

Oculus

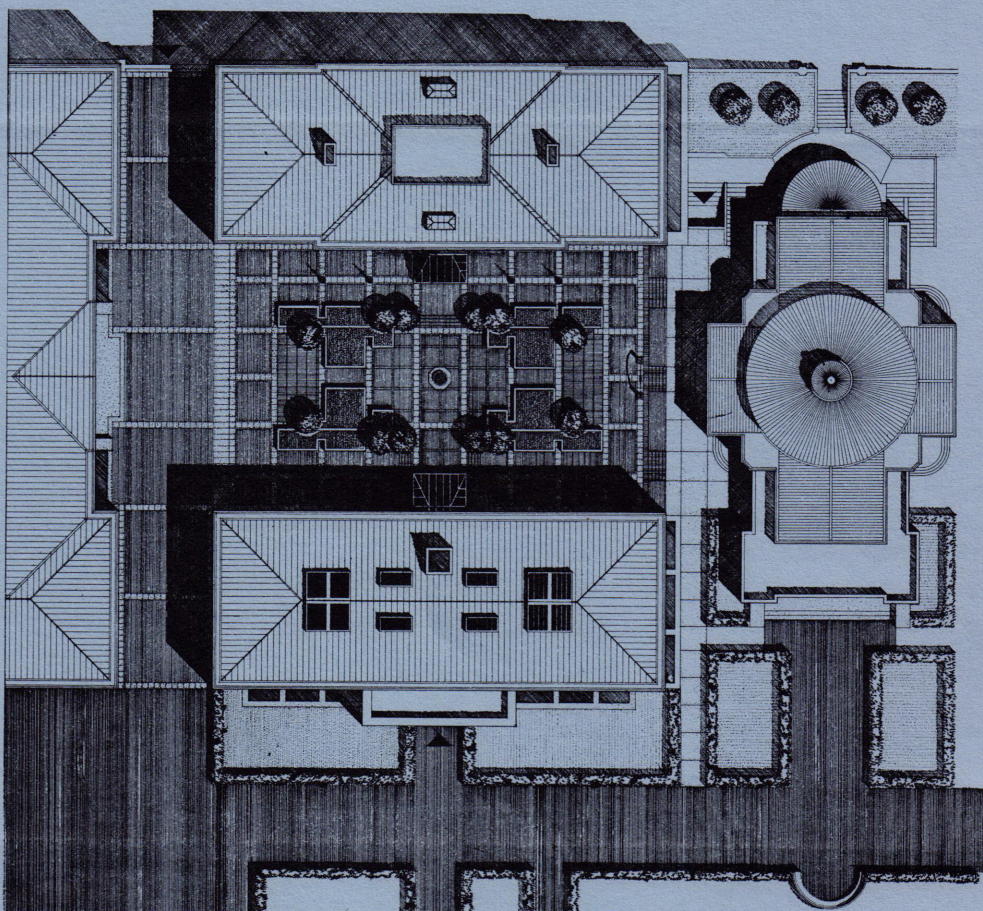
Annual Chapter Meeting to be held at Columbia

Each year the Chapter seeks out a location of timely interest for its annual meeting: last year Roosevelt Island, and the renovated Cooper Union the year before that. It is primarily a social occasion, hundreds attend, and a good chance to meet old and new friends.

This year we will meet in the late afternoon of June 21 at the Columbia School of Architecture and Planning, where chapter member Alexander Kouzmanoff has designed a below-grade expansion which will particularly interest the many people who know Avery Hall and the Avery Library. There will be a short ceremony when awards will be given; Dean Polshek will offer tours, Adolph Placzek will explain the expanded Avery Library, and there will be plenty of refreshments.

A detailed announcement will be sent when plans are more complete. □

Columbia Expands with Sensitivity, Enthusiasm and Design Excellence



Avery Hall expansion by Alexander Kouzmanoff. Avery Hall is at lower left with Fayerweather at upper left with St. Paul's Chapel to the right. Beneath the new Court, between the three buildings and under Fayerweather and Avery, are new expanded facilities for the Columbia Graduate School of Architecture and Planning.

New York City's only Ivy League School was founded in 1754 as King's College. The institution changed its name to Columbia College in 1784 after experiencing its first revolution in 1776. Originally located on lower Broadway, the

College moved to midtown in 1857 and to its present location at Morningside Heights in 1897.

Just prior to the move to the

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Further Clarification on PSC Standards Affecting Applications for New or Expanded Electrical Service

Last month's *Oculus* contained a notification of insulation and thermal transfer standards for buildings published by the New York State Public Service Commission. The PSC has ordered utilities companies in New York State not to provide new or expanded electric service to residential projects without certification by the developer or architect that the buildings meet the PSC standards. PSC staff members agree that such standards are better placed under the authority of local building departments, and the PSC standards are presently being incorporated into the forthcoming New York State Energy Efficiency in Buildings code, which will eventually be administered through the Building Departments. However, the drafting of this code was mandated by the State Legislature two years ago, and no code has yet appeared. The PSC, concerned whether it will be possible to ensure that all New York State residents will be provided with adequate gas and electricity in the future, has, therefore, stepped in.

Perhaps the most interesting aspect of these regulations is the fact that they apply to all residential buildings regardless of the heating system and therefore constitute a form of regulation that affects the oil industry.

The standards themselves are expressed in terms of U-factors. Basically, they mandate 3½" of insulation in walls, 5½" of insulation in roofs, and double glazing (with a 3/16" air space) or storm windows for all residential construction.

In addition to the required

U-factors, there is a restriction on the amount of allowable openings - windows and doors - expressed in terms of maximum percentage of gross exterior wall area. These percentages (and/or the U-factors) may vary, however, "provided that the over-all heat loss for the building envelope does not exceed the total heat loss which would result from conformance to the stated individual requirements of the Standard."

Sample calculations developed by the writer for Oculus could not be adequately condensed within this publication. They can be obtained from the Chapter upon request and will illustrate that the maximum percentage of gross exterior wall permitted for openings can vary from 24 to 55% in 1 and 2 family detached homes depending upon a variety of insulation design alternatives.

Chapter member Leon Brand has arranged for Con Edison to mail copies of the complete standard to all chapter members. Also, the Standard and the reasoning leading up to it are contained in three opinions attached to PSC Case 26913. These are available from the Public Service Commission, 2 World Trade Center. □

Diane Serber

The Calendar usually printed on this page will be separately prepared and apart from this issue of Oculus.

Research; New Business for Architects

AIA has a new document that details potential opportunities for federal grant and contract dollars in architectural research. Prepared by 1976 Institute Scholar, Patricia Holtsclaw, with former AIA research chief Don Conway, the book explains the procurement process, points out indicators of increased funding for minority businesses, provides sources for state aid, and offers suggestions and tips for writing successful government proposals. The new guidebook is available (although supply is limited) from Ray Charity at AIA Headquarters, 202-785-7349. □

New York Chapter The American Institute of Architects

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George S. Lewis, Executive Director

Executive Committee 1976/77

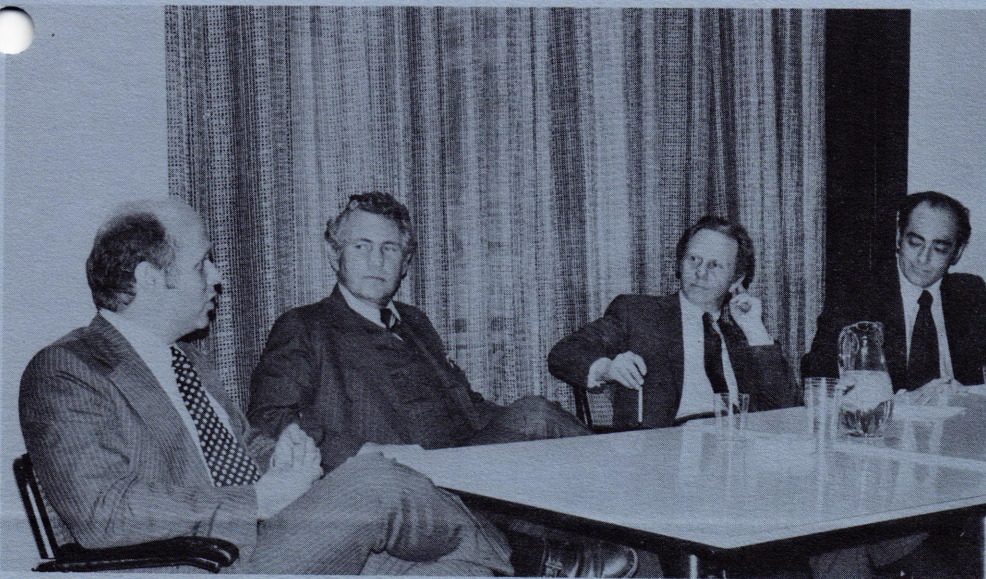
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Architects in Government Meet at Chapter



Architects in Government meeting on Apr. 20. From l. to r. Richard Rosan, Thomas Galvin, Richard Rosenthal, Chairman, and Robert Esnard.

A meeting was held at the Chapter to explore how architects can bring their training to bear in government positions. Random notes:

NYC design procedures tend to be controlled by an engineering mentality because engineers usually hold the top positions. It was stressed that the way architects can get into important decision-making positions is

through expanding their interests beyond accustomed professional boundaries: they must learn the economics and dynamics of government. Architects so far do not view government work as an honorable career to the degree that lawyers do, or engineers. There are too few architects on community boards; again, lawyers predominate. □

George Lewis

Correction

Of two photographs in the April OCULUS related to a meeting on the Gateway National Recreation Area, one, of Terence H. Benbow, was incorrectly identified as being of Bradford Green. Benbow is New York co-chairman of the Gateway Citizens Committee. It should also have been noted that Felicia Clark moderated the meeting. □

New Fellows

Nine chapter members have been advanced to Fellowship. They are: John Burgee, Lo-Yi Chan, John M. Dixon, James I. Freed, Jordan L. Gruzen, Jeh V. Johnson, Frithjof M. Lunde, Mildred F. Schmertz and Albert H. Swanke.

Investiture of 56 new Fellows will take place June 5 at the Institute's Annual Convention in San Diego. □

World Environment Day; The U.N. Connection

The United Nations has declared Saturday, June 4, as world Environment Day, the purpose of which is to raise people's consciousness about environmental issues. Since most of the participants in the celebration/exhibit on the UN grounds that Saturday will be concerned with the nature-made environment, the Chapter's Environmental Education Committee feels the need to help coordinate participation by organizations concerned with the man-made environment: AIP, ASLA, ASID, the Municipal Art Society, the Environmental Psychology program of CUNY, and the Sierra Club. Tours of the area near the UN are proposed.

To conduct successful tours, enthusiastic guides are needed, and many chapter members would easily qualify. Members who could contribute one day to this important occasion should contact Jerry Maltz at 777-5131 or leave a message at the Chapter office. □

Candidates for Membership and New Members

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

Corporate

Charles E. Baskett
Peter M. Bernholz
John A. Caiazzo
Stanton Eckstut
Joseph L. Fleischer
Douglas R. Hoffman
Mark A. Kates
Hortensia Mateos
Richard N. Pollack
Thomas F. Rochon
Henry H. Smith-Miller
William T. Springer
Robert C. White
Jane Yu

AIA Associate

Robert A. King

Professional Associate

Peder H. Knudson

Chapter Associate

Wayne F. Smokay

The NYC/AIA welcomes the following new members:

Corporate

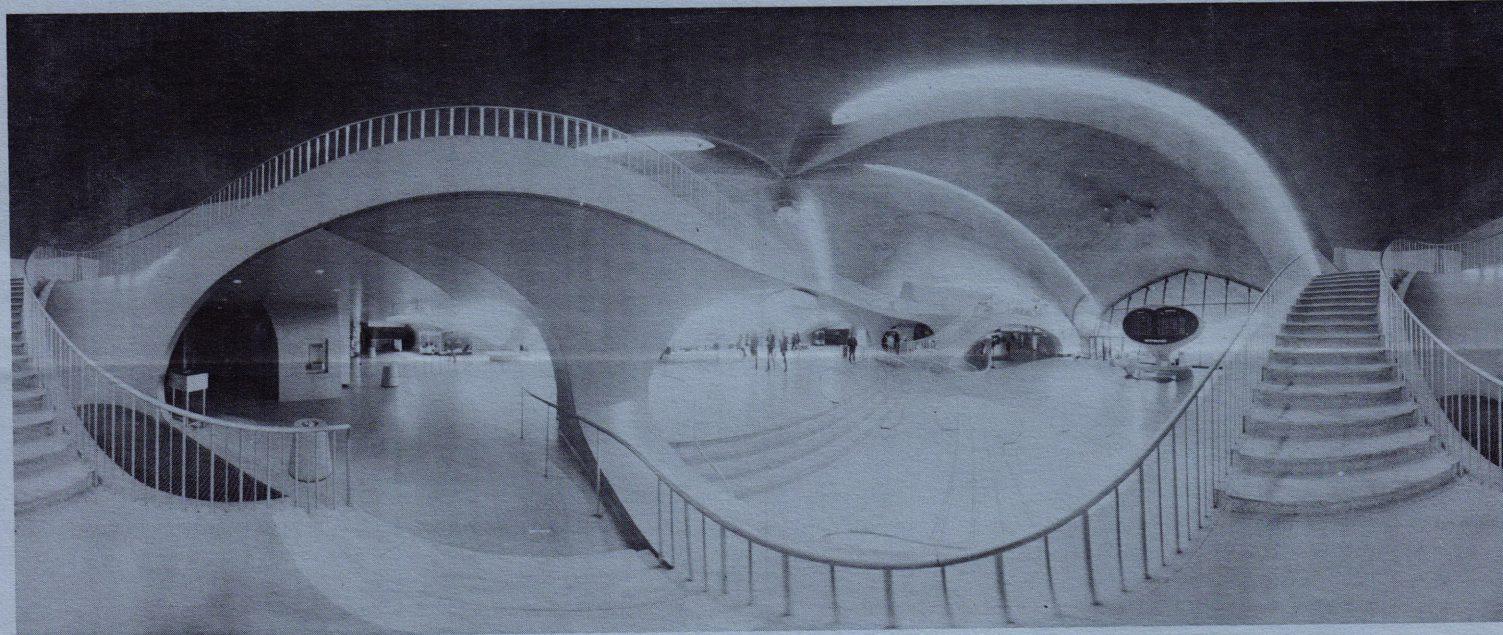
James P. Kastl
John H. Machinist

Architects in Industry Tour Met

Under the sponsorship of the Architects in Industry Committee, a group of Chapter members visited the Metropolitan Museum on Apr. 20. Arthur Rosenblatt, Vice Director for Planning and Architecture presented a brief history of the Museum through a slide show and discussed his staff's operation, work in progress and plans for the future.

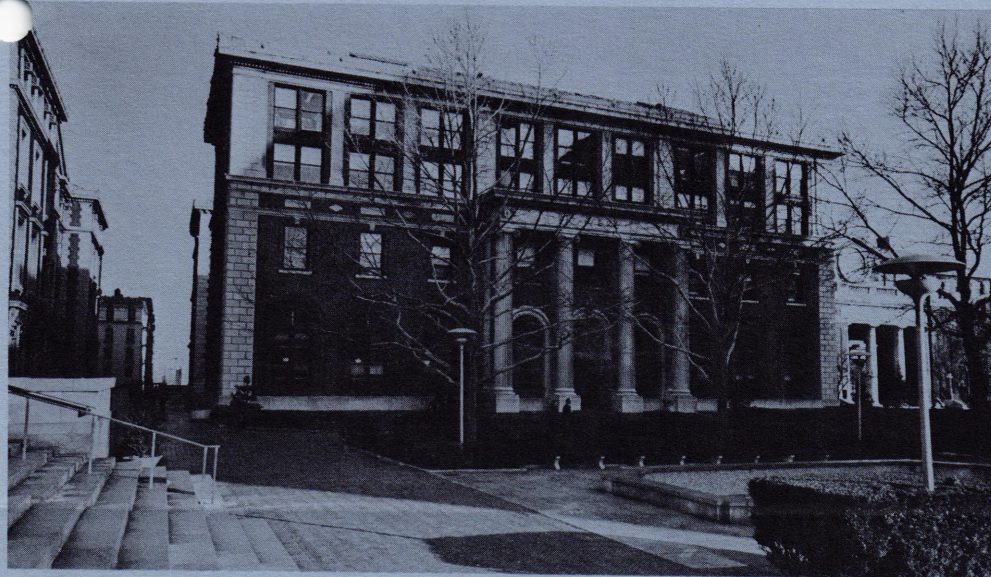
Mr. Rosenblatt led the visitors through the work under construction, which includes the enlarged American wing and the new facilities to house the Temple of Dendur. Those on the tour resisted the temptation to add to the graffiti applied to the Temple by tourists in past ages. □

Peter Thomson



Photographer Robert Galbraith has completed the rebuilding of his panoramic camera which took the above photograph of Eero Saarinen's/TWA Terminal. It is different from earlier "Cirkut" cameras developed at the turn of the century in that it utilizes a modern 16mm fish eye lens and 70mm film. The camera is motorized and draws the film across the lens opening while at the same time panning 360°. In this manner the camera can record 360° around and because of the fish eye lens 180° vertically. Galbraith foresees the use of the camera as a good means for historical documentation of an interior space or for inventory or survey work. He reported that many architects are "afraid" of what it does to "their building" but the above photo clearly shows just what Saarinen must have had in mind. □

Philosophy and Goals of the Graduate School of Architecture and Planning, Columbia University



Avery Hall, Columbia University School of Architecture and Planning.
Photo by Raymond Pavia.

The following are the general goals of the School and the specific educational aims and activities by which the goals are implemented. It must be emphasized that these activities are not discrete; they interact and reinforce one another. The curriculum is of course the vehicle that concretely expresses and realizes these objectives.

1. In order to provide the atmosphere and opportunity for the intellectual growth and development of all students and faculty, the School offers sequential courses, which correspond to student needs and capabilities, and staffs these offerings with instructors who are committed to the general goals of the school and are capable of rigorous and non-doctrinaire academic leadership.

2. In order to develop new knowledge that will materially add to the vitality of both of the professions and of society as a whole, the School promotes basic research in the fields of architecture and

planning.

3. In order that the School may function as an integral and contributing part of the intellectual community of the University, programs and curricula are formulated that symbiotically relate to other activities in the University - emphasizing the traditionally interdisciplinary nature of the fields of architecture and planning.

4. In order to serve broadly defined social purposes, the program of the School focuses on contemporary problems relating to urban and rural man-made and natural environments, toward the solution of which the School utilizes resources outside the University and engages in the dissemination of socially useful information.

The School has inaugurated a realistic and comprehensive set of programs in order to help students to overcome the restrictions imposed by a narrow conception of their professional role, thereby

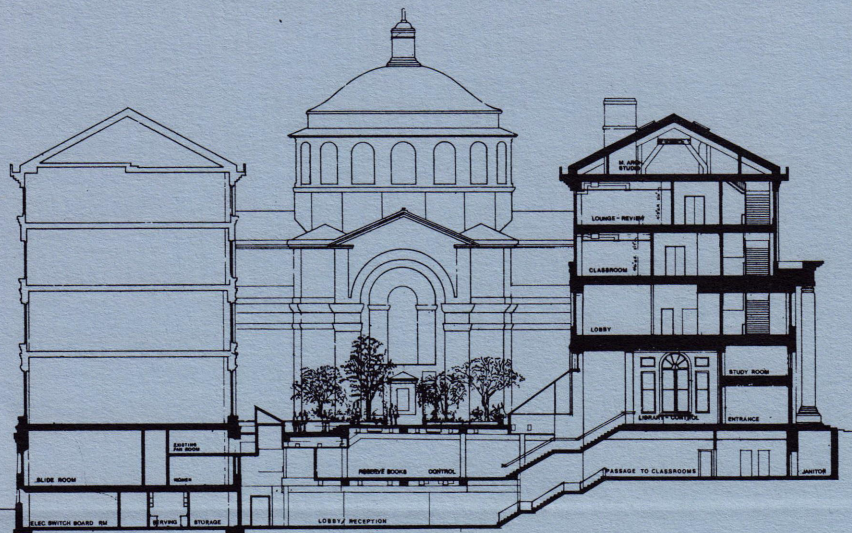
encouraging them, as graduates, to use their unique talents to bring about positive structural change within our society.□

*James Stewart Polshek
Dean of the Faculty of
Architecture and Planning*

Students to Receive Assistance from Chapter

On the recommendation of the Scholarship Committee, Carl Meinhardt, Chairman, 30 minority architectural students have been granted \$400 each in financial assistance by the Chapter; 5 are students at City College, 5 at Columbia, 5 at Cooper Union, 7 at NY Institute of Technology, and 8 at Pratt. These awards continue a long-standing Chapter commitment to encourage young Blacks and Hispanics to enter our profession.

The Committee is made up of Chapter members plus representatives of the administration and students of the five schools.□



Section drawing from l. to r. Fayerweather, Avery Hall Extension, and Avery Hall. St. Paul's Chapel is shown behind in the center.

continued from page 1.

Heights a program in architecture was established in 1881 as an adjunct to the School of Mines at Columbia College. Beginning with just two students, program director William R. Ware held classes in an asylum - an obvious early example of adaptive reuse. Consistent with its beginning as an adjunct to the School of Mines, the School of Architecture has recently expanded within its historic framework by going underground with an ingenious series of spaces burrowed out and covered over with a plaza by Professor Alexander Kouzmanoff. They can be seen at the Annual Meeting of the Chapter, in June, which will be held at Columbia above and below grade.

The Columbia campus itself is a constant reminder of civilized urban design. An architectural commission established in 1892 to plan a new campus held a closed competition among three firms. Charles C. Haight recommended a Gothic style design; Richard M. Hunt an Italian

Renaissance design; and McKim, Meade and White a design of "pure classic form." McKim's plan, accepted in 1893, was regarded as a new departure in college architecture. The classical style permitted the college to establish its own identity and image in contrast to the practice of other colleges which were donning gothic clothing in an attempt to emulate Oxford and Cambridge. The Columbia campus today retains its power and elegance despite the intrusion of some less than fortunate post World War II buildings. The almost complete Kouzmanoff design serves as one of the best examples of the art of planning and building within an existing context.

The School of Architecture and Planning is located in McKim's Avery Hall, completed in 1912 and situated in a visually dominant position off the diagonal axis of the Pantheon-like Low Library. The expansion design doubles the area of Avery Hall and provides two large lecture halls as well as display and support facilities. With its

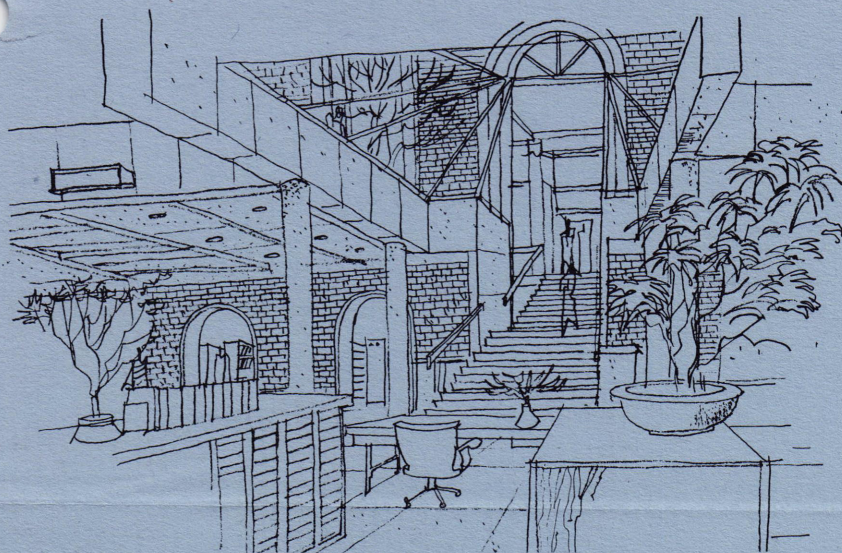


Avery Library
Photo by Raymond Pavia.

ceilings and surfaces manipulated to achieve maximum height, it is an adroit solution to a complex problem. The most important component of Avery Hall is Avery Library. Founded in 1890, its collection has been doubled since 1960 under the careful guidance of Adolph K. Placzek. It contains 110,000 volumes of books and periodicals and 20,000 original drawings. Recognized as one of the finest architectural libraries in the world, its collection includes such rare works as the first published book on architecture, Alberti's DE RE AEDIFICATORIA (1485) and Louis Sullivan drawings. The AVERY INDEX TO ARCHITECTURAL PERIODICALS is published every two years and is widely distributed.

The School of Architecture achieved independent status in 1902. Courses in town planning were introduced in 1935. In 1973 the School of Architecture changed from a four year Bachelor's degree to a three year Master's program and was renamed

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Sketch of Avery Library expansion by Alexander Kouzmanoff from skylighted level just below court.

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the Graduate School of Architecture and Planning.

the present time students may select from several tracks of study: Architecture, Urban Planning, Architectural Technology plus special programs in Historic Preservation, Urban Design and Health Services. The evening school has been replaced by a work/study program. The program in Historic Preservation is unique as the only degree granting preservation program in the country. Started thirteen years ago under the directorship of James M. Fitch, the enrollment has grown from 4 to 96 students. Professor Fitch is due to retire this year and a special convocation is to be held at the University this month to honor the occasion. OCULUS plans to cover the event.

total school enrollment is 332 with 150 students taking Master of Architecture. The Center for Advanced Research in Urban and Environmental Af-

fairs, established in 1973, serves as a grant-supported research arm of the school. Also there are several overseas programs including one at the American Academy in Rome. A lecture and exhibit series is organized and publicized every year.

The Master of Architecture program is organized around the design studio. Each class of 50 students is divided into four sections with a critic. The academic year is divided into three equal time periods. Each class is assigned different but related design problems for each time period and critics are rotated. Support courses in history/theory, structures, construction and environmental systems are related to, and supportive of, the design studio.

Dean Polshek stated that the principal emphasis of the school is design, first and foremost. The aim is to develop articulate professionals with an awareness of, and a strong commitment to, professional performance and high

Chapter members who serve as full time faculty include: James S. Polshek, Dean; Alexander Kouzmanoff, Chairman of the Division of Architecture; James M. Fitch, Director of the Program in Historic Preservation; Percival Goodman, Professor Emeritus; J. Max Bond; Romaldo Giurgola; Jan H. Pokorny; Theodor K. Rohdenberg; Robert A.M. Stern; Timothy Wood. Many other members serve as adjunct faculty and participating visitors.

design standards. As a unit of Columbia University the school is part of a community of faculty and students skilled in virtually every academic and professional field and shares in the long history of an eminent center of learning. Columbia University grew rapidly until it experienced its much published second revolution in 1968, at which point significant changes were made in its mode of administration and in its attitude toward physical expansion.

The impressions of a pre-1968 graduate are several. Students are older. Faculty and students convey an air of seriousness, experimentation and sense of purpose. Respected faculty have been joined by new talented faculty with a resulting beneficial atmosphere of continuity and change. Architecture and planning with their potential for serving as civilizing forces continue to be taught with enthusiasm, rigor and with standards of professionalism and excellence. □

Raymond Pavia

Professional Liability Insurance Discussed at Office Practice Committee Meeting

The following points came out of a recent Office Practice Committee meeting.

CNA premiums have been found to be competitive with other, newer, carriers. Requests for competitive quotations should be made at least two months before expiration of an existing policy. Make sure of retroactive coverage.

When completing the application, go into as much detail as possible in describing the characteristics of the practice, the locations of the work, the extent of service provided, etc. Specific detailed descriptions can avoid misunderstandings and reduce premiums.

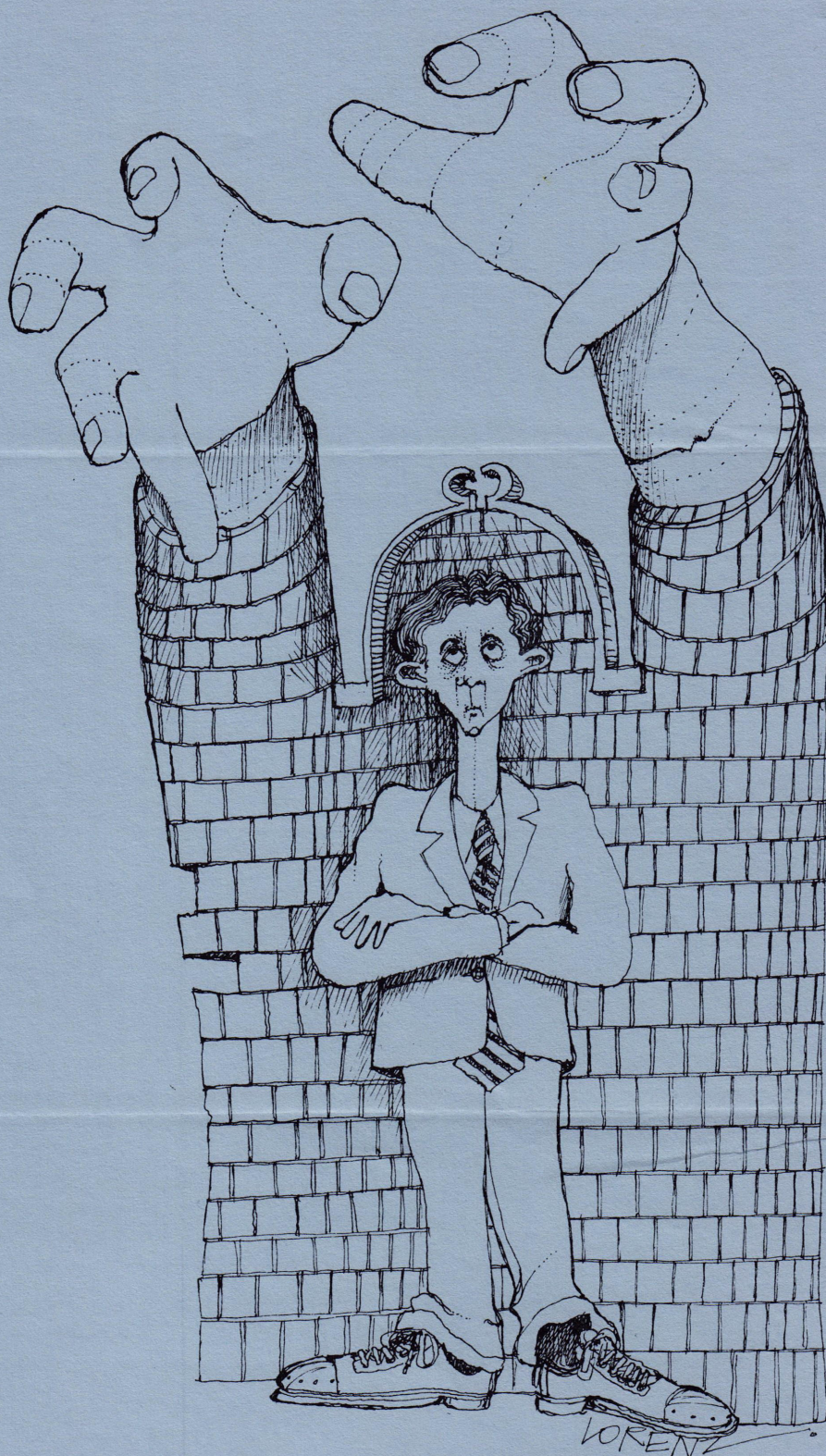
The Committee discussed how notices of claims submitted to the insurance carrier can increase premiums. It was recommended that carriers be informed only when notices of claims have been received in writing. Verbal notices may not materialize. The various carriers react differently when informed of verbal notices.

Lawyers are encountering substantially increased premiums. Most of the Albany legislature is composed of lawyers.

When subject to a scattershot, frivolous suit consideration should be given to a counter suit against the plaintiff's attorney.

Committee member Richard Dickens has served on Institute insurance committees and is familiar with recent developments; he can be reached at 826-1880. □

George Lewis



*Professional Liability Insurance protects you against
Threats by your own design*

drawing by Albert Lorenz