

# OCULUS



NEW YORK CHAPTER/THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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Clarence S. Stein, FAIA, (left) receiving the Andrew J. Thomas Award for Pioneer in Architecture from Max O. Urbahn, FAIA, (right) Immediate Past President of the NYCAIA.

## 1967 ANNUAL NYCAIA MEETING

Max O. Urbahn, President 1965-67, presented a Special Citation to Peter Blake; Alonzo W. Clark, III, received the fifth annual Harry B. Rutkins Memorial Award for his work with the Hospitals & Health Committee in its formative years. Clarence S. Stein, FAIA, who received the Gold Medal from the Institute in 1956 received a spontaneous standing ovation when he was awarded the Andrew J. Thomas Award for Pioneer in Architecture. A Special Citation was presented to Margot A. Henkel, Executive Secretary, who has been so devoted to the Chapter for the past fifteen years. Past Presidents of NYCAIA were present to receive special gold AIA pins.

Election of Officers and Directors was announced. The officers are the following: President, William B. Tabler, FAIA; First Vice-President and President-Elect, Lathrop Douglass, FAIA; Vice President, Gillet Lefferts, Jr.; Vice President, Lewis Davis; Secretary, Owen L. Delevante; FAIA, Treasurer, Richard Roth, Sr., Giorgio Cavaglieri, FAIA, and Samuel Kurtz were elected Directors to serve until 1969. The complete listing of the Executive Committee is shown on page two.

Mr. Urbahn who is now Director of the New York Region of the AIA, a position he will hold for three years, reported that the recent national convention broke all records for attendance with a grand total of 5,210. Of these, 1822 were AIA corporate members including 625 NYCAIA members.

(continued on page 2)

## HULT HOLDS HOPE FOR DPW

AS A GOOD ADMINISTRATOR, I CAN ENCOURAGE GOOD DESIGN BY ADOPTING THE PHILOSOPHY THAT YOU ARE THE TRAINED PROFESSIONALS WHO CAN ARTICULATE OUR NEEDS AND THAT GOOD DESIGN CAN AND WILL FLOURISH WHEN IT IS ENCOURAGED.

*With these opening remarks, the newly appointed Commissioner of Public Works for New York City, the Hon. Eugene E. Hult, began his talk as Guest Speaker at the Annual NYCAIA Luncheon closing out the 1966-67 year.*

"First, as to the selection of architects. We are going to continue the policy of contracting out design, except for very small projects which will be handled by our own staff. All architects on the Mayor's Panel are eligible for consideration and we will try to phase some of the younger architects into the program. As to the younger architect, we will carefully review his qualifications to make sure that he is financially and administratively prepared to take on a city project. It's my feeling that we could do a disservice to the young architect by frustrating his talents with the administrative burdens of doing work with the city — better known as 'red tape'. Secondly, speaking of 'red tape', what are we doing about it? In the past few months we have eliminated some of the inter-agency steps, cutting down referrals and approvals by the Budget Director from twelve steps to four.

"1. Beginning July 1, we are no longer going to tie up civil service personnel in the detailed review of your plans and specifications. This has been historical in Public Works. We contract with you for a completed set of plans and specifications and this is what we expect to get. Furthermore, if there has been a practice of leaving the coordination to us, this, too, is going to stop. My Director of Architecture, Mr. Albert Bauer, FAIA, tells me that it isn't at all unusual for the four basic trades to meet for the first time in the taxi as the final plans are being delivered to the Municipal Building. Maybe that's stretching the point a little, but with the increased complexity of the mechanical systems, we must have better coordination.

"2. In all future contract negotiations, we are going to insist on the early designation of mechanical and structural engineers and their participation in early project schematics (continued on page 4)

**NEW YORK CHAPTER, THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS**  
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H. Dickson McKenna .....Executive Director  
Margot A. Henkel .....Executive Secretary

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

William B. Tabler, FAIA, Pres.  
Lathrop Douglass, FAIA, 1st Vice Pres.  
Gillet Lefferts, Jr., Vice-Pres.  
Lewis Davis, Vice Pres.  
Owen L. Delevante, Sec.  
Richard Roth, Sr., Treas.

William D. Wilson  
Stephen A. Kliment  
William J. Conklin  
Arthur Rosenblatt  
Giorgio Cavaglieri, FAIA  
Samuel M. Kurtz

**OCULUS COMMITTEE**

John B. Schwartzman .....Acting Chairman and Editor  
Elisabeth Coit .....Forrest Wilson

*Annual Meeting continued*

Also at the NYCAIA Annual Luncheon Meeting, Frederick G. Frost, Jr. & Associates were awarded first prize of \$5000 in the New York City's Board of Education \$2,000,000 architectural design competition for the conversion of a Bronx junior high school to an intermediate school. A. Corwin Frost was Project Architect. Third prize of \$1000 was awarded to Giorgio Cavaglieri and Bruno Marus Architects and Denis Glen Kuhn and Richard Ferrara Associates. There were 67 entries and a jury that included Peter Blake, Max Urbahn, FAIA, and Romaldo Guigola. Funds were provided by the Research Council of the Great Cities Program for School Improvement of Chicago, Illinois.

 **INTERNAL USE ONLY.** Executive Committee in its meeting June 21, 1967 acted on a notice received from members announces that any future election campaign material may not employ NYCAIA logo nor create the impression of a Notice from the Chapter. This advise will be incorporated in future Notice of Nominations.

**HOORAY FOR THE ASA**

The newly-formed New York Chapter of the Architectural Secretaries Association as well as other chapters are to be congratulated for their cheerfully outstanding service to the AIA Convention. For one thing, the members of the New York Chapter are thirty-three answers to the architects' quest for beauty, urbanity, and gayety in the profession. For another, they were ready with a thousand answers, ranging from when and where meetings were to be held to individual requests such as a message to "Tom Jones, PLEASE". A brief research of their membership provides the following data: Five Franceses, four Marys or Maries, two Patricias, and two Sallies (one of them Salli). There was only one Angela, but all of them were angels.

**T-SQUARES & TRIANGLES**

—**INSTITUTE POSITION OFFERED.** The National has offered the position of Associate Director, Educational and Research Programs at a salary of \$12,000 or subject to candidate's experience. Three to five years teaching experience needed. For further information, write to William H. Scheick, FAIA, Executive Director of the Institute.

—The Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association's Architectural Barriers Committee is meeting with architectural firms to explain the need for using specialized design features that are adaptable to the disabled. By using these features, they will open the job market for the handicapped. Further information may be obtained from Donald H. Broderick, Architectural Barriers Coordinator, Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association, 432 Park Avenue South, New York, N. Y. 10016.

—**DID YOU KNOW THAT** during the week of the Convention, Mayor John V. Lindsay proclaimed "Architects' Week" in New York. (Governor Rockefeller also issued a proclamation). The Mayor's citation was presented May 12 by Parks Commissioner August Heckscher to the then President Max O. Urbahn, FAIA, and Vice-President William Tabler, FAIA, at a ceremony held at Van Briesen Park on Staten Island.

—Charles K. Hirzel, Chairman of the Office Practice Committee reminds NYCAIA members that the 1963 Edition of the A-201 General Conditions does not contain important protection to the owner and architect now incorporated in the 1966 Edition. Furthermore the Board of the Institute will restore in subparagraph 5.1.1 of Document B-131, the provision for reimbursement for travel expense between the architect's office and the site; also add the missing words to subparagraph 7.10.1 of the April 1967 Supplement to Document A-201: "... Construction Industry Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association."

—Hon. Jason R. Nathan, Commissioner of the NYC Housing and Redevelopment Administration, recently announced that fees for architects on city-aided, middle-income housing projects have been increased an average of 30 per cent. Under the revised schedule, it ranges from 5.60 per cent for a project costing \$100,000 to 1 per cent for a project costing \$40 million. Previously, the scale was from 4.71 per cent to 0.73 per cent.

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**MEMBERS MUST VERIFY AND SEND THEIR ADDRESS INCLUDING ZIP CODE NUMBER, TELEPHONE, AND TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP TO CHAPTER HEADQUARTERS BY SEPTEMBER FIRST FOR INCLUSION INTO THE NEW 1968 NYCAIA CHAPTER DIRECTORY.**

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## NYCAIA MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

- *Olindo Grossi*, FAIA, Dean of the Pratt School of Architecture and *Robert A. Djerejian*, design manager for Smith Haines Lundberg and Waehler and a Pratt alumnus, spoke before the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Air and Water pollution. Pratt has developed a four-year research project entitled "A Comprehensive Regional Plan to Reduce Air Pollution." The project will attempt to develop long-range systems to control air pollution in the Tri-State area. Djerejian will direct the project as Research Associate.
- *John W. Grifalconi* is Chief Planner for the State Planning Program of New York State, Division of Housing and Community Renewal.
- *Robert W. Cutler*, FAIA, a partner in SOM, was re-elected President of the New York Building Congress at its 46th annual meeting.
- The May OCULUS should have mentioned that *George Nemeny*, FAIA, *Abraham W. Gellar*, and *Basil Yurchenco* were Associated Architects for the Medical Group Building.
- *Myron Goldfinger* has been appointed Assistant Professor of Architecture at Pratt Institute.
- *Francis Keally*, FAIA has been elected to the National Academy of Design.
- Public Advisory Panel of the General Services Administration is composed of two divisions: a National Panel that will advise GSA's Washington office and 10 regional offices. *Lathrop Douglass*, FAIA, was named to the National Panel and *Simon Breines*, FAIA, was appointed to the New York City Regional Panel.
- *Nathan Silver* has written a book entitled "Lost New York" containing 231 photographs. Mr. Silver is now on the faculty of the School of Architecture, Cambridge University, England; architectural correspondent for *The New Statesman*; and practicing in England—Silver, Penney Architects. Houghton Mifflin Co. are the publishers.
- *Alfred Easton Poor*, FAIA, has been elected President of the National Academy of Design.
- *Charles Luckman* has been named by Governor Ronald Reagan to the Educational Commission of the States which was organized by Congress in 1965 as a liaison between government and educators.
- *Charles H. Warner, Jr.* of the Warner Burns Toan & Lunde has received the President's Medal for excellence awarded by the Alumni Association of the Columbia School of Architecture.
- *Robert Weinberg* is "Critic-at-Large in planning and architecture" for radio station WNYC. The program, entitled "Around New York," is aired twice a week at 7:35 and again at 8:35.
- *Albert Mayer*, FAIA, has written a book entitled "The Urgent Future," that discusses architecture and environmental planning. Topics range from public housing to new towns. McGraw-Hill Book Company will publish the book at \$16.50.
- New members of the Council for Parks and Playgrounds, Inc. are *Norman Rosenfeld*, Vice President; *Edgar Tafel*; and *Richard Dattner*.

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

The NYCAIA welcomes the following new members:

### Corporate

David E. Austin	William Mileto
Francis B. Bardan	David K. Pyle
Robert Braunschweiger	John C. Rainey
John S. Briggs	Gerald I. Rosen
Lloyd A. Doughty	Clifford B. Slavin
Donald Hoyt Gorman	Paul Borisovich Slusarev
Thomas Alfred Hooker	Jack Wells Smith
Wallace Kaminsky	Michael H. Spector
William J. McCoy	Charles B. Thomsen

### Professional Associate

William R. Maurer

### Associate

Berj Deyirmenjian	Leons Rudzitis
Harold Einhorn	Allan B. Strauss
Andreas A. Hartle	Manuel A. Tavarez
Dean F. Hofe	Valerie M. Vopat
Aaron Rand	Nicholas Zizelis

## CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP

Information regarding the qualifications of the following candidates for membership will be considered confidential by the Secretary of the NYCAIA:

### Corporate

Andrew Alpern	Alexander Kouzmanoff
James Byron Bell, Jr.	Mrs. Jane H. Lewis
Fred E. Bloch	Edward Locke LaMura
David R. Castro-Blanco	John L. Lebduska
John M. Colombo	William R. Maurer
George Feher	Seymour Nussbaum
Bruce Seaver Fowle	Stephen H. Pine
Raymond Vasquez Gomez, Jr.	Marvin Jordan Richman
Gershon Goodman	Lewis J. Ryon
Barry M. Haber	Simon V. Waitzman
Canute George Hanchard	Alfred DeVido
Adam Krivatsky	

### Associate

Harold Einhorn
Alan B. Strauss
Andreas Albrecht Hartle

## NYCAIA COMING EVENTS

—Annual convention and meeting of the NYSAIA will be held at the Nevele Hotel, Ellenville, New York in the Catskills from September 25 to 28.

—The Metropolitan New York Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute and New York University are co-sponsoring a special Tuesday evening series of seminars in specifications writing at a nominal cost of \$150. The course will consist of 15 sessions at the Engineers Club, 32 West 40th Street, Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. September 12 through December 19. Please telephone Harold J. Rosen of SOM at 759-2121 or Ray E. Cumrine of Sharp & Handren at 697-3330.

(continued from page 1)

and preliminary plans. You would be amazed at the frequency of design changes to allow for duct areas and other mechanical space changes when working drawings are well underway. This is costly and time consuming.

"3. For the last several months we have been experimenting with an engineered management information system which is a rather sophisticated bar chart and simplified Critical Path rolled into one. It pins down dates and points the finger at an individual who is blocking progress. As of July 1, I have hired an officer of this company to be my assistant in charge of the system and we will begin training selected members of our staff to ride herd on the delays.

"4. On May 1, I dissolved the Bureau of Building Construction and created a Bureau of Design and a Bureau of Construction. They will be self-sufficient operating bureaus, similar to what we had at Education. This will allow the Director of Architecture to spend full time on design problems and the Chief Engineer of Construction to concentrate on speeding up the construction in the field.

"5. The management engineering consultant is developing for several of the sponsor agencies a function criteria or what we might better know as a basic program of requirements. I am planning to develop within Public Works some basic standards for construction design and guide specifications so that with these documents we can give you information which will have the effect of speeding up your planning submittals. We are convinced that we can minimize design reviews with the sponsor agency once a basic program is developed. Incidentally, the practice of using the sponsor as a "sounding board" in schematic submittals is going to stop. We are going to re-examine our own procedures in this area in order to encourage you to come in with a single solution that will reasonably satisfy the program scope. Repeated reviews are costly and must eat into your fee to a great extent.

"6. I am not convinced that the requirement of formal brochure booklets is a valid one. The cost of \$400 to \$1000 per project and much more on large-scale developments is questionable as an item that you must absorb in your cost. The time to prepare them is also something that must be considered.

"7. We are examining the present Public Works architectural service contract and are comparing it with the recently developed Education contract which was worked up with your assistance. Mr. James Krank my administrative right hand, is pulling together the best parts of both contracts for review so that we can try to get a single document cleared for all fee-curve city agencies. The provision in the Education contract of giving the architect a retainer at the signing of the contract is a good one and I plan to press hard for this in Public Works. I think the payment percentage breakdown should be reviewed so that there is adequate compensation at the various stages for work completed at specified intervals.

# Brochures, Reports, Presentations designed by professionals.



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"8. Speaking of fees, as you know, a study is underway through your joint efforts with the Consulting Engineers, to set a percentage base for overhead from which we can recast the city fee curve that affects all Public Works and Education projects. This will give us an opportunity to evaluate the improved design procedures within the department and sponsor agencies as well. I have had numerous conferences with the Budget Director's and Comptroller's offices in trying to set up an interim adjustment of the present fee curve. We are very close to agreement on the percentage increase and I am hopeful that we can resolve this so that the temporary adjustment can go into effect in the near future. The final adjustment will be made after evaluation of your accountants' report.

"Finally, because you live and work in this great city, the design and construction of city sponsored buildings should have particular appeal to you. Better architecture, economy of design, ease and speed of construction should have greater motivation for each of you on all of our public works. These are not just buildings—they are your creations and I think we must all be justly proud of the results."