

OCULUS

an eye on new york architecture

The New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects

Volume 51, Number 4, December 1988



One of the New York Public Library's lions decked in snow

Photo: Stan Ries

OCULUS

Volume 51, Number 4, December 1988

Oculus

Acting Editor: Marian Page
 Art Director: Abigail Sturges
 Typesetting: Steintype
 Printer: The Nugent Organization
 Photographer: Stan Ries

The New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects

457 Madison Avenue
 New York, New York 10022
 212-838-9670

Executive Committee 1988-89

Martin D. Raab FAIA, *President*
 Denis G. Kuhn AIA, *First Vice President*
 David Castro-Blanco FAIA, *Vice President*
 Douglas Korves AIA, *Vice President*
 Stephen P. King AIA, *Secretary*
 James L. Garretson AIA, *Treasurer*
 Wendy Evans AIA, *Director*
 Harold Fredenburgh AIA, *Director*
 Margaret Helfand AIA, *Director*
 Charles Platt FAIA, *Director*
 John Winkler AIA, *Director*
 Margot Woolley AIA, *Director*

Lenore M. Lucey AIA, *Executive Director*
 Cathanne Piesla, *Executive Secretary*

Chapter Staff

Elisa Dantuono
 Regina Kelly
 Eileen McGrath
 Rosa Rivera
 Judith Rowe

©1988 The New York Chapter of
 the American Institute of Architects

All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole
 or in part without written permission is
 strictly prohibited.

OCULUS, published ten times a year,
 September through June, is a benefit of
 NYC/AIA membership, toward which \$32
 of membership dues are applied. New York
 Foundation for Architecture public
 member subscription rates: First Class Mail
 \$45 Overseas First Class Air Mail \$85,
 Overseas Surface Mail \$45.

The views expressed in this publication
 are not necessarily those of the Executive
 Committee or Staff of the NYC/AIA.

For more information on professional and
 public memberships please call the
 Chapter, at 212-838-9670.

COMING CHAPTER EVENTS

Tuesday, December 6. The fifth session
 of NYC/AIA's course for interns will be
 held at the Urban Center, 6-8 pm. Denis
 Glen Kuhn AIA will discuss Building
 Code and the Approval Process.

Monday, December 12. "The City of
 the Sun," an exhibition of the
 architectural drawings of the Russian
 artist I. Leonidov will open with a
 reception in NYC/AIA's Members Gallery
 at 6 pm.

Tuesday, December 13. The Art and
 Architecture Committee is sponsoring a
 panel discussion on Art, Architecture,
 and Religion with panelists James
 Carpenter, Percival Goodman FAIA,
 Edward Larrabee Barnes FAIA, and
 Ibram Lassaw. Carol Krinsky will be the
 moderator. 6:30 pm. at the Urban Center.
 \$5 charge at the door.

Tuesday, December 13. The final
 session of NYC/AIA's course for interns
 will be held at the Urban Center, 6-8 pm.
 Gerald Hallissy AIA and Randolph
 Croxton AIA will discuss Construction
 Phase Services, and then sum up the
 course.

THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF OCULUS 1938-1988

A RECAPITULATION

by Marian Page

As we continue our recapitulation of *Oculus's* first half century, we can't help but be reminded that our errant city is slow to mend its ways. As in our own day, the overriding urban problems during the 60s that evoked comment and complaint in *Oculus* were such topics as architectural preservation, Times Square, zoning, theaters, automobiles, parks, and potholes. Probably the most traumatic events for City and Chapter during the period were the demolition of McKim Mead and White's grandiose Pennsylvania Station and the threat to Warren & Wetmore's Grand Central Station, first by destruction then by concealment.

March 1959: "...It is impossible in one small gallery to record all the Temples of Thespis that New Yorkers might want to recall, but in the exhibition *New York Theatres — Today and Yesterday* [at the Museum of the City of New York] there may be seen a cross-section of architectural achievements — and atrocities from the John Street Theatre erected in 1761 to the theatre most recently built, and even with a glimpse into the future to the projected Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts."

May 1959: Reporting on the U.S. architectural exhibit designed by architects Peter Blake and Julian Neski to be part of the American National Exhibition in Moscow: "A New Yorker, the two architects explained, should feel right at home at the exhibit. In addition to a broadcast of Times Square traffic noises and the panorama with lights twinkling in skyscrapers, it will include works of more than a score of members of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects..."

January 1960: Two pages of *Oculus* are given to a "Summary of Final Report with Recommendations by the New York Chapter of The American Institute of Architects on Proposed Zoning Resolution Prepared by Voorhees Walker Smith & Smith for the City Planning Commission."

October 1960 saw the initiation of a column entitled "Improving New York," which included an excerpt from a letter written to the Mayor on June 13, 1960:



The back of the Library from Bryant Park

"...On East 55th Street between Park and Madison Avenues there exist a series of excavations which are improperly protected and which run the full length of the block. I am aware that there is in progress a vast program of repair and improvement to our underground network of water, electric and steam supply, however there are certain regulations regarding the protection of such excavations to prevent damage to vehicles and injury to pedestrians..." A letter from the Mayor's Legal Aide of June 21, 1960: "...The Mayor acknowledges your letter... and has forwarded a copy to Bureau of Franchises, and the Borough President's Office... for their attention and consideration..." An *Oculus* P.S. of "October 1960... No action and although work was completed a few months ago, and a concrete base was prepared for asphalt there still remains... a hole in the street'... 600 feet long by 6 inches deep by 2 feet wide." In the same issue appears this note: "One of our members urges the founding of an 'Alert Society

of Photographers of Historic Buildings' to catch photos of some of the city's landmarks while the air around them is cleared by all the current destruction and construction."

December 1960: A review of a symposium on Urban Design written by Victor Gruen starts by saying: "The theme: The New Art of Urban Design — Are We Equipped? was touched upon by the speakers in the beginning, but as soon as Catherine Bauer Wurster, Ernest van den Haag, Jose Luis Sert, and Louis I. Kahn had to start wrestling with the realities of our times, the discussion turned to the one problem which at this time influences all thinking concerning Urbia: the problem of the inundation by automobiles..."

February 1961: "The fight to preserve one of New York's vanishing classical monuments... is not yet over." The reference is to Grand Central Station apropos the recent denial of the application for a zoning variance in order



1.

to put bowling alleys in Grand Central's waiting room. The AIA and other civic groups were responsible for the decision.

April 1961: *Oculus* hails the 50th anniversary of "Carrere and Hastings' magnificent New York Public Library" with a brief history of the library and its building. "To New York's architectural fraternity, the main library should be a source of particular civic pride. Beside housing one of the world's finest Art and Architecture collections, it is among the foremost examples of early 20th Century 'modern Renaissance' architecture in America...."

May 1961: Under the headline "Improving New York," James L. Cady discusses plans of Douglas Leigh, "the man behind most of the big Times Square signs" who "recently bought the old N.Y. Times Tower. . ." One of his plans for the latter was "to plant more trees in the area. Now trees are nice and lovelier than any poem about them but there are places for trees and this overcrowded asphalt jungle is not one of them...."

July-August 1961: "Early this year the Executive Committee submitted a request that the Publications Committee determine the ways and means of running advertising in the *Oculus* to defray operating costs. . . . An additional feature of the program is the plan to expand the mailing of each month's issue, to all registered architects in Manhattan. . . ."

November 1961: Under the title "The Shrinking Oasis: New York's Central Park," James Cady quotes some of the words of its designer, Frederick Olmstead, on the subject because, says

Fiftieth Anniversary, 1938-1988

Cady, they "were so prophetic and so valid that they can only serve to remind us, and to warn all for whom the bell tolls: ' . . . Building can be brought within the business of the Park proper only as it will aid *escape* from buildings. Where building for other purpose begins, there the Park ends. The reservoirs and the museum are not a part of the Park proper: they are *deductions* from it' . . ."

December 1961: "Chapter Proposes a Midtown Pedestrian Mall," an article by Jane Patton, tells how when the Library was being built members of the Chapter had "proposed a new avenue running between Fifth and Sixth Avenues to extend from the Library north all the way to Central Park. . . . Now, 60 years after the building of the Library, the Chapter is once more proposing that a new street — this time a real pedestrian street — be cut between Fifth Avenue and the Avenue of the Americas. . . ."

January 1962: "The destruction of historically and architecturally significant buildings may indeed be short sighted from a civic point of view and even from the point of ultimate financial return. The basic trouble today, as always, is that patriotic sentiment is slow to take shape and artistic awareness is often hard to arouse when buildings only a few decades old, such as the Pennsylvania and Grand Central Stations, are threatened. . . ." Thus begins an article, *Architectural Preservation in New York* by W. Knight Sturges.

March 1962: "*Characterless buildings, disruptive highway routing, jumbles of signs and overhead wires, and a general lack of attention to the social and aesthetic needs of people. . .*" "These will be some of the targets of the First Conference on Aesthetic Responsibility, sponsored by the Chapter's new pilot Design Committee under Richard W. Snibbe. . . ."

April 1962: "Penn Station is to be demolished in June! Like ancient Rome, New York seems bent on tearing down its finest buildings. . . ."

May 1962: "Mayor Wagner has established a permanent twelve-member Landmarks Preservation Commission

1. Rodin's *Balzac* in a snowy MOMA garden

2. Feeding ducks in a snow-covered Central Park

and appointed *Geoffrey Platt* as Chairman. . . ."

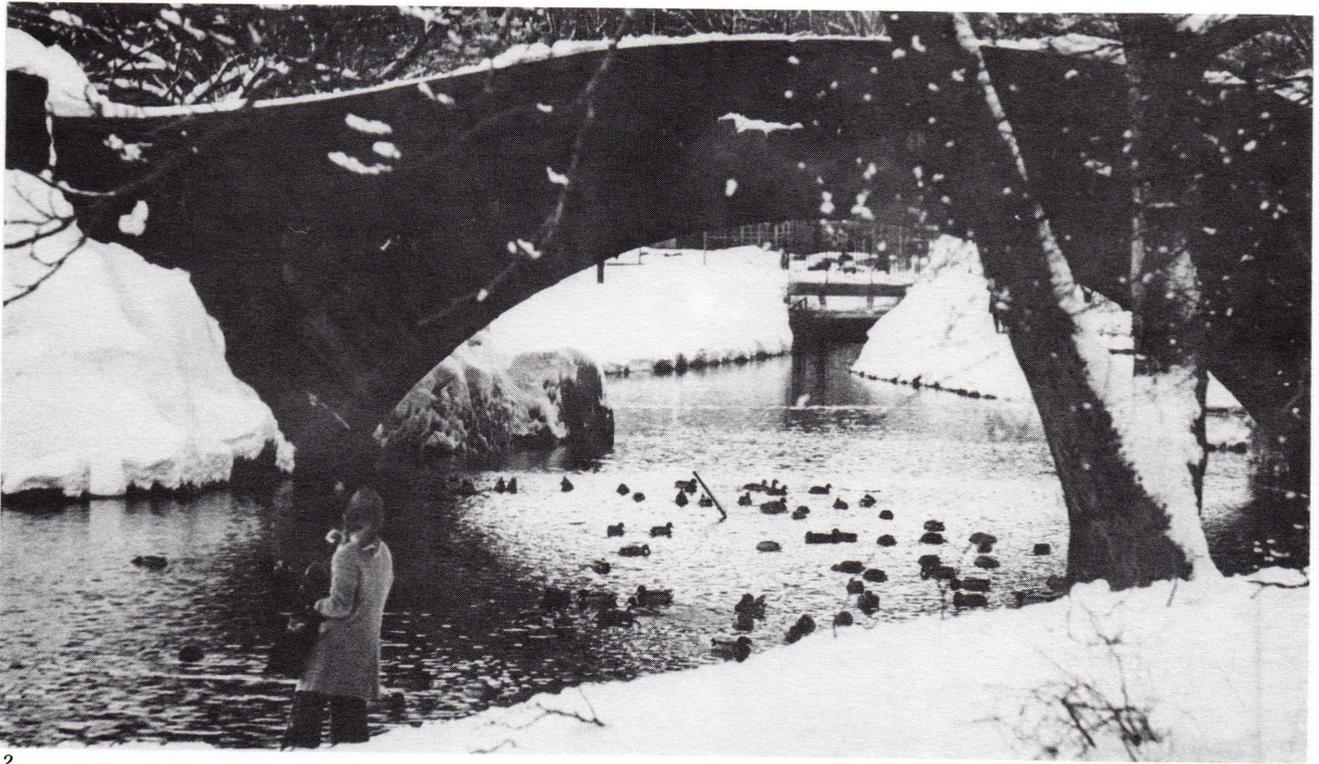
July-August 1962: "The Executive Committee of the Chapter has unanimously approved a City Parks Department proposal to preserve some mementos from Pennsylvania Station, which is slated for destruction according to present plans. The proposed project is a Mall, designed by Pratt Institute students, which would provide for a double row of 18 Doric pink granite columns salvaged from the station's exterior. . . . The Mall would place the columns in a formal pattern from Bowling Green to Castle Clinton in Manhattan's Battery Park. . . ."

November 1962: "A standing-room-only crowd heard a very vocal panel on the subject of design competitions following the Chapter's fall dinner meeting. . . ."

December 1962: "The Chapter's fight to create more close-in parks for New York City — e.g. Welfare Island, Breezy Point, and now Ellis Island — gained some arguments recently from this letter to the *New York Times* by George Raymond, Chairman of Pratt Institute's Planning Department." The letter is reprinted.

Also in this issue: "Some people have asked about the life of an architect on the Planning Commission as though it might be something like life on the other side of the moon. The truth, unfortunately, is not so sensational, for city planning is really nothing more than the 'other side' of architecture. . . ." Thus begins Harmon Goldstone's reply to *Oculus's* request that he tell his "fellow Chapter members how it felt to be the first architect on the New York City Planning Commission. . . ."

February 1963: "The seal on the fate of Pennsylvania Station has hardened in recent weeks, and the grand old building seems ready for the imprimatur of the wrecker's ball. . . ." Also in this issue: "New Yorkers will long remember the 'big snow' of 1960. For a week afterward, to facilitate its removal, private automobiles were banned from Manhattan. The results were remarkable: the streets were soon cleared, and buses and taxis moved with comparative ease. . . ."



2.

April 1963: Under the heading "Chaos at the Corner," Charles K. Robinson writes "As most citizens are at least dimly aware, the average street corner is one of the messiest places to be found in any city, especially New York. . . fire hydrants, traffic lights, street lamps, fire alarm boxes, traffic signs. . . and litter baskets — all compete for limited sidewalk space. . . Architects have proposed before the incorporation into a single, well designed unit all the street corner necessities. . . Each component within this 'street utility unit' would have distinctive coloring and/or texture to help avoid confusion. . . Toward these ends, the Chapter might well propose formation of an impartial advisory group to help the City pass on the desirability of each piece of its street furniture, its location and design. . . ."

December 1963: " . . . Maybe architecture would flower into that excellence and high service the late President believed in, if only the convictions of all architects led them to take a strong stand for whole architecture and for the people for whom architecture is created; and if again like the late President, they simply got to the work at hand. . . ." excerpted from a piece by Dudley Hunt on "John Fitzgerald Kennedy—Legacy for Architects."

March 1964: "The new Civic Center is in danger of being nibbled to death; and relocating the police headquarters represents the first nibble, according to Geoffrey N. Lawford, president of the New York Chapter A.I.A. Mr. Lawford, speaking for the 1,400-member Chapter before a hearing of the Site Selection Board, said that to take the police headquarters from the site provided in the adopted Civic Center plan would be

returning 'to piecemeal planning.' . . ."

April 1964: A "Statement on Public Housing" by Chapter President Geoffrey N. Lawford "congratulates the Public Housing Administration on recent actions taken to improve the design of public housing projects. . . ."

May 1964: "The Chapter received congressional recognition last month when its overall program was reviewed in the U.S. House of Representatives by N.Y. Congressman John V. Lindsay. In a speech. . . Congressman Lindsay said the New York Chapter ' . . . can serve as a model and inspiration to other organizations on city, State, and National levels. Its members and its officers are to be congratulated for public spirited efforts as this chapter enters its 97th year of service to its profession, its members, and the general public.' . . ."

June 1964: " . . . Alfred H. Barr Jr. . . was named this year to receive the Award [the Chapter's Award of Merit]. A distinguished historian and director of the Museum [of Modern Art] from 1929 to 1943, Mr. Barr was recognized by the Chapter as 'a pioneer force in creating and developing one of the world's foremost institutions of contemporary art.' He was instrumental in assembling the first comprehensive exhibition of modern architecture at the Museum in 1932, and thus 'stirred the minds of architects and public alike to the sponsoring of a creative contemporary architecture in the United States.' " Also in this issue: "Pennsylvania Station Post Mortem: Two Views." One, "Monumental Blunder" by James Cady; the other "Monumental Grandeur" by Norval White.

October 1964: "Urban Open Spaces No. 1 — East Harlem Plaza, Jefferson Houses, N.Y.C. . . the first of a planned series coinciding with the 'Open Space Program' of the Chapter's Urban Design Committee under Chairman Walker O. Cain. . . ." Also in this issue: "Under new legislation drafted up by the city Corporation Counsel, the Administrative Code will have a new Chapter 8-A: 'Preservation of Landmarks and Historic Districts.' An immediate consequence of this legislation will be the establishment of the Landmark Preservation Commission, a toothless lion existing until now at the Mayor's pleasure, as a permanent arm of the City government. It further authorizes the Landmark Commission to issue, after public hearings, a list of designated landmarks and historic districts. . . Chapter President Wilson requests and urges all 1,400 chapter members to write to their councilmen, urging the adoption of this new local law without further delay. . . ."

December 1964: "As members will recall, the purpose of our [Equal Opportunities] Committee is to enhance drastically the opportunities of the Negro, Puerto Rican and other disadvantaged minorities, in the Building Trades and Professions. . . . Practicing architects among these groups in the New York area are very far below the proportions of population. For example, out of 1400 members in the New York Chapter, there are only 3 Negro Corporate members. In the whole Metropolitan area, there are only 17 registered Negro architects. . . ."

to be continued

Progress Report—One Year Later: Building Code Accessibility Amendments of 1987 (Local Law 58)

by Robert J. Marino AIA

Local Law 58 was enacted September 1, 1987. It has had a major impact on the design of the built environment, especially in the area of housing. With few exceptions, it applies to all new buildings, and to most changes in existing buildings, in some cases to the entire building being renovated....

Adaptable Housing

The concept of Adaptable Housing is central to the new law, and is best described in a 1987 HUD publication titled "Adaptable Housing: Marketable Accessible Housing for Everyone." Some of the main ideas are summarized below.

Developers as well as disabled people have long been dissatisfied with most fixed accessible units mandated by law where a small percentage of units had to be usable....

"Adaptable Housing" is a concept developed to resolve many of those problems.... Its goal is to bring adaptable features into the mainstream of design, eliminate the undesirable features associated with fixed usable units, and provide the disabled with a greater choice of locations to both live and visit.

Adaptable units are made up of adaptable features such as adjustable sinks and counters, and of fixed features. The fixed features are wide doors, clearance and maneuvering space, convenient locations of switches and controls, and accessible routes....

The Major Aspects of Local Law 58

Virtually all new construction and renovations filed with the Department of Buildings after September 1, 1987 are covered. The principle exceptions are one- and two-family homes and non-ground floors of walk-up residential. All other new multiple dwellings must provide 100% adaptable units. Co-ops and condominiums are considered multiple dwellings and must comply.

Existing buildings must comply in their entirety whenever there is a change of

use, or when the costs of alterations exceed fifty percent of the replacement cost of the building, as estimated by the Department of Buildings. When an existing building does not fall under the 100% requirement, only those portions of the building being altered must comply.

The 1968 regulation required only one primary entrance to be accessible.... Under the current law, virtually all entrances must be accessible.

The Department of Buildings cannot grant waivers for new construction. For renovations in very limited circumstances, the department may, upon consultation with the Mayor's Office for the Handicapped, grant waivers for specific aspects of the work....

The amended law is so sweeping and technically detailed that...uncertainty has contributed to delays in design and construction....

As applications were submitted for approval under the new law, Architects, Developers, the Department of Buildings, and Disabled Advocacy Groups experienced some of the difficulties in implementing LL58. The Real Estate Board of New York began working with a group of architects and formed a design team to meet with the Department of Buildings. The AIA Housing Committee met with the Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association and the Department of Buildings. In June 1988, Deputy Mayor Esnard and Commissioner Charles Smith were instrumental in bringing together the various groups who were working somewhat independently to resolve issues relative to the law.

The meetings resulted in the establishment of an advisory panel representing the various interests that would meet on a bi-weekly basis. This committee includes the Department of Buildings, the Mayor's Office for the Handicapped, members of the AIA, The Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY), Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association (EPVA), Disabled in Action (DIA), and the Centers for Independent Living....

The panel has addressed several major issues. It first dealt with projects caught in the process, projects that were substantially designed but not filed before September 1987. The panel jointly developed an amendment, approved unanimously by City Council on September 23, 1988, that will allow building applications and plans filed with City Agencies other than the Department of Buildings before September 1, 1987, to be considered for a waiver on specific aspects of the law. This is not intended to grant blanket waivers....

High on the panel's agenda was the quick development of alternate bathroom and kitchen layouts, especially an end entrance bathroom only 5'-6" wide. EPVA built prototypes of bathrooms for testing. The new 5'-6" wide bathrooms developed appear to be more desirable to the disabled, while providing architects with an alternate design. Clarifications were issued for these designs on September 6, 1988 as Technical Policy and Procedure Notice #15/88. Other issues relating to bathrooms, kitchens, balconies, and terraces are on the agenda.

A long range goal is to develop a set of standards or interpretations more appropriate to the density of New York City than the existing standards. It is intended that as new standards are agreed to, they be issued as acceptable designs.

The law will continue to evolve. New technology and design solutions may provide ways to better meet the needs of all users. Architects who have worked with the law for a year, are now better able to understand the issues involved and make specific recommendations. It is important to clarify outstanding issues, understand the goals of the disabled, and bring these issues before the panel....

Next month Oculus will report NYC/AIA's Housing Committee's November Open Meeting, "Update on Local Law 58."

Robert J. Marino is Chairman of the Housing Subcommittee on Local Law 58

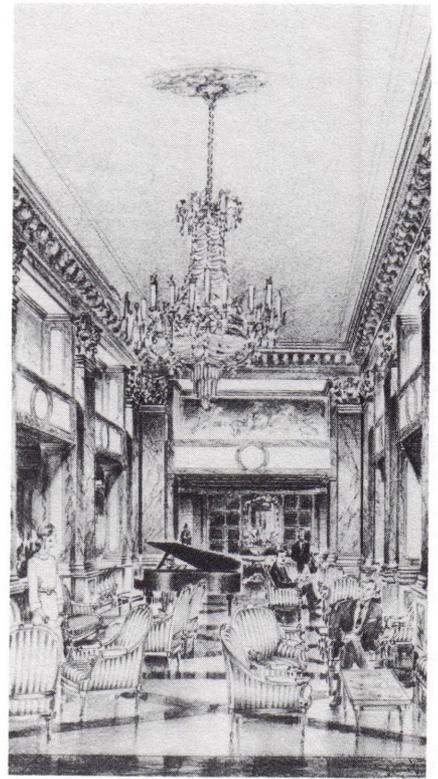
NAMES AND NEWS

1989 will be the "year of the acquisition" in the design business, predicts PSMJ publisher **Frank A. Stasiowski**.... **John Ellis** AIA and **Lee Harris Pomeroy** FAIA are this year's co-chairmen of the City Club's Bard Awards, which will be presented 17 May 1989, and for which the search begins this month. For more information: The Bard Awards, The City Club of New York, 33 West 42nd Street, NYC 10036.... **G.E. Kidder Smith** FAIA lectured in Tokyo and Osaka in October at the invitation of the architectural Institute of Japan.... **Swanke Hayden Connell** are stabilizing the 360-foot-long iron and wood conservatory built by railroad baron Jay Gould at Lyndhurst, the National Trust's Gothic estate in Tarrytown, New York. Once called a "shimmering palace of glass," the turn-of-the-century conservatory is now a ruin but there are plans for its eventual restoration.... **Lenore M. Lucey** AIA was elected to the Board of Directors of the Council of Architectural Component Executives (CACE).... New York architects among those to be presented by the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis in a series of six solo shows called "Architecture Tomorrow" are: **Tod Williams** AIA and **Billie Tsien, Elizabeth Diller** and **Ricardo Scofidio**, and **Steven Holl** AIA. The shows will be presented over the next three years with the last one in 1991.... **Richard Meier** FAIA and **Renzo Piano**

1. *Rendering of Le Grand Salon at the St. Regis Sheraton by Brennan Beer Gorman Monk, Architects*

2. *Joseph P. Addabbo Federal Building in Queens by Gruzen Samton Steinglass/The Ehrenkrantz Group & Eckstut/Syska & Hennessy*

will discuss New Design in California Museums during WESTWEEK '89 at the Pacific Design Center in Los Angeles, March 29-31.... **Stephen B. Jacobs** FAIA participated in a conference, "Living with Wetlands," held in Staten Island last month. It was sponsored by the NYC Department of City Planning, Environmental Protection, and Parks and Recreation, with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.... **Randolph R. Croxton** AIA addressed the Duke University "Arts in New York" program on current New York Architecture in October. Each year Duke sends a class to New York for a semester of on-site study of the arts. Former Chapter president Croxton had a special interest in the class since his great-great-grandfather founded Trinity College, the precursor of Duke University.... **Robert Sobel** AIA, president of **Emery Roth & Sons** has announced an association between his firm and the Beijing Institute of Architectural Design. Called the "China-U.S. Architectural Alliance," it is said to be the first cooperative practice between architectural firms in the two countries.... **Tician Papachristou** FAIA was in the USSR this fall meeting with Soviet architects who are planning to visit the U.S. and Canada early in 1989.... **Siegfried Giedion**, the Swiss historian of architecture, art, and culture, and author of *Space, Time and Architecture*, is to have his 100th



1.

birthday celebrated with an exhibition in Zurich next month. It will offer a comprehensive view of Giedion's multi-faceted career.... **Linda Davidoff** has been named executive director of the Parks Council.... The Fifth Avenue Association's 1988 architectural awards honored two Madison Avenue buildings last month. An award for a new building went to **David Paul Helpern** AIA for 667 Madison Avenue, and an award for a renovated building went to **Beyer Blinder Belle** for The Limited on Madison Avenue at 62nd Street. The awards were presented by **Michael Maas** FAIA, president of the Fifth Avenue Association, and they were selected by a committee, which included **Max Abramovitz** FAIA and **Wendy Evans** AIA.... **Brian Principe** AIA, **Nancy J. Ruddy** AIA, and **Michael Zenreich** AIA have been named partners of **Eli Attia Architects** and **Eli Attia Design, Inc.**.... **Brennan Beer Gorman Monk** have been retained by the Sheraton Corporation to restore and renovate the St. Regis Sheraton Hotel, which was originally built by John Jacob Astor in 1904.... The Joseph P. Addabbo Federal Building in Jamaica, Queens, designed in an unusual joint venture by **Gruzen Samton Steinglass/The Ehrenkrantz Group & Eckstut/Syska & Hennessy**, opened in October. Its design won a government competition for a structure that would enhance redevelopment effort, fit the character of the community, and efficiently house 3,000 employees to handle Social Security claims.... **Eugene Kohn** FAIA, RIBA, and **Peter Brandt** AIA took part in a seminar last month in Sydney, Australia, on "The Future of the Built Environment".... **Joy**



2.

NAMES AND NEWS

Brandon has been appointed Director of Communications for **John Burgee Architects**. Formerly with AIA's Communications Department, she will fill the position vacated by Alan Haber who is relocating to Israel.... **James Stewart Polshek and Partners** have been retained by the Santa Fe Opera to complete a Master Site Plan for the grounds and buildings that comprise the 155-acre complex. The Polshek firm has also been commissioned for the renovation and expansion of the Museum of the City of New York; the renovation of the American Festival Theatre in Stratford, Connecticut; and the design of a new permanent headquarters for the Seaman's Church Institute in lower Manhattan's South Street Seaport Historic District.... **Rockefeller Center** was the recipient of the **New York Society of Architects'** Sidney L. Strauss Award in recognition of the Center's "outstanding efforts, from policy planning through implementation, in maintaining and revitalizing a national landmark while preserving both its historical architectural content and preeminence in the business community.".... **Gould Evans Architects PA**, Kansas City, Missouri, in association with **Mitchell/Giurgola Architects** have been selected to design the new Johnson County Central Library building in Overland Park, Kansas.... **Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum** announced the relocation of its corporate and St. Louis offices to 1831 Chestnut Street, St. Louis.... Serving on this year's jury for NYC/AIA's \$12,000 **Arnold W. Brunner Grant** are **Thomas Beeby** AIA, Yale School of Architecture; **J. Max Bond**, City College School of Architecture; **John Q. Hejduk** FAIA, the Cooper Union; **Paul Heyer** AIA, Pratt School of Architecture; **Robert M. Maxwell** RIBA, Princeton School of Architecture; and **Stuart Wrede**, Director of MOMA's Department of Architecture and Design. The winner will be announced in February 1989.... **Buttrick White & Burtis** have appointed **Jean Carlton** a Partner and **Sean Joyner** and **Peter Murray** Associates.... The **NYC Transit Authority** is looking for two curators — one to curate an exhibition on the "Unification of the Transit System" planned for 1990; the other to curate an

exhibition on "Subway Stations" planned for 1991. Both should be knowledgeable of NYC, architecture, and exhibition development. For more information: Terrie S. Rouse, 718-643-3281 or 3283.... **Robert Geddes** FAIA, partner of **Geddes Brecher Qualls Cunningham Architects**, has been named to the Henry R. Luce Professorship in Architecture, Urbanism and History at New York University beginning next year.

Competitions

The 1989 R.S. Reynolds Memorial Award for Distinguished Architecture Using Aluminum has called for entries. The award is conferred annually on an architect or team of architects who "designed a permanent, significant work of architecture, in the creation of which aluminum has been an important contributing factor." Data binders must be postmarked December 19, 1988 and addressed to: R.S. Reynolds Memorial Award, AIA, 1735 New York Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20006.... **The 1989 Rudy Bruner Award for Excellence in the Urban Environment** has a deadline for applications of December 30, 1988. The award is given "to those developments which demonstrate the complementary interaction" of developers, designers, government leaders, and neighborhood groups and "successfully reconcile competing financial, visual, and social values in the development process...." For applications: The Rudy Bruner Award, 244 Fifth Ave., NYC 10001; 889-5366.... **The Rotch Travelling Scholarship** is receiving applications for the 1989 scholarship. A stipend of \$16,000 is awarded to the winner of a two-stage design competition for eight months of travel throughout the world, and an additional \$1,500 is awarded upon completion of a report to be added to the scholarship's archives. Applicants must be U.S. citizens under 35 years old on March 23, 1989, and must meet one of these requirements: 1. A degree from an accredited school of architecture plus one year in a Massachusetts architectural firm. 2. A degree from an accredited Massachusetts school of architecture plus one year in any U.S. architectural firm. 3. Applicants receiving a certificate

from the Boston Architectural Center before the degree-granting program will need four years in an architectural office. Requests for applications must be made in writing to be received no later than January 2, 1989, addressed to: Hugh Shepley FAIA, Rotch Travelling Scholarship, 40 Broad Street, 6th floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02109.... The Architectural Studies Center at Lansing Community College will host the first **National High School Architectural Design Competition** on June 19, 20, and 21, 1989 in Lansing, Michigan. A select number of high school students from each state will be invited to represent their state as a participant. Following "the intense 16-hour competition," a group of architects and design professionals from across the U.S. will judge the projects. Hugh Newell Jacobsen will head the judging team. The first prize winner will receive a trophy and a \$10,000 U.S. Savings Bond. Additional prizes will be awarded to the second through tenth winners. For more information: Office of the Director, Architectural Studies Center, Lansing Community College, P.O. Box 40010, Lansing, MI 48901; 517-483-1356 or 1336. The help of NYC/AIA members is requested in providing the names of interested students.

Landmark notes

The former Knickerbocker Hotel at Broadway and 42nd Street was designated a NYC landmark in October by the Landmarks Preservation Commission. Although the building with its turn-of-the-century design has undergone many mutations since the hotel closed in 1921, the commission said in its designation motion that it "continues to reflect the architectural richness of The Times Square area in the Gilded Age".... The October publication of **Barbaralee Diamonstein's** *The Landmarks of New York* (the first complete survey of officially designated NYC landmark buildings) included a city-wide exhibition of photographs from the book and a panel discussion, "Is the Preservation Party Over?" Joining Ms. Diamonstein on the panel were **William Conklin** FAIA, **Richard Rosan** AIA, **Laurie Beckelman**, and

1. Perspective section of a Venetian Palace by Viollet-le-Duc

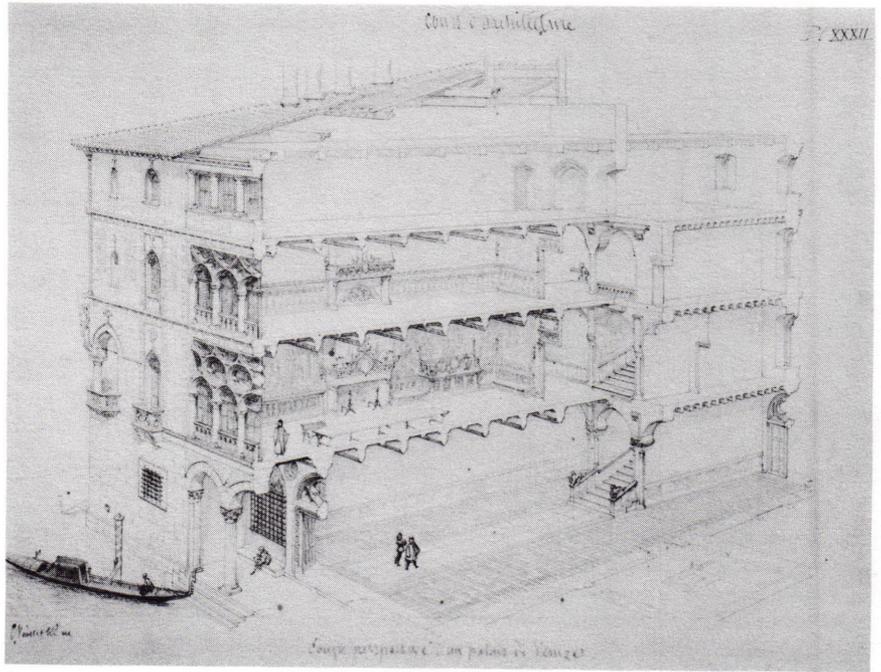
2. Arata Isozaki's drawing of the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles.

Both in the Metropolitan Museum's exhibition "Architecture on Paper." Photos: courtesy Metropolitan Museum of Art

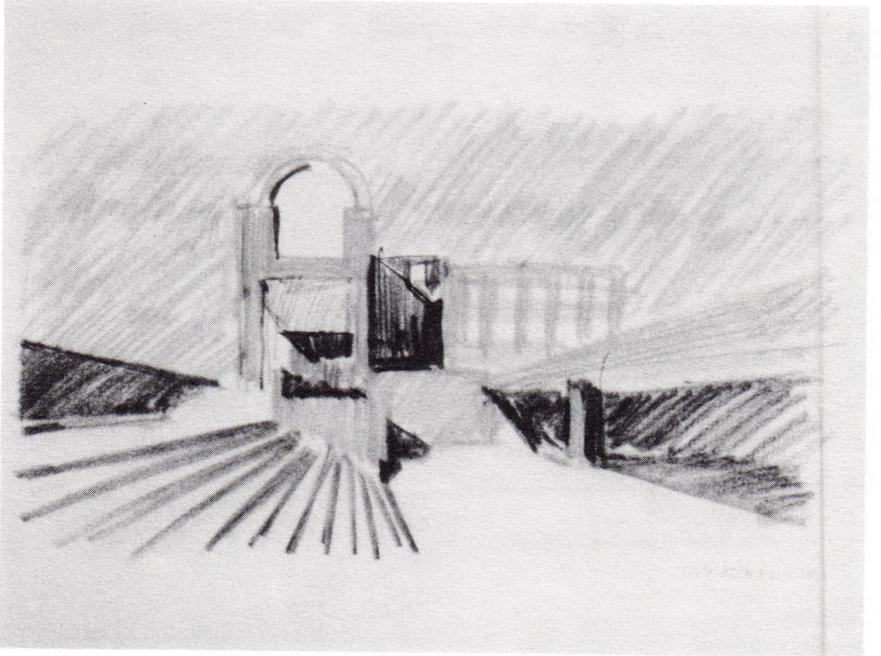
Landmarks Commissioner **Gene A. Norman** RA.... **Dr. Benjamin B.G. Nistal-Moret** was appointed by Gene Norman to head the Landmark Commission's Architectural Salvage Warehouse Program. "We are looking forward to Dr. Nistal-Moret's intellectual, yet practical, approach to the recycling of authentic architectural materials," said Mr. Norman. "His extensive knowledge in historic preservation and conservation will be of great value to the program."

C.I.B. Awards

The 1988 Concrete Industry Board awards were presented last month at C.I.B.'s Annual Awards Dinner. Five buildings cited to receive Awards were: The Jacob K. Javits Convention Center Plaza designed by **I.M. Pei & Partners** with Weidlinger Associates as structural engineer; The Horizon, the residential tower at 403 E. 37 Street designed by **Philip Birnbaum & Associates** with the office of Irwin G. Cantor as structural engineer; New Detention Facility designed by **Urbahn & Litchfield Grosfield** for the NYC Department of Corrections in lower Manhattan with Thornton-Tomasetti as structural engineers; Tower 45, the reinforced concrete office tower on West 45 Street designed by **Swanke Hayden Connell** with Severud-Szegezdy as structural engineers; and the Benjamin Rosenthal Library at Queens College designed by **Gruzen Samton Steinglass** with Ewell W. Finley as structural engineer. A Special Mention Award went to the Entrance Plaza at the Hayden Planetarium designed by **Alan Garry** RA of Alan Garry Alexis Associates with Michele Oka Doner as the sculptor and Expert Concrete, Inc. as the concrete consultant and contractor. Two buildings cited to receive Special Recognition Awards were the Westchester Financial Center in White Plains designed by **Matthew J. Warshauer Associates** with structural engineers Joseph Yesselman, James J. Romeo, and Lev Zetlin Associates, Inc.; and The World Bank "J" Building in Washington, DC, designed by **Hellmuth Obata & Kassabaum** with Lev Zetlin Associates, Inc. as the structural engineer.



1.



2.

Exhibitions

Such odd bedfellows as Viollet-le-Duc and Arata Isozaki or Charles Gwathmey and the Beaux-Arts architects have achieved a happy relationship in the Metropolitan Museum's exhibition, **Architecture on Paper: A Decade of Acquisitions**. The show includes about 60 architectural drawings, prints, design books and treatises ranging from the 16th century to the present. The drawings are as varied as the 19th-century Viollet-le-Duc's perspective section of a Venetian palace and the impressionistic 20th-century Arata Isozaki's rendering of the entrance court of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles. Also included are drawings by Michael Graves, Frank Lloyd Wright, Georges Seurat, Frederick Kiesler, a

model for a city hall in Kurashiki by Kenzo Tange as well as a selection of large-scale drawings from the annual competition of the Society of Beaux-Arts architects. The competitions were instituted early in this century to select an American student to study in Paris....

Architectural Art: Affirming the Design Relationship, the American Craft Museum exhibition produced in collaboration with NYC/AIA will spend the next two years travelling to major art institutions in the U.S. and Canada. Its first stop (through December 1988) is at the Trammel Crow Center in Dallas. In March it will move to the Pacific Design Center in Los Angeles where it will remain until May.

AROUND THE CHAPTER

NYC/AIA Firms Make Top 500 Design Firms

Twenty-one NYC/AIA sustaining member firms were among 135 architecture and A/E firms that made *Engineering News Record's* 1988 list of top design firms. ENR's 500 selections were based on fees billed and showed a 15% increase in architectural and engineering fee billings, pushing 1987 total billed fees to \$14.9 billion. Sustaining member firms included, as ranked by ENR, are:

- 8 - Skidmore Owings & Merrill
- 39 - Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum
- 44 - Gensler & Associates
- 51 - Ellerbee Becket
- 83 - Tippetts-Abbett-McCarthy-Stratton
- 89 - Swanke Hayden Connell Architects
- 113 - Tribble Harris Li
- 106 - Kohn Pedersen Fox
- 128 - Haines Lundberg Waehler
- 135 - I. M. Pei & Partners
- 179 - Perkins & Will
- 197 - Beyer Blinder Belle
- 256 - Bonsignore Brignati & Mazzotta
- 288 - The Ehrenkrantz Group & Eckstut
- 358 - Urbahn Associates
- 366 - Russo & Sonder Architects
- 367 - Brennan Beer Gorman/Architects
- 375 - The Eggers Group
- 459 - Edward Durell Stone Associates
- 498 - Wank Adams Slavin Associates
- 500 - Edward Larrabee Barnes Associates

Chapter Firms Build New York

Of the buildings mentioned in "Manhattan, 1993: The Next 100 Buildings" in *7 Days* (Vol. 1, No. 26), only 60 named the architects and the majority of those were by NYC/AIA Sustaining Member Firms. For the sixty, 31 firms were represented, of which 24 were member firms. Over half of the Chapter's firms were credited with more than one building. Topping the numbers, were Fox & Fowle and Skidmore Owings & Merrill with six buildings each, and Kohn Pedersen Fox and Emery Roth & Sons tied with four each. The big question? Who did the other forty buildings?

NYC/AIA Annual Financial Report

	1986/87	1987/88
Receipts		
Dues	\$380,985	\$414,585
Administration	13,455	34,219
<i>Oculus</i>	17,407	18,842
Publication Sales	70,224	69,291
Committees/ Events	94,787	197,612
Miscellaneous	8,949	6,918
Receipts	\$585,807	\$741,467
Disbursements		
Administration	\$263,427	\$344,384
Bylaw Required	5,600	6,500
<i>Oculus</i>	95,317	90,041
Publication Sales	63,018	43,473
Committees/ Events	120,067	208,249
Disbursement	\$547,429	\$692,647
Fund Balance	\$ 38,378	\$ 48,820

The above represents the Chapter's financial position as of September 30, 1988. The audit has begun and will be available for review when completed later this year. Our 1987-88 year was successful in both outside fundraising and increased member base (a 7½ percent increase over 1986-87). We would like to thank those of you who have responded promptly to the new dues invoice for the 1988-89 fiscal year, which was mailed in mid-August. The Chapter's cash flow situation, always tight, has been eased considerably by both the new system and these prompt payments.

Insurance

DPIC Companies/Orion Group have released a report to the Chapter regarding their financial capabilities. Those of you insured with DPIC are free to use the Chapter's copy for reference. DPIC can be reached at 800-227-4284, ask for Stephanie Nelson; or write to: DPIC Companies, P.O. Box DPIC, Monterey, California, 93942.

Letters

Dear Editor:

The October *Oculus* in the Names and News column states... "Perkins & Will have been appointed by The Macklowe Organization to replace Gruzen Samton Steinglass as the architecture firm of record for the 52 story Hotel Macklowe now under construction..."

In our opinion this is an example of how Architects when unguided by specific Standards of Ethical Practice, make business decisions that could be harmful to one another.

The news item, we are told by *Oculus* staff, was based on a "press release" from The Macklowe Organization. Neither Perkins & Will nor Gruzen Samton Steinglass was consulted and neither would have announced the "appointment" in this manner. The story behind the announcement would reveal the following:

Perkins & Will took on their new assignment despite being advised by Gruzen Samton Steinglass that it had not been paid a considerable amount of money due for services it had already completed. This occurred in early July and to this date Gruzen Samton Steinglass has not received a penny of either fees owed or reimbursable expenses...while the project continues in construction.

It adds insult to injury when the Chapter announces to the profession that one firm has been replaced by another without inquiring into the background of this event with either firm. Furthermore, despite the watered-down Standards of Ethics — it raises serious issues about Architecture as a profession, not just a business.

My Partners and I would welcome sharing our experience with other Chapter members in the hope that this kind of situation would happen less often.

Ralph Steinglass AIA
Partner

A Grand Tour of Flushing Meadows

by Jerry Maltz AIA

Photo: Gerard Vasisko AIA



Touring Flushing Meadows with Philip Johnson's New York State Pavilion in background

On Saturday, September 24, at noon a group of architects and their friends gathered at the Unisphere in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park for another fascinating tour of public architecture sponsored by the NYC/AIA Public Architects Committee. This sojourn was organized by Adrienne Bresnan AIA, Sheryl Kolasinski AIA, and Margot Woolley AIA. Arnold Vollmer AIA, one of the park's original designers, attended.

The group was led into the Queens Museum auditorium and welcomed by Queens Deputy Borough President Peter Magnani and Flushing Meadows Park Administrator Arne Abramowitz. They discussed the history of this park of two World's Fairs and the 10-year, \$80 million capital restoration of its 1,255 acres (Central Park contains 843 acres) currently underway. Joan Firestone, Executive Director of the Flushing Meadows-Corona Park Corporation, explained this private group's role in fund-raising for the Park's projects. Lou Miceli of Miceli-Kulik, Landscape Architects, reviewed his extensive plans for relandscaping the core area and revitalizing the waterfront. Jackie Welsh of the office of Rafael Vinoly, Architects, described the planned Queens Museum renovation, after which the group viewed the fabulous panorama model of New

York City made for the 1964 World's Fair and updated to 1975. Marc Miller of the Queens Museum explained that it will be further updated to the present, and architectural firms designing buildings in New York City are encouraged to donate models.

The walking tour then began in earnest, from the glorious Unisphere fountain shimmering in the sunlight, to the Theater in the Park in the former New York State Pavilion, and across the bridge to the Gertrude B. Ederle amphitheater, built originally for the 1939 World's Fair to house the Billy Rose Aquacade. Paul Spears and others from the office of John Ciardullo, Architects, explained the plans for renovation. Then for a delightful diversionary ride on the Carousel, originally one of Coney Island's finest, followed by a more sober discussion led by Mark Morrison, Landscape Architect, about the reconstruction of the Queens Zoo, currently in progress, which includes some reorganization within the Buckminster Fuller aviary. The afternoon ended with an exhausted but enlightened group of architects enjoying coffee and danish at the Hall of Science, where Alan Friedman, the Director, explained their future plans.

Opportunities: City and State

The New York State Facilities Development Corporation seeks qualified candidates, including minority and women candidates, to chair evaluation panels in the selection of architectural and engineering firms for projects undertaken by the corporation. Prior experience in the selection of consultants for public or private projects, or teaching engineering or architectural courses is essential. A professional engineering or architectural license is a plus. Persons currently employed by the State of New York, its agencies, public benefit corporations, or architectural or engineering firms are not eligible. Compensation is provided. Attendance at three or four meetings during a six-week period is required. Interested individuals should submit their resumes to: Facilities Development Corporation, 44 Holland Avenue, Albany, NY 12208. Attention: Ms. Pat Cromme.

The Division of Design and Construction Management (DDCM) of the **NYC Department of General Services** (DGS) requests applications from qualified consulting architects interested in performing services for this Municipal Government Agency. The Agency is aiming for excellent quality in developing studies and performing design work and construction management services for the Public Buildings of New York City. Consultants are invited to submit a Federal Form 254 and an illustrated brochure describing their professional experience.

Please address all correspondence to: Consultant Liaison, NYC Department of General Services, Division of Design and Construction Management, Bureau of Building Design, 1 Centre Street, 15th Floor, New York, N.Y. 10007.

The NYC Department of General Services, Bureau of Building Design, is looking for qualified architects to manage civic projects. The work involves developing technical requirements for projects, and then coordinating the design process among Client Agencies, Regulatory Agencies, and Consultants, with particular emphasis on overseeing the work of the Design Consultants. Projects range from Museums and Libraries to Fire and Police Stations;

Asbestos Update

many are Landmark Buildings. Applicants should have a Bachelor of Architecture degree or equivalent, and 5-6 years of experience. Send resume to: Benedetto J. Puccio AIA, Director, Bureau of Building Design, Department of General Services, One Centre Street, New York, NY 10007.

Marriott Corporation is seeking architecture firms for diversified lodging, restaurant and food service facilities around the country. More information and a Design Consultant Data Sheet may be obtained from the Design Director by calling 1-800-638-6707, ext. 81625.

Visitors from Overseas

Martin D. Raab FAIA welcomed a visiting delegation of architecture professors and students from the USSR. Hosts for the group included Chapter members **Lo Yi Chan** FAIA, **Bruce Fowle** FAIA, **Sidney P. Gilbert** AIA, and **Herbert Oppenheimer** FAIA. The Russian guests were professors Ilya Lezhavw, Zoya Yargina, Yuri Moiseyev, and Alexander Bazhenov; and students Anna Borissevich, Elena Kopytova, Oxana Omelanenko, Valeri Kovalevski, Vadim Palkus, and Oleg Reznikov. Accompanying the group were interpreter Alex Soroka and Dr. Alexander V. Denissov, Permanent Mission of the USSR to the United Nations.... **Guarino Salerni** AIA and Chapter curator **Alessandra Latour** joined **Lenore M. Lucey** AIA in welcoming a visiting delegation of Italian architects representing the Monza area of Italy. They presented the Chapter library with copies of "Studi Castellani" (Castle Studies), and "24 Restauri di Torri Costieri" (Restoration of 24 Coastal Towers), as well as information about architectural activities in Monza. The Chapter has a list of the visitors if anyone is planning to travel to that part of Italy.

by Lenore M. Lucey AIA

Chapter president Martin D. Raab FAIA received the following response from Rudolph Rinaldi, Deputy Commissioner, Department of General Services (see *Oculus*, November, p. 13):

"I am responding to your September 14, 1988 letter, in which you expressed concern about the Department of General Services' process for selecting design consultants and handling asbestos abatement design. I believe that you do not fully understand DGS's policies concerning these topics, so I want to clearly explain our position.

"The Department of General Services' Division of Design and Construction Management is currently revising many procedures in order to improve the quality, cost-effectiveness, and timeliness of its capital program. Relative to my subject letter, we have determined that our present method for handling asbestos abatement design is somewhat inefficient. Currently, for a design project, DGS does not require a prime consultant to actually put together design drawings and specifications for asbestos removal or containment; our prime consultants only are required to identify those areas where his work will interfere with material that could contain asbestos. DGS then evaluates the material and, if it is determined that it could result in a large asbestos abatement project, will normally handle this work as a separate design and a separate construction contract. If the asbestos work is only incidental, DGS has been including in the normal construction bid documents a discrete addendum that covers the work and clearly states that the addendum was prepared by DGS. The fundamental problem with both these arrangements is that it is difficult, time-consuming, and costly for DGS to coordinate our asbestos abatement design documents with the prime consultant and especially with their sub-consultants for electrical, plumbing, and HVAC work.

"In order to address these concerns, I sent out my letter of August 25, 1988 to determine whether design consultants would be willing to perform, as part of their traditional coordinating role, asbestos abatement design incidental to

larger projects. To date, I have received 23 replies from consultants, 22 of whom said that they would be willing to take on full responsibility to undertake asbestos work as part of their design contract. It was never my intention to give complete preference to those design consultants who are interested in performing asbestos abatement work. As I stated in my August 25th letter, these consultants may be given preference, depending on the overall scope of the projects. Certainly, a design consultant's comprehensive qualifications are more important than just their willingness to undertake asbestos abatement work. However, I do believe that on certain routine projects, given a choice of architects of equivalent capability, it may be in the City's best interest to select an architect that will serve all our needs.

"I have discussed this issue in the past with a number of design consultant firms. Many have told me that they are less concerned about losing lawsuits for their design work relative to asbestos than they are about paying the legal fees for associated nuisance suits when their professional liability insurance does not cover asbestos work. In any case, I do not believe that our current asbestos design practices relieve an architect's professional responsibility to ensure that asbestos concerns or any public safety concern, for that matter are handled in their design work.

"I assure you that I will not set any policy which will have a negative effect on a design project or on our program as a whole. I am not aiming to lessen DGS's workload or responsibility but rather, to increase DGS's ability to get full, coordinated service from a consultant. In doing so, I believe that better projects will result.

"I would welcome a meeting with you and your AIA colleagues to discuss ways to address the asbestos issue in a manner which is in the best interest of the Department of General Services, the City, and the public"

The Future and the Profession

by Lenore M. Lucey AIA

The future, as it will relate to the profession, is very much on our mind with the imminent arrival of the 1990's and the coming new century. We have seen the role of the architect as the pivotal person in the construction process erode in recent years. We have watched as the advent of stronger competition from abroad, and from within our own ranks, has hurt firms in their efforts to become more profitable. And, we have seen our profession become increasingly vulnerable to the cycles of our economy.

It is with increasing concern that the AIA is pursuing "Vision 2000." Vision 2000 was initiated by the New York region in 1986 to envision what the practice of architecture might be in the 21st century. The AIA is pursuing this investigation by identifying societal trends affecting architecture, through public opinion polls about architects, interviews with identified business leaders about architecture, and through a recently held three-day forum of futurists, educators, business leaders, writers, and architects.

The results of the Vision 2000 polls were presented by Lou Harris during the recent AIA Convention, and have been widely reported; you will soon be seeing the results of the forum in AIA materials. I will not repeat all that has been written. Let me note the identified trends:

- The suburbanization of America
- The technological revolution
- Renovation of deteriorating infrastructure
- Changing demographics
- Automation and the materials revolution

If it seems familiar, it should. First, because these are not new trends, and second, because it is what we deal with daily in practicing our profession. Where Vision 2000 can supply some insight, however, is for the direction the trends will take, and where they, in turn, might take your practice in the future.

How can you prepare your firm? Using the identified trends you can:

1. Plan to increase your share of the predicted market changes by developing or enhancing expertise:

- In the renovation and restoration of deteriorating inner-city buildings and infrastructure.
- In the design of facilities for an aging population, and for child and parent care necessitated by increasing numbers of women in the work force.
- In changing facility use due to declining population growth coupled with increased immigration.
- In planning and development.

2. Enhance your firm's ability to deal with the increasingly complex technology of production and construction through:

- Computer aided drafting.
- Computer links to consultants and manufacturers.
- Facsimile transmission of documents and information.
- Technological improvements to project administration and documentation mandated by the increasing computerization of the production and specification of buildings.
- Adapting to changes in the way that buildings are built, and to the materials with which they are built, due to production automation, which will permit increased flexibility in special orders and improved product dependability.
- By embracing the materials revolution, which holds the promise of bringing improved building products to market.

3. Know where the competition is coming from, how to counter the myriad threats to your winning that commission, and where potential new marketing opportunities lie:

- Owners and developers with internal design staffs that want you as a "name" or "stylist."
- Interior design corporations that cannot provide the client with architectural services, fiduciary responsibility, or liability coverage.
- Growing architecture departments in engineering firms.
- Exhibit, furniture, graphic, and scenic designers who are taking on increasingly complex design roles for which they are not trained.
- Specialty areas that seem to be closed markets except to the initiated: hospitality, long term care, food services.

Adapted from introductory remarks by the author at "Managing Your Design Firm Profitably in a Changing Economy," a business management seminar provided to its clients by LePatner, Gainen & Block.

- Your colleagues and peers who afford you the true competitive arena.

4. Plan now to increase your firm's profitability, for that must be done before you can meet and master the onslaught of increased competition.

The AIA/Harris Poll also brought us some thoughts about the profession, which we need to keep in mind when dealing with the client and the public. In questions about architects, the polls showed that we rank highly among the professions in public opinion. People believe architects can make a better and more beautiful world, and that they are to be trusted. However, the polls also revealed that the public believes architects can be difficult to work with and that they are expensive. Architects' commitment to quality design, and a concern for the environment will allow us to affirm that the public's high opinion of us is valid and its trust in us is well placed. Your commitment to creating a firm that can live up to those high ideals, is able to respond to the changing needs of society, and do so at fair cost to the consumer and profit for yourself, is necessary. A fair fee insures the ability of your firm to fairly compensate and maintain talented staff—staff that will be the next generation of leaders of our profession; staff that we want to be well prepared to meet the new century. This should be integral to the goal of design firms which provide quality service in a profit oriented environment.

In summary, you can assure your firm's place in the year 2000 by:

- Planning now for growth and change in society.
- Structuring internally for technological change.
- Establishing a profitability program, which will carry your firm into the 21st century.

Do not sit back and relax; you must structure your practice in order to meet the challenge of the next century.

New York Building Congress Sponsors Second Annual Conference

Attendees at the Building Congress

Architects, engineers and other industry professionals attended the New York Building Congress's two-day conference on rebuilding New York entitled "The New York Construction Market — Over \$100 Billion in New Construction Activity: Where the Work Is and How to Get It," in November.

The conference presented one of the most optimistic outlooks concerning the real estate construction industry in recent times. Held at the Grand Hyatt Hotel on 42nd Street, various public and private officials were brought together to inform the real estate industry that New York City needs to be rebuilt, and the government is prepared to spend over \$100 billion to accomplish it.

Building Congress President Louis J. Coletti explained the sudden explosion of potential real estate expenditure by the City. "It is very simple," stated Coletti. "The programs under discussion at the conference have been on the burner for a number of years. The difference now is that the City has financially rebounded from the economic difficulties of the 70's and early 80's and has the funds in their coffers to carry out their plans. The potential for the construction business is astounding."

Almost every facet of operation concerning New York City was addressed as in need of either full repair or entirely new construction. The scope of topics was vast, ranging from transportation, water supply, housing, health care facilities, schools, universities and waterfront development. Vincent Tese, New York State Commissioner of Economic Development, outlined progress on 42nd Street Development Project as well as plans for new projects, and Raymond O'Keefe, Executive Vice President, Cushman & Wakefield, outlined the 42 projects currently under construction or planned for future construction on the midtown west side district. These projects will greatly transform that area.

Information was also available to help participants identify the future projects, understand more about the government procurement process, while allowing



them to meet with the decision-makers to find out first hand what needs to be known about publicly-funded projects. Special afternoon workshops highlighted opportunities available through independent authorities, state and city agencies. The workshops provided opportunities for conference attendees to find out how to compete for A/E contracts as well as what new projects are planned for the near future.

Attendees were able to question the featured speakers on a variety of topics affecting their capital budget programs for the 1990s. Featured speakers on the first day of the conference included: Joseph Newman, Chairman, New York Building Congress; Louis J. Coletti, President, New York Building Congress; George Christie, Vice President & Chief Economist, McGraw-Hill Information Systems; Stephen Berger, Executive Director, Port Authority of New York/New Jersey; Robert R. Kiley, Chairman, Metropolitan Transportation Authority; M. Michael Francese, Regional Director, New York State Department of Transportation; Ross Sandler, Commissioner, New York City Department of Transportation; Harvey Schultz, Commissioner, New York City Department of Environmental Protection; Raymond O'Keefe, Executive Vice President, Cushman & Wakefield.

Featured speakers on the second day were: Rosemary Scanlon, Chief Economist, Port Authority of New York/New Jersey; Abraham Biderman, Commissioner, New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development; Vincent Tese, Commissioner, New York State Department of Economic Development; Peter J. Schultz, Deputy Executive Director, Construction, New York State Dormitory Authority; Thomas Spiers, Executive Vice President, Battery Park City Authority; Anthony Japha, Senior Assistant Vice President for Capital Programs, New York City Health & Hospital Corporation; Anthony Zarillo, Assistant Commissioner, Resource Recovery & Waste Disposal Planning, New York City Department of Sanitation; James Stuckey, President, New York City Public Development Corporation; Jay Anes, Director, Office of Design and Construction, New York City Board of Education.

The New York Building Congress is the City's only private sector association representing all segments of the building and construction industry. Founded in 1921, its members include architects, bankers, engineers, attorneys, construction firms, labor unions, utility companies and public agencies.

OCULUS NYC/AIA DEC 88

Send *Oculus* Calendar information to:
New York Chapter/AIA, 457 Madison
Avenue, N.Y. 10022.

Oculus welcomes information for the
calendar pertaining to public events
about architecture and the other design
professions. It is due in writing by the 1st
of the month for the following issue.

Because of the time lag between
information received and printed, final
details of events are likely to change. It is
recommended that events be checked with
sponsoring institutions before attending.

CONTINUING EVENTS

EXHIBITION

Emerging European Architects. Columbia
GSAPP, 100 Level, Avery Hall. 280-3414.
Closes Dec. 9.

PROJECT DMZ

Invitational and open group exhibition
presenting theoretical proposals for
alternative uses of the demilitarized zone
between North & South Korea, with the
theme of the reunification of the nation.
Storefront for Art & Architecture, 97
Kenmare St., NYC. 431-5795. Closes Dec. 18.

GAETANO PESCE

Drawings, models, prototypes. Max
Protetch, 560 Broadway. 966-5454. Closes
Jan. 7.

EXHIBITION

Architecture on Paper: A Decade of
Acquisitions. Metropolitan Museum of Art.
879-5500. Closes Jan. 8.

EXHIBITION

Erich Mendelsohn: 1887-1953. Cooper-
Hewitt Museum. 860-6868. Closes Jan. 8.

UPPER WEST SIDE'S FUTURE

The Park Council's model of Upper West
Side with 40 planned projects is on exhibit
at the Apple Bank for Savings, Broadway at
73 St. 580-9548. Closes Jan. 31.

EXHIBITION

Courts and Colonies: The William and Mary
Style in Holland, England, and America.
Cooper-Hewitt Museum. 860-6868. Closes
Feb. 12.

THURSDAY 1

MASTERBUILDERS

Seymour Durst discusses his experiences in
the development process in series
moderated by Roger Starr, author of *The
Rise and Fall of New York City*. 7:45 pm.
New School for Social Research. 741-5690.

MONDAY 5

CONFERENCE, DEC. 5-7

PSMJ's special Merger/Acquisition
Conference explores how to capitalize on
the national and international acquisition
frenzy. Boston, Mass. For more information:
Pam Jensen 800-537-PSMJ.

TUESDAY 6

ARCHITECTS-IN-TRAINING

Fifth in NYC/AIA's course for interns
with Denis Glen Kuhn AIA on Building
Code and the Approval Process. 6-8 p.m.
The Urban Center. 838-9670.

WEDNESDAY 7

SEMINAR

Asbestos Up-Date, sponsored by New York
Society of Architects. 6-8 pm. 675-6646.

LECTURE

Hal Foster, author, art critic, on "Ambiguity
and Ambivalence in Architecture."
Columbia GSAPP. 6:30 pm. Wood
Auditorium, Avery Hall. 280-3414.

CONFERENCE, DEC. 7-9

Forming Economical Concrete Buildings,
sponsored by American Concrete Institute,
Concrete Industry Board of NY, Concrete
Reinforcing Steel Institute, National Ready
Mixed Concrete Assoc., and the Portland
Cement Assoc. New York Penta Hotel.
Registration Information: 312-966-6200.

INTERIORS CONFERENCE, DEC. 7-9

For Historic Buildings. For information:
202-343-9578.

THURSDAY 8

LECTURE

William Pedersen FAIA in series sponsored
by Shope Reno Wharton Assoc. in behalf of
the Historical Society of Greenwich. 8 pm.
Greenwich Library Audit., 101 W. Putnam
Ave., Greenwich, CT. 203-869-6899.

MASTERBUILDERS

Donald Zucker, special advisor to Mayor
Koch on development, in series moderated
by Roger Starr, author of *The Rise and Fall
of New York City*. 7:45 pm. New School for
Social Research. 741-5690.

MONDAY 12

NYC/AIA EXHIBITION

Opening of "The City of the Sun," an
exhibition of the work of I. Leonidov. 6
pm. NYC/AIA's Members Gallery at the
Urban Center. 838-9670.

TUESDAY 13

NYC/AIA PANEL

Art, Architecture & Religion will be
discussed by panelists James
Carpenter, Percival Goodman FAIA,
Edward Larrabee Barnes FAIA & Ibram
Lassaw, moderated by Carol Krinsky
and sponsored by the Art &
Architecture Committee. 6:30 pm. The
Urban Center 838-9670. \$5 charge at
door.

ARCHITECTS-IN-TRAINING

Final session of NYC/AIA's course for
interns. Gerald Hallissy AIA and
Randolph Croxton AIA will discuss
Construction Phase Services. 6-8 pm.
The Urban Center. 838-9670.

HOLIDAY PARTY

Westchester/Mid-Hudson/AIA annual
Holiday Party & Awards. WMH/AIA:
914-533-6240.

WEDNESDAY 14

EXHIBITION

Erik Gunnar Asplund. Max Protetch, 560
Broadway. 966-5454. Closes March 11.

THURSDAY 15

EXHIBITION

Reconsidering Robert Moses: A Look at the
Years Between the Wars. The Municipal Art
Society at the Urban Center. 935-3960.
Closes Jan. 14.

MASTERBUILDERS

Sam Lefrak in series moderated by Roger
Starr, author of *The Rise and Fall of New
York City*. 7:45 pm. New School for Social
Research. 741-5690.

THURSDAY 22

MASTERBUILDERS

Harold Ostroff, past president, United
Housing Foundation, in series moderated by
Roger Starr, author of *The Rise and Fall of
New York City*. 7:45 pm. New School for
Social Research. 741-5690.

*The New York Chapter
of the American Institute
of Architects
is grateful to the following
for their sponsorship of*

OCULUS

A-J Contracting Co., Inc.

Carnegie Fabrics

Domestic Marble & Stone

Facilities Resources Inc.

Furniture Consultants, Inc.

GE Lighting

Herbert Construction Company

International Contract Furnishings Inc.

Maharam/Vertical Surfaces

Metalform, Inc.

Morse/Diesel Inc.

National Reprographics

O & Y (U.S. Development Corp., L.P.)

Park Tower Realty Corp.

Thomas C. Baer, Inc.

Tishman Construction Corp.

Tobron Office Furniture Corporation

Torcon

Turner Construction Company

Waldner's - The Office Showcase

Wilsonart

Wolf-Gordon Inc.