

AIA Chicago

# FOCUS

March  
1996



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Chapter of the  
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of Architects



# FOCUS

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EDITOR  
Susan Nelson

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All eligible AIA Chicago programs are assigned learning units for continuing education credit.



= 1 learning unit

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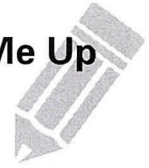
Eric Brightfield, ImageFusion, a division of Holabird & Root LLP

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# FOCUS ON PROGRAMS

## Sign Me Up



### Architecture: Professional Pathways

Sat., March 2, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; Hermann Hall, Illinois Institute of Technology  
Cost: \$5

A new program designed to help architecture students or recent graduates learn about career options. During two panel discussions, seasoned architects, interior designers and urban planners will offer information about careers for those with an architectural education. The first panel will discuss options available in a "traditional" practice, while the second will present choices on a "non-traditional" track such as government, construction management, and real estate development for institutions and private companies. A question and answer session follows the panel presentations. For more information, call AIA Chicago at 312/670-7770. Pre-register (\$5) using form at right. Registration at the event is \$10.

### Inside OWP&P

Tues., March 5, 6:00 p.m.; OWP&P, 1 N. Franklin St., Suite 850  
Sponsor: Design Committee



John Syvertsen, AIA will lead a tour of OWP&P's downtown office and discuss some of the firm's recent projects. RSVP using form at right.

### Imaging & Workflow Automation

Thurs., March 7, 8:00 a.m.; City Hall Council Chambers, 121 N. LaSalle St., second floor  
Cost: \$5, includes breakfast; reservations required (see instructions below).

This seminar will include a presentation by Building Commissioner Cheryl Thomas on her department's computerization efforts and a discussion with Marcus Nunes, the first deputy commissioner, on how the new system will improve efficiency. Following the presentations, questions will be taken from the audience. AIA/CES Self-

Report Forms will be available at the event. Please send the \$5 registration fee to Joan Pomaranc, AIA Chicago, 222 Merchandise Mart Plaza, Suite 1049, Chicago, IL 60654. Fax last minute reservations to 312/670-2422.

### New Officing Concepts

Tues., March 12, 5:30 p.m.; AIA Chicago  
Sponsor: Corporate Architects Committee



A discussion of state-of-the-art concepts for functional office design, including hoteling, home officing, and activity-oriented programming. RSVP using form at right.

### Affordable Comfort Conference '96

March 17-22, Palmer House, 17 E. Monroe St.  
Co-Sponsor: Committee on the Environment

Affordable Comfort '96 is a six-day energy and environmental housing conference that presents ways of transforming existing and new housing into healthy, durable, energy- and resource-efficient living environments. This national conference is being held in Chicago for the first time and provides an excellent opportunity for local architects to interact with other practitioners. The conference is expected to attract over 900 professionals from design, consulting, government, research and building organizations.

Affordable Comfort '96 includes 94 workshops and 70 short courses, organized into 14 topic tracks such as sustainable design, building performance, healthy buildings, and community housing partnerships. Each session will be presented by one of more than 150 national and international experts that are participating in this conference. More than 40 energy products will be exhibited.

The conference will include a special Architect's Forum entitled, "Bridging the Gap: Architecture and Sustain-

*Program listings continue on next page.*

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Glass Coatings

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ability." (See next listing.) For information or brochure, contact Michael Iversen, AIA at 847/564-0370 or Helen Kessler, AIA at 312/477-7792.

### **Bridging the Gap: Architecture and Sustainability**

Tues., March 19, 5:30 p.m.; Palmer House Hilton, 17 E. Monroe St.

Cost: \$10 at the door (students admitted free)

Sponsor: Committee on the Environment

Moderator: Michael Iversen, AIA



A panel of architects from private government, non-profit and academic organizations will discuss ways to integrate issues such as energy, environment, affordability and social responsibility with the architectural profession. Panelists will identify existing barriers that prevent this integration from occurring as well as recommend strategies to overcome them. Attendees are encouraged to share their own experiences, expertise and questions. Please RSVP to AIA Chicago; pay at the door.

### **Public Lecture: Building a City—Rebuilding a City**

Wed., March 20, 5:30 p.m.; Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington, second floor theater  
Sponsor: AIA Chicago

Professor Carl Smith, Ph.D., of Northwestern University, opens the Chapter's annual lecture series with "Urban Renewal on the Grandest Scale." Smith is the author of *Urban Disorder and the Shape of Belief: The Great Chicago Fire, the Haymarket Bomb, and the Model Town of Pullman.*

### **Developer Olympics III: Land-Use Law**

Wed., March 27, 5:30 p.m.; AIA Chicago  
Sponsor: Real Estate Committee



In the third of a 10-month series of development seminars, Donna Pugh, partner at Katten Muchin & Zavis, will speak on land-use law topics related to urban development. Those topics include zoning, the Chicago Plan Commission, and property rights.

### **Glass Coatings**

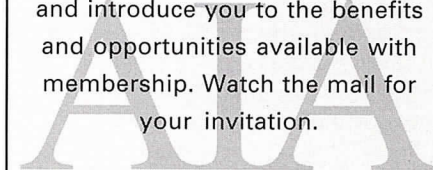
Thurs., March 28, Noon; Chicago Bar Association, 321 S. Plymouth Court  
Cost: \$8.50, includes lunch  
Sponsor: Technical Committee



Rick Voelker of ViraCon will present information on all types of coating for glass, including low E switchable coatings. Purchase ticket in first floor membership office before meeting. RSVP using form on page three.

### **New to the AIA?**

The board of directors of AIA Chicago will sponsor a breakfast on April 18 to welcome members and introduce you to the benefits and opportunities available with membership. Watch the mail for your invitation.



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## Awards Celebrate Beauty

You will notice, enclosed with this issue of FOCUS, is our annual Call for Entries for the AIA Chicago Design Excellence Awards program.

Our profession is racing through change; project delivery processes are constantly evolving; workplace jargon is reinvented almost weekly; and we are looking to alternative markets to increase our share of the planning and building process. Through all of this, a clear fact remains: Architecture is an art.

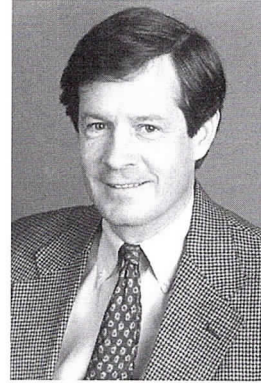
It is important for us to pause on occasion and consider the true value of our work. We seem to be afraid of the word Beauty—as if it implies an imbalance of concern for superficial appearance. But Vitruvius reminded us many centuries ago that Beauty in Architecture must incorporate and balance concerns of Firmness, Commodity and Delight.

Thus, if we overemphasize Delight, we might achieve fashion, but not Beauty. If we overemphasize Firmness and Commodity, we might achieve building, but not Architecture.

We submit architectural and interiors projects for awards because we are proud of them. Ideally we are proud of them because, with our clients and our builders, these projects represent a successful resolution of many forces. They culminate in places that transcend the mere sum of their parts and give us cause to celebrate.

The awards process is not a perfect process. We must continue to improve it by seeking new ways for juries to know the projects more fully. Eventually, we should move from two-dimensional evaluation to videos and user interviews. This will take time.

In the meantime, let's consider our awards program as a way to express our



pride in the significance of the work of Chicago architects.

John J. Syvertsen, AIA

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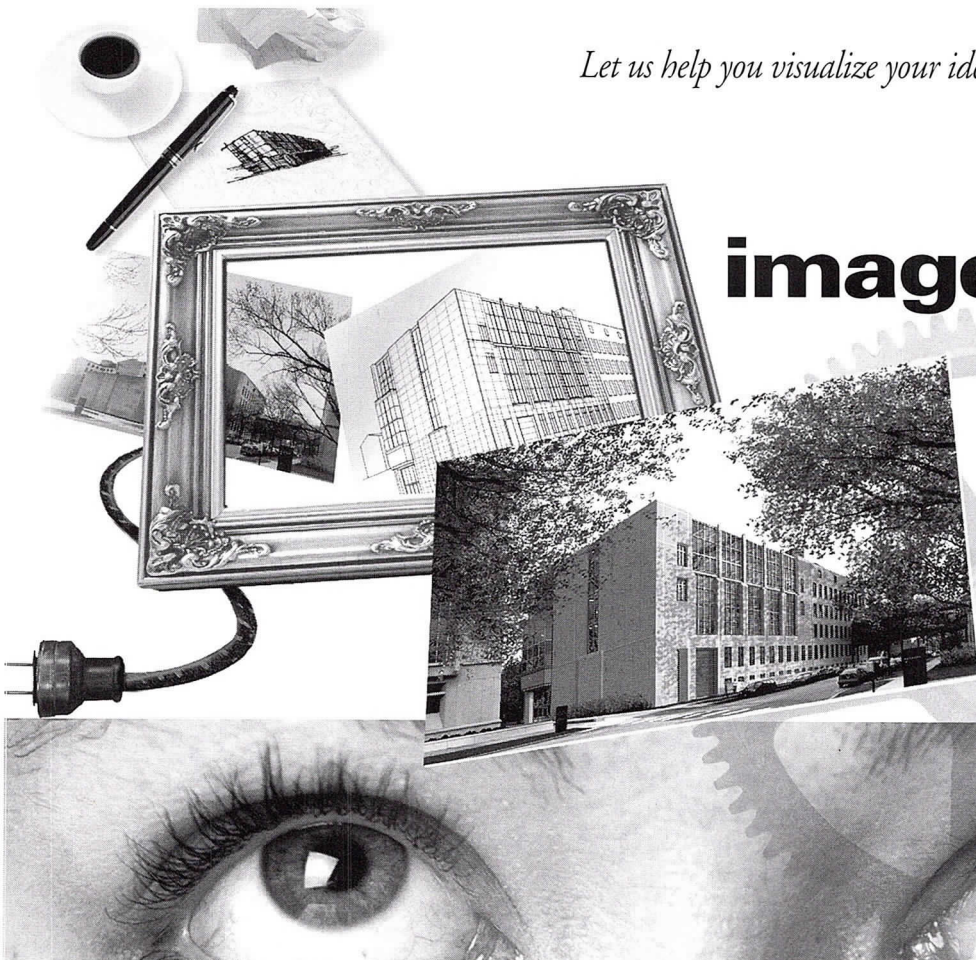
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## IIT and Harvard Students Envision a New 35th Street

The 35th Street corridor in the historic Bronzeville neighborhood offers excellent opportunities for commercial and residential development, according to a joint study by students at Illinois Institute of Technology's College of Architecture and Harvard University's Graduate School of Design.

The studio proposed urban design and architectural guidelines for the corridor, which is the northern boundary of a federal empowerment zone. Recommendations included:

- Constructing a hotel, complete with a restaurant and health club, and a bank or other financial institution, at the intersection of 35th Street and King Drive.
- Increasing pedestrian presence and safety by providing street improvements, more lighting and landscaping.
- Changing traffic patterns so that all streets and avenues are two-way.
- Renovating historic structures and creating a system of parks and plazas to highlight the area's unique identity.

"This is an important step forward in a very focused effort to enhance our community," said Dirk Denison, AIA, associate dean of architecture at IIT and one of the faculty advisers to the project.

Seven IIT students and 12 from Harvard participated in the four-month study, which included significant input from community leaders, merchants, organizations, and residents. The studio was funded through grants from the Graham Foundation, the Neisser Foundation, and the First National Bank of Chicago.

## Building and Zoning Department Mandates Style for Documents

As of February 1, all documents submitted for permit that require certification by design professionals must contain a title block on each sheet with the project name and address of licensee(s) responsible for preparing the documents and an appropriate professional seal, according to the Cook County Department of Building and Zoning. This mandate is in accor-

dance with the *Manual for Code Enforcement Officials and Design Professionals* issued by the State of Illinois Department of Professional Regulations.

The title sheet must include: project identification; the project address and a location map; the names of the professional design firm(s); the principal design professional(s) for each firm; all applicable codes utilized on the project; and a design criteria list.

In addition to these changes, the design professional of record must notify the code enforcement official of all changes during the project and provide drawings, calculations, and other appropriate documents. All revisions must be included with an application for an amended building permit or initialed in a request for an occupancy certificate. Such notes acknowledge the project was built in accordance with the approved permit documents.

For more information, call the Building and Zoning Department at 312/443-7693.

## Popular Residential Seminars Continue in 1996

AIA Chicago is sponsoring a spring series of the "Working With an Architect" seminars. The workshops were developed in 1995 as part of a public outreach effort to prepare potential clients for the design and building process. Attendance at a spring and fall series topped 800.

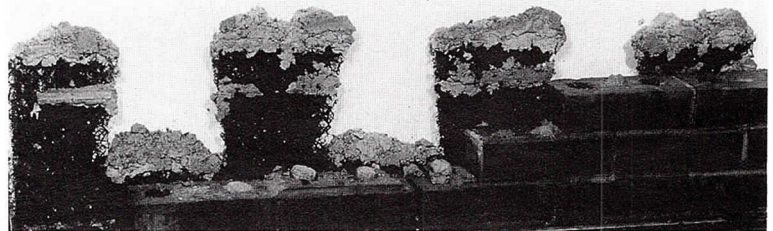
The workshops will be held this month in Chicago, Evanston, Highland Park and Oak Park by teams of AIA Chicago members who specialize in residential projects. Seminar leaders include: Jim Fraerman, AIA; Richard Becker, AIA; Alan Madison, AIA; Robert Sierzega, AIA; Jim Collins, AIA; Scott Fortman, AIA; Dan Sih, AIA; Victor Wolbrink, AIA; Dan Baigelman, AIA; and Roger Muterspaugh, AIA.

Last year, the workshops garnered press coverage in the *Chicago Tribune*, *Chicago Sun-Times*, on radio and television stations, and in community newspapers.

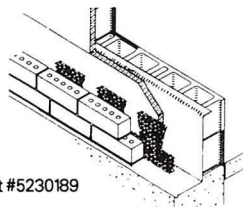
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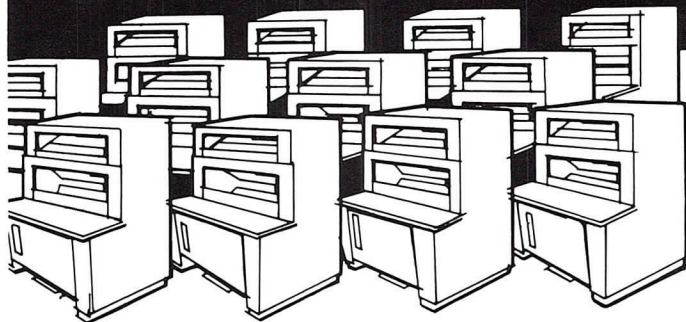
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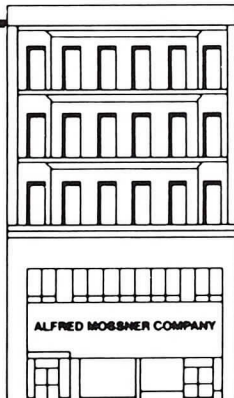
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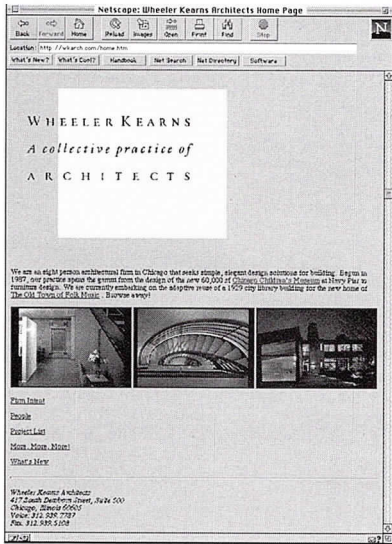
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# SITSEEEING IN CHICAGO

## LOCAL FIRMS ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB



In December 1995, *AIArchitect* ran a special insert on the AIA's new World Wide Web site (<http://www.aia.org>). In addition to describing national AIA's site and listing Web resources architects should use, the insert highlighted the home pages of a few AIA firms.

That got us thinking about what our member firms were doing on the Internet. So, FOCUS talked to those Chicago firms whose home pages are linked to the national AIA site. All member firms may link with the national site by e-mailing their Web address to Carl Sandstrom at [webmaster@aia.org](mailto:webmaster@aia.org), or by calling him at 202/626-7512.

According to Sandstrom, the AIA is developing a small page on its site that will be a resource for firms who are designing new Web sites. The resource page will include guidelines for creating a home page, references to other sites that can serve as examples, and an index of Internet Service Providers (local links to the Web).

"High-quality [sites] can be done relatively inexpensively," explained Sandstrom. He said, for as little as \$30 a month, a firm can establish a site. Sandstrom recommends that, as a starting point, anyone interested in developing a site for their firm should become familiar with the Internet. "Become a browser and see what's out there first," he said.

### DESIGNING A SITE

Tom Zurowski, AIA of Eastlake Studio says creating a Web site was a natural extension of the way his firm promotes itself. "We're an electronic office so putting together a paper portfolio is always a struggle," he said. Creating an electronic portfolio and later a Web site was a relief because "they capture the spirit of our office," Zurowski said.

Zurowski, whose firm has developed Web sites for the Chicago Architecture Foundation (<http://www.architecture.org>) and *Interiors and Sources* magazine (<http://www.isdesignet.com>) and is currently designing a site for AIA Chicago, said the most challenging part of creating a Web site

is "sifting through the mounds of information about your firm and structuring it in a way that is fun and interesting and takes full advantage of new tools." He suggests the two most important considerations for Web site design are simplicity and audience.

"[Firms] should strive for a certain amount of simplicity," Zurowski said. "Images don't need to be the most high-resolution images," and firms don't have to include their entire history. Instead, he said, sites should be "ticklers," encouraging people to revisit them for new information.

Zurowski also believes it's important to understand the Web's current audience in order to know what to expect in response to a new site. "The people who use the Web are a pretty unique crowd right now. Facility managers aren't surfing the 'net; lots of students are because they're interested in the technology and they have cheap access."

Eastlake Studio has received the most contacts to their site from students looking for work. However, they also use their site as a direct, electronic link to clients via e-mail. For some clients, in fact, it's the only way they communicate.


"For us, the site is the next dimension in how we communicate ideas and leverage new technology," Zurowski said.

### FINDING A SERVICE PROVIDER

Larry Kearns, AIA designed a Web page for Wheeler Kearns Architects using WebAuthor for Windows and believes "it's not as difficult as people first think, especially if they're computer literate." He had a more difficult time finding a path to the Internet.

"We looked at many different Internet Service Providers, and there are certainly other providers that are less expensive than the one we went with," Kearns said, "but we wanted a very fast and reliable link."

After much research, Wheeler Kearns chose a Loop-located server with a T3 link (equivalent to the linking speed with which universities are equipped). "We also

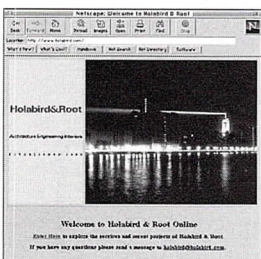


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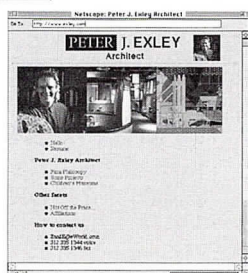
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From one of the Chapter's older firms to one of its newer, an increasing number of offices are establishing Web sites. Pictured here are two of the latest additions—Holabird & Root and Peter J. Exley Architect.





get a weekly report about where every 'hit' comes from," he said, noting the importance of being able to immediately assess international and local contacts. Included as well is full e-mail service.

"Finding the right provider for your firm is not just an investment in a Web site," Kearns said, "it's a greater investment in going on-line."

## UPDATING A SITE

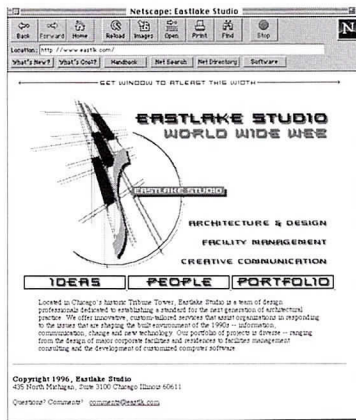
At the time of this interview, Metis Associates Ltd. was in the process of updating its four-month-old Web site. Like many new sites, the Metis site features general information from the firm's marketing brochure. It was developed initially by Scott DeBlaze, a staff member who was interested in the technology "and started playing around with it," to see what kind of a response the site would get and to reach a different type of client.

Because the response was very positive, Metis Associates decided to update the site. Staff members met recently to set goals for the site, much in the same way they develop schematic designs for a project, according to DeBlaze. Renovations include design changes that make the page more user-friendly and editorial updates to the group's history, including an explanation of the firm's logo and philosophy. Metis would also like to add a counter to gauge how many people contact their page on a regular basis.

"We've had a good response from potential clients and other consultants," DeBlaze said. "Now we want to sit down and make it an even better tool."

Steve Benedetto, a computer specialist with O'Donnell Wicklund Pigozzi and Peterson, is in the process of updating his firm's site which is several months old. Though the original site was created by a consultant, OWP&P plans to revise it themselves.

"Depending on the response, we'll probably update it every couple of months," Benedetto said. "If it becomes really popular, maybe every couple of weeks." Benedetto said, pointing out that for



architecture firms, a new project is current for a while.

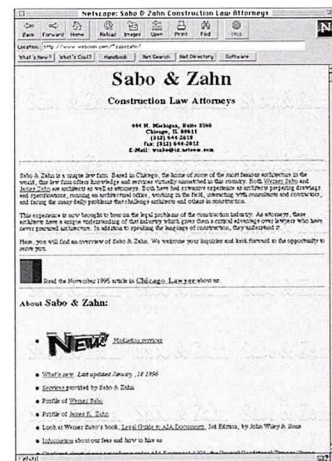
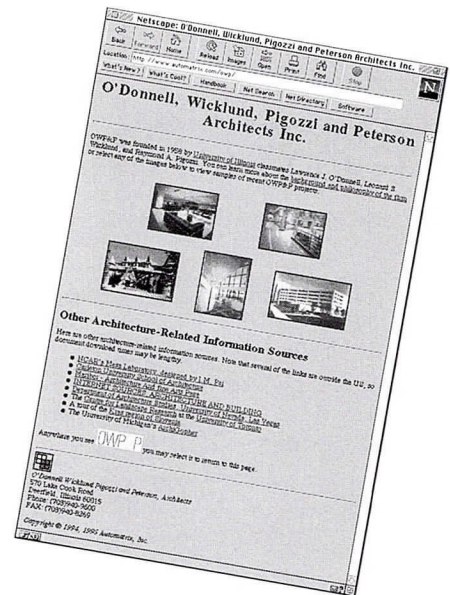
OWP&P's revisions will include a vision statement, in addition to a firm synopsis and history, and a client list from each of its five markets, enabling easy access by potential clients.

## THE WEB AS A RESOURCE

"Initially we got involved because I thought it was sort of 'neat,'" explains Werner Sabo, AIA of the law firm of Sabo & Zahn. "But, it quickly became apparent to me that this is the wave of the future—a way for people, at low cost, to communicate with other people everywhere."

"I believe it's important to get involved early even if you don't see tangible benefits immediately," Sabo said. "It helps establish credibility and enables firms move with upgrades more easily."

Sabo uses the World Wide Web to research law-related topics, to communicate with clients, and to network with specialty consultants. He hopes that in the near future more construction-related information will be available on the Web, including product information, Sweet's on-line, building codes, zoning ordinances, maps, geological information,



and cultural data on foreign sites. Having such resources on the Internet, he says, is a true time-saver because "information can be accessed at anytime, from anywhere."

Home page images shown here appear with permission from the firms.

## POPULAR ATTRACTIONS

Here are some sites you shouldn't miss on your next visit to the Web.

AEC Info Center	<a href="http://www.aecinfo.com">http://www.aecinfo.com</a>
Virtual Library: Architecture	<a href="http://www.clr.toronto.edu/VIRTUALLIB/arch.html">http://www.clr.toronto.edu/VIRTUALLIB/arch.html</a>
Architects First Source	<a href="http://www.expo.net/AFS/demo">http://www.expo.net/AFS/demo</a>
Arch-Online NY	<a href="http://www.arch-online.com">http://www.arch-online.com</a>
Basilisk	<a href="http://swerve.basilisk.com">http://swerve.basilisk.com</a>
AIA Chicago (5/96)	<a href="http://www.aiachicago.org">http://www.aiachicago.org</a>







American Institute of  
Architects Chicago  
1996 Awards Program

**Call for Entries**

# American Institute of Architects Chicago 1996 Awards Program

## **Trial by Jury**

*How to Win a Design Excellence Award*

by Peter J. Exley, AIA

In the context of design award programs, there is a mysterious period of time between the end of a project and the moment one steps up to the podium to receive a prize. Perhaps this time is the equivalent of purgatory—a time of answering Calls for Entries, writing project descriptions, perfecting photographs, meeting deadlines, and waiting and waiting while world-famous jurors meet in secret locations on unspecified dates to determine the fate of your project. For the winners, there follows the continued torture of keeping success a secret so that AIA Chicago can have the pleasure of announcing your achievement as you rise to accept it.

If the preparation of a submission to the Design Excellence Awards conjures up nightmarish fears of the unknown, the following tips, based on recent observations and experiences, may prove helpful.

**Treat the Awards submission as a mini-project with a budget and schedule.** Meet the prescribed deadlines. Due dates listed in the Call for Entries fall close to the actual jury dates, leaving no time for late entries.

**Economize via quantity, not quality.** Juries sometimes take place in rooms without spectacular projection facilities, and this has potentially serious ramifications for all but the most immaculate of 35mm slides. If a firm is serious about winning an award for design excellence, then visual imagery should reflect pristine standards. One sharp image by the best photographer an office can afford tells more than ten underexposed, amateur blurs. There is a significant correlation between first impressions and the final award-winning roster. Each year, several entries eliminate themselves because poor images fail to communicate the inherent qualities of a project.

**In the spirit of the above, enhance submissions by including clear, articulate, well-reproduced drawings in your slide submission.** Simple, well-poached plans and sections reproduced in negative black and white seem to convey readable clarity to jurors.

**Persistence pays.** Consider the Design Excellence Awards an integral part of your firm's marketing plan. A project is eligible for three years following completion (a significant number of winners did not win at their first attempt). Projects that have been published previously have a track record—and probably good photography. Catching a juror's eye and getting a project into the second round is half the battle.

**Juries are becoming more politically correct.** Recent juries have added a "Special Recognition" category for projects that enlisted less traditionally recognized design approaches. Recent awards have





# 1996 Call for Entries

You are invited to participate in the annual awards program of AIA Chicago. Our Design Excellence Awards recognize the best contemporary architecture produced by Chicago area firms, in the Chicago area and elsewhere. Through our Professional Excellence Awards, we recognize individuals and firms who have made and continue to make a significant contribution to the architectural community of Chicago.

The Design Excellence Awards will be presented on Friday,  
**September 27, 1996.**

The Professional Excellence Awards will be presented at the  
Annual Meeting in **December.**

Recognized social responsibility, completion of projects with difficult schedules, adaptive reuse with a non-invasive program, as well as leadership and service. This kind of recognition should encourage the submission of specialty projects in areas such as hospitality, healthcare and the public sector, among others.

**Get to the point.** Juries are not good testing grounds for architectural theory. Try your submissions on your friends first. Brief, immediate, articulate and supportive project descriptions written to enhance the visual materials are appreciated by jurors. Strong written pieces might be borrowed from marketing materials; if it is working for clients, then it may work for jurors, too. While jurors are often able to appreciate an intellectual standpoint, there is insufficient time to interpret theory in the context of an awards jury.

Much of this is common sense, and for many firms these suggestions simply reinforce established practices. In reality, however, awards submissions often are (unwisely) relegated to a last minute charrette to the detriment of the final product. With careful planning and an understanding of the potential value of an award to a firm, a diligent, beautifully assembled awards submission might just get you out of purgatory and onto the podium later this year.

*Peter J. Exley, AIA is a former chair of AIA Chicago's Design Committee which administers the Design Excellence Awards. He is principal of Peter J. Exley Architect and author of "Trial by Jury" in Architecture Chicago: Volume 10 (1992; AIA Chicago) from which this essay was adapted for publication in FOCUS (February 1995).*

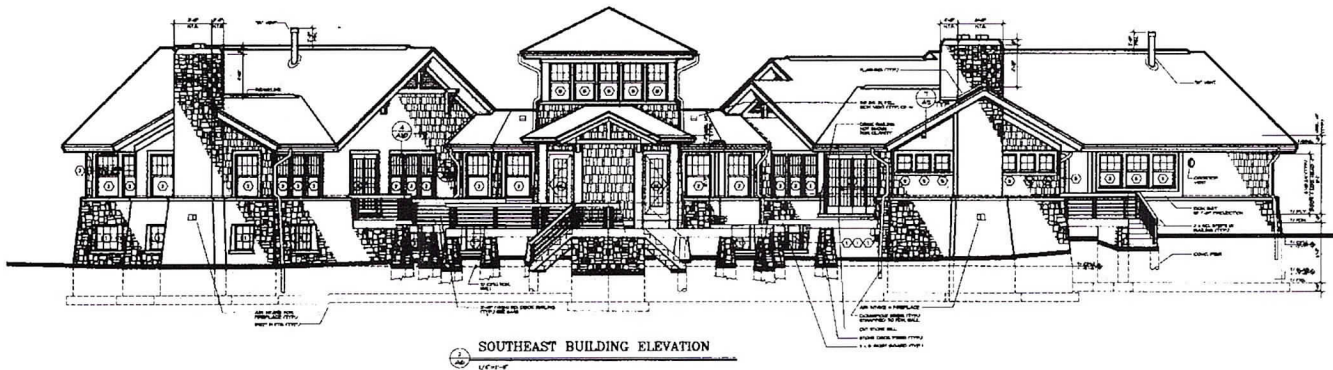


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*Mark Downey, AIA is a partner in the firm of Goldberg Downey Architects. In addition to developing CADD training for his office, Downey is the designer of the Michael and Juanita Jordan residence and a regular presenter in AIA Chicago's "Working With an Architect" public seminar series. He tailored this article from one he originally wrote for Consulting for Architects' newsletter, The CADD Manager.*

## A NEW

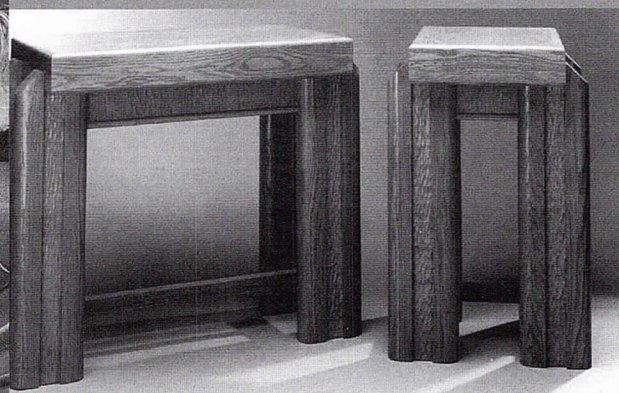
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Reinstating AIA

Mark Brinkman, Knight Architects, Engineers & Planners; Gordon Burns, Jr., Gordon Burns & Associates; Scott Conwell, International Masonry Institute; Mark Jolicoeur, Perkins & Will; Andrew Pigozzi, OWP&P; Patrick Pruchnik, Heard & Associates; Vincent Slivka, The McClier Corporation; Earl Wilson

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PEOPLE

Carol Ross Barney, FAIA, Diane Legge Kemp, FAIA and Eva Maddox, a professional affiliate member, were

featured in the January 29 issue of *Crain's Chicago Business* as three of Chicago's 100 most influential women. Ross Barney was recognized for her architectural solutions to tough urban problems; Legge Kemp was noted for her work with city officials to create award-winning urban design; and Maddox was included for her socially conscious designs for Lakefront SRO.

◆  
After 22 years at 115 N. Marion St. in Oak Park, Robert A. Bell Architects is moving five blocks south to 1114 Madison St. The move is being made to allow the Hephzibah Children's Association of Oak Park to move its offices into the Marion Street building.

◆  
The International Masonry Institute announced that Scott Conwell, AIA has joined the staff as assistant director of market promotion and technical services. Conwell formerly was an architect with Frega Associates. In his new position, he is available as a resource to architects. Conwell can be reached at 312/347-2500.

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# AIA Trust



Michael Doiel, AIA has joined Henningson, Durham & Richardson, Inc. as project principal for health care architecture in the company's Chicago office. He is a registered architect with more than 15 years project management and design experience in health care facility planning, design and construction projects. He is a member of the Chapter's Committee on Architecture for Health.

News from **Holabird & Root**: in Rochester, the firm celebrated the sixth anniversary of its Minnesota office with an open house on February 9 and promoted Lee Tapper, P.E. to office manager and Kristie Dowden to director of architecture and marketing. **Greg Cook, AIA** has been promoted to chief operating officer for the firm and will relocate to the Chicago office. Holabird & Root also recently announced the creation of ImageFusion, a division providing computer imaging services to the AEC industry. Services include computer-created renderings, CD-ROM presentations and conventional

graphic design. ImageFusion will be headed by associate Eric Brightfield.

◆  
**Morris/Ranieri Architecture + Design** has moved to 1000 W. Diversey Pkwy. in Chicago.

◆  
The School of Architecture of the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) has announced recently that **Benjamin Weese, FAIA**, president of Weese Langley Weese Ltd., has been appointed as the Louis Henri Sullivan Research Professor of Architecture for 1996. In his role as the Sullivan Research Professor, Weese will work with graduate design students to develop building and planning ideas for a UIC Campus Art Center. Previous appointees include Peter Eisenman, Merrill Elam, and Mark Mack.



HealthBridge Fitness Center by Phillips Swager Associates.

## NEW PROJECTS

The Naperville office of **Phillips Swager Associates (PSA)** has been selected to design the new Schaumburg Township District Library. Located in the Schaumburg Town Square Center, the state-of-the-art library will support the latest in data communication and audio-visual technologies as well as feature specially designed areas for children.

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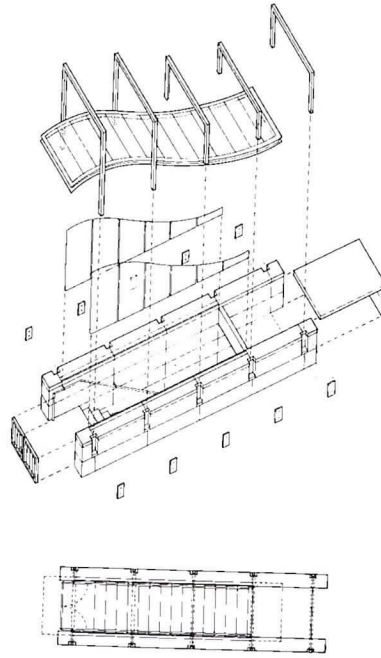
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Already one of the state's busiest libraries, the new 120,000 sq. ft. library—slated to cost \$18 million—will be one of Illinois' largest public libraries outside of Chicago. Construction is expected to begin this year. In other news from the firm, PSA recently received an Honorable Mention Award from Modern Healthcare magazine for the design of the HealthBridge Fitness Center in Crystal Lake. The newly completed building is a hospital-based health club with a full-service gym.

◆  
**Teng & Associates** recently provided architectural and engineering services for the public entrance canopy at the new Lake/Wells Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) subway stop in downtown Chicago. Work included the redesign of the boarding platform, mezzanine and sidewalk entrance canopies. Teng's platform design incorporates CTA standard lighting fixtures, conduit and signage within a unified architectural soffit. The fluid form of the canopy was derived from turn-of-the-century examples



CTA entrance canopy detail by Teng & Associates.

that exist on Michigan Avenue. Completion of the entrance transportation renovation project is scheduled for this fall.

**CALL FOR ENTRIES**

*House Beautiful* magazine again is sponsoring its Centennial Award for outstanding residential architecture in the United States. Entries are due April 30. For more information, call 212/903-5239.

◆  
 The Van Alen Institute has extended the deadline for entries to **Public Property: an ideas competition for Governors Island** in New York Harbor. Entries are now due by 5:00 p.m. on April 17. As reported in the February issue of FOCUS, Congress has decided to sell the island, which consists of 175 acres southeast of Manhattan and west of Brooklyn. The location of Governors Island and timing of its sale make it seem the perfect site for exclusive enclave development. The Van Alen competition encourages design and program strategies

## AIA Chicago 401(k) and Profit Sharing Association Plan

IRS compliance is a key factor in the cost of pension plan administration costs. By combining smaller firms together in a larger group, the costs will be lower. That is exactly what the AIA Chicago 401(k) and Profit Sharing Association Plan did. Euclid and Sandner & Emering developed a plan that will allow smaller employers to offer the same options as their larger counterparts. The annual charges are the following:

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that challenge the inevitability of that approach. The competition is open to all architecture students, faculty and practitioners. Entries must be accompanied by a registration form and a check or money order for \$25. For complete details, contact the Van Alen Institute, 30 W. 22nd St., New York, NY 10010; fax 212/366-5836; vanalen@pap.designsys.com.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The College of Architecture and the Career Development Center at the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) are seeking firms interested in hiring student interns to participate in the school's 1996 Summer Program for Architecture Students. The program is designed to give architecture students the opportunity to develop skills within an architect's office. Interested firms should contact Lee Waldrep, assistant dean for student programs, at 312/567-8835.

Chicago Women in Architecture (CWA) is expanding the interviewing portion of its **Annual Portfolio/Resume Review and Mock Interview Sessions** to include potential employers. To that end, CWA is looking for professionals to volunteer as interviewers. The annual event is scheduled from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 20 at the USG Solutions Center, 222 W. Hubbard St. It is free and open to all design students and young professionals interested in learning valuable job-hunting skills. Professionals interested in attending or participating as an interviewer, please call Darci Oberly at 312/939-5580, during business hours.

The Illinois Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) has published its 1996 Firm Directory. Information included in the directory includes mission statements, examples of projects, personnel, a contact person, and services offered by each of the firms. The directory is free and available by contacting the Illinois Chapter/ASLA, Firm

Directory, 1N141 County Farm Road, Winfield, IL 60190; 708/752-0197.

The National Council of Registration Boards (NCARB) has released a new edition of its Architect Registration Examination study guide, the **1996 A.R.E. Graphic Handbook**, with all-new information on the "vignette" format of Division C: Building Design. This oversized book is designed to expose applicants to what the graders of the exam look for when evaluating solutions. The handbook sells for \$65, plus shipping and handling, and takes about two weeks for delivery. NCARB also sells a study guide for the multiple-choice divisions of the exam; **The A.R.E. Multiple Choice Handbook** sells for \$25, plus shipping and handling. To order either book, send a check or money order, with an additional \$5 for shipping and handling, to NCARB, Suite 700, 1735 New York Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20006; 202/783-6500.

**Mortar Net, USA Ltd.** has created a Web page on the Internet. The site includes descriptions of the mortar droppings collection device, installation and other useful instructions, and various cavity wall details featuring The Mortar Net. Architects and designers can view and download information and drawings by accessing <http://www.arch-online.com>. The company is also offering a free, 3 1/2" floppy disk which includes 11 cavity wall details featuring The Mortar Net and a complete product spec. The disk is AutoCAD compatible and can be shipped within three business days. To order, call Mortar Net USA, Ltd. at 800/664-6638.

The Association for Project Managers is sponsoring three one-day workshops on March 13, 14 and 15 at the Omni Orrington Hotel, 1710 Orrington Ave., Evanston. The series, entitled "**Developing Project Managers for the 21st Century**," includes three seminars: Total Quality Project Management, Quality by Design, and Communicating Quality: Communication Skills for Project Managers. AIA/CES learning units can be earned for participating in one or more of the seminars. Fees are between \$245 and \$725. For information, call 312/664-2300.

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The American Concrete Institute and the Portland Cement Association jointly are sponsoring an intensive one-day seminar in the Chicago area to explain **significant changes in the New ACI 318-95 Building Code**. The seminar is scheduled for Thursday, March 21 at the Inland Meeting Center, 400 E. Ogden Ave. in Westmont. For more information, including cost, call Jeanette Gill at 313/532-2600.

**VARIOUS MATTERS**

**Contemporary British Architects**, an exhibit organized by the Royal Academy of Arts in London, will be on display in the Kisho Kurokawa Gallery of Architecture at the Art Institute of Chicago beginning on March 1. The exhibition consists of 80 architectural drawings, models and photographs representing the latest work of British architects featured in past exhibitions of the Royal Academy. Featured architects and buildings include Peter Cook's proposal for Breitscheidplatz in Berlin, Sir Norman Foster's Chek Lap Kok Airport in Hong

Kong, Nicholas Grimshaw's Waterloo Station and British Pavilion at the 1992 Seville World's Fair, and Eva Jiricna's Joseph Store London. Contemporary British

Architects will run through May 5. For information, call the Art Institute of Chicago at 312/899-5100.



British Pavilion at the Seville World's Fair. Photo, by Jo Reid & John Peck, courtesy of the Architecture and Design Society.

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The Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio Foundation has announced the 10 architecturally significant buildings that will comprise the 22nd Annual Wright Plus Housewalk on Saturday, May 18. The tour includes eight private residences and two public buildings, including the E. Arthur Davenport house, the John Jackson house, and Unity Temple. Tickets for the housewalk go on sale March 1 at the Ginkgo Tree Bookshop, 951 Chicago Ave. in Oak Park. Tickets may also be purchased by calling 708/848-9518 Monday through Friday. The cost is \$30/person for members of the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio Foundation and \$45/person for non-members. Proceeds benefit the education and preservation programs of the Foundation. Call 708/848-1976, for information.

Figurat Architectural Ornaments, one of the Midwest's largest dealers in architectural antiques, is sponsoring their 2nd Annual Decorative Glass Symposium, Exhibition and Sale from March 24 through April 14. The show will be held at 1702 N. Milwaukee Ave. and will include an exhibition of Chicago ecclesiastical and residential stained and beveled glass. Many pieces will be loaned from private collectors and are rarely offered for public viewing. For information on the show and corresponding lectures and tours, call 312/227-6290.

FOCUS welcomes submissions for Notebook. Send information to Susan Nelson, Editor, FOCUS Chicago, 222 Merchandise Mart Plaza, Suite 1049, Chicago, IL 60654. Listings are accepted on an ongoing basis.

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## M A R C H

- 1 Art Institute of Chicago.** Exhibit opening. Contemporary British Architects. Kisho Kurokawa Gallery. Through May 5. Information: 312/899-5100.
- 2 Architecture: Professional Pathways.** 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Hermann Hall, Illinois Institute of Technology. Cost: \$5/pre-registered; \$10/at the door. Reservations suggested. Use form on page three or call AIA Chicago, 312/670-7770, for more information.
- 5 Design Committee.** Inside OWP&P with John Syvertsen, AIA. 6:00 p.m. OWP&P, 1 N. Franklin St., Suite 850. RSVP using form on page three.
- 6 Education Committee.** Monthly meeting. 5:30 p.m. AIA Chicago.
- 7 AIA Chicago and the Department of Buildings.** Imaging & Workflow Automation. 8:00 a.m. City Hall Council Chambers, 121 N. LaSalle St., second floor. Cost: \$5/reservations required. See page three for details.
- UIC.** Spring Lecture Series. Eric Heneghan, software designer. 5:00 p.m. Room 1100, Architecture and Art Building, 845 W. Harrison St. Information: 312/996-3335.
- Young Architects Committee.** Monthly meeting. 6:00 p.m. Booth/Hansen & Associates, 555 S. Dearborn.
- 8 Gallery 312.** Opening reception. Richard Nickel, Standing Up. 5:00 p.m. 312 N. May St. Exhibit runs through April 13. Information: 312/942-2500.
- 11 School of the Art Institute.** Annual Mitchell Endowment Lecture Series. Antoine Predock, FAIA on "Landscape Apparitions." 6:00 p.m. 112 S. Michigan Ave., second floor ballroom. Information: Susan Riley, 312/899-5194.
- 12 Corporate Architects Committee.** New Officing Concepts. 5:30 p.m. AIA Chicago.
- 13 Planning and Urban Affairs Committee.** Monthly meeting. 12:00 noon. AIA Chicago.
- Committee on Architecture for Health.** Monthly meeting. 5:30 p.m. AIA Chicago.
- 14 Historic Resources Committee.** Monthly meeting. 5:30 p.m. AIA Chicago.
- 17 Committee on the Environment (co-sponsor): Affordable Comfort Conference '96.** March 17-22. Palmer House Hilton, 17 E. Monroe. See page three for details.
- 19 Committee on the Environment and Affordable Comfort Conference.** Bridging the Gap: Architecture and Sustainability. Moderator: Michael Iversen, AIA. 5:30 p.m. Palmer House Hilton, 17 E. Monroe. Cost: \$10 at the door (students admitted free). RSVP to AIA Chicago using form on page three; pay at the door the day of event.
- 20 Construction Industry Affairs Committee.** Monthly meeting. 8:30 a.m. AIA Chicago.
- AIA Chicago.** Public Lecture: Building a City—Rebuilding a City. Professor Carl Smith on "Urban Renewal on the Grandest Scale: Imaginative Rebuilding of Post-Fire Chicago." 5:30 p.m. Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington, second floor theater.
- Archeworks.** Lecture. Lily Yeh on "Building Communities Through Art." 6:00 p.m. 1727 S. Indiana Ave. Information: 312/913-0043.
- 21 UIC.** Spring Lecture Series. Tom Coffin, electronic artist. 5:00 p.m. Room 1100, Architecture and Art Building, 845 W. Harrison St. Information: 312/996-3335.
- Government Affairs Committee.** Monthly meeting. 5:30 p.m. AIA Chicago.
- 25 School of the Art Institute.** Annual Mitchell Endowment Lecture Series. Eva Jiricna, Czechoslovakian architect on "High Tech Lo Tech No Tech." 6:00 p.m. 112 S. Michigan Ave., second floor ballroom. Information: Susan Riley, 312/899-5194.
- 26 Office Practice Committee.** Program planning meeting. 5:30 p.m. AIA Chicago.
- Construction Specifications Institute.** Getting on the Information Superhighway. 5:00 p.m./cocktails; 6:00/presentation. Merchandise Mart Conference Center at the Holiday Inn Mart Plaza. Cost: \$5/person. Reservations: 312/641-5986.
- 27 Real Estate Committee.** Developer Olympics III: Land-Use Law. 5:30 p.m.; AIA Chicago. RSVP using form on page three.
- 28 Technical Committee.** Glass Coatings for All Purposes. 12:00 noon. Chicago Bar Association, 321 S. Plymouth Court. Cost: \$8.50, includes lunch; purchase ticket in first floor membership office. Information: Caesar Vitale, AIA at 312/554-1400.
- Interior Architecture Committee.** Monthly meeting. 5:30 p.m. AIA Chicago.

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