

AIA · UK · NEWS

Newspaper for the First International Chapter of the American Institute of Architects

Number 38 March 2003

Tenth Anniversary Design Excellence Awards Gala



Members and guests fill the auditorium of the Royal Society of Arts at John Adam Street, London, 20 February

Ten years! A remarkable anniversary for the AIA London/UK. The celebrations took place as part of the Chapter's 9th Annual Design Awards Gala on 20 February 2003, at the Royal Society of Arts. It was sponsored by courtesy of Mace Limited and organised by WML Woods Bagot, and the evening featured the best and brightest in the architectural profession.

Almost to the day ten years previously, the Chapter had received its Charter after a dozen foundry members had developed the "business plan" and submitted it to AIA National in Washington, D.C. The event was marked by a glass of wine at SOM's old Mayfair offices and a visit by the then National President, William Chapin FAIA from Washington.

The ongoing strength and growth of AIA London/UK is quite simply the result of the dedicated work of many members and volunteers, who take the responsibility of providing leadership for programmes, education, administration, membership and the many and varied interests of our membership. Nine of the Chapter's ten presidents were among the 250 people who filled the hall at the RSA for the standing room only of the AIA Awards presentation.

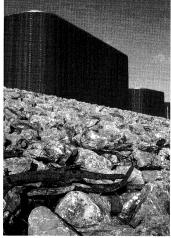
The Chapter received submissions of outstanding quality and from a wide range of projects. The Jury convened at The Royal Academy on 28 January 2003. It's distinguished members were: James Eyre RIBA of Wilkinson Eyre Architects • Paul

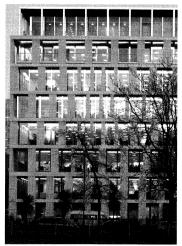
Finch Hon. FRIBA of CABE · Zaha Hadid RIBA of Zaha Hadid Limited · Mark Kelly RIBA RAIA of Woods Bagot · Doug Streeter RIBA of Swanke Hayden Connell · Rafael Vinoly FAIA JIA SCA of Rafael Vinoly Architects · the Awards Deputy Chairman Kevin Flannagan AIA of KPF and Chairman Stephan Reinke AIA RIBA, the Chapter Founding President, The Jury were unanimous in their decisions and expressed their pleasusre in judging projects of such distinguished quality.

Following the presentations of Commendation and Student Awards, the four Design Excellence winners presented their projects to the audience in the RSA auditorium – continue to p 3.

Awards

The following firms and their respective projects were selected as winners of 2003 Design Excellence Awards – left to right photos: Ian Ritchie for Plymouth Theatre Royal Production Centre • Eric Parry for 30 Finsbury Square • Edward Cullinan for Downland Gridshell • Eva Jiricna for Hotel Josef, Prague •









Photographs courtesy of winning firms noted herein.

From the President

As we begin 2003, we are looking at an exciting year for AIA London/UK, now celebrating its Tenth Anniversary. A host of interesting events have already taken place and many more are being planned by an enthusiastic new Board, which is benefiting greatly from the addition of several new members. The Newsletter has been revived with the addition of new features and a new look.



Additionally, our website has been improved and now contains a wealth of useful information, which is constantly being reviewed and updated.

We have already experienced several successful Chapter sponsored events this year, but I was particularly impressed with the Design Awards in February – not only was the quality of the submissions excellent, but also the awards ceremony attracted a record number of visitors from a broad spectrum of affiliations who clearly enjoyed the evening enormously.

The rest of the year will provide the membership with opportunities to gain those much sought-after learning units: a little known fact is that if members attend all educational Chaptersponsored events over the year, they will achieve their yearly learning unit requirements, including health and safety points.

A survey to the membership will refine and strengthen the Chapter's offerings and will assist the Board in planning ahead for future programmes – see p 4.

A key role of our Chapter is to provide networking and friend-ship making opportunities for the members, and several such events are already being planned, including a summer extravaganza, biking trips, the ever popular pub nights and more. Certain events are particularly suitable for families, others can be linked to business entertainment, and several attract architects from outside of the Chapter.

We are aware that without the financial help of our sponsors, Herman Miller, Mace, CallPrint, Interface and Lutron, our ambitious programme would not be possible. It is incumbent upon the Chapter to offer in return the marketing and networking opportunities that these companies deserve as sponsors, and so this will be a focus throughout the year.

Finally, I would like to remind readers that it is only through the Herculean efforts of a handful of volunteers that we are able to deliver quality programmes to the AIA London/UK members. Participating on the Board, organising and assisting in specific events, and submitting your ideas on how we can improve our services are ways in which you also can contribute.

Kind regards,

Elizabeth Casqueiro AIA · 2003 President · AIA London/UK

Annual General Meeting

The AGM started on a spirited, optimistic note with the customary transfer of power from the outgoing President, Lorraine King AIA, to the new President, Elizabeth Casqueiro AIA, and with the introduction of new Board Directors, which included James Baker FAIA, Kevin Flanagan AIA, Tom Giannini AIA RIBA, M J Long AIA RIBA, Kenneth Schwarz AIA and Hiko Takeda AIA RIBA.

Lorraine King summarised the highlights and her outreach activities in 2002. She attended the February AIA Grassroots Conference in Washington, with the delegates representing most Chapters in the States where she apparently encountered a number of delegates and speakers, who voiced indifference at the topic of "international architecture," as a general sentiment on Capital Hill, to her great disappointment. The topic of "security architecture" understandably drew a great deal of interest amongst the audience as a primary concern in the aftermath of the 11 September tragedy.

She travelled widely and attended a number of other events to keep abreast of the movement promoting "international architecture," which included the Continental Chapter's bi-annual conference in Amsterdam where formalisation of the International Associate membership category was achieved, and she attended the Union of International Architects conference in Berlin, where she met and entertained a number of past, present and future National AIA Presidents.

She reached out to strengthen the Chapter's bonds with the RIBA. In reference to this, we lament the passing of Noel Hill AIA RIBA, who had been the Chapter's Director in charge of liaison with the RIBA, since AIA London/UK received its Charter – see p 8.

In November last year, the Chapter inaugurated our first Annual Keynote Lecture by Rick Mather AIA RIBA at the US Embassy. As an eminent American architect in the UK, we know him best for his holistic approach to environmental design – see p 5.

The AGM raised discussion about the benefits and aspirations of the Chapter, as the new President explains in her inaugural message above.

It was suggested that we should revisit our Mission Statement and update it in line with the current membership of the Chapter. On the other hand, it was time to reflect on the past years and to be mindful that the AIA London/UK is now a dynamic American institution in London.

Its evolving success is largely due to the tenacity of past Presidents and their dedicated Board Directors, who have initiated and perpetuated events, activities and publicity with the generosities of our sponsors and who have drawn upon a diverse group of professionals and students, to join our peers, to stimulate better understanding of current movements in environmental design.

A surge to take a more proactive interest in cross-cultural and inter-disciplinary education, practice and procurement and, a great deal of discussion on CES (Continuing Education System) bounced around the room $-\sec p$ 4.

Our sponsor, Herman Miller, hosted this year's AGM, in their superb advanced technology show rooms, with a congenial drink before and at the close of the evening and, celebrate the New Year in style, to which the Chapter is most grateful.

Michael Deguzman \cdot Chapter Executive \cdot AIA London/UK \cdot



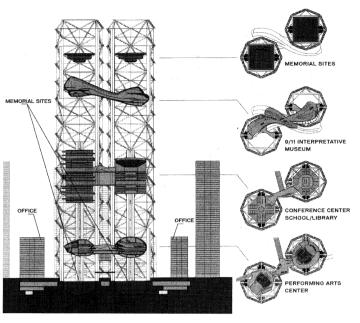


Rafael Vinoly Architects present WTC Proposal at the Awards Gala



Following the presentation of all the awards, Christina Seilern of Vinoly's firm gave a talk and shared their approach and attitude to design. She then presented the proposal by Team THINK for the World Trade Centre site in New York and gave a fascinating insight into the dynamics of this important site, the brief and the diverse social and political forces shaping the design decisions. Indeed, we all lament the choice New York finally made.





Commendations

The following firms were given Design Excellence Award Commendations for their respective projects – left to right photos:

Nicholas Hare for Chefford Hundred Learning Practice • Studio Bednarski for Kent Messenger Millennium Bridge, Maidstone • John McAslan + Partners for Royal Academy of Music, London • Ian Simpson, Urbis, Manchester •





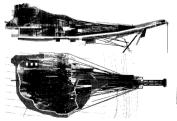




Noel Hill Student Travel Awards

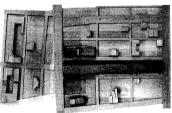
The AIA Student Travel Awards is named in memory of Noel Hill AIA RIBA, a Founding Director of the Chapter – see page 8- and it was sponsored this year by the generosity of ASITE. This programme is open to architectural students and recent graduates in the UK and the winners receive travel sponsorships to the U.S. The following students with their respective projects were selected to receive the Awards – photos left to right: Mariano Ciccone for Lunar Box, etc. · Kenny Tsui for an Observatory · Elena Zabeli for Sarah D. Roosevelt Park · Achim Menges for Alternative Development of the London Bridge Area ·





Finally, members, Award winners, guests and friends decanted to the Benjamin Franklin Room for a convivial reception. Congratulations to AIA London/UK for ten years' service to its members and sincere thanks to the many volunteers who have made this anniversary possible.

The Editors are planning to cover the history of the Chapter



in the next issue of AIA·UK·NEWS, and this should include articles on the aspirations of AIA London/UK.

Stephan Reinke AIA RIBA, the Founding President, Director in Charge, 2003 AIA Design Excellence Awards.



Continuing Education System · Update

Most members are aware of their need to keep up to date with the Continuing Education System requirements of the AIA and State Licensing Authorities. However, uncertainties are still prevalent among many members as to what the exact requirements are and what to do if one fails to meet them. In respect of the AIA's requirements, they can be found at the newly updated website, www.aia.org/conted/faq. Regarding the State Licensing Authorities, members should log onto the websites of their respective state registration boards, as their requirements may differ significantly from those of the AIA.

Our Chapter and the Continental European Chapter, as AIA Registered Providers of the CES Learning Units, host events throughout the year, details of which can be found on our websites at www.aiauk.org and www.aiaeurope.org. The graphs below provide some statistical data for the events we hosted in 2001 and 2002 and a projection of the events we are planning for 2003. Please refer to the Events section of this Newsletter for additional information. Events are also hosted by other AIA Registered Providers in the UK, such as the RIBA and some private firms, details of which can be found at

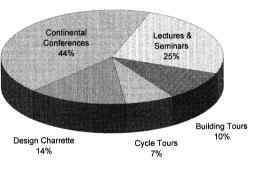


The educational content of the lectures, seminars, building tours and Charrette that our Chapter hosts is chosen to reflect current trends in architecture, urban design and general office practice, with an occasional guided tour of an historic building of which there are many in the centre of London. However, all members should consider their own personal educational needs and plan their attendance of events, etc., accordingly. To help our Chapter organise events, which reflect the needs of its members, we issued a questionnaire via e-mail in early March 2003 asking for feedback. I would like to thank all those who have already replied to the questionnaire and ask those who have not done so to forward their response as soon as possible. The information gained from the survey will guide us in planning

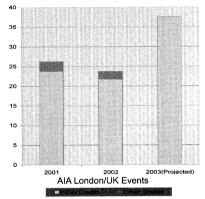
events during the coming months, and the results will be revealed in the next Newsletter, which is due to be published at the end of June.

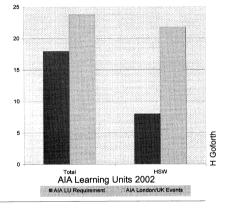
Harry Goforth · Int'l Associate AIA · RIBA, Director in Charge, Continuing Education System, CES, AIA London/UK.











2003 Events

The tour of the National Portrait Gallery on 13 March, led by Edward Jones of Dixon Jones, was a vintage AIA event: a fabulous building, a charismatic host and a congenial drinking session. We were uplifted and inspired by the power of architecture and the camaraderie of colleagues as we enjoyed one of the project's great achievements - its top-floor bar. Stepping back from a long day of tense meetings and pressured production, we could recognise why, after all, we had become architects.

The AIA London/UK has a tradition of providing a wide range of events for members and, as space permits, the wider community. This year's events programme is no exception. Ranging from tours of the British Library and Bed Zed to bicycle trips in the City and Richmond, from seminars on CDM and landscape eco-systems to pub nights and student shows, the 2003 events calendar

offers opportunities for continuing education as well as the informal learning that happens in discussion with fellow professionals. As in years past, the highlights of this year's calendar will be the Design Awards, the Summer Party and the Student Charrette. The Keynote Lecture, inaugurated last year, will return as a celebration of the Chapter's 10th anniversary. We also hope to revive the Barbeque this autumn.

But the activities do not stop there: this year we are pioneering a new event, Super Saturday. Following feedback from members, we are offering day-long conferences, which will provide the opportunity for in-depth exploration of a theme and - perhaps more importantly - for the acquisition of multiple CES credits. June's Super Saturday will focus on building types, which may include stadia, hospitals, libraries, schools, hotels, laboratories, housing and airports. Presentations will

draw on the expertise of AIA members in the collegiate atmosphere of Goodenough College. October's Super Saturday, with a theme of innovative working methods, might include prefabrication, sustainable building services strategies, the NEC and partnering, the role of IT as well as case studies in cross-disciplinary work. We are hoping to have this event at the Building Centre.

For all the work that goes into providing a diverse programme of educational and social opportunities, the most important element is you! It is the participation of members and their guests that makes the occasions memorable. To keep posted on

upcoming events, check the AIA London/UK website, which is regularly up dated with our activities. Claire Weldin AIA RIBA, Director in Charge, 2003 Events and Activities.



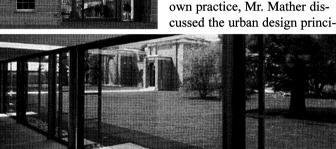
Rick Mather inaugurates the Annual Keynote Speaker Lecture

In November last year Rick Mather AIA RIBA gave the first inaugural Keynote Lecture. It was held to a capacity audience at the US Embassy. His theme was on the relationship of the building to the street. Mr. Mather, an expatriate American from

Portland, Oregon, came to England in 1963 and set up his own practice a decade later.

His work has won many awards including a 2001 AIA National award for the expansion of the Dulwich Picture Gallery - see photo below. His early works include many critically acclaimed houses and restaurants, such as the Avenue and Now and Zen.

Using many examples from his own practice, Mr. Mather dis-



ples that underlie his projects for the Southbank Masterplan, the University of Lincoln, and his most recent project, the University of Virginia. The approach to design is a holistic one and concentrates on the perception of the individual at street level. Here a collection of buildings and spaces formed in between them are the building blocks in the design process.

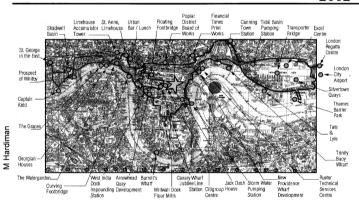
Mr. Mather discussed the design of individual buildings with an emphasis on

their urban contribution. Examples from his practice included the Dulwich Picture Gallery, the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich - see photo left - the Oxford Keble College residences, and several private homes. The ARCO residential building on the north end of Oxford's Fellows' Garden defines and reinforces the edge of the garden and is part of Mather's strategy for future development of sensitive infill rather than the indiscriminate filling in of urban spaces. While undeniably modern, the building pays successful homage to Butterfield's polychromatic brickwork by the use of vertical and horizontal hand-made bricks.

To complete the design circle, Mr. Mather briefly touched on the attention to detail in individual buildings. This attention is a continuation of the design ideas which integrate the building into its urban setting.

Lester Korzilius AIA RIBA, Director in Charge, 2002 Annual Keynote Speaker for AIA London/UK.

2002 Events



2002 Annual AIA Bicycle Tour route map

2002 was a full one for AIA London/UK. The main events included the Design Awards at the British Museum, the inaugural Keynote Lecture given by Rick Mather AIA RIBA, the student Charrette – see pages 6 & 7 – and the summer party. Other monthly events included a tour and Master Plan presentation of Canary Wharf, a lecture by the eminent structural engineer,

Anthony Hunt, a walking tour of London churches, bike tours, a lecture on the Kings Cross development scheme, a talk on the Heron Tower, guided tour of the new London City Hall, pub nights and much more.

Lester Korzilius AIA RIBA, Director in Charge 2002 Events Calendar.



Spector - left & top centre









2002 Annual Design Charrette at Spitalfields · London

At nine o'clock on 2 November last year, the Annual AIA London/UK Design Charrette got underway. The venue, an unfinished restaurant in Spital Square donated by the Spitalfields Development Corporation for the day, was bright and spacious and, best of all, it had that inimitable constrution site smell known to transport architects with a creative state of mind.

The topic for 2002 was a master plan for Bishopsgate Goods Yard, a site that has generated much debate and pitted London Mayor, Ken Livingstone, against Prince Charles and English Heritage. The dispute centres on whether development of the site should respond to the needs

of the local community or serve to further underpin London's role as the major European financial centre or possibly both. In addition, a debate has been raging over whether the 19th century warehouse structure and viaduct, which consist entirely of brick arches, should be preserved or demolished.

The ten-acre Bishopsgate Goodsyard stands between some of the most contrasting communities in London. To the west and southwest, the City of London with its tall, high-density office buildings nearly looms over the site. To the north and east, Shoreditch, Brick Lane and Bethnal Green are densely populated

immigrant communities, and they are also among the poorest communities in London. The area around Brick Lane is home to one of the largest Bengali immigrant communities in the world.

The task of the Charrette was to find the best use and most appropriate masterplan for the site, which is not a small challenge. While the four teams worked away, Call Print, our sponsor for the event, shuttled drawings between the Charrette site and their shops for reproduction. By four o'clock, four design schemes had emerged. Interestingly, every scheme incorporated the original brick arches, but beyond that they couldn't have been more different.









Jury's Verdict

Paul Finch Hon FRIBA, Architects' Journal, Chairman · Rickie Burdett, standing in for Ken Livingstone, Mayor of London · Kim Wilkie, Kim Wilkie & Associates · Corine Delage, University of Greenwich · Jeremy Till, Sheffield School of Architecture · Martin O'Rourke, English Heritage · Di Leitch, University of Newcastle · David Walker AIA RIBA · Norman Krangel, CallPrint ·











What perhaps most impressed the jury was the inventive, theatrical quality of the schemes. Paul Finch, the jury chairman, summed them up as "The Marriage of Figaro", the "Bartered Bride", the "Ring Cycle" and "Underneath the Arches".

Linking the old with bold new office blocks through a sweep of open air cinemas and theatres - as presented in Scheme 1-garnered favourable comments.

The jury questioned the use of the arches in some of the schemes and were not convinced that the scale of the site had really been understood by any of the teams.

The jury was chosen to represent as many different viewpoints as possible. Martin O'Rourke of English Heritage commented that the event was enjoyable particularly because it brought together voices that

often opposed one another in public meetings. With snacks and a glass of good wine, architects, politicians, professors,

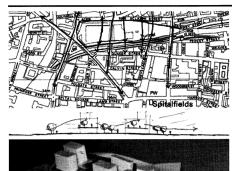
journalists and the local resident-poet seemed to get on very well together.

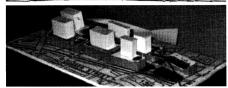
Bea Sennewald AIA, Director in Charge, 2002 AIA London/UK Design Charrette.





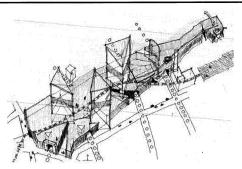
2002 Charrette Teams





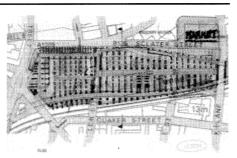


Team 4 · Lester Korzilius AIA RIBA Eva Aftab · Helen Hadjikyriacou · Nicky Hilton · Nesfun Nahar ·

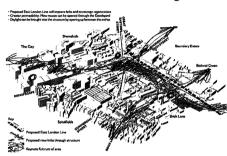


Team 1 · Michael Hardiman AIA · Tanya Ajzensztejn · Akira Kindo · Claudia Maggi · Alvin Shum ·

The winning scheme by Team 4 had made the most convincing attempt at dealing with the site and its possible uses as they managed to demonstrate in a scale model. This was the only scheme to cut up the arches and to scale down the site. It was also the only team which attempted to build a model and thereby achieved an understanding of the overall scale. A large number of mixed-use blocks fit on the site, interlaced with a park at multiple levels.



Team 2 · Anderson Inge AIA · Claire Weldin AIA · Peter Deruynkope · Linda Parkinson · Gabriel Wong ·



Team 3 · Kevin Flanagan AIA · Aician Williams ·

Hellman

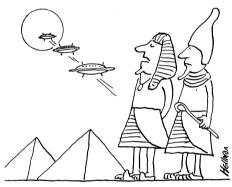
It is with great pleasure that we introduce a series of cartoons by the highly acclaimed architectural humorist, Louis Hellman, to appear quarterly in the AIA • UK • NEWS. He is, indeed, both an



architect and cartoonist, who was educated at the Bartlett School of Architecture, University College London, and at the Ecole des Beaux Arts, Paris. He has been contributing a weekly, topical car-

toon to the *Architects' Journal* since 1968 as well as cartoons and articles to numerous other architectural, design and general publications. He is the author of six books including *Architecture for Beginners*, and he has been invited to give talks throughout the UK as well as in Australia, Singapore and New Orleans, U. S. A.

He was awarded an MBE by the Queen in 1993 for services to architecture and an honourary doctorate from Oxford Brooks University in 2002.



"TYPICAL ARCHITECTS-AS SOON AS THEY HAVE SOLD YOU THE SCHEME YOU NEVER SEE 'EM ACAIN!"

Greetings from AIA Hong Kong

Founded in 1997, AIA Hong Kong is one of the youngest AIA Chapters and one of the fastest growing. Originally established to service our AIA members prior to Hong Kong's handover to China, we see our membership and diversity expanding at a



Left-right back: Roger T. Dunn, Treasurer • Grover C. Dear Jr. AIA • J. Lee Rofkind AIA, Secretary • Rogan B. Coles • front: William O. Lim AIA, President 2003 • Peter D. Basmajian AIA, Vice President • Kenneth C. Hau AIA, Vice President •

similar rate to the economic growth of China in recent years. In 2002 we expanded by 18% to a membership base of 230 architects, associate architects and corporate members, together with a growing overseas membership from other countries in Asia, such as Singapore and Japan, as well as from US cities in the Pacific Rim, such as Honolulu and Seattle.

Recently, we participated in a video conference with six cities between the US and China, looking into prospects of the China market, which was organised by AIA National. We feel that we can share our experience in doing business in China and are keen to establish a similar exchange with our overseas AIA Chapter counterparts in the UK and Continental Europe. Please visit our website at www.aiahk.org for further information.

With best wishes,

William Lim, 2003 President, AIA Hong Kong



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Noel Hill · 1937 - 2002 · A Founding Director of AIA London/UK

In Memoriam



Noel Hill AIA RIBA was a Founding Director of the First International Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. In February, the Noel Hill Student Travel Awards of AIA London/UK were presented in his honour at the Design Excellence Awards Gala at the Royal Society of Arts.

He obtained his B.A. in Architecture in 1961 from Miami University, Ohio, and then completed studies in City Planning

and Urban Design (both under the tutelage of Professor Rudolf Frankel). In 1964 he came to London with the intention of remaining for only two years viewing European architectural design and British town planning with the aim of applying these

principles in practice upon his return to America.

However, I'm afraid he was the archetypal American who came to Hampstead, fell in love with the place and never looked back. It was America's loss, but England's gain, as it were.



In 1965 he joined Westminster City Council as a Group Architect/Planning Officer and for 25 years was Principal Architect/Planning Officer "battling to protect Westminster's precious fabric". He directed and assisted on many architectural and urban design projects, *inter alia* the redevelopment of Piccadilly Circus, the re-design of Oxford Street, Leicester Square and Parliament Square. In 1988, he set up his own planning consultancy.

He was an essential and active member of AIA London/UK. Although he was quite content to be in the background, he was enthusiastic and successful in organising conferences, events and competitions and in turning up for a plethora of meetings simply because he loved it. He was also an active member of the RIBA. Without him, such events as Briefing the Major conference and Design for a Greater London campaign would not have been possible. He was also active in numerous other organisations: the Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects (a City of London livery company dating back to Medieval times), the Cities of London and Westminster Society of Architects (CLAW-SA) of which he was at one time the Executive Director, RIBA London Region Planning & Environment Committee as Chairman, the Hamstead Conservation Area Advisory Committee, et al.

He possessed that inalienable American trait of being enamoured of well-connected and famous people without being sycophantic, while at the same time initiating friendships with them without compunction. He was forever generously using these contacts for everyone throughout London and abroad for the benefit of the AIA, other organisations and individuals. In the near future, the RIBA London Region hopes to hold a memorial lecture, possibly with the AIA London/UK.

Compiled by Maryann Bowen, GradDiplCon(AA), Professional Affiliate AIA. Photographs courtesy of Eric Hill.

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