



AIA / U K N E W S

NUMBER 33

Newsletter for The First International Chapter of The American Institute of Architects

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Sixth Annual Student - Professional Design Charrette HIGH DENSE-CITY LIVING

The AIA would like to invite all members and non-members to participate in this year's Design Charrette, to be held on Saturday November 4th, 2000. The theme for this year's charrette is inspired by current discourse on the sustainability of our cities, as well as the different urban regeneration schemes that are currently in progress in the UK.

By its nature, the city grows organically. It constantly evolves and transforms itself. The contemporary lifestyles of people and the physical pressures of our cities today are redefining conventional perceptions; London is in the process of its next stage of transformation - high dense-city living. By using an urban site of a transport Interchange as a focus of city growth, the challenge is to investigate the process of addition, elimination, and densification of the physical fabric, in order to revitalise the Interchange and its environs.

CallPrint is the main sponsor for the event, and has generously offered their warehouse in Olympia as the venue. All printing during the day will be done on the spot.

Confirmed Jury Members are:

- Paul Finch (CABE)
- Zaha Hadid (Zaha Hadid Architects)
- Christina Seilern (Rafael Vinoly Architects)
- James Pickard (Cartwright Pickard Architects)
- Jane Wernick (Jane Wernick Associates)
- Andrew Wright (Andrew Wright Associates)
- Steve Jolly (CALL PRINT)
- Norman Krangel (CALL PRINT)

Venue : CALL PRINT

18 Avonmore Road, W14 8RR
0207 602 6911
West Kensington and Olympia tubes

Date : Saturday, November 4th, 2000
9am - 6pm. Registration start at 8.30am

Registration : £ 5 for Students
£10 for Professionals

Contacts :Yasin Visram at yvisram@kka.co.uk
AIA London/UK at 0207 930 9124

Pre-registration is preferred although registration on the day is also possible. All AIA members and non-members AIA are welcome. The Charrette is open to people from all disciplines interested in the issues.

'En Charrette'

It was explained to me by a friend in my office who was a student at the School of Architecture at Princeton University, that the term "charrette," was commonly used at the school to signify the intense, final period of work before a deadline, and originated from the École des Beaux-Arts in 19th century Paris. At that academy, a cart or a wagon - "charrette" in French - was used to collect the students' drawings and models at the time of a submission deadlines. The students, as always desperately working until the very last minute, would at times attempt to add finishing touches to their work even as it was being wheeled away on the cart. Hence the term "en charrette", translated into the English "on charrette," used universally by architects and designers to describe the trauma of a rush deadline.

Sasha Sattar



Students smile after a hard day's work



Jury members Fred Koetter, Rick Mather, Paul Finch

AIA/UK

Comments from Carolyn Clark (Crisis)

Innovative design is part of helping homeless people come in from the margins, via tailored provision, and into the mainstream. The charrette allowed me to test out Crisis ideas for homeless work with people both new to the problem, and free from "this is the way we always do this."

There were some great ideas:

- § applying the stepping stones concept in a tangible progression of buildings

- § utilising homeless people's potential through engagement in commodities

- § flexible use of space to reflect changing needs

- § an organic structure of accommodation & activity linked with Crisis in hopes of creating a London Times Square project

I was pleased to both contribute and learn, and see a mix of both students and practising architects developing solutions to homelessness using their particular trade. I'll also never see a plastic bottle and wad of pink fake fur in the same way again!

Student / Professional Design Charrette 1999

Barnett House - The Successful Exploration of In-Betweenness in the City

The AIA collaborates with Crisis for The Fifth Annual Student/ Professional Design Charrette - November 6th, 1999 at Toynbee Hall

Last year's design charrette, held at Toynbee Hall, Whitechapel, East London started with the usual frantic hub-bub of getting teams organised. It quieted down for about an hour after the design problem was issued (everyone intensely pondering in thought), and then the teams mobilised. By mid-day the hall was overturned with tracing paper, cardboard and scraps as teams started to bring their ideas into form. The energy present at this year's AIA Student/Professional Design Charrette was absolutely incredible. And I would like to add right from the start, the energy displayed by Call Print for their incredible service through the day was duly cheered by students and professionals alike.

With this in mind, the AIA, of course, is very pleased to announce that last year's charrette was an incredible success. There were approximately 40 participants altogether, over seven teams of approximately 4-6 members. About 10% of participants were professionals. Students from a range of schools participated, including University of Westminster, The Architectural Association, University of Brighton, Southbank University, and University of Portsmouth. This year we also had a number of students and professionals from outside of the UK, mainly from Europe, who were either studying or working in London.

The AIA collaborated with Crisis, an organisation involved in outreach services for the homeless in London's East End, in an effort to

create awareness of the problem for those without a fixed abode. Hence, Crisis acted as our hypothetical client. Carolyn Clark of the organisation was present all through the day, going from team to team discussing with each their conceptual strategies, as well as providing a background of services offered by Crisis and determining what issues are the most critical to the homeless. The year's theme was 'refuge, resettlement, and community'. The design problem was related to the issue of the homeless population in London and the project was named Barnett House.

Yasin Visram

Jury Chairman's Comments -Paul Finch

Once again the AIA London chapter produced an excellent programme and an appropriate venue for the event to take place. AIA is to be congratulated on its continuing contribution to the London architectural scene, and for its support for UK architecture students.

Last year's programme was particularly challenging. Demanding not only as a proposition about the place of architecture and urban design in a semi-derelict part of a great city, but fresh thinking about the nature of homelessness and what might be an appropriate architectural response which neither dictates nor ignores the personal and collective problems faced by the poor and rootless.

The entries were a mixture of functional and inspirational, all of which had some interesting point to make. There were plenty of ideas, plenty of hard work, and an obvious commitment to making the best of an opportunity. In awarding three prizes the jury opted for aspiration rather than the purely functional. The idea of the day was surely the team which proposed registering all guests at its building on a web site. In cyberspace, at least, even the homeless would have a fixed address.

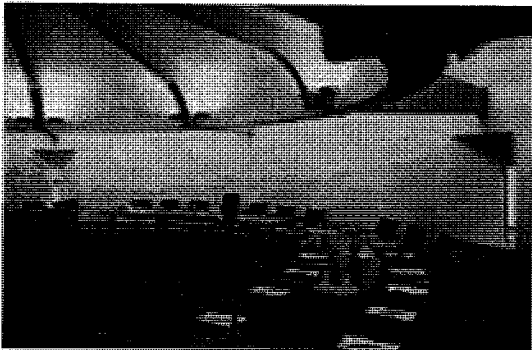
Lambeth Palace Tour On Thursday 21 September, Lambeth Palace staff opened their doors in a special evening tour for AIA members. We visited the Library, Great Hall, Guard Room, and Chapel, among other staterooms which are used daily by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Church of England. From their 800 year residence in the Palace, we heard stories of intrigue from a knowledgeable guide. At the end of the tour, Richard Griffiths spoke about his firm's recent refurbishments to the Palace's Courtyard and conservation to the Crypt Chapel. The evening was a special treat to gain insider views into the social history and architecture - both past and present - of the Palace. Amy Kaspar

AIA/UK

Annual Riverboat Trip

The weather cooperated for the Chapter's Thames River dinner/dance boat trip, one of our most successful summer events ever. Over 120 London/UK members and guests 'set sail' on the evening of July 7th. Attendees were entertained by a Dixieland jazz band and after dinner, a five piece dance band. Books contributed by members were won at the ever popular raffle, although the highlight was the draw for an Aeron Chair, kindly donated by Herman Miller. The boat left the Embankment Pier and travelled downstream, passing such landmarks as Canary Wharf and the Thames Barrier. Party goers were able to admire many of the Chapter members' projects which are constructed along the Thames corridor. Overall it was a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Special thanks to Elizabeth Casqueiro, Michael Lischer, and sponsors Herman Miller.

Royal College of Physicians Tour



The College's Council Chamber

On August 16th nearly 30 AIA members and friends toured the Royal College of Physicians designed by Sir Denys Lasdun. The tour was led by John Hurley, a former partner with Sir Denys, now a partner in Hurley Robertson. All areas of the building were visited, and the in-depth commentary of John Hurley gave the group a deep appreciation for the quality and

thought that went into the design and construction. During the design, the relationship to the adjacent Nash terraces were of supreme importance. The free-form undulating walls of the auditorium were formed by eye, on site, by Lasdun's office. Lively debates and discussions followed at a nearby pub.

Lester Korzilius

7th Annual Excellence in Design Awards

The London/UK Chapter of the American Institute of Architects announces its 7th Annual Excellence in Design Awards.

The official call for entries will be published this month with entries to be submitted by 8th January 2001. Full details of the entry criteria will be given in the official press release and invitations posted to practices. We urge members to participate in this prestigious competition.

We are very pleased to confirm that Godfrey Bradman will chair our judging panel this year. Godfrey Bradman has been a distinguished patron of architecture for many years and is currently developing the new HQ of the Home Office in Marsham Street and a major mixed-use regeneration of the Elephant and Castle district.

Our panels have included many eminent architects in previous years and this year will be no exception. Professor Gordon Benson of Benson + Forsyth and Ken Shuttleworth of Foster and Partners have both kindly agreed to participate. Their respective firms have been previous recipients of AIA awards and it is therefore particularly appropriate to have them on board.

The awards ceremony will be held on 30 January 2001 at the Royal Society of Arts. To enter or for more info, contact David Hughes: hughes.d@london.SHCA.com



Calendar 2000

OCTOBER

17 Tuesday 6:30
CPD Event - Potential Liabilities of Professional Practice in the UK. At Gensler, Roman House, Wood Street, London EC2Y 5BA. Moorgate, St. Pauls tubes. RSVP to aia-uk@usa.net

25 Wednesday
6:30

Tour of City Merrill Lynch HQ by Swanke Hayden Connell in historic location, currently under construction. Pub night to follow. St Pauls tube. RSVP to aia-uk@usa.net

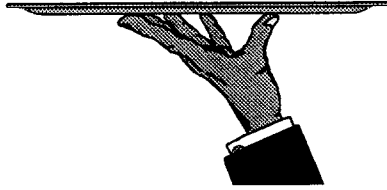
NOVEMBER

4 Saturday 9am-6pm
6th Annual Student-Professional Design Charrette. This year's theme is high-density city living. Give back to our profession and host country by supervising student teams. Confirm your interest to Yasin Visram: yvisram@kka.co.uk

30 Thursday 6.30
Robin Purchas, QC, a leading barrister in planning and property law will give a seminar at SOM, 30 Millbank, SW1. RSVP to aia-uk@usa.net

DECEMBER DEADLINE: 17 NOVEMBER 2000

How are we serving you?



If you have questions about our services to either members or the general public, let us know. If you have ideas about what we could be doing to serve you better and would be interested in being on the 2001 Board of Directors, contact Tim Gale (timothy.gale@som.com). The board meets the first Wednesday of every month.

AIA/UK

Letters to the Editor

Bring back your youth (by sharing someone else's)

Have you wondered what the next generation of architects is thinking about and designing? Remember the glory days and all-nighter haze of your student-dom?

Here is your chance to re-connect. The AIA/UK is piloting two projects to promote links between AIA members and UK Schools, with AIA members volunteering to be: 1) Jury Members and 2) Mentors. As a Jury Member, we would put Schools in contact with you to sit on crit panels. As a Mentor, we will match you with interested students and ask that you meet them for dinner to talk over questions they may have about the profession, education, goals, etc.

If interested, please contact Amy Kaspar (frndlygst2@aol.com or 020 7251 6334), specify which project you are interested in, and we will send you further information. This is yet another opportunity to contribute back to your profession and host country.

Dear AIA-UK,

The Highlight of the year for me was the River trip. I went last year and I thought the turnout this year clearly indicated the success of the event. I think Herman Miller, who I know sponsored the event to a great extent, should be thanked for their continuous participation and support of the AIA. I also think the London Chapter does a lot for its membership but what I would like to see is more support to some of the monthly building tours. I think a lot of the members do not know what a real treat they are missing by being allowed access into some of the buildings that otherwise would be closed to the general public.

Maybe the committee would like to consider a trip abroad for a weekend to see Bilbao or other architectural gems. I think it is worth considering.

Melanie L' Egeaux

Herman Miller is only one of our sponsors; in fact CallPrint and Interface are also great supporters of the London AIA Chapter. What we would like is for all the members to just think if there are any other potential sponsors out there that we should approach. It helps us all and even might help finance a weekend trip abroad. Any comments gratefully received.

Dear AIA-UK,

Can somebody explain in simple language what the hell is going on with the RIBA serving letters on some of our members? Is this protectionism on the part of the RIBA? A tactical move to squeeze outsiders out of the game? Is this what they mean by British Fair Play? Doesn't the RIBA realise that they have more RIBA members working in the States than AIA members in the UK? So what are they trying to start? Are they still smarting over the 'Enigma' film?... I think the AIA,

supported by National, should be more assertive and show the RIBA how beneficial it would be to both parties to adopt a position of co-operation... Architecture is suppose to be universal, so let it be.

Craig Mecanoo

London/UK President Tim Gale is doing everything he can to hold sensible discussions with the RIBA, with support from National. He has managed to take the heat out of the situation for a while but as Lester Korzilius pointed out in his article in the last newsletter, we need members' help and support. It is a very important issue for both the AIA and RIBA and their respective members, so if you can contribute please contact either Tim (timothy.gale@som.com) or Lester (lkorzili@fos-terandpartners.com), and that goes for both AIA and RIBA members of the chapter.

Dear AIA-UK,

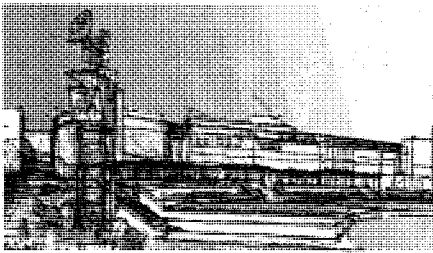
It is all very well having these monthly events and periodic newsletters, which, do not get me wrong, are very welcome. But should we also have an annual forum for the members to discuss their concerns or problems faced whilst working in the UK? Should we have an informal AGM giving all the members a chance not only to meet but exchange ideas? As David Lockwood said in his article "So? What's in it for you?" the AIA chapter is here for its members so lets give the members a forum to voice their opinions.

Lincoln Loggs

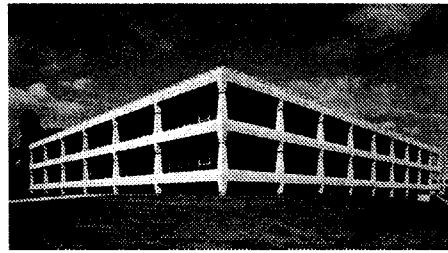
It is a good idea, I think all the members should meet and have an opportunity to influence their chapter, I only hope that if it is arranged that they will make the effort to turn up. This forum could actually take place at the AGM, held in January. More details to come...

Note from the Editor

We did not have enough space to print all the responses but it was very encouraging to get some feedback. Do not forget the AIA chapter is *your* chapter, so get it to work for you. Email aia-uk@usa.net or call 020 7930 9124.



Exterior sketch of Sheffield One by Koetter, Kim & Associates, *Left*. SOM's refurbished Heinz HQ, *Right*.



AIA/UK

Koetter Kim 'connects' in Sheffield

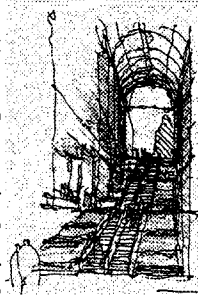
Sheffield One, launched in February this year, is the third pilot Urban Regeneration Company (URC) Established by the Government in line with Lord Rogers of Riverside's Urban Task Force Report - *Towards an Urban Renaissance*. The other two URC's are in Liverpool and East Manchester. The purpose of the URC, which has a fixed life of five to seven years, is to develop a 'joined-up' approach to regenerating the City Centre, bringing together national, regional and local agencies to tackle all the complex city centre issues, including the economy, transport, environment, property, and planning, management, etc.

Sheffield One is a partnership of Sheffield City Council, English Partnerships and Yorkshire Forward. The Sheffield One Board is chaired by Sir Peter Middleton, Chairman of Barclays Bank, who was born in Sheffield. He leads a nine-strong Board drawn from the private and public sectors. His fellow directors from the business world are Sir Hugh Sykes, Chairman of Yorkshire Bank; Andrew Slater, Managing Director of Cole Brothers (part of the John Lewis Partnership); and Frank Eul, Director DTZ.

In June of this year, Sheffield One, the regeneration company in charge of the Sheffield's City Centre master plan, appointed Koetter, Kim & Associates for its master-planning contract. Koetter, Kim won the competition against stiff opposition of well-known firms from both the United Kingdom and the United States.

Koetter, Kim's vision of 'connectivity' intends to link Sheffield, both within and with other city centres in the region, re-establishing its unique position as a city of creativity and design excellence. The city's industrial heritage evolved from the small craft workshops to large-scale

steel industries. The production of steel has not stopped and the city's economy has branched out into a variety of emerging areas. The master plan will extend connections across the centre to the eastern side of the city from the university to the rail station, providing a cohesive network of spaces from the centre's urban realm. At the moment, the city centre's retail sector suffers against competition from larger retail centres nearby in the region. The intention is to re-energize the city centre environs with new public spaces supported by a new balance of retailing. The master plan framework is due for to be complete in October, providing a strategy for the city's re-vitalisation over the next 10 to 15 years.



The challenge for the centre of Sheffield Centre is complex and exciting. The team intends to offer strategies on the city's physical, cultural, and economic framework to create the conditions in which a new enterprise economy can flourish. The economy will be based on Sheffield's emerging role as a focus for high technology and e-commerce. The new economy will build upon the existing 'knowledge based' businesses and the universities to attract inward investment to Sheffield.

Koetter, Kim & Associates are pleased to be involved on the Sheffield City Centre Master plan, as it provides the practice opportunity to be involved in a major regeneration project in the UK. While the firm continues to be approached to submit designs for other projects in the UK it also continues its long-standing influence over urban design in the US, the practice is currently overseeing the construction of its master plan for the Immunex Corporation in Seattle and the Portlands, in Toronto.

Yasin Visram

Great Homecoming: H J Heinz Headquarters Buildings Refurbished by SOM

Originally designed by Gordon Bunshaft of SOM in the 1960s, the distinctive, white structural concrete frames of the two, three-storey buildings rise gently over the green fields in Hayes Park, Hillingdon, Middlesex. While the refurbished Grade II* listed buildings retain their original appearance, significant works have been carried out to modernise the buildings to meet Class A standards, including the reconfigurations of cores for greater efficiency, opening up of the ground level for greater daylight penetration, and installation of new floor slabs in the former laboratory building to convert it into office space. The complex will also include a new 77,000 sf office building and parking facilities, due for completion this year.



AIA / UK NEWS

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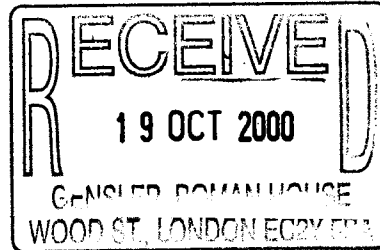
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The AIA/UK Newsletter is published quarterly.

The Newsletter is a service provide by AIA members in the UK to the profession, the public, and anyone interested in the activities of design professionals working abroad.

Notes to the editor, suggestions, criticism, etc. are welcome. Submissions may be sent to AIA-UK@usa.net or posted to "News" at the above address. Typed, double-spaced material and images intended for publication must reach the editor by the deadline date. Appropriate submissions are edited and published as space and time permit, and at the discretion of the AIA London/UK Board of Directors.

CES FAQs: I live and work outside the US - am I required to complete CES?
Yes! The same requirements are in effect beginning 1998. The AIA/CES recognizes that many of the traditional programming opportunities may be limited and are developing new opportunities available to members working overseas. You can earn credit, for example, by studying historical architecture, building codes, and architecturally related language and customs in you host country. Self-reported activities form another option, as do continuing education activities of the AIA overseas components (London/UK, Continental Europe, and Hong Kong). New AIA eClassroom Internet courses via AIAOnline or other distance-education products and programs are now becoming available specifically to architects. Architectural Record has special preselected articles in eight or more issues each year that offer LU-earning opportunities, including HSW. Further, there are AIA/CES registered providers in Italy, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, and Spain. Check AIAOnline for the most up-to-date program listing. The AIA has also established reciprocal educational agreements with AIBC, RAlA, RAIC, RIBA, SIA, and JIA. AIA members can attend and report any overseas professional association education activities.

AIA / UK

is generously sponsored by the following organizations. Thank you Call Print, Herman Miller, and Interface for your support.



INTERFACE

OCTOBER 2000

The First International Chapter of The American Institute of Architects