

OCCULLUS

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ELISABETH COIT



ROGER GLASGOW

CHAPTER MEMBERS APPOINTED TO LANDMARKS COMMISSION

On August 19, standing before the Pieter Claesen Wyckoff House in East Flatbush, Brooklyn, Mayor Lindsay swore in Elisabeth Coit, FAIA, Roger D. Glasgow, AIA, and Edward A. Ames as new members of the Landmarks Preservation Commission. They will serve three-year terms. Miss Coit and Glasgow are Chapter members. The occasion, in addition to naming the new commissioners, signaled the start of restoration of the Wyckoff House, constructed about 1637, which is one of the oldest frame houses in the country and the first officially designated as a landmark by the Commission in 1965.

The enabling legislation under which the Landmarks Preservation Commission operates, noted Miss Coit, mandates that a building must be judged on both its aesthetic and its historical value to the people of New York. A structure must exhibit both these qualities before the Commission can recommend and designate it as a landmark.

Although viewing his responsibilities as being the same as those of the other commissioners, Glasgow believes in the importance of architects being included in its membership, in cases where research is necessary and important to both the evaluation of structures not yet designated and the appropriateness of any proposed changes to landmarks buildings.

PUBLIC AGENCIES COMMITTEE HOLDS OPEN MEETING

Daniel Schwartzman, Chairman of the Public Agencies Committee; Robert Gatje, Chairman of the Fees & Contracts Committee, and Chapter President Giorgio Cavaglieri led a discussion of recent actions aimed at improving the fees and other contract provisions offered to architects and engineers by City agencies at a meeting Sept. 3rd. Chapter members have reported numerous incidents of financial loss suffered while working for the City. Schwartzman distributed a paper which had been developed in his committee entitled "The Most Important Issues in the Contractual Relationship of Architects/Engineers with New York City Public Agencies." This is repeated in full here:

1. The total fee determined by an approved schedule based on percentage of estimated cost of construction should be adjusted at end of approved preliminary drawings and budget and again when bids for construction are received. In this inflationary period, the discrepancy between unrealistic budgets and the actual costs has become an exceptional burden on both parties.

2. A/E cannot be held responsible for construction cost (which is controlled by prevailing market) except to modify drawings without additional expense to the City if lowest bid is more than 15% over *approved final* budget; and providing that the A/E has had an opportunity to request a reduction in scope of project to meet the budget during the preparation of preliminary drawings, and that permission is not unreasonably withheld by the City administration.

3. A/E should not be held responsible for field coordination matters which are contractor's purchasing routines or construction procedures, which should be the responsibility of the General Contractor and the City agencies' field representative.

4. In projects of indeterminate scope and extra services the principals' time spent on the technical aspects of the project should be at a gross hourly rate (not including a multiplier to cover overhead) which should be stated in the agreement and be subject to post audit only for the number of hours spent, not the hourly rate. The total amount of principal technical time should not be limited to a percentage of the gross fee for a particular phase of the service.

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NEW YORK CHAPTER, THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS: SEPT. 9, 1970

- Appointed David Glasser liaison with the Board of the Women's Auxiliary.
- Heard Bonnell Irvine, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, describe the Equal Opportunities Awards Program (one of the Chapter's two minority scholarship programs, the other being NYCAIA-ARCH). There were 6 applicants in 1964, and 30 this year. The average grant is \$400. (See Foundation Actions, below)
- Reaffirmed the Chapter's previous intention to provide financial support for trainees in the NYCAIA-ARCH program through their graduation from architectural schools.
- In response to the recommendation of David Todd, Chairman of the Committee on Professional Responsibility to Society, allocated \$1,000 toward the expenses of The Architects' Technical Assistance Center (TATAC) as encouragement for its 1970-71 program.
- Approved a proposed increase in the Brunner Scholarship award to \$10,000 conditional upon the Treasurer's approval.
- Authorized James Rossant, Chairman of the Urban Planning Commission, to prepare a statement reinforcing the Chapter's support of the Metropolitan Museum's master plan.
- Supported the Natural Environment Committee's development of a Chapter position calling for an independent investigation of alternate sources of power for N.Y.C.
- Heard and approved in principle a proposal of the Exhibits Committee to organize a major exhibit based on the NYC waterfront.

**"ARCHITECTURE FOR HEALTH"
EXHIBIT OPENS OCT. 19**

Work of the State of New York Health and Mental Hygiene Facilities Improvement Corp. will be the first of this year's exhibits sponsored by the Exhibits Committee, Paul Willen and Peter Samton, Co-Chairmen. The exhibit will include recently completed projects, work now under construction and in the working drawing phase. The exhibit, which opens Monday, Oct. 19, will run for a month at Chapter Headquarters and will consist of models and display panels.

PUBLIC AGENCIES MEETING (Cont. from page 1)

5. Payments to A/E during the construction phase of the service should be based on value of service completed and not on payments by the City to the construction contractor and should be paid in full when the construction contract is substantially completed.
6. Time schedule for completion of phases of service by A/E should not include review time by the agencies, or time required to receive essential survey or boring information and when review time exceeds a stipulated amount of time, A/E should receive compensatory additional fee.
7. A/E should not be required or requested to start to provide services without a contract signed by the City officials in jurisdiction."

The meeting was attended by about 100 Chapter members and representatives from the Board of Ed, Dept. of Public Works, and the Health & Hospitals Corp. Schwartzman emphasized that there was no "villain" in the situation but rather that the system was at fault. He urged members to make known their experiences with City agencies so that the Chapter will have sufficient current information to be able to present a strong case in discussions with the City. One member suggested that the problem was not with the agencies but rather with the A/E who did not insist on fair treatment.

Lloyd Siegel of the Health and Hospitals Corp. (and a Chapter member) commented that in his years of experience with City agencies only two Architects have turned down projects. Schwartzman replied that there were always Architects who needed work, this shouldn't set the pattern for the entire profession.

Edgar Tafel said that the problem was with the City Charter. Architects should work for revisions to the law that would correct the present situation. Giorgio Cavaglieri reported that officials of the Budget Director's office had said that low budgets on which fees were based were justified because the City paid a lot more for construction than private owners. This they contended was due to slow payments and red tape that had nothing to do with design.

Gatje observed that some Architects have learned to "cope" with the present system and are satisfied with it.

Further meetings between the Public Agencies Committee and City officials are scheduled for the near future, Schwartzman noted, and he repeated the request for further information from the membership.

NYCAIA FOUNDATION ACTIONS: SEPT. 9, 1970

- Allocated \$12,000 in scholarship funds for the 1970-71 Equal Opportunities Awards Program.
- Allocated \$20,000 in scholarship funds toward the 1970-71 college scholarship and living expenses of students in the NYCAIA-ARCH Training Program provided this sum is matched by the Ford Foundation.

NEW YORK SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL SITE OF FALL MEETING

Friday, Oct. 16, is the Chapter's annual fall opening meeting, scheduled for 5:30 at the New York Shakespeare Festival, 425 Lafayette. There is no formal meeting as such — highlights of the gathering will include cocktails and a tour of the newly refurbished building formerly known as the Astor Library. The charge of \$5 per person covers ample sustenance; cocktails are a la carte.

As part of the tour, Chapter members and guests will view the two theaters, the Newman, having the traditional proscenium stage, and the Anspacher, theater in the round. On the evening of Oct. 16, "The Happiness Cage" by Dennis Reardon will be performed in the Newman, and "Trelawney of the Wells" by Sir Arthur Wing Pinero in the Anspacher. Curtain time is 8:30 p.m., and you are invited to call 677-6350 to reserve your tickets at \$4 and \$5.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH FACILITIES CONFERENCE HERE OCT. 22 AND 23

The Chapter's Hospitals and Health Committee will present a special conference on "Health Facilities Research" Thursday and Friday, Oct. 22 and 23, in Alumni Hall of NYU Medical Center. The conference is structured to underline the need for sound and organized research effort by exploring a broad array of current research projects dealing with new directions in program and facilities planning here and abroad. Eight projects have been selected to highlight the wide diversity of methodology, authority, and sponsorship evident in the research field. Participants will include architects, planners and hospital administrators coming from all over North America, Sweden, and England.

The conference will close with a report on progress in the establishment of a Health Facilities Laboratory, an independent agency designed to deal with the need for research organization.

Registration forms have been sent to all Chapter members. Richard Sonder, Chairman of the Hospitals & Health Committee, announces that Conference sub-committee organizers include Carl Pancaldo, Lloyd Siegel, Lawrence Mason, Herbert Bienstock, Martin Cohen, Thomas Kupper, and David Ginsberg.

NYCAIA SUPPORTS METROPOLITAN MUSEUM EXPANSION

William C. Shopsin, chairman of the Historic Buildings Committee appeared before the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Committee of the City Council on Sept. 15th to recommend approval of the expansion plan prepared by Kevin Roche, John Dinkeloo and Associates. Shopsin's statement, authorized by the Executive Committee, emphasized that new construction would be largely limited to areas now used for service and parking with minimum incursions into green areas and that the proposed additions would visually unify the existing patchwork on the parkside facade.

FIRST JOINT REGIONAL CONFERENCE

On Oct. 19-22 the first Joint Regional Conference with the New York and New England States architectural organizations will be held at the Laurels, Monticello, New York. Thomas Galvin is the Convention Chairman and Harry Kagan, the Program Chairman. The program includes exhibits, guest speakers, meetings and recreational events.

The two most important items of business this year will be the discussion of NYSAA's recommended fee schedule and a new bill to cover the Statute of Limitations. This year legal counsel Robert Helm has drafted a bill which would include contractors as well as architects and engineers. (Contractors' exclusion is considered the main reason for last year's defeat in the Legislature.)

For more information, call NYSAA, OX 7-8866.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP ASSIGNMENTS

This summer's canvassing of Chapter members for choices of committee assignment has yielded excellent results. The names of those who responded have been forwarded to the respective committee chairmen, and meetings are now in progress. If you have requested a committee assignment but have not been contacted by a committee chairman, please call Mrs. Evelyn McGrath at Chapter headquarters.

The need for committee members' involvement is real, and all those who may have missed this summer's request are encouraged to contact the Chapter now. In particular, the Legislative and Exhibits Committees have room for interested people. Serving on a committee provides an excellent vehicle for making the Chapter responsive to the needs of the profession and the community.

MOMA EXHIBITION

Opening to the public on Oct. 1 at the Museum of Modern Art will be an exhibit entitled "Work in Progress: Architecture by Philip Johnson, Kevin Roche, and Paul Rudolph". Directed by Arthur Drexler, the exhibit will review some of the major themes with which these architects have been concerned. The exhibit will show buildings under construction or scheduled for construction in the near future and will be accompanied by a catalog. Single buildings as well as large-scale planning projects are to be included. They will be depicted through renderings, models and color transparencies. The exhibit will continue through January 3.

KATZ APPOINTED ACTING DEAN AT PRATT

Sidney Katz FAIA has been named Acting Dean of the School of Architecture at Pratt Institute effective July 1, 1970. He has been a visiting member of the Pratt faculty for more than 20 years. Katz was elected to the College of Fellows of the Institute for his contributions to architectural education and is National Chairman of Student Affairs of the AIA. He is a principal in the firm of Katz Waisman Weber Strauss.

