

**Chapter's Annual Meeting:
June 12 in the "New"
Cooper Union**

Mark your calendars NOW for Thursday, June 12. The Annual Meeting of the Chapter will be held at 5:00 p.m. at the newly renovated Cooper Union Foundation Building. Past meetings have always been luncheons, but this year's will be a late afternoon event.

Chapter members will gather in the Great Hall, which will be the setting for the installation of new officers, headed by Robert Gatje, who will become the Chapter's new president. The Medal of Honor will be presented to Mitchell/Giurgola Associates, Architects; the Award of Merit to Ada Louise Huxtable, of the *New York Times*; and Honorary Membership in the Chapter to John Zucotti, chairman of the City Planning Commission.

Special Citations will be presented to author Robert Caro and to the office of Downtown Brooklyn Development.

Also awards will be presented to the winners of two Chapter-sponsored programs: Multi-Family Design and Educational Facilities Developed in Existing Structures.

Afterwards, the Foundation Building will be open for inspection, and there will be cash bars on the 7th and 8th floors. The Peter Cooper Suite (roof level) will also be open.

The complete renovation of the building has been accomplished by John Hejduk, chairman of the Cooper Union Architecture Department, and engineer Peter Bruder.

See you there!
MJC

**Minority Scholarship Program
Will Continue**

By a nearly unanimous vote during a meeting held at Chapter Headquarters on May 8, Chapter members resolved to: a) continue the minority scholarship program; b) not renew the present assessment for minority scholarships, now in its final year and c) adjust Corporate and Sustaining Firm dues by the amount of the present assessment, thereby making the minority scholarship program a standard Chapter activity.

NFJ



Cooper Union around 1860.

Executive Committee Actions

May 7, 1975

- Agreed that the Chapter should nominate one of its own members for the office of President-Elect of the State Association.
- Approved Awards Committee recommendation for honorary membership and special citations.
- Approved plans for the annual meeting on June 12.
- LeRoy Tuckett, Chapter representative and chairman of the Architectural Advisory Committee for the City University Board of Directors, appeared to hear comments on policy regarding architectural and engineering services (see article this issue on CUNY/Baruch).

Do you know any Federal Agency Officials?

The Institute would like to up-date its listing of AIA members who personally know federal agency officials and who would be available to contact them. It is asked that these members communicate with Marshall Purnell or Bruce Schafer, co-directors of Federal Agency Liaison in the Institute's Department of Governmental Affairs.

GL

Welcome to New Members

The NYC/AIA welcomes the following members:

Corporate

William L. Brunner
Ira Berliner
Clarence Pete, Jr.
Marc B. Sweig
Robert J. Sangiamo
Shoji Sadao

Associate

Alan Feld
W. Boutros-Ghali

Unassigned

Einar Lindholm

Candidates for Membership

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

Corporate

Robert Townsend Bayley
Arthur Saul Debowy
Steven Marshall Goldberg
Peter M. Gumpel
William C. Speer

Professional Associate

Eugene Z. T. Djou

Associate

Charles M. Aquavella (AIA)
Harold G. Collins (AIA)
Dr. Jay Richard Goldstein (AIA)
Robert D. Jefferson
William Soloway (AIA)

Charter Revision Commission Hearings

The State Charter Revision Commission for New York City has issued a series of *Recommendations*, and the Chapter is submitting testimony on the following: *Office of the Comptroller*, May 16; *Planning for Land Use*; and *Construction, Repair and Maintenance*, May 30; *City Government in the Community*, June 13.

Chapter representatives met two years ago with staff consultants to the Commission, and recommendations were submitted in writing. A major point concerned the power of the Comptroller under Section 93d of the present Charter "to settle and adjust all claims."

The Commission's *Recommendations* do not clarify this very controversial power to review claims after completion of work, and the Chapter's testimony will focus on that fact.

A more complete report will appear in the next **Oculus**.
GL

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Linda Yang

Eight Cited for Design Excellence in Multi-Family Housing

The NYC/AIA's Residential Design Awards jury for multi-family housing has announced its selections from the 30 submissions reviewed in the 1975 program.

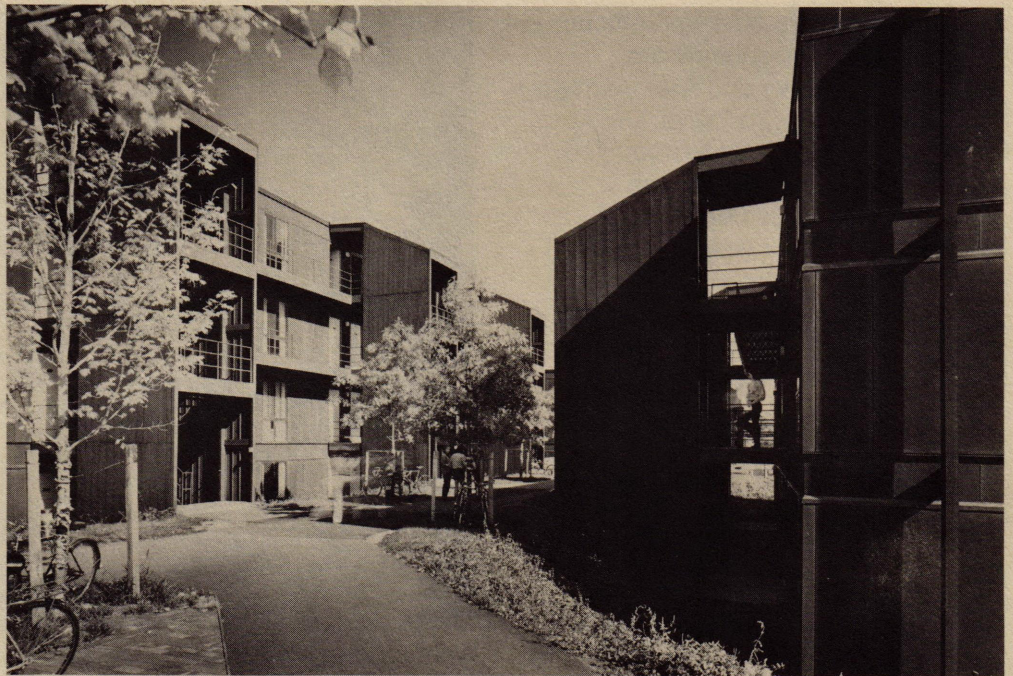
The program is sponsored by the Small Offices Committee of the New York Chapter.

Awards were given to **Caudill Rowlett Scott** for student housing at SUNY/Brockport and **Stephen B. Jacobs and Associates** for the renovation of the "Cast Iron Building" at 67 East 11th Street. Citations went to **Ciardullo/Ehmann**; **Copelin, Lee & Chen**; **William B. Gleckman, P.C.** (two citations); **The Office of Samuel Paul**, and **SMS Architects**.

The jury was composed of Robert F. Borg of Kreisler Borg Florman Construction Co., Inc., Scarsdale, New York; Suzanne Keller, sociologist at the Princeton University School of Architecture and Planning; and Louis Sauer, FAIA, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. James D. Morgan was the jury advisor.

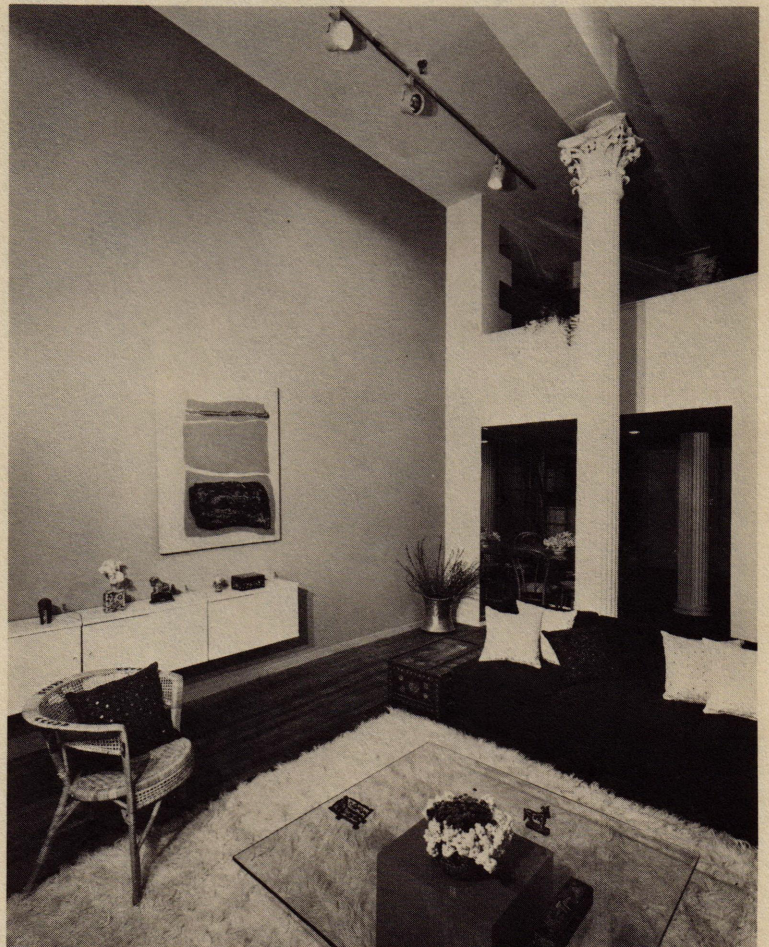
Since the awards program began in 1961, this is the first time that single-family and multi-family housing have been separated into two programs. More awards were given by the juries than previously, and the number of submissions also increased. The single-family awards appeared in the March **Oculus**.

The jury evaluated economic and contextual circumstances and probed such issues as management, security, and land-to-building-cost ratios—as well as the more usual design matters of visual relationships, use of materials, and site planning. However, it felt that most submissions did not give enough sociological and environmental data.



Caudill Rowlett Scott

Photographer: O. Baitz, Inc.



Stephen B. Jacobs & Assoc.

Photographer: James Brett

Walking Tour Provides Memorable Moments And Some Scholarship Funds

Blessed by the weather and official New York City Bicentennial designation, the WAA and AIA members who planned May 3's "Civic Celebration" provided a well-organized, fast-paced walking tour of the Manhattan Civic Center. Special credit goes to Joan Helpert of the WAA and Denis Kuhn of the Historic Buildings Committee for their vision and tenacity.



John Hammond, author of the text for the walking tour, reviews the history of City Hall Park during the dry run for the guides (most of whom were AIA members) and the Press.



Columbia Professor James Marston Fitch holds forth from the portico of the New York County Courthouse. Behind him, to the left, Denis Kuhn; on the right, Giorgio Cavaglieri, FAIA.



Martin D. Raab, partner at Haines Lundberg & Waehler, previews that firm's New Family Court Building, scheduled for Fall occupancy.

All photographs of the "Civic Celebration" are through the courtesy of Gil Amiaga.

Frank Lloyd Wright's Essays

In The Cause of Architecture: Frank Lloyd Wright, edited by Frederick Gutheim, is the latest publication on one of America's greatest architects. A copy of the book is available for review in the Chapter's Library.

The book contains 16 historic essays written by Wright for *Architectural Record* between 1908 to 1952 (these have never been collected into one volume previously), plus an essay written by Wright near the end of his career summarizing his views on architecture. Also included are eight essays by associates and students of Wright evaluating his life and works.

There are photographs, which are supplemented by Wright's drawings; illustrated are the Larkin Building, Buffalo, New York; Midway Gardens, Chicago, Illinois; and the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, Japan.

The price of the book, published by McGraw-Hill Publications Company, is \$17.50.
MJC

Linda Yang, Oculus Editor, Hits the Big Time

To **Oculus**' everlasting credit, a literary star was born on these pages. Doubleday has just published *The Terrace Gardener's Handbook* by Linda Yang, whose writings have enlivened **Oculus** pages for as long as any of us can remember.

And what a handbook this one is! Scholarly and thoroughly professional, as we expected Linda's book would be. Also handsome, thanks to the high quality of the graphics by Don Page of Page, Arbitrio & Resen. Graceful line drawings of plants and plant-loving creatures are interspersed with the text, and there are over 100 photographs.

The overall impression created is: greening your terrace (balcony, rooftop, penthouse or patio) is a project born of love of life. Haiku poems start each section. Friendly advice, served up with charm and humour, fill every page. Soil and seasons, watering and wind control, plants and pests, lists and more lists guide the terrace gardener.

Even if you don't have a terrace, you'll enjoy this handbook—not just for its thoroughness and pervasive enthusiasm, but also because it provides an opportunity to spend some time with Linda, who is one of the nicest, most talented people we know.

IMA



A rose on Linda Yang's terrace poses with its benefactor. Photographer: John Yang.

Systems Technology Highlighted on Tour of Stony Brook

Charles Wagner, Director of Facilities Planning for the State University of New York at Stony Brook, and Rolland Thompson, FAIA, of Gruzen and Partners acted as guides for an April 26th tour of new buildings at Stony Brook sponsored by the Building Technology Committee.

Twenty-five Chapter members spent a balmy spring Saturday touring laboratory buildings, the Lecture Center and the "Surge" buildings. Stony Brook's architects have used large-scale applications of systems technology to meet its need for quick delivery of flexible space. At lunch in the new Faculty Common, Mr. Wagner noted that at one time the school had 800,000 square feet of new construction under way.

A similar trip is planned for October to tour the new Health Sciences complex under construction.
Ronald Woodward

"People are Inherently Design Oriented"

This was the theme of the second Northeast Regional Conference organized by the Student Education Committee in New York City over the weekend of April 11-13. It attracted 160 students from four related design disciplines: planning, architecture, landscape architecture, and interior/environmental design.

The weekend began with a viewing of the multi-media "New York Experience", followed by strenuous Saturday morning tours of Lower Manhattan. Each tour guide, a professional designer, emphasized the social and cultural aspects of the area and the ways in which people who live or work in the neighborhood have contributed toward its design to suit their needs. Thus, people are inherently design oriented. . . .!

At luncheon, Kent Barwick, Executive Director of the Municipal Art Society, spoke on (to use his own terminology) the "eye-glazing" subject of zoning. The students' eyes were anything but glazed!

That afternoon, a series of workshops simulated community planning board meetings. Each student was assigned a role to play to increase his/her understanding of the viewpoint of a non-designer (a community resident) in influencing the physical environment.

Sunday morning, a panel of professionals moderated by Paul Goldberger spoke on "The Real State of the Professions". It was determined that there really is some hope for the future. Chapter member Carl Meinhardt represented the architects.

The Conference ended with a student "exchange" program, in which the students showed each other their work and talked about what is happening at their respective schools.

Jerry Maltz

Parks Commissioner Weisl asks AIA Support for Revision to Wollman Rink

Edwin L. Weisl, Jr., Administrator of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs for the City, met with our Executive Committee on May 7th.

An idea credited to James Marston Fitch, Columbia professor and official Preservator of Central Park, was presented; this entails summer fooding of the Central Park ice skating rink following each skating season. The rink would thus become the lake it had been up to 1949. The proposed scheme, developed by Madigan-Praeger Inc., Consulting Engineers, includes rocks and pathways that recall the scene as Olmsted knew it.

The summer lake idea would, of course, end the Schaefer Festival rock concerts in that location. Mr. Weisl pointed out that the concert crowds have stressed heavily the rink slab, which is sinking into the lake bed. Also, additional crowds have eroded the surrounding slopes; the resulting silt is filling up the lake complex.

However, the thought of relocating the rock concerts has raised many objections, including that of "elitism". Commissioner Weisl believes that the now unused West Side Ship Passenger Terminal or Battery Park would be good substitutes.

BI

It's All Over But the "Summery"

This is the last regular issue of **Oculus** until September. In July the "Annual Review" of Chapter activities will again be edited and published by the **Oculus** Committee. The summaries in the Review will be written by the NYC/AIA's Commissioners and their Committee Chairmen.

Norman Jacklin will take over as Editor and Chairman. He would like to hear from any Chapter members who would enjoy working on the **Oculus'** 10 issues planned for next year.

DPH

Up-Date on CUNY/Baruch

January's **Oculus** reported on the efforts of City University's Office of Campus Planning and Development to select architects for four facilities for the new Baruch College campus.

In their search for "fresh, innovative design concepts", CUNY also announced it would consider only joint ventures of New York area based firms with Affirmative Action programs.

Invitations went to 350 firms; 150 portfolios were submitted. Of these, 48 joint venturers were interviewed. Previous clients were contacted, and completed facilities of six firms were visited. Final selections have been widely reported.

The NYC/AIA Executive Committee has endorsed the CUNY selection standards, except for the criterion of having a New York Area office, which it felt was an unfair and unnecessary restriction.

JRM