Debating the Issues:
The AIA London/UK Planning and Planning Law Seminar

The AIA London/UK Chapter hosted its second panel discussion and debate on the issues of UK and US Planning Laws and Planning Methods. Mr Roger Kallman, Assoc. AIA and Co Chair of the Chapter Public Policy Committee acted as moderator of the debate which was held at Salomon Brothers Headquarters. Mr Peter Rees, Chief Planning Officer for the Corporation of London, opened the evening with a presentation of his background and philosophy. He explained that his passion for design and indeed planning were derived from his “needs to touch and stroke other peoples buildings” and that his actual project experience as a young architect from Wales included “putting the balls on an historic building” and “placing the pale, narrow lines on Cornish streets”. He compared the joy of encountering well designed spaces to “an orgasmic experience”. On a more serious note he stated it is the responsibility of architects and planners to determine the “shape” of our environment for the millennium.

Denzil Millichip, Planning Law Specialist and Solicitor for Linklaters & Paines, followed with a presentation describing laws and approaches to planning from different eras. One from 1925, described “three wise men” empowered to make decisions for the populace.

In another model, from 1932, planning was community led with “the experts brought in to ensure good taste”. “The debate is not new” stated Denzil “and one wonders how much we have improved since then!”

The method of planning in Moscow was described by Larry Malic, AIA, a founding director of the Chapter. He explained a Moscow planning exercise was performed with the use of a 20 metre square wooden model, with a
Garden Party A Hot Success

On one of the warmest nights of the year, over one hundred members and friends of the Chapter got together to enjoy some cool jazz and wine in the beautiful setting of an 18th century sculpture garden. Highlights of the evening included the presentation of a plaque saluting J. Kingham, AIA, for her time and effort in support of the Chapter, and the attendance of our guests from Paris, Thomas Vonier, AIA, AIA Continental Europe Chapter President and Francois Vonier, editor of the Continental News letter and a contributor to AIADesign.

A Chapter member commented, "The garden is wonderful, but it's the great company that makes the evening".

A special thanks to Crowthers of Syon Lodge for their hospitality and use of the Lodge and to Acer Consultants for their generous support.

UIA Professional Practice Commission

The Chapter and the RIBA will co-host the Union of International Architects Conference in London. The three day conference will take place in early November. The first day's program will consist of a formal meeting of the commission's designated members. The second and third days will include a joint conference on "Professional Liability and Risk Management in International Practice." The conference portion is open to attendance by any AIA or UIA member. For registration information, contact James Scheeler, FAIA, Secretary to the UIA Professional Practice Commission, AIA, 1735 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20006-5292, (202) 626-7315, fax- (202) 626-7421.

Events

Lunchtime Continuing Education Seminars

The Education Committee is organizing a series of lunchtime seminars focusing on specialised topics. You will earn Continuing Education Units (the acquisition of which is now mandatory for AIA and RIBA members) by participating in these seminars.

The seminars will be held fortnightly in Member's offices and other convenient venues. The seminars will be 1 hour long and will start at 12:30 pm commencing 1 September. There is no need to book and no fee for attending. There will be no food or refreshments unless otherwise stated.

Friday, September 1, 12:30 - 1:30 pm
Lars Hesselgren, RIBA of Kohn Pederson Fox will discuss "Computer Aided Design" at KPF, 13 Langley Street, WC2. Contact Karen Cook for details on 0171-836-6668.

Friday, September 15, 12:30 - 1:30 pm
Michael Lischer, AIA, RIBA, of HOK Sports Group will discuss "Emerging Trends in Stadium Design" at HOK, 14-17 Market Place (Entrance in Great Titchfield Street), W1. Refreshments will be provided.

Friday, September 29, 12:30 - 1:30 pm
Subject and speaker to be announced at Swanke Hayden Connell, 12a Finsbury Square, EC2. Contact Alex Rimmer for details on 0171-374-4371.

Friday, October 13, 12:30 - 1:30 pm
"Leisure Technology at the Trocadero" RTKL, 196 Tottenham Court Road, W1. Contact Candace Sheeley for further details on 0171-306-0404.

Friday, October 27, 12:30 - 1:30 pm
Peter Ellis, AIA, RIBA of Skidmore Owings & Merrill. Subject to be announced at SOM, 46 Berkeley Street, London W1. Contact Robert Turner for details on 0171-930-9711.

Feature cont.

sliding gantry overhead. Recently an American architect's proposal for an 80 storey tower was rejected because it clashed with the movement of the gantry. Larry then discussed the new movement in the US toward local design review boards and cautioned that the focus in planning should be "what is allowed, not what is prohibited".

Steven Spier, AIA, an American lecturer in architecture and urban design at South London University, then decried the UK system as driven by politics rather than good design and community requirements. He raised the issue of participatory planning exercises and questioned the validity of laymen with no experience in design or planning, driving planning solutions. He also questioned the use of budget allocation as a divining rod for planning.

A "new work process" was explained by Mr John Thompson, RIBA, and a Community Planning leader, "to encompass the Consensus, Energy and Participation of the local population" in planning the built environment. He noted that the cost for the Kings Cross planning exercise had been £34 million with no tangible benefit, stating that much in the way of approved planning and development was "driven by greed not need". He also gave examples of Green Belt mentality where current planning law prohibits the development of some of the best sites. He encouraged the participation of all parties with the guidance of professionals.

A lively and open discussion between panel members and the audience skillfully moderated by Roger Kallman, Assoc. AIA, followed and focused primarily on the debate of issues surrounding participatory planning.

Larry Malicic, AIA, perhaps summed up the discussion best by quoting Yeats, whose verse states that the Duke of Urbino did not consult with the shepherds in the area when deliberating on planning matters and architectural design in Renaissance Urbino.
Second Annual AIA
London/UK
Excellence in
Design Awards
Programme

The Awards Programme recognizes and honors excellence in architectural projects located anywhere, designed by European-based architects and projects by any architect, designed for Europe.

Jury
The Jury will include:
Mr Richard Burdett
Director of the Architects
Foundation
Mr Francis Duffy
RIBA Past President
Architect, DEGW
Ms M J Long
Architect, Long & Kentish
Mr Stephan C Reink
Architect, The Areen Design
Group
Mr Ian Ritchie
Architect, Ian Ritchie
Architects

Mr David M Walker
President, AIA London/UK
Chapter, Swanke Hayden
Connell Architects

Eligibility
- Structures or buildings (or
groups of either) of any
type (including
rehabilitations, interior
design, monuments, etc)
built or unbuilt, anywhere
in the world by European
based architects.
- Any project designed for
or built in Europe by

architects from
anywhere in the world.
- Architecture students
may submit studio
projects, provided they
are currently enrolled in
an architectural
programme in the
United Kingdom.
- Projects must have
been designed after

Criterion
The sole judging criterion is
design excellence. The jury
is empowered to define the
extent to which excellence is
determined by aesthetic,
social and functional;
characteristics. The jury
may elect to honour projects
without making any such
distinctions.

Deadline
All submissions must reach
the AIA prior to noon on
Friday, November 24, 1995.

Entry Fees
Practising Architects: £50
Student entries: £15

Each submission must be
accompanied by a cheque
payable to:
American Institute of
Architects
London/UK Chapter

Contest
Fees
Following the jury’s
selections, honourees will be
contacted and invited to the
awards ceremony. Award
announcements are made
and certificates are presented at
the AIA London/UK Chapter
Excellence in Design Awards
Gala on the evening of

Contact
Anita Kercheval, AIA
t 44 (0) 171 930 9711
f 44 (0) 171 930 9108
or
Stephan Reink, AIA
f 44 (0) 181 748 3475.

1996 Nominations
Sought

The origin of Honorary
Fellowship goes back to the
beginning of the AIA. The
Institute’s constitution
provides for recognition of
distinguished international
architects. The qualifications
for Honorary Fellowship are:
"An architect of esteemed
character and distinguished
achievements who is neither
a U.S. citizen nor a United
States resident and who
does not practice architec-
ture with the domain of the
Institute." All members of
the Institute are encouraged
to identify qualified can-
didates and bring them to the
attention of their AIA direc-
tor.

Nominations should be
based on an architect's
notable and outstanding
contributions to architecture,
society and the profession in
the nominee's home country
or internationally. The
Objects of the Institute have
been adopted as guidelines
for the categories of
achievement for nomination.
Honorary Fellowship is
granted to foreign architects
who have:

1. Produced distinguished
work through design, urban
design, preservation, or
practice of architecture.
2. Made valuable contribu-
tions through their work in
education, research, or
literature.
3. Actively, efficiently, and
cooperatively led the con-
struction industry and their
professional organization.
4. Made notable contribu-
tions to public service, or in
government or industry
service through leadership in
the development of civic
improvements.
5. Made notable contribu-
tions to the public good
beyond the scope of
normal professional
activities.

For additional information
contact Virgil R. Carter,
FAIA, vice president, AIA
Education, 1735 New York
Avenue, NW, Washington,
DC 20006-5292, (202)
626-7510, fax - (202) 626-
518.
August 8:
Call for Entries, Excellence in Design Programme. Contact Stephan Reinke by fax 0181-748-3475.

September:
US/UK Building Codes panel discussion, sponsored by AIA London/UK.

September:
Corporate Planning for Architects. Contact Stephan Reinke by fax 0181-748-3475.

October:
Design with Brickwork seminar. Contact Stephan Reinke by fax 0181-748-3475.

November:
Design Charette, sponsored by AIA London/UK. Contact Dan Smith by fax at 0171-481-1102.

November 15-16:

November 24:
Submission deadline for Excellence in Design Awards.

December 7:
Design Awards.

AIA/UK
Number 7 August 1995
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David Walker, Justine Kingham, Carrie Byles, Karen Whittle, Stephan Reinke, Editors

AIA London/UK
The First International Chapter of the American Institute of Architects
2 Carlyle Mansions, Cheyne Walk, London SW3 5LS

Justine M Kingham AIA
33 Hollywood Road
London SW10 9HT

COMPETITION

Recognize this building?
Guess the building and its architect and win two free tickets to the Family Bar-B-Q in September.

Building ________________________________
Architect _______________________________
Name and Mailing Address ___________________________

Daytime telephone number ___________________________
Send to Judy Nyquist
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0171-349-0453

Making the Right Connection

In this day and age of global communication it is worth shopping around for cost cutting telephone services. I am using an international phone service that saves me 50% to 70% from my usual BT billings. This is ideal for contacting AIA online and I can dial 0800 numbers in the US. Phone me (Noel Hill) at 0171-435 2462 if you would like more information.

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