

New Format for General Meeting Attracts Overflow Crowd

The January membership meeting was filled to overflowing at Chapter Headquarters on Jan. 16th. Scheduling as an evening event devoted entirely to Chapter business and matters of professional interest resulted in greater concentration on these matters than did the usual format of luncheon meeting with guest speaker. Suggestions for more frequent membership meetings of this type were received from the floor.

President Prentice, in his opening remarks, mentioned the passage early in January of the Zoning Resolution Amendments for the Madison Avenue Preservation District and the Special Transit Land Use District for the Second Avenue Subway, both endorsed by the Chapter (for details see Dec. '73 and Jan. '74 *Oculus*). He reported on the "grass roots" AIA meeting in Washington, noting the discussion of possible dues reapportionment, with more emphasis on offices and less on individual members.

Political contributions were also on the Washington agenda, with four possible courses of AIA action discussed: (1) an ethical ban on all political contributions, (2) an ethical limit, (3) a scale based upon the type of election, and (4) no limit but amounts to be filed with the AIA. Informal voting at Washington favored the no limit with filing proposal; a show of hands at the New York Chapter meeting endorsed the same scheme.

Rescindment of the Chapter's document "Methods of Compensation", and some of the background for this action, was also described by the President (see Jan. '74 *Oculus*). In the discussion that followed it was suggested that factual data, as opposed to specific or implied recommendation, might be published for the guidance of members. Such information could include man-hour data for various projects, along with surveys of the number of offices employing specific methods and rates of compensation. Discussion was terminated due to lack of time; with the high level of membership interest, however, inclusion of this subject in the agenda of future meetings appears certain.

The Treasurer's report indicated a general fund budget of \$177,838 for the 1973-74 fiscal year, reduced almost 5% from the previous year's budget. It reflects an anticipated decrease in the receipt of dues, particularly from sustaining firms.

Commission Chairmen reported on the activities of the various committees under their jurisdiction. Applause greeted Walter Rutes' versification — possibly iambic pentameter.

Nine nominations were made from the floor for the five-member Committee on Nominations: Thomas F. Galvin, Nesbitt A. Garmendia, Anna M. Halpin, Arthur C. Holden, Rosaria Piomelli, Alan Schwartzman, Daniel Schwartzman, Richard Stein and

Sarelle Weisberg. Three additional nominations were subsequently made by the Executive Committee: N. Jerry Maltz, Robert A.M. Stern and Norval White.

Associate membership requirements were modified by passage of a by-law change. Chapter affiliation by architectural journalists, historians, and others not qualified for corporate membership will now be facilitated.

The New York Bicentennial Corporation and its activities were described by Richard Dempsey. The Corporation was established by the City Council to plan activities for New York City's commemoration of American Independence. Among the projects now under way are the South Street Seaport Museum, the American Bicentennial Wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the restoration of the village of Richmondtown on Staten Island, and the "Showboat", of which Richard Dempsey is project director — a children's theatre workshop, which will be moved from landing to landing along the waterfront in the various boroughs. The Corporation anticipates that projects will be funded by various government agencies; the National Endowment for the Arts, for example, has made a grant for the "Showboat" project.

Since time was running out the scheduled discussion of the depressed economic situation was deferred for a later meeting, probably in February.

WBN

Executive Committee Actions

January 9, 1974

- Appointed a Resolutions Committee to recommend resolutions to be forwarded for consideration at the AIA convention in May: Samuel Brody, Herbert Oppenheimer, Kurt Karmin, Anna Halpin, Ralph Steinglass and Danforth Toan.
- Discussed plans for the forthcoming meetings with new City officials, these to be arranged through the Public Agencies Committee and the Political Affairs Committee.

NYC/AIA Foundations Actions

- Allocated \$22,000 in financial assistance to 44 minority students in New York architectural schools (see article below).

Financial Assistance to Minority Students

Forty-four minority students in New York architectural schools are receiving \$500 each in Chapter grants for the 1973-74 school year. This \$22,000 is made possible by the special assessment of members; (an article in the December *Oculus* describes the program in detail).

The Scholarship Committee, James Doman, Chairman, includes representatives of the schools' faculties and students. Sixty-three applications were reviewed and the committee selected 13 students from City College, 9 from Columbia, 5 from Cooper Union, and 17 from Pratt.

Welcome to New Members

The NYC/AIA welcomes the following members:

Corporate

Henry H. Brennan
James A. Cannilla
Jan Joseph Kalas
Mauro Eric Mujica
Peter H. Semrad
Brian Edward Smith

Associate

Robert Lenz

Candidates for Membership

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

Corporate

Michael S. Bissell
Michael Lee Pribyl
Frank Anthony Czop
Albert R. Grossman
Kenneth L. Irving
Ronald James McDonald
Gaetano F. Pagnotta
Paul Segal
Terrance R. Williams

Associate

John Arhangelsky
Anthony L.M. Mandolfo
Narasinha K. Shenai
Angelo Zarkadis

Women In Architecture

A month long exhibit of work by women will open on April 30 at Chapter headquarters. The diversity of their work will be highlighted as will the types of positions women hold—whether principals, or draftsmen, or interior designers. The degree of responsibility and the position of each woman in the structure of her firm will be noted on each project shown.

The exhibit is open to all women Chapter members and employees of member firms. Specific information about the showing will be mailed to the membership along with February's AIA calendar. Submissions are due by April 15 and women interested in exhibiting should send inquiries to Rosaria Piomelli c/o NYC/AIA, 20 West 40th Street, New York, N.Y. 10018.

Exhibit space for women will also be available at the State Convention to be held in New York City in October. *MES*

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
T. M. Prentice, Jr., President
Herbert B. Oppenheimer, 1st Vice President
Samuel M. Brody, Vice President
Alexander Kouzmanoff, Vice President
Kurt Karmin, Secretary
James B. Baker, Treasurer
Louis P. Giacalone, Director
Anna M. Halpin, Director
J. Arvid Klein, Director
Bernard Rothzeit, Director
Walter A. Rutes, Director
LeRoy E. Tuckett, Director

Oculus Committee
David Paul Helpern, Editor and Chairman
Bonnell Irvine
Norman F. Jacklin
Carl Meinhardt
William B. North
Martin Pitt
Daniel V. Rodriguez
Margaret Esme Simon
Linda Yang

The Employment Agency Story

If you are looking for a good draftsman or a good job your first call might well be our Chapter Headquarters. The second call could be to the New York State Professional Placement Center, Progressive Architecture's Job Mart ads include four reputable agencies in Manhattan. All four have become a welcome part of our professional scene. Here's the story.

The Chapter: We have some 250 resumes on hand. About 25% of them are from members of the Chapter. The majority are from experienced personnel, recent graduates, and students who are seeking part-time or summer work. Placements are pretty much limited to New York City.

If interested, a telephone call every week or so is helpful. Our Martha Pope would be glad to receive additional resumes and to put them on file, and to hear from firms to learn their requirements. Ms. Pope would be happy to forward a selected group of resumes; or, if you would prefer, you may review the files at the Chapter and be provided with copies of selected resumes.

Ms. Pope keeps everything up to date and your help in this task would be most appreciated. If you have just obtained a position, or if your firm has just retained an individual through the Chapter's service, please inform Ms. Pope.

The Professional Placement Center New York State Employment Service: To quote — "A public service without charge to anyone".

The Chapter endorses this bureau which is geared to service New York City needs particularly. Extensive resumes and card files are well maintained and include candidates up to the \$30,000 level. Professional coverage is broad and includes architects, engineers, interior designers, graphic artists and draftsmen.

The Center is prepared to offer guidance as to City, state or federal appointments. We are most fortunate to have Mrs. Lynn Wallach handling architectural and interior design placements.

The Private Agency: A typical agency file might have about 500 active and perhaps 2,000 inactive dossiers. Something like 30 placements per month could be the current turnover and salaries would mostly range from \$8,000 to \$22,000. The fee is almost always borne by the employer, and the minimum charge is 5% of the annual salary.

A couple of the agencies report that 50% to 75% of their action is now out of town. At the moment this demand is strongest from Dallas, Atlanta and Florida.

You may wish to be in touch with Ruth Hirsch, Career Builders; Bill Shepard, Edwards and Shepard; Helen Hutchins, Helen Hutchins Personnel; or Woody Gibson, Rita Sue Siegel Agency.
BI

Joseph Roberto Selected For Peter Detmold Award

The second annual Peter Detmold Award established by Manhattan's Community Board #6 has been presented to Joseph Roberto for "lending his talents unselfishly to neighborhood improvements and to the enhancement of the quality of life in Board #6's area".

Particular mention was made of Mr. Roberto's work with neighborhood associations to develop better plans for parks, and of his effective leadership in the successful struggle to save the Epiphany Library.

... Double The Fun

February 26th will be an evening of two important events. The Chapter's Residential Design Awards will be presented at the Annual Membership Reception, from 5 to 7 P.M. at Chapter Headquarters. New and prospective members will be treated to a montage of good design and good talk. In addition to the presentation, Chapter Officers will be available to discuss the activities of the Institute informally with the guests.

As before, there is a special effort being made to inform prospective members of the event. As Oculus goes to press, a list is being prepared of people who might be interested in joining the Chapter, and the membership is urged to submit additional names to Headquarters.

The Reception comes hot on the heels of the Chapter vote to rescind the words "architecturally trained" from the requirement for Chapter association. This will open up the opportunity for Associate Membership to non-architects "engaged in architectural education, journalism or research". The Chapter hopes to dispel the idea that the A.I.A. is a coterie of employers. Associate Membership of non-licensed architects and technical employees is also being actively sought. It is hoped that this liberalized policy will be adopted nationally.
MES

Residential Design Awards

The winners of the 1973 NYC/AIA Residential Design Awards Program were selected on January 15 at Chapter Headquarters and will be announced in the New York Times issue of February 24, 1974 in a review by Norma Skurka, New York Times Reporter and a member of last year's design awards jury.

From among 75 submissions two Citations and three Mentions were the scant awards designated by jurors Judith Edelman, Barclay Gordon and Robert Stern. James D. Morgan served as Chairman and advisor to the jury.

In the juror's own words they found "much that was competent but little that was innovative".

The awards are as follows:

Citations to Gwathmey/Siegel for the Tolan Residence, Amagansett, N.Y.; and Maurer and Maurer for renovations to the Handler Residence, Manhattan.

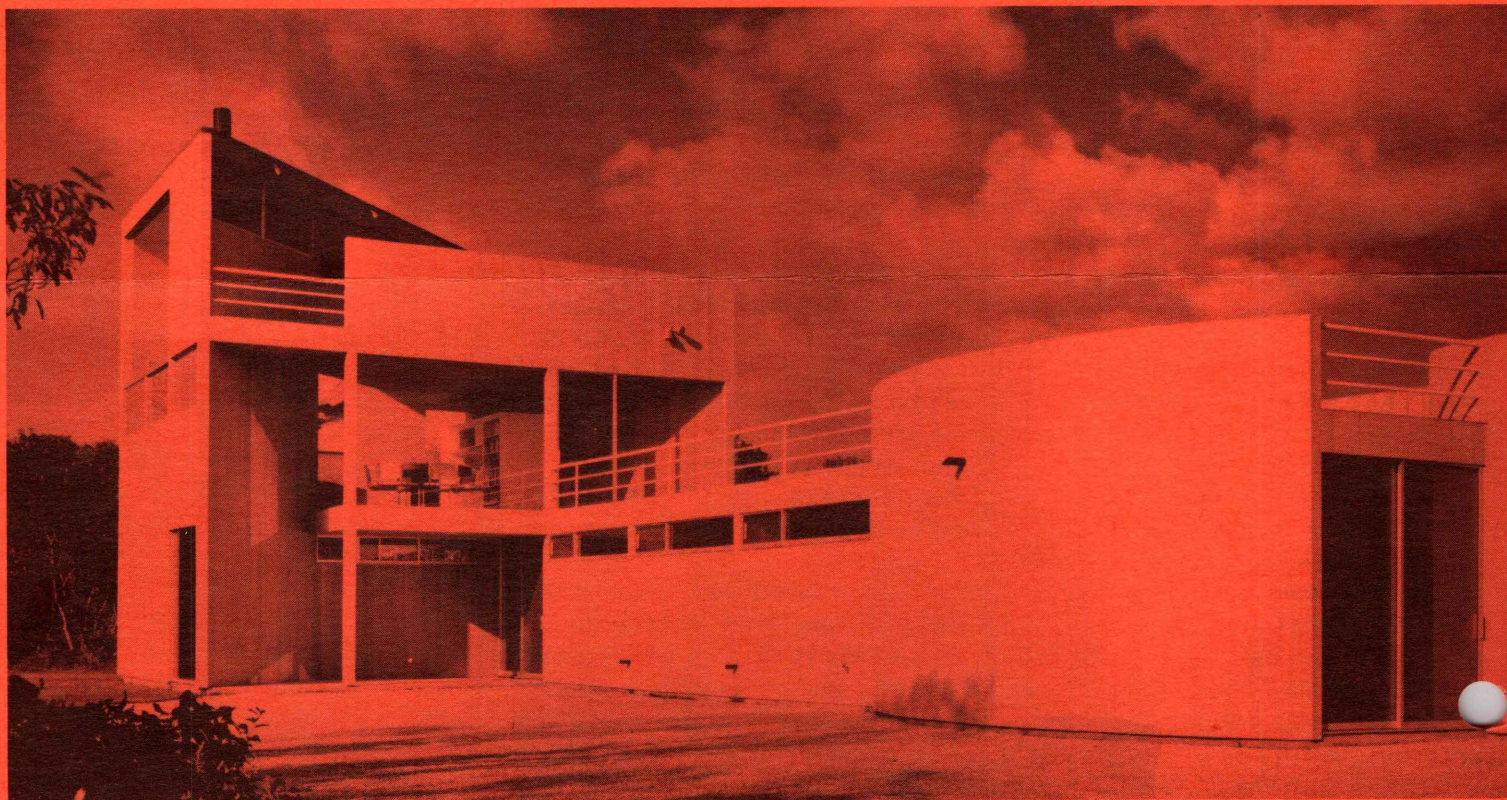
Mentions to Stanley Abercrombie and Paul Vieyra for the Abercrombie House in Southold, N.Y.; Peter Eisenman for the Frank Residence, Cornwall, Conn.; and T. Merrill Prentice, Jr. of Prentice & Chan, Ohlhausen for the Bar Seven Ranch Condominium, Ennis, Montana. All are built or under construction except for the Montana project.

Most entries were single family dwellings, usually vacation houses located on eastern Long Island. The Jury felt that very few of the projects submitted had strong and appropriate architectural concepts that remained clear when the building was finally executed. According to the jury, the individual house designs seemed to dominate rather than blend with their environment and were invariably based upon the early work of Le Corbusier or most American farm buildings, two sources that architects have been relying on for the past ten years. One juror noted an obsession with acute angles that seemed present in both schools.

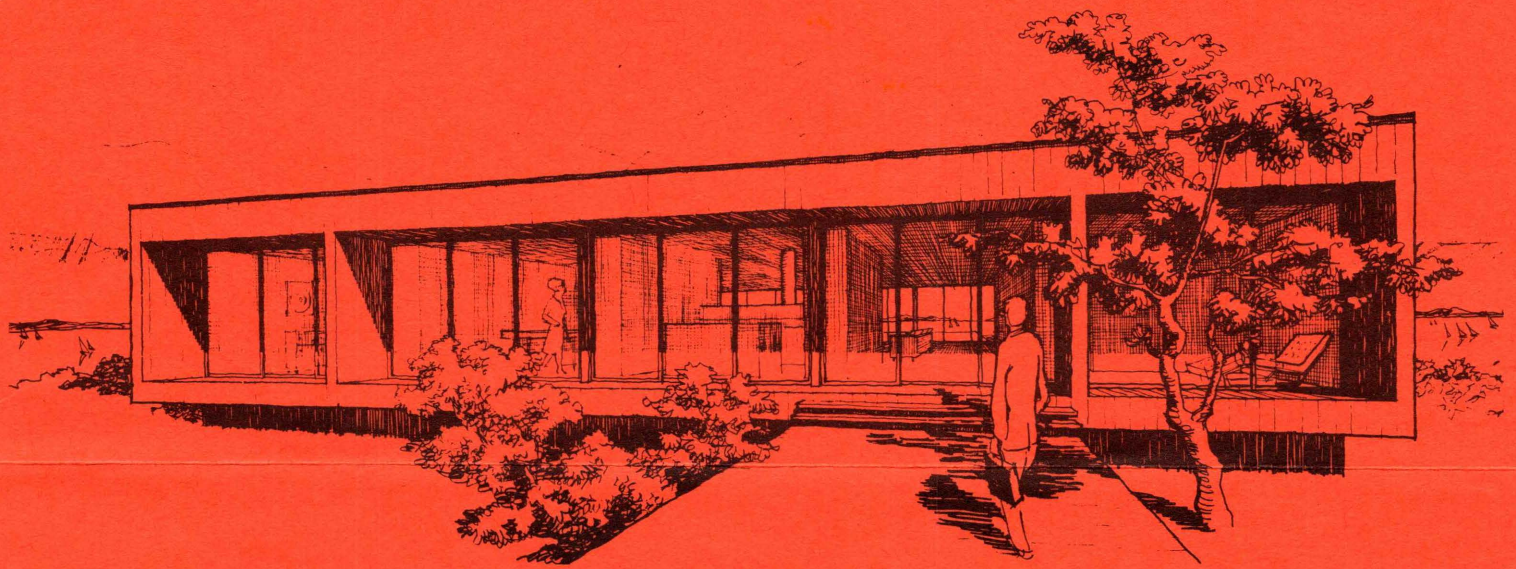
Except for the Montana project which innovative relationship, in Barclay Gordon's words, "to both its site and to selective images of the past", was recognized, the half dozen high density housing complex submissions were dismissed as too mundane in execution for an award, though the ideas behind some of the multi-family housing were good.

Finally, the jury commented on the presentation themselves. "The Majority of the unbuilt projects were presented in such vague terms that it was impossible to understand what the completed buildings would be like. On the other hand, most of the clear and comprehensive presentations of completed buildings only emphasized the banality of the design approach".

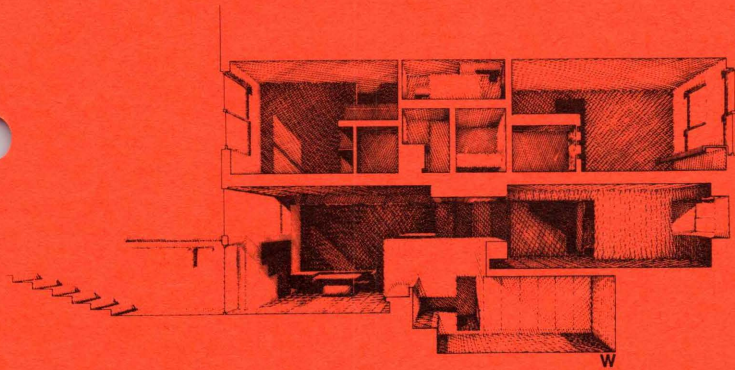
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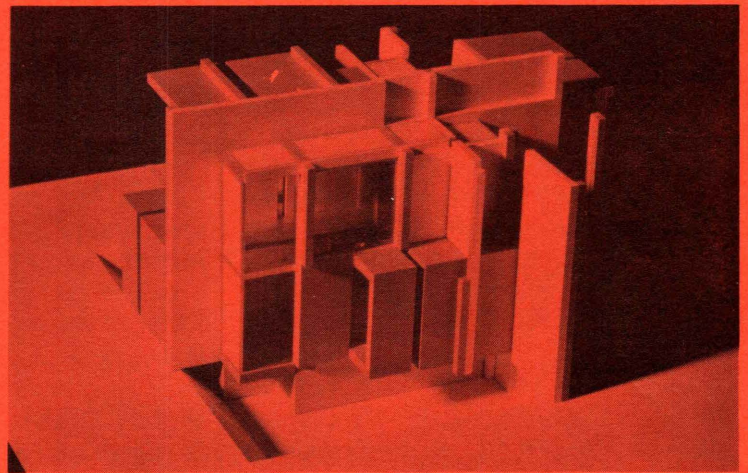
Tolan Residence, Gwathmey/Siegel, Architects; photograph by Bill Maris.



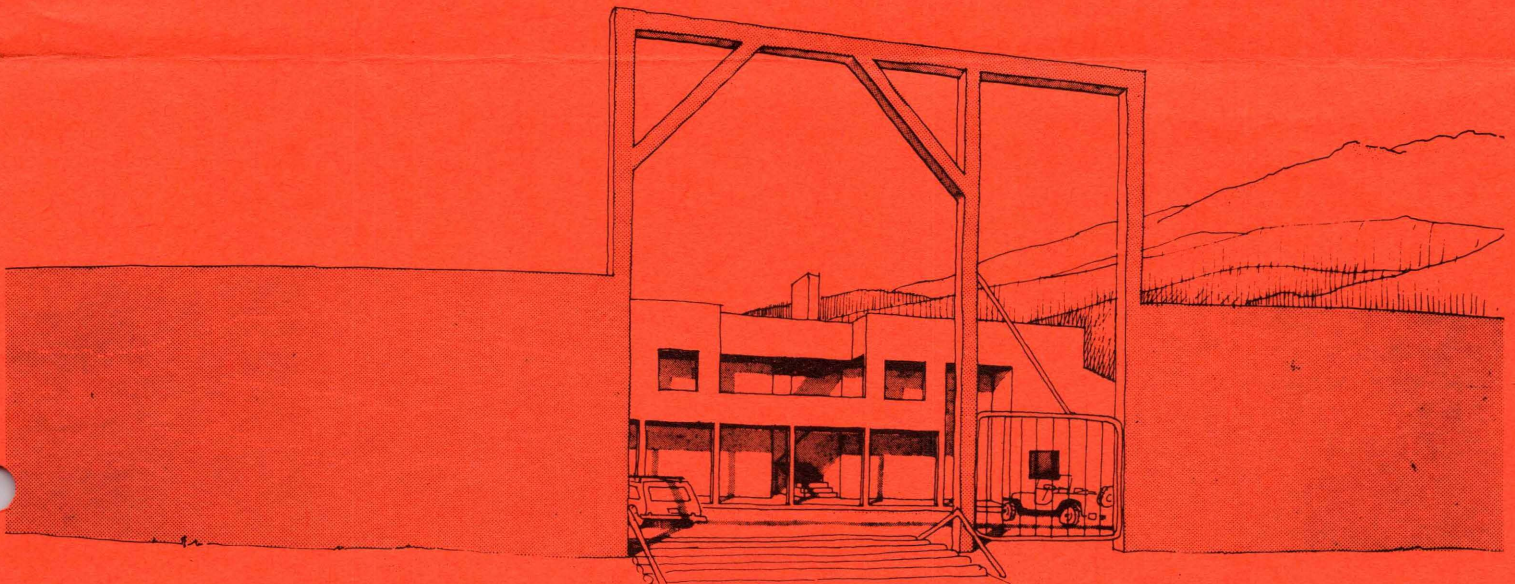
House in Southold, N.Y., Stanley Abercrombie and Paul Vieyra, Architects.



Handler Residence, New York, N.Y., Maurer and Maurer, Architects.



Frank Residence, Cornwall, Conn., Peter D. Eisenman, Architect.



Bar Seven Ranch Condominium, Ennis, Montana, Prentice & Chan, Ohlhausen, Architects, T.M. Prentice, Jr., Partner in Charge.

Health Facilities Resource Center In Need Of Support

The Health Facilities Resource Center (HFRC) was established in March, 1973 under the joint endorsement of the Chapter's Hospitals and Health Committee and the Health and Hospitals Planning Council of Southern New York (HHPCSNY). Located in space provided by HHPCSNY at their headquarters at 3 East 54th Street, HFRC provides access to published materials on health facility planning design.

During the first nine months of its operation, the HFRC has received hundreds of visits and inquiries from architects, students, institutions and public agencies from the New York area, as well as from other sections of the U.S. and Europe. This has reassured the HFRC sponsors of the need for such resource on health facilities.

But, despite this evident interest, the development of HFRC has lagged behind expectations. Planned additions to the collections of printed materials have not materialized. The catalogue remains inadequate and inhibits access to the materials that are there, especially those in the extensive library of the HHPCSNY.

Behind these difficulties is an absence of adequate financial support. During its inception, HFRC received unanimous approval from the Hospitals and Health Committee, as well as strong expressions of support from the Chapter's memberships at large. However, only seven contributions have been received from architectural firms. Manufacturers, another expected source of funds, have also failed to provide significant aid. To date, less than 15 per cent of the first year's goal of \$15,000 has been pledged or received. The result has been an inability to provide sufficient funds for either staff time or new acquisitions. And HFRC now finds itself seriously in arrears in its rent commitment.

An effort has been made to win grants from foundations with health care interest, but the results have not been encouraging thus far. According to HFRC president, Norman Rosenfeld, a new attempt will be made to generate funds and enthusiasm among the Chapter membership. This appeal will have to succeed or it is almost certain that the profession and the New York area, will lose this potentially valuable resource.

MP

February Two-Day Seminar Re: Criminal Justice Facilities

On February 20th, the first Regional Seminar on Criminal Justice Facilities for Local Government will be held at the State University of New York at Albany Lecture Center to discuss the role of Physical Facilities Planning in the Criminal Justice Process beginning with the arrest of the adult offender at local and county levels in New York State. The Seminar will focus on Lawyers, Architects, Local Government Administrators and persons actively involved in all phases of the Criminal Justice Process at county and municipal levels. The aims of the seminar are to improve the quality of existing and new correctional facilities by:

1. Reviewing the problems associated with funding, planning, programmings and goal definition.
2. Providing information on the newest developments in the design of Criminal Justice Facilities.

3. Organizing local committees through the Architectural Profession in order to provide technical assistance to citizens' groups, and public officials and administrators both concerned and involved with the quality of physical facilities used in the Criminal Court System.

4. Concerning itself with pretrial detention as a problem distinct and apart from corrections.

The Seminar is co-sponsored by the New York Council on Architecture, a State Agency, and the New York State Association of Architects/A.I.A., a private organization, and is funded by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration through the New York State Crime Control Planning Board and by Educational Facilities Laboratories, Inc.

Anyone interested in attending the seminar should call Eugenie Cowan, the Administrative Director, at 212/765-7630, and anyone who might wish to be involved directly in the Chapter's newly formed committee should contact the chairman, John Doran, at 212/777-2090.

The seminar will be co-chaired by Larry Litchfield, A.I.A. who is also the chairman of NYSAA/A.I.A. Committee on Architecture for Criminal Justice.

DVR