

AIA UK

NEWS

Introduce Your Work
at MIPIM in AIA Booth

NEWS

New Uses Studied
for Buckingham
Palace Gardens

PROFILE

Stephen Yakeley of
Yakeley Associates in
London

NOTICE

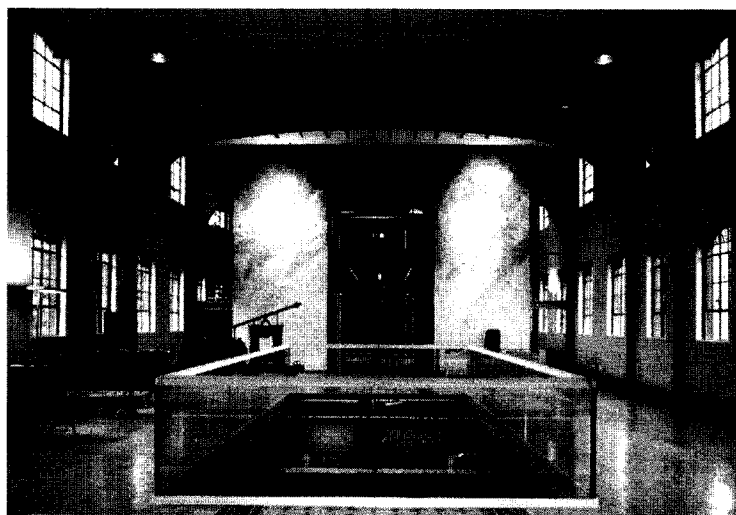
Remember to Pay your
Dues

Number 15

January 1997



Left: Design Excellence Commendation to David Morley Architects for Lord's Cricket Ground, London



Right: Commendation to Reichen et Robert for Nestle France Headquarters, Noisiel-sur-Marne (France)

NEWS

Design Awards

December 3rd marked the chapter's third and largest Excellence in Design Awards ceremony. More than 150 people attended the presentation and reception held at the Royal Society of Arts. The event was generously supported by Otis Elevators.

Chapter President, Michael Lischer, AIA, RIBA, reported the Awards Committee had received nearly 50 entries from as far away as Saudi Arabia. Jury member Pierre Baillargeon, AIA, described

the jury process and the high quality of entries received.

The jury of seven distinguished practitioners and chapter members deliberated for more than three hours before selecting the award winning projects. The AIA London/UK Excellence in Design Awards commendations were awarded to: Reichen et Robert Architectes-Urbanistes for the Nestlé France Headquarters, Noisiel-sur-Marne, France; Sauerbruch Hutton Architekten for the Centre for Innovation in Photonics, Berlin,

Germany and David Morley Architects for the Indoor Cricket School at Lord's Ground, London, England. Student projects were well represented and an Excellence in Design student commendation was awarded to Robert Albanes from the University of Kent for a Planetarium and Research Centre for Future Studies, Greenwich, England.

The keynote address was made by jury member, Ian Ritchie, RIBA. Ritchie described his philosophy of design and its embodiment in

his projects. Ritchie spoke about projects and studies as diverse as glass design and electric power cable pylons in France.

Congratulations to the winners and all those who submitted entries. A special thanks goes to the jury for their time and effort. The jury included Ian Ritchie, RIBA; Pierre Baillargeon, AIA; Gabriele Bramante; Nicholas Grimshaw, CBE Hons. FAIA; Derek Smith, Otis; Michael Lischer, AIA, RIBA and Monica Pidgeon, Hons. FAIA.

Message from the President

Best Wishes for 1997 from the Chapter Board and myself. If the recent upturn in the market lasts, I'm sure it will be a very busy (and hopefully profitable) year for all of us.

Taking advantage of the expanding European economies is an American practice new to Europe and London. Ralph Applebaum Associates has established an office on Goodge Street in London.

The New York based practice specialises in exhibition and museum design. Their work includes the Holocaust Museum in Washington D.C., and they are seeking creative relationships with other American architectural firms working in the UK.

Please join me in welcoming Philip Tefft, Director, to London as a new London/UK Chapter member.

You are invited to take up an important opportunity being made available to you by our Chapter to participate in

MIPIM '97, which is attended by more than 6,000 potential clients. Chapter members who are licenced architects may display their work and be represented. Details are found elsewhere in this newsletter.

This is my last message as the President. At our Annual General Meeting later this month, I will be handing over the reigns to a new President and Board. I am "retiring" and plan to devote more time to developing our Corporate Partnership Programme.

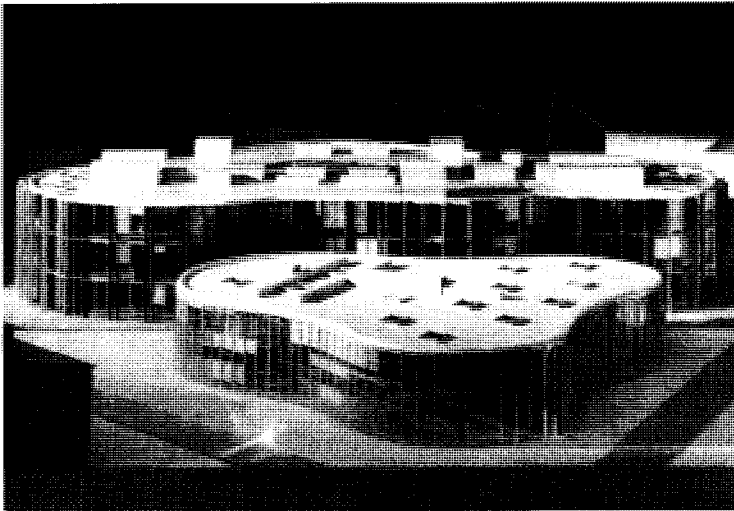
We have a full programme of events for the year. Participation at most of these will earn CES Learning Units.

I hope to see you all at the AGM on the 23rd of January and at the wine tasting party, following the business meeting.



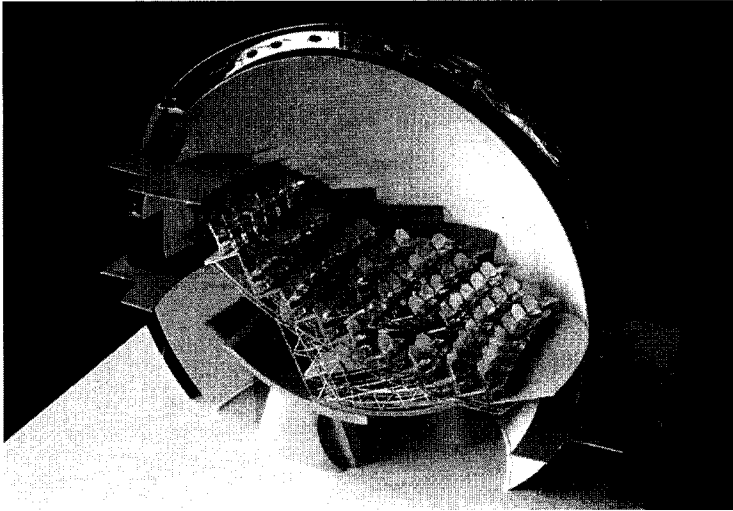
Michael Lischer, AIA, RIBA

Design Awards cont.



Left: Commendation awarded to Sauerbruch Hutton Architects for Centre for Innovation in Photonics, Berlin (1998 Completion)

Right: Student Commendation earned by Robert Albanes, University of Kent School of Architecture for Planetarium & Research Centre



NEWS

Storming the Palace

In the centre of London sits a large and mostly empty site that has avoided the scrutiny of architects and visionaries for 150 years. Moscow has its Kremlin, Beijing the Forbidden City, and similarly London's centre remains hidden behind high walls and kept as the domain for the select few.

The home of the British Royal Family, Buckingham Palace was given as the project, with

no prescribed brief or programme for a one-day design "Charrette" for architects and students, organised by AIA London/UK in October.

The all-day event took place in the penthouse of New Zealand House, a preservation-listed modern tower with all of London in view from its top floor terrace. Sixty-five students and architects from across Britain and Ireland participated in the eight-hour design event. They were organised into teams, lead by noted young

architects and AIA members. CallPrint supported the event while providing printing services throughout the day.

By 5:00pm, ten presentations emerged from the chaos of the charrette. The work was presented to a jury of local architectural luminaries at the reception that followed.

"I hadn't really appreciated how much of a 'backyard' the Palace Gardens really are," commented architect David Chipperfield, "and how aggressive it is to present the public with half-a-mile of

blank wall in the city's heart." Pamela Buxton of **Building Design** magazine and Al Munkenbeck of Munkenbeck+Marshall also gave their impressions of the work and their selection of favourite schemes.

Architect Bryan Avery was especially enthused with the ideas produced; his millenium project to construct a glass canopy over the entire length of the Mall has received recent attention.

Yakeley's Grand Tour Begins and Ends in London

Stephen Yakeley, AIA, RIBA, seems to know more about the US than most British architects do, one notices. The reason, one learns, is that, despite the accent, he was born and raised in the US.

He came to the UK in 1966 after graduating from architecture school to travel and see castles. Without money for a grand tour, he

decided to work his way around Europe. He interviewed in London, but went to Cambridge on a beautiful day in May, watched the punts on the River Cam, and decided that it was the most beautiful place in the world; he joined a small firm in Cambridge and stayed for two years.

He returned to the States to work for Charles Moore in New Haven, attend RPI, and work in California long enough to become licensed and to see the west coast. "It was a program of self-

education," says Yakeley. "I'm glad I did it".

Finding that he was simply happier in England, he returned to the UK as a partner with his former Cambridge firm.

In 1974, he started his own firm, Yakeley Associates. He has always worked as a sole practitioner with a staff of 20 to 40 people. He had an early "lucky break" when he was asked to design Wasia, Saudi Arabia, a large water-treatment plant and village of 1,000 workers and their

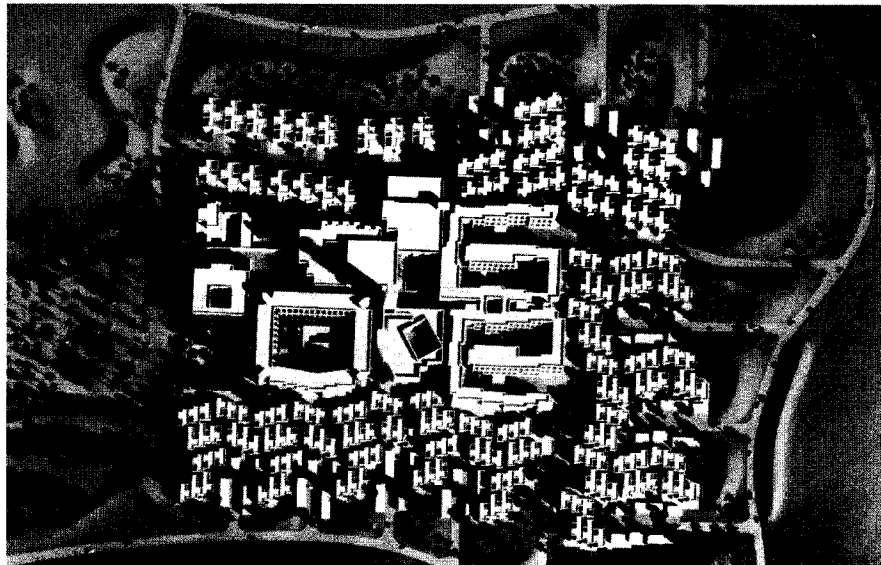
families in the Arabian desert. That took seven years to run, from preparing the master planning to selecting the furniture. He even named the town.

Other projects followed in the region, and Yakeley developed a substantial office in Saudi Arabia staffed from the UK until the 80's, when the oil price-freeze froze the funds. The effect of doing large projects (£150 million) has been to qualify the firm early in its development to do large projects.



Above: New office wing on research centre near Cambridge

Right: Wasia Village, Saudi Arabia



PROFILE cont.

In terms of the practicalities of practice, Yakeley is proud to have brought overlay drafting to UK, an experience that he wrote about for **Architects Journal**. He has also been an early advocate of using computers in production.

Again, a fortuitous commission--the design of law courts (£45 million)--allowed him to equip his entire office with AppleMacs so that work was done online immediately and simultaneously. "It was very successful", says Yakeley.

"It allows for a smaller office, as each chap does approximately twice as much drawing work as he would have done in the past."

Diana Yakeley, Professional Affiliate AIA and his wife, is an interior designer and an Associate in the architectural practice. She has her own interior design firm, Yakeley Associates Design.

Asked if he could predict the source of future work, Yakeley said, "I don't think you know. Just as you think you've got an expertise, no

one asks you to do that again. It often comes quite unexpectedly from quarters you never expect. One is able to do an enormous variety of projects." For now he is doing residential projects and housing in London.

Consultants Sought

Grupo Consultor de Infraestructuras (GCI) is a Spanish consulting firm concerned with planning, design and construction. They are looking to expand

their base of consultants in the fields of health and urban development. Their clients, such as the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, European Commission D.G. VIII, are interested in developing countries.

Consultancies vary in length from one week to several years. Architects interested in being considered should contact Fernando Navarro Bidegain, Grupo Consultor de Infraestructuras S.A., Espanoleto 20, 28010 Madrid.

Projects Sought to Publish

Anja Seehrich-Caldwell, International Assoc. AIA (European chapter) and Associate Editor of **aw** (architektur + wettbewerbe), is looking for AIA members interested in publishing some of their work in the magazine.

The deadline is March 1 for the June issue on solar architecture, June 1 for the September issue on Row and Town Houses, and

September 15 for the December issue on Schools.

Send a short description or photographs of the project to her at Schulze-Deiltzsch-Strasse 15, D-70565 Stuttgart. Her telephone is (49 711) 78490-17, and fax is (49 711) 78496-20.

She is also working on a book entitled "Starter Homes," about low-budget, single family structures for first-time buyers. Material should be sent to her office at Seilerstr. 7, 70372 Stuttgart.

The Seoul Man Writes

Lawrence Kim, student Board Member, has moved to Fukuoka, Island of Kyushu, Japan, where he is now an associate for Kankyo Design Kikoh, an architecture and design firm.

"Fukuoka remains a designer's visual delight. Although the city's population of a mere 1.2 million is only a tenth of that of Seoul, the city embodies an energy that is exciting in its own right. It

manages to retain some of its Asian charms as well."

"So far, I've come across three architectural projects of great interest: Il Palazzo (Aldo Rossi, 1991), ACROS (Emilio Ambasz, 1994), and Canal City (Jon Jerde, 1996)."

Kim recently won third prize in the first Architectural Photography Competition sponsored by the Korean Institute of Architects. The photo entitled, "Lightscape," is of a sun-filled interior at the College of Music near Le Parc de La Villette in Paris.

Chapter to Offer Fall Tour of London

The London/UK Chapter in association with the National AIA and Rudow Travel Agency will sponsor a tour of London for 70 architects September 15-22. It is expected that participants will arrive from the east coast of the USA and spend a week visiting a variety of current and recent commissions in London. The tour will include visits to modern work, such as the Docklands and Canary Wharf and the additions to

the Tate, The National Gallery and the Royal Academy, as well as contemporary commissions on traditional buildings, such as the Globe Theatre and the Westminster Abbey restorations.

The Chapter will host the visitors at a cocktail reception at the Reform Club on Tuesday, September 16th at 6:30. Contact Justine Kingham at 0171-730-9122 for more information.

Your Favourite Places

In conjunction with the tour of London, the Chapter is going to write a small handbook for visitors. Bob Schmidt will pattern an "Architects Guide to London" after the SOM guide to Chicago, one of the most critical and succinct pocket guides any visitor could hope to use to see Chicago.

The success of such guides, however, depends on personal, opinionated tips on

what you REALLY like about London.

Schmidt is looking for two areas of information for the guide. He would like the practical, such as special public places, the best shops and best restaurants for food and design; and the aesthetic, such as the best place to see the Thames, or the best view of Hampstead Heath.

Please fax your ideas to Schmidt at 0171-930-9108 as soon as you can.

Solar Energy Competition Offered to Students

The Korean Solar Energy Society (KSES) and the International Solar Energy Society (ISES) are sponsoring an international student design competition for the Kyongju High Speed Railway Station.

The theme places a high tech railway station to be operated by solar power in a classical ancient city of Korea.

Architecture students worldwide may enter individually or in groups. Work must be done under the direction of a faculty advisor.

Submissions are to be principally the product of work done in a design studio. Faculty advisors must complete and return a registration form before March 1st.

The grand prize is \$3,000 plus travel for two to Korea; the first prize winner receives \$2,000 plus travel for two. Two second prizes will be

made of \$1,000 each, and there may be four honourable mentions, each receiving \$500.

Winning projects will be exhibited in Seoul, and a summary book of the competition will be published and distributed internationally.

Contact Moo-Yong Bldg. 604-1 Yoksam-dong, Kangnam-gu Seoul, Korea. Telephone, 82-2-569-2478; fax 82-2-569-2466; email, phseye@nuri.net.

Busy Fall

Stephan C. Reinke has joined Hellmuth, Obata and Kassabaum as Director of Project Development for the London office.

This follows after, but was probably unrelated to, his earlier appointment in October as Vice Chair of the AIA International Advisory Group. Congratulations on both counts.

CHARRETTE cont.

The work itself represented a broad cross-section of interests and approaches. A team of mostly KPF members, lead by Lee Polisano, AIA and Karen Cook, AIA, predicted that as Prince William makes his ascension to the throne, "mom" will obviously move in. The palace would then be split into its official state frontage, and Diana's Pleasure Garden to the back. The Palace Gardens would be colonised by several of Diana's public interest pavilions, including a large health club.

The team of students from University College Salford started with the simple move of dividing the palace into two halves, and shipping one to Manchester.

Born out of Britain's enthusiasm for Formula 1 Racing, Roo Humpherson's team proposed creating a Monaco-style race circuit around the parks and through the palace. This annual event might be the easiest to realise, even though London is dominated by large insurance companies.

Perhaps the most evocative scheme came from a team lead by Duncan Dalgliesh of ORMS and landscape architect Brody MacAllister who submerged all of St. James' Park and the Palace Gardens, giving it all back to the Thames. The Mall was left as a long tree-lined causeway, leading to a colony of sunken monuments and royal residences. The Opening of Parliament could be done by royal barge each year, and ships could be launched from Admiralty Arch.

Team RTKL sought to exploit the tabloid, voyeur role of the public in the life of the Royal Family. A "Peek-a-Boo Palace" scheme offered glimpses of the Royals (and sometimes just selected parts of their Royal personages) to the tourist through video images and viewing platforms around the facades.

One team, lead by Jeremiah Sheehan, AIA, identified the many "slugs" that inhabit London's urban structures:

Cont. below left



Above: Chris Gaylord, AIA and his team finish off their work
Right: RTKL unveils their Peek-a-Boo Palace



CHARRETTE cont.

The new Eurostar Terminal, the Serpentine, the boundaries of Soho, etc.

They then used the slug as a formal device to build over the Palace, linking the Palace Gardens to the Park of St. James.

The focus of the event was as much on process as on the afternoon's products. The ability to think quickly on one's feet and brainstorm ideas with a team of designers in a short space of time are invaluable skills to architects.

John Onken, AIA, organiser and juror claims, "when you drop the preconception that the site is beyond the bounds of proper consideration, and that everything England holds dear would be under threat, you find a project with astonishing potential. This became an opportunity for architects to use the inherent qualities of the site as the generator of a brief, which was as much a part of the solutions as the images themselves."

"For each of the entries and presentations, there were a dozen great ideas, observations, and readings of this part of London that stand on their own," says Onken.

"The real measure of success for an event like this is the level of enthusiasm and motivation that the participants are left with."

Right: Using London as a light table at New Zealand House



EVENTS

Jan 23: Annual General Meeting, offices of Kohn Pederson Fox, 13 Langley Street, London, WC2H, 6:30. Contact Michael Lischer, 0171-636-2006.

March 5-8: MIPIM, Cannes, France. To participate in Chapter booth, contact Stephan Reinke, 0171-636-2006.

March 10: Worshipful Company of Architects dinner at Mansion House. Contact Noel Hill for details, 0171-435-2462 (tel and fax).

May 15-18: AIA National Convention, New Orleans. Contact John Onken, 0171-833-8533.

Dues are Due

Chapter dues are £50.00 for the year and are due immediately. If you have not received a bill, please contact Lorraine King at 0171-828-5860 (voice and fax). If your membership includes national affiliation, your national membership must also be paid by the end of January.

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The newsletter of the London/UK Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

Justine Kingham, Michael Lischer, Karen Whittle, Editors

For general enquiries, call Judy Nyquist 0171-349-0453.

For membership, contact Lorraine King 0171-828-5860 (voice and fax).

AIA London/UK

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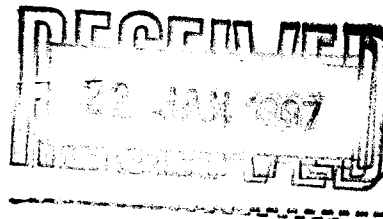
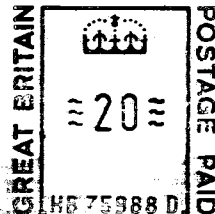
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NEWS

Members at MIPIM 97

Members are invited to exhibit their talent, skill, and experience at MIPIM 1997, the world's premier annual meeting of real estate and construction developers at Cannes, France on 13-16 March 1997.

The AIA has arranged with MIPIM and the Reed Midem Organisation to have a stand at this prestigious event to exhibit materials indicating the international activities of

the Institute and its two international chapters.

The stand will be jointly designed, managed and staffed by AIA members from AIA London/UK and AIA Continental Europe.

At last year's event nearly 50 AIA Members and their firms exhibited, and a directory of more than 300 visitors to the stand (with their comments and interests) was distributed to all participants following the exposition.

The format for participation this year will be postcards with an image (or images) of an individual or firm's work on one side and a standard form for firm information and enquiries on the reverse. Cards will be approximately 175mm by 120mm in size. They will be displayed on six special racks by building type. A directory of all participants also will be distributed to all visitors to the stand.

The cost to disseminate a maximum of 200 cards to visitors will be £50.00 for

large firms (over forty staff) and £25.00 for small firms. These funds will be used for furniture, equipment, lighting rentals, and other associated costs. The final date for expressions of interest is 31 January 1997.

If you would like to receive the submission information packet please contact: Stephan Reinke, Director of Project Development, HOK London, Kent House, 14/17 Market Place, London, W1N 7AJ. Fax: 011 44 171 636 1987.