of the West Side Highway. In time for the February meeting, Henry Whitney was able to arrange for project representatives Walter Arensberg and Bruce McDonell to present an informal lecture on the subject. AIP members were also invited to attend and participate.

By March, the sub-group interested in the functioning of Community Planning Boards presented another facet of the Highway project. For a discussion at that meeting, Norbert Turkel invited the affected six Community Planning Board Chairmen along with their Committee Representatives.

This working relationship between the sub-groups indicates that the new structure of the Urban Planning Committee is apparently sound.

Precisely how this important committee will succeed in altering events and influencing AIA stands on complex urban issues will depend on the involvement and sustained interest of its many members.

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## Ethical Standards Discussed

The Ethics Committee of the Chapter is a body with no powers whatsoever except to be a source of first inquiry and discussion in the event that a member of the Chapter has a problem concerned with "the Standards of Ethical Practice" (AIA Document J330). In this role, I would guess that we meet half a dozen times a year to discuss actual complaints, and the Chairman answers questions informally by phone regularly.

It occurred to the Committee recently that fully 90% of our "business" revolves around two out of the twelve Ethical Standards—numbered 9 and 10 in the current edition revised December 8, 1972 (printed on brown paper, in case you want to check your own files).

We wonder just how familiar Chapter members may be with the wording of these Standards and hope that by printing them below by way of emphasis we might cut down on our case load:

### Standard 9

"An architect shall not attempt to obtain, offer to undertake or accept a commission for which he knows another legally qualified individual or firm has been selected or employed, until he has evidence that the latter's agreement has been terminated and he gives the latter written notice that he is so doing."

### Standard 10

"An architect shall recognize the contribution of others engaged in the design and construction of the physical environment and shall not knowingly make false statements about the professional work, or maliciously injure or attempt to injure the prospects, practice, or employment position of those so engaged."

Only the Institute can interpret these standards, and we are not about to do so. But we ask that you carefully note what must be in writing under Standard 9 as well as what need not. And we also suggest that any statement, particularly public, about the work of a fellow professional should be very carefully considered in the light of the wording of Standard 10.  
*Robert F. Gatje*  
*Chairman, Ethics Committee*  
*NYC/AIA*



## Executive Committee Actions

**March 7, 1973**

- Heard a report that the State Education Department Board of Commissioners to Architects will submit to the Board of Regents a recommendation that the section on unprofessional conduct be reworded to prohibit competitive bidding on the basis of fee.
- Heard that the New York State Association of Architects has appointed a lawyer, Martin Schaum, as Legislative Assistant; and that Michael Maas, Chairman of the Chapter's Building Industry Coordinating Committee, has been named Chairman of the NYSAA's new Political Affairs Committee. The Chapter's committee of the same name will work closely with it.
- Approved a recommendation by Treasurer James Baker that the Chapter's investment management be reorganized by appointing the Bank of New York as investment counsel and custodian of funds. These services had previously been furnished by separate organizations.
- Resolved to continue its support of the Municipal Art Society in its effort to obtain a court decision to overturn the Board of Standards and Appeals' February 1972 ruling in the so-called Rubin case (see February **Oculus**). An Appellate Division decision is now being appealed.
- Approved changing the name of the Residential Design Committee to Small Office Committee.

## Welcome To New Members

The NYC/AIA welcomes the following members:

### *Corporate*

Jay A. Almour

### *Associate*

John G. Trotta  
James M. Fitch

## Candidates For Membership

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

### *Corporate*

Donald Robert Blair  
Paul Procupe Chorney  
Stephen M. Feldman  
Martin Frauwirth  
Richard B. Vanderburg  
David Miles Ziskind

### *Associate*

Gregory Charles Gallina  
James Trunzo

## Computer Technology For Architects

An architect oriented course in computer technology will be given locally beginning in September according to preliminary arrangements reported by the Computers in Architecture Committee. A two-hour evening session each week for a period of ten-weeks is planned; a nominal tuition fee will be charged.

Following introductory work each student will be given the opportunity to develop a computer program for a specific problem, the computer time necessary to process it, and assistance in "de-bugging" the program.

Among the architectural applications for computers are estimating, scheduling, zoning analysis, graphics, space planning, and accounting.

Since total registration will be limited to 25 on a first come first serve basis, it is suggested that interested members call Committee Chairman Alan Goldsamt at 687-7870.

*WBN*

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George S. Lewis, Executive Director

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