

NH FORUM

For those who shape the built environment

AIANH Tours Weston Solutions May 19

May Chapter Meeting

Weston Solutions' Concord, NH, office building is a visible display of the company's commitment to sustainable design.

Join us on May 19 to learn more about this structure and its sustainable design elements.

Jim Ricker of Weston Solutions will give a brief presentation on the history of the former Greenlands property and the subsequent planning, design, and construction phases that resulted in Weston's first LEED-Gold certified office building. Following the presentation, Mr. Ricker will preside over a tour of the 21,000 sf structure and make note of the sustainable design features and green construction

practices that make the building unique.

These features include a closed-loop geothermal heating and cooling system, energy efficient lighting and controls, a modular GreenGrid vegetated green roof, and a zero net discharge storm water management system. More information on each of these sustainable design features and the estimated energy savings to date are presented on an interactive touch-screen dashboard feature in Weston's main lobby.

The program will be preceded by a reception catered by Theresa Maier.

Registration and information are at www.aianh.org/aia_events.asp. ■

Published by

AIA New Hampshire

with the Granite State

Landscape Architects



Weston Solutions' Green Deck, Concord, NH. Photo by Joseph St. Pierre

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AIANH, PO Box 398, Keene, NH 03431.
Tel: 603-357-2863; Fax: 603-357-0835;
E-mail: office@aianh.org.

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NH Forum Editorial Board:

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The AIANH Editorial Board reserves the right to edit articles for available space and to review all material for appropriateness prior to inclusion.

The editors of the *NH Forum* seek to encourage a lively discussion of design and other topics of concern to designers. Opinions and proposals presented in the newsletter are those of the writers to whom they are attributed and are not a statement of official policy by AIANH, unless so stated.

Visit our Website at www.aianh.org

NH Forum

Perspective

Point of view from the president of AIANH



James Loft AIA
President 2011

“Intern: A student or a recent graduate undergoing supervised practical training”

As spring finally arrives, with the promise of long sun filled days and new life, I am reminded that in the architectural world, this is the “season of the intern.” From the multiple emails I receive daily from enthusiastic students, it is impossible to overlook this season. Also, I think the inquiries tend to wear you down. At first you are in denial and say to yourself, “we’re not doing it this year,” then that crusty winter exterior starts to crack.

It’s been a tough road for the intern. In the past few years of recession, many ‘interns to be’ probably just gave up on the search altogether. I imagine after a few calls talking with the skeleton staff left in a once larger office it was evident the concept was almost laughable.

We are taking on an intern this summer, but it is by default and I am not exactly proud of my actions leading up to the decision. Prior to 2009, we had an intern every summer and sometimes during the year due to their academic schedule, so we were believers in the commitment of intern advancement. Even though the design economy finally seems to look a bit more promising these days, I found that I was still hesitant to add staff especially someone who is an “accessory” to the team. Let’s face it, it’s a lose – lose agreement. The intern won’t be making a whole lot of money and in return we won’t be getting a whole lot of production out of the intern. Another reason I was hesitant to make the intern commitment was that we just switched to a new 3-D modeling software which seems to make it even harder to assign tasks to a less experienced person. In order to effectively use advanced software, you need to have a decent understanding of how buildings go together. Gone are the days when you could ask an intern to date sheets, run prints, cross check references or deliver drawings to the site (which were the responsibilities during my intern days). The

day to day legwork has been phased out of our profession by the advancement of technology. That legwork was a stepping stone to gaining an overall perspective to what the profession was all about. I had a startling realization when we were researching 3-D software. I was at a seminar and the principal of the firm that had made the switch said that the dynamics of their firm had changed. Their project architects and job captains were actually building the models. They didn’t have draftspeople anymore, because they felt it was harder to break the work into smaller tasks that other less experienced people could handle.

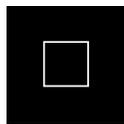
So, with that perspective, I proclaimed at our last staff meeting that we were not going to be hiring an intern for this summer. No sooner did I get back to my office when I heard from our favorite client (they are all favorite clients...) that his son who is studying architecture was looking for an internship this summer. I said “that’s fantastic because we were just looking to fill that position!” Sometimes I think life has a greater plan that I’m unfortunately not aware of. In this case I’m glad it didn’t go my way. We should be committed to hiring interns for no other reason than advancing the future of the profession. Students need exposure to the complex process of architecture that we all take for granted. Forget the pressure of having them learn something tangible and hoping they can be effective on a project in 2 ½ months and you’ll find the experience is actually quite fun. Also the added younger perspective will be an uplift to the office personality and possibly give an old timer a better handle on what’s current in the design trends (as well as music, slang, clothing, etc...).

Don’t do what I did. Keep an open mind, hire an intern, enjoy the summer and feel like you are making a difference in everyone’s lives. ■

Keep an open mind...

Young Architects Forum

by Nathan Stolarz, Assoc. AIA



This month's Young Architects point of view comes from Mali Ouzts, LEED AP. Mali has over four years of experience with world renowned Healthcare Architecture firms such as Anshen + Allen, TROJung/Brannen and now currently working with HDR out of Boston. She has gone through the transition of instituting BIM practice into these Large firms and deeply understands how this discussion is becoming exceedingly relevant for the Emerging Architect.

The BIM Conundrum

I have recently heard a growing undercurrent in the architectural industry that has me worried. It seems that Revit is becoming what AutoCAD was 15+ years ago. While this is a wonderful shift it has introduced an old argument. What happens to the employees at the firms unwilling to make the change?

In the 1980s when CAD programs really began to grab hold, the first of these modern divisions began. Round One! In the left corner we have CAD, in the right corner we have Hand Drafting. CAD certainly won that match much as BIM will win this one (until the next big thing comes along). But what of the employees caught in the middle. This revival of the modern argument has come at a terrible time in our industry. This is a time when firms openly admit that they will not look at the resume of an unemployed person and have now added "must have experience with a project in Revit" to their requirements. The Catch-22 about this request is that MOST of the firms requesting this haven't really started Revit themselves. Upon entering these

firms you still see the vestiges of those black background screens with the 2-d yellow, red, and blue lines. Not to mention that I have had someone tell me it isn't always best to do a new project in Revit...but this is an argument for a later conversation.

At the age of 27 I can honestly and confidently say that anyone in my age group or below who draft daily can pick up a program on their own or in an office with no training, especially if they have used a BIM program before (Revit, ArchiCAD, VectorWorks etc.) I learned AutoCAD, ArchiCad, and Revit by someone showing me how to draw a wall and open the parameters menu and letting me go. The little Revit training I did receive was insufficient to how I now use the program. Within a year I have become the Revit Coordinator for the project I am working on. I now get questions daily from people that have been using Revit far longer than I have.

So where do we go? How do we fix this problem because I would rather a firm hire the right person rather than a person who just has a "Revit experience." Or so they say. I know a lot of people with a "Revit experience" who truly have no idea how to use Revit. There seems to me to be a disconnect between the staffing plan created possibly by people who no longer even know how to use AutoCAD let alone a BIM program and the actual staff producing the work. ■

– Mali Ouzts, LEED AP

If you or anyone you know would like to be added to the email list please send a quick email to nates@tms-architects.com and you will be added to our list of announcements. – Nathan Stolarz AIA, AIANH Assoc. Director

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2011 AIANH Excellence in Design Merit Award winner: Lakefront Cottage Renovation Landscaping by db Landscaping

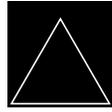
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Job Opportunities Positions Wanted

Job listings and positions sought listings are on the AIANH website: www.aianh.org/jobs.asp. To submit an ad, please email ad text to office@aianh.org. Ads are free for AIANH members and \$80 for four months for non-members. Please include your contact information with your ad listing.

China Experience

Text and photos by Patricia Sherman FAIA



Napoleon Bonaparte once said of China, "Let her sleep, for when she wakes, she will shake the world."

My fifteen year old granddaughter and I just returned from a nine-day stay in China sponsored by the Lake Champlain Chamber of Commerce of Burlington, Vermont. We were traveling with about hundred people mainly from Vermont with a sprinkling of strays from other states.

These trips are heavily subsidized by the Chinese government and they keep a frenetic pace to show off the cities of Beijing, Shanghai, Suzhou, and Hangzhou, the native industries of Jade, Pearl, Silk, Tea, and the endless magnificent edifices such as the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, The Temple of Heaven, and numerous other historic sites.

Our introduction to China was Norman Foster's Beijing Airport built for the 2008 Olympics. The structure stopped me in my tracks as I left the gangway. The space soared and seemed endless but yet it had an understandable and elegant geometry. The structural system disappeared from view and it

was only on my second visit that I looked to see just what was holding up this incredible roof. We were traveling with two other architects and we all had the same impressions. The building represents a dragon, the Chinese symbol of power, and it carries off this impression with no hint of Disney realism.

China has undergone incredible social and financial changes in the last twenty years. To the credit of master planning controlled by the central Government, China's cities have exploded with endless hi-rises, landscaped streets, and a highway system of "fly overs" that would bring tears to the eyes of our transportation engineers.

In Beijing, the hi-rise office and residential towers dominate the skyline but they seem to have more individuality as opposed to Shanghai where the same residential tower is repeated over and over again with same materials, same fenestration and coloration.

The building styles represent a variety of architectural expression ranging from crass to elegant and in the Pudong section of Shanghai buildings are billboards. The Citigroup's forty two story tower is six hundred feet high and the elevation that faces the Bund, the waterfront



West Lake - No Swimming!

park, is a LED plasma screen that is programmed to be an advertisement, a landscape, a greeting, whatever comes to mind. Even with this ostentatious facade, it is just one light on the glittering Christmas tree of buildings that visually argue with each other for dominance.

The Kohn Pederson Fox building, locally known as “the bottle opener,” is quite handsome in the daytime but to compete in the night skyline it is outlined in fluorescent blue. Adding to this color display is the boat traffic along the waterfront park. They are all outlined in fluorescent colors and sail below this architectural light show. You feel like you are in “Times Square on steroids,” but this all adds to the real vibrancy of the city and reflects the thriving economy that is Shanghai.

The Birds Nest, the national stadium designed for the Olympics by Herzog & de Meuron in Beijing is a gem, but it seems to sit by itself next to other Olympic venues that do not compliment it such as the Aquatic center known as the “Bubble Building.” It was designed by the Australian architecture firm PTW Architects and Arup. The Bubble Building with its bumpy translucent skin may look great at night, but during the day it resembles a box of molding cheese.

The population density of China is staggering, especially to our northern New England minds, and the traffic makes one pause at the mere idea of using a car to get from place to place. (See a video of Shanghai’s density at www.youtube.com/watch?v=FWg96Sn3cSw) There are separate lanes for the conglomeration of bicycles, motorcycles, carts, and varieties of 2-, 3- and 4-wheel devices. Pedestrians ply their way through this mélange with and without the benefit of traffic lights.

The five star hotels we frequented had rooms twice the size of a traditional US accommodation, and the bathrooms all looked like adds for Kohler, Grohe etc. But despite all of this luxury, nowhere was there potable water; bottled water was essential in every hotel and we carried it with us at all times. The Asian toilet also challenged women, which is essentially a hole in the floor above which you do acrobatics. Toilet paper was not in abundance so it too became an essential element of your



Summer Palace

personal belongings.

Chinese society has adapted to numerous changes in just one generation. We had lunch with a family located in the heart of Beijing yet they lived not too far above the poverty level in 1-2 story complexes cheek by jowl on narrow alleys. The father talked of his youth, when he was starving and had minimal housing, but now he had a house, a large flat screen TV, and a car. He had an electric heater for his house supplied by the government so he would not burn coal, which added to the pollution in the pre-Olympics era. The government also subsidized the cost of the electricity so he also had an air conditioner. He was grateful for all these benefits and was proud of his family and their accomplishments. He spoke of his sons but never mentioned his wife who cooked this meal for our group of 35 people and who stayed in the tiny kitchen throughout the entire event.

In contrast to this impoverished 1-2 story area you have hi-rise condo heavens where prices can go as high as \$20,000 per sq ft for living space, and if you buy a condo it reverts back to the government in 70 years as the government owns all of the land. In between these extremes there is probably more hous-

Continued on page 10

Architect’s Cookbook

AIA Connecticut is offering *The Architect’s Cookbook* to its AIA New England friends. They are justly proud of this wonderful collection of recipes from their members and want to share it with everyone.

AIAC has received rave reviews, not only for the recipes, but also for the architectural design of the pages and the wonderful line drawings that incorporate food and buildings rolled into one. A syndicated radio show on NPR recently featured *The Architect’s Cookbook* during its weekly programming.

The cookbook retails for \$29.95 but AIAC is extending the member price of \$21.95 to all AIA members.

The Architect’s Cookbook makes an ideal gift for many different occasions!

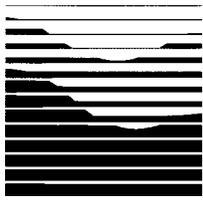
Here’s a link to the order form on the AIAC website: www.aiac.org/aiadocuments/catalogue.php?doctype=other



**The Architect’s Cookbook,
published by AIAC**

photo: Amy Vischio, Mofly Media

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GSLA

Granite State Landscape Architects
New Hampshire Section
Boston Chapter, ASLA
PO Box 1106
Concord, NH 03302-1106
www.gsla-online.com

Opinions

After reading the December issue of the NH Forum about SITES, a LEED initiative, Wes Tator had the following comment:

I am pleased to learn that ASLA is developing Sustainable Site certification. I think it is important that all areas of sustainability (sites, energy, water, materials etc) be drilled down and expanded upon beyond broad checklists. I am sure the work of ALSA will deepen the definition of sustainable sites and move the bar higher as to what is desirable for moving towards such sites.

However, more credit could have been given in the column to the work that went before ALSA. It should be noted that definition of sustainable sites comes right out of the LEED Certification titles and before that a program called BREEAM. Looking at the work of ALSA, it is apparent that much of it stands on the LEED and further developed. I say this by way of wanting to address a general bristliness that I frequently hear regarding LEED in NH. The work of getting to buildings that meet the 2030

challenge, let alone are healthy and responsible for their use of water, is challenging and demanding. Those of us doing this work, I think, are "best off hanging together."

Thoughts?

Thanks, Wes Tator, MBA, LEED AP

I do agree that the professionals that work in the "green" industry and the building industry should be cooperating and doing their best to share their talents. Each professional has a specialty and experience that they can bring to the table. Some of these specialties overlap and some of us have more experience than others, but it is the collaboration at the table that is the essence of any green project. Programs such as LEED, popular in the US, and BREEAM, which is more popular in the UK and Europe, help to organize and strive for higher standards for our projects. Striving for higher standards is going to be challenging and I'm hearing from Wes' article that the 2030 challenge in particular is of concern.

Beth Dermody, RLA

If anyone would like to continue the dialog that Wes has started, please email me at bethdermody@yahoo.com.



Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, www.mainegardens.org/



PLAN NH
 Visioning for Sustainable Communities

Notes from Plan NH

Plan New Hampshire, The Foundation for Shaping the Built Environment (Plan NH), is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization formed in 1989.

Our purpose is to contribute to the quality of life in New Hampshire communities by promoting excellence in sustainable planning, design and development of the built environment. We are also strong champions of Smart Growth.

Our New Hampshire-focused membership is comprised of architects, landscape architects, engineers, planners, contractors and others with an interest in promoting and implementing environmentally, economically and socially sustainable communities. This diversity of membership brings a unique variety of views and perspectives to our approach to shaping New Hampshire's built environment.

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We Love Stories

We love stories. When we hold our design charrettes, we love hearing stories about real people and real events that contribute to the fabric of that community's identity.

We were in Colebrook last summer for a charrette. They wanted us to come take a look at and make design recommendations for their downtown. While there, we learned a lot about Colebrook's history, its role in the region, its resources. And we heard stories.

Many have heard the story of the couple from France who moved to Colebrook and opened Le Rendez-Vous, a French bakery, in a big old building in the center of town that they painted gold with red trim. It soon became a center for the townspeople to gather with friends and enjoy good soups and baked goods - and within the first month had inspired 70% of other business owners to spruce up their own buildings.

However, when Ms. Daeron went back to

France for a visit, the US Embassy in Paris would not renew her business investor visa, saying that the impact of the bakery was "marginal." The community strongly disagreed and rallied, writing letters and even asking for support from Senator Shaheen. After the Embassy received two pounds of letters and petitions, they changed their minds, and Ms. Daeron was able to return to Colebrook. (Stop in next time you are up there. The food is delicious.)*

Another story that we will never forget is that of the Queen's Corn. Back in 1770, when the King granted the land for what is now Colebrook, there was a custom in which a token something was given each year to the King to acknowledge that he was the King. For Colebrook, it was to be an ear of Indian corn.

However, for some reason this obligation was never paid, and in 2009, they figured they owed 239 ears of corn to (now) the Queen. Students from Colebrook Academy planted the corn, and when we visited in 2010, we were shown the plot where it was growing magnificently. (We did learn that there were not enough ears to pay the debt, however, and we are waiting to see how things will turn out this summer.)

We look forward to hearing new stories in the months ahead as we do our work in towns of all sizes that help make up this Granite State. ■

**Some information in the telling of this comes from "Our daily baguette," an article that appeared in Guideposts, January 2010, by Sandra Riendeau about this event. Sandra was the driving force for Colebrook during charrette preparations, the charrette itself, and the return meeting we had in March.*

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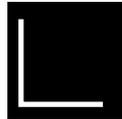
First U.S. Urban Design Undergraduate Program

Interest in the field of urban design is growing among young people. This year, Parsons The New School for Design launches the nation's first undergraduate degree in urban design. Coming out of high school, more and more students want to learn how design can address increasing urbanization. The program offers a mix of design and theory so that students can better understand and intervene in their surroundings.

Designing for urban regions, and the people in them, is a challenge that no discipline can tackle alone. In the Bachelor of Science in Urban Design program students come to understand how cities work, and design systems that predict and shape how urban centers will evolve over time. Students explore complex topics such as sustainability, technology, and infrastructure, and envision a role for urban design in the service of a better future world.

Information: www.newschool.edu/parsons/bs-urban-design/

AIANE Releases Design Awards CFE; Conference is Oct. 14-16



The 2011 AIA New England Design Awards and Annual Conference are hosted by AIA Western Massachusetts. The Conference, "Livable Communities in the American Landscape," will be held October 14-16, 2011 in Northampton, MA.

The Design Awards Call for Entries is now available. The submission deadline is July 28, 2011. Awards will be presented at the AIANE Keynote Dinner, part of the AIANE

Conference, on October 15.

Submitters to the AIANE Design Awards are also invited to include their submissions in the Livable Communities Exhibit; all entries in this exhibit will be eligible for the People's Choice Award. The display will be at the popular A.P.E. Gallery in Northampton from October 1-15 and is open to the public.

Access the call for entries at www.wmaia.org/aiane2011.html ■

New Website Underway for AIANH



AIANH has embarked on a whole new website design, which will offer our members more features and more control over their listings.

We are working with Brown & Company Design in Portsmouth to create a refreshing new look and new capabilities.

Some of the enhancements will include the ability for both AIA and AIANH Affiliate members to update their contact information, upload a photo with their company listing; an interactive homepage with photo gallery; integration of third party social networking tools, a discussion board for members, an up-to-date news section, more exposure for the Learning by Design program and the Design Awards, and revamped emerging professionals pages.

We also hope to have a section for special interest items and articles about design and

materials with a comment area, separate from the members' discussion board. The member section will be expanded with access to AIANH minutes, year end reports, committees, legislative updates, etc.

Since we will want to launch this site with the Find and Architect and Guide to Building Industry Resources in working order, we'll be contacting members ahead of launch date to update their profiles. You'll be hearing from us by email.

We hope to have the new site up this fall and your assistance will help us keep to that timeline.

Dale Doller AIA, Nathan Stolarz Assoc. AIA, and Executive Director Carolyn Isaak are on the Website Committee.

This is a major undertaking for the AIANH Board and we look forward to a new presence on the Internet. ■

CAPITAL AREA VETERINARY EMERGENCY SERVICE
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Architect: *Stenbak Design Associates, Inc.*

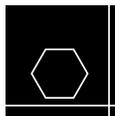
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BAC Provides Win for Students and Employers with Distance Master of Architecture Program

by Will Gatchell



The Boston Architectural College has some important news to share. Its practice-based educational model spun off a NAAB-accredited Master of Architecture program a few years ago designed for non-Boston students. Called the Distance Master of Architecture program, this smart idea was a response to the growing need for firms, like those in New Hampshire, to grow the professional ability of their staff without losing them for 3+ years to a traditional MARCH program.

Concurrent learning and practice is the model that makes the BAC a unique entity among its peers. This model has been fused with online correspondence, social networking apps, & Skype to create a geographically decentralized forum for advanced architectural

education. At the beginning of each semester, all DMARCH students and faculty descend on Boston for an 8 day intensive. This is an inverted or front loaded charrette. Students are working 24/7, gaining a foothold on design concepts and other academic work before returning to their homes and jobs. The rest of the semester is 100% online.

Following the intensive, students are back at the office, gaining academic credit for the practical work they do. They are required to balance their academic and professional responsibilities to achieve success. In the end, firms tend to see more mature, open minded, career-oriented employees. And because the BAC program requires students to evolve in their practical experience, the relationship with employers becomes much more goal oriented and proactive. This interaction is often a catalyst for leadership roles for the student within the firm.

The DMARCH program takes advantage of current and emerging technology to break the paradigm of traditional professional education. Instead of building a brick and mortar facility to serve the New Hampshire architecture community, the BAC extends its resources through the ether to reach large urban firms as well as the small offices in remote parts of the state. For more information, please visit www.the-bac.edu. ■

The DMARCH program takes advantage of current and emerging technology to break the paradigm of traditional professional education.

May is Building Safety Month

The International Code Council and ICC Foundation are observing the 31st Building Safety Month (BSM), An International Celebration of Safe and Sensible Structures. Throughout May, ICC Members will educate the public and builders about building safety and sustainability issues as well as sharing ideas for making structures more energy efficient and durable. Weekly topics are Energy & Green Building, Disaster Safety & Mitigation, Fire Safety & Awareness, and Backyard Safety.

Information at: www.buildingsafetymonth.org/

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CHINA *Continued from page 5*

ing on the poverty side as the average wage ranges from \$500 to \$1000 dollars a month.

There is little upward mobility in the country except at the highest levels. The government controls wages and jobs but capitalism is making steady inroads. In Shanghai, businesses at the lower end of the economic scale may be privately owned but their employees do not seem to have any advantages. Our guides, who work directly for the government tourist industry, talked about China's socio-capitalistic system and lauded the government for both its social and economic planning.

If I had to say what element of the trip impressed me the most it would have to be the history of the Chinese people and the legacy of structures, arts and industries that have lasted in some cases for thousands of years: the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, the silk, pearl, jade and tea industries as well as the spectacular art of embroidery. China has capitalized on all of these things and is embedding pride in its population. But there is a sharp contrast between their cultural history of Confucius and Buddhism and their lack of business ethics. Everything is for sale, quality good as well as knock-offs. You barter with



Great Wall detail

every merchant and in my case the merchant always got the better of the deal.

There is no question that there is a growing Chinese middle class and that life has indeed improved for a vast majority of Chinese over the last twenty years. But the one child policy in China has also produced a well educated but spoiled generation. The men outnumber



The Great Wall 1



Shanghai smog

the women five to one since the male is the preferred child and the women choose careers rather than marriage so the fertility rate is quite low. It will be interesting to see how this coming generation will trade off the dominance of the government with the growing capitalistic approach to the economy, and the fact that Google does not function in China and CNN is blacked out when it reports on issues like the arrest of a Chinese artist who spoke against

the government.

Napoleon was right. China is awake and she is indeed "shaking the world." ■

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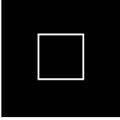
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What You Need to Know—About the Changing Standard of Care

 The AIA Trust has just released a new white paper on a topic of vital interest to AIA Members—the evolving standard of care. The standard of care is the prevailing benchmark of professional practice in architecture and design and the threshold of protection under professional liability insurance. The design professional's standard of care is generally based on the performance of others characterized as the “reasonable,” “ordinary,” or “average” design professional, and not on internal or personal capabilities. *However, what happens when no one has undertaken the contemplated action before?*

Increasing “opportunities of innovation” now put architects in an extremely difficult

position, with constant expectations of finding new ways of building projects better, faster, cheaper and greener, while at the same time viewing them as professionally and financially responsible if those new methodologies and materials do not succeed to the full extent of anticipated results. New and innovative technologies, tools, and processes represent the next step in defining and managing the standard of care relative to innovation. This paper outlines some of the principles, processes and basic strategy to enable members to keep pace with the many changes in technology and sustainability that impact their practice at a growing rate.

You can access the full report at: www.theaiatrust.com/whitepapers/sustainable/ ■

This paper outlines some of the principles, processes and basic strategy to enable members to keep pace with the many changes in technology and sustainability that impact their practice at a growing rate.

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North Branch Construction Welcomes Kearsarge Regional High School Students

Thirteen students from the Kearsarge Regional High School's vocational program in Sutton, NH visited North Branch Construction in Concord, NH for a tour of the company's Silver Level LEED Certified building and a construction site to learn about career opportunities available in the construction industry. The students began their experience with an introduction by North Branch personnel including presentations on construction industry business forecast, office staff needed

to support the business, employment opportunities available including wages and job advancement, and jobsite safety. During the tour, the students learned about sustainable construction and the requirements for a building to be LEED Certified. Following the tour of North Branch's corporate headquarters, the students (outfitted in hard hats) traveled to Southern New Hampshire University to tour the new Operations Center under construction by North Branch. ■



Students from Kearsarge Regional High School visit North Branch Construction to learn about career opportunities available in the construction industry.

Plan NH to hold 5K Run-Walk May 26 at NHTI Campus, Concord

Fun, family event open to all ages and abilities. Proceeds to benefit Plan NH and its Scholarship Fund. Same-day registration begins at 4:30 PM, shotgun start at 6:15. Course is USTAF-sanctioned. \$20 registration before May 12th (\$5 for students); \$25 same-day registration (\$10 for students). Free tee shirt to each of first 50 entrants. To register, go to www.active.com. For more information and paper registration, go to www.plannh.org.

Plan New Hampshire promotes "excellence in sustainable planning, design and development of the *built environment*" by championing Smart Growth principles for communities throughout the Granite State. Its membership of architects, landscape architects, planners, engineers, contractors and others within the building industry brings a unique variety of views and perspectives to their approach to shaping New Hampshire's built environment – and its effects on the future of our state.

Contact: Robin H. LeBlanc, Executive Director 603-452-7526



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Photo of the Month...Part II

by William Conk

A reader of the NH Forum sent along some interesting photos and comments on a recent experience. Since we couldn't fit all of his information on the back page photo feature, here's a supplement....

Though not a member of AIANH I have longed worked with many members in my former role as Housing Facilities Manager at UNH. One of my former colleagues continues to share with me his copies of your newsletter which I enjoy reading, including articles by some of my friends. In looking at your call for photos, I thought I would send along some pictures.

In October I returned from Nigeria after working three months for Doctors Without Borders on an emergency assignment. I was Resource Team Leader for an emergency medical intervention to treat children dying from acute lead poisoning.

The image below is somewhat instructive in terms of design and construction. For security, as expatriates we live in a walled compound where cooking facilities are necessary. (There were no restaurants in this location.) Typically a cook is hired to prepare our meals since we are working 10 hours a day. We needed all space inside the compound buildings for lodging and

offices. While this just looks like an ordinary tin shack, its site and design actually involved considerable discussion between myself and my logistician who had to get it built. Considering that the only building material locally available were concrete, rough hewn wood and galvanized sheets, and the average temperature 90s and above, site and design were pretty important for the cook and expat staff, particularly as the evening meal is one of the few opportunities for some down time.

So, even though Hugo would have wanted to build this in the front of the compound for ease of construction, I prevailed in having it placed at the back wall under a large tree. Hugo came up with the idea to use awning walls instead of the typical small windows one usually includes for these structures in order to facilitate any air flow. The large bucket holds water. A spigot on the bottom allows for hand washing and a hose to the inside allows some running water for cooking and cleaning. (All water was obtained through a borehole and then treated). The contractor is in the foreground and Hugo can be seen just inside the door taking photos of the work. In the end the it worked perfectly for everyone. Many a hour was spent in the evening over dinner. ■



Construction Summary

Project Type: New Kingston Library
Cost: \$1,600,000
Location: Kingston, NH
Owner: Nichols Memorial Library
Architect: Lavallee/Brensinger PA
Const. Mgr.: Bruss Construction Inc.

Project Type: Automobile Dealership & Service Facility (Concord Nissan)
Location: Concord, NH
Owner: Concord Nissan Inc.
Engineer: Holden Engineering & Surveying Inc.
Consultant: JSN Associates
Gen. Cont.: L&B Construction Mgmt LLC

Project Type: Life Safety Infrastructure Upgrades
Cost: \$3,243,000
Location: Tilton, NH
Owner: State of NH DOT
Architect: Lavallee/Brensinger PA
Gen. Cont.: Turnstone Corp

Project Type: Multi Purpose Operations Center
Cost: \$1,480,277
Location: Tilton, NH
Owner: State of NH
Architect: CMK Architects
Engineers: Appledore Engineering Inc., Engineered Building Systems Inc.
Gen. Cont.: Trumbull Nelson Co

Project Type: Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Facility Upgrades
Cost: \$234,600
Location: Durham, NH
Owner: University of NH
Architect: Oak Point Associates
Contractor: Engineered Construction Services

Project Type: Office Building 3rd Floor Fitup (4 Currier Place)
Owner: Dartmouth College
Architect: ADD Inc.
Gen. Cont.: Estes & Gallup

Project Type: Exterior & Energy Renovations of Discover Portsmouth Center
Cost: \$1,000,000
Location: Portsmouth, NH
Owner: Portsmouth Historical Society
Architect: TMS Architects
Const. Mgr.: Martini Northern Inc.

Project Type: New Fire Station #4
Cost: Approx. \$2,460,000
Location: Manchester, NH
Owner: Danais Realty Group
Architect: Berard Martel Architecture Inc.
Engineers: Bedford Design Consultants, WV Engineers, TF Moran
Program Mgr: Castagna Consulting Group
Negotiating Gen. Cont.: Eckman Construction

Project Type: Subaru of Keene (Renovations To Former Keats Tractor Supply)
Location: Keene, NH
Architect: Bruce Hamilton Architects
Const. Mgr.: Jewett Construction

Project Type: Apartment Complex (Bedford Green) (83 Units)
Location: Bedford, NH
Owner: Hawthorne - Bedford LLC-
Architect: DMS design llc
Engineers: TF Moran, BLW Engineers, JSN Associates
Owner's Rep: Scudder Development Advisors Inc.
Gen. Cont.: Hutter Construction Corp

Project Type: New School Building (Spaulding Youth Center)
Location: Northfield, NH
Owner: Spaulding Youth Center
Architect: Banwell Architects
Engineers: Nobis Engineering, Rist Frost Shumway Engineering
Const. Mgr.: Conneston Construction Inc.

Project Type: Apartment Building Renovations (Wamesit Apartments)
Cost: \$5,000,000 - \$6,000,000
Location: Portsmouth, NH
Owner: Portsmouth Housing Authority
Architect: Goduti/Thomas Architects
Gen. Cont.: Portland Builders

Project Type: Mt Carmel Nursing Home Renovations
Location: Manchester, NH
Owner: Catholic Charites of NH
Architect: Mackenzie Architects
Contractor: Sullivan Construction

**Construction Summary is provided by
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Calendar of Events

May 10 Build Green NH presents a workshop on Protecting Community-wide Open Space Networks with Conservation Subdivisions and Traditional Neighborhood Design, PSNH Energy Park, 4-9 pm, dinner provided by PSNH. https://builderfusion.hbranh.com/bf/website/simple/eventView.jsp?event_id=31701

May 12-14 AIA Convention, New Orleans

May 12 NH Energy Code Workshops – Residential – Preferred Building Systems, Claremont, NH, GDS Associates and the NH Office of Energy and Planning, no charge, lunch provided; 8:30 am - 3:00 pm, AIA HSW CEUS, www.nhenergycode.com/live/index.php

May 17 NH Energy Code Workshops – Commercial – Preferred Building Systems, Claremont, NH, GDS Associates and the NH Office of Energy and Planning, no charge, lunch provided; 8:30 am - 3:00 pm, AIA HSW CEUS www.nhenergycode.com/live/index.php

May 19 AIANH Chapter Meeting at Weston Solutions, tour, presentation, and reception. Details and Registration. 1.5 AIA HSW/SD CEUS applied for.

May 19 NH Energy Code Workshops – Residential – Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH, GDS Associates and the NH Office of Energy and Planning, no charge, lunch provided; 8:30 am - 3:00 pm, AIA HSW CEUS www.nhenergycode.com/live/index.php

May 20 Avoiding Firestop Liability, Lake Street Community Fire Station, Nashua, 8-10 am, free. Sponsored by the Nashua Fire Marshal's Office and the Nashua Dept. of Building Safety. Seminar is designed to help general contractors, construction managers, facility managers, and sub-contractors meet governing codes for firestop installation. Information: Wane Barrow, wbarrow@telgian.com

May 24 NH Energy Code Workshops – Commercial – Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH, GDS Associates and the NH Office of Energy and Planning, no charge, lunch provided; 8:30 am - 3:00 pm, AIA HSW CEUS, www.nhenergycode.com/live/index.php

May 26 Plan NH Road Race at NHTI Concord, <http://plannh.org/news.php>

June 23 AIANH House Tour. More information in the June issue and online, www.aianh.org

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Photo of the Month



Mud/straw walls of family compounds in YarGalma, Niger
by William Conk, former Housing Facilities Manager at UNH. See another photo and more information about this trip on page 14.

Do you have an interesting photo? Why not send us one of your photos for print? 300 ppi jpegs, approximately 4 x 6 inches, BW or color. Send along a title, brief caption if you like, and your name, to office@aianh.org.