CHAPTER BACKS "MAGNIFICENT" CIVIC CENTER PLAN

Realization of the proposed New York Civic Center plan, recently made public "will be the greatest physical improvement to the city within living memory," the Chapter told Mayor Wagner last month.

In a telegram, President Frederick Woodbridge urged that "the recommendations of your Civic Center Committee be approved without delay, and that every effort be made to assure the realization of this magnificent, practical, and imaginative plan."

The plan, shown in model photo (right), was prepared by three Chapter members, Architects Max Abramovitz, Simon Breines, and Robert Cutler, with Traffic Engineers Day & Zimmerman. It includes two new towering office buildings for the city (at north end of mall), the federal government (behind that), and a smaller executive office building (at left). These structures plus City Hall (bottom) and the Surrogate's Court would overlook the new park, created by demolishing the old County Court House, closing several cross streets, and installing underground parking and subway connections. The plan is estimated to cost only $13.7 million more than the $150 million already approved.

Woodbridge stated that one point demands immediate attention and the firmest action: the recommendation that present plans for the Federal Office Building and Customs Court be revised to shift the office building west and the Customs Court north. This revision will make an "incalculable difference" in the overall plan, he said. Woodbridge pointed out that President Kennedy recently placed great stress on imaginative planning and good architecture, and added: "It would be a great misfortune if the one serious flaw in a great plan was due to lack of understanding and cooperation on the part of a Federal government agency."

THE ANNUAL MEETING: NEW OFFICERS, NEW AWARDS

By F. Marshall Smith

At noon on January 3, a record turnout of members attended the Chapter's annual meeting at the Architectural League. The meeting had been delayed from June, 1962 in compliance with the request from the Institute that the change-over of officers and chairmen coincide with the National Committee change-over at the beginning of the calendar year.

After opening the meeting, President Woodbridge called for a reading of the ballot and additional votes from the floor before closing the polls. The President then paid tribute to the late Harry B. Rutkins and asked the Secretary to read the resolution establishing the Harry B. Rutkins Award. Mrs. Rutkins acknowledged with thanks and made the award to the first recipient, David F. M. Todd, for his accomplishments on behalf of the Chapter as Chairman of the Fees & Contracts Committee. Dickson McKenna, Chairman of the Awards Committee, presented other new citations to the following:

Citizens Committee for Preservation of Tompkins Square Park
Recipient: Vivian Nemhauser

Skidmore, Owings & Merrill—Subway Entrance, Nassau and Cedar Sts.—(Chase Manhattan Bank)
Represented by Robert W. Cutler

Clarke & Rapuano—Public Gardens; U.N. Headquarters
Represented by Richard C. Murdock

Mayer, Whittlesey & Glass—Interior Courtyard, New School for Social Research
Represented by Julian H. Whittlesey

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not be jeopardized. The atmosphere of cooperation must be preserved and enhanced."

To close the meeting, Chairman of Tellers Robert Beder reported the results of the election. With 480 valid votes, the following were elected to serve the Chapter in 1963:

President: ... Geoffrey Noel Lawford
Vice President: ... Lathrop Douglass
Secretary: ... Charles Gates Beckwith
Treasurer: ... Albert H. Swanke

Executive Committee:
Bro. C. J. B. Baumann
Emanuel N. Turano

Committee on Fellows:
A. Gordon Lorimer
Daniel Schwartzman

Jury for the Medal of Honor and Awards of Merit:
Frederick J. Woodbridge
Richard Boring Snow
Richard W. Snibbe

Committee on Professional Practice:
Geoffrey Platt
Aaron Nathan Kiff
John Gray Faron

Representative to the New York State Association of Architects:
F. Marshall Smith
George D. Brown, Jr., Alternate

President Woodbridge introduced the newly elected officers and thanked the outgoing members of the Executive Committee, then turned the gavel over to new President Lawford, who closed the meeting with a short address.

CITY CLUB SPONSORS NEW CIVIC ARCHITECTURE AWARDS

New York’s pioneer civic group, The City Club of New York, is engaged in a campaign to improve the quality of civic architecture. As part of this campaign, it has announced a competition among architects. The awards will be named for Albert S. Bard, 95-year-old trustee of the club, who for more than 60 years has fought for a more beautiful city. The competition was organized by a sub-committee of the club’s Municipal Affairs Committee under the chairmanship of Leon Brand, AIA, of Frederick G. Frost Jr. and Associates.

In a circular sent to all members of the AIA in the New York area and to all New York City public agencies, it was announced that submissions must be made by February 25. The judging will take place on March 4 and 5, and the awards will be made at a luncheon on April 22.

In addition to one or more First Honor Awards for Excellence in Civic Architecture, the jury will
F. G. FROST TO WORK ON NEW N. Y. CODE

Frederick G. Frost Jr. & Associates has been selected as consulting architect to the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn for its current project of writing a new Building Code for New York City. The Building Code, last revised in 1937, is in process of being completely re-written over a three-year period at a cost of $700,000.

Mr. Frost is a former member of the Executive Committee of the New York Chapter, and his firm has designed a wide variety of buildings in and around New York, including private and public housing, voluntary hospitals, public schools, industrial buildings, supermarkets, and residences.

Other consultants engaged for the project are Meyer, Strong and Jones, mechanical engineers, and Praeger - Kavanagh - Waterbury, structural engineers.

STRAUSS MEMORIAL AWARD

For the first time in the history of the Sidney L. Strauss Memorial Award, the Committee has seen fit this year to make two awards, designating Richard Roth, AIA, in recognition of his past outstanding services for the benefit of the architectural profession, and The Hon. Everett McKinley Dirksen, U. S. Senator from Illinois, for his efforts in behalf of all self-employed professionals, as evidenced by the passing of House Resolution No. 10, Self-Employed Retirement Legislation.

Presentation of the Awards took place at the Annual Dinner of the New York Society of Architects, held December 19 at the Americana Hotel in midtown Manhattan.

$5000 AWARD

From the Estate of the late Arnold W. Brunner
President of the New York Chapter
The American Institute of Architects 1909-1910

FOR AN IDEA

For the best proposal for a special study that will contribute most effectively to the practice, teaching, or knowledge of Architecture

For Applications Write to the Brunner Scholarship Committee
New York Chapter, A.I.A.
115 East 40th Street
New York 16, N. Y.

Closing Date for Applications
Extended to January 31, 1963

PUBLICITY OPPORTUNITIES

Photo Dealer magazine will run a story prepared by the Chapter's public affairs counsel on store modernization, but needs photos to illustrate it. All materials used will be credited. If you have designed or remodeled a photo store, pictures will be welcome. Also, there is a need for photos and/or diagrams illustrating gridiron, inclined, and free-flow floor plans. Send materials to Jack Bernstein Associates, 37 West 57th Street, New York 19, N. Y.

WOMEN'S ARCHITECTURAL AUXILIARY

Our Fourth Annual Debutante Co-tillion is now a glittering memory. Eight beautiful girls were presented this year at the Metropolitan Club on December 26. This is an increase over last year. They descended the grand staircase in the traditional manner and were presented to the distinguished guests. Mr. and Mrs. John Noble Richards flew in from Toledo, Ohio for the occasion, which pleased their many friends greatly.

The Executive Board of the W.A.A. is now considering a Spring luncheon and fashion show to spark the A.I.A. Convention in Miami and to raise additional scholarship funds.

Volunteers for this committee are requested to call Mrs. Max O. Urbahn at Plaza 8-5198.

Hildegarde (Mrs. Harold R.) Sleeper

"QUEST FOR QUALITY" IS 1963 CONVENTION THEME

"The Quest for Quality in Architecture will be the theme of the Institute's 1963 Convention, to be held May 5-9 in Miami.

The main session on Wednesday morning, May 8, will explore, among other topics, the criteria for defining quality and the reasons why these criteria are ever-changing.

The second session, on Thursday morning, will be concerned with "What and Who Influences Quality?" Examined will be the role of government, education, professional press, public taste, and other influences.

The final session, on Thursday afternoon, will take up "The Attainment of Quality," with discussion of such subjects as collaborative vs. individual approach, and native ability vs. acquired knowledge.

Burnham Kelly, Dean of the College of Architecture at Cornell University, will serve as moderator for the entire program. The roster of speakers, to be announced later, includes distinguished architects and noted experts in other related fields.

96th DINNER DANCE
Thursday, Feb. 21
Plaza Hotel, 5th Ave. & 59th St.
Reception 7:30 P.M.
Dinner-dance 8:30 P.M.

Join your friends and associates for the Chapter's major social event of the year. The cost has been maintained at $15 per person with drinks on an individual basis. Special rate of $10 for all members (and their guests) assigned to the Chapter during 1962, and for all those under the age of 40. Black tie. Individual reservations or reservations for tables of 10 may be made through the Chapter office (MU 9-7969).
COMING EVENTS

JANUARY 30  Hospital and Health Lecture
Gallery A, Wed., 5:15 P.M.

FEBRUARY 7  Chapter-wide Hospital & Health Committee Dinner Meeting; Biltmore Hotel, 43rd Street,
Thurs., 6:30 P.M.
Speaker: Dr. Jack C. Haldeman, Assistant Surgeon
General, Chief, Division of Hospital and Medical
Facilities, Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare

FEBRUARY 21  Anniversary Dinner
Thurs., Terrace Room, Plaza Hotel
5th Avenue & 59th Street

FEBRUARY 26  Technical Committee Lecture
Gallery A, Tues., 5:30 P.M.
Topic: “Fire Safety”

MARCH 6  Hospital & Health Lecture
Dining Room, Wed., 5:15 P.M.

MARCH 12  Technical Committee Lecture
Gallery A, Tues., 5:30 P.M.
Topic: “Site Techniques”

MAY 5-9  A.I.A. CONVENTION
Miami, Florida (Hotel Americana)

PLASTERERS' SCHOLARSHIP
The Chapter announces the fifth annual scholarship award of the
Plastering Institute of Greater New York, Inc. A scholarship of
$1000 will be awarded to a male or female candidate for graduation
at a New York City high school who plans to study at an accredited
college with a view toward a career in architecture. Character, scholas-
tic record and financial need will be the bases for the award. Appli-
cation should be made through the school principal or through any
member of the New York Chapter, and should include the candidate's
scholastic records, character recommendations, a letter of recommenda-
tion from an instructor familiar with the student's work, and a
statement outlining the candidate's reason for having chosen architec-
ture as a program of study.
Applications shall be mailed no later than February 15th, to the
Education and Scholarship Com-
mittee, New York Chapter, AIA,
115 East 40th St., New York 16,
N. Y. The award will be announced
on or before May 4, 1963.

MEMBERSHIP

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS
The New York Chapter extends its warmest welcome to the following new
members:

Corporate
Philip A. Dowerkin  George Joseph Mann
George J. Masumian
Miguel Angel Franco
Martin B. Ginsburg
Charles C. Holt
Carlos F. Lavandero
Sanford Maller
Richard Roth, Jr.

Associate
Stanley M. Bergchow
Donald A. H. Rummery
Jose F. De La Torre Gonzales
Robert Sanders

CANDIDATES
Information regarding the qualifications of the following candidates for
membership will be considered confidential by the Admissions Committee:

Corporate
John Milton Arms
Neil Robert Berzak
Ralph Lawrence Genta
William Golub
Barry S. Jackson
Norman Coleman Jaffe

Associate
Albert Pfeiffer, Jr.
Peter Samton
Dor Scutt
Danforth Wallace Toan

Sponsors:
Douglas Nicholas Blauvelt and
Michael M. Harris
Robert Hayden Schofield and
Michael M. Harris
John Joseph Wyne and
William E. Baltz

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