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Spotlight on Young Architects

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The Mayoral Debate on Housing

Waterfront Planning Discussion

### • OCULUS

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On the cover: Perspective rendering,

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### A AROUND THE CHAPTER

# **Documents Delivered**

### by Lenore M. Lucey, FAIA

Those of you recently looking for AIA documents have found a dwindling supply in the Chapter offices. This is because we have entered into two partnerships to bring you better delivery and service, even though the Chapter will no longer sell documents over-the-counter.

Charrette, the leading architectural and design community supplier, will become the AIA New York Chapter's authorized documents distributor. Charrette honors your AIA membership with discounts on purchases, which are delivered the next day to your office. As a fullservice distributor, Charrette's documents prices are competitive, and their service is unbeatable. Charrette is conveniently located across Lexington Avenue from the Chapter. Phone orders can be placed at 683-8822, between 8:30 am and 6:00 pm. After-hours voice mail is also available. Charrette's new 1994-1995 catalog has just been released, so call them for your copy. If you are not an AIA member, call the Chapter for membership information so you can start benefiting from Charrette's service and discounts.

We are also entering the AIA's Licensed Printer program. This program allows firms to obtain the AIA documents they need for project manual/bid documents directly from their printer. As you know, copyrighted AIA documents cannot be photocopied - you must include originals in each project manual. The Licensed Printer program will allow you to include legitimately photocopied AIA documents in your materials with their purchase conveniently identified on invoices. Graphic Details, National Reprographics, and other printers in New York have already signed on, and we expect all print houses serving the architectural and design community to eventually become members - ask your print house about it.

These two new partnerships will allow the Chapter to improve

service to members without increasing costs. The Chapter will continue to carry public- and client-oriented AIA publications such as *Profile* and the *Building a Relationship* series as well as our own materials such as the *Introduction to Health Facilities* course. Please call the Chapter's publications department for more information.

# Real Estate Congress to Discuss Landmarks and Architecture

"Renovating Landmark Districts?" is the topic for a panel discussion at the 1993 New York Real Estate Congress on Wednesday, October 6, from 10 am to 7 pm, at the New York Sheraton Hotel at 52nd Street and Seventh Avenue. **Lenore Lucey**, AIA New York Chapter executive director, will moderate a panel with **Laurie Beckelman**, chair of the Landmarks Preservation Commission; **Joe Lombardi**, Joseph Pell



Lombardi & Associates; and John Livingston, vice president, LCOR. The Congress will also host

seven other

Laurie Beckelman

discussions that will address subjects such as the privatization of cityowned vacant properties as a solution to homelessness; co-ops and condos; housing court; revitalizing Lower Manhattan; terrorism and security since the World Trade Center bombing; and real estate taxes. Guest lecturers include **Peter Vallone**, Speaker of the City Council; **Carl Weisbrod**, president of the New York Economic Development Corporation; **State Senator Donald Halperin**; and the **Reverend Al Sharpton**.

For further information, contact the New York Association of Realty Managers, 718-983-6331, the New York Cooperator, 697-1318, or Marcus Grubard Communications, 242-7701.

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### OPEN OCULUS: LETTERS

### **Dear Editor:**

I am writing in reference to "Airport Elevations: Port Authority Projects" (*Oculus*, May 1993, p. 10). I realize Mr. Slatin's focus was on Port Authority in-house projects, but considering the importance of the airports to the region, I think the subject deserves a broader discussion. I consider that the following facts were not included in the article or not given sufficient consideration.

The Port Authority has a major influence on all construction at the airports, whether it is done by the inhouse staff or architects retained by the airlines or other airport tenants.

The Port Authority is very proactive in the design of all structures at the airports. Design is reviewed for aesthetics, function, and life safety. Each airport seems to have its own standards and pet concerns, and there is little consistency in the aesthetic and functional reviews, but they are generally a positive influence.

The Port Authority has a formal architectural review process, in place for a number of years, that is only now getting finally getting integrated into the system. The process works with ad hoc committees under the chairmanship of Max O. Urban. Inhouse work and work done by consultants is subject to the review. To the best of my knowledge, what is not subject to review, and I think should be, are the long-range development plans for the airports. These master plans have more impact on the overall quality of the airports than any individual building.

The Port Authority deserves the highest praise for the miracle it has made happen at LaGuardia. It has changed LaGuardia to create a complex suitable for today's airport operation. The Port Authority has demonstrated vision and boldness in changing LaGuardia from a central, compartmentalized, single terminal to a series of unit terminals with an open, flexible, central terminal. This was no easy task. Mr. Slatin's criticism of the West Wing Building, a project our firm did for the airlines, was made without discussion with us and likely with little understanding of the constraints and opportunities of the project.

JFK seems to be the airport where the Port Authority has had the least success. It's on a new track now, and one quite different than JFK

2000. It appears as though the Port Authority is now developing a decentralized approach to JFK. It is encouraging and creating incentives for each airline to redevelop and expand its own terminals in lieu of creating a major central facility that would serve all terminals. A new terminal, for the Terminal One site, is in design by our firm, and SOM/ TAMS is doing a study for the Port Authority of possible alternative expansions for the IAB and Wing buildings. Off-and-on airport automatic people-mover systems are under study. In addition, the airport roadway work continues. What seems to be missing is a published plan showing where it is all headed.

Quoting Gene Kohn and Bart Voorsanger was inappropriate. Neither of their firms has done any work at the airports, or has built a project at a Port Authority facility.

Keep up the good work. I look forward to *Oculus* each month.

Sheldon D. Wander, chief architect of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, 1979–1989; William Nicholas Bodouva + Associates

### Peter Slatin replies:

I welcome Mr. Wander's constructive comments and agree that there is indeed more to discuss about these significant places. Design and planning are only one component in the Port Authority's work at the airports, but as Mr. Wander's letter demonstrates, the Port Authority has taken its time in developing a coherent and comprehensive design policy for their present and future operation. If LaGuardia is a success story, what does that make JFK and Newark? JFK is a maze in endless transition, and Newark, while fairly cohesive and better than it was, is hardly inspirational. It's true that pedestrian and traffic circulation are greatly improved at LaGuardia, and WNB's new USAir terminal is a welcome addition, but the point is that making things work properly is only a first step. I see nothing wrong with quoting two leading architects who have great respect for the Port Authority. I would hope that the Port Authority would welcome attention and constructive contribution to its ongoing efforts to increase the usefulness, accessibility, and design quality of our airports.

### • OPEN OCULUS: NEWS NOTES

# S C O O P Peter Slatin

# Far, Far Away

Results of an extraordinary competition, Vision for a New Center City, were announced in late June. SOM/ San Francisco was selected by the Central Trading Co. of Taiwan to create a master plan for a huge undeveloped site south of Ho Chi Minh City. According to Jonathan Barnett, the only American design professional on the jury, the wetlands area will be planned as a major new business district for the former Saigon. The project will be funded by foreign investment in exchange for development rights along the major roadway that must be built before anything else can happen. Along with a consortium of Vietnamese architects, the other finalists were Ehrenkrantz & Eckstut, Koetter, Kim, and Kenzo Tange. Koetter, Kim will eventually create an urban master plan for the area, and Tange may design a group of buildings. Barnett says the plan makes good sense because it leaves the old city intact. "It's analogous to La Defense in Paris. You don't want to rebuild a city that has a great boulevard plan, as Saigon does," he explains. The developers have promised to extend invitations to other firms in the future....I.M. Pei was so dispirited by the lack of maintenance of his Fragrant Hills Hotel in China that when the late American art collector Arthur Sackler offered him the chance to design the country's first teaching museum at Peking University in the mid-1980s, he turned it down. The university wanted to maintain the character of the campus, whose design recalled the nineteenth-century American "missionary style" - reinforcedconcrete buildings in an updated Ming Dynasty manner, with doubleloaded corridors. Although the plan is fine for schoolrooms, it makes lousy museums. Lo-Yi Chan of Prentice & Chan, Ohlhausen, later took over the Arthur Sackler Museum of Art and Archaeology



Arthur Sackler Museum, Beijing, Prentice & Chan, Ohlhausen

project. In his solution a low-slung building, with a tile roof and polychromed brackets under the eaves, was made to work as a museum with the addition of three wings that create a traditional, square courtyard house. The building opened in late May after almost six years of construction, including a two-year interruption precipitated by the 1989 Tienanmen Square massacre. The ground floor contains the museum space, while the upper two floors of the 40,000-square-foot building are designated as museumscience teaching areas for students from all over China; conservation. storage, and display skills are practically nonexistent there at present.

# And Not So Far

One day after his 85th birthday on August 28, naturalist **Roger Tory Peterson** dedicated the new headquarters of the **Roger Tory Peterson Institute of Natural History** on a rural site in **Jamestown, New York**. Designed by **Robert A. M. Stern**, the new 23,000-square-foot building is a teaching center that adds a library and exhibition space to the institute,



Roger Tory Peterson Institute, Jamestown, New York, elevation, Robert A. M. Stern

founded in 1984. The \$5 million building, to be completed this month, is clad in fieldstone and rough-hewn timbers in deference to Peterson's devotion to nature. (Peterson is best known as the author of *A Field Guide to the* 

### • OPEN OCULUS: NEWS NOTES continued

Birds.) The exterior also uses a taupe-colored, board-and-batten siding to reflect the Scandinavian heritage shared by Peterson and many Jamestown residents. It is the first phase of a plan that envisions two wings creating a U-shaped courtyard. Although the building is meant for research and the advancement of ideas and curricula for teaching natural history, and not as a visitors' center. Peterson's fame in western New York has already made it an attraction, and an entry hall display will explain the institute to visitors. "It comes out of the perception that maybe children once knew more about nature than they do now, when the emphasis is on math and the hard sciences," says Stern. Oak trim and exposed timbers mark the interior spaces, which are flooded with natural light except in the gallery. By nodding to the western New York vernacular and away from hokey park-service architecture. Stern says he aimed for a "sophisticated rustic effect, inspired by Arts and Crafts in general and Stickley in particular. Either the park system goes completely Smokey-the-Bear or they build abstract concrete buildings that have nothing to do with nature."...A school of a different order is in its second full year in London. Faculty and students alike refer to the Prince of Wales Institute of Architecture, housed in two villas by John Nash in Regent's Park, as the "POW camp." New York-based Richard Franklin Sammons, who opened his own practice here a year ago, has so far been the only American architect teaching at the school. Sammons, who was a physics and biology major before studying architecture at the University of Virginia, teaches the Orders and proportional theory, which he says he previously had "attempted" to teach at Pratt. Last year was the new school's "foundation" year for its first 32 students, a sort of post-undergraduate year for students who will then continue on to get advanced degrees. "The school is devoted to filling the gap,"

says Sammons, i.e., "anything that's not typically taught and yet is perceived to be important. The idea is to be a true alternative school and teach those things not available in other programs." The program not only has a "huge environmental bent," but also a "heavy Ruskinian overtone," with courses in the history of philosophy and aesthetics alongside hands-on craftsmanship workshops in skills like brickmaking. The courses are taught in intensive two-week sessions by a surprising range of British and European architects, from Leon Krier and Keith Critchlow to Renzo Piano and Richard Rogers. As for the opinionated founding father of the institute, Sammons says that His Highness "doesn't meddle with the program at all, and mainly facilitates fund-raising."

# Near at Hand

Susanna Torre, head of the department of architecture and environmental design at Parsons, is also hammering out a hands-on housing design program, with a grant from the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal, in cooperation with the nonprofit developer Community Access, Inc. Students in Torre's housing studio will use computer maps of the Lower East Side developed by the Environmental Simulation Lab to study three potential housing sites in the area. One aim of the study is to investigate the feasibility of using newly developed masonry and decking systems for low-cost housing. In addition, students from Parsons's photography department will document neighborhood residents and homeless people to help develop profiles of future residents. Torre admires Community Access's work integrating the mentally ill homeless with families in their buildings. "I'm very interested in trying to understand the dynamic between those two populations," says Torre. She adds that the sites picked will not be just infill sites but

should "provide latitude to reuse the substandard New York City grid" that blocks sunlight for half the population. At the end of the fall semester, the group plans to apply to DHCR for funding to build on one of the sites. If approved, it will use Fox & Fowle as a "teaching office," with Bruce Fowle as partner-incharge and associate Sylvia Smith working directly with Torre's housing studio to design and build the housing. Torre hopes to make the integrated program a model for schools around the country .... **Community Access** opened a new building in late summer and expects to complete another in November. In August, a 51-unit building designed by Amie Gross Architect opened at 258 East 4th Street between avenues B and C.



258 East 4th Street, New York City, Amie Gross

Residents of the tan brick, six-story building, with a community garden in the rear, are equally divided between homeless families from city shelters, the mentally ill homeless, and the working poor. The mix is aimed at breaking down "the notion of segregation by diagnosis that creates mini-institutions," says

Gross. The challenge she faced was to create a sense of community in the public spaces but also to leave those spaces open so that people could pass through them quickly without feeling trapped. Thus, a lobby leads into a large open com-

munity space and then a laundry room overlooking the garden and a small playground, so parents can easily supervise their children. Further downtown at 621 Water Street, Peter Woll Architects has been rehabilitating turn-of-thecentury Gouverneur Hospital as Gouverneur Court, permanent housing for the mentally ill homeless. Twenty of the 123 studio units are being set aside for AIDS patients, and 40 percent for the homeless. The entire ground floor, facing onto a courtyard, is given over to public space and staff.

# Reconstituting and Remodeling

For years the **Central Park Conservancy** has had big plans for the northeast corner of the park at the eleven-acre site comprising the

> Harlem Meer, stretching from 110th to 106th Street and from Fifth to Lenox Avenue. While landscaping around the Meer was completed, plans for a restaurant never found financing. However, **Buttrick White & Burtis's** new **Discovery Center** opens in early October, paid for by the Conservancy and the **Charles**



Charles A. Dana Discovery Center, Central Park, Buttrick White & Burtis

A. Dana Foundation. The 5,200square-foot building, which will house educational exhibitions designed by Ed Schlossberg for roving packs of schoolchildren, is "an original work of architecture that draws on a variety of styles,"

### OPEN OCULUS: NEWS NOTES continued

says **Sam White** of BWB, "but you will not be able to find a single precedent. It will remind you of a lot of nineteenth-century buildings, and it may remind you of **Charles Moore** and **Ralph Lauren**." The building mixes a black granite base and bluestone table course with brick from Sioux City. dollar" project, which Scutt wouldn't discuss, except to say that "the future building world is in the Far East," is the 80-story **Trump Tower Tokyo** (perhaps it's in Tokyo).... Maybe it's safer to stick to restoration. **Freeman & Pizer** is hoping to complete the last of three phases

Oklahoma, and exuberant, multicolored wood trim, tricolored slate shingles, and leadcoated copper. "It's hard to make a nineteenth-century building that can accommodate a contemporary program," says



Visitors' center, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Kupiec + Koutsomitis



Riverside Memorial Chapel, New York City, Freeman & Pizer

White. "Anybody who says it's a derivative piece of architecture can meet me outside." ... Clearly, the long recession has people skirting the raw edge of violence. Der Scutt asserted that his design for a new lobby at 40 Wall Street "knocked the socks off" his lone competitor, a team headed by Philip Johnson, for whom he yet professed great admiration. The 1929 Clarence Severance build-ing, 80 percent vacant and in default, sold for a paltry \$8 million this June to a Hong Kong investor. Citing the extremely "hot" nature of the pro-ject, all Scutt would reveal, beyond his \$15 million plan for a "double-height, Art Decoinspired extravaganza" in the lobby, was that the new owners "will probably spend upwards of \$40 million" to improve the building in order to secure new tenants. Another sensitive "multi-billionwith the renovation of the interior at Riverside Memorial Chapel, a 1925 Gothic revival structure at Amsterdam and 76th, in time for the Jewish High Holidays in mid-September. The firm restored stained-glass windows, providing backlighting to show them off outside, and repaired extensive gold leafing throughout as well as the original plasterwork .... Gold leafing is also being restored in the dome of McKim, Mead & White's administration building at the Brooklyn Botanical Garden. Kupiec + Koutsomitis is refurbishing the 300-seat auditorium and 1,250-square-foot first floor as a visitors' center. They are adding freestanding and wall-mounted display cases and creating a large interactive map with graphic designers Chermayeff & Geismar. The center should open next spring.

### PRESUMED DEAD

On August 19, Norman Jaffe disappeared and is presumed drowned during a morning swim from a beach in Bridgehampton. He was 61. Jaffe, who became a Fellow of the AIA in 1991, had recently completed what several say is his finest building, at 565 Fifth Avenue (Oculus, June 1993, pp. 6-7). He had also designed a children's hospital for a site in Croatia, in keeping with his philanthropic work on behalf of organizations such as ICROSS, the International Community for the Relief of Starvation and Suffering. His design for the Gates of the Grove synagogue in East Hampton was also widely praised and published, and he was recognized for the private houses he built across the country.

Jaffe received a bachelor's degree in architecture from the University of California at Berkeley in 1956, and went on to practice in New York, working with Philip Johnson and others before setting out on his own. "He was our success boy," said Johnson. "We knew he wouldn't stay with us long because he was so ambitious and so talented. He was very, very good, and even in those days, it was clear he was going to be on his own." Jaffe's work first surfaced in *Architectural Record* in 1964, where he subsequently



Norman Jaffe

published a number of *"Record* Houses." Jaffe's designs appeared in international architectural magazines and were exhibited overseas throughout his career. He won numerous professional awards, including an AIA honor award in 1980.

Jaffe is survived by his wife, Sarah Stahl Jaffe, and their sons Will Isaac, 7, and Max, 4. His son Miles Jaffe, 35, from a previous marriage to the deceased Barbara Jean Cochran, is a design and management consultant. The Jaffe firm in Bridgehampton will continue under his longtime business partner, Keith Boyce. The family has requested that remembrances be made through donations to ICROSS East End, c/o Bill Hattrick, Prudential Securities, Southampton, New York 11968.

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# SPOTLIGHT ON YOUNG ARCHITECTS



CLAIRE WEISZ, ARCHITECT 66 WEST BROADWAY

Size of firm: One principal; ad hoc affiliations formed with Mark Yoes and Ursula Warchol on project-byproject basis. Weisz also works in an ad hoc affiliation as an associate of Agrest and Gandelsonas Architects. Specialty: Residential and retail. Background: Received B.Arch. with honors, University of Toronto, Ontario, 1984; M.Arch., Yale University, 1990. Joined Agrest and Gandelsonas in 1989 and was formally associated with the firm until 1992. Currently is adjunct assistant professor at New Jersey Institute of Technology (fall term) and adjunct assistant professor at City College (spring term).

*Oculus:* Is your way of working with other architects in these ad hoc collaborations a good way of dealing with the recession?

*Clair Weiz:* As an employee in almost any firm, an architect is secure only as long as the particular project lasts. I like a practice in which I have no employees, and by collaborating with a group of architects I act as master facilitator. The traditional structure of the architecture practice — where architects hire a lot of people and call themselves a firm — may fall by the wayside.

Ocalus: What else do you see changing in architecture?

CW: The definition of what we do is changing. With

the computer, fewer people need to draw. This may lead to a situation where architects mainly come up with ideas or concepts, where they are paid to envision simply what could be there.

*Ocalus:* How does the economic climate affect young architects in particular?

CW: Since many architects don't often succeed even in the best of climates until they are about 50, age is already an impediment for the young

architect. The impediments increase if you don't come from money or if you are not male. Nevertheless, the recession is a bigger issue for established architects. It is always hard for young architects to get work anyway, in or out of a recession, and they do have the advantage of having a low overhead. The recession means that you are forced to be more creative about work and making decisions about budgets.

*Oculus*: The small office does have limitations in its resources.

CW: You do need to have a network of sources for craftsmen and materials, and you need to be able to contact other young architects for opinions and advice.

*Ocalus:* You have just designed a second store in Soho for the fashion designer J. Morgan Puett. Both of these stores you describe as "alternative architecture." Could you explain?

CW: In the first Morgan store on Broome Street, very little of the work was done through conventional building trades, which meant that a lot of materials could be reinvented. I worked with Morgan by first identifying and evaluating elements in the original building that could be reused, though not necessarily in the manner in which they were



J. Morgan Paett, 140 Broome Street, interior

used before. For example, all the fire doors were made into shelves. Red clay was trucked in from Georgia and mixed with concrete for the floor. The tin ceiling came from a building in Red Hook, New Jersey. Then we recycled some things for the second store, such as the set of freight doors being used for a wall in the new place.

Ocalas: How is the new Morgan store at 140 Wooster different?

CW: We tried to use Morgan's ideas for making clothes and integrate them into architecture. We use felt as a building material. Morgan made patterns for the pieces of cut felt that are placed along the walls and railings. Then elements are joined with bolts and steel cable in a manner similar to her way of putting clothes together with buttons, laces, and snaps. A literal piece of built clothing was cast in bronze to be the sign in both the stores.

Ocalas: How did you approach your design of the Bismuth loft, which you just finished?

*CW*: We took a transom door as an element that established the language throughout the apartment, which you see in the detailing. Since the budget was low, we began with paint colors and then expanded. Warm gold and yellow are used at either end and a cool, watery blue is used in the center. Spatially it still reads as one big loft space, with rooms established by color and suspended ceiling elements.



Bismath loft, N. 4.C., Weisz/Warchol

Ocalus: How do these actions fit in with your overall approach to architecture?

CW: You look for the potential in what is already there. That helps you determine what you want to do: It is the essence of the space. It may lead to reuse of existing elements, but there will be different



answers depending on the situation. This is what connects my work and Diana Agrest and Mario Gandelsonas's - the search for that essence. The project should result in a formal solution that brings pleasure. Design is not about creating something incredibly ugly.

### Ocalus: How does your thinking influence your teaching?

CW: At City College, my goal is to try to teach people to draw and look. Critical thinking is important, and you have to get to the students in the first year. There is very little you can do later about changing how they think. At NJIT, my third year studio class works on the computer. We do screen crits, not desk crits. But it is easy to get lulled into wallpapering a building. It is easy to treat architecture as an electronic surface. This is a "shopper's problem," for you can select anything to put on a building and come up with wild drawings. But making presentation drawings is not making architecture.

Oculus: You did a video as part of the conference organized by Agrest with Gandelsonas and Richard Sennett at the Whitney last spring. How did that come about?

CW: I did the video, "Project Homework," with a video editor, Claude Borenzweig. (I designed a loft for him in exchange for his editing services.) The video showed the design for a school on the Lower East Side. Here we were dealing more directly with narrative, sound, and images of site, and with motion. It wasn't like designing with a conventional computer. I prefer doing built work, though. You can try out ideas with the unbuilt projects, but built work has much more resolution.





# A Postmortem Conversation on the "Housing New York 1993" Debate Among the Mayoral Candidates

On August 4, the American **Institute of Architects New York** Chapter, along with the Citizens Housing and Planning Council and the Graduate Center/CUNY, Department of History, sponsored a timely event. The mayoral candidates for New York City met to present their views on housing issues and respond to panelists' questions regarding their agendas. The debate was the first such discussion the candidates undertook in this campaign. The mayoral candidates included Mayor David Dinkins and Rudolph Giuliani (the Republican and Liberal parties' candidate), as well as Roy Innis (who is competing with Dinkins in the Democratic primary, and was represented by his son, Niger), George Marlin (the Conservative Party candidate), and Eric Ruano Melendez (another hopeful in the Democratic primaries).

On hand that evening to question the candidates were Willa Appel of Newsday, Michael Goodwin of the Daily News, Roberta Washington of Roberta Washington Architects, and Joseph Rose of the Citizens Housing and Planning Council. Tony Guida, from WCBS-TV News, was the moderator.

In order to focus on the most pertinent issues heard that evening, *Oculus* conducted a postmortem discussion with panelist Joseph Rose. For the sake of space, only the comments of the two leading candidates, Mayor Dinkins and Rudolph Giuliani, were analyzed.

**Oculus** (represented by Suzanne Stephens): What were your chief goals in presenting the mayoral views on housing? Joseph Rose: One of our chief concerns is that the city spends over \$300 million each year from the capital budget on housing programs; much of that spending is converting abandoned city-owned buildings into housing. This initiative is relatively recent, but continues from Mayor Koch's administration.

The city spends over \$200 million to operate or subsidize *in rem* housing stock [housing on which the city has foreclosed due to back taxes and other arrears]. As part of this campaign we would like to generate a discussion about whether scratch. In 1993, 7,700 d.u.s have been started in the moderate rehab category; 3,300 in gut rehab; and 1,400 in new construction.

But the money provided by the city's capital budget and the money needed for *in rem* housing is significant. Now much of the low-income housing community thinks it is more important to focus on housing preservation and the adequacy of the shelter allowance. We hoped the debate would tell us what the candidates would do, including spending a half-billion dollars a year on homeless services, when the system is deeply in need of in the context of a strategic policy or a vision for the future. We are rehabbing abandoned buildings, but is the program sustainable, and what are lessons learned? Is there a goal in a second Dinkins administration to continue the same programs to same degree? There was not a lot of policy analysis.

**Oculus:** Dinkins cited the Bradhurst area in Harlem as an example of his housing initiative. He mentioned he has 2,200 low- and moderateincome housing units planned, half of which are rental and half for ownership. There are 14 sites in



Mayor David Dinkins

or not we should continue in this direction, given the fact that most abandoned housing units have been rehabilitated or are in construction.

**Oculus**: Dinkins seemed proud of his housing record at the debate. Should he be?

JR: As Mayor Dinkins pointed out during the forum, the housing program has been a success in terms of bringing back tens of thousands of units in abandoned buildings. Between the fiscal years of 1990 and 1993, 43,000 dwelling units have been completed with a moderate level of habilitation; 24,000 units were created through gutting and rehab; and 5,800 dwellings have been built from restructuring. It is time to reevaluate where we stand with all of the city's housing programs.

Rudolph Giuliani

Joseph Rose

**Oculus**: Wasn't Dinkins a bit vague about the next step for his housing program?

JR: Dinkins's accomplishments with the Department of Housing, Preservation and Development's program to produce permanent housing units are significant. They are something to be proud of, and even Giuliani gave the city credit for this program. But the Mayor did not discuss the need to adapt to changing priorities in terms of the budget and other considerations. He recited his accomplishments at the debate, but did not place them



Willa Appel

phase one, which broke ground in October 1992. Is this a success, too?

JR: The politics of selecting contractors, architects, and consultants in Bradhurst has been very delicate. The Mayor seems to have resolved all the political problems. We can now look forward to something happening.

**Oculus**: How did you feel Rudolph Giuliani addressed the various housing issues during the debate?

JR: Giuliani came out with a strong statement for seeking private, for-profit and not-for-profit involvement in housing. Dinkins had phased out much private, for-



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# AIA New York Chapter

# October 1993

# 2 Saturday

SYMPOSIUM Edith Wharton: Classical Houses and Gardens.

Given by **Thomas Hayes**, **Judith Chatfield**, **Alvin Holm**, and **Juan Pablo Molyneux**. Sponsored by the Cooper-Hewitt Museum. 9:30 am-4:30 pm. 2 E. 91st St. 860-6868. \$85.

### SEMINAR

Review Classes for Site Design and Building Design Sections of ARE. Sponsored by the Institute of Design and Construction. 141 Willoughby St., Brooklyn. 718-855-3662.

# 6 Wednesday

### PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Re-entering New York: The Present and Future of Grand Central and Penn Stations. Panelists include Stanley Allen, Kenneth Standag, Donald Pross, and Jeanne Giordano. Sponsored by the Municipal Art Society Fellows. 6:00 pm. Urban Center Galleries, 457 Madison Ave. Reservations 935-3960. \$5.

**Renovating Landmark Districts?** Panelists include **Laurie Beckelman, Joe Lombardi**, and **John Livingston**, with moderator **Lenore Lucey**. Sponsored by the New York Association of Realty Managers and the New York Cooperator. 10:00 am. New York Sheraton Hotel, 52nd St. and Seventh Ave. 697-1318.

### LECTURES

**Commonplace and Poetry in Architecture.** Given by **Geert Bekaert.** Sponsored by the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, Columbia University. 6:30 pm. Wood Auditorium, Avery Hall. 854:3414.

Sex Objects: Toward a Feminist History of Design. Given by Ellen Lupton. Sponsored by the Cooper-Hewitt Museum. 6:30 pm. 2 E. 91st St. 860-6868. \$15.



### Tuesday LECTURE

Kohn Pedersen Fox: Rocent Work. Given by Eugene Kohn, William Pedersen, and Sheldon Fox. Sponsored by Urban Center Books. 6:30 pm. Urban Center Galleries, 457 Madison Ave. Reservations 935-3595. \$5 (\$3 members and students).

# 13 Wednesday

# PANEL DISCUSSION

"How Do You Get from Manhattan to the Airport?" Sponsored by the Municipal Art Society Fellows. 6:00 pm. Urban Center Galleries, 457 Madison Ave. Reservations 935-3960. \$5.

### AIA NEW YORK CHAPTER EVENT

The Grand Networking Event IV. Cosponsored by Professional Women in Construction. 5:30 pm. Houlihans, 42nd St. and Lexington Ave. 683-0023. \$25.

### LECTURE

A Bio-Regional Ethic: Creating the New Gvics of Sustainability. Given by Grant Jones and Ronald Thomas. Sponsored by Temple Hoyne Buell Center for the Study of American Architecture. 6:30 pm. Wood Auditorium, Avery Hall, Columbia University. 854-8165.

### EVENT

The New Modernists: Two Television Documentaries by Michael Blackwood Productions, Inc. Panel discussion following films with Walter Chatham, Ron Simon, Kenneth Frampton, and Patrick Pinnell. Sponsored by the Architectural League and the Museum of Television and Radio. 6:30 pm. Museum of Television and Radio, 25 W. 52nd St. 621-6600. \$8.

# 14 Thursday AIA NEW YORK CHAPTER EVENT

### DEADLINES

### OCTOBER 1

Submission deadline for the Haskell Awards for Student Architectural Journalism sponsored by the New York Foundation for Architecture. Contact the AIA New York Chapter, 200 Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10016, 683-0023.

### OCTOBER 15

Proposal submission deadline for presentations at the national "Breaking the ICE: Building New Leadership" conference, to be held August 26–28, 1994, in Washington, DC. Contact Jean Barber at AIA National, 1735 New York Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20006, 202-626-7300.

### OCTOBER 29

Submission deadline for proposals for the residential, commercial, foreign mission, or mixed-use redevelopment of the International Center at Beekman Place site, on First Ave. and 51st St. Contact the Ken Podziba, project manager, at the New York City Economic Development Corporation, 110 William St., New York, NY 10038, 312-3864.

### **NOVEMBER 5**

Submission deadline for the United States Institute for Theatre Technology's annual Architectural Awards Program, for the design of projects for old and new theaters completed since January 1, 1986. Contact the Architecture Commission, USITT, 10 W. 19th St., Suite 5A, New York, NY 10011-4206, 807-7171.

### NOVEMBER 9

Submission deadline for Affordable, Environmentally Sustainable House competition. Contact J. David Wilkerson, ADPSR/Virginia Chapter, P.O. Box 7330, Richmond, VA 23221-7330, 804-780-0070.

### **NOVEMBER 15**

Submission deadline for the American Academy in Rome's 98th annual fellowship competition. Contact the Fellowships Coordinator, American Academy in Rome, 667 Madison Ave., Fifth Floor, New York, NY 10021, 751-7200.



Steam-O-Matic, c. 1939, "Mechanical Brides: Women and Machines from Home to Office," The Cooper-Hewitt Museum. Closes January 2.

18 Monday EXHIBIT

Hugo P. Herdeg: Photographer, 1909–1953. Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, Columbia University, Arthur Ross Architecture Gallery, Buell Hall. 854-3414. Closes December 10.

19 Tuesday

### SEMINAR

**Two-Semester Course on Masonry Construction.** Sponsored by RESTORE. Tuesday evenings, 6:00 pm. Architects and Designers Building, 150 E. 58th St. 477-0114. \$1200.

20 Wednesday

Political Economy. Given by Laurie Hawkinson. Sponsored by the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, Columbia University. 6:30 pm. Wood Auditorium, Avery Hall. 854-3414.

# **26** Tuesday

### LECTURE

Left to Her Own Devices: Women, Consumerism, and Domestic Space in Post-World War II America. Given by Joan Ockman. Sponsored by the Cooper-Hewitt Museum. 6:30 pm. 2 E. 91st St. 860-6868. \$15.

### EXHIBIT

Vito Accond and Steven Holl. Storefront for Art and Architecture, 97 Kenmare St. 431-5795. Closes December 4.

# 27 Wednesday

LECTURES Hannes Meyer and the Production of Effects. Given by Michael Hays. Sponsored by the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, Columbia University. 6:30 pm. Wood Auditorium, Avery Hall. 854-3414.

### From the Margin to the Mainstream: Exploring the Effects of Culture on Designed Images. Given by Arthur Jafa, Ed Lai, Greg Tate, Lucille Tenazas, Fo Wilson, with moderator Samina Quraeshi. Sponsored by the Cooper-Hewitt Museum. 6:30 pm. 2 E. 91st St. 860-6868, S10.

# 28 Thursday LECTURE

**The Austrian Cultural Institute.** Given by **Raimund Abraham**. Sponsored by the Architectural League. 6:30 pm. Urban Center Galleries, 457 Madison Ave. 753-1722. \$7.

29 Friday SEMINAR The New West Wing of the Brooklyn Museum. Given by James Polshek. Sponsored by

# I hursday

### TVA: Lessons for the Present and the Future. Given by Professor William Jordy. Sponsored by Temple Hoyne Buell Center for the Study of American Architecture. 6:30 pm. Wood Auditorium, Avery Hall, Columbia University. 854-8165.

### **AIA NEW YORK CHAPTER EVENT**

Managing Your Practice After the Recession. Given by Paul Segal, Howard Misthal, and Levi Kiil. Sponsored by Plaza Construction Corporation. 6:00 pm. 200 Lexington Ave., 16th floor auditorium. 683-0023, ext. 16.



"Hugo P. Herdeg: Photographer," Columbia University. Closes December 10.



### Friday SEMINAR Saving New Y

Saving New York's Public Housing. Given by David Burney. Sponsored by Temple Hoyne Buell Center for the Study of American Architecture. 12:15 pm. Buell Hall, Third Floor South Seminar Room, Columbia University. 854-8165.

### LECTURE

Andrée Putman: Current Work. Sponsored by the Architectural League. 6:30 pm. Urban Center Galleries, 457 Madison Ave. 753-1722. \$7.



### Legacy of Italian Fascist Architecture: Asmara, Eritrea. Graduate School of Architecture;

Eritree. Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, Columbia University, 200-level Avery Hall. 854-3414. Closes November 13.

### Committee on Design. 683-0023. Continues through October 17.

### LECTURES New Visions in Architec

New Visions in Architecture. Given by Matthias Boeckl. Sponsored by the Art Deco Society of New York. 8:00 pm. The New School for Social Research, 66 W. 12th St. 679-DECO. \$12.

### The Bath of Jane Austen: Portrait of an English City. Given by John Wilton-Ely. Sponsored by

the Cooper-Hewitt Museum. 7:00 pm. 2 E. 91st St. 860-6868. \$15.

### CONFERENCE

Urban (Mis)Fortunes: The City and Socioeconomic Policy in the 1990s. Participants include Ananya Bhattacharjee, Elaine Bernard, Richard Cloward, Harry De Rienzo, Troy Duster, Nancy Fraser, Michel Gelobter, Maria Patricia Fernandez Kelly, Peter Marcuse, Lionel McIntyre, Frances Fox Piven, Adolph Reed, Yolanda Rivera, Ron Shiffman, Michael Peter Smith, and Rodrick Wallace, with keynote speaker Manning Marable. Sponsored by the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, Columbia University. 6:30 pm. Wood Auditorium, Avery Hall. 854-3414. Continues October 15 at 10:00 am.

15 Friday SEMINAR

**The Bronx Center Report.** Given by **Richard Kahan**. Sponsored by Temple Hoyne Buell Center for the Study of American Architecture. 12:15 pm. Buell Hall, Third Floor South Seminar Room, Columbia University. 854-8165.



### Sunday SYMPOSIUM

New York and the Next Wave. Panelists include Kurt Andersen, John Dixon, Joseph Giovannini, Henry Smith-Miller, Laurie Hawkinson, Michael Sorkin, Tod Williams, and Billie Tsien, with moderator Kenneth Frampton. Sponsored by the AIA National Committee on Design. 10:30 am. Rockefeller University, 66th St. and York Ave. 753-1722.

# PULL OUT & PIN UP

### CONTINUINGEXHIBITIONS

Monumental Propaganda. World Financial Center, courtyard gallery. 945-0505. Closes October 3.

*FramingSPACE.* Cooper Union Engineering Building, Humanities Gallery, 51 Astor Place. 353-4327. Closes October 15.

Wilhelm Holzbauer. Ulysses Gallery, 41 E. 57th St. 754-4666. Closes October 16.

Berlin: Designing a Capital for the 21st Century. Goethe House New York, German Cultural Center, 1014 Fifth Ave. 439-8700. Closes October 16.

George Sadek and Friends: The Cooper Union Center for Design and Typography. Herb Lubalin Center, Cooper Union Foundation Building, 7th St. at Third Ave. 353-4195. Closes October 22.

Antwerp "Salon." Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, Columbia University, 400-level Avery Hall. 854-3414. Closes October 23.

Franklin D. Israel: Selected Projects. Sponsored by the Architectural League of New York. The Urban Center Galleries, 457 Madison Ave. 753-1722. Closes October 27.

Have You Been to the Airport Late-ly? Sponsored by the Municipal Art Society with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. Urban Center Galleries, 457 Madison Ave. 935-3960. Closes October 27.

Award Winning Design: 1993 NIAE Student Competitions. National Institute for Architectural Education, 30 W. 22nd St. 924-7000. Closes October 29.

Mechanical Brides: Women and Machines from Home to Office. The Cooper-Hewitt Museum, 2 E. 91st St. 860-6868. Closes January 2.

*Toward Modern Design: Revival and Reform.* The Cooper-Hewitt Museum, 2 E. 91st St. 860-6868. Closes January 2. Glen-Gery Brickwork Design Center. 8:00 am. Amster Yard, 211 E. 49th St. 319-5577.

# 21 Thursday

### AIA NEW YORK CHAPTER EVENTS

How to Research and Select Viable Target Markets & Develop Prospective Client Lists. Given by Cathlyn Aker. Sponsored by AIA New York Chapter Marketing and Public Relations Committee. 5:30 pm. Swanke Hayden Connell Architects, conference center. 353-8800. \$15.

Marketing in the Nineties. Given by Richard Hayden, Eugene Kohn, and Todd Dalland. Sponsored by Plaza Construction Corporation.6:00 pm. 200 Lexington Ave., 16th floor auditorium. 683-0023, ext. 16.

### LECTURES

The New Jersey Plan for Development and Redevelopment. Given by Herbert Simmens. Sponsored by Temple Hoyne Buell Center for the Study of American Architecture. 6:30 pm. Wood Auditorium, Avery Hall,

Columbia University. 854-8165.

Architecture and the Crisis of Meaninglessness: Projects by Hariri & Hariri. Given by Gisue Hariri. Sponsored by the Cooper-Hewitt Museum. 6:30 pm. 2 E. 91st St. 860-6868, \$15.

Good Housekeeping: Design and Domestic Technology. Given by Ellen Lupton and Gwendolyn Wright. Sponsored by the Architectural League. 6:30 pm. Urban Center Galleries, 457 Madison Ave. 753-1722. \$7.

George and Edward Blum: Texture and Design in New York Apartment House Architecture. Given by Andrew Dolkart and Susan Tunick. Sponsored by the Municipal Art Society. 12:00 noon. Urban Center Galleries, 457 Madison Ave. Reservations 935-3960.

Wiener Werkstatte and Decorative Arts. Given by Jane Adlin. Sponsored by the Art Deco Society of New York. 8:00 pm. The New School for Social Research, 66 W. 12th St. 679-DECO. \$12.

# 22 Friday SEMINAR

Lehman College Gymnasium. Given by Rafael Vinoly. Sponsored by Temple Hoyne Buell Center for the Study of American Architecture. 12:15 pm. Buell Hall, Third Floor South Seminar Room, Columbia University. 854-8165. of American Architecture. 12:15 pm. Buell Hall, Third Floor South Seminar Room, Columbia University. 854-8165.

### EXHIBIT

**Cities of Childhood: Italian Colonies of the 1930s.** Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, Columbia University, 400-level Avery Hall. 854-3414. Closes December 10.

# November

# 3 Wednesday

SEMINAR

Brick Veneer with Metal Stud Backup. Sponsored by Glen-Gery Brickwork Design Center. 8:00 am. Amster Yard, 211 E. 49th St. 319-5577.

LECTURE

Beyond Dance: Josephine Baker and Her Influence on European International Design. Given by Renée Kemp-Rotan. Sponsored by the Cooper-Hewitt Museum. 6:30 pm. 2 E. 91st St. 860-6868. \$10.

# 4 Thursday

### LECTURE From Hofburg to Werkbund: Monarchs to Workers.

Given by **Otto Kapfinger**. Sponsored by the Art Deco Society of New York. 8:00 pm. The New School for Social Research, 66 W. 12th St. 679-DECO. \$12.

AIA NEW YORK CHAPTER EVENT

Negotiating Fees and Contracts in the Post-Recession Era. Given by Matthew Kroin, Frank Stasiowski, and Joseph Fleischer. Sponsored by Plaza Construction Corporation. 6:00 pm. 200 Lexington Ave., 16th floor auditorium. 683-0023, ext. 16.

Send Oculus calendar information to AIA New York Chapter, 200 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10016.

Oculus welcomes information for the calendar pertaining to public events about architecture and the other design professions. Information is due in writing a week before the first of the month for the following issue.

Because of the time lag between when information is received and when it is printed, final details of events are likely to change. We recommend that you check events with sponsoring institutions before attending.

# Urban Center Books' Top 10

As of August 26, 1993

1. The Next American Metropolis: Ecology, Community and the American Dream, Peter Calthorpe (Princeton Architectural Press, paper, \$24.95).

2. Guide to New York City Landmarks, Andrew S. Dolkart (The Preservation Press, paper, \$6.95).

3. Variations on a Theme Park: The New American City and the End of Public Space, ed. Michael Sorkin (Noonday/Farrar, Straus & Giroux, cloth \$30.00, paper \$15.00).

4. Morphosis: Connected Isolation, Thom Mayne (Academy Editions/St. Martin's Press, cloth \$45.00, paper \$35.00).

5. Folding and Unfolding, AD Profile No. 102, ed. Greg Lynn (Academy Editions/St. Martin's Press, paper, \$24.95).

6. Architecture in Transition: Between Deconstruction and New Modernism, ed. Peter Noever (Prestel-Verlag, paper, \$25.95).

7. Peter Pran of Ellerbe Becket: Recent Works, Daniel Libeskind, Fumihiko Maki, Peter Pran, John Gaunt, and Kenneth Frampton (Academy Editions/St. Martin's Press, cloth \$45.00, paper \$30.00).

8. The End of Architecture? Documents and Manifestos, ed. Peter Noever (Prestel, paper, \$25.95). 9. American Town Plans: A Comparative Time Line, Keller Easterling (Princeton Architectural Press, paper, \$19.95).

10. Whitney Guide to 20th Century American Architecture: 200 Key Buildings, Sydney LeBlanc (Whitney Library of Design/Watson-Guptill, paper, \$18.95).

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# Rizzoli Bookstores' Top 10

As of August 26, 1993

1. Richard Meier, Architect, Volume 2, Kenneth Frampton (Rizzoli, paper, \$40.00).

2. Eyewitness Visual Dictionary of Buildings (Dorling Kinderseley, cloth, \$14.95).

3. Aldo Rossi: Buildings and Projects, ed. Morris Adjmi (Princeton Architectural Press, paper, \$40.00).

4. **Restaurant Design 3**, Judy Radice (PBC International, cloth, \$60.00).

5. Richard Meier, Architect, Joseph Rykwert (Rizzoli, cloth \$65.00, paper \$40.00).

6. **The Architectural Uncanny**, Anthony Vidler (The MIT Press, cloth, \$25.00).

7. The End of Architecture? Documents and Manifestos, ed. Peter Noever (Prestel, paper, \$25.95).

8. Free Spirit in Architecture: Omnibus Volume, Andreas Papadakis (Academy Editions/St. Martin's Press, paper, \$50.00).

9. Villages in the Sun, Myron Goldfinger (Rizzoli, cloth \$50.00, paper \$35.00).

10. **Michael Graves: 1982-1989**, Karen Nichols, Patrick Burke, and Caroline Hancock (Princeton Architectural Press, paper, \$34.95).



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### • OPEN OCULUS: HOUSING continued

profit participation, but he didn't say fully why. There is no question that public intervention in the housing market, especially affordable housing, can only have a marginal impact. There is a sense that while the city's housing program is successful in terms of publiclyassisted housing, it has neglected private-market housing - including rising water and sewer fees. Many owners go into arrears on these fees. Guiliani did not really confront this issue either, but at least he referred to the fact that much housing is at risk of going in rem.

Giuliani showed a greater sensitivity to role of the private housing market, but the Mayor seems to have a firmer grasp — and accomplishments to show for it — in the area of public assistance and intervention.

**Oculus:** Giuliani said New York is a city of neighborhoods, and implied that if we could give a priority to home ownership and apartments

houses to be owned by low- and moderate-income people] address this need. My understanding of Giuliani's program is that he would expand on that.

Nehemiah's benefits are significant in bringing new housing production and home ownership to areas that were neglected. It is an opportunity and incentive for families to commit themselves to tough areas. There are drawbacks: Lowdensity housing creates problems in some areas. In order for it to be affordable, the city needs to build the housing on large sites, which are not always available in New York, except in Brooklyn.

**Ocolus:** Willa Appel asked each candidate a hypothetical question about what he would do if Henry Cisneros, the Secretary of the federal Housing and Urban Development agency, gave him \$100 million for the city, no strings attached. Giuliani said he would put half of it into home-ownership programs and use hood-based business activity and homeconfronting harder policy choices.ownership. Nevertheless, that is aIts real strength was a series oflegitimate set of priorities in termsfindings about the nature of theof city housing policy.homeless population, such as who

**Oculus**: What about Dinkins and the homeless?

JR: Dinkins did comment on the homeless problem. In spite of the city's providing housing units [it has relocated an average of 4,300 families a year from shelters to permanent housing between 1991 and 1993], no real progress has been made on the homeless front. He took a very sober tone with regard to the homeless services, but one would be hard pressed not to.

There was no sense of where we are going on Dinkins's part, just a recognition that what had been tried has not worked.

**Oculus:** What about Giuliani's response to Dinkins's creating a new city agency, the Department of Homeless Services? He said the homeless program should involve the private sector on a voluntary basis.

Michael Goodwin



Tony Guida



Roberta Washington



Audience member, Curtis Sliwa

owned by people in the community, we would solve a lot of problems. But isn't his emphasis on home ownership too narrow a thrust for the city's housing problems?

JR: Home ownership by itself is not enough. It is not a cure-all. And what is the good of home ownership if the owners can't pay for operating costs? At the same time, New York has a low rate of home ownership compared to the rest of the country. Its strong dependence on rental housing means that New York is more open to new people entering the city. Yet home ownership is important in neighborhood stabilization, especially in marginal areas. The Nehemiah and the New York City Housing Partnership programs [for helping develop the other half to help people own their businesses. What do you think of this plan? Mayor Dinkins said he would form a panel to advise him. What do you think of his answer?

JR: Basically the Mayor's response did not indicate the priorities and hierarchies of his housing goals, and that is a detriment. We're at a stage where resources are scarce enough, and we need to have a clear sense of direction from the city. It wasn't an inappropriate response to suggest that he would sit down with various officials. It's just that we have no sense of his priorities.

Giuliani was clearer about that. He showed where he was inclined to focus. One may or may not agree on the focus — on small neighborJR: What is needed is massive restructuring, since the system isn't working. Giuliani is looking at the "who." There are limitations to private, not-for-profit involvement, and his response to the homeless question is less valuable. He got off easily by not being rebutted.

**Oculus:** But according to Giuliani, the Cuomo Commission report the report that Andrew Cuomo's commission produced for Dinkins — recommended that the city let the private, not-for-profit groups (church organizations, et al.) handle the homeless. What about that?

JR: First, the Cuomo report has been used by many as thicket in which people have run for cover without controlling harder policy choices. Its real strength was a series of findings about the nature of the homeless population, such as who they are. In terms of dramatically restructuring the homeless policy, however, there isn't that much there. The report discussed new directions, but it didn't come out forcefully for them. You can find what you want in it.

**Oculus:** Regarding the homeless issue, Willa Appel commented that state regulations and court orders have made housing an entitlement in New York. When Giuliani seemed to say that the city has always helped people find housing and should continue to do so, Appel emphasized that the city was not required to just help. It had to provide housing. She maintained that Giuliani's suggestion that not-forprofit organizations take on the homeless would create problems. Even he conceded that not-forprofit organizations had been worked to capacity. He said he would try to expand the not-forprofit groups, but these private organizations alone could not solve the housing problems.

JR: The discussion again brings up the issue of restructuring the system. There was a recognition by the Mayor that court regulations are unreasonable, but neither Giuliani nor Dinkins said what he would do about it. Dinkins, Giuliani, and even Cuomo have all tiptoed around the issue.

**Oculus**: With regard to the current program of rent control and rent stabilization, Giuliani seemed to be for keeping it. Even though he said that situations of clear abuse should be rectified, he conceded that rent regulation should be retained since so many people rely on it. What do you think of his endorsement?

JR: Giuliani was clear in his support of the program. The current form of rent regulation is a blunt tool that has created problems and has not addressed other issues. Clearly this area needs to be reformed, but since the politics are so definitive, a straightforward discussion about reforms is unlikely.

# **City's Waterfront Plan Debated**

Last March, the Comprehensive Waterfront Plan released by the New York City Planning Department in the fall of 1992 was the subject of a lively debate organized by the Municipal Art Society Fellows. The discussion, which accompanied an exhibition. "Perspectives on the New York Waterfront: Planning the City's Edge," curated by architect Mary Rusz and the MAS's director of programs and exhibitions, Tracy Calvan, was staged to encourage further debate on the waterfront plan.

Now that the City Planning Commission has approved the new zoning regulations recommended in DCP's waterfront plan, some of the larger questions raised that night provide a meaningful context for evaluating the current actions. The City Council is expected to vote on it in October.

The MAS discussion involved a number of planners, urban designers, and architects from various cities in addition to New York: moderator Debra Whitelaw. a planner and founding member of the Hunters Point Community Coalition: Wilbur Woods, director, division of waterfront and open space planning, New York Department of City Planning; Bernd Zimmerman, director, bureau of planning and development in the Bronx Borough President's Office; Ionathan Barnett, director, graduate program in urban design, City College of New York; Kenneth Greenberg of Berridge, Lewinberg, Greenberg, Inc., Toronto; and Robert Yaro, executive director of the Regional Plan Association, New York Chapter.

The comments presented are extremely abbreviated excerpts of the discussion by the panelists and have been rearranged according to topic.

### The Plan and Its Process

Wilbur Woods: After looking at the "working" waterfront, the "natural" waterfront, and the "public" waterfront, we

[DCP]

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Wilbur Woods

still in manufacturing zones that are dormant. These can be connected well to upland communities. We have identified 27 new sites for development that could be added to sites already approved but not yet developed. All in all, the sites would allow 50,000 to 75,000 housing units to be created. But we need waterfront zoning reform to guide development.

The city's waterfront zoning proposal promotes the idea of mandatory public access to the waterfront, visual corridors, and urban design guidelines for development that are compatible and appropriate to the waterfront and the upland community. It also mandates that lands underwater and between the bulkhead and pierhead lines would no longer be counted as floor area for development. Also, the zoning regulates development of new buildings, provides controls on uses of piers, adds new regulations for floating structures, and protects historic waterfront buildings with special permit mechanisms for their use.

The intent [of DCP] is to revise the Waterfront Revitalization Program that was passed in 1982 as a New York City Charter 197-a Plan.

Bernd Zimmerman: We [Bronx Boro President's Office] have developed a comprehensive response to the Comprehensive Waterfront Plan. We looked at it along with the

city's studies on siting of solid waste transfer stations and on industry. In looking at all these studies, we propose that the entire waterfront plan go through a much greater public review process than it has. We do not believe the Planning Department's staff should decide the framework for the waterfront policy. Elected officials should be part of the process to consider the plan and change it, modify it, or improve it. We advocate a full 197-a process

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community boards are overburdened. They depend on volunteers, although the city promised professional assistance. To do justice to this proposal a much wider participation mechanism should be engaged.

Kenneth Greenberg: As a broad policy document, the Comprehensive Waterfront Plan is a "framework," and raises the necessary issues.



Kenneth Greenberg

such a particular (albeit "generic") zoning strategy or "set of tools." I worry about skipping the step between broad policy and specific zoning - [that is] "plan-making," relating to the particularities of place. There is a problem of planning resources - New York can't make plans for 578 miles of waterfront all at once. But it can

examine areas on a priority basis and anticipate development interest in certain ones. Instead of simply letting private developers make the plans and put the city in a position to respond or react, the city should make plans on a sector-by-sector basis, when appropriate.

WW: In terms of generic zoning versus the more ad hoc zoning, our intent was to get beyond ad hoc planning and develop a set of generic controls that would be flexible enough to incorporate a variety of types of development and uses [on the waterfront]. But controls would be generic enough to be passed as citywide zoning.

KG: The trouble with trying to make the relationship so simple and so generic is that you have ignored the potential of natural systems and the need to respond to them. To bring the natural side of the equation into as sharp a focus as the man-made side of the equation, you have to resort to the particular, not the generic.

### Toward a Flexible and Diverse Waterfront

Debra Whitelaw: Two issues stand out with a coordinated waterfront plan: How do we create a waterfront that meets the needs of the local communities, the city, and the region, and how can diversity be achieved in a unified plan?

As a resident of a waterfront [Hunters Point] community, I see everyday realities that must be addressed seriously in any plan. Such realities include factory workers on their way to work and home; a



moderateincome residential underserved facilities, open space, recreation,

vulnerable

Debra Whitelaw

community, in terms of health

### • OPEN OCULUS: FORUM continued

and vital human services; a slightly depressed commercial strip in need of increased activity; and historic structures that give these areas a sense of place. And I see impressive transportation nodes utilized well over capacity. Although I can see the water, I would say it is the activity and character of the upland area that should provide the framework for our waterfront planning.

Jonathan Barnett: The question is, When you go back to the waterfront, what waterfront do you go back to?



The "Hudson River School" waterfront that the seventeenthcentury settlers found has

Jonathan Barnett

long since been obliterated. The waterfront, developed for industry, succeeded it, and the city might now be giving up too easily on jobs that could still be created on the waterfront. If you want a working waterfront, what kind of transportation infrastructure do you need to make it succeed in the way the city's competitors do?

**Robert Yaro**: We've had experience in combining working waterfronts



access, and it is possible to put in floating docks for fishing boats, working boats, and ferry boats

and public

and, at the same time, to provide security for those uses, as well as public access to the area above the seawall. What millions of people enjoy is a working waterfront. They don't need to be mutually exclusive.

### Quality of Life

JB: The implicit controversy here lies between the idea that the vacant land on the waterfront is a vacant development parcel and the idea that it is an opportunity for ecological restoration. If you want people to come back to the city, you have to offer them something as good as they can get where they are now. The restoration of the river environment isn't just ecologically responsible, it provides things within a city that people seek for modern living. An ecological environment is not just a sound strategy for clean water, it is also a way of competing with the continuous expansion of the city into the suburbs and beyond. This is not to say that Battery Park City or South Street Seaport shouldn't exist. Obviously in downtown central areas, hardedge, high-intensity development makes a lot of sense.

The question now is, Should we lose all the waterfront land that could become development parcels, or should we put another layer of planning over this and say, "Let's do an ecological plan that deals with a river system"? And instead of developing it all, what happens if the waterfront is developed as a park? I've always thought that the highest and best use for Trump's [Penn Yards] property was a park, which would be cheaper to develop and of more value to the West Side.

**BZ**: The waterfront plan should have more of a philosophy about

the quality of life in the city behind it. We have to ask, To what extent does this waterfront plan really help to develop a society in this city that is more socially just?

One way this particular proposal makes us feel nervous is that the waterfront of Manhattan is proposed to be entirely encircled by an esplanade. If we allow the manufacturing land [on the waterfront] in Manhattan to disappear, Manhattan cannot take its "fair share" of transfer stations, sludge treatment plants, and waste disposal sites for a lot of stuff generated in Manhattan. This is creating an inequitable city, with institutionalized favoritism.

We want to create an environment where the economic base of the Bronx can be protected and enhanced, so that the Bronx becomes an alternative location for living as well as for conducting business.

**WW**: People in Manhattan have new sewage treatment plants on the Hudson River and a sludge management plant on Ward's Island. Up and down the river are water-dependent municipal uses that do not preclude public access to the waterfront. If we can get more access to the waterfront, we can improve the quality of life and increase the tax base of the city.

We shall improve the quality of life in the city by connecting communities to the waterfront. Working waterfronts aren't accessible to the communities. Now we can make it accessible and improve the quality of life in the city.

**JB**: It is possible that a form of apartheid will develop further in another four years, where all the people who have the resources have moved out of the center city. Only a tiny group who live in defended enclaves in certain areas will remain. The waterfront redevelopment can be a tool to some extent to prevent this kind of apartheid from happening between the haves and the have-nots.

### The Implications of Clean Water

**RY**: One of the fastest growing costs of housing in the city is going to be the cost of paying for the last generation, not to mention the next generation, of sewage treatment plants required by the Clean Water Act.

**KG**: The problems of cleanup are societal problems, and they cannot be paid for entirely by the redevelopment that occurs on available sites on the waterfront.

### **A Concluding Reminder**

**RY**: This is our big chance to do on the waterfront in the twenty-first century what we did with Central Park, Prospect Park, and the other parks in inland areas in the nineteenth century. And we shouldn't blow it.

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### OPEN OCULUS: COMMENTS & CONTROVERSY

# Waterfront Zoning Plan: A Summary

Among the most important principles, mandates, and "tools" of the new Waterfront Zoning Law are the following:

• All new residential and commercial developments in medium- and high-density areas must allow 15 to 20 percent of the land area to be open for public use. Open space would be subject to urban design controls, and visual and physical corridors would be created and preserved.

• The height and form of buildings on the waterfront would be limited by new urban design controls.

• New piers and platforms would be reserved for waterdependent and recreational uses. There would be a height limitation of 40 feet for nonwater-dependent new structures on the piers.

• Land underwater couldn't be counted in the developers' floor area ratio for new buildings.

• Ferries and excursion and fishing boats wouldn't be limited to just manufacturing-zoned areas.

According to the City Planning Department, the review process that occurred over a period of six months included four public meetings and numerous private ones. Reactions and criticisms did affect the zoning recommendations, particularly in preserving historic buildings and resources and limiting development on the piers. DCP's Carol Clark reports that the zoning regulations are "tools" to be devised as a first step toward the waterfront plan. The second step involves the mapping of the waterfront areas to create public access. Meanwhile, the City Council still must take action on the zoning laws in October.

# Hunters Point Plans: Another Voice

### by Miguel Escobar

I have been following the progress of the Hunters Point development since 1984 when I was getting my master's degree in architecture and urban design from Columbia University. I took as my thesis project the waterfront development for Hunters Point. Neither of the two proposals - the official Queens West **Development Corporation scheme** by Gruzen Samton/Beyer Blinder Belle and the alternate proposal by Harken Architects and the Hunters Point Community Coalition - address the real concerns and the potential of the site or the need for long-term planning for the whole of Hunters Point.

The viability of the waterfront development is dependent on its integration with the community, just as much as the community is dependent on private investment. Although both the QWDC project and the alternate plan are quite sensitive in the way they handle the relationship of buildings and public space, neither of the two plans takes into account the potential or the obligation of the waterfront development to act as a catalyst for the revitalization of the entire Hunters Point community. The QWDC project is basically an extension of Manhattan, providing a view onto itself without suggesting how the rest of Hunters Point should develop. The alternate plan differs only in density and use.

While the visual corridors to Manhattan have been acknowledged, and the LIRR cut has been identified as the main entrance to the waterfront, neither of the schemes concretely comes to terms with the existing neighborhoods, parks, no-man's-land of railroad yards extending back to the Queensborough bridge, or commercial and institutional streets. The extension of the most obvious corridor to the waterfront, Jackson



Hunters Point thesis, isometric, Miguel Escobar

Avenue, is not addressed by either plan, nor is there a sense of Jackson Avenue's role as the spine of Hunters Point. Furthermore, the potential of Hunters Point as a multitransportation hub, where major highway, bus, train, and subway systems intersect, needs to be taken into consideration along with the health service requirements for such a large community and the need to develop commercial and industrial as well as residential bases within the overall plan.

Because Jackson Avenue is a street where two separate grid systems meet, creating arresting angles for view corridors to the water and Manhattan (see site isometric), and because of this street's importance as a commercial and institutional spine, my own waterfront plan uses Jackson Avenue as a starting point. It was the inspiration, not just for the waterfront, but for an all-encompassing Hunters Point redevelopment project. Taking the visual corridors available from Jackson Avenue as a cue, I built up the waterfront development gradually from the neighborhoods themselves, repairing and slightly modifying existing blocks and walkways to the water's edge.

The main components of my

### scheme include:

• extending Jackson Avenue right to the "point" of Hunters Point and providing a visual corridor to the World Trade Center;

• enhancing the parks and buildings along Jackson Avenue, since they act as pivotal points to opening visual corridors west to Manhattan;

• using the total width of the abandoned LIRR cut as a garden gateway to the waterfront;

• reconstructing the intersection of Jackson Avenue with the LIRR cut and 11th Street, to emphasize the community's connection with Brooklyn;

• developing an intermodal transportation station opposite the LIRR cut in order to accommodate all the various commuters;

• developing an industrial park on a newly created axis northeast of the commuter station on the existing LIRR yards;

• creating a new east-west axis from the existing LIRR Borden railroad yards, which contains a large meadow, residential buildings, and a major regional hospital;

• placing a commercial core at the end of the LIRR cut;

• designing a continuous public promenade on the waterfront;

• installing a marina, with a ferry to 42nd Street;

• creating a high ratio of parks and open spaces to developed areas; and

• creating a variety of streets, boulevards, promenades, gardens, parks, squares, and crescents that make every site unique.

Hunters Point may need a waterfront project, but it needs a regional development plan much more. The plan must take into account the existence of a community with a historic right to the waterfront, and a community in need of public and private sectors coming together in search of a viable total redevelopment plan.

Miguel Escobar is an architect and urban designer in Montreal, who also heads the town planning and technical services department of a municipality near Montreal.

### A ROUND THE CHAPTER

# Medical Ethics and Design Guidelines Examined

### by Barbara A. Nadel, AIA

Every day in hospitals across the country, health-care professionals face ethically challenging questions about who will live and die, and the legal ramifications surrounding them. At a recent Chapter event,

New York Times metro desk and health-care reporter Lisa Belkin discussed the New York Times coverage of health care and these issues

Lisa Belkin

with the Health Facilities Committee. Her latest book, *First Do No* 

*Harm*, explores the uncertainties and complexities of medical ethics and hospital politics. Belkin had unprecedented access to the ethics committee at a Houston hospital, where life-sustaining decisions are made every day. Health care in Houston is big business: 500 acres and 500,000 workers in 32 facilities. Belkin noted that "the contrast between the largest private hospital, which looked like a Hyatt, and the local public hospital, which had not been renovated in years, was compelling."

From her vantage point, "it's a story about people," not policy or politics. Implementing a building program should account for the "institution as an organic being one which considers not only why the elevators never seem to work, but how building design affects the way people feel about what they do." She reports on "what life is like within the institution: the language, style of dress, social customs, and mannerisms that are ultimately off-putting to patients."

During a five-month period, Belkin observed physicians, patients, families, and hospital staff members as they grappled with difficult dilemmas. As the professionals at the institution delved deeper into the uncharted realms of medicine and morality, Belkin recorded the fierce arguments between doctors, nurses, patients, and staff. This timely discussion sheds light on the ramifications of a national health care policy reform, where medical decisions will often be driven by costs.

On the technical side, shortly after Belkin's talk about media coverage of health care, **Emilio M. Pucillo, RA**, director of the Office



Emilio Pucillo

Services, Public Health Service, for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, joined 75 members

of Engineering

and guests of the AIA New York Chapter Health Facilities Committee for a discussion about the changes in the 1992–1993 edition of the "Guidelines for Construction and Equipment of Hospital and Medical Facilities."

Pucillo explained the five new sections of the guidelines in detail, addressing freestanding birth centers; outpatient diagnostic and treatment facilities; psychiatric facilities; mobile units; and neonatal intensive care units. The guidelines also address infectious and medical isolation rooms used to treat patients with tuberculosis and other contagious diseases. Any new project with federal money must use the guidelines during design in order to obtain necessary approvals. This includes federal guaranteed mortgage programs, community centers, Head Start programs, and numerous smaller federally-funded projects around the country.

While the New York State Department of Health does not officially recognize or adhere to the guidelines, NYS DOH architects such as Tom Jung, RA, who was present during the discussion, are sensitive to the need for a coordinated effort at all stages of the design review process. Judging from the level of interest in the audience and the need to address critical design issues in health facilities, the dialogue between health-care architects and state and federal regulators in New York is a mutually beneficial endeavor that should continue.

Barbara A. Nadel, AIA, vice chair of the Health Facilities Committee and principal of her own firm, moderated both events.

# Dealing with Public Clients

### by Barbara A. Nadel, AIA

What is the secret of a successful project with a public agency? Many architects say there is no secret it's a matter of luck, chemistry, a lot of hard work, and knowing how both the client and end-user organizations operate. Public architects have another point of view that is not often expressed in public dialogue with their private-sector counterparts.

What is expected from a design consultant when commissioned by the New York State Office of General Services Design and Construction Group (OGS D&C)? On the flip side, what do design consultants expect from this state client — and are those expectations being met?

These questions will be addressed on November 9 by Richard E. Thomas, AIA, executive director, NYS OGS D&C; Daniel J. Duffy, AIA, director of consultant procurement, NYS OGS D&C; and Walter J. Tuchowski, senior budget examiner with the New York State Division of the Budget, Office of the Task Force on Debt and Cash Management. Sponsored by the AIA New York Chapter Health Facilities Committee, the event will be held at 6 pm at the New York Design Center, 200 Lexington Avenue, 16th floor.

Walter Tuchowski brings a broad perspective to the capital planning process. With 20 years of government experience in capital financing and debt management, capital construction, program management, corrections, and law enforcement, Tuchowski has been involved with infrastructure planning and state agency capital plan review. As a former program manager at OGS D&C, where he worked with consultants, and at the Facilities Development Corporation, where he often took

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### AROUND THE CHAPTER

the client perspective for the NYS Office of Mental Health, Tuchowski is now concerned with the role of the Budget Division in the state's capital development program. In addition to describing the process of how projects are identified, reviewed, and funded by the state, Tuchowski will discuss "the state's approach to decreasing long-term financing in favor of a cash basis to pay for capital projects and construction," and the effect this change will have on the design professions in New York.

An architect with over 38 years of experience, Daniel Duffy, AIA, is a veteran of both public service and private practice. Duffy entered state service in 1961 with the Department of Public Works as an assistant architect. He later went to the Department of Mental Hygiene, where he was director of long-range planning, and returned to the Department of Public Works, which by then was known as the Office of General Services.

As director of consultant procurement for D&C, Duffy has met hundreds of hopeful consultants seeking work with OGS. An expert at navigating the finer points of the OGS Modified Standard Form 254, Duffy also has the unenviable task of debriefing scores of consultants who are unsuccessful in their quest for state work. Duffy will discuss "what everyone wants to know: What kinds of work have OGS D&C consultants been doing? What kinds of work do we see in the future? And how do we get shortlisted?" Duffy will also offer a short primer on how to fill out the latest Modified Standard Form 254.

**Executive director Richard** Thomas, AIA, understands the frustration of doing business with government agencies and wants to do something about it. As a 14-year veteran with OGS D&C, Thomas has held several key positions, including director of consultant procurement, chief of the bureau of architecture, and deputy director of design and construction. Prior to state service, he was in private

practice for 14 years with a Troy. New York, firm and has served as AIA Eastern New York Chapter secretary and vice president.

Thomas will discuss the current initiatives of his agency and the direction he foresees for the future. He plans to share comments from his design and construction staff about what makes a project successful, information which he says, "will be applicable when working with other public agencies." It is a dialogue that may be long overdue. but one that will always engage New York's design professionals on both sides of the table.

Barbara A. Nadel, AIA, vice chair of the Health Facilities Committee and principal of her own firm, has consulted to OGS D&C and the NYS **Department of Correctional Services** on several prison health projects and studies.

# **Seminar to Address Post-Recession Era**

### by Barry B. LePatner, Esq.

economic downturn, has had a crippling effect on New York's architectural and design professions. But as has been demonstrated historically, all recessions do end, and healthy business returns.

To prepare architects and design professionals for the emergence of new business and the new markets that have evolved from the economic upheaval of the 1980s, Lenore M. Lucey, FAIA, executive director of the AIA New York Chapter, Barbara J. Rodriguez, Hon. AIA, executive vice president, AIA New York State, and I have developed a three-part seminar series entitled "Managing Your Firm in the Post-Recession Economy." The series comprises three programs that address critical issues confronting architectural and design professionals as they position their firms for growth.

"Managing Your Practice After the Recession," the first of the three-part series, will be held on October 7. The program will provide an overview of the economy and its



effect on the design and construc-

tion world and will include specific

ing firm resources as the economy

rebounds. Speakers will be Paul

Segal, FAIA; Howard Misthal,

CPA, David Berdon & Company;

changes in various markets of the

design profession. It will present

ideas for new presentations and

of staying close to clients while

delivering additional services.

Scheduled to speak are Richard

Hayden, FAIA, Swanke Hayden

Kohn, FAIA, Kohn Pedersen Fox

"Negotiating Fees and Con-

tracts in the Post-Recession Era,"

the third and final session of the

tiate proposals and contracts by

series, scheduled for November 4,

will address different ways to nego-

avoiding mistakes that cost fees and

leverage with new and old clients in

both the private and public sectors.

Speakers include Matthew Kroin,

AIA, Planned Expansion Group;

Frank Stasiowski, AIA, Practice

Management Associates, Ltd.; and

Joseph Fleischer, AIA, James

Stewart Polshek & Partners.

Connell Architects; A. Eugene

Associates; and Todd Dalland,

AIA. FTL Associates.

approaches to delivering services

and will emphasize the importance

and Levi Kiil, AIA, Haines,

management strategies for maximiz-

Richard Hayden

This special series is sponsored by Plaza Construction Corporation, the construction affiliate of Fisher Brothers. Among the firm's accomplishments are signature properties



Gene Kohn

throughout New York City as well as corporate headquarters, trading rooms, food preparation and dining facilities, audiovisual rooms, theaters, banking facilities, law offices, and securities offices.

The series will be held in the 16th floor auditorium at the AIA New York Chapter, 200 Lexington Avenue, and is free to all AIA members. Non-member admission is \$15. For reservations, call 683-0023, ext. 16.

# Hold the Date! Watch for the annual Architectural Heritage Ball,

sponsored by the AIA New York Chapter, on November 9 at the Pierpont Morgan Library. Call 683-0023 for more details.

Lundberg Waehler. The second program, "Marketing in the Nineties," to be held on October 21, will focus on major

Overbuilding, coupled with the

### AROUND THE CHAPTER

# Design Awards Programs Under Review

A task force of the AIA New York Chapter began meeting this summer to address ongoing complaints about the Design Awards program. Current criticisms of the 1993 program include the fact that a single jury chosen to give the awards in four categories refused to premiate any health facilities (conceding finally to "recognize" three). In addition, the jury decided against awarding any interiors, choosing instead to create a category for preservation.

Since the reliance on a single jury and the inclusion of the health facilities category were innovations to the program, some people raised the question of whether the introduction of one (the single jury) killed off the other (awarding health facilities). Some members of the task force, chaired by Chapter president-elect Bart Voorsanger, feel that a team of six or seven invited jurors looking at all of the 142 submissions may not have been better than three or four teams of jurors each examining four separate categories. While one jury is considered more economical and efficient, it also was felt that one point of view tended to pervade all the selections, so the flexibility and unpredictability of choice that might occur in the various categories was absent. Also it seemed to be easier for one jury to reject giving any awards in a particular category if it knew it was awarding a fair amount in another. The status of the new category for buildings with constraining programs

(such as health facilities) has also been examined for its relation to the rest of the awards. Opinions on this issue have varied, as usual. Some feel that health facilities and other types of institutions need special consideration; others object that it creates a quota system and endangers the overall standards of the program. These issues have not been resolved yet.

Another criticism that is related to jury selection has also been taken up by the committee: the continuing perception that the same well-known architects win every year. After tallying the scores for winners since 1988. past Design Awards Committee chair Ed Mills suggested that lesser-known architects, especially younger ones, do receive awards. They just aren't remembered as easily as the Names. While it is true that Richard Meier has indeed won the most awards nine - over the last five years 78 awards have been given to 42 firms. In those years Ellerbe Becket won six awards: Tod Williams Billie Tsien won four; Hanrahan Meyers won four; Steven Holl won three; Peter Eisenman won three; and KPF, Margaret Helfand, and Gwathmey Siegel each won two.

Another concern (deemed to be recession-based) is that the number of entries submitted each year has declined, from 288 in 1988 to only 142 in 1993. Considering that the level of submissions premiated has varied from 13 (1988) to 17 (1990) down to 10 in 1993, the percentage of winners to the entries is, if anything, slightly up. — **S.S.** 

# Remembering George Lewis, 1916-1993

The memorial for George S. Lewis, FAIA, executive director of the AIA New York Chapter from 1969 to 1986, was held Monday, August 23, at the Gotham Bar & Grill on East 12th Street (*Oculus*, September 1993, p. 9). A restaurant may seem an unusual venue for remembering



George Lewis

the very dignified Lewis, who had a courtly, or perhaps ministerial, air about him even when he was cracking a joke. Yet the choice of the Gotham proved to be apropos. As a longtime friend, Eugenie Cowan Havemeyer, explained, Lewis lived nearby the Gotham and had always admired its design by former Chapter president Paul Segal. On Lewis's seventieth birthday the restaurant was the site for a surprise birthday party in his honor.

On the afternoon of the memorial its capacious interior provided a gracious but lively setting for the august gathering of many friends and colleagues, including Edward Larrabee and Mary Barnes, Joseph Wasserman, James Stewart Polshek, Ted Liebman, Lo Yi Chan, and Rolf Ohlhausen.

After an introduction by David Todd, in which he explained how Lewis arrived at the Chapter as its first official executive director in 1969, John Johansen reminisced about his days with Lewis at Harvard in the 1940s; Tim Prentice recalled working with Lewis in the early years in New York; and Peter Samton and Paul Segal outlined Lewis's contributions to the Chapter in which he worked with a succession of 17 presidents before his retirement in 1986. Gene Norman and Laurie Beckelman filled in the time when Lewis worked on the Landmarks Preservation Commission, from 1987 up until last year, and Bart Voorsanger discussed the meaning of Lewis's public role to the Chapter itself.

The event, organized by Eugenie Cowan Havemeyer, Cathanne Piesla, Sue Radmer, and Rebecca Read Shanor, turned out to be lighthearted yet serious, and elegant but informal. It was a fitting occasion. — **S.S.** 

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