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PROGRESSIVE
ARCHITECTURE

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The
40th
Annual
P/A
Awards



Among the Classical work seen at conference: Richardson Library by Ernesto Buch of New Haven, Connecticut.

First Conference for Classical Architecture League

Asked to list the Classical architects practicing today, most of us stammer after citing two or three names. Despite the hubbub stirred up by Prince Charles a few years ago, the Classical movement hasn't swept up legions of American architects (but traditional design has always been in demand on these shores). If the Classical Architecture League's inaugural Conference on the Work of Emerging Classical Architects is any indication, we have a growing cadre of young Turks – young

Tories perhaps – who speak of Classicism as a quintessentially American architecture. According to two conferees, Robert Adam (part of the British delegation) and Allan Greenberg (arguably the dean of American Classicists), modern technology is readily adaptable to Greco-Roman canons: "The Romans would have built tall buildings if they had had the means," says Adam.

The 100 or so who attended the symposium in Alexandria, Virginia, heard 18 architects and historians present their work, from houses in rural Guatemala to doctoral research on links between Analytic philosophy and Classical architecture. If the audience had not been committed to traditionalism, a few speakers would have sparked some Modernist ripostes.

Fortunately, an exceptionally articulate panel discussion offered clues that Classicists are not completely in lockstep: they are likely to differ on how to inflect the canon or the way Classicism relates to our pluralist culture. Some of these questions will resurface at next year's meeting, with a focus on Classicism and the contemporary city. If the League articulates the pro and con positions within its ranks, a few curious Modernists might drop in to learn a thing or two. **Philip Arcidi** ■

Wright Design Wins Voter Approval in Madison

Times may be tough for most architects, but Frank Lloyd Wright is still managing to get work 33 years after his death. The latest Wright project to come off the shelf is Monona Terrace, a civic center for Madison, Wisconsin.

Wright worked on several proposals for the distinctive lakeside site near the Wisconsin State Capitol from 1938 until his death in 1959. The original program called for a 2000-seat theater. After Wright's death, the project was abandoned, and the bond money was finally used in the 1980s to rehab a local theater and department store as a performing arts center.

The latest incarnation of Monona Terrace came about as citizens fought over whether to build a convention center on the site. After a bond issue failed, the city floated the idea of adapting the Wright scheme as a convention center. The plan, adapted by Wright's successor firm, Taliesin



Adapted Monona Terrace design by Taliesin firm.

Associated Architects, won approval from voters in November. The exterior of the building "conforms very closely" to Wright's design, according to Tony Putnam of Taliesin. Inside, the theater is replaced by a ballroom/meeting room. ■

AIDS Housing Winners Exhibited in Boston

Eight American cities have more people with AIDS (PWAs) than Boston. But the Hub is a front runner in its response to this health crisis: the city recently sponsored the nation's first AIDS housing competition, a joint venture of the Mayor's office, the Boston Society of Architects, and the Public Facilities Department. Exhibited at Build Boston '92 this November, the competition entries suggested that we know much more about designing shelter for PWAs than we do about the virus that afflicts them. Not to say that there's a consensus about what housing would be best: some of the most provocative ideas displayed were not among

the three prize winners.

The competition had two tiers: an open-ended one called for ideas from artists, writers, and designers; the other was site-specific, a rehab/expansion project for rowhouses in Roxbury, the city's largest African-American district. The latter category generated the most provocative work – a spectrum of proposals to integrate housing for people with AIDS with apartments for low- and middle-income households. The winning entry, a collaborative design by Lalida Pinsurana and Hong Chen of Kaplan/Nakatani, Santa Monica, California, brought traces of the West Coast's new

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IFRAA Awards to 13 Religious Projects

The Interfaith Forum on Religious Art and Architecture (IFRAA) has announced 13 winners in its annual International Architectural Design Awards program. Jurors this year were Harold Roth of Roth & Moore Architects, New Haven, Connecticut; Thomas Fisher, Executive Editor of P/A; and Dr. John W. Cook, president of the Henry Luce Foundation, New York. Honor Award winners are:

- Church of the Light, Osaka, Japan (P/A, Feb. 1990, p. 95), by Tadao Ando Architect & Associates, Osaka;



Chambers Chapel.

- Chambers Chapel, Boys Town, Nebraska, by Keeler/Raynor/Hinz, Bellevue, Nebraska;
- House of Prayer, Episcopalian Retreat Center, Collegeville, Minnesota, by Cunningham Hamilton Quiter, Minneapolis;
- St. Clement Church interior renovations, St. Bernard, Ohio, by Rafferty Rafferty Tollefson Architects, St. Paul, Minnesota;



Bellefield Presbyterian Church.

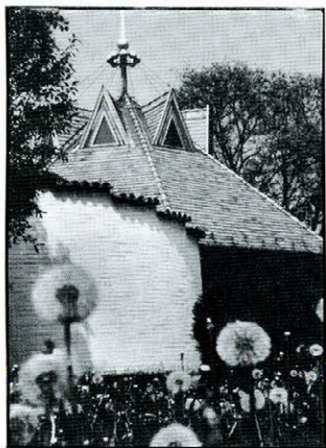
- Bellefield Presbyterian Church restoration and renovations, Pittsburgh, by Celli-Flynn & Associates, Pittsburgh;

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IFRAA Awards

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- Whitefriars Hall addition, Washington, D.C., by Frank Schlesinger Associates, Washington, D.C.;
- Leirikangas Cemetery Chapel, Vehkajoki, Finland, by Arkkitehtitoimisto Suomalainen, Espoo, Finland;



Our Lady of Hungarians Chapel.

- Our Lady of Hungarians Roman Catholic Chapel, Cegléd, Hungary, by Kerényi Studio, Budapest;
- Roman Catholic Church of Azoia, Sintra, Portugal, by José Cornélio da Silva, Lisbon;
- Roman Catholic Church of God Father, Buenos Aires, by Serra: Valera, Arquitectos, Buenos Aires;
- Funeral Chapel for the Ciula Family, Canepina, Italy, by Wilhelmson AB Arkitekter & Designers, Stockholm;



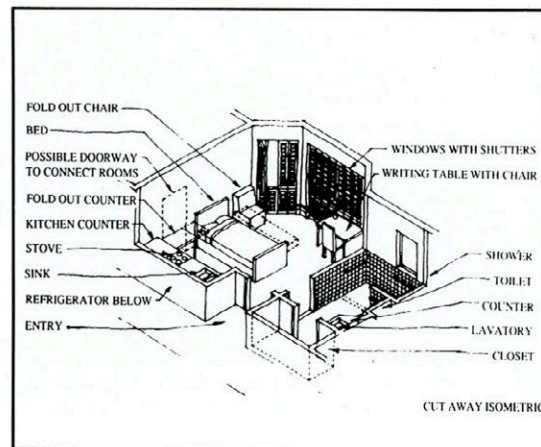
Islamic Cultural Center.

- Islamic Cultural Center, New York, by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, New York;
- First Church of Christ, Scientist, Glendale, California, by Moore Ruble Yudell, Santa Monica, California.

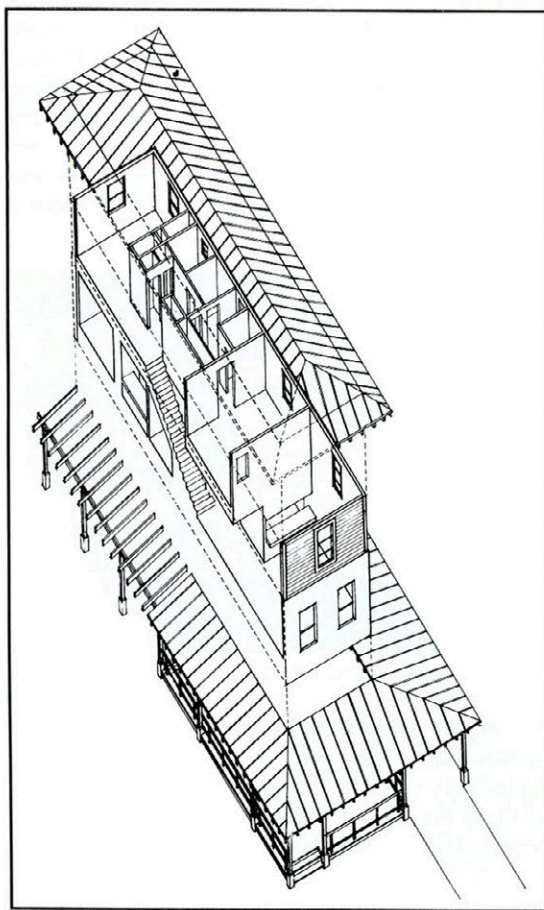
Aids Housing (continued from previous page)

crop of SROs to contextualist Boston.

Several architects layered living units and outdoor spaces with admirable sensitivity. Others reconfigured the living unit: in Elizabeth Libby Palmer & Rebecca Chang's scheme, a kitchen/living area for three bedrooms was filtered with apertures, niches, and window seats that balance privacy and a sense of fraternity. Only one of the exhibited works was radical in design: Pablo Nistal & Ines Zalduendo envisioned large rooms with wall units for bathrooms, kitchens, and other support facilities – the sort of living spaces architects would love. But people with AIDS, for whom stability is essential, might opt for something more familiar. They would be at home with most of the schemes on display. **Philip Arcidi**



Unit illustration from AIDS housing competition winner by Pinsurana and Chen.



Exploded axonometric of Nepomechie/Feldman-Adams design for Delray Beach, one of four first-place winners.

Housing Competition in a Florida Town

Four first-place winners were announced this fall in an affordable housing competition sponsored by the city of Delray Beach, Florida, and its Community Redevelopment Agency. The competition was held to produce affordable designs for an established neighborhood in the city of 47,500, which is located between Miami and Palm Beach.

The program called for three- or four-bedroom houses on standard city lots that could be built for \$40,000 or \$44,000, respectively. The locally composed jury assumed that buyers would be people of color with incomes of less than \$35,000.

Of the first-place winners, architect Marilyn Nepomechie and landscape architect Molly Feldman-Adams of Miami produced a design they described as a "hybrid of traditional shotgun and sideyard houses." Ted Hoffman of Miami (P/A June 1991, p. 10) offered a traditional, two-story square plan. John Meachem of Miami designed a low-lying Caribbean house with a pyramidal roof.

A fourth first-place design, by Wayne Berenbaum of Boca Raton, was chosen for construction in a model block program. His ranch-style design was the most conventionally suburban, including a façade dominated by a two-car garage. The jury felt that Berenbaum's entry "most embodied the aspirations of new home buyers."

All of the winning and commended designs will be promoted by the CRA when working with potential neighborhood home owners. Professional advisor for the competition was Elizabeth Debs of EDRC Architects, Delray Beach.

Penn Conference on City and Suburb

In the wake of the recent election, there is reason to hope that the country is finally prepared to take up the task of salvaging America's cities. If so, "Living in the Center/Working at the Edge," a conference on urban design held November 13 and 14, at the University of Pennsylvania, could hardly have been more timely.

Sponsored jointly by Penn's Graduate School of Fine Arts and the Institute for Urban Design, the

conference was conceived around the optimistic argument that cities and suburbs can be understood as mutual and complementary territories of regional development. Noting that contemporary urban design models have not established such a relationship, Dean Patricia Conway of the GSFA challenged participants during her opening remarks to find a future for urban design "somewhere between nostalgia and nihilism."

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